

Seventeen years of Parish Record....
..... Community News and the Community's Views.



The ELMSWELL Newsletter

MAY 2003

..... Your Parish Matters

... in the hope of a more peaceful future ...



Steven Warren of 1st Elmswell Scouts and Herbert Leggett of the Royal British Legion were the proud standard bearers at the inauguration of the Elmswell Memorial Garden – *see centre pages*

Front cover photograph kindly provided by Mick Heselden.

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This Month's
"COMMENT"
is from **David Barker -**
Chairman of Elmswell
Parish Council

I know that I echo the thoughts of many of my colleagues newly elected to the Parish Council when I say that we share a deep sense of responsibility and an appreciation of the enormity of the task which lies ahead of us.

Having had the privilege to be elected Chairman of the Parish Council, it is my earnest desire to seek to heal the wounds

caused by past dissent within the village and I know that I have the support of so many of you in that task.

We do not pretend that we know all the answers, nor that we shall please everyone all of the time. However, we do share a real desire to make a difference and to acknowledge the trust which so many of you have placed in us at the last election, by working together to that end.

In the short term, we sincerely hope that we can continue to rely on your support as we begin to tackle the very many issues which so desperately need addressing and which already compete for our attention. We hope that in small ways, our village will quickly start to benefit. We have different skills but a common aim and dedication which I hope will enable us to work well together as a team so that, in the longer term and once a stable foundation has been laid, we will be able to work with those many other individuals who, in various ways, offer their time, skills and experience to improve the quality of life for all in our village.

May I take this opportunity not only to thank all of those who voted for me to join the Parish Council but also to thank publicly those of my fellow councillors who have placed their confidence in me by electing me as their Chairman. To those who are less enthusiastic, I ask only one thing.

Let us all now grasp the opportunity which we have been given and put aside past difference. Let us now work together to recapture our community spirit and to rebuild our village as a great place in which to live and one in which personal differences are respected but put aside in favour of working for the good of us all.

None of us knows what the future holds in store but we will not be found wanting in our desire to move our village forward, to improve our environment and facilities and in our enthusiasm and commitment in the pursuit of that common goal.

Please support us and wish us success - our village will be the better for it.

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 4th June 2003.

OUR PUBLICATION DATE IS CHANGING ...

In response to many suggestions from readers & advertisers alike, we are moving our publication date so that it is no longer fixed to the Parish Council's monthly meeting.

We aim, instead, to publish on the first Friday in each month.

Accordingly, to allow for a gradual change, your next few Newsletters will come out on:

Friday 13th June

Friday 11th July

Friday 1st August

... and on the first Friday of the month from then onwards.

Now in our 18th year - and still getting better ...



Thank you To Colin Finch for supplying a complimentary skip which was recently filled with builders' rubble painstakingly removed from Blackbourne by a working party comprising volunteers from The Parish Council, Bowls Club, BMA, Amenities Association, Football & Cricket Club and the general public.

... and to Colin McAteer of Elmswell Contractors for donating safety fencing erected around Crown Mill play area; erected by Parish Council & Amenities personnel with the help of John Petchey's lorry.

The deadline for the next issue is 5.00 p.m. on Wednesday 4th June 2003. 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, as long as 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.

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Around and About ...

KILN MEADOW WILDLIFE GROUP

We are delighted to have been awarded £500.00 towards work on the site at Kiln Lane from the Copella Wildlife Trust. This Trust was set up by the long established family fruit-juice firm based in Suffolk to support ecologically focussed groups within the county with a view to preserving and nourishing Suffolk. Having made great strides in re-establishing the project with the help of the Elmswell Amenities Association, this money will provide a real boost to our efforts.

Wendy Thompson (241373)



HELPING HAND CLUB

At our April 24th meeting we welcomed two ladies (Val and June) from our local pensions office, who gave us an interesting talk on the forthcoming pension payment scheme. Our following meeting (May 8th) we had as our speaker Alan Fish from the RNLI. Alan gave us a very interesting talk on the every day work of the life boat crew. A collection was made for that good work. At our next meeting we will be entertained on the subject of healthy eating. Visitors and new members always made welcome.

