

'Like a friend dropping in'



The Elmswell Newsletter



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JULY 2024

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June in Tune at Blackbourne

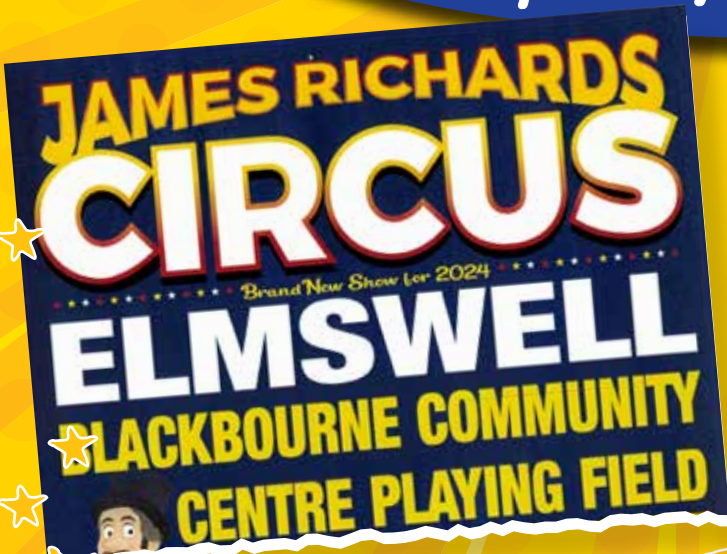


STOWMARKET MODEL RAILWAY CLUB

Model Railway Exhibition

Busy at Blackbourne

...music making, model making, merry making, decision making



Published on the first Friday of every month by the Elmswell Amenities Association Reg. Charity No. 304879. 2500 copies delivered free to households and to businesses in the community. A volunteer enterprise entirely supported by advertising.

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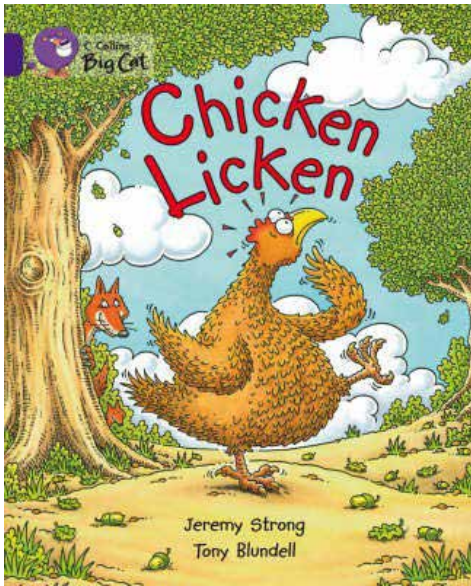
Our editorial is designed to inform and to encourage debate.

If you wish to comment, please do so via the office or by email at; ea@elmswell.org.uk

We reserve the right to edit any such contributions that we may use in a subsequent edition.

Occasionally, we refer to the world's great literature to help make our point. This month, the truths and insights that we seek are found beyond our usual Dickensian themes. We must dig deeper than Will Shakespeare. Orwell G and Dostoevsky are both found wanting. We reach instead for those classics of the written word, *Chicken Licken*, *The Little Red Hen* and *Three Little Pigs*.

With an awareness of the current interesting times through which we are living, both nationally and within our own hallowed patch, we offer second-hand insights originally gleaned at Mother's knee or in the story corner with Mrs Brathwaite who often, we recall, had a tinge of the gin about her.



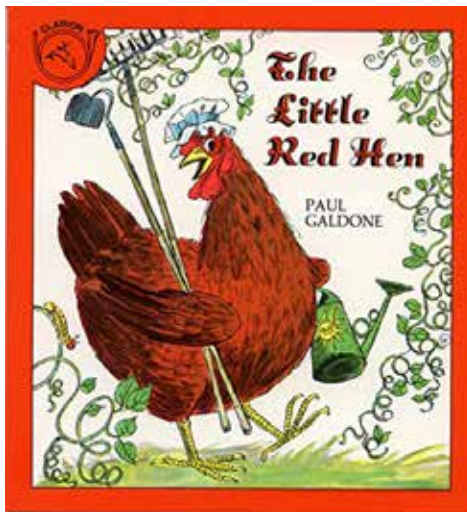
A celebration, firstly, of those who are convinced that the sky is about to fall upon their heads. As did our hero, Chicken Licken whose name might have attracted some gentle derision had his best mates not included Henny Penny, Cocky Locky, Ducky Lucky, Goosey Loosey and Turkey Lurkey. This in the days before whole court cases hinged on hate-naming.

Our hero is, one fateful day, struck on the head by a falling acorn. It's happened to all of us, but, in CL's case (CL was his street tag), his in-built neurosis (possibly nowadays identified as AAAS – Aggravated Acorn Anxiety Syndrome) failed to spot the offending oaknut and he immediately set off to warn the King that the sky has fallen down, taking with him his rhyming rabble of friends. Long story short, they meet up with Foxy Loxy who is about to gobble them all up when, you guessed it, an acorn falls on his head and, beguiled by CL's perceived truth, he decides that the sky is indeed all of a-tumble, takes fright and runs away. History glosses over as to the place a fox, traditionally wily and worldly-wise, was hoping to run to where a falling

sky would not pose a problem.

Our cuddly cohort realise the glimmer of a gap in CL's reasoning and, reassured, wander back to the farmyard and into folk history.

MORAL Don't believe everything you read on Facebook, particularly to do with elections and specifically anything which makes it's vacuous case with the qualification, 'It's an accident waiting to happen'.



Little Red Hen gives us a peek into the world of volunteering / of taking part / of having an interest beyond the absolutely selfish. Our heroine finds some discarded corn knocking about the farmyard and seeks the help of her neighbours in planting it. As one, Bull, Cat and Rat refuse to assist. LRH (as she is known in the 'hood) plants the seed herself. Throughout the next stages - of cultivation, harvesting, milling and baking - Messrs Bull, Cat and Rat decline the invitation to help until the end product - a loaf of bread- is produced. Then LRH is inundated with offers to help eat the artisanal treat from the same trio of workshy spineless individuals. Unsurprisingly, she spurns their pleas and eats it all herself, although history

does not confirm either the size of the hen or of the loaf.

The parallels are rather unsubtly obvious as election fever subsides. On the national stage, however imperfectly, all have a chance to steer, minutely, a direction of travel. To those who decline to help bake the national loaf, LRH would have little sympathy with complaints that things are not as they might hope. Similarly, way down the food chain, our own community relies on the do-ers and is weighed down by the moaners. When envy breeds unkind division, all credit to those who battle on, running clubs and societies and events for Bull, Cat, Rat etc. to enjoy.

MORAL Put up or shut up.



And finally, to our piggy trio. With their universal message favouring preparation, common sense and hard work. They deal with the threat of the inevitable Big Bad Wolf by building houses, variously, of straw, sticks and bricks. Despite all having had recourse to vigorous stroking of the hairs on their respective chinny chin chins the fate of the first porcine pair is to end up being wolfed down. The hard-working, level-headed bricklaying survivor watches as Mr Wolf heads off to find an easier target- perhaps a short-sighted little girl in scarlet riding apparel heading off to visit Grandma...

MORAL: Success requires the harder slog. Have respect for those who work at getting things done.

With the big choices made and the ballot boxes packed away, with the circus caravans having, literally, moved on, we can relax back into our comfortable world with an eye out for acorns, industrious chickens and trowel-bearing pigs. We can try to be aware of the small army among us who do get things done and, at the very least, we can consider allowing them to get on with it free from the dispiriting nuisance of those who spin malign fairy tales where ogres and wicked witches are intent on leading us into wild woods, towards failure, and worse.

Sleep tight.



ELMSWELL ART CLUB

Keith Ball

With deep regret, we must sadly announce the sudden loss of one of our members, Dr Keith Ball.

Elmswell resident Keith, a retired GP and Surgeon, was a very popular and much-admired member of our club; he was always willing to share his artistic experience to help others develop their own skills. His good sense of humour and interesting conversation will mean that he will be sadly missed by all his friends at Elmswell Art Club.

Our hearts go out to his family at this very sad time.

As a small tribute, we would like to feature one of Keith's finest portrait creations below; a graphite drawing that displays Keith's skills with this medium as well as highlighting his attention to detail...



This month we are also featuring a delightful watercolour painting of two squirrels; these images were produced by Maureen Lazarus and they really portray the awareness and timidity of these small wary creatures.



Finally, another reminder about our Art Show and Sale which will take place at the Wesley on Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd September. The flyer below outlines the main activities for both days; however we will be providing more details as the event approaches, so keep watching.....
Eddie Douglas

ELMSWELL ART CLUB MEETS EVERY TUESDAY FROM 09:00 TO 12:00 AT THE WESLEY AND NEW MEMBERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME.

ELMSWELL ART CLUB

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ELMSWELL EXCHANGE W.I.

Mary welcomed everyone to our June meeting.

Our speaker this month was Peter Rutt and his talk was called "From Muckle Flugga to Elmswell. A birdwatching journey from Shetland to my back garden." Peter has been interested in birds since he was seven. I'm sure many of us had an Observer book of birds which as Peter pointed out wasn't always useful as the pictures were black and white. He was also a member of the Young Ornithologists Club which was the junior part of the RSPB.

