

'Like a friend dropping in'



The Elmswell Newsletter



More than thirty years of Parish Record... all the Community News...

MAY 2026

On line at elmswell.suffolk.cloud



The site we started with...



Elmswell Tavern
Est. 1856
Reborn 2026



...The sight we see.

Published on the first Friday of every month by the Elmswell Amenities Association Reg. Charity No. 304879. 2750 copies delivered free to households and to businesses in the community. A volunteer enterprise entirely supported by advertising.

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EAA@elmswell.org.uk



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; eaa@elmswell.org.uk

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

Well, that's that, then. Elmswell Tavern finished. Open and very busy. Job done. Except...

Some 6 years ago in our March 2020 edition we reported another job done. Our parish council had agreed to, ...'enter, a Contract for Sale of a Trading Pub...at the Railway Tavern...for the purchase price of £805,000'. We had reported previously on the process whereby the council had sought the formal agreement of the village to make the purchase and have reported since on the ebb and flow of efforts involving hundreds of villagers towards reaching this point. A marathon effort. Except...



It was never a marathon. It was a relay race. The council passed the baton to the very capable enthusiasts who formed the Community Interest Company, Elmswell Community Enterprise, ECE, which would follow the well-worn route of other such community enterprises. They persuaded village support of £100,000+ by way of the sale of shares in the scheme but, in strange times when Covid lockdown blanketed much community activity, it became clear that funding could be better accessed by the parish council who agreed to take back the baton and have since proved the wisdom of the ECE decision.



The next stage of the race depended on the council agreeing, under the very experienced and capable guidance of its Chairman, Fred Pallett, to project manage the refurbishment of the core building and extend it to create a facility which, in tandem with Wesley next door, dramatically extends the social potential for our ever-expanding community. A facility which is unique, being both owned and managed by the whole community, through its elected representatives. There are 4,000+ shareholders who have a democratic right every 4 years to sack the board and elect a new one. A board on which every elector can apply to join by simply putting their name on a ballot paper.



Time, now, then, for another handover. This time to the General Manager, Nadia Tunmore who has spent weeks assembling a team who can make it work. From the dozens who came forward to apply, a keen and energetic group has worked with Nadia over recent weeks to be hospitality-ready.

But the race is far from run – for wisely and slow... they stumble that run fast. Future weeks and months will hold testimony to the wisdom or otherwise of the decisions made. There are the doomscrollers just waiting for the whole silly idea to fall flat on its face. There are the activist supporters who subscribe to the view that, if we don't help ourselves to a wider and more resilient community future, no-one else is going to do it. And there is the majority, many new to the village with little idea of the years of toil and trouble building up to the success, who just want a nicer village in which to live, and who think the Elmswell Tavern might help, in tandem with the proven worth of Wesley next door, towards this laudable end.

Where, then, is the baton now? Is there no end to the race?

The baton is in limbo, and the finishing line is an infinity away. We may have made steps towards making our village a more welcoming place to be - witness the hard-fought successes of Blackbourne and Wesley - and much of the energy to do this came from influence beyond our control. We have been suffering the unstoppable pressure of development which results from the recognition of Mid Suffolk as a viable target for population growth and Elmswell as a sustainable community within the District where such growth can be accommodated. That pressure continues – the next tranche of housing is predicted to be a further 700 or so new dwellings at Wetherden Road. It may be very boring to consider the emerging Joint Local Plan or the need

to re-visit the Elmswell Development Plan, but these are the tools needed if we are to continue to fight our corner. The recent revisions to the National Planning Policy Framework, popularly paraphrased as, 'Build, Baby, Build,' may make for boring reading and tedious discussion – but it will make for more houses, more easily permitted. Further changes for the worse may result from the impending Local Government Review and the possible power of a new Norfolk / Suffolk Mayor. The populist view that we need our own Health Centre, a bigger school on a bigger site, much more amenity space, particularly for our older children etc. will go the way of the relief road or the footbridge over the railway, unrequited and unachievable unless we continue to engage with the boring realities of due process.

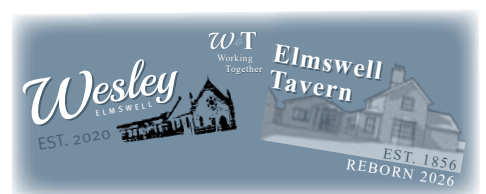
Start with the chance to join the People's Resistance. In May next year we elect a new parish council. New Directors, in effect, of our village enterprise.



It could be you

As we said back in 2020,

There is no powerful change greater than a community discovering what it cares about.





ELMSWELL ART CLUB

This year marks the 250th anniversary of the birth of John Constable; born in Suffolk, he is known principally for revolutionising the genre of landscape painting with his pictures of Wivenhoe Park, The Hay Wain and Dedham Vale, the area on the borderland of Suffolk and north Essex **surrounding his home – now known as «Constable Country»**.

A number of local museums are holding major **Constable 250 exhibitions**, including Christchurch Mansion in Ipswich, during which his famous painting “The Hay Wain” will be visiting Suffolk for the first time ever. Also, the National Trust at Flatford Mill will be featuring “Constable 250” themed events, guided tours of the landscapes that inspired him, and art exhibitions, including the “Carry on Constable” art exhibition. As a group, we are hoping to visit the Flatford Mill event soon.

Now, we would like to look at some of our own local artists and their creations.

First, we have Kelvin Fellingham’s charcoal sketch of an owl. Kelvin has produced this image using white charcoal on black paper – a superb combination.



Next is Linda Stephenson’s acrylic painting entitled “Native New Yorker” – again, a wonderful subject given the perfect combination of style and medium;



Last but not least is Pat Quick’s creation entitled “Lady”. Here, Pat has used a “mixed-media” approach, beginning with a background wash and then various materials, including beads and braiding to complete the image.



Our Art Show & Sale took place on Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th April 2026 at the Wesley and we sincerely hope you enjoyed it if you came along. We will have a brief review and some pictures in the next Elmswell Newsletter.

Eddie Douglas



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Thank you

Sylvia Walton would like to thank all who attended her recent birthday party at Wesley and who so generously contributed to a collection for St Nicholas Hospice Care. The sum of £501 was raised to support their valuable work.

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AROUND & ABOUT



ELMSWELL FOOTPATH WALK

Sunday 12th April

An agreeable day welcomed 9 souls for the regular amble round the footpaths of Elmswell.

A right over the railway and a right on to FP10 led past the Pharmacy heading eastish alongside the railway track.



A left turn led on to Long Gilberts Road and, still on FP10, we headed north and turned right onto FP9 into open countryside.

A left on to FP6 took us past the Blackbourne on the left and up to the footbridge.

The following 400m stretch of FP6 up

to FP7 had been long avoided due to the notorious under foot conditions due to rain since the New Year but the continuing dry spell ensured trouble free passage.

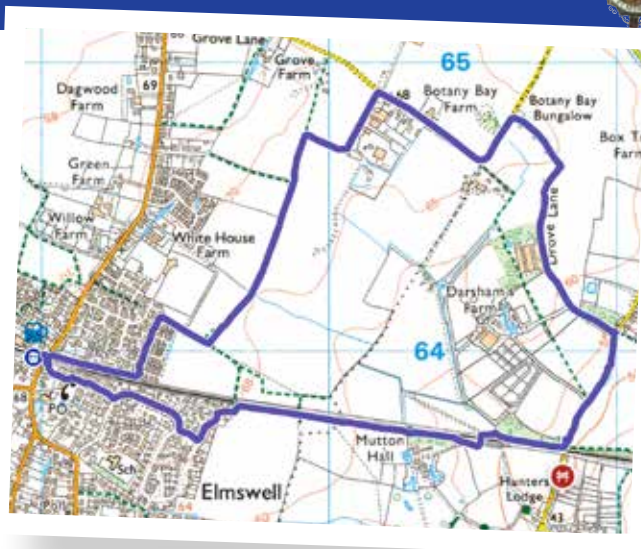
A right and left on FP5 brought us on to Grove Lane alongside the Industrial Estate.

A right here took us past the well concealed TP68 on the right and hence on to Drove Lane (AKA BY54) at which we turned right passing into the parish of Wetheren.

A byway is generally defined as a minor, often unpaved or lightly traveled road or path. In the UK, a "Byway Open to All Traffic" (BOAT) is a public right of way legally accessible by motorized vehicles, bicycles, horses, and walkers, though they are usually rural and unsurfaced.

Not many people know that.

Following BY54 for approaching a kilometre we meandered alongside the rapeseed fields in full blossom in a south westerly direction on to the junction of Wetherden Road.



Turning right on to the carriageway for 400m we entered Mutton Hall via gate 5 and through the delightfully sunlit Long Links Wood adjacent to the railway track. Turning left under the railway we traversed Goslings Wood, The Paddocks and Stack Field and exited both Mutton Hall and Wethereden at gate 3 and on to the new stretch of FP9.

It was now a simple task to wind our way back via the houses to Crown Mill,

A big sky walk of approximately 3.83 miles in 1 hour and 33 minutes (an average speed of 2.5 miles per hour).

