

Seventeen years of Parish Record.....  
..... Community News and the

**ELECTION NEWS**  
see centre pages



# The ELMSWELL Newsletter

MAY 2002

..... Your Parish Matters

*Is this Lyle Close ?*

see page 32 .....



**Published by the Elmswell Amenities Association Reg. Charity No. 304879.  
Delivered free to every household and to businesses in the community.**

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**This Month's  
"COMMENT"**

comes from  
Roy Finch of Eastern Way

If you are a regular reader of the Newsletter you will already know my name from the Parish council reports. I am the one who is always getting thrown out of Parish Council meetings – last month by a very nice lady Police Constable.

This month my name is in the Newsletter again. I have jointly organised a fund raising day which produced £1,930 for Woolpit Health Centre.

For many years I have organised lots of fund raising events, usually dances in the village hall. I've always had help from lots of villagers, including past Parish Councils. When this Parish Council got in everything changed and dealing with them, either as councillors or in their disguise as the Blackbourne Management Association, has not been a pleasant experience.

I'm not the only one who has had to think hard about whether to carry on trying to organise fundraising events when you are made to feel like an outsider in your own village. Some gave up. I didn't.

Last October someone from one of my dances fell over the steps at Blackbourne because the outside lights weren't working. I reported it to the Parish Council but nothing was done. It happened again and still nothing was done. In the end I reported the problem to the Health & Safety Executive and to Mid Suffolk District Council because it was dangerous. All they got was excuses about waiting for quotes for the work.

Six months it took for the Parish Council to sort this out. Then they try to make out I'm the villain for complaining at their meetings.

My second complaint is about money – money that I and others have raised for good causes and which we are not allowed to have. When Blackbourne was first set up it was agreed that the bar arrangements should carry on as before. This meant that if the bar operator did well he would make a donation to the fund raisers – about £40 was the average.

The new council decided that there was too much trust in this arrangement. It brought in a new rule. The bar was to hand over £40 each time to the Council (or the BMA). It would then be passed on to the charity concerned. Not only unnecessary, time-wasting nonsense, but it turns out you have to plead for the money. I have put on three events since February, including the recent one for the Health Centre. I'm still waiting, at the time of writing this, for a total of £120 to be returned from Mr Clark and Mr Curry who run both the Council and the BMA.

That's my Comment. I'd like to hear theirs.

**YOUR COMMENT INVITED...** If you have a comment, a view, a statement - something to say about anything of concern to Elmswell - share it with our readers via the 'Comment' column or our 'letters to the Editor' feature c/o Gobblins, Station Road Industrial Estate. Please include your name and address and a telephone contact number - our next deadline is 12th June.

**OLIVER ...** Joy Elizabeth, aged 69, passed away peacefully in the West Suffolk Hospital on 18 May. Dearly beloved wife of Percy (Vic), loving mother of Victor, Derek, Gordon and Janina. A much loved grandmother who will be greatly missed by all her family and friends.

The funeral service will be at Elmswell Parish Church on Monday 27 May at 11 am.

**The deadline for the next issue is 5.00 p.m. on Wednesday 12th June 2002.** Copy to Gobblin's office on Station Road Industrial Estate or contact our Editors: Jean Barker 241135 or Peter Dow 241841. The Amenities Association, which publishes the Newsletter, will try to find space for all contributions, regardless of any point of view expressed, if space permits and providing that they are legal and that the writer's name and address are included.

Any views expressed or implied are not necessarily condoned or supported by the Association which offers, in the Newsletter, an impartial service to the community.

Advertising at the following rates. Please let us have an invoicing address with your copy:

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¼ page £15    ½ page £20    Full page £30

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¼ page £18    ½ page £23    Full page £35

Payment strictly in advance.

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¼ page £8    ½ page £11    Full page £16    Front Cover £22

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¼ page £17    ½ page £22    Full page £33

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¼ page £20    ½ page £25    Full page £38

**N.B. Photographs £10 extra.**

**Classified Ads: 30 words maximum  
£5 cash with order.**

# Around and About ...

## **LITTLE ELMS FUN FACTORY**

We must be getting somewhere, as we now have our very own Around & About column in the newsletter! Each month we will be able to update you on further developments and give you more information.

We are still awaiting our OFSTED Inspection, but we should have had our Fire Risk Assessment by the time the newsletter comes out, so things are moving on. We have a full-page advert in this issue for anyone who is interested in the Holiday Play Scheme to fill in and return. This is firstly for our benefit, in order to gain an idea of numbers, boys or girls and ages, to help us arrange our activities. Secondly, it is for your benefit so we can send you our Parent Information Pack, as soon as it is available.

We aim to be open on Monday 22nd July 2002. Provisionally, our session times will be 8.30am to 1.00pm and 1.00pm to 5.30pm Monday to Friday, every school holiday. We will be closed on Bank Holidays and the week between Christmas and New Year. There is a one off registration fee of £10 per family per

year (to help cover administration costs).

You will need to book in advance, but you can only secure your place by payment in full the week before. Our prices will be as follows: £8 per half-day session, £15 per day or £70 for a full week. There is a reduced price for siblings. We will be having an Open Evening at the Blackbourne, on Tuesday 9th July at 7.30pm, so we can tell you all about Little Elms Fun Factory and you can ask us any unanswered questions. It will also be the first opportunity for you to register children for sessions. We will also be having an Open Day during the summer holidays, when we are up and running, on Wednesday 31st July between 10.00am and 3pm for parents and children to come along and see what fun we are having. Everyone is welcome.

We are also looking for a volunteer Treasurer. If you are computer literate it would help but if not you can still do the job. It will involve 2-3 hours work per week, in the school holidays, and 6-8 meetings per year.

**For more information on anything above, contact Sarah Jobbins 01359 242316.**

## **LITTLE ELMS FUN-FACTORY URGENTLY REQUIRES A CHAIRPERSON**

Due to extreme personal circumstances, Sarah Jobbins has had to resign from this position and in order to accomplish the successful establishment of this Holiday Play scheme we need a new leader for our two person committee!

**Please contact Joy O'Doherty 242259  
or Sam Woolnough 242806.**

## **Around and About cont'd., pg3**

### **NEWS FROM THE METHODISTS**

#### **Preachers planned for the month:**

**May** 19th Revd. Peter Dainty  
26th Revd. Stephen Yelland  
**June** 2nd Mr Andrew High  
9th Revd. Alan Stephens  
16th Mr David Rogers  
10.45am each Sunday.

Also on May 16th at 5.30pm there is a Fellowship of Churches service at St John's.

#### **The Ladies Fellowship 2.45pm Tuesday Speakers:**

May 28th Mrs Jane Bean  
June 11th Revd. Stephen Yelland.  
Tuesday Club - May 21st - Boat Trip.  
Coffee Shop - 30th May, 14th June,  
10.00 - 11.30am - all welcome.

SATURDAY 29TH JUNE -  
GARDEN PARTY  
2 - 4pm CHURCH CAR PARK -  
SCHOOL LANE  
(if wet in Church Hall)  
Usual stalls, cream teas etc.

### **CATHOLIC PARISH OF OUR LADY, STOWMARKET**

#### **Parish Priest:**

Father Denys Lloyd  
The Presbytery,  
29 Lockington Road,  
Stowmarket IP14 1BQ  
Tel: 01449-612946

#### **MASS TIMES:**

#### **Saturdays (First Mass of Sunday)**

Woolpit C of E Parish Church, 6pm

#### **Sundays**

Stowmarket (Our Lady's, Stricklands  
Road) 8.30am & 10.15am

Wattisham Airfield Church (first Sunday  
of each month), 12.15pm

Needham Market C of E Parish Church  
(second Sunday of each month),  
12.15pm

#### **Holy Days**

Stowmarket (Our Lady's, Stricklands  
Road) 8am, 10am and 7.30pm

Weekday Services in the parish are listed  
at the front of the church at Our Lady's  
and in the weekly Newsletter. If you are  
unable to contact Fr Denys and need a  
Priest in a hurry, please telephone 01284-  
754358.