Peter's son Stephen lives in Scotland and is also a keen bird watcher. He has written three books so far on the subject and these can be purchased in Waterstones. Peter's photos that accompanied the talk were magnificent. He told us it was light at 3am in the Shetlands and we saw some wonderful photos of Gannets and Puffins. We were

shown photos ranging from Aviemore and the Farne Islands and closer to home in Norfolk and Suffolk. We are fortunate to have Minsmere, an RSPB reserve in Suffolk where the bitterns can be heard booming. Lackford Lakes is also a good spot for birdwatching although the kingfisher remains a rather elusive bird! Peter's photos included a Golden Eagle spotted at Orford Ness as well as Curlews in Thetford Forest.

Peter also told us there were many birds to be seen in our Elmswell gardens. He has seen Robins, Collared Doves, a Sparrowhawk and of course Wood Pigeons.

We all enjoyed the talk and the wonderful photos he had taken. This was the first time Peter had delivered this talk and we can recommend it.

The competition was a piece of jewellery or an accessory with a bird/birds on

it. Barbara Yeates was 1st, Margaret Hitchins 2nd and Rosie Ellis was 3rd.

This month several of us visited the Yum Yum Tree Fudge Factory. It was interesting to see how hard Adrian and his team have worked to be such an environmentally focused business. This includes having solar panels and electric vehicles. They are also committed to high quality ingredients in the making of their fudge. We were able to try the many different flavours on offer and everyone bought some at the end of our tour. Thanks to Yvonne for organising the trip.

In July Margaret Brackenbury is coming to help us all make something we can take home with us.

The competition is something you have made yourself- in any medium.

Visitors and new members are always



ELMSWELL GARDENING CLUB

On Tuesday 18th June the topic for our speaker was 'Growing succulents outside in the UK'. Paul Sparkling is from Essex and explained how his particular area is one of the driest in England. He regards himself as an exotic plant gardener as he also grows plants not strictly regarded as either succulents or cacti.

Paul supported his talk with numerous excellent photographs which clearly showed the architectural quality and sheer size of many of the plants he likes to grow. He explained how the provenance of the plant, the amount of sunshine, air movement, soil conditions

especially drainage all needed to be taken into account when choosing what to plant in his garden.

Since succulents need to be kept fairly dry, when he first began growing them Paul would cover his plants in the wetter, winter months, but he's discovered this isn't always necessary. Many yucca plants are incredibly hardy as are aloes and some varieties of bromeliads.

To see these types of plants Paul recommended 'The Old Vicarage' in East Runton, Norfolk, St Michael's mount and the Minack open air theatre, both in Cornwall.

Paul has written a book 'The Dry Exotic Garden' which provides lots of helpful information about growing these plants outside.

Members of the Gardening Club are looking forward to going on club outing to Hyde Hall in Essex.

Further information about Elmswell Gardening Club please contact Nick on 01359 242601 or e-mail: elmswellgadmin@btinternet.com



THE BIG TOP GOING UP AT BLACKBOURNE

Just a quick note to say how much I enjoyed the circus last night.

It was packed with children and parents and everyone loved the evening.

The artists were very clever and professional.

The ticket price was excellent and great value for money.

It would be lovely if this could become an annual event.

Cheers





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“ Dealing with Simon was a comfort during what was a daunting process. ”

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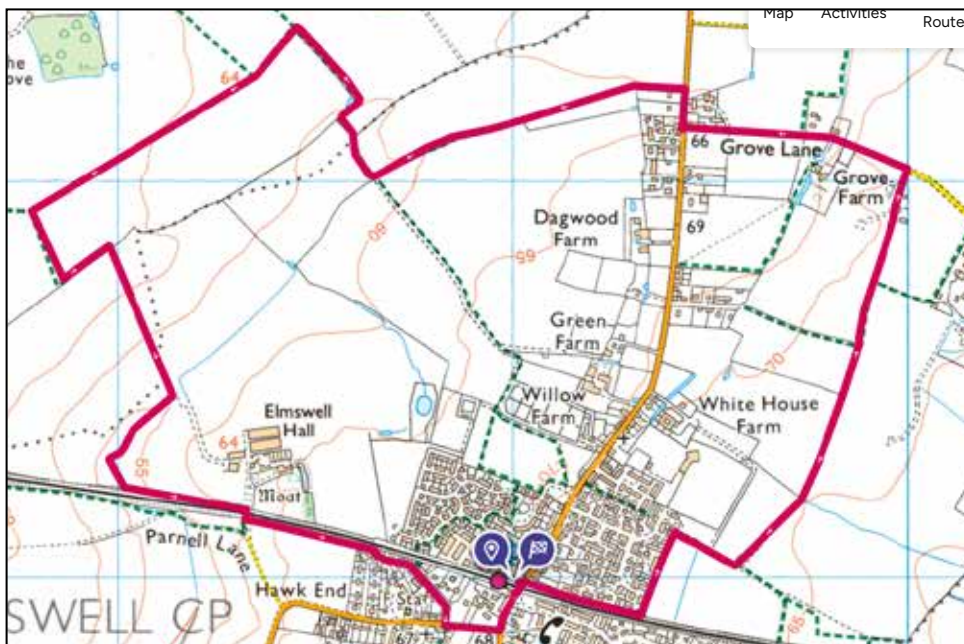
ELMSWELL FOOTPATH WALK Sunday 16th June 2024

Twenty minutes before the allotted 11.00am start the heavens opened and rains of biblical proportions cascaded down on to Crown Mill and throughout Elmswell.

The Footpath Officer was understandably concerned regarding the possible effect on the number of walkers for the Sunday footpath walk but should have had more faith as two flooded in.

The rain miraculously abated just before kick off and three damp souls set off.

A right and right on to FP10 started the walk with the soaked vegetation either side of the footpath not endearing itself to the ramblers. A left at the end took FP10 along Long Gilberts Road and on to FP9.



A right here and after 175m we turned left on to FP6 travelling northish. Crossing the footbridge we traversed the field which 30 minutes earlier had been dry but was now rather slick with the recent rainfall.

Across the next footbridge and on to better ground we headed towards Grove Lane passing the junctions with FP7 and FP5.

Left at Grove Lane and now heading east we passed the sad sight of Halfacre, the thatched cottage which was ruined by fire in 2016 and remains in a parlous state.

At the junction with Ashfield Road a right and a left took us on to FP3 and across another rather sodden field. It might be noted that FP3 goes straight across the field and not left then right adjacent to the ditch.

With the weather clearing we turned right on to FP1 which morphed into FP32 as we crossed into the parish of Norton. A right and a left led us to the junction with FP31 on the left which we took and hence led us on to FP35 which runs alongside a belt of trees.

Now heading a little south of east the familiar landmark of Norton Hall barn was on the horizon.

Just before reaching the barn, a left on to FP7 put us on the homeward stretch with more treacherous underfoot conditions down the slope towards Elmwell Hall.

At the parish boundary FP7 became FP13 which turned left on to better ground and allowed us to clear the debris from our boots.

We circumnavigated the Hall on FP13 passing under the railway bridge on Parnell Lane and hence on to Hawke End Lane, School Road and back to Crown Mill.

A walk not for the faint hearted of approximately 4.48 miles in 1 hour 51 minutes (an average speed of 2.4 miles per hour)

Peter Hancock, EPC Footpath Officer

JULY'S FOOTPATH WALK WILL BE ON SUNDAY 14th JULY

OVER 55'S CLUB

Since last reporting on club activities the trip on the Orwell Lady on June 6th did not go quite as planned this was due to the caterer failing to turn up with the Afternoon Tea. However the crew opened up the bar with complementary drinks all round.

Finally the crew managed to source a supply of food when Wraps arrived so having lost half of the trip waiting we managed to set off as far as Pin Mill it was a good job the weather was kind to us.

G & T came along to provide an excellent evening of music and songs from the past on June 20th. Since then we were present at "JUNE in TUNE at the Blackbourne with Tombola and Cake Stalls, followed by our Strawberry Supper with catering done by our own catering team.

Our other July meeting will be Music by Bob Whiting on Thursday 18th it will be an Open Night.

We will also need to take names/ orders for the Hut which is on August 1st and also the outing on August 29th for the Carvery and Circus trip.

Grant 240943



CLUBS & SOCIETIES

HISTORY GROUP

Our June meeting started with our A.G.M. at which a new interim Chairman (Bill Blackaby of Ashfield Road) was elected, in the fervent hope that Roger Collins will be able to return to us next year when he's fully recovered. Also, additional helpers kindly came forward, so our group is happily able to continue into its 25th year.

We then welcomed local historian, Sarah Doig, for her talk "The Real Basil Brown, Rickinghall to Sutton Hoo & Back".



She recounted how, from a very early age, Basil was interested in and enthusiastic about first astronomy and then archaeology which he loved to share with everyone, and particularly with the local youngsters in his "Brown School of Archaeology". From his prolific writings in copious notebooks and diaries as well as photographs and memories of Basil from local residents, we learnt that his initial enthusiasm was fostered by his grandparents' stories of hoards of gold coins found locally. Born in 1888, Basil left school at 14, but attended local evening classes to continue his learning and thirst for knowledge. In 1932 he published a book on astronomy, and took over the farm tenancy following his father's death, after which he did a variety of jobs until he was employed by Ipswich Museum where he stayed, on and off, for the rest of his life.