Peter Hancock, EPC Footpath Officer



**MAY'S FOOTPATH WALK WILL BE ON SUNDAY 10TH MAY
STARTING AT 10.30 AT THE VILLAGE SIGN AT
CROWN MILL & FINISHING AT THE ELMSWELL TAVERN**



WESLEY UKULELE BAND

As mentioned last month, on 27th March, we held our Spring Sing a Ling with members of the Ukes playing in various combinations to entertain a large number of audience members. There were a few extra participants who turned out to be very good indeed and will be asked to join us again. The event raised the magnificent total of £340, which has been sent to the new Cambridge Children's Hospital. Our first picture shows Doctor John with Gil, Bobbie and Penny.

Doctor John then surprised us all by performing 'Albert and the Lion', originally narrated by Stanley Holloway and which I remember, as a child, listening to on 'Uncle Mac's Children's Radio Show' on a Saturday morning back in the dim and distant past. ('Gosh! You can't be that old', I hear you say)

Only two gigs to report on for the Ukes this month. One at Stanningfield for their Ladies and the second for the Ladies Group at Fornham St Martin. Both were very well received, and our second picture shows the band at Fornham.



Now, advance notice of our annual 'June in Tune', which will be held on Saturday 27th June and take place between the Wesley Hall and the newly reopened Tavern. The afternoon will start at 1pm and will feature, amongst others, 'Scrambled Eggs' (a male voice choir), 'Song Circle' (a ladies choir), 'Just Us' (a musical duo) and, of course, The Wesley Ukulele Band and Seventy Shades of Grey. Entry is free and a raffle and donations will be raised towards the new Cambridge Children's Hospital. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible for this very worthwhile cause.

'Til next time. Take care.

Or email: Kevin.Knock99@gmail.com



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EXCHANGE WI



Mary welcomed everyone to the meeting. Our speaker this month was Heather Frick and her subject was "All about fostering". Heather has been involved with social work for many years and returned to Suffolk three years ago. She now works in Haverhill with a private company called Little Acorns which arranges fostering. Heather felt that although members may not wish to foster they could promote fostering through conversations with others. There are 107,000 looked after children throughout the country and 67 to 70% are in foster care. There are a shortage of foster carers and Heather stressed that there is a lot of available training which continues after people are allowed to foster. There is no age limit or financial barriers as all foster carers are given an allowance which is tax free.

Heather emphasised that foster carers came from all walks of life and would be considered unless they had a criminal conviction for some crimes. Sometimes family members become foster carers as in the case of an 86 year old grandmother who wanted to foster her fifteen year old grandson. Profiles are sent to foster carers about children and if they are interested an assessment takes place and then goes to panel to be approved. Some of the children can be very challenging and Heather told us that support is available 24 hours a day so the foster carers always have someone to talk to.

Heather's main message was that a conversation could plant a seed that may help someone to consider fostering in the future. The competition was a wooden item. First was Maureen, second was Lesley and third was Pina.

Next month is our AGM and Bring and Buy sale. The competition is homemade sweets.

Carol Blissett 242884

ELMSWELL OVER 55's

On Thursday 9th April we all enjoyed nibbles and a natter (it is good to talk), we had our surprise guest Chris Campos the Magician, he got up close and personal visiting each table showcasing some of his magic, and the second half of the evening he performed his floor show with a little bit of audience participation!

Thursday 23rd April was eyes down for Bingo night (stew and dumplings postponed until later in the year).

We are looking forward to our Rails and Sails trip on Thursday 7th May. We board the steam train at Aylsham taking us to Wroxham, then we move onto Horning where we set sail on the Mississippi Paddle Boat.

New members are always welcome, please contact us for further information:

Kay – 07730 265316
or Sharon – 07885 730911 or email elmswellover55s@outlook.com you can also find us on Facebook.

Regards Kay and Sharon





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ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP



In April, we welcomed Mark Lawrence from the Hadleigh Society History Group for his talk about Hadleigh Guildhall. During 2021-23, Mark and colleagues undertook extensive research into the history of the town's Guildhall, using primary sources, which led to their 2024 comprehensive publication. We learnt that a building has stood on the present site since the 15th Century and, in fact, the Guildhall comprises several buildings. For much of its early existence, the Guildhall had two main functions - as the administrative centre for the town's market and as the home of the religious guilds. King Henry III granted a Royal Charter pertaining to the town's market, when permission was given for a Monday Market and a three-day Michaelmas Fair.

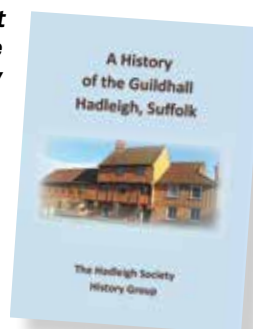
Mark told the wonderful story of the tradition of the single red rose. In 1438, the trusteeship of the Market House and associated market rights were handed over to William Clopton and Augustus Dunton. Subsequently, William Clopton transferred his trusteeship to Augustus Dunton and others for a rent of one red rose to be paid annually in perpetuity, if it was demanded! Fast forward to the 1980s, following research that unearthed this fascinating aspect of social history, since 1984 every June, usually on Trinity Sunday, the Mayor of Hadleigh presents a single red rose to the Clopton Family, which is then laid on Sir William Clopton's tomb in Long Melford's Holy Trinity Church, to acknowledge and commemorate the family's significant gift to the town.



Whilst the Guildhall complex of buildings has been significantly revamped in recent times, there is still evidence of the original buildings on the site such as, in the garden of the Guildhall, stand the remains of a kitchen. The upgrading of the Guildhall buildings has resulted in fabulous architecture and woodwork being on show. For example, the beams in what is now known as The Old Town Hall are a sight to behold.

From the 19th Century to the present day, the complex of buildings has been utilised in a variety of ways. Mark highlighted that during the 1800s, the buildings housed two schools and a workhouse and, into the 20th Century, the use of the buildings continued to be a barometer of the town's economic and social history. In 1901, William Pretty & Son's corset-making factory started operating in the Old Town Hall on the upper floor of the Guild's Hall. In both World Wars, troops were billeted in these buildings and, during WW2, the town's fire-engine was housed in part of the Market Hall. The 1980s saw much change and upgrading of the buildings and their ownership. The Trust was transferred to Hadleigh Town Council which was able to raise the finances to carry out major renovations, leading to the complex being reopened for public use in the 1990s, including the Town Council moving its offices back into the Market Hall; thus, returning the building to its former use as a Civic Centre.

You can find out more about the Hadleigh Society History Group and order a copy of *The History of Hadleigh Guildhall* at - <https://hadsoc.org.uk>



MAY DAY – This day has been one of celebration for centuries, full of music, dancing and all-round revelry.



Prehistory: playing with fire – the pagan fire festival *Beltane* marked the end of winter, celebrating fertility, renewal and rebirth. Historically connected with the Celtic calendar and the change of seasons, it was traditionally held on 1st May, midway between the spring equinox and summer solstice. This festival is still celebrated each year in Edinburgh, organised by the Beltane Fire Society.

The Romans: blooming brilliant – Flora was the Roman goddess of flowers, and the *Ludi Florales* festival was held in her honour each year. The Romans believed that the celebration, which began in late April, would ensure their crops blossomed and that the subsequent harvest would be plentiful.

Tudor: rollicking revelry – in the early 16th century, the return of summer was a time of jubilant celebration. Communities across England, rich and poor, would venture out before sunrise to gather flowers and branches to decorate their streets and houses. May Day was also marked with unruliness when a floral-crowned May King (more common than a May Queen) presided over the revels, sometimes accompanied by a legendary outlaw.

17th century: 'heathenish vanity' – May Day celebrations and customs were not always universally approved of, with objections to their pagan roots and some arguing that the festivities were frivolous and could be idolatrous. On 8th April 1644, maypoles (a common part of celebrations by the mid-14th century) were banned by Parliament. It was argued that maypole dancing was 'a heathenish vanity generally abused to superstition and wickedness'.

Modern May Day: 'Merrie England' revival – May Day has been a public holiday across the UK since 1978. Celebrated on the first Monday of the month, it was introduced by the Labour government and soon became a bone of political contention, opposed by some Conservatives as a 'socialist' innovation. Historically, however, support for an early May holiday had come from both sides of the political spectrum. For much of the 19th century, it was conservatively-minded country gentlemen who led the revival of 'Merrie England' May Day celebrations, believing that they would help cement community bonds at a time of rapid social change and urbanisation. [Ref: *English Heritage*]





Our next meeting on **14th May, 7.30pm** at the **Wesley Hall**, will welcome Richard Brice of the Sutton Hoo Ship's Company for his talk on their **Project to Reconstruct a Replica Anglo-Saxon Longboat**. Richard has been a volunteer guide at this project for some time, and explains that an Anglo-Saxon king's burial ship and treasure lay hidden underground, dormant for over 13 centuries in the mysterious Sutton Hoo royal burial ground; all that remained of the ship was a shadow of its former awe-inspiring glory, uncovered in 1939. The King's ship is being resurrected to its full 90-foot length in Woodbridge quayside's Longshed. From there it will soon slip once more into the King's River to grace the waters and tides again, reconnecting our Anglo-Saxon maritime heritage with a modern-day sense of discovery.