The Parish Representative in your area  
is: Mrs Hilda Jackson, Holly Cottage,  
Long Thurlow, Badwell Ash IP31 3JB.  
Tel: 01359-259944.

### **ELMSWELL TODDLER GROUP**

Elmswell Toddlers is a friendly group that meets twice a week on Mondays 1.30pm to 3.00pm and Wednesdays 10.00am to 11.30am; at the Wesley Hall in School Road (opposite the takeaways). It is a good opportunity to meet other parents/grandparents and make new friends, as well as letting the children socialise and let off steam. We have been glad to see many new faces this year and welcome anyone who would like to join - admission is only 80p and your first visit is completely free! If there are any househusbands out there please do come along and keep some of the other fathers company.

We'd like to say a big thank you to Caroline Long's grandmother Olive Hopkin who kindly knitted a teapot cosy for us. We really appreciate your hard work, which has had a lot of reaction from the children. We'd also like to thank Tony Goffin Signs for donating art material, which the children will put to good use in cutting and pasting.



## Around and About cont'd., p25

There was a good turnout for the visit to Playworld at Stowmarket Leisure Centre on Wednesday 8th May, 25 little ones turned up and had lots of fun on the bouncy castles and the go karts. Some of the big kids enjoyed themselves as well (no names mentioned but we all know who you are!). If you want to join in then there will be another visit on Wednesday 20th May for those of you who missed out this time.

Future events include a family barbecue on the 28th August and, a date for your diary, there will be a nearly new sale on 28th September. We will shortly have a space on the village website so you surfers out there can keep an eye out for future events.

**Sean Doherty - Vice Chair**

01359 241521

### ELMSWELL BOWLS CLUB



### JUBILEE CUP

**Saturday 1 June 2002**

Open to all Residents  
in the Village of Elmswell

1.45pm for 2.00pm start

Entrance fee £1

**Correct footwear  
MUST be worn**



## ELMSWELL PRIMARY SCHOOL

It is hard to believe we are so far into another year at Elmswell Primary School. We are rapidly approaching the Queen's Jubilee Weekend and making plans of how we can all celebrate it as a village and as families. The PTA has decided that we would like to have a family treasure hunt. You can purchase a clue sheet from the school for £3.00 (you will only need one sheet per family), walking or biking around the village collecting all your answers. Turn it back into the school **NO LATER THAN JULY 5th (SUMMER FAYRE)**. Then all the sheets with the right answers will be put into a box and winners will be drawn. The prizes will be a percentage of the takings.

Top raffle prize: 1 weeks luxury accommodation for 4 people at any Grand Vacation Club resort in Europe (subject to availability). All you have to do is get there!! Tickets just £1 a strip.

You are welcome to come to our Summer Fayre even if you don't have children at the school. It is on July 5th from 6-8pm. We will have several static displays on the playground and lots and lots of fun and games on the field. There will be hotdogs and squash for sale as well.

We are hoping that this will turn into a nice long hazy day where families spend the day together enjoying the weather and the company. So come out for late lunch or an early dinner and enjoy the company of your neighbours. We hope

## CLASSIFIED ADS

**SUMMER BEDDING PLANTS** -The  
Woodyard, Kiln Lane, Elmswell. Tel: 01359  
242228.

## **Around and About cont'd., pg7**

to see you there!

Elmswell Primary School is proudly sponsored by J W Diaper & Sons, Harris of Elmswell, Manvers Triumph, Rannoch's, H C Wilson, and Village Homes....Helping the school that helps your children.

### **DOWN BY THE BEAVER**

**DAM! (Elmswell Beaver Scout update) Sue B:S:L (Squirrel) 240387**

Since taking over the Beaver Colony in July 2001, it has grown, and we have nineteen boys (Beavers) on the books and most turn up on a Friday. As a result I desperately need another person male/female to come forward as a **WARRANTED ASSISTANT LEADER** as my assistant has now become the Scout Leader and my assistant/helper Annie is giving up in June - thanks to both Jim

(Skunk) and Annie Coole. We have had and do a variety of subjects from clay flower pot making and painting them, this time we set the Beavers a spur of the moment challenge to grow a plant - Sunflower or some kind of plant by 5th July 2002 and a prize will be presented to the tallest and/or most unusual. We play games, old ones and learn new ones; we have had various people come and talk and possibly show pictures or a video for about ten/fifteen minutes; so if you are reading this and have a particular subject that might interest the Beavers, please give me a ring and I will see what I can do.

I have at present a waiting list so if your child is coming up to six and would like to be put on the list, then please let me know and as soon as I have a vacancy I will send you a letter inviting your child to come along. I cannot take any more as

**ENDS presents:**

# **BUSYBODY**

**June 20, 21, 22**

**7:00 PM**

**Methodist Hall**



## **Around and About cont'd., p29**

18/19 is enough for me to cope with and probably my parental help can cope with. I will endeavour to keep you all informed about what is happening down by the Beaver Dam.

### **ELMSWELL BAPTIST CHURCH**

The summer's nearly here, time for the late spring-cleaning. We are in need of any scrubbers or people who have some pent up aggression that live in the village. Please come along on the first Saturday of June between 9.30am and 12.30pm and all will be explained, your services would be greatly appreciated.

Our Tuesday CU club continues, would you believe some people still did not realise that we had a children's club. It starts each Tuesday, term time at 6pm until 7.30pm. During May/June we shall be having a puppet evening, a kite making session, outside games, a birdie night and our normal games nights. If you would like more info contact Tony, or turn up and join in - it's open to anyone, our age range at present ranges from 4 to 13.

From this month we shall be recording our weekly services. If you would like to attend somewhere on Sundays but can't for whatever reason, let our secretary know and we can arrange for you to

receive a copy of any of our services. If anyone is away, or falls asleep during the service, a copy can be obtained straight afterwards - see me or help yourself from the tape library at the back of the chapel. No cost is incurred; all we ask is for the tapes to be returned after you have finished with them so that we can use them again. Not only will you hear the service, you will also hear how outstanding the guitar playing is. Obviously we would prefer to see you join us in person if you can, our services are held each week for one hour from 11am. We have a different speaker each week - variety is the spice of life so they say. During the next two months our organist will be undertaking his normal eight weeks holiday. We would like to thank everyone who is stepping into his shoes to cover, we now have three people who will be covering and hitting the right notes for a change - only joking!!!!

On the first Monday of June the ladies friendship group meets for their final session before the summer break. They are off on their travels, I'm not sure this year if they are going to Spain, Malta, Canary Islands or Clacton, but wherever it is they go for an hour and a half on June 10th. I'm sure they will have a great time. Have a good Jubilee weekend - a topical

### **~~ Novelty Cakes! ~~**

You create the idea - Let me create the cake!

Free Delivery within Elmswell

**Jean Barker ~ 01359 241135**

Cartoons ✓ Sports ✓ Animals ✓ Hobbies  
Anything...

**BB SERVICES**



## Around and About cont'd., pg 10

royal question to finish - who was on the throne in 1887 when our Chapel was built (clue - they are not there now, I've checked).

See you soon.

**Mark**

### ELMSWELL GARDENING CLUB



Another brilliant and enthralling evening, we are now getting so popular that we had two guest speakers turn up to entertain us, and by the size of the turn out of members we could have used both, but we didn't, due to the timely and gracious intervention of Hon Sec Mrs Robinson from Bury St Edmunds decided to go home, but will return in June in place of Mr Plaxton, we then carried on the evening with Sue Russell as advertised.