Travelling everywhere on his trusty bicycle, among his first finds were a series of kilns in Watisfield (pictured Frederick Watson and Basil Brown after building a replica Roman kiln which is still on site today), a Roman villa in Stanton (now no visible remains), and he was also one of the first archaeologists to find the Anglo-Saxon settlement in West Stow. He returned to the Sutton Hoo dig many times, but reported a "distortion

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of facts" on some occasions. His house was said to be like a museum in itself, with artefacts scattered in every room, and his scratch-built numerous garden sheds (in which he loved to spend time) were a sight to behold. Finally in 1968 the British Museum acknowledged his contribution to the Sutton Hoo ship-burial finds, but more recently in Rickinghall there is a road named after him and, in 2023, a commemorative Blue Plaque was mounted on his house for the village's most famous long-term resident and celebrity of whom many had very fond memories. Basil died in 1977 at the age of 89, leaving a lasting legacy to Suffolk and British history.



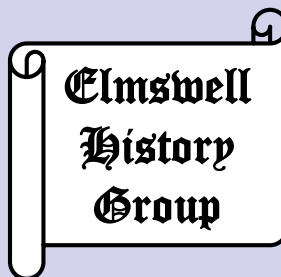
Our Guided Tour Outing to Ely's Fenland Museum will be on Saturday 13th July, for which there may still be tickets available by the time you read this - £5.50 for members or £6.50 for non-members – do be in touch a.s.a.p. if you'd like to join us at Ely.

FROM THE ARCHIVE – 19th July 1957

Ken Lightfoot became a railwayman at Ipswich railway station when he was demobbed from the army. His first job was as a porter, which meant he did everything. On this Friday, a couple of specialised pigeon-racing wagons came in which he had to load up with hampers of birds going to Calais to be released on the Sunday to race back to Suffolk. Ken put buckets of maize and water in the wagons for the journey (Ipswich, London's Liverpool Street, Dover then ferry to Calais). Off they went – job done; or so he thought..... At the end of his shift, Ken went back to the parcel office to get his bike, only to find another hamper there, containing two pigeons he had missed, which belonged to a pigeon racer in Elmswell. He decided to hide them over the weekend and release them on the Sunday so they would look like they had raced home with the others. He stowed the hamper behind some parcels and came in secretly on the Saturday to feed them. On the Sunday, he released them and went home feeling pleased with himself, having checked with a pigeon fancier friend how long it would take the other birds to fly in from France. On Monday morning, Ken reported for work only to be called into the Stationmaster's office. "How come", the angry Stationmaster demanded, "two pigeons got home on Sunday afternoon when the race had been called off in Calais due to fog over the Channel?!" (Thanks to Ken Lightfoot, railwayman and raconteur, as featured in 'The Ipswich Book of Days' by Rachel Field).



If any villager remembers this 1957 incident with the Elmswell pigeons, we'd love to hear from them.



For further information about our History Group, please visit our website –

www.elmswell-history.org.uk
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MORE STEPS IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

The Task & Finish Working Party which the Council has asked to advise on making the change from managing the project via ECE - the Community Benefit Society set up in 2023 - to the Parish Council as owners of the site on the village's behalf, met on 10th June.

Council has accepted their recommendations, namely:

- That all shareholders be encouraged to donate their investment to the continuation of the project by the Council;
- Shareholders who agree to maintain their support will be recognised on the Tavern Donor Wall, commissioned from local graphic artist Alice Bolton, and will enjoy subsidised hospitality by way of a Tavern Donor Card;
- That, once the build is completed, a body modelled on the BWMA be set up including community group representatives to advise on managing the Tavern to suit the village.

ANY OTHER PROGRESS...

...with the funding?

All of the requirements of the Financial Services Authority are met ready for the dissolution of ECE.

This triggers the process of redeeming the shares invested in ECE and offering the chance for the money to be donated towards the continuing success of the project...so far

- • Half of the shareholders have responded within the first 10 days
- • 70% have opted to donate towards supporting the Tavern

...with the building?

11 local building contractors responded to the Press advertising for Expressions of Interest in taking the refurbishment / new-build job on.

They now have until 15th July to complete a comprehensive questionnaire regarding their ability to do the work, together with their financial standing and overall probity.

The timetable has the Tender issue in early August towards the placing of a contract by the end of September.

NEXT STEPS

Much hinges on the Tender returns. We will have the detailed professional judgement of 5 selected well-qualified and experience local contractors as to how much it will cost to do the job.

Early projections of some £100k retained from the original share investments look to be realistic.

The £500,000 Developer Contribution sits with Mid Suffolk to be drawn down as we build.

£240,000 remains in the balance as 'Levelling Up' Grant.

There will be debate and compromise, cuts and concessions.

We have to expect the unexpected.

But Elmswell will, eventually, given the continuing drive and determination that has been clearly demonstrated thus far, have our community pub



Cutting Jean's Amazing Cake at the community party celebrating the first year of the project

Alice Bolton's original Tavern mural





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CITIZENS ADVICE

I've just had my bathroom retiled, but I'm not happy with the work.

At first, things seemed to be going well, but then the tradesperson left to do another job and I had to chase them for updates. They did eventually come back and finish the job, but the work was rough around the edges. They also left all the old tiles and plaster for me to dispose of, which I wasn't expecting. I've now got the invoice, but I don't think the price reflects the work done or the service I got. Can I challenge this?

It's always frustrating when you run into problems with home improvements. If the work is to a degree you consider to be unfinished or unsafe, you should be able to get the tiler to come back to fix it.

Under the Consumer Rights Act 2015, that Act says that work, in this case by a tiler, should have been completed with 'reasonable care and skill'. If this isn't the case, then the law has been broken. You are legally entitled to ask that the problem is fixed (if they provided the tiles as well as the service, as in this case) or get money refunded (if they just provided the service and you bought the tiles). Either way, the tiler should fix the problem or refund you in a reasonable amount of time, without causing too much inconvenience. As you've received the invoice for the work but not paid yet, now would be a good time to ask them to fix the issue or you can negotiate a lower price for the work.

Speak to them in person or contact them in writing/email. Template letters can be found on the Citizens Advice website. Take photographs of the problem. Make notes about what happened, including dates and times. And gather any paperwork and receipts. You can find more information on the Citizens Advice website about steps you can take, including using 'alternative dispute resolution', which is a way of solving disagreements without going to court.

Citizens Advice are currently seeking volunteers to join them at their Stowmarket office. If you are interested, please call us on 01449 676060.

If you would like to become a volunteer with Citizens Advice, please visit our website for more details <https://midsuffolcab.org.uk/volunteer/>

Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk can provide in depth advice on this issue and much more, including debt, finances, employment, benefits and family/relationships. You can contact them by phone on 01449 676060, visit in person at Milton House, 5 Milton Road South, Stowmarket IP14 1EZ or use the contact form at midsuffolcab.org.uk/contact-us. Opening hours are Monday-Thursday 9.30am – 3.30pm and Friday 9.30am – 12.30pm.

**citizens
advice**

Mid Suffolk

ELMSWELL SPORT



ELMSWELL FOX BOWLS CLUB

All of our teams are doing remarkably well at the halfway stage of the season. Elmswell Fox 1 (the Brown Foxes), is currently top of the league by half of a point ahead of Wortham to whom we lost last week in a disappointing display and Neil Smart's Fox 2 (the Red Foxes) are 4th behind Wortham and Coney Weston Swifts. The Tuesday team, in Area D where we play both home and away on the same night, is currently second to West Row, who, to my knowledge, have no team name! Dick Burch's Thursday team is currently top of the Bury League Division 2 sitting 4 points clear of Stanton Wolves, who we beat at home but must face away in a couple of days. A result there, and at Haughley, who we also beat at home, should be enough to keep us in first place.

A couple of Sundays ago, we hosted the prestigious Guinness Cup when 12 of the best local teams took to the field to win the trophy. Jenny Murray masterminded the occasion with solid back-up from a good number of members. The event went very well and to top it off, our team of Mark Edwards, Rob Dann and Mark Jolly won the cup by defeating and much-fancied Haughley team in the final. Coney Weston entered two teams who contested the 3rd place final. Our thanks go to the Parish Council who supplied the bar and advised us throughout and congratulations to Jenny and her helpers and to the team for providing the cherry on the cake!



Our Cup-winning team of Mark ,Rob and Mark with their hard fought for Trophy presented by Jenny Murray.

Peter Edmonds, E.F.B.C. 07860 395720 edmondspeterj@gmail.com



ELMSWELL LIBRARY

Hello Elmswell,

The Reading Quest starts this month. Children can sign up from 13th July and it will run until 13th September. Our summer reading programme is a bit different this year as children and their families are challenged to 'quest' in their reading this summer, not just reading six books but choosing fun and engaging activities involving reading and books. Ideas for quests include 'building a cosy den' to 'reading a book at breakfast' or 'make something yummy from a recipe book'. Children can choose quests or create their own and all are achievable for children of varying ages and can involve the whole family. We will have volunteers in the library for sign up from 20th July throughout the summer. Our next exhibition is photographic work by Heath Brown. Heath's artistic vision is a captivating dialogue with the environment itself. Drawing inspiration from the interplay between Kantian notions of the sublime and the rich traditions of both pictorial and abstract art, he carves a unique path. Unlike the dramatic landscapes of Romanticism personified by artists like Caspar David Friedrich, his work seeks awe in the unassuming. The profound beauty and sense of transcendence he finds lie in the ordinary details and simple

observations of our everyday world. The exhibition is up from the beginning of July to mid August.