Non-members/visitors are always welcome (£6pp, cash only please), so do join us then to learn much more.

**Elmswell
HISTORY
GROUP**

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

www.elmswell-history.org.uk
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ELMSWELL LIBRARY

Hello Elmswell,

We have a picture bingo this month too for the half term. The picture bingo will be 10.30am on Tuesday 26th May. Kids are invited to the library to come and play bingo where they have to get a line of animals or get animals all round the edge of their bingo card. It is supported by Elmswell Library Friends and all donations are welcome.

Summer is not that far away so we are looking for Reading Quest volunteers. Over the summer holidays children sign up to the reading quest and complete different activities involving reading and books which they then tell volunteers about. Each week they get something special for coming in and doing one of the activities. If you are interested in volunteering, then please let us in the library know. It is 1 hour per week throughout the summer holidays (or most weeks if you already have something booked).

We will be trialling a new evening chess club in June. We will be continuing the one that runs 4.30pm on the second Thursday of the month but we will also be trialling one that runs on the first Thursday of the month starting at 7pm. The first one will be Thursday 4th June.

Our next display will be books that local book groups have borrowed. We have 11 book groups that borrow books from Elmswell Library using the Book Group borrowing cards so we thought we would have a display of some of the books that they have borrowed.

We will also be having some storytellers in Elmswell Library in the lead up to East Anglian Storytelling Festival in June. We have Chris Richardson coming in on the afternoon of Tuesday 12th May. He will be telling folk stories some with an East Anglian connection. It is free to attend thanks to Elmswell Library Friends and East Anglian Storytelling Festival. Also look out for a Wednesday date for another storyteller coming up in June.

See you in the library soon,

Miles

What's on

Chris Richardson Storyteller

3.30pm Tuesday 12th May

Picture Bingo

10.30am Tuesday 26th May

Mahjong

3.15pm every Friday

Crochet and Chat

10am every Thursday

Story Time

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

9.10am – 9.30am every 1st Tuesday

2.30pm – 3pm every Thursday

Sunday Crafts

1pm – 2pm every Sunday

Lego Club

Every weekday from 3pm and every
Sunday 11am – 12noon

Pokémon Club

10.30am Saturday 2nd May (every
1st Saturday of the month)

Writing Group

6pm Thursday 7th May (every
1st Thursday of the month)

Chess Club

4.30pm Thursday 14th May (every
2nd Thursday of the month)

Fantastical Book Club

11am Saturday 23rd May
(every 4 weeks) - ask in the library for
this month's book.

The Keep in Touch

Community Café

10.30am Wednesday 20th May at the
Wesley Café (every 3rd Wednesday of the
month except August and December)

Catch Up In The Library

2.30pm every Wednesday

Gwel's visits

3.30pm – 4.30pm Tuesday 5th May
(every 1st Tuesday of the month)

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



Scared of a mouse . . . don't know your App from your Apple?

The digital support sessions available at Wesley on the third Wednesday of each month are increasingly popular. No booking is necessary – our team of Mathew, Tracey and Tracy are keen to help ease the way into better use of our devices.

There is no charge. Simply turn up with any problems to do with mobile phones, laptops, computers - anything digital.

**The next session will be on the Wednesday
20th May between 10:00 am and 12:00 noon.**



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AROUND & ABOUT

SPRING CLEAN

Elmswell's Volunteer Litter Pickers recently carried out a final village Spring Clean.

15 bags of litter, including a surprising number of car parts and polystyrene were collected from various locations including Grove Lane, Hawk End Lane and the footpath into the new estate, the footpath from the Pharmacy leading up to and including Blackbourne.

A big thank you to Alan Wells for supplying the hi-vis jackets - much appreciated.

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CITIZENS ADVICE MID SUFFOLK

I've found myself in a really difficult financial situation and I don't know where to turn. I was made redundant recently and now I'm finding it hard to keep up with my bills and am getting into debt - what can I do?

Money problems can feel overwhelming, but the most important thing to remember is that you don't have to face this alone. We know that times are incredibly tough for lots of people right now, and Citizens Advice is here to help you find a way forward.

Make sure you've been paid everything you're entitled to by your former employer. You can check what your rights are on the Citizens Advice website.

If you're finding it difficult to stay on top of bills, free budgeting tools like the one on the MoneyHelper website can help you understand what money you have coming in and going out each month, and where you might be able to cut costs. Before you start, try to find your most recent bank statements, payslips, debit and credit card statements or bills, and receipts for things you usually pay for in cash. Make sure you include all your expenses, for example money you spend

on your partner or family.

If your budget just doesn't add up and you need help to afford essentials like bills and food, you can find out how to get help with your bills as well as what cost of living support is available on the Citizens Advice website.

Please don't ignore bills or letters about money that you owe. You should collect and organise all debt-related documents to create a comprehensive list of all your debts. It might feel overwhelming when you see everything written down - but try not to worry, the important thing is that you're taking action to sort things out.

If you're behind on household bills, prioritise paying your rent or mortgage, plus energy bills and Council Tax first. Not paying these bills has the most serious consequences. Take a look at the Citizens Advice website for more information about what bills to prioritise and how to manage debts. You can

then speak to the organisations you owe money to - they might let you pay smaller amounts or take a break from payments.

For other types of debt like credit cards or loans, gather all the information on what you owe, create a budget, and contact your creditors to set up an affordable repayment plan. This might seem scary, but it's an important first step.

Lots of people miss out on benefits they're entitled to, so it's worth checking what you can get on the Citizens Advice website. Claiming benefits might also let you get access to other financial help like cost-of-living payments and discounts on energy and transport.

Whatever your situation, you don't have to face this alone - get in touch with a free support service like us at Citizens Advice. Our advisers can help to check if you're eligible for any benefits or financial support and explore all the options for dealing with your debts.

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 midsuffolkcab.org.uk/contact-us. Opening hours are Monday-Thursday 9.30am - 3.30pm and Friday 9.30am - 12.30pm.

**citizens
advice**

Mid Suffolk

ELMSWELL GARDENING CLUB

This month's speaker was Elmswellian Chris Wiley this time speaking to us about one of my favourite early flowering plants, Hellebores. Hellebores are commonly referred to as winter, Lenten or Christmas rose which gives a clue as to when they flower. Hellebores are a good garden plant, like shade and generally thrive in most garden conditions. They also like a sharp frost which encourages flowering and the flowers are best displayed by cutting back the foliage in September/October time. Hellebores are also not favoured by deer and rabbits due to their glossy waxy leaves which can be a problem for many readers.

If you have ever wondered why Hellebores are relatively expensive to buy it's because they need to be hand pollinated to remain true to type, colour with the resulting seeds taking up to a year to germinate and then they need to be grown on to a size suitable for retail. Hats off to Chris for his passion for Hellebores and his hand pollination of

his collection of over 1200 plants!

2nd July Outing to Beth Chatto Gardens

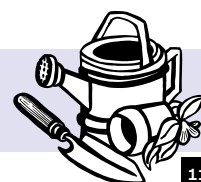
(Open to members and non-members). Visit with us Beth's stunning gardens in Essex. Coach departs at 9.15/9.30am and leaving the gardens at 3.30pm Cost: £20 members; £30 non-members. If you are interested in coming along, please contact us on elmswellgadmin@btinternet.com. Our speaker for 19 May meeting is Ian Bedford 'Insects, Six of the Best' with all the answers to the best insects for your garden and how to encourage them. Meeting starts at 7.30pm in Wesley Chapel, School Road. Whether you are an experienced home gardener or just starting out there is always something new to learn or ideas



to take home to your own garden. We also hold a raffle, have a donation table and provide refreshments at each meeting. Non-members are always welcome and you may make some new friends. There is a small fee for non-members of £5 for each meeting. We look forward to welcoming you and sharing our passion for gardening.

Wendy

Information contact elmswellgadmin@btinternet.com or myself on 07748 442951





ST JOHN'S CHURCH

Happy Spring from St John's Church

At the time of writing, we're getting ready for our St George's Day parade service. We hope to welcome a good number of children from our uniformed organisations for this special occasion. This service will, of course, be in the past by the time you're reading this.

The legend of St George and the dragon is an exciting tale. We all love a good story with a hero and a villain and the tale of St George does not disappoint. The real St George, however, faced a foe just as fearsome as an evil dragon. The Emperor Diocletian was a wicked monster, who persecuted and slaughtered Christians. Despite being a Roman soldier, St George stood up for what is right and refused to obey the Emperor's command to kill the innocent. Such bravery cost him his life.

Sadly today, across the world, many people are still persecuted for their religious beliefs. We need more people like St George to stand up and defend such people. Of course, the greatest example of one who died to save others is the Lord Jesus. St John's held a wide range of services over the Easter period, where we celebrated the hope we now have, because Christ died for us.

As we look ahead into May, we are looking forward to more **Messy Church** events and a special **Pentecost Songs of Praise** service on 24 May, preceded by an afternoon tea. Details are below.