Sue Russell is a very knowledgeable speaker on climbing plants and, to coin a phrase, what she doesn't know about climbing plants can quite easily be put on the back of a postage stamp. She started off her talk with a whole array of plants she had brought along and gave a brief description of how each one had developed different techniques of adapting to their environment, and also how they choose to hang on to their host, be it stake, wall or tree, but the real splendour and charm was the variation in leaf shape and colour of the foliage varieties and often the wonderful fragrance of many of the flowering types. The Chairman said now was the time to start flexing our muscles and get ready for Open Gardens day on 21st July, but the fine tuning would come at the May meeting, he also commented on the trip to Hever Castle and that the coach was filling fast, and for those that had not yet booked their seats, they should hurry up and do so, to avoid disappointment.

The competition of five Spring flowers was won by Mrs Marguerite Lankester, Mrs Maureen Cruickshank second, and Mrs Jean Mason third, and as usual well done and many thanks to all other entrants.

Our next meeting will be at the Library at 8.00pm on June 20th when Mrs Robinson will speak on Unusual and Rare Plants, the competition will be for 3 names Roses, see you all there.

### Wetherden Under Fives



Pre school (age 3-5) and  
Rising 3's (age 2½-3)

Open:

Mondays, Tuesdays,  
Thursdays and Fridays  
9.00am - 12.30pm

A secure, happy place where learning to socialise, share and develop is fun.

We accept nursery grants.

Contact:

Sandra Gidney 07971 827522 or  
Sarah Paczy 01359 242965

### KILN MEADOW WILDLIFE

#### Dawn Chorus

Fourteen bleary eyed souls turned up at 4.30am on 5th May to celebrate International Dawn Chorus Day at Kiln Meadow. We heard a number of different species of birds but not as many as we

## Around and About cont'd., pg13

would have expected for this time of the year. We put this down to the cold North wind that was blowing across the fields. Not only was it cold for the birds, but it was cold for us too.

Luckily it stayed dry for us until some of the lesser mortals amongst us, me included, returned to bed. At this point it started raining and didn't stop for the rest of the day. So for you villagers that weren't there, you missed the best part of the day. That's my justification for getting up at that time of the morning and I'm sticking to it.

P.S. Although not widely known, the Wren is not the smallest British bird. This honour belongs to the Goldcrest.

**Alan Hall**

### CONSERVATION

Many thanks to Gruff Rowlands who arranged, free of charge at Blackbourne, a Seminar of Safety Awareness for Conservation Volunteers. Although well advertised, only 8 people attended. All were very interested and found it excellent. All were given a Certificate of Competence afterwards.

Thanks again Gruff for your contribution, and Wendy for refreshments.

Cheers.

**Alan Thompson**, Conservation Volunteer at Kiln Meadow.

### E.A.D.S.

Rehearsals for 'Busybody' are going well, with everyone slipping enthusiastically into their roles. However, we still need some help!



- We need assistance for the performances on the 20th, 21st and 22nd of June - both front of house

and backstage.

- Our play is set in the 1960s, and we are still looking for the following items from that period: Trilby hats, a wardrobe, some chairs and general small office furnishings.

If you are able to help us with any of the above, please contact Pippa (01359 241112) or Sarah (01359 242342). Alternatively, come along and meet us any Monday evening at the Methodist Hall, School Road, from 7.30 'til 10pm.

'Busybody' by Jack Popplewell, will be performed on June 20-22nd.

In this hilarious comedy, Mrs Piper, the cleaning lady in Mr Marshall's office building, one night discovers a dead man with a knife in his back - but on the arrival of Scotland Yard's Superintendent Baxter the body has mysteriously disappeared. At first, everybody believes that the boss Mr Marshall has been murdered - after having successfully made everybody in the office hate him profoundly. His wife, too, has a convincing motive for the murder: she is finally free for her lover. Actually, every one of the suspects has a motive for killing Marshall.

Despite the effort of Baxter, the corpse cannot be found. Was it just the imagination of a highly strung cleaning lady? That is exactly Harry Baxter's theory - until the indefatigable Mrs Piper digs up more proof that there has been a murder in the office after all... What happens next? You'll have to come along and find out for yourself.

Tickets will go on sale from the Elmswell Post Office, as usual, from the beginning of June.

Please support us throughout the year, as well as during the panto season, since both the adult and junior productions rely on local support to stay afloat between

## Around and About cont'd., pg 15

pantomimes.

Finally, look out for details of the junior production in the next newsletter.

**Pippa**

### SERVICES etc AT

#### ST JOHN'S CHURCH

##### Sunday 26 May

10.30am Morning Prayer

11.30am Holy Communion

##### Sunday 2 June

9.30am Family Service

10.30am Morning Prayer

11.30am Holy Communion

##### Sunday 9 June

8.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Parish Praise

##### Sunday 16 June

10.30am Holy Communion

##### Sunday 23 June

10.30am Morning Prayer

11.30am Holy Communion

*Sunday School in Church Room every Sunday except 1st Sunday in month.*

#### St John's Church

April and May this year at St John's Church have been exceptionally busy - following on from the Easter celebrations, Parish Praise on 14 April was attended by members of our local Fire Brigade and Police, paying tribute to the invaluable work they do for the community.

On 21 April we said goodbye to the Martins, an American family who have been faithful worshippers and workers at the Church during the last two years. On 2 May two recently baptised adults were confirmed at a service in Lavenham Church.

Then on 5 May the Revd John Perrott conducted his last Sunday service here in Elmswell. Tributes were paid to him and Penelope his wife and in gratitude for their long service to God, the Church and the

village, a cheque was presented, together with other gifts, cards and flowers. Members of the large congregation then enjoyed a 'bring and share' lunch.

The Admission of Churchwardens took place at Long Melford Church on 8 May - our Churchwardens are Mr Derek Blackman (tel 01284 754501) and Mrs Valerie Rogerson (tel 01359 240510) to whom any enquiries regarding weddings and baptisms should be made during the time we are without a Rector in Elmswell.

We are now embarking on Christian Aid week and hope to be able to report a good result in next month's Newsletter.

#### ST JOHN'S CHURCH TOWER FLOODLIGHTING

**A night's floodlighting costs £5. Please make cheques payable to "ST JOHN'S CHURCH, ELMSWELL"**

#### MAY 2002 SPONSORSHIPS

- 1 - 7 in memory of John Ray
- 9 in loving memory of Peter Rose's Birthday
- 14 in loving memory of Percy Pleasance's Birthday
- 22 Richard and Rachel Negus. To celebrate their Wedding Anniversary
- 25 in loving memory of Ted Rookard

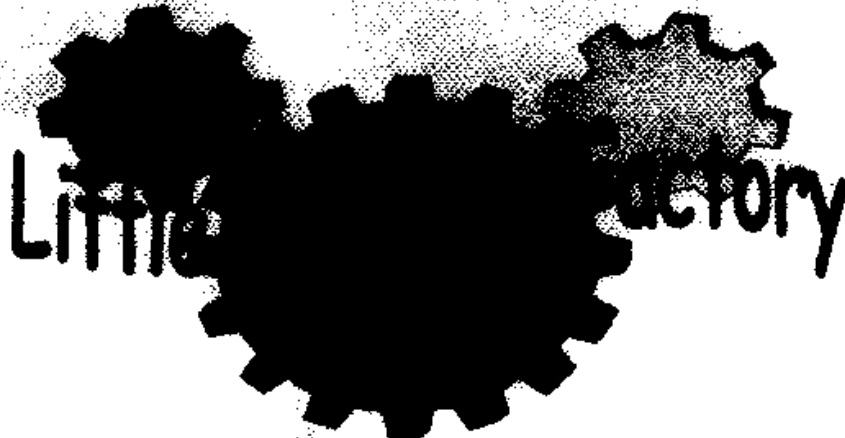
**All bookings and payments please to:- Trevor Sadler, Abbots Warren, Church Road, Elmswell (Tel: 240908)**

#### ELMSWELL CRICKET CLUB

Well, once again I'm having to write these notes as the regular scribe is swanning away on holiday, which reminds me who do I give the expenses form to.