Our next display is inspired by Suffolk Day and A New Suffolk Garland, an anthology of Suffolk writing and art. The display has a selection of books by authors in the anthology, some set in Suffolk and some simply by the authors with a local connection and includes Lily by Rose Tremain, The rings of Saturn by W. G. Sebald, Don't you want me by India Knight, The part-time job by P. D. James and Human voices by Penelope Fitzgerald.

We are able to offer the range of books, activities, newspapers, computer access, in part to donations to Suffolk Libraries. If you are able to, please consider donating to Suffolk Libraries. You can donate via <https://www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/support-us>

See you in the library soon,

Miles



What's on at Library?

Story Time

1.10pm – 1.30pm every Tuesday
(except 1st one of the month)

9.10am – 9.30am every 1st Tuesday

Sunday Crafts

1pm – 2pm every Sunday
(origami 7th and 21st July)

Lego Club

Every Sunday 11am – 12noon

The Keep in Touch Community Café

10.30am on Wednesday 17th July at the Wesley Café (every 3rd Wednesday)

Opening times

Monday:	Closed
Tuesday:	10am – 1pm and 2pm – 7pm
Wednesday:	2pm – 5pm
Thursday:	10am – 1pm and 2pm – 7pm
Friday:	2pm – 5pm
Saturday:	10am – 1pm
Sunday:	10am – 3pm

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BWMA

The Blackbourne & Wesley Management Association advises the Parish Council on maximising the community benefits in terms of running and developing the village's main facilities at Blackbourne and at Wesley.

They met 19th June and amongst the matters of note were the following:

- 1 The container which was sited at Blackbourne originally to facilitate the extension works in 2020 has proved an invaluable asset as the activities and use of the facilities have grown. However, it sat directly in the way of the pedestrian/cycle path which was, subsequently, planned to link the new 160 house estate on Ashfield Road with Blackbourne. The path is now completed on the developer's side and the container has had to be moved to allow the installation of a bridge over the boundary ditch to complete the link. This dovetails in to the improvement plan for Rights of Way which was supported in the recent BMSDC / Parish Council community consultation exercise which will encourage safe walking and cycling from Grove Lane at the village's northern extremity down through Blackbourne om to Lord's Bridge and into Eastern Way on to the primary school and other facilities.



Container in the way...



Container gone...



Container re-located.

- 2 Members noted the results of the first meeting of the Parish Council's working party looking at the refurbishment and expansion of the Crown Mill play area. This was another scheme supported in the community consultation. The results included the suggestion that, as well as replacing the equipment and surfacing of the original facility, the expansion needed to accommodate the increase in use and the lack of provision for under-6's. Rather than expand towards Station Road, where fumes from standing traffic at the gates can be problematic, Councillors are looking at the village's other play area in Crown Mill where, possibly, the under-6 facility could be accommodated. As the scheme develops, BWMA members will be key to the consultation process.



- 3 The Meeting noted complaints that alcohol was being introduced at one of the regular events where a bar is provided under the Blackbourne License. The organisers have been contacted and asked to ensure that this ceases as, otherwise, it can put the licence at risk.



ST JOHN'S CHURCH

Hello from St John's Church

As you can see in the photograph, we are currently flying the Suffolk flag over St John's. Not only was the flag hoisted in time for Suffolk Day (21 June), but the gold crown and 2 arrows pay tribute to St Edmund, who was the original patron saint of England. Edmund was king of East Anglia until he was killed by the Danes in 903, when he refused to renounce his Christian faith. St Edmund declared that his religion was dearer to him than his life. This did not please the Danes, who tied the king to a tree, fired arrows at him and then cut off his head. Legend has it that when his body was discovered, a wolf was guarding his head. The Lord Jesus was worth everything to St Edmund. Edmund was willing to die for his Lord, because he knew Jesus has already died for him. The Suffolk flag over St John's reminds us that we too believe Jesus to be worthy of all our loyalty and worship, for he is the one who died to save us for eternal life.

July promises to be another wonderful month at St John's. Food will be a highlight as we enjoy a Men's breakfast and our annual barbecue (see dates below). In the main services, we shall be rounding off our series looking at the letter to the Philippians and embarking on a series in Acts of the Apostles chapters 8 to 12. The Sunday School will be looking at the adventures of the prophet Jonah (sounds like a rather fishy business!). If you would like to find out more about Jesus and the Christian faith, please get in contact or pop along on a Sunday. Everyone is very welcome and you will receive a warm reception. We meet at 10:30am each Sunday. Our group for children meets during the service (except on the first Sunday of the month when it is all age) and includes a story from the Bible and a craft. Tea, coffee etc. are available the service.

Upcoming Dates:

Sat 6 July 8:30am

Men's Breakfast

Sun 7 July 9:00am

Holy Communion

Sun 7 July 10:30am

Family Service

Sun 14 July 10:30am

Sunday Worship with Holy Communion

Sun 21 July 10:30am

Sunday Worship followed by barbecue

Sun 28 July 10:30am

Sunday Worship with Holy Communion

Sun 4 Aug 9:00am

Holy Communion

Sun 4 Aug 10:30am

Family Service

Every Saturday:

9:00am Weekly prayer meeting online (see web site for details)

We live stream most of the 10:30am services on our Facebook page (also available on our main web site later that day).

*Rector: Peter Goodridge,
elmswellrector@gmail.com
(01359 240512)*

Web site: www.stjohnselmswell.org.uk

*Facebook:
www.facebook.com/stjohnselmswell*

*YouTube:
www.youtube.com/@stjohnselmswell*



ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

TOWER

FLOODLIGHTING

Everyone is welcome to sponsor the floodlighting of St. John's, a gratifying way to commemorate a personal event, an anniversary, or any other special occasion. Alternatively, you can simply make a donation. And it all helps to pay the day-to-day running expenses of our parish church.

A night's floodlighting costs £5. Cheques payable please to "ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, ELMSWELL".

For the summer months the lights will be

on between 8.00 p.m. and midnight.

Please note the deadline for inclusion in the August Newsletter is Monday 22nd July.

Your support is very much appreciated.

Thank You.

JUNE 2024 SPONSORSHIP NOT PREVIOUSLY ACKNOWLEDGED

11 remembering with love, a dear husband and father, Dennis Atkins, on his Birthday.

JULY 2024 SPONSORSHIPS

2 in memory of Betty Peachey.

5 Craig Paul Stammers. "Happy Heavenly 35th Birthday. Love and miss you every day". Lots of love, Mum & Peter. xxx.

15 in loving memory of Ivy Millicent Elliston

17 remembering our dear daughter, Margaret, who passed away on 17th July 2020.

20 in memory of Reginald Bloomfield.

21 in loving memory of my husband, William Clark (Bill), on his Birthday.

27 to remember and thank all those past Elmswell Fire-Fighters who served their village and community so well.

28 remembering Colin - a much loved husband and dad on his Birthday, who passed away 28th January 2024.

All bookings and payments please to :- Trevor Sadler, Abbots Warren, Church Road, Elmswell (Tel: 240908)

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Rev. Simon Leworthy,
The Presbytery, 29 Lockington Road,
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Tel:01449-612946
E-mail: pp@ourladystowmarket.org.uk

MASS TIMES:

Saturday (First Mass of Sunday) – 6pm
St Mary's C of E Church, Woolpit IP30 9QG

Sundays – 8.30am & 10.15am
Our Lady's, Stricklands Road,
Stowmarket IP14 1AW

Holy Days – 10am & 7.30pm
Our Lady's Strickland Road Stowmarket

Weekday Mass is usually 10am, see the



weekly Newsletter or the Parish Website – www.ourladystowmarket.org.uk

All are welcome to “Coffee and Chat”, 2 – 4pm on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month. This is held in the Parish Hall above the Church – a lift is available.

ELMSWELL

BAPTIST

CHURCH

Early in June our church was packed to rafters as the saying goes to celebrate the life of our friend Dorothy who as Tony reported last month passed into glory in May. Our normal congregation size is between 12 and 20 people, so it was wonderful for the church to be so full especially to say goodbye to our good friend, the service was led by our former pastoral leader Stephen and our new friend Reg a retired minister recently moved to Elmswell. There was a time when our church was full like that twice on a Sunday as were many churches. We pray constantly for what is described as Revival when people come back to Christ and all churches will be full again.

In the mean time we continue to offer a home to the village Food Bank on Mondays and Fridays 10 am to 11am

Our Ladies Friendship Group do not meet in July and August but return on 2nd September for the first meeting of the 24-25 season.

Food and Friends lunch is on Thursday 11th July at midday contact Jackie on 01359 245918 if you've not been before and would like to join us.

Our services are almost always led by visiting preachers as we being a small membership cannot support a full time minister in July they will be led by our good friends to whom we are for ever grateful.

7th July
Rev Robert Green (inc Communion)

14th July Mike Forrester

21st July (to be confirmed)

28th July Rev Reg Craig
(to be Confirmed)

4th August
Rev Norman Tharby (inc Communion)

If you are new to the village and are looking for a friendly place to worship why not come and join us at 10 30 on Sunday mornings contact Tony on 01359241541 for any more information or visit our website www.elmswellbaptist.org.uk email cockant2@btinternet.com

God bless, *Dave Hollings*

In 2023/24, Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk saw a 17% increase in unique clients. If you would like to find out about what Citizens Advice have been seeing in Mid Suffolk you can read our Impact Report 2023/24.

Recently, Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk held a Cost of Living Forum to discuss how the community can work together to help people who are struggling with the cost of living. We heard that that some organisations wanted more information about what they could do. We have put together a guide that you may find useful as community leaders or may be able to share with organisations in your community: Guide to helping people with cost of living problems.