Until next month.

Best wishes

Stan



GARDENING CLUB

On Thursday 17th April there was a good turnout of members. Our Chairman opened the meeting and updated us about the annual outing to



Wisley and then introduced Mr Rodney Tibbs who was to speak to us about "My Gardening Year". This started with him enjoying a gin and tonic whilst studying the catalogues and planning his year. We heard about his vegetable patch, his borders and the state of his grass. He had the ability to take you into his garden, mishaps and all - he too is plagued with snails! Any gardener will appreciate these problems and with sound planning he took us through the summer successes and into the autumn, and we ended up in the sitting room with another gin and tonic! This was a really enjoyable evening and much was learnt by all.

In May we have "Gardeners Question Time", and in June "Clematis from Cuttings to Blooms". You are welcome to join us at the library on the third Thursday of each month, meeting commences at 8.00, doors open at 7.30.

ELMSWELL BAPTIST CHURCH

I'm famous, not only did I get stopped in Tescos and congratulated on my monthly column (thanks Barry), I also appear on the History Group's web site (look under Kidd). I can't believe I am old enough to appear on a history website. I shall be available for newsletter signing in a special tent at the village fete.

Two reports this month - first the Good Friday service was attended by more people than ever before - well over 60, and we had a really uplifting service. Thanks to all who attended and for those that supplied the hot cross buns - I've never had sugar on them before and they were delicious. I also got to meet Mike the new Vicar, welcome to the village, I hear he is interested in meeting friendly

Around and About cont'd., pg3

faces from the village and wanting to keep fit - so why he had joined up with the cricket club I do not know!!

Secondly thanks to all those that attended the games evening at the Blackbourne on May 3rd. Thanks to Doug for bringing along the 'Dolly Bird' even though within 5 minutes of starting his affections went elsewhere. He even tried desperately to lose the beetle drive to ensure he gained the booby prize again.

Our CU club runs from now until July for our Summer term, if you haven't joined our club yet give us a look on a Tuesday from 6pm. We cater for those aged from 5 to 12, and every night is different. Give us a look.

On June 2nd the Ladies Group open their doors to men, or anyone else that do not fall into either category. They have organised a trip to the Pink Nurseries at Mendlesham that is the flowered variety rather than the baby I think. If anyone would be interested in joining them on this trip please phone Margaret on 241541 so that enough transport can be arranged for those interested. The only thing pink in my garden is usually a weed or something hanging on the washing line. If you have finished your spring cleaning, then it's a chance to carry on as we shall be opening the chapel from 9.30 am - 12.30pm on Saturday 7th June for a spring clean. Bring yourselves and we will provide the tools (dusters, polish, vacuum and chair - I'll need something to use to supervise).

Our weekly services continue at 10.30pm on Sundays - give us a look we don't bite - not many of us still have our own teeth!!!! Finally the footy season is over, I'm sure Mr Mulley is disappointed in not being able to join me in a trip round the pitch - perhaps next year.

See you soon if not before

Mark

ST JOHN'S CHURCH

Services, etc.

Sunday 18 May

10.30am Holy Communion

Sunday 25 May

10.30am Morning Prayer

11.30am Holy Communion

Thursday 29 May

7.30pm Ascension Day Holy Communion

Sunday 1 June

9.30am Family Service with Music Group

10.30am Morning Prayer

11.30am Holy Communion

Sunday 8 June - Pentecost

8.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Parish Praise

6.30pm United Service Elmswell Fellowship of Churches

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Caz Hewett 242733

Around and About cont'd., pg5

Saturday 14 June

10am AGM Friends of St John's Church
Followed by a Coffee Morning

Sunday 15 June - Trinity Sunday

10.30am Holy Communion
Sunday School in Church Room at 10.30am every Sunday except 1st in month.