In last months newsletter Doug invited





Little Elms Fun Factory

## Holiday Play Scheme

If you are interested in receiving a Registration/Information pack about Little Elms Fun Factory (Holiday play scheme) please complete the form below: For information on prices, opening times please read our column in the newsletter.

Name .....

Address .....

Tel No: .....

Child 1 name	Child 2 name	Child 3 name
.....	.....	.....

Date of Birth .....	Date of Birth .....	Date of Birth .....
---------------------	---------------------	---------------------

Sex M/F .....	Sex M/F .....	Sex M/F .....
---------------	---------------	---------------

How often will you be interested in using the Fun Factory?

Half Day  Full Day  1 Week  All holiday

Please return this form to Sarah Jobbins  
12 Farm Meadow, Elmswell, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk  
Tel No: 01359 242316

**THIS IS NOT A BOOKING FORM,  
THIS IS FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

## **Around and About cont'd., p816**

everyone to come and join 'US' at the cricket nets which he inexplicably forgot, or did he oversleep!

When writing this column last time I tried to work out which club he could join when he retires from the game he loves. Not having heard that any club would take him on, it looks as if we are stuck with him for now. Perhaps his average could get close to his age.

Having waited all winter for our season to start, and having experienced tropical weather in April, as you may expect on our first game of the season the heavens opened and match was cancelled, so Doug opted out and headed for sunnier climes.

Thankfully our next fixture against Brandon took place thanks to the efforts of our groundsmen Graham Newman who worked tirelessly preparing the ground.

On a sticky wicket Brandon battled first and reached 133-8. Elmswell responded well thanks to a solid partnership between skipper Nigel Greathead and Steve Jordan but after their dismissal we suffered a batting collapse. It was only in the penultimate over that two hefty strokes from youngsters Ben Whatling and Michael Peachey meant we overhauled our visitors total.

On a more serious note the club needs more players to join. Having struggled to select eleven players for both fixtures it is becoming difficult for the captains to pick teams.

Any youngsters or ex players or newcomers to the village who could help out even occasionally would be most welcome and should contact the club captain Nigel Greathead 240029 or any committee member.

If this situation does not improve we will

have to review the future of the club at the end of the season, which will be a pity after all the hard work put in each season by the committed few.

Finally there is an easy quiz sheet available priced £1 to help raise club funds with a cash prize, available from David Peachey (Wink) or any committee member.

### **Next Fixtures**

May 26th	Worlington	Away
June 2nd	Cavendish W	Away
June 5th	Stowmarket u/16's	Away
June 9th	Horringer	Home

### **YOUTH SHELTER -**

#### **A PLACE TO BE SEEN AT**

The young people of Elmswell have asked for somewhere to sit, to hang out, a place to talk to friends with some security and shelter. The Parish Council and Suffolk Constabulary are proposing to meet this

**Chrissy's  
Bouncy Castle  
Garden Marquees  
and**

**QUALITY CROCKERY  
HIRE**

**Crockery - Cutlery  
Glassware - Cake Stands**

**Telephone  
01359 241791**

## Around and About cont'd., pg19

request.

It is a sad reflection on Elmswell young people that 50% of all reported crimes in last 3 months of 2001 was youth related. Why should we do anything to help? The youth of this village are the future and it would appear that they are in need of help to reach a responsible attitude and role to become part of this thriving community. We can all point the finger and apportion blame. Pointless laying blame, we have to deal with the cause, **no where to go and nothing to do.** So let us bite the bullet and provide a place to go, a shelter to meet friends and chat. Many questions will need answers. Where should it be sited? What type of structure? How will it be paid for? Who will clean and maintain the shelter?

How about a skateboard ramp with BMX slope? Two young people stood up and

addressed the Parish Council with the hope that this could be given serious consideration and why not.

**Young people, what are your answers? We need to have your views. We don't want to disappoint, we need your thoughts and suggestions.**

We hope that all members of the community will be prepared to come forward with positive suggestions. We have heard all the negative comments. The problem will not go away. We must decide how to constructively handle this phenomenon, moaning and complaining does not deal with roaming groups of young people.

Please send your positive responses to the Parish Clerk, c/o St John's House, Church Road, Elmswell.

### FOOTBALL SUMMER SCHOOL

Like it or loath it, with the World Cup around the corner, football is with us for the summer. One very sub-Beckham aspect of the game which often goes unnoticed is the beneficial spin-off at the slightly lower levels where the beginners test their aptitude for the Beautiful Game ... such as at the Elmswell Summer School.

On 1st May 96 youngsters, boys and girls aged 4 (yes, 4) to 11 gathered for the first of this season's weekly sessions. This was a low turnout as some were away at a tournament, and, sure enough, there have been well over 100 on the two subsequent sessions. They 'train' in their various aged groupings for an hour and a quarter each week - warm up, ball skills, rules of the game, appropriate behaviour during the game with which each session ends. But they learn much more besides. They learn co-operation, self control, how to take advice, how not to allow the

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0771 00111 64 (Mobile)

## **Around and About cont'd., pg20**

result to be more important than the game. And, while all this is happening they are easing their way into the community. They earn respect from their peers and their coaches, they have a foothold which might well be the beginning of feeling that they belong - not just to the footballing fraternity but to Elmswell. If this equates to one fewer broken window at Blackbourne it must, surely, be the way to go.

None of this occurs to the kids, the parents who come to watch or the 14 coaches and administrators who make it happen. They just have a good time.

Sessions continue until September and cost just 50p - turn up at 6.00 on Wednesdays or ring Andy Taylor on 242427 for more details.

Is your garden  
a jungle ?

Call Jane Hamblin  
garden design and build  
Tel: 01359 270644

LAND ARMY DESIGNS  
[www.landarmydesigns.co.uk](http://www.landarmydesigns.co.uk)

### **Tenders are invited from local firms for the**

design, construction & maintenance of the

### **Memorial Garden**

adjacent to the Library in Cooks Road.

This will involve clearing the site, laying paths,  
installing seating and planting  
together with the first year's maintenance.

**Telephone Peter Dow on 241841 (office hours)  
for a site visit and initial discussion.**

**ELMSWELL AMENITIES ASSOCIATION**  
**Registered Charity No. 304879**

*Letter from Andy Taylor of Pyes Meadow*

**... bully boy tactics ...**

**A**s the representative on the Blackbourne Management Association for Elmswell Football Club, (where I am the Vice Chairman), I feel I must register my disgust at the manner in which the Chairman of the Association, Mr Clark, treated the Cricket Club representative, Lesley Reed at the last meeting. He was nothing but rude, used "bully boy" tactics, making it a personal vendetta. However, at the same time I would like to congratulate Lesley on the way she conducted herself, not being tempted to drop her standards to his or succumbing to his totally unacceptable manner towards her.

We are constantly being told that the MBA is a separate entity to the Parish Council, but when dealing with certain matters and various issues which arise, it is quite apparent this is definitely not the case.

I am not normally provoked into taking this kind of step, but I do feel the people in the village, especially the parents of the children I am involved with when organising events such as the "Football Summer School", need to be aware of the difficulties we all face. This also effects other organisations within the village.