It's aimed at anyone who works directly with people who might be struggling with the cost of living. The aim of the guide is:

- Explain what you can do in a crisis
- Give you some things you can suggest to someone who you think can manage themselves
- Explain how you can support someone who is overwhelmed by their financial difficulties
- Give you an overview of what the next steps a person will need to take to tackle debt or claim benefits or deal with being evicted.

There are some other resources you may find useful.

Mid Suffolk District Council have a Flyer for Organisations that Support Residents with the Cost of Living.

You can also download leaflets to share with people who are worrying about money or need help with the cost of living here: <https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/cost-of-living>

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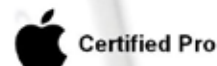
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SRI LANKA



Sonia has recently returned from a fabulous 9 night trip to Sri Lanka with Travel Gallery!

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The Cultural Triangle is Sri Lanka's historic heartland, situated in the northern centre of the island and covers an area which includes the World Heritage cultural sites of the Sacred City of Anuradhapura, the Ancient City of Polonnaruwa, the Rock Fortress of Sigiriya, the Ancient cave temple of Dambulla.



Contact Sonia on the telephone number below to discuss your next trip to Sri Lanka!

Tel: 01359 242555 email: elmswell@travel-stop.co.uk
The office is open for walk-ins and appointments on Thursdays and 9am to 5:30pm for phone and email enquiries Monday to Saturday.

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NEWS FROM ELMSWILD



Apple Day, Saturday 21st September

It's that time of year again when we start thinking about our Apple Day in September. There are some lovely apples, pears, gages and damsons growing in our orchard, just at the right time for our annual celebration of the apple – **Lukeswood Apple Day, on Saturday 21st September, 2.00-5.00.**

We have some great activities planned, with interesting and fun stalls, and delicious refreshments from the Trefoil Guild. As before, our Eco Loo will be available for visitors – so you can enjoy as many cups of tea as you like! A great afternoon out for all ages. Once again, **admission is FREE**, so don't miss the opportunity to take a look at the orchard and enjoy all the action.

Invitation to all Village Clubs and Organisations

Would you like to book a stall at Apple Day? It's a great way to raise funds for your organisation or charity, and have an enjoyable afternoon out at the same time. If you or your village club would like to have a stall, just get in touch.

Are you a maker, or have Crafts to sell or show?

We especially welcome craft stalls of all kinds, so if you are a maker and would like to sell your wares or just get your work known to a wider audience, do please contact us.

One thing we can never be sure of is the weather, especially with the climatic ups and downs we've had this year, so it's very useful to have some cover. We now have two large marquees, so if you don't have your own gazebo but would still like to come, please get in touch and we'll see if we can find a space for you. **All pitches are free.**

Pardon the weeds, we're feeding the bees... and the butterflies, the bugs, the beetles, the birds ... and ourselves!

Walking around Elmswell at the moment, whether it's in front gardens, road verges, odd corners of grassland here and there, or even popping up from between a crack in the pavement, there seem to be wildflowers blooming everywhere! Some of them have been sown deliberately by gardeners who want to introduce a bit of wildness to their own patches, while some have just grown all by themselves. It's amazing and thrilling to spot a plant that has sprung up unexpectedly when you just leave things uncut. For example, next to the library we found some Broomrape – an unusual flower that we've never seen there before. On first sight your heart gives a little leap as it does look very like an orchid, but it's not, although very interesting in its own right. As they have no chlorophyll the broomrape is totally dependent on other plants for nutrients. Its seeds remain dormant in the soil, often for many years,

until certain compounds produced by living plant roots stimulate them to germinate. The seedlings then produce a growth which attaches to roots of nearby plants and robs the host of water and nutrients.

We know that not everyone shares our enthusiasm for wild habitats and some people prefer things to be kept neat and tidy, so perhaps we should explain the thinking behind all these patches of wildflowers. So much of our landscape nowadays, whether it's agricultural land, the built environment or even gardens, is beginning to resemble a green desert, with increasing use of pesticides and herbicides, to the extent that insects have declined by 75% in the last 50 years. Yet insects are a vital part of the food chain and their loss can be catastrophic for wildlife. They are also crucial for human wellbeing – we need insects to pollinate our crops, recycle dung, leaves and dead matter, keep the soil healthy, control pests and much more. So well done to everyone who is contributing to wild Elmswell! And if you think it does look a bit scruffy, just have a closer look at all the beautiful colours and the teeming insect life that they are supporting.

Mary Feeney
info@elmswild.org.uk



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SUMMER CHECKLIST



EAT AN ICE CREAM



GO FOR A PICNIC



PLAY A SPORT



PLANT A SEED



VISIT THE SEASIDE



GO ON A SCAVENGER HUNT

Frozen banana lollies

Method

STEP 1

Peel the bananas and trim off the very ends if you'd like them neater. Then chop them each into 4 equal-sized chunks. Thread a strawberry onto each lolly stick first, then push on the pieces of banana.

STEP 2

When all your banana pops are made lay them on a baking tray and put in the freezer, uncovered, for 1 hr.

STEP 3

Put the yogurt into a tall glass or jug then dip each banana pop into the yogurt to coat (avoiding the strawberries), then place back onto the tray to refreeze until set.

STEP 4

Melt the chocolate in the microwave in 30 second bursts (stirring after each blast) then pour into a mug. Dip the end piece of each banana pop in the chocolate then sprinkle over the hundreds and thousands.

STEP 5

The chocolate should set pretty much instantaneously, but you can keep them in the freezer until you want to serve them for up to 1 week.

Ingredients

2 bananas
4 large strawberries
100g natural yogurt
200g dark chocolate
1 tbsp hundreds and thousands

You will also need:

4 wooden lolly sticks



ELMSWELL FOOTBALL CLUB



PRE-SEASON TRAINING

TUESDAYS 7pm start
at The Blackbourne

New players welcome



ELMSWELL FC Pre Season Friendlies



- 13/07 The Community Cup - Elmswell U18s v Firsts v Reserves
- 16/07 Elmswell v AFC Kesgrave mix
- 20/07 Elmswell v Stanton / Reserves v Brantham Dev (tbc)
- 27/07 Elmswell v Stonham Aspal / Reserves v Kestrals A's
- 03/08 Elmswell v Coddenham / Reserves v Mendlesham
- 10/08 Elmswell v Samuels / Reserves v Bramford
- 17/08 Elmswell v Capel Plough / Reserves v Kesgrave AFC Res
- 24/08 League starts (tbc)

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SECRETARY'S REPORT

You'll be tired of pictures of Messrs Potter, Farmer and Trickey by now but this really is the final one. Farewell chaps. Next month I hope to have a picture of our new Manager Sean Talman to switch things up a bit.

Pictures are from our Awards Ceremony. Congratulations to main award winners, Matt, Pie, Will, Harry, Kez, Damo and Malin. Apologies if I've left anyone out. A good day was had by all at another well attended event this year.

Preseason has started and new manager Sean Talman is getting to know the squad and making some additions to it. Things are shaping up well but new players are still welcome at training to try out for either The First Team or The Reserves (info top of opposite page and on our socials).

Only a few spaces to fill for friendlies which will start with a little mini competition (The Community Cup) of 45 minute games between the U18s, Reserves and our Firsts. The debate is still ongoing as to whether there will be a slight handicap system in place. It will be up Grove Lane, as will the rest of the friendlies, while Ed tries to sort out the goal mouths at The BB. Should be a fun day for all the family and hopefully we'll get some refreshments up there. Updates will be on social media.

Thursday evening I have the SIL AGM to attend at Woodbridge FC, so next month, hopefully, I'll have more time to tell you all about that. It will include what division both our teams are in after the latest rejiggle.

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WESLEY UKULELE BAND

June has seen us perform at Stowlangtoft Hall and then Hillcroft House in Stowmarket.

These were followed by a do at the Monday Club based at the Leading Lives Community Hub in Stowmarket, where we have been several times before.

Our final gig before publication of your newsletter was an afternoon at Nedging Hall near Hadleigh. This turned out to be their bi-annual village fete in aid of their church. Apart from us, there was a classic car show, barbeque, bric a brac stall, craft stalls and tombola. We performed three half-hour sets, interspersed by sets from Folky Bob, Alan and the Quays and our esteemed leader, Kevin. It was a blazing hot day on the Sunday, and, by the end, some of us were suffering more than others, but we all had a great time and we were very well received.

We are off for a return visit to Nowton Court Village in Bury on Tuesday.

By the time that you read this, we will have hosted 'June in Tune' and will hope to have some printable pictures for your edification and delight.

'Til next time. Take care.

For information, please call Kevin on 07710 149040 or Carol Or email: Kevin.Knock99@gmail.com



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Food Waste collections:

Central Government is due to introduce a "Simpler Recycling" initiative, which will include food waste collections from April 2026. The plan is for every household to receive a new 23-litre food waste bin, as well as a smaller 5-litre caddy for use in the kitchen. The food waste will be collected on a weekly basis.

There is an approximate £250,000 shortfall in the Government funding allocated to MSDC for this initiative, and Councils across Suffolk are looking at how best to ensure that resources and facilities are in place to meet the 2026 timetable.

Swimming pool improvements:

Babergh and Mid Suffolk have been awarded funding to improve the carbon footprint of council swimming pools. Mid Suffolk Leisure Centre is receiving £180k to fund pool covers, and micro filtration units.