The Friends of St John's Church

This year the AGM will be held in the Church on Saturday 14 June at 10am. We shall then have a Coffee Morning, selling cakes, books, plants, greetings cards, bric a brac, etc. Everyone is welcome!

St John's Church

The whole of the Eastertide period has been very busy for all three churches in

the village; we worshipped together at the Good Friday service at the Baptist Church when extra chairs had to be brought in and on palm Sunday and Easter Day we at St John's Church welcomed many people to our services. At this time of anxiety about events around the world it has been good to share time and worship together. The three churches will again be joining for the Dedication of the Memorial Garden on 11 May, for Christian Aid collecting and at other events in the near future.

St John's Church has held its Annual meetings at which the Accounts and reports on events during the past year were presented. At the election for Churchwardens Mrs Valerie Rogerson and Mr Duncan Jacob were elected to serve for 2003. 2002 was truly an eventful year for the church, seeing the retirement of Revd John Perrott and the selection of Revd Mike McNamara as our new Rector. So we look now to the future, working together in our village of Elmswell, sharing the good news of the Gospel of Christ.

St John's Church Tower Floodlighting

You are invited to sponsor the floodlighting of St John's to help with the day-to-day running expenses of our parish church.

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

Correction of April 2003 Sponsorship
23 St Georges Day. Carl Finch
April 2003 Sponsorships not previously acknowledged

7 in memory of Doris Barrett, who passed away on 7 April 2002. From her close friends in Elmswell.

ELMSWELL

BOWLS CLUB



JUBILEE CUP

Saturday 31 May 2003

OPEN TO ALL RESIDENTS IN THE VILLAGE OF ELMSWELL

1.45pm for 2.00pm start

Entrance fee £1

Correct footwear MUST be worn

Around and About cont'd., pg7

16 Bill Armstrong. "Remembered with Love".

May 2003 Sponsorships

1&2 in memory of John Ray

2 Happy 5th Anniversary, Mum and Dad. Lots of love, from "The Children"

3-6 in memory of John Ray

6 in loving memory of Dennis Hopper's Birthday

7 in memory of John Ray

9 in loving memory of Peter Rose's Birthday

14 in loving memory of Percy Pleasance's Birthday

15 in loving memory of Joy Elizabeth Oliver on her Birthday

23 in loving memory of Fred Baker

25 in loving memory of Ted Rookard

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

ELMSWELL

LUNCHEON CLUB

Towards the end of last month, thirty five members and friends had their second outing to the Flora Tearooms at Dunwich. Arriving at midday after a 'mystery tour' of some of Suffolk's best countryside, freshly cooked fish and chips and other delicacies were heartily enjoyed. Having left Elmswell cloudy and chilly it was a bonus to discover the coast bathed in warm sunshine and several of the party enjoyed a pleasant interval watching large rollers pounding the shingle.

Another circuitous scenic route brought the group to a Woodbridge garden centre for afternoon tea and a chance to browse and purchase items for house and garden. All in all an enjoyable day!

Membership remains good with just a few places available. If you are 55+ and retired



and would like to join us on Mondays at The Bull Woolpit, please telephone our Secretary Rosalie Summons on 01359 240001. Transport is available which includes provision for the less able.

METHODIST NEWS

The services at our church from the next weeks will be as usual at 10.45am and will be led by:

May 26th Revd. Stephen Yelland

June 1st Mr Andrew High

June 8th Mr Alan Newcombe

June 16th Mrs Joyce White

June 23rd Revd. Stephen Yelland

At the service on 23rd June we will welcome the uniformed sections of the scout movement, parents and friends are always welcome. Later that day we will join with others from the East Anglia District in a service in Ely Cathedral



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Around and About cont'd., p29

celebrating the tri-centenary of the birth of John Wesley.

The Annual General Meeting of the Exchange Hall Club will be held on June 17th, and this will be followed with a birthday tea.