*Letter from Ann Hollings of Gardeners Walk*

**... heart warming ...**

**C**an I say a big thank you to all who responded to my plea for drivers to deliver Meals-on-Wheels. It has been heart warming as we have filled vacant rota positions and also now have a very healthy relief drivers list.

I am so grateful and it proves there is a heart in Elmswell.

*Letter from John and Yvonne at The Fox*

**"Thank You Elmswell"**

**W**e moved into the Elmswell Fox 12 months ago and felt welcomed from day one.

We still serve excellent value food (don't forget the fish in boozy batter).

We show Sky Sports and now have a pool table, in fact there is something for everyone in The Fox.

There is now a cash machine in the bar.

We would like to thank the Woolpit Health Centre for their attention given to Yvonne's sister who moved into the village following a major stroke. Thanks also to Julie Marsden who sees to it that Phyl is OK.

So a great big thank you from the both of us.



# CARL FINCH MEMORIAL FUND

## THANK YOU

### TO ALL THOSE WHO SUPPORTED THE FOOTBALL MATCH AND DANCE ON 21 APRIL 2002

Roy, Virginia and the Finch family would like to thank all those who supported the above event recently.

We have managed to raise £1930 this year - an exceptional result, bearing in mind that we had higher expenses this year, mainly due to the top quality band we hired.

We have been very fortunate to have received several substantial donations this year and no less important many other donations of either money or draw prizes. Thank you all very much.

We also thank Elmswell Football Club and Bury St Edmunds Referees Association for providing the entertainment by way of the football match. The Referees played well, better than in previous years it has been said, but Elmswell FC won 4-2.

Sincere thanks also to all those who worked behind the scenes to make this day possible. Virginia would like to thank Roy especially for his tireless contribution again this year in orchestrating this very successful day.

We do have one apology to make - the publicized hot food, drinks etc did not materialise. We are sorry for any inconvenience.

As usual all the proceeds from this day will go to Woolpit Health Centre and we will keep you advised as to how this money is to be spent.

Once again thank you all for your support. See you next year - 26 April 2003.

**The Travelling Raspberries**



## **TaxAssist Direct**

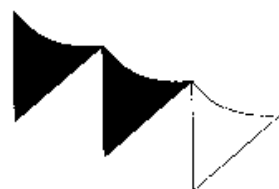
**The Tax and Accountancy Service for  
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Self Assessment, Tax Returns, Annual Accounts, Book-Keeping,  
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For a free initial discussion without obligation call  
**Clive Jenkins. Tel/Fax 01359 242284**



## COMMUNITY COUNTDOWN



TO SUNDAY 1 SEPTEMBER 2002  
12 noon to 5pm

The 2002 Amenities Autumn Fayre will be held once more on the traditional first Sunday in September which this year happens to be Sunday 1st.

We are not quite ready to announce our main attraction but we have big plans and may be able to reveal more next month. Meanwhile, the indoor Craft Fair is already fully booked but there is plenty of space outside where a simple stall could easily net £200 for your club or charity of your choice. We would far rather see local organisations being involved than professionals so that the money generated stays in the village but it all comes down to finding willing people. If you decide to give it a try we will help you all we can and, who knows, you might actually enjoy it!

Our grateful thanks to Eileen Brooks, who is stepping down, for her contribution and a warm welcome to Graham Newman, who is stepping up! We need further assistance in a couple of specific areas so, if you fancy being part of the organising team just let Terry, Graham or myself know and we will tell you more before you commit yourself. It is nothing too onerous - if this was difficult I wouldn't be able to do it!

It is good to see that we are getting all the rain out of the way nice and early so that we can have a dry and sunny autumn - how is that for tempting Providence?  
More news next month. Peter Edmonds (241640)

### **The Annual Elmswell Parish Meeting**

**Cllr Ronaki Curry In the Chair**

**will be held at Blackbourne on**

**MONDAY 27 JUNE**

**at 7.30**

**This is a unique opportunity to ask questions  
on anything concerning the village.**

## *Our Cover Picture Shows . . . .*

### **Sweet Memories ...**

The 90ft water tower which stood for almost 20 years on Ashfield Road, opposite the turning for Grove Lane, to service the Tate & Lyle depot which once occupied the site. In 1938 the site, which had been a cricket bat factory, was bought by Sidney Phillips, trading as Eastbury Transport in Dagenham, for conversion to a depot to cover East Anglia. The firm handled much of the distribution work for sugar giants Tate & Lyle. His wife, four sons - Sid, George, Bill and Frank - and daughter, Dorothy, moved in to 'Eastbury' in School Road.

At the outbreak of war in 1939 the sugar trade became closely controlled by the Government seeking to optimise transport facilities by ensuring that areas producing sugar beet, such as ours, used only beet sugar rather than the cane sugar which Tate & Lyle imported from the West Indies and elsewhere. Only speciality cane sugars and syrups were allowed into our area and the Elmswell site was taken over by Tate & Lyle's own transport section, Pease Transport in order to effect speedy conversion works. The water tower, as in our picture, was then built, together with loading and garage bays, as part of the works required quickly to accommodate the site's new role handling bulk liquids. It was a remarkable local landmark, particularly for the B47's of the US Air Force based at Great Ashfield whose pilots used it as a navigational aid.

Sidney Phillips died suddenly in 1947 whilst in the process of building two semi-detached houses in New Road. His third son, Bill, eventually managed the depot until his retirement in 1970 soon after which it closed down.

The tower, not needed after the wartime restrictions were lifted, suffered an earlier demise when, in 1957, Jim Baker bought it for use elsewhere in the village. His recently employed farm labourer, a certain young Dick Burch, helped dismantle and move it as one of his first jobs.

In more recent times the site has been know as 'The Packing Factory' and 'The Cane Factory'. After several false starts, it is currently under development as 10 houses. The developer, Hartog Hutton, has, as Developers do, put forward a 'suitable' name. 'The Willows', it is suggested, reflects the cricket bat factory days. From his position as Parish Councillor, a much matured Dick Burch argues that, in living memory, it is remembered mostly for its sugar connection, hence the Council's proposal for 'Lyle Close'. The Developers, as they do, want their own way. Literally. Why not, they ask, 'Hutton Way'? A cricket connection again - but with just a hint of the Developer's own branding. Our cricket correspondent, Doug Reed, might well suggest a compromise in 'Close Close'! There is a tendency on the part of those who build small developments in our midst to try to impose a name of their choosing, often entirely unrelated. In this case there is a link, but our elected representatives have come up with a more suitable link. The builders will not be living in the houses or in the community within which they have built the houses. In recent times, Mid Suffolk District Council have supported the local view in the matter of naming - Old Schools Court, Cresmedow Way, Roper's Garden, Pyes Meadow, etc. Let us hope that Cllr Burch and his colleagues can sweet talk them this time.

*Thanks to Jeanette Weedon for the loan of the picture and for much of the information used in compiling this piece.*

## Congratulations



Your Newsletter was recently awarded a prize of £150 in a Village Magazine cover design competition run by Suffolk County Fuels Ltd of Great Finborough (one of our regular advertisers). The entries were judged by Andrew Clarke, Arts Editor of the East Anglia Daily Times.

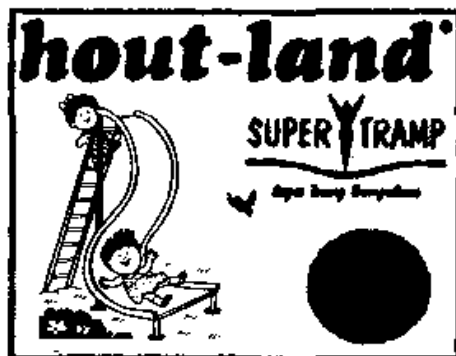
The cover in question from November 2001 featured a pin-up boy Dick Burch at the village quiz. Signed copies of that edition are currently changing hands for the price of a pint of bitter tops.