You will always find a warm welcome at St John's. If you would like to know more about the Christian faith please do get in touch or come along one Sunday. We meet at 10:30am and have a lovely Sunday School, which meets during the main part of the service.

Upcoming Dates:

- Sun 3 May** 9:00am
Holy Communion
- Sun 3 May** 10:30am
Family Service
- Sun 10 May** 10:30am
Sunday Worship with Holy Communion
- Sun 10 May** 3:30pm
Messy Church: Sing & Celebrate
- Sun 17 May** 10:30am
Parish Praise
- Sun 24 May** 10:30am
Sunday Worship with Holy Communion
- Sun 24 May** 5:30pm
Pentecost Songs of Praise (Tea from 4:45pm)
- Sun 31 May** 10:30am
Parish Praise with shorter Communion
- Sun 31 May** 4:00pm
Messy Church: Family tea

Every Saturday:

- 9:00am
Weekly prayer meeting online (see website 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
- Email:** elmswellrector@gmail.com
- Tel:** 01359 240512
- Web site:** www.stjohnselmswell.org.uk
- Facebook:** www.facebook.com/stjohnselmswell
- YouTube:** www.youtube.com/@stjohnselmswell



ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

TOWER

FLOODLIGHTING

30th April 2026 marked the end of the 32nd year of floodlighting St. John's Tower, a year in which we raised £940,

which brings the sum accumulated since we started to a magnificent £25,650.

It has also been a significant year, because, for the first time since we started, we have found it necessary to increase the cost per evening from £5 to £10, effective from the beginning of January. Although not the best of news for sponsors, the good news to report is the support for sponsorship has so far remained very strong. So, a BIG Thank You to everyone who has continued to support us.

Over the years floodlighting the tower has become an integral part of village life. As well as raising funds for St. John's, it has become a very popular way of enhancing the profile of the church itself. As "taker of the money" I would like to say, once again, a huge public THANK YOU to all those people who have sponsored the lights during 2025/26, and before. Your support is hugely appreciated. St. John's really does benefit from your generosity; and parishioners repeatedly tell me how much they enjoy seeing our beacon on the hill as they make their way home along the A14 late at night.

Everyone is welcome to sponsor the floodlighting of St. John's, a lovely way to commemorate a personal event, an anniversary, or any other occasion special to you. Alternatively, you can simply make a donation.

And it all helps to pay the day-to-day running expenses of our parish church.

For the summer months the lights will be on between 8.00 p.m. and midnight.

A night's floodlighting now costs £10. Cheques payable please to "ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, ELMSWELL".

Please note the deadline for inclusion in the June Newsletter is Monday 25th May.



MAY 2026 SPONSORSHIPS

- 1 in memory of John Ray.
- 2 in memory of John Ray.
- 3 in memory of John Ray.
- 4 in memory of John Ray.
- 5 in memory of John Ray.
- 5 remembering Jane Goodchild on her Birthday. Love Colin. xx.
- 6 in memory of John Ray.
- 7 in memory of John Ray.
- 7 in loving memory of Rose Emma Manning.
- 9 remembering Rachel Louise Finch on her Birthday.
- 14 remembering Percy Pleasance, a dear Dad, Grandad and Great-Grandad, on his Birthday.
- 16 remembering our Mum, Audrey Goddard, on her Birthday, and can't believe it's a year since you left us on 31st May 2025. Reunited with Dad. We love and miss you both so much. Love from all the family.
- 17 to remember and thank all the Elmswell Fire-Fighters who have served their village and community so well.
- 21 remembering a dear Nana, Rene Stiff. "God Bless". Love, Louise and Brian. x.
- 25 treasured happy memories of Ted Rookard. Lots of love from All your family. xxxx.
- 28 remembering Dean Goodchild on his Birthday. Love Colin. xx.

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



CATHOLIC PARISH OF OUR LADY, STOWMARKET

Parish Priest:

Rev. Simon Leworthy,
The Presbytery, 29 Lockington Road,
Stowmarket, IP14 1BQ
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

It was good to see so many people who joined together for the open air service around the cross at Crown Mill on Good Friday and even more amazing to see the hundreds of people who took part in the silent walk of witness in Bury St Edmunds the market place was full of people who followed the cross from the Cathedral to the market square. The next Christians Together in Elmswell service will a celebration of Pentecost, the time when the Holy Spirit came upon the apostles the service will be a joint CTIE (Christians Together in Elmswell) service at the Parish Church at 4.30pm on Sunday 24th May. We are fortunate to be able to publicly share our Christian Faith without fear of prosecution, last week our preacher told us of a Christian Minister being questioned by police for preaching a Christian message in Bristol City centre where Moslems were present as it might offend them, it is sad to hear of such intolerance in our own country. Please make a note in your diary and join with us to celebrate Pentecost on Sunday 24th May

Our activities in May start with Our Ladies Friendship Group on the 11th May at 2.00pm when our ladies meet to hear from Nicky Richardson about the work of EACH The East of England Children's Hospice. Contact Margaret

on 0792666753882 for more details. There is no membership fee or monthly subscription for this group just a donation for a cup of tea and piece of cake if you've never been before ring Margaret and let her know that you would like to attend, I am confident that you will be made most welcome.

On 14th May at midday its time for our food and friends lunch join us for soup with a roll pudding, cheese and biscuits, with a cup of tea or coffee. All we ask is a small donation to help cover our costs contact Dorothy on 01359 245811 or 01692583373 if you've no been before and would like to join us. These lunches were originally aimed at the older folk in the village but if you are on your own and lonely come and join us for an hour or so you will be made very welcome

Our services in May will be led by

3rd May

Rev Richard Edwards

10th May

Rev Norman Tharby

17th May

Rev Reg Craig

24th May

Rev Norman Tharby

24th May

4.30pm CTIE service at St John's Parish

31st May

Rev Paul Hills

Not having an incumbent pastor we are grateful for all our visiting preachers who come to lead our services.

For any further information about our church please contact Tony Cock our secretary on 07784095225

Dave Hollings



ELMSWELL TAVERN



At last! Our first week of operating the Elmswell Tavern, owned and run by Elmswell Parish Council on behalf of all 4,140 (at the last count) registered electors in the village.

It is a true community facility following the successful pattern set by Wesley next door. The two facilities will be managed in tandem to widen the scope of what is on offer to our expanding population.

The project has, understandably, been long in the making – the site was purchased from Greene King in May 2020. Inevitably there remain some finishing touches to be completed, so do bear with us in matters such as the 'Elmswell Tavern', sign, yet to be mounted, the mis-match of some furniture yet to be delivered, the 'Donor Wall' listing all of those who pledged money to the scheme yet to be printed and some bare walls yet to have their various adornments mounted. What is certain is that there will be other teething problems

Our team is also new, but enthusiastic and keen to take the Tavern to the next stage when it becomes an integral part, with Wesley, of village life.

Your feedback is very welcome. If a village resident it is, literally, your facility. Realising that we can't please all of the people all of the time, we aim to satisfy as widely as we can. Your positive input to this is not only welcome, but essential. If you have a view or a comment do, please, be in touch.



The first sporting users of the Tavern – offering hospitality to their opponents from Woodfield, Stowmarket after the first match of the Tuesday League season.



BWTMA members taking a look at the new facility



The very first Tavern event – a meeting of the Blackbourne & Wesley-Tavern Management Association seen gathering here with their Treasurer, Charlotte Smith



We are at:
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Kitchen busy

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Tuesday	12 – 11
Wednesday	12 – 11
Thursday	12 – 11
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Lunch 12-3
Dinner 5-9



Lunch busy

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NEWS FROM ELMSWILD



Signs of spring

Signs of spring are all around us now. This year everything seems to have flowered or come into blossom early and all at once (gorgeous to look at, but bad news for hayfever sufferers!). At the time of writing this article, the cherry blossom has all but finished, and apples and pears are in full bloom. The danger of early blossom is that a late frost will blight it, affecting fruit formation. Last year we had a bumper harvest in the orchard at Lukeswood – let's hope for another good one this year.

With all the showy blossom around it's easy to overlook the smaller, hidden seasonal signs. The insect world is at its busiest now – finding a mate, nesting, laying eggs. Our photo shows two beautiful Green Shield Bugs doing what comes naturally at this time of year – they're so well camouflaged against a glossy green leaf that it's easy to walk past and never spot them.

Bees are very much in evidence now, too. There are an amazing 270 different species of bee in the UK, split into three different groups. There is one species of honeybee, 24 species of bumblebee, and all the rest – nearly 250 – are solitary bees. This group is very diverse with different nesting habits. Some burrow into the ground, or into old walls, while three species actually nest in old snail shells! Many like to burrow into wood to make their nests – we're giving this group a helping hand in the orchard with our bee hotels, and we hope they'll repay us by pollinating our fruit trees.

We have a few bluebells in Lukeswood, although most of these are not natives but hybrid escapees from nearby gardens. You often find Ramsons (wild garlic) growing alongside bluebells – and we have a tiny colony of these too.