Gateway 14:

Funding of £18.8m has been agreed to create a Skills & Innovation Centre at Gateway 14 in Stowmarket – the latest development there to support business, create jobs, and boost the local economy.

Council Meetings:

The Annual Mid Suffolk District Council meeting was held on 22nd May. The new Chair is Councillor Dan Pratt and his



chosen charity for the forthcoming year will be The Food Museum in Stowmarket. Councillor Keith Scarff was appointed as Vice Chair.

Due to the General Election, the monthly Full Council meeting on 27th June has been cancelled, and various other meetings re-scheduled to after 4th July for political reasons.

Mid Suffolk Citizens Advice:

This independent charity offers free, confidential, independent and impartial advice on a wide range of issues. Their office at 5 Milton Road South, Stowmarket IP14 1EZ (behind the town council/registry office) is open on

Mondays to Thursdays 9.30-3.30, and Fridays 9.30- 12.30 (no appointment needed). Alternatively, they can be contacted by phone (leave a voicemail) on 01449 676060, or via an online contact form at <https://midsuffolkcab.org.uk>

Monthly drop-ins:

Jen and Sarah hold monthly drop-in sessions, alternating between the Wesley Café in Elmswell, and Teacups Café in Woolpit. The next dates are:

- Thursday 18th July 10-12 at Teacups
- Tuesday 13th August 10-12 at The Wesley



District Councillors for Elmswell and Woolpit:

Councillor Sarah Mansel	07860 829517	sarah.mansel@midsuffolk.gov.uk
Councillor Jen Overett	07928 512591	jen.overett@midsuffolk.gov.uk

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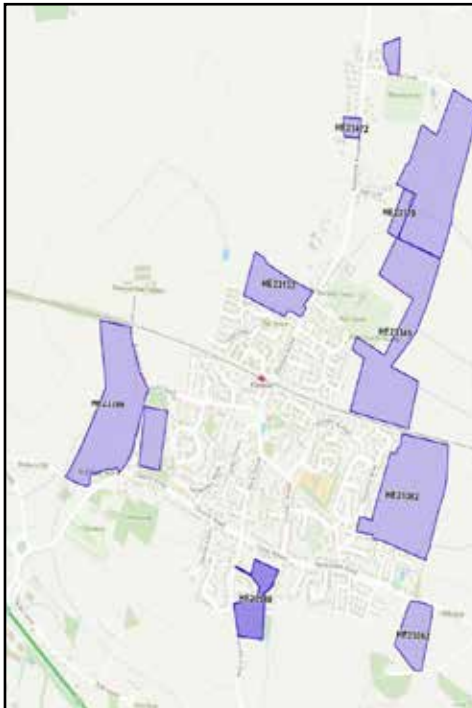


PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT AT WETHERDEN ROAD

Development under our current Planning system is, 'plan led'.

This means that Planning Authorities, such as Babergh Mid Suffolk (BMSDC), must have a Joint Local Plan (JLP) which lays down the ground rules for what may be built and where.

This Local Plan is informed by national rules and guidelines - currently the National Planning Policy Framework - which is drawn up by central government towards guiding development appropriately.



As Elmswell and neighbouring villages are aware, there is often tension between the perceived national need for more housing and the local wish to put that housing somewhere else.

The JLP is now looking at 'Part 2' to add to the main document which came into force in November 2023.

As part of this process there is a 'Call For Sites' when the councils invite submissions to be put forward for residential land use for consideration as sites for future development.

This opportunity was open between 5 January to 2 February 2024. The sites submitted as part of this process are now published. These sites have no status and are shown for transparency and information only at this stage. They will later be subject to formal assessment and public consultation processes. Just because a site is being promoted, this does not automatically mean that it will go forward as an allocation in the JLP or be supported for development of the proposed use. The plan, copied here, showing the sites currently registered is available on the BMSDC Planning website

The agents acting for landowners regarding one of the sites - see HE23382 – asked to meet with the Parish Council to provide details of the outline proposals for the site and to take any comments and questions.

4 Councillors together with the Clerk met with 2 representatives of the Pegasus Group and Endurance Estates Strategic Land on 20th June under the Council's Protocol regarding pre-application approaches from developers. This confirms, effectively, that Councillors are there to listen and learn and that nothing said forms any formal opinion.

WHAT THE DEVELOPERS SAY:

The site is some 12.5 hectares – 31 acres - between the recently built Crest Nicolson estate and the railway line. The indicative plan shows 170 houses. There is a 3 hectare (7½ acre) plot left for a primary school. Some of this land might be used for a multi-use primary care facility in conjunction with Woolpit Health Centre.

WHAT WAS RAISED AT THE MEETING:

- 1 The school & medical facility proposals are not supported by the County Council or the Suffolk & N.E. Essex Integrated Care Board – both are very long shots.
- 2 The community view is very likely to be that, whatever community gain might be offered as part of the proposals, the highways infrastructure problems particularly at the church road school Rd / Church Hill junction cannot be addressed without the provision of a bypass which is a concept considered and subsequently abandoned in recent years with no practical hope of revival.



Further consultation is not expected until 2025



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The Parish Council meets at least once each month, excluding August, although extraordinary meetings can be called as required at any time. The June meeting with 10 councillors present, together with District Councillor Ward Member Jen Overett, 7 members of the public, and the Parish Clerk, Peter Dow, took place at Blackbourne on Monday 17th.

This report is compiled from that meeting by the Parish Clerk and edited by the Council's Editorial Board which comprises the Council Chairman, the Council Vice-chairman and Cllr Sue Roots, elected by her peers to join them. It seeks to cover some of the more interesting or significant items thought to deserve wider public attention. Included, where appropriate, are matters reported to the meeting by external bodies such as the County and District Council Ward Members or as raised at the meeting by members of the public. Further background and reference to subsequent events are included where relevant.

The Minutes of recent Parish Council meetings and Committee meetings, together with the agenda for the next meeting, when ratified, are available online at elmswell.suffolk.cloud and from the Parish Clerk by arrangement. Bound copies of older Minutes are lodged in the Village Archive at Blackbourne and with the Suffolk County Records Office in Bury St. Edmunds. The most recent Minutes from the meeting held on 20th May, as approved at this meeting, are posted in the Council's notice board at Crown Mill.

Suffolk County Council

Cllr Andy Mellen tabled a written report which included the following:

Funding for Local Government

The opposition group proposed a motion for council on Thursday 23 May to lobby the government for improved funding for local authorities, which was seconded by the Conservative administration and voted through unanimously in the chamber. Politicians of all parties are concerned by the £4 billion funding 'gap' predicted for councils in the next few years, particularly for social care. To balance the books this year, Suffolk County Council had to withdraw £15.9 million from its reserves - the equivalent of council savings accounts - but this is not a sustainable approach. Councils that have become bankrupt have to cut services back to the minimum they have to provide by law, and seek to raise revenue by increasing council tax and other avenues they have such as charges for parking or social care.

Norwich to Tilbury Pylons At Cabinet on Tuesday 21 May, two reports were tabled on Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects in the region. The first was our response to the Five Estuaries wind farm proposals, this will have landfall in Essex but will be visible from the Suffolk coast and the developers are paying for a wildlife project on Orford Ness as environmental compensation. The second report detailed the council's response to the proposed Norwich to Tilbury 400kV grid reinforcement, and the Cabinet voted that the council should object and call for a pause until alternative options have been explored. The proposals include 183 kilometres of pylons, with four sections of underground cabling running through and near to the Dedham Vale National Landscape and the Waveney valley, but the

council wants to see alternative options explored for additional undergrounding in the Waveney valley, and expressed concerns about the route which see pylons placed close to several Suffolk airfields. The council also discussed how to make sure that energy projects in the county were coordinated, as it was agreed that the impact of all the proposed projects in a similar timeframe would have a massive impact on the county, its landscape, economy and transport routes.

Transport for Post-16 Students

Cabinet also considered a paper on recommendations for charges for post-16 school transport. Although students now have to be in education or training up to the age of 18, the council receives no funding from the government to pay for their transport. This means the council asks parents and carers to pay for part of the cost with the rest subsidised by the council. In 2023-24, the average cost for a mainstream seat was £1,701 and the average cost for a SEND student seat is £11,819. The proposal approved by Cabinet was for the charge for a mainstream seat to rise to £1,050 a year, which is a steep £90 increase from last year. There will be no increase for SEND students so their seats will remain at £780 a year. The 50% reduction in charge for families on a low income and in receipt of free school meals will continue for another year. The council will continue to signpost families to public transport routes where these may be cheaper and in addition, many schools have bursaries for travel which students can apply for.

SEND Strategy 2024-29 On Tuesday 21 May, Cabinet approved the new SEND Strategy for the Local Area SEND Partnership, which is made up of the council's inclusion service and relevant NHS services.

The new strategy takes on board recommendations from the recent Ofsted/CQC inspection to set the Partnership's direction for SEND services for the next five years. The strategy was co-produced with children, parents, carers and members of staff who work in SEND services and aims to improve services in several areas: communication, outcomes for SEND children and improved timeliness and quality of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) and Annual Reviews. The strategy still requires some formatting/design work but will soon be available to view on the council's website.

Children's Services Inspection The council has just received notification that Ofsted will be coming for a two week inspection of its children's services. This inspection is focused on social care, youth justice, corporate parenting, family services and safeguarding. It will also look at partnership working with other council teams and external partners to support children and keep them safe. Suffolk County Council had its last children's services Ofsted inspection five years ago and was rated as Outstanding.