The ladies meetings:

June 3rd speaker - Mrs Maureen Wayman

June 10th will be a members afternoon

Coffee continues to be served alternate Thursdays from 10-11.30am on 29th May, 10th and 24th June. Bring & Buy stall and birthday cards are available.

ELMSWELL TODDLERS

April has seen the children enjoying both Easter crafts and cakes whilst the committee has been



planning forthcoming events - starting with an adult-only night out ten pin bowling in Bury on May 22nd. Also coming up are trips to Playworld in Stowmarket during May and June, a visit to Banham Zoo in July and a Teddy Bears Picnic in August.

My thanks to Hayley and Sarah who have agreed to act as vice chair's for me - thanks guys, I know you didn't have much choice but at least I haven't given you too much to do ... YET!

The garden facility is continuing to prove very popular with the toddlers and we all get out in the fresh air whenever the weather obliges.

Also this month, our very grateful thanks to Barbara who has agreed to become our regular Wednesday tea lady. This support coupled with that from Evelyn on a Monday gives mums and dads an ever greater chance of escaping the dreaded tea rota duties. Thank you Barbie, we really appreciate your help! If you have a baby or young child and would welcome the chance of somewhere in the village to go for an hour or so twice a week, come and join us for a session and see what you think. We meet in the Wesley Hall on Mondays at 1.30-3.00pm and Wednesday 10.00-11.30am and have lots of toys, crafts, singing and refreshments - all for £1 and your first visit is free. The group is very friendly and new mums in particular find it invaluable to have somewhere to go and

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Around and About cont'd., p211

chat to other mums whilst the children play safely. For any further information - or to meet someone from the group before you venture in - do contact me on (01359) 242824.

Caroline Long
Chairman

LITTLE ELMS FUN FACTORY

Easter was a great success, being full every day that it was open. The first week they made Easter bonnets and had an Easter egg hunt, with a visit from Mike McNamara, the new vicar at St John's Church. The second week we had a good theme with a visit from Sainsbury's and a trip out to Pizza Express, then on Monday, the children had a party day with Chrissy's bouncy castle and Colin Mason did a circus workshop, plate spinning, juggling and unicycle riding in the afternoon, to the delight of all who attended.

On the 1st May we held our EGM and regrettably NO parents attended!! We therefore no longer have a chairperson and with only three members on the committee, we will be unable to continue to open at present. We need a Chairperson and committee members for the Fun Factory to carry on; it will

CLOSE without your support.

There will be a meeting held again at Little Elms Portacabin on Thursday, 5th June, at 8.00pm to discuss the future of this club. PLEASE SUPPORT US, it's your last chance. We look forward to seeing EVERYBODY! The summer holidays are getting closer - 6 weeks without Little Elms Fun Factory?!!!

If you are unable to attend this meeting but can offer your support, please contact either Joy O'Doherty on (01359) 242259 or Siobhan Holcombe (01359) 240589.

BLACKBOURNE MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

For those not in the know, the Blackbourne Management Association (BMA for short), is run by a stand-alone committee which was set up by the Parish Council in January 2001 to administer and manage The Blackbourne. Forming a separate, properly constituted committee, has meant that Elmswell is saved the cost of paying Council Tax on the village hall and bowls pavilion.

Although managed by the BMA, The Blackbourne is still owned by the Parish Council.

Serving on the committee are three Parish Councillors, representatives from five village organisations and two unaffiliated

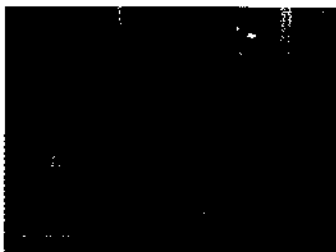
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Around and About cont'd., p212

members. Although we have the power to co-opt members, we use this sparingly, our only co-opted member at present being our Treasurer, Nick Brooks, who stepped into the breach at a time when our need for someone who could 'Treasure' was great.

The Blackbourne is a brilliant venue for almost every type of event. Our prices are very competitive and we endeavour to make hiring the hall and bowls pavilion attractive to local organisations.