Some of the spring flowers are quite shy and retiring and easy to miss. One that you can find in Lukeswood is the Cuckoo Flower with delicate, pale pink blooms. It flowers at the same time as the cuckoo arrives in spring – hence the name – although nowadays you are much more likely to see the flower than hear the bird. This pretty plant is also known as 'Lady's-smock', perhaps from the cupped shape of the flower, although 'smock' was once a slang term for a woman and the name may refer to certain human activities in the meadows – another, more earthy sign that spring is here!



The wonderful works of the wheelbarrow

After a wet winter you might think that the ground would still be damp, but several weeks of drought with lots of sun and drying winds mean that everything is actually very dry. Gardeners have been lugging watering cans around trying to keep plants well-watered. But water is heavy and if it's a long way from the butt, watering can be hard work. Enter the water barrow! This ingenious device is a bag which fits into a wheelbarrow and allows you to transport many litres of water without straining your arm muscles. The spout at the end directs the flow wherever you need it.



In our photo Rod is giving an excellent demonstration of how it works by replenishing the drinking bowls that we've made in Lukeswood specifically for our Turtle Dove project. With guidance from the RSPB, we're trying to encourage these endangered birds to come to Lukeswood and potentially breed here. As well as providing a good supply of drinking water we also scatter seed for them. More news on this project next month.

Get weaving!

Just a reminder of our willow weaving courses at Lukeswood this summer. The full-day basket weaving course (July 11) is now fully booked, but we have still have a few places available on the two half day courses on Saturday 13 June, both making garden decorations. In the morning we'll be making dragonflies which look stunning displayed as a group in a flower bed. In the afternoon the project is to make bulrushes – wonderful for making an architectural statement at the back of the border. The times are 9.30-12.30 for the morning course and 1.30-4.30 for the afternoon, and the cost is £25 per person per course. Please email us to book your place.

Mary Feeny
info@elmswild.org.uk

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outdoor play

word search



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G	I	C	S	E	D	R	E	N	S
J	M	I	P	P	O	D	B	K	R
R	E	N	T	R	E	E	S	F	E
B	A	C	G	K	E	N	A	E	D
E	B	I	K	E	A	A	C	W	N
D	R	P	L	A	Y	N	D	A	U
F	O	O	T	B	A	L	L	O	O
M	J	Z	B	M	I	L	C	C	R

Bike Walk Football Play Garden Read Swim Climb Trees Den



Nature Detectives



You will need:

One paper bag per player
One list of natural objects to collect per player

Activity:

Give each player a paper bag and a list of natural objects (use the pictures below for ideas) to collect. You can give the same list to all the players or have each player look for a different group of objects. Challenge the players to find all the objects on their list. Set a time limit. The first player to find all the items is the winner.

Outdoor Butterfly Painting

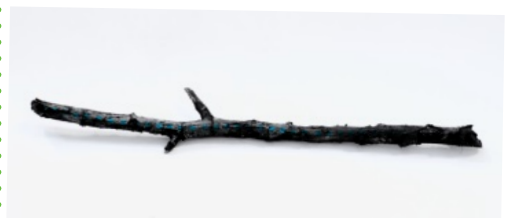


You will need:

Paper
Paint
Paintbrushes

Activity:

- Place your paper out and then using a paintbrush apply plenty of coloured paint to half of the page.
- Fold the page in half (paint on the inside).
- Using your hands press firmly and spread the trapped paint across the page.
- Finally open the page to reveal a brightly coloured butterfly painting.



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BARRY WARD: 01449 615339/07754 872549



The Parish Council has some 30mph stickers left over from the campaign to badge-up bins at households on the main roads in the village in the hope of reminding drivers of the speed limit.

If you live on a main road and would like a sticker for your new blue bin, do call in at Wesley, and, perhaps after a coffee collect one free of charge for as long as the stock lasts.



Sorting out the 'Spider'
(competition for bottle of booze)



and lining up to
compete in the 'Spider'

ELMSWELL BOWLS CLUB

Finally, the wait is over and the green is open! It has been a long winter and an equally long wait but we are now up and running, having opened on April 12, when, sadly, only existing members turned up. Not a single newcomer! Still, anyone interested can try it out on a 'roll-up day, Saturdays and Wednesdays at 2pm. And, come Saturday 25th, we will have the Tavern back to go for a celebratory drink afterwards. Quite what we will celebrate, I have no idea, but I am sure we will think of something!

We have begun our Tuesday evening Area D season with a one point win over Woodfield, when we took the opponents down to the Pub, which kindly opened just for us, where we were well received. Kevin Knock, the new team captain won handsomely on his rink when the others managed a draw, but overall we won home and away by the single point, enough, I think to give us 5.5 points to Woodfield's 2.5. Woodfield, are awarded 2.5 points for winning both rinks at home and drawing one away, whereas we are awarded 1.5 points, for winning one and

a further 3 points for winning overall, albeit by a single point! I will have more matches to tell you about next month.

Elmswell
Fox



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



Our Specialist Healthcare Professionals

Within our Health Centre, we have a number of healthcare professionals, each with distinct roles and specialist skills. When you contact us with a medical request, we will assign you to the person best suited to help you.

Medicines Management Team

Clinical Pharmacists

Clinical pharmacists work directly with patients. They use their expert knowledge of medicines to assess and treat conditions. They have completed training to become independent prescribers.

They work in the general practice team, supporting patients with long-term conditions and undertaking structured medication reviews with patients on multiple medications and complex health needs.

Pharmacy Technicians

Pharmacy Technicians complement the work of clinical pharmacists, applying their knowledge of medicines in tasks such as audits, prescription management support, medication reviews, new patient reviews and medication changes after hospital discharge or referral.

First Contact Physiotherapists (FCPs)

Muscle and joint problems are very common, and a major reason people visit their GP. FCPs can help patients with musculoskeletal issues such as back, neck and joint pain by:

- Assessing and diagnosing problems.
- Giving advice on how to manage pain and improve movement.
- Referring them onto specialist services if necessary.

Quicker access to diagnosis and treatment, helps patients manage their conditions more effectively and recover faster, so they can get back to normal life quickly. Our FCPs help to reduce GP workload and reduce the need for onward referrals.

Social Prescribing Link Worker

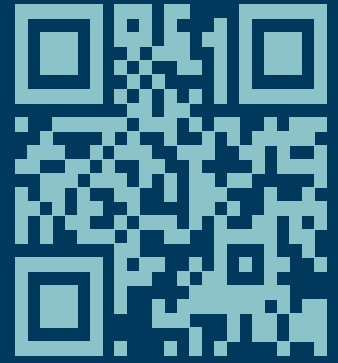
Our Social Prescribing Link Worker helps with non-clinical needs, helping people improve their wellbeing. They connect people to community groups and services for practical and emotional support.



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From the Office of Peter Prinsley MP

Member of Parliament for Bury St Edmunds and Stowmarket

House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA



Three new unitary councils for Suffolk

I am pleased that a decision has been reached on the reorganisation of local government in Suffolk following extensive consultation. Three unitary councils that provide all services, from bin collections to social care, will replace the current patchwork of county and district councils, saving tax-payers money and removing confusion and duplication. Each authority will cover a population of about 250,000 with approximately 60 councillors who will take over responsibilities from May 2028 after a transition period following next May's elections.

Subject to final changes Elmswell will be covered by the new Western Suffolk unitary authority.

All Aboard the St Edmund's Line!

Greater Anglia recently announced the very welcome news that, following a competition, the new name for the Ipswich to Cambridge rail route will be the St Edmund's Line.

St Edmund was King of the East Angles and was later canonised so this new name is most fitting, celebrating as it does our local heritage and its important role within our nation's history, while also encouraging tourism and interest in our region.

Residents hopping on or off the St Edmund's line at Elmswell station will continue to enjoy the consistently excellent Greater Anglia service on the newly named line. Elmswell has a high punctuality rate of 89.3% and one of the lowest cancellation rates across the region at 0.8% (according to the most recent figures from Greater Anglia). But locals in Elmswell will know the frustration of having no direct link to London. I recently raised this in Parliament, and though I was assured that improvements are coming, I'll keep pushing for more. A better commuter service is overdue and I will not waiver in my advocacy for this.

Raising a Glass to a New Chapter for Elmswell

I was really pleased to see that The Elmswell Tavern is up and running. It is a community-owned pub, run by the people of Elmswell, for the people of Elmswell. It is believed to be one of the very first of its kind and I cannot wait to see it thrive.

Elmswell is a growing village, but like many rural communities, it could always benefit from more community spaces where residents can come together, which is why this community pub is such good news. I'm wishing everyone at The Elmswell Tavern a successful future!