Dementia Strategy Suffolk County Council, NHS partners and adult social care organisations have launched a dementia strategy. The number of people with dementia in the UK was estimated to be close to one million in 2021, but by 2050 this figure is expected to rise to 1.6 million people. In Suffolk, a predominantly rural county with an ageing population where 23.6% of Suffolk residents are 65 years or over - higher than the England average - the number of people who develop dementia is likely to be higher, so having a robust and effective strategy to manage this is essential. The strategy has

been co-produced with people with dementia and their carers, and will look to promote early diagnosis, providing better information about care and treatment options, and focus on improved signposting for people of all ages with dementia, their carers and families, to help them get the support they want and need to enable them to live well with dementia within their own community. You can read the new dementia strategy here: suffolk.gov.uk/asset-library/digital-version-suffolk-dementia-strategy-2024-20292.pdf

New Vehicles and Equipment for Suffolk Fire and Rescue Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service has unveiled a £3.5 million investment in new firefighting vehicles and equipment, including a 32m turntable ladder vehicle, a specialist rescue tender, six new fire engines, a driver trainer vehicle plus a fleet of electric pool cars. The new vehicles will be on the road by summer 2024. The new vehicles are part of a planned replacement programme whereby fire engines are replaced every 15 years, and include the latest technology to help keep Suffolk residents safe. They also support the council's net zero targets as officer and pool cars will now be electric vehicles. Fire engines are generally diesel vehicles, although there are some electric-hybrid vehicles currently being trialled in London.

Nature survey In order to prepare Suffolk's Local Nature Recovery Strategy, the council has launched a public survey so residents can share their favourite nature spots and which habitats they think should be protected. Farmers, landowners and land managers are also encouraged to submit practical, achievable proposals to support nature conservation, as well as sharing how land is currently managed and any challenges faced applying for government funding schemes. The strategy will form a plan to help reverse the decline in nature across the county, and to connect and expand existing areas that are important for wildlife and the landscape.

You can share your thoughts in the Suffolk Local Nature Recovery Strategy Survey by visiting <https://www.nsnrp.org/get-involved>. It closes on 30 June 2024.

Clerk's Report

The Parish Clerk's Report to the Meeting included the following:

- 1 Councillors will be aware of the statutory consultation on the Norwich to Tilbury 'Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project', NSIP, being the suggestion that pylons should carry the electricity transmission cables across Norfolk & Suffolk to serve offshore wind projects.
The response deadline has been put back to 24th July because of the general election.
I have had no feedback from councillors or residents but the matter has a high profile elsewhere and I feel it right that Elmswell should stay informed.
Hence I have circulated a working draft response from BMSDC to inform any debate which might arise. EPC's current position thus far is that we do not comment.
- 2 I have met with BMSDC Councillors including Teresa Davis, Cabinet Member for Thriving Communities, to discuss the idea of a District / Parish led initiative to provide Demand Responsive Transport which would build upon our taxi-bus initiative. Mid Suffolk are one step ahead at the moment and I have agreed to hold back on taking anything forward until their plans crystallise.
Meanwhile I meet soon with Thurston, Beyton and Woolpit to discuss developing the service we have using the BSIP2 scheme grant which we have been awarded.
- 3 The statutory posting of Council's Annual Governance and Accountability Return to the Government-Appointed external auditors Messrs PKF Littlejohn, as received and approved at the May meeting, offers public examination of Council's accounts from 30th May until 13th July during which time the books in their entirety are open for public inspection by appointment.
- 4 The first meeting of the Elmswell Tavern Task & Finish Working Party made a promising beginning in the process of transferring responsibility for driving the Community Pub project from ECE to EPC. The expertise and experience retained by keeping the original Management board group together promises the chance of realising the original scheme within a realistic timescale. I recommend and support the group's recommendations.
- 5 The Recommendations of the

Crown Mill T&FWP in their Report as circulated would impose no cost and do not, I suggest, need formal sanction from Council.

Planning results

The Meeting noted the results of Planning applications made to Mid Suffolk, the Planning Authority, being:

DC/24/01453 Erection of 1No detached self build...Land to rear of Kiln Farm Guesthouse, Kiln Lane
REFUSED EPC objected

DC/24/01551 Erection of single storey rear extension at South View, Spong Lane
GRANTED EPC no objection

DC/24/0200 Tree works...St Johns House, Church Road
GRANTED EPC no comment

DC/24/01923 Discharge of Conditions...Land adjacent to The Stables, Station Road
APPROVED EPC objected

DC/24/01825
Erection of single storey dwelling...5 Cresmedow Way
GRANTED EPC supported

Planning Application

The Meeting agreed to support the Clerk's suggestion that comment should be made under Delegated Powers ref DC/24/01834 being a re-consultation on the recent Application for Approval of Reserved Matters on land adjacent to The Stables at Station Road. The amended height and improved positioning of the proposed dwelling on the site accorded with concerns expressed by way of earlier Objection.

Lawn Farm Quarry

The Meeting agreed that there were no issues raised in the recent re-consultation on the SCC Application ref SCC/0084/20MS/VOC2 at Lawn Farm Quarry which materially affected the matters raised by Council in their original detailed objection to the proposed expansion and that no further comment need be made.

Consultation re land east of Eastern Way

The meeting noted that, under the Council's protocol regarding pre-application approaches, Councillors are invited to meet to receive an update on the proposals from Pegasus Group on behalf of clients for the promotion of land east of Eastern Way for development via the emerging Part 2 of the BMSDC Joint Local Plan. A Report will come to the next Council meeting.



Elmswell Tavern

The Meeting formally noted the Report, as tabled, on the Elmswell Tavern Task and Finish Working Party meeting held on 10th June and confirmed agreement with the proposals therein regarding: (a) incentives to be offered to ECE shareholders towards encouraging the donation of share holdings to the Community Pub project, and, (b) the establishment of the Elmswell Tavern Management Association when the building development is completed.

Next meeting

It was noted that the next meeting was scheduled for 15th July beginning at 7.30pm at Blackbourne. The public are, as ever, welcome to attend all Council meetings and the agendas will always offer opportunities for questions and comment. Agendas are published online at elmswell.suffolk.cloud and on the Council's notice board at Crown Mill and hard copies can be collected from the Council Office at Blackbourne.



YOUR COUNCILLORS ARE

David Barker Linden Croft Hawk End Lane ELMSWELL IP30 9ED	01359 241135	david@linden-croft.co.uk	Vice chairman of Council Planning Committee Complaints Committee
David Brown 16 Whatley Close ELMSWELL IP30 9GJ	07803 263454	davidedward.brown@outlook.com	Planning Committee Complaints Committee
Dick Burch 14 Wetherden Road ELMSWELL IP30 9DF	01359 240105	clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk	Poor's Land Charity Blackbourne & Wesley Management Association Planning Committee Complaints Committee
Peter Edmonds Little Acre Ashfield Road ELMSWELL IP30 9HJ	01359 241640	edmondspeterj@gmail.com	Planning Committee Complaints Committee
Peter Hancock Jubilee End 17A Jubilee Terrace ELMSWELL IP30 9DH	07483 850965	prjhancock24@btinternet.com	Footpath Officer Blackbourne & Wesley Management Association Elmswell Amenities Association Planning Committee Complaints Committee
David Hawes Dunelm Cooks Road ELMSWELL IP30 9BX	01359 240249	annahawes39@gmail.com	Planning Committee Complaints Committee
Sarah Mansel Ashcroft House Ashfield Road ELMSWELL IP30 9HJ	07860 829517	sarah.mansel@midsuffolk.gov.uk	Planning Committee Complaints Committee <i>Also serves as Ward Member on Mid Suffolk District Council</i>
Fred Pallett Maple Cottage Warren lane ELMSWELL IP30 9DT	01359 408232	upstreambd@gmail.com	Chairman of Council Poor's Land Charity Planning Committee Complaints Committee
Sue Roots 7 Warren Close ELMSWELL IP30 9DS	01359 240164	sue2955@hotmail.co.uk	Planning Committee Newsletter Report Editorial Board
Mike Schofield Minerva Fairmead ELMSWELL IP30 9HT	01359 241430	mhaksch@gmail.com	
Philip Shaw East View Ashfield Road ELMSWELL IP30 9HG	01359 241192	philipjshaw@btinternet.com	Safeguarding Lead Blackbourne & Wesley Management Association Planning Committee Complaints Committee
	07710 578212		

Enquiries on any Parish Council matter are invited to the Clerk, Peter Dow, at The Council Office, Blackbourne, Blackbourne Road, IP30 9UH – right next to the car park and with wheelchair access.

**Staffed Monday – Friday 9.00am – 4.00pm
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Future Council Meetings

Notice of all meetings and agendas is posted on the Council's notice board at Crown Mill and in the community notice board at the Co-op.

July 15th Sept 21st Oct 18th Nov 16th Dec 16th

Meetings are held at
Blackbourne,
beginning at 7.30 unless
otherwise notified

VILLAGE INDEX



Useful contacts for community groups & others...feedback is essential.
Do be in touch to correct or add details or to suggest someone else deserving of listing.