Our thanks to Suffolk County Fuels for encouraging hundreds of volunteers across the county to bring people together by keeping their community informed.

# Hall Farm Toys

## OUTDOOR ACTIVITY TOY CENTRE

OUTDOOR TOYS  
WOODEN  
GALVANISED  
SWINGS  
SLIDES  
GOALS  
SAND PITS  
TRACTORS  
TRAMPOLINES  
WENDY HOUSES  
PADDLING POOLS



Open Tues - Sat  
Ring for Colour Brochure  
& Free Advice

# 01728 - 628233

Athelington Hall, Horham,  
Eye, Suffolk  
(15 Mins from A140)

**We recently reported that the Amenities Association, in conjunction with Julie Marsden, Warden at Mann's Court, had paid for the refurbishment of an electric mobility scooter which was bought some years ago with money raised by individuals in the village. One of the first to benefit was a rather sprightly young mum who broke her leg. She was good enough to thank all concerned:-**

*'I write to you all to say a big THANK YOU. I, over the last few weeks, have made good use of the motorised scooter the 'AA' very kindly refurbished some time ago. As most of you know I broke my leg and the use of the scooter enabled me to keep up my daily routine in getting my very grateful daughter, Samantha, to school each day.*

*Please find enclosed a donation for the upkeep of the scooter and once again thank you. Keep up the good work for the people of Elmswell.*

*Regards to you all, from a very grateful mum.'*

**The scooter is available, free of charge, via Julie on 241 110.**

<input type="checkbox"/> SERVIS : HOTPOINT : INDESIT : TRICITY : BELLING : HOOVER : CRED A : PHILLIPS	<input type="checkbox"/> ELECTROLUX : ZANUSSI : JACKSON : BENDIX
 <b>DOMESTIC APPLIANCE SERVICES</b>	
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> <b>REPAIRS</b> </div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> <b>SALES</b> </div>
<p><b>GUARANTEED REPAIRS TO</b>          WASHING MACHINES • COOKERS • FRIDGES          • MICROWAVES • TUMBLE DRIERS •          DISHWASHERS • VACUUM CLEANERS ETC          WE COVER IPSWICH • STOWMARKET          BURY • STANTON • DISS • EYE • DEBENHAM          • WOODBRIDGE AREAS AND HAVE BEEN IN          THE TRADE FOR OVER 20 YRS. WE ARE          MEMBERS OF THE DOMESTIC APPLIANCE          SERVICING ASSOCIATION.</p>	<p>WE HAVE A SHOWROOM WITH          OVER 120 APPLIANCES ON DISPLAY          INCLUDING AEG • BOSCH • BENDIX          • BELLING • CRED A • DYSON •          ELECTROLUX • FRIGIDAIRE •          HOOVER • HOTPOINT • PHILIPS •          SERVICE • ZANUSSI ETC</p> <p>WE ALSO SELL REFURBISHED          APPLIANCES OF A HIGH STANDARD          COMPLETE WITH A WRITTEN GUARANTEE          YOU MAY ALSO TRADE IN GOOD CLEAN          EQUIPMENT • BUILT IN OVENS AND HOBS          SUPPLIED • ENQUIRE NOW</p> <p>(CLOSED SUNDAY &amp; MONDAY)</p>
<p>TEL. SHOP          (01449) 780398          Visit our showroom at          Finbows Furnishers on          B1113 at Bacton</p>	
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# THURSTON AIR FAIR 2002

SUNDAY 14TH JULY - 12:00 NOON

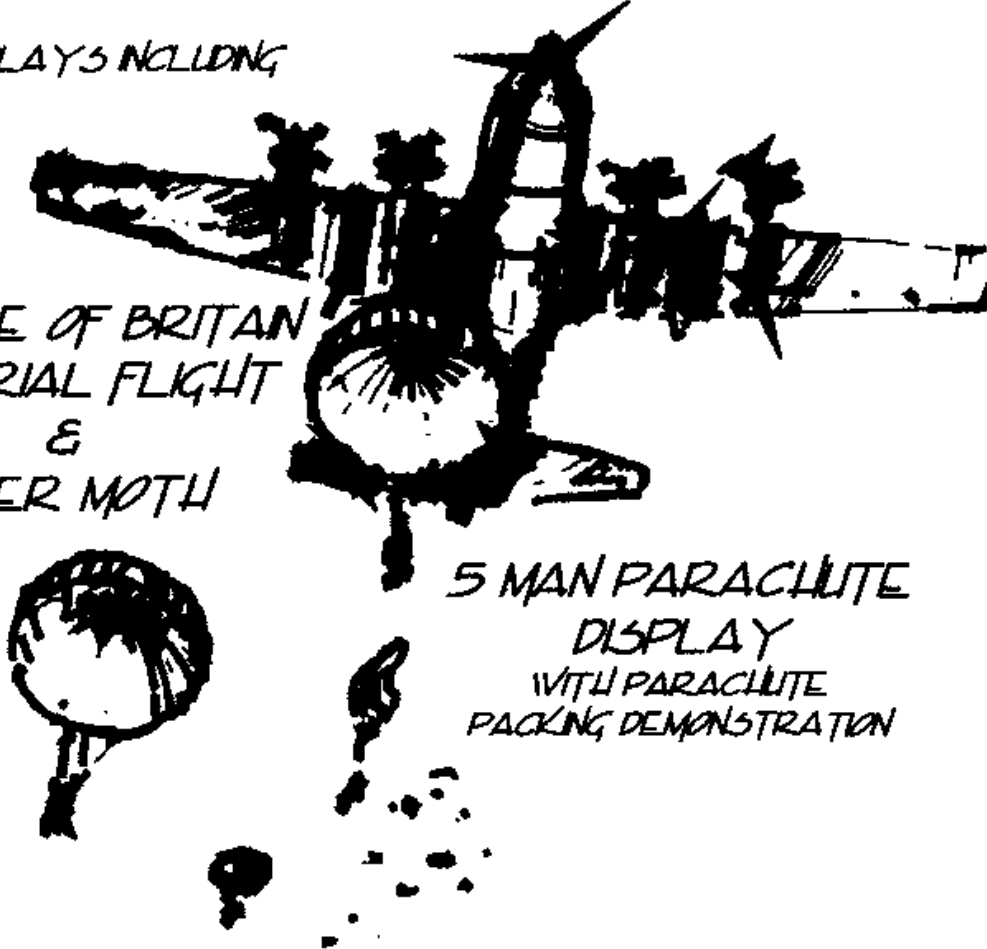
PRESENTED BY 863 (THURSTON) SQUADRON AIR TRAINING CORPS

AT THURSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE FIELD



AIR DISPLAYS INCLUDING

BATTLE OF BRITAIN  
MEMORIAL FLIGHT  
&  
TIGER MOTH



5 MAN PARACHUTE  
DISPLAY  
WITH PARACHUTE  
PACKING DEMONSTRATION

FIELD GUN RACES - RIFLE DISPLAY TEAM - OBSTACLE COURSE  
HOVERCRAFT RIDES - GO CART - GLIDER DISPLAY - TUG 'O' WAR - RIFLE RANGE  
JEEPS - JUNGLE SLIDE FROM CHESSY'S CASTLES - TOMBOLA - CROCKERY SMASH  
BOUNCY CASTLE - SOFT TOYS - DARTS - COCONUT SHY  
AND MANY MORE SIDE SHOWS TO MAKE A  
COMPLETE FAMILY AFTERNOON OUT.