If you would like to write to me about any issues, or find out more about what I've been up to, you can visit my website:



www.peterprinsley.org

BLACKBOURNE & WESLEY-TAVERN MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

The BWTMA advises the Parish Council on matters relate to the management of the village's community facilities at Blackbourne, Wesley and The Tavern. Membership is drawn from 16 user-groups as well as councillors, staff representatives and residents elected at the AGM. Together the membership speaks on behalf of more than 500 villagers, across all age ranges from the toddlers through the sporting youngsters, the 3 senior sports clubs to the Over 5's & The Companions and beyond. At the latest meeting, held at The Tavern on 15th April, the following matters were among those discussed:

- The production and installation of a post-mounted roadside sign, mirroring that which is soon to be installed at the Tavern is in the hands of Peter Hancock who is in the process of securing 3 quotes for the work
- The insurance claim for damage done to the underground collector pipes serving the ground source heat pump at Blackbourne by a groundworks contractor working on the adjacent building site is in due process and is actively pursued
- The possibility of a way forward to allow the use of some of the 6 acres Turners' Field gifted to the village adjacent to Blackbourne Meadow without incurring a prohibitive fee towards Biodiversity Net Gain is being explored with Mid Suffolk Planners and the ecological consultancy retained to advise.
- The Treasurer reported takings of £91,175 for the year to date which projects as £99,964 for the full year, an increase of some £3,000 over last year. The drop in corporate bookings following Covid when many meetings moved on line has been compensated for by the popularity of the venues for children's parties at both Wesley and Blackbourne.
- The monthly Repair Café events at Wesley have proved to be popular and a new pattern of bi-monthly sessions on the 3rd Saturday has been agreed with the volunteers who service the event.
- Stocks Funfair is to return to Blackbourne Meadow for a week in July.
- Members took the opportunity to look around the Tavern which was preparing to open. There was widespread approval and, in some cases, a little excitement generated by what they saw. The dovetailing of the venue with Wesley will be a gradual process towards widening the offer available to as many people as possible.
- Members were made aware of the forthcoming Annual Parish Meeting to be held at Wesley on 30th May and which will feature details of the proposals for the emerging Community Rail Partnership.
- Linda Waspe has raised the problem of mis-use of the disabled parking spaces at Wesley as the markings in the pavours become less distinct and the Chairman undertook to request the installation of clearer signage.



Devolution and Local Government Reorganisation:

The government decided in March that there will be 3 unitary authorities in Suffolk. While detailed boundaries are still being finalised, these three unitary councils – currently known as West Suffolk (where Elmswell and Woolpit will sit), Central & East Suffolk, and South Suffolk & Ipswich – are planned to be in place from May 2028.

Elections for the new “shadow” authorities will be held in May 2027, with the new councils formally taking over responsibilities from May 2028 – this transition year is to enable detailed work for reorganisation to take place. Throughout this time, district and county services will continue to be delivered as normal.

The election of a Mayor for Suffolk and Norfolk is expected to be held in May 2028.

A14 litter: Work has started on a clean-up of the A14. Two trucks of rubbish were cleared from the roadsides between junctions 49 and 50 (Tothill and Stowmarket) while the road was closed for work. Some major local roundabouts have also been cleared, where traffic is generally slower and so road closures are not required.

£120K boost for art and culture in Mid Suffolk:

The Mid Suffolk Culture Fund has awarded grants to ten organisations across the district this year. Projects cover a wide range of areas, all age groups, and include, for example, funding for the ‘Jubilant’ youth summer arts festival (Stowmarket Culture Group), Dance sessions for people who are older/have health conditions (Dance East), inclusive arts workshops for vulnerable groups (Suffolk Artlink), school engagement and shared exhibitions and educational programmes (Association for Suffolk Museums), and work with schools to teach traditional East Anglian folk music (the East Anglian Traditional Music Trust).

Council funding for Neighbourhood Plans:

Government funding for Neighbourhood Plans was withdrawn in June 2025, and at the same time its house building targets have significantly increased (up 40% in Mid Suffolk). Neighbourhood Plans are vital to give a voice to local communities and to ensure the right types of development are built in the right place. MSDC has therefore introduced its own funding to support parish and town councils in the preparation and reviewing of their plans (up to £20K per plan).

Riverside land purchased for future generations:

Mid Suffolk District Council has purchased almost eight acres of land between Takers Lane and the River Rat in Stowmarket. Adjoining the council’s existing open space at Pikes Meadow, the land will be preserved as a riverside haven for nature and wildlife for future generations and will unlock potential for a new riverside walk connecting Combs Ford and Gipping Way.

Elmswell to Woolpit pedestrian and cycle path:

Latest update from Suffolk County Council suggests the design of the scheme – part-funded through Mid Suffolk’s Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) – will be completed by Spring 2027. This timescale is later than initially anticipated by SCC. We continue to advocate for prompt completion of this essential link between the villages.

Councillor drop-in sessions: Jen and Sarah are regularly available for residents to drop by to share concerns or issues, or just to say hello. Upcoming dates are:

- **Tuesday 28th April**
10:00 – 12:00 at Wesley Café, Elmswell
- **Tuesday 19th May 10.00 – 12.00** at Wesley Café, Elmswell

Mid Suffolk District Council: 0300 1234000 www.midsuffolk.gov.uk
 Cllr Sarah Mansel: 07860 829517 sarah.mansel@midsuffolk.gov.uk
 Cllr Jen Overett: 07928 512591 jen.overett@midsuffolk.gov.uk



At Wesley

The Elmswell Repair Café

As part of our efforts to re-use, recycle and reduce waste, our repair volunteers will be at Wesley each month to repair advise on a range of problems to encourage people to repair items rather than throw them away, thus reducing waste and saving you money! There is no charge for this but donations are accepted to cover running costs.

The team will be happy to mend clothing items, small electricals, small items of furniture, toys, jewellery and anything that needs fixing or gluing. If they can’t fix it they can usually suggest what you need to do.



Sewing & darning & zips and more....



Electrical & electronic



Jewellery

We need to find local volunteers to help administer the sessions, manage publicity, organise volunteers etc. and to register visitors on the day.

Please consider helping to keep this valuable community service going in Elmswell – contact Sue Reynard at stowrepaircafe@gmail.com or be in touch with the Parish Council office if you think you can help in any way.

NO BOOKING NECESSARY - JUST TURN UP

**3rd Saturday every other month...
Next sessions 20th June & 19th September**

**DON'T BIN IT -
REPAIR IT.
WE CAN HELP**



ELMSWELL PARISH COUNCIL APRIL MEETING REPORT

The Parish Council meets at least once each month, sometimes excluding August if there is insufficient business, although extraordinary meetings can be called as required at any time. The April meeting with 8 councillors present together with County Council Ward Member Andy Mellen, District Council Ward Member Jen Overett the Parish Clerk Peter Dow and 7 members of the public took place at Blackbourne on Monday 20th. 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 when ratified, together with the agenda for the next meeting, are available online at elmswell-pc.gov.uk 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 meeting held on 16th March as approved at this meeting, are posted in the Council's notice board at Crown Mill.

Before the Meeting began, all present observed a minute's silence to remember Cllr David Hawes who died on 23rd March.

David's contribution to the Council and to the community over many years had been exceptional and his spirited and wise input to debate had been valued, despite recent illness, right up to the last meeting.

County Council

Cllr Andy Mellen, Ward Member on Suffolk County Council, tabled a report which included the following:

UNITARY DECISION ANNOUNCED BY GOVERNMENT On 25 March the government announced that it had chosen a three unitary model for Suffolk following the Local Government Reorganization process which will see upper tier authority Suffolk County Council and lower tier authorities like districts and boroughs abolished in two years. Last year the government asked Suffolk councils to submit proposals on how many unitary councils they thought the county should have in the future. Suffolk County Council submitted a case for a single unitary council (One Suffolk) and the district and borough councils submitted one for three councils, which was the option chosen by ministers. These plans will see the county split into three areas: Western Suffolk, Central and Eastern Suffolk and Ipswich and Southern Suffolk, which includes the county town and Felixstowe. Elections for the new councils will be held next May, with the new councillors shadowing existing councillors until the new authorities are 'vested' from 1 April 2028.

MOTION OF SUPPORT FOR SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL HARM PASSED UNANIMOUSLY At council on 19 March, my group proposed a motion that the council release a statement of support for survivors of sexual harm and exploitation, on the basis that the near-constant media coverage of the 'Epstein files' was triggering for survivors of sexual harm of both genders, increasing the number of people seeking help. The motion also proposed that the council run a social media campaign

signposting people to Survivors in Transition, a local charity which provides support and advice, and write to the government advocating for funding for support services. The motion was approved unanimously in the chamber. In the same meeting, motions were also passed in support of the Lowestoft flood barrier, and to look into how the costs of Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) can be reduced. TROs are legal orders made by the council to amend speed limits, add road markings or make other changes to highways in the county.

EXTRA FUNDING FOR PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY On 24 March, Cabinet agreed to allocate an additional £3.9m of capital funding to repair structures on Suffolk's Public Rights of Way network. Structures such as bridges and boardwalks have a limited lifespan, and the council undertook a review to create a priority list of structures that need replacing or repairing in the next five years. The additional funding is needed because the amount of money usually allocated for these works is no longer enough due to the increased costs of building materials and labour, which have gone up 50% in the last five years. The priority list includes the Bailey Bridge between Walberswick and Southwold, the Fen Bridge over the Stour at Debenham and Hempyard Bridge at Ixworth. If structures become unsafe for walkers the council has to close the Public Right of Way, with each closure costing £1,200 for a six month period (if a path was closed for a year, it would cost £2,400). The Cabinet also heard about the King Charles III Coastal Path, which contrary to national media reports is not yet fully open: sections between Manningtree and Shotley Gate, and north of

Southwold, will not be open until later in the summer.