At our April meeting, we undertook our annual review of charges. Although some rose slightly, others remained the same and in a few cases, where the hall was being under-used, we took the decision to reduce the hire charges.

Hiring The Blackbourne on Friday evenings will now cost Elmswell clubs and residents £50 (reduced from £55). Also on Friday evenings we have a special charge of £40 for teenage parties (13-17 years); these would have to be properly supervised by adults, of course.

We have a special rate for children's parties on Sunday mornings or afternoons of £20 (reduced from £22). The Blackbourne is a very safe and popular place for children's parties and, if entertainment is required, the hall can easily accommodate a disco or bouncy castle.

Additionally, the bowls pavilion is now available for small meetings at a charge of £8 a session.

We will hold our Annual General Meeting in June (date still to be decided) and we hope to see you there. At the AGM, there will be the opportunity to vote for two unaffiliated members to serve on the committee. So if you have an interest in the Blackbourne, particularly if you are a regular hirer who is not heavily involved

with other represented organisations, we will be happy to receive your nomination.

Lesley Reed

Telephone 01359 241009

BROADBAND FOR ELMSWELL GROUP

Since publication of last month's Elmswell Newsletter, the main points to report in actions to bring broadband internet to the Elmswell exchange are as follows:

- registrations have now passed 160 (when these reach 200, BT should set the threshold level for registrations to trigger upgrading our exchange to broadband)
- Neil Thomson co-ordinated arrangements with BT Wholesale for a registration mailer to be made and this should be distributed later in May in the Elmswell/Woolpit area.
- a new website

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Around and About cont'd., p215

www.elmswell.net dedicated to the broadband campaign has been started up and will be used to encourage active participation of local internet users. The www.elmswell.net website includes the list of about ninety local websites that resulted from an initial search of the internet pages linked to "01359 24" telephone numbers. We recommend that you take a look as it is interesting to see that we already have a surprising large and carried internet community of websites. We are asking to be sent information on local websites so that this list can be completed and corrected.

Additionally, it is planned to use the power of the internet to draw attention by e-mail to the new website and to registering for broadband as this is in the future interest of all local internet users.

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ELMSWELL W.I.

May is the month when all institutes discuss the resolutions to go toward to the National AGM at the Albert Hall in June.

This year three resolutions were discussed, Children's Diets, Apprenticeship Schemes and Care of Older People. Our representative will take our decisions and vote accordingly.

We also listened to Victoria Jupp telling of her experiences in South Africa, last year the institute had helped her with a donation. She told us she had an eventful but rewarding time teaching up to 900 children in difficult surroundings.

Over half our members produced multi-coloured sweaters for our monthly competition, Sheila Faulkner's entry was declared the winner, these sweaters will now go forward to Oxfam and sent to needy overseas countries.

A 'Bring and Buy' stall proved most successful and much amusement ensued when left-overs were auctioned.

Details were finalised regarding a visit to a Stud and members were reminded of next month's Village Walk and Barbecue, as usual a large number of members would take part.

Sorry Louise for the misspelling of your name last month - care will be taken in future.

Jeanne

LITTLE ELMS PRE-SCHOOL

For anyone that doesn't know about us we are a charity run group that exist to provide a caring and safe environment for pre-school children to learn and play. We have been around since the 60's, so maybe you used to play here?

Sadly, due to the lack of thorough

Around and About cont'd., pg 17

provision for entertainment for all age groups in the village we have experienced some evening use of our garden area and the outdoor play equipment, some of which have been damaged. One such item was our trampoline, which the children love to play on. Sadly this has been damaged beyond repair. If anyone has one that you would like to donate or if you would like to give a donation towards a new one please call us on 07762 234336.

Many thanks

D Davis (Chairperson)

ELMSWELL CRICKET CLUB (Sponsored by Manvers Triumph)

I had a break last month and, as has happened in the past, expected to see my name dragged through the mud by sad individuals intent



on revenge for what