CLIMBING  
WALL



LIVE MUSIC BY "CLUTCHING AT STRAWS"

BAR - SOFT DRINKS - TEA TENT  
BARBEQUE AND CAKES



St John Ambulance will be in attendance throughout the day  
All displays are subject to availability

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## PARISH COUNCIL

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**An extra-ordinary meeting was called on 29th April, attended by 7 Councillors and 11 members of the public. The following items of interest were among those discussed.**

**Bowls pavilion.** The first interim payment, of £16,743.75 has been made to the contractor against the projected build cost of £73,937 for the new bowls pavilion at Blackbourne which now has walls and a roof. A payment of £528.75 has also been made to the architect overseeing the project. A grant of £30,165, negotiated with Sport England by the previous Council administration in August 1997, is to help towards this expenditure which will, as things currently stand, be otherwise met from the Council's precept (rates).

**Drop-in centre.** Councillors considered their own application for planning permission to erect a single storey drop-in centre at Blackbourne. This is designed to replace the portakabin which was installed some years ago as an experimental temporary facility by the previous administration. A letter of objection to the proposal for a permanent building was read from a neighbouring resident citing recent frightening and alarming behaviour, including vandalism and trespass, on the part of youths congregating at the portakabin which is itself badly vandalised. Cllr Keith Harrison suggested that the new building could be sited away from adjacent housing, but the Chairman, Cllr Ronald Curry, pointed out that, as this was the Council's own application, it might appear that such detail had not been well thought out if important changes were suggested at this late stage. During the public comment invited on agenda items, it had been pointed out that the original intention had been temporary pending a permanent, multi-user facility offering a wide range of activities and that a more imaginative and integrated approach to providing for the recreational and social needs of the youngsters would serve the community better. Cllr Mrs Mary Feeney developed this point, arguing for a re-think towards a less restrictive proposal than this, which seeks to allow just three hours use per night during the week and no use at weekends. The anticipated, probably conservative, build cost of £40,000 was not, she argued, good value for public money. Cllr David Marriott suggested that the hours restrictions be dropped but that the proposal be supported as he considered that the drop-in centre had, to date, been an unmitigated success. The application was supported 7:1.

**Planning - Oxer Close.** Councillors recommended refusal of an application at Nos. 29 & 30 Oxer Close for extensions which, they said, would result in overlooking and blocked light to the detriment of neighbours. They could make no comment on the condition of two ash trees at No. 21, having not inspected them, and raised no objection to their removal with a recommendation for replacement.

**Newsletter & Web Site.** The Chairman confirmed that the Council's newsletter would not appear as scheduled as he had not yet had time to write it. However, the new Web Site would be available from 1st June and would carry a copy of the Newsletter if it has been published by then. The old Web Site remains available but cannot be added to or deleted which may, it was suggested, cause confusion in that it advertises the next Parish Council meeting for 25th September 2000. An attempt is to be made to trace the ex-councillor, Barry M Samain, who devised the site to ask him to close it down.

**Open Public Discussion.** The first session of open public discussion since September 1999 was allowed under a decision made at the last Council meeting to re-introduce a degree of openness and communication with the electorate in the light of considerable public pressure for greater accountability from the Council. Cllr David Marriott expressed his disgust at this innovation against which he would have voted had he attended the relevant meeting. It would, he warned, encourage the wrong sort of questions to be asked. His view was supported by the Chairman, Cllr Ronald Curry, who allowed only four speakers before closing the session and the meeting at 8.30. The matters raised, and the Chairman's response were:

- *Mr Eric Buckmaster* What are the terms and conditions under which Mr Eric Buckmaster is retained by the Parish council as an unpaid Clerk's Assistant; Why are the letters that he writes to individuals and organisations in the village not listed on the Council's correspondence schedules; Can Mr Buckmaster speak for the Council and are his decisions and recommendations binding on the Council?

I am not in a position to deal with these issues at the moment. The Clerk will furnish a written reply.

- *Developments at Blackbourne* Is there not a danger that the recent rash of proposals for single-user buildings at Blackbourne - the Drop-in centre, Parish Clerk's office etc. will lead to an overcrowded and piecemeal result and would it not be better to integrate the necessary facilities into a multi-purpose development?

Comment noted.

- *Facilities at Blackbourne* Why is provision being made for a small group of youngsters by way of a dedicated drop-in centre when a much larger group, the uniformed organisations - such as the cubs and brownies who number over 120 village children - have to make do with limited facilities at the school?

I cannot speak for the Council. I suggest you write a letter.

- *Multi-user facilities* It seems very expensive to provide a building like the proposed drop-in centre for such a limited number of users over such a limited time. Shouldn't all development at Blackbourne be multi-user?

Grant aid for the drop-in centre will be on the next agenda.

- *Voter apathy* The recent poster campaign, funded and organised by individuals in the village to encourage people to vote, seems to have been very successful in producing a much higher turnout than might have been expected and, therefore, a result more closely reflecting public opinion. Will the Council either positively support a similar initiative for the forthcoming Parish Council by-election or, at least, not act negatively by removing posters?

I refuse to answer political questions.

**The May Ordinary Meeting incorporated the Annual Parish Council Meeting at which certain legal formalities must be enacted. 7 members of the public attended along with 8 councillors. Matters dealt with included the following:**

**Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman.** Cllr Clark proposed Cllr Curry as Chairman. This was seconded by Cllr Marriott and Cllr Curry was elected unopposed. Cllr Curry proposed Cllr Clark as Vice Chairman. This was seconded by Cllr Marriott and Cllr Clark was elected unopposed.

**Election to Committees & Working Parties.** Cllr Curry proposed that the Planning Committee and various Working Parties remain as they are. This was seconded by Cllr Clark and agreed. In an election for a vacancy to the Environment Working Party, Cllr Mrs Feeney proposed Alan Hall, a member of the public who is interested and knowledgeable in such things. Cllr Clark proposed Cllr Curry. Voting was split 4:4 and Cllr Curry used his casting vote as Chairman to ensure his own selection.

**Chairman's Report.** Chairman Curry reported that the past year had been full of activity and extremely productive. He looked forward to reaping the benefit of much hard work in the coming year. He praised the new Parish Clerk and made special mention of Mr Eric Buckmaster who, as unpaid clerk's assistant, had made a tremendous contribution to what had been achieved. He highlighted the Council's financial prudence and spoke proudly of how openness had remained high on the Council's agenda with, for example, the innovation of 'surgeries' for public communication, although he regretted the fact that no-one has yet turned up to consult with him at such a surgery. He made a mention of the Council's forthcoming Web Site and the occasional publication of the Council's own newsletter as typical of his administration's successful endeavours which include activity in the areas of street lighting, youth issues, a bowls pavilion, recycling and road safety. He regretted the vandalism which has blighted Blackbourne, as elsewhere, but pointed out that the recent installation of outside lights would help as would his Council's continued determination to talk about CCTV.

**Representatives on other bodies.** Cllr David Marriott volunteered to take on the newly created post of representative to the Suffolk Association of Local Councils. Cllr Doug Reed continues on the Elmswell Sports Advisory Committee as does Mr Eric Buckmaster on the Elmswell Amenities Association. Cllr Curry, Secretary to the Blackbourne Management Association, proposed Cllrs Crook and Harrison as representatives to that body. This was seconded by Cllr Clark, Chairman of the Association. The third place was not filled. Cllr Mrs Mary Feeney pointed out the omission of the Poor Lands Charity representative, explained to the Clerk and Councillors what the organisation is and volunteered for the post.

**Footpath Warden.** It was decided to try to revive the Council's interest in footpaths by appointing a Footpath Warden. The previous incumbent, who has not been contacted in three years, is to be approached.