LIBRARIES DECISION SCRUTINISED At Scrutiny Committee on 11 March, last year's decision by the council to move the library service back in house was reviewed. The council's contract with Suffolk Libraries ended on 31 May 2025 and following that date, the county's 45 libraries and three mobile libraries came back into council control. Libraries' Friends Groups remain in place, with the funds they have raised for individual libraries staying separate from Suffolk County Council's funding. The meeting heard how Suffolk County Council and Suffolk Libraries had worked together to make the transition seamless for library users, although the transfer into council employment had placed a burden on library employees to undertake staff training, including on council platforms for IT, HR and procurement. In addition, the council had undertaken a restructure which had saved £340k in the 'central team'. No redundancies of front line library employees were made. During the meeting the council also laid out their plans to engage with library volunteers, governance systems for the new service and how the service would be celebrating the 2026 Year of Reading. The meeting also noted that borrowing of paper books was reducing, but that digital services such as eBooks and audiobooks were continuing to grow.

SUPPORT FOR CARE LEAVERS On 5 March, the council's Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee met to discuss services and support provided for young people in Suffolk leaving care. The council has to offer support to young people leaving care up to the age of 25, and at the most recent Ofsted inspection

in June 2024 this was highlighted as one of the main areas where the council needed to improve. Since the inspection, the council has worked to improve planning with young people who are coming up to leaving care, making sure more young people knew what support was on offer, and making sure that support was accessible for them as they prepared for independence. In addition, the council received a visit from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government in April 2025 which focused on youth homelessness and found that the council needed to immediately review its pathways for care leavers who presented as homeless. In response to these findings, the council increased the number of advisors working with 17 year olds to prepare for leaving care, and making sure they are aware with the help they can get such as reduction in council tax, and the 'Family Business' model the council uses to provide apprenticeships and jobs for young people who have been in care. The council has also nearly halved the number of care leavers in unsuitable accommodation, although they are still planning more work in this area, particularly for care leavers in custody.

NEW GOVERNMENT FUNDING FOR INCREASING FUEL COSTS Suffolk County Council has welcomed the additional £1.7m funding announced by the government to support households in the county facing increased oil heating costs. The council already provides cash payments to help residents with the cost of living through the Local Welfare Assistance Scheme, funded by the Household Support Fund. This scheme supports a range of essential costs, including utilities and energy, and has recently been updated to explicitly reference oil heating following the national announcement. From 1st April, Suffolk County Council will transition from the Household Support Fund to the Crisis Resilience Fund (CRF). This transition had already been planned prior to the new funding announcement, and will enable residents experiencing a financial shock or crisis - including sharp increases in oil heating costs - to continue accessing cash support via the Local Welfare Assistance Scheme, using the same application route as before. Residents can access information about this process and how to apply here: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/community-and-safety/communities/healthier/suffolk-local-welfare-assistance-scheme>

PARENTS URGED TO VACCINATE

AGAINST MEASLES The council is urging parents and carers in Suffolk to ensure their children are fully vaccinated against measles, mumps, rubella, and chickenpox, following a resurgence of measles cases nationally over the past two years. The country has seen a return of measles outbreaks linked to falling vaccination uptake, and as a result, the UK recently lost its World Health Organization measles elimination status. Vaccination rates remain below the 95% coverage needed to prevent outbreaks, with almost one in five children starting primary school not fully protected against serious diseases. Measles is one of the most infectious diseases in the world and can lead to complications including pneumonia, meningitis, and brain inflammation.

Health leaders including the Public Health team at Suffolk County Council have advised that parents and carers will usually be contacted by their GP practice when their child is due a routine vaccination, but if a child has missed a vaccine and is over 18 months old, these can be scheduled at any time by contacting their GP practice to book an appointment. If a parent or carer is unsure what vaccinations their child has already received, they can check their Red Book, the NHS app or by speaking to their GP practice.

District Council

Cllrs Sarah Mansel & Jen Overett, Ward Members on Mid Suffolk District Council, tabled a Report which is printed elsewhere in this Newsletter.

Clerk's Report

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

- On 23rd March I met with Bethany Taylor, our BMSDC Communities Officer and Vicky Moseley, the Head of Service, Communities and Wellbeing, for an update at their request on the various EPC initiatives where the District is involved. They stressed the importance of the Neighbourhood Development Plan review which will be considered in light of the emerging new Joint Local Plan and which will begin the process of taking the village's aspirations forward in terms of social development as much of the relevant administration undergoes the stresses of Local Government Reorganisation. I suggested that, for Elmswell to continue to address the need to keep community provision adequate to deal with the inevitable population expansion, consideration of new community land acquisition might

be appropriate. They undertook to broach this with colleagues towards discussion regarding the MSDC land at School Road, currently embargoed under the Housing Revenue Account. The Tavern development and the recent Crown Mill play area refurbishment were noted as exemplary schemes where the co-operation with District had been of considerable benefit.

- The latest MSDC Town & Parish Council Liaison meeting was held at Blackbourne on 25th March. Presentations included on the emerging Joint Local Plan and the need to integrate Neighbourhood Development Plans to avoid conflict, the forthcoming changes to waste collection, Local Nature Recovery and Biodiversity Net Gain, MSDC budgets and the impending Local Government Review & Devolution. All relevant factors are noted, but I have the presentation slides on request.
- The pedestrian / cycle Community Path to Woolpit remains problematic in terms of actual progress. Spearheaded by Cllr Andy Mellen, there is an attempt to bring some order and continuity to the process by the community representatives taking more responsibility for agendas and follow-up. A meeting is currently to be convened by EPC w.b 11th May.
- I have sanctioned the continuing support of the Gardening Club volunteers in their work to maintain the station flower displays which are consistently excellent and which attract positive comments. Meanwhile, volunteers have undertaken to plant-up the car park border at the Tavern in time for the opening week.
- Cllr Pallett, as Parish Council Chairman, has called the Annual Parish Meeting for Wednesday 20th May. This will be held in the chapel at Wesley. There will be a presentation on the new Community Rail Partnership proposals and a chance to air views on the need to re-present the Elmswell Neighbourhood Plan together with more information on the emerging Local Government Review. Our new County Councillor will be invited to make themselves known.
- Our Internal Audit is scheduled for 28th April when Heather Heelis of Heelis & Lodge will spend the day examining the year's accounts as well as checking that practices and procedures are properly defined and observed. Councillors are welcome to attend, by appointment, and raise any issues

or concerns.

- The Tavern opening week signals the hand-over of the continuing project to the General Manager, Nadia Tunmore. Liaison with the existing management systems of purchasing, payroll etc are developing aiming for integration as far as is practical with the Wesley and Blackbourne venues.
- On 14th April I met, at his request, with Richard Ratcliffe, the new head at Elmswell School who was keen to explore ways to better integrate the school into village activity. We discussed the history whereby the school does not benefit from a spacious site and the possibility, long-term, of pushing for any expansion of primary schooling to be built in Elmswell, thus avoiding the very likely scenario of our children having to travel to Woolpit every day. I encouraged the school's involvement in the Neighbourhood Development Plan process and further community contact, including through the Newsletter.

Planning Results

The Meeting noted the following as notified by Mid Suffolk District Council as Planning Authority:

DC/26/00643 Removal of bushes and erection of fence at Yew Tree House, Ashfield Road GRANTED EPC had objected

DC/25/04964 Front & rear

extensions at 15, Mill Gardens GRANTED EPC supported

Planning Application

The following Planning application as notified by Mid Suffolk District Council, was supported:

DC/26/00994 Application under S73 for Removal or Variation of a Condition following grant of Planning Permission DC/24/01321 dated 16th May 2024 Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) - Erection of part two storey part single storey rear extension. To vary Condition 2 (Plans/Documents) Changes to proposed drawings Replace

current approved drawings with new submitted scheme at 16 Cooks Road

Planning consultations

When the consultation deadline does not allow Planning applications to come to a meeting, the Clerk has delegated powers to consult with Councillors and make comment on Council's behalf. This procedure resulted in, 'no comment' being made in response to consultations at:

Willow Farm, Ashfield Road ref. DC/26/00174 for Listed Building Consent

Botany Bay Farm, Grove Lane ref. DC/26/01449 for agricultural determination

Ecological Appraisal

The suggestion that there might be slow worms present on the proposed

Crown Mill pre-school play garden site prompted a decision to commission a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal of the land from Connected Ecology Ltd of Norwich before any vegetation removal is carried out at the site, to result in a report which will include measures to mitigate the impact on any slow worm colony established there, and to ensure compliance with the appropriate sections of the Wildlife & Countryside Act, 1981 and the Environment Act, 2021, at a cost not to exceed £1,500.

Speed limit stickers

The Clerk confirmed that there are still some '30MPH' stickers available for households to place on their new waste bins and that this would be advertised in the Newsletter.