Amenities Association	Jean Barker (Sec)	eea@elmswell.org.uk	241135
Art Club	Eddie Douglas	edward.douglas2@gmail.com	
Baby & Toddler Group		elmswellbtgroup@gmail.com	
Baptists	Dave Hollings	davehollings@btinternet.com	241323
BATS (Badminton & Table Tennis)	Mike Burgess Wilson	burgesswilsonmike@gmail.com	
Beavers	Ruth Salmon	ruthcourt4@hotmail.co.uk	
Bingo at Blackbourne	Brian Hawes		07761 125093
BWMA	Peter Edmonds (Sec)	edmondspeterj@gmail.com	07860 395720
Blackbourne – all enquiries	Parish Council office	clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk	244134
Brownies	Gemma Sutton	elmswellbrownies@hotmail.com	
CAB		advice@midsuffolkcab.org.uk	01449 676060
Carpet Bowls Club	Frank Boxall	jf.boxall@btinternet.com	
Christians Together in Elmswell	Peter Goodridge	elmswellrector@gmail.com	240512
Community Speed Watch	Marie Spampinato	mariespampinato@hotmail.co.uk	07769 715209
Companions	Linda Waspe	linda@labbott.plus.com	
County Councillor	Cllr Andy Mellen	Andy.Mellen@suffolk.gov.uk	
Cricket Club	Ben Whatling (Captain)	benwhatling@mail.com	07760 174811
Cubs	Mark Pernot	mark.pernot@gmail.com	
District Councillor	Sarah Mansell	Sarah.Mansell@midsuffolk.gov.uk	07860 829517
District Councillor	Jen Overett	Jen.Overett@midsuffolk.gov.uk	
Elmswheelians	Trevor Sadler	trevor.sadler@dsl.pipex.com	240908
Elmswild	Mary Feeney	info@elmswild.org.uk	241901
Exchange Afternoon WI	Carol Blissett	carolblissett@hotmail.co.uk	242884
First Responders	Merv	merv.smith@tiscali.co.uk	07909 006 496
Football	Chris Edmonds	edddd101@gmail.com	
Fox Bowls Team bowls at Blackbourne	Rob Dann	rccsdann@btinternet.com	07917 013846
Gardening Club	Nick	elmswellgadmin@btinternet.com	01359 242601
Guides	Viv	elmswellguides@outlook.com	
Health Centre - Woolpit			240298
History Group	Stella Chamberlin	stellachamberlin@yahoo.co.uk	
Ladies Voices (Choir)	Anna Wilton Mills	annawm63@gmail.com	
Library	Miles Row - Manager	Elmswell.Library@suffolklibraries.co.uk	240974
Little Elms	Paula Reynolds / Samantha Willers	info@littleelms.co.uk	240491
Newsletter	Editorial office	eea@elmswell.org.uk	244134
Over 55's Club	Diann Armstrong	Mayfield, Wetherden Road	241002
Parish Council	Parish Clerk	clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk	244134
Police Emergencies			999
Police; non-emergencies	Mid Suffolk South SNT	headquarters@suffolk.pnn.police.uk	101
Poor's Land Charity	Peter Goodridge	elmswellrector@gmail.com	240512
Power cuts		Powwercut105.com	105
Rainbows	Jen & Lizzie	elmswellrainbows@yahoo.com	
Royal British Legion	Norman Plumpton (Biff)	nplumpton@aol.com	07707 524722
School	Mrs Ash	admin@elmswell.suffolk.sch.uk	240261
Scouts	Paula Hollings	ddc.paula@stowmarketscouts.org.uk	07828 562485
St John's Church	Peter Goodridge	elmswellrector@gmail.com	240512
Sewing Bee	Isabel Burgess	isabel.burgess@live.com	
Village Tree Warden	c/o Parish Clerk	clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk	244134
Wesley – all enquiries	Parish Council office	clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk	244134
WI - evening	Tricia McNeeney	triciamcneeney@gmail.com	241197
Youth Football	Wayne	wsast@hotmail.co.uk	

**Enquiries on any Parish Council matter are invited to the Clerk, Peter Dow, at The Council Office, Blackbourne, Blackbourne Road, IP30 9UH - right next to the car park and with wheelchair access. Staffed Monday - Friday 9.00am - 4.00pm and other times by arrangement.
clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk Tel. 244134**

**IF YOU ARE NOT HAPPY THAT YOUR DETAILS APPEAR HERE,
PLEASE DO BE IN TOUCH VIA eaa @elmswell.org.uk**

What's On in Elmswell ?



To be included in our events diary make sure you send separate notification of your announcement.

For a full year's calendar of what's booked at Blackbourne, please go to the Parish Council website at www.elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk - it might help you in planning dates for your events.

July 2024

- 3 Exchange WI 2.00pm at Wesley. A craft demonstration. Speaker Margaret Brackenbury
- 4 Over 55's Club Strawberry Supper & Bingo
- 9 Elmswell WI 7.30pm at the Wesley - Birthday Fish & Chips
- 11 Food 'n' Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 13 ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP Summer Outing to Ely Museum; own transport, meet on site at 11.30am. Details & Tickets - 01359 242601
- 16 Elmswell Gardening Club Summer outing to RHS Hyde Hall in Essex
- 18 Over 55's Club Bob Whiting entertains Open Evening
- 26 Bingo - Doors open 6.30 eyes down 7.30 all welcome

August 2024

- 1 Over 55's Club Outing to The Hut at Felixstowe
- 7 Exchange WI 2.00pm at Wesley. Lighting the Fuse. Speaker Lucy Lewis
- 15 Over 55's Club Bingo
- 29 Over 55's Club Carvery and Circus at Gt Yarmouth
- 30 Bingo - Doors open 6.30 eyes down 7.30 all welcome

September 2024

- 4 Exchange WI 2.00pm at Wesley. Songs from the Sixties. Barry, Pete and Nicky
- 12 Food 'n' Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 17 Elmswell Gardening Club 'Before & After' - landscaping ideas. Bradley Morris
- 27 Bingo - Doors open 6.30 eyes down 7.30 all welcome

October 2024

- 2 Exchange WI 2.00pm at Wesley. Fraud Awareness. Speaker Jane Riches
- 10 Food 'n' Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 25 Bingo - Doors open 6.30 eyes down 7.30 all welcome

November 2024

- 6 Exchange WI 2.00pm at Wesley. History of the British Legion and the Poppy Appeal Speaker Mandi Cox-Osborne
- 14 Food 'n' Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 29 Bingo - Doors open 6.30 eyes down 7.30 all welcome

December 2024

- 4 Exchange WI 2.00pm at Wesley. Christmas Celebrations. Hosted by the committee
- 12 Food 'n' Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 13 Bingo - Doors open 6.30 eyes down 7.30 all welcome

STOP PRESS

Regular sessions at Blackbourne & Wesley include:

KARATE with Lewis - Friday 5.00 - 7.00 info@greatheadma.com

JAPANESE JUJUTSU / SELF DEFENCE - Monday & Wednesday 6.30 - 8.30 ryoishintowaryuheiho@gmail.com tel. 07711 680262

BABY & TODDLER GROUP - Monday mornings elmswellbtgroup@gmail.com

BATS- badminton / table tennis / pool at Blackbourne Friday nights 7 - 9.30 simon@coakleyandtheaker.co.uk

BOWLS - barryhayward1902@gmail.com tel. 240951

GUIDES - elmswellguides@outlook.com

FOOTBALL - Chris Edmonds edddd101@gmail.com

RAINBOWS - elmswellrainbows@yahoo.com

JUNIOR FOOTBALL - smyth98@hotmail.com 07717 841591

CUBS Tuesdays 6.15 - 7.30 - mark.pernot@gmail.com

BEAVERS / SCOUTS - Wednesday 5.45 - 9.15 ddc.paula@stowmarketscouts.org.uk

OVER 55'S - every other Thursday 6.30 - 10.30 Diann Armstrong tel. 241002

CIRCLE DANCING - Thursdays 1.45 - 3.15 jenlerner@gmail.com

TREFOIL GUILD - 1st Tuesday monthly lesley.grount@btinternet.com

MARDLE QUILTERS - last Friday monthly carpajak@aol.com

MOO MUSIC - Fridays 12.45 - 3.15 bury@moo-music.co.uk

WI - evening at Wesley 2nd Tuesday monthly 7.30pm triciamcneeney@gmail.com

WI - afternoon at Wesley 1st Wednesday monthly Carol Blissett carolblissett@hotmail.co.uk

ART CLUB at Wesley every Tuesday 9.00 - 12.00 Eddie Douglas edward.douglas2@gmail.com

HISTORY GROUP at Wesley 2nd Thursday monthly 7.30 stellachamberlin@yahoo.co.uk

GARDEN CLUB at Wesley 3rd Tuesday monthly 7.30 elmswellgadmin@btinternet.com

CARPET BOWLS - Wednesday 7pm at Wesley - jf.boxall@btinternet.com

COMPANIONS - every other Friday 10 - 12 at Wesley - linda@abbott.plus.com

PILATES - Monday & Friday mornings - suzanne@triformpilates.co.uk

BINGO - Blackbourne, last Friday monthly doors open 6.30...eyes - down 7.30

ARTS SOCIETY OF WEST SUFFOLK first Tuesday monthly, October-June. Diana Hollins 01449 736930 theartssociety-westsuffolk.org.uk

If we've missed you out, do let us know...all enquiries to Ann at the Council Office Tel. 244134 Email clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk

Your Newsletter Fact File

For the next 3 months we need copy by: July 24th, August 28th, September 25th.

Contact us on **01359 244 134** for all Amenities Association business, Newsletter and adverts.

Our new email address is **EAA@elmswell.org.uk** Your editors: Jean Barker, Maggie Bushell, Peter Dow

Published on the first Friday of every month by the Elmswell Amenities Association

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