**Suffolk County Council.** Cllr Mrs Jane Storey reported that she had not yet allocated the bulk of her 'Locality Budget' money which amounts to some £12,000 and is available for local initiatives. Two bids are in from Elmswell - from the Amenities Association and the Kiln Meadow Wildlife Group. She reported that her Council continues to perform well against national indicators except in the matter of non-major roads which problem is currently being addressed. She promised that the electorate would see more of her than they had of Cllr Gordon Iredale from whom her late husband had taken over.



**Mid Suffolk District Council.** Cllr Mrs Carol Milward reported that her Council's next major initiative will be in the area of refuse collection where it falls short of national recycling targets. She detailed success in the reduction of Housing Benefit fraud, in the grant aiding of 35 village shops and the introduction of an abandoned car collection scheme which will allow for 24hr clearance at a fee of just £20. She continues to try to improve the Council's performance in cutting the grass in and around the village.

**Police.** A new Community Beat Officer has been appointed to replace PC Critchley and starts work in mid June.

**Newsletter distribution.** A member of the public sought an answer to his letter raising concerns regarding young children delivering the Council's newsletter to his house along the busy and dangerous Ashfield Road. The letter will be dealt with. A further enquiry from the public had elicited the information that the new agreement for distribution of the newsletter at a cost of £50 was with four youths from the village. Cllr Mrs Feeney observed that Councillors had not been made aware of this as no details other than price are revealed to them for consideration in such cases.

**Complaint against Parish Clerk.** The Chairman acknowledged that a letter had been received from a member of the public expressing regret that there had been no apology from the Clerk for her recent outburst against a member of the public at a meeting when she had shouted that he would 'Shut Up'. No apology was forthcoming.

**Planning.** Councillors raised no objection to applications for a conservatory at 7 Blackbourne Road and an extension to Amberley, Warren Lane.

**Welcome Pack.** It was agreed to refund 50% of the advertising fee paid by an advertiser for space in the Village Welcome Pack which has not been updated for three years and which is no longer distributed to newcomers to the village. Fears were expressed that other advertisers might, once aware of the situation, apply for refunds.

**Street Cleaner.** As a result of advertising in the village Newsletter an applicant has come forward for the long vacant post of street cleaner. He is to be interviewed.

**Grove Lane Pavilion planning.** The Elmswell Sports Advisory Committee (ESAC) has progressed a scheme for improved changing facilities at Grove Lane to the stage where a planning application is appropriate. They sought help from the Parish Council for this worthwhile community project by asking if the Council would submit the planning application. This would halve the considerable cost of the application under rules allowing concessionary rates for Council applications. There would be no cost to the Council as ESAC can secure funding for a 50% fee. Despite a letter from Mid Suffolk District Council confirming that this is entirely in order, Cllrs Clark, Curry and Marriott insisted that the District Council is wrong. Further reassurance is to be sought before the matter can be considered.

**Environment Working Party.** The only Working Party to report made 15 recommendations for action, many of them reminders of recommendations not actioned since they were made in December last. Of new concern are the shrub borders to the green at Crown Mill which have been neglected for the last two years and which may now need specialist treatment. The view of the contractor, who has had responsibility for the maintenance of the area over this period, is to be sought.

**Grass cutting.** Cllr Dick Burch raised the vexed question of the poor standard of grass cutting which is carried out by Mid Suffolk on Parish Council land. He spoke of long hours keeping playing surfaces fit for play and safe for children, all voluntary. The Clerk is to write a letter.

#### **Open Public Discussion**

- *Hall Floor* Is Council aware that the wooden floor at Blackbourne, which continues to deteriorate, is also infested with ants?

No.

- *Posters re Parish Meeting* Are posters to be displayed around the village advertising the Parish Meeting on 27th May?

The statutory notice is posted at the Co-op.

- *Advertising Council Meetings* Can the posters advertising Council meetings, a welcome recent innovation, be made simpler and more attractive?

They comply with statutory requirements.

**Next Meeting.** The June Ordinary Meeting is scheduled for 17th at 7.30 at Blackbourne. This, and any other meetings, will be advertised so as to fully satisfy statutory requirements.

*Peter Dow*

## What's On in Elmswell ?

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

### June

- 3 Elmswell Toddler Group:  
Golden Jubilee Celebrations
- 9 Elmswell CC v Horringer,  
League, at The Blackbourne,  
2.15pm (Sunday)
- 16 Elmswell CC v Withersfield,  
League, at The Blackbourne,  
2.15pm (Sunday)
- 19 Elmswell CC v Falcon  
Promotions XI, Friendly, at  
The Blackbourne, 6.15pm  
(Wednesday)
- 20 Gardening Club, Mr Plaxton  
on A Garden Through the  
Year
- 20, 21 & 22 EADS present  
"Busybody". Methodist Hall,  
7.30 - 10.00.
- 28 Kiln Meadow Spring Flower  
Survey
- 29 Elmswell CC v Old Warden,  
Friendly, at The  
Blackbourne, 2.15pm  
(Sunday)
- 29 2-4pm, Garden Party,  
Methodist Church Car Park

### July

- 2 Elmswell Toddler Group:  
Trip to Banham Zoo
- 6 2pm. St John's Church  
Summer Fete at The  
Cedars.
- 7 Elmswell CC v Bushel,  
League, at The  
Blackbourne, 2.15pm  
(Sunday)
- 9 7.30pm, Little Elms Fun  
Factory Open Evening at  
the Blackbourne
- 10 Elmswell CC v Needham  
Lions, Friendly, at The  
Blackbourne, 6.15pm  
(Wednesday)
- 12 7pm. Friends of St John's  
Church AGM and Supper.
- 17 Elmswell CC v Elmswell  
FC, Friendly, at The  
Blackbourne, 6.15pm  
(Wednesday)
- 20 Kiln Meadow 2nd Cut and  
Ragwort pull
- 21 Gardening Club Open  
Gardens
- 28 Elmswell CC v Worlington  
III, League, at The  
Blackbourne, 2.15pm  
(Sunday)

### July contd

- 29 Elmswell Toddler Group:  
Picnic at Needham Lake  
via train
- 31 10.00 am - 3.00 pm, Little  
Elms Fun Factory Open  
Day at the Blackbourne

### August

- Kiln Meadow Bat Watch -  
Time and date in August to  
be decided
- 1 Kiln Meadow Pond  
Dipping approx 6-6.30pm,  
children must be  
accompanied by an adult
- 3 Gardening Club Annual  
Outing to Hever Castle
- 4 Elmswell CC v Cavendish  
Wanderers, League, at The  
Blackbourne, 2.15pm  
(Sunday)
- 5 Elmswell Toddler Group:  
Magic Mickey, Wesley Hall,  
2.00pm
- 14 Elmswell Toddler Group:  
Toddlers Teddy Bear Picnic  
at the Blackbourne
- 25 Elmswell CC v Earl  
Stonham, League, at The  
Blackbourne, 2.15pm  
(Sunday)

### September

- 6 7.30pm. Friends of St John's  
Church Festival - Cheese  
and Wine & Concert
- 7 Friends of St John's Church  
Festival - Art Exhibition
- 8 10.30am. Friends of St  
John's Church Festival -  
Annual Service
- 8 Friends of St John's Church  
Festival - Art Exhibition
- 8 Elmswell CC v  
Edwardstone, League, at The  
Blackbourne, 1.30pm  
(Sunday)
- 19 Gardening Club, Speaker  
from Otley College on  
History of Gardening
- 28 Kiln Meadow Final Cut

### October

- Kiln Meadow Fungi Foray
- 17 Mr Sarman on Variegation/  
Origin & Types of Plants
- 18 7.30pm. Concert in St  
John's Church - Suffolk  
Constabulary Male Voice  
Choir

### November

- Kiln Meadow Tree Planting
- 16 2pm, St John's Church  
Autumn Fair - Blackbourne
- 21 Gardening Club AGM

***Tell us more - Tel 241841***