Next Meeting

It was noted that the next Meeting of Council scheduled as the Annual Meeting of Council for 18th May beginning at the earlier than usual time of 7.00pm at Blackbourne. The public are, as ever, welcome to attend all Council meetings and the agenda will always offer opportunities for questions and comment. Agendas are published online at elmswell-pc.gov.uk and on the Council's notice board at Crown Mill and are available from the Council Office at Blackbourne.

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@elmswellpc.co.uk

Tel. 244134 www.elmswell-pc.gov.uk



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.

May 18 th	June 15 th	July 20 th	Aug 17 th	Sept 21 st
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Meetings are held at Blackbourne, beginning at 7.30 unless otherwise notified

PARISH OF ELMSWELL

THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

is called for

Wednesday 20th May 2026

beginning at 7.30 in the chapel at Wesley

A community meeting to which all electors are invited and at which matters relating to Elmswell can be raised.

Also invited are Ward Members of SCC & BMSDC, Elmswell Parish Councillors, Suffolk Police and the co-ordinators of the emerging Community Rail Partnership.

Written questions can be tabled in advance through the Parish Council Office at Blackbourne or email: clerk@elmswellpc.co.uk

Cllr. Fred Pallett
Chairman, Elmswell Parish Council

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	
Arts Society of West Suffolk	Diana Hollins	theartssociety-westsuffolk.org.uk	01449 736930
Baby & Toddler Group		elmswellbtgroup@gmail.com	
Baptists	Dave Hollings	davehollings@btinternet.com	241323
BATS (Badminton & Table Tennis)	Mike Burgess Wilson	burgesswilsonmike@gmail.com	07513 336412
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	Megan & Frankie	elmswellbrownies@hotmail.com	
CAB		advice@midsuffolkcab.org.uk	01449 676060
Carpet Bowls Club	Mike North	mcnorth8@gmail.com	
Christians Together in Elmswell	Peter Goodridge	elmswellrector@gmail.com	240512
Companions	Linda Waspe	linda@labbot.plus.com	
County Councillor	Clr 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.Mansel@midsuffolk.gov.uk	07860 829517
District Councillor	Jen Overett	Jen.Overett@midsuffolk.gov.uk	
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	Wendy Walker	elmswellgcadmin@btinternet.com	07748 442951
Guides	Viv	elmswellguides@outlook.com	
Harry Huson Bridge Club	Amanda Roberts	robertsar@sky.com	07526 743734
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@littleeelms.co.uk	240491
Newsletter	Editorial office	eea@elmswell.org.uk	244134
Over 55's Club	Sharon & Kay	elmswellover55s@outlook.com	
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		Powercut105.com	105
Rainbows	Gemma	elmswellrainbows@yahoo.com	
Royal British Legion	Norman Plumpton (Biff)	nplumpton@aol.com	07707 524722
School	Mr Richard Ratcliffe	admin@elmswell.suffolk.sch.uk	240261
Scouts	Mark Pernot	mark.pernot@gmail.com	
St John's Church	Peter Goodridge	elmswellrector@gmail.com	240512
St John's Floodlighting	Trevor Sadler	trevor.sadler@dsl.pipex.com	240908
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.

May 2026

- 5 West Suffolk Arts Society The Fall & Rise of Denmark Greatest Designer. Finn Juhl Speaker: James Vaux
- 6 Elmswell WI Afternoon 2.00 pm AGM Bring & Buy and Members talks
- 7 Elmswell Over 55's Club Rails and Sails
- 10 Elmswell CC versus Elveden at Blackbourne
- 11 2pm Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church when John Cornell will be talking about Visiting Lourdes
- 14 ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP, 7.30pm; in Wesley Chapel. Speaker Helen Everett, Sutton Hoo Ship's Company: Project to Reconstruct a Replica Anglo-Saxon Longboat
- 14 Food 'n' Friends midday at Elmswell Baptist Church
- 19 Elmswell Gardening Club, 7.30pm Speaker Ian Bedford - Six of the Best - 3 beneficial and 3 problematic bugs in our houses and gardens, Wesley Chapel

- 21 Elmswell Over 55's Club Elvis is in the building

- 31 Elmswell CC versus Woolpit at Blackbourne

June 2026

- 1 Ladies Friendship Group - a visit to Thetford Nursery
- 2 West Suffolk Arts Society Calouste Gulbenkian As Collector & Oil Titan 1869 - 1955 Speaker: Jonathon Conlin
- 3 Elmswell WI Afternoon 2.00 pm Margaret Brackenbury A craft workshop
- 4 Elmswell Over 55's Club Afternoon Tea
- 9 Elmswell WI When Dogs bark
- 11 ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP AGM at 7pm, in Wesley Chapel - immediately followed at 7.30pm by Speaker Terry O'Donoghue: History of West Suffolk Hospital
- 11 Food 'n' Friends midday at Elmswell Baptist Church
- 14 Elmswell CC versus Brockley at Blackbourne

- 16 Elmswell Gardening Club, 7.30pm Speaker Jim Paine -Trees for all Seasons', Wesley Chapel
- 18 Elmswell Over 55's Club Graham-Country& Western
- 21 Elmswell CC versus Brettenham at Blackbourne

July 2026

- 1 Elmswell WI Afternoon 2.00 pm Helen Hillier Floral decorations
- 2 Elmswell Over 55's Club Strawberry Supper and Bingo
- 11 ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP 2-4.30pm in Wesley Chapel Speaker Steve Bolton: Talk & Exhibition on History of English Women's Football since WW1
- 14 Elmswell WI Fish & Chips & Stuff & Folly
- 16 Elmswell Over 55's Club Steve Key (may be a bit of Line Dancing)
- 26 Elmswell CC versus Milden at Blackbourne
- 30 Elmswell Over 55's Club The Hut Felixstowe

STOP PRESS

Regular sessions at Blackbourne & Wesley include:

- ART CLUB** at Wesley every Tuesday 9.00 – 12.00 Eddie Douglas edward.douglas2@gmail.com
 - ARTS SOCIETY OF WEST SUFFOLK** first Tuesday monthly, October-June. Diana Hollins 01449 736930 theartsociety-westsuffolk.org.uk
 - BABY & TODDLER GROUP** - Monday mornings elmswellbtgroup@gmail.com
 - BATS**- badminton / table tennis at Blackbourne TUESDAY night 7.15 – 9.15 pm burgesswilsonmike@gmail.com or tel. 07513 336412
 - BEAVERS /SCOUTS** - Wednesday 5.45 – 9.15 glv@elmswellscouts.org.uk
 - BINGO** – Blackbourne, last Friday monthly doors open 6.30...eyes – down 7.30
 - BOWLS** - barryhayward1902@gmail.com tel. 240951
 - BRIDGE** – Blackbourne - Monday afternoons from 1.15pm – Phil Peters 07825 016884 peters33@btinternet.com
 - CARPET BOWLS** – Wednesday 7pm at Wesley – em.mcnorth8@gmail.com
 - CIRCLE DANCING** - Thursdays 1.45 – 3.15 jenlerner@gmail.com
 - COMPANIONS** – every other Friday 10 – 12 at Wesley - linda@abbott.plus.com
 - CUBS** Tuesdays 6.15 – 7.30 - mark.pernot@gmail.com
 - DANCE & FITNESS / CIRCUITS** - Mondays 7.00pm & 7.50pm at Wesley
 - DIGITAL SUPPORT SESSIONS** – free at Wesley 3rd Wednesday monthly, no need to book
 - FOOTBALL** - Chris Edmonds edddd101@gmail.com
 - GARDENING CLUB** at Wesley 3rd Tuesday monthly 7.30 elmswellgadmin@btinternet.com
 - GUIDES** - elmswellguides@outlook.com
 - HISTORY GROUP** at Wesley 2nd Thursday monthly 7.30 stellachamberlin@yahoo.co.uk
 - JAPANESE JUJUTSU / SELF DEFENCE** – Monday & Wednesday 6.30 – 8.30 ryoishintowaryuheiho@gmail.com tel. 07711 680262
 - JUNIOR FOOTBALL** - smyth98@hotmail.com 07717 841591
 - KARATE with Lewis** - Friday 5.00 – 7.00 info@greatheadma.com
 - MARDLE QUILTERS** - last Friday monthly carpajak@aol.com
 - MOO MUSIC** - Fridays 12.45 – 3.15 bury@moo-music.co.uk
 - OVER 55'S** - every other Thursday 19:00 to 21:15 Diann Armstrong tel. 241002
 - PILATES** – Monday & Friday mornings – suzanne@triformpilates.co.uk
 - RAINBOWS** - elmswellrainbows@yahoo.com
 - TREFOIL GUILD** - 1st Tuesday monthly lesley.grout@btinternet.com
 - WI** – afternoon at Wesley 1st Wednesday monthly at 2.00pm Carol Blissett carolblissett@hotmail.co.uk
 - WI** – evening at Wesley 2nd Tuesday monthly 7.30pm triciamcneeney@gmail.com
- 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: May 26th, June 23rd, July 28th, August 25th

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

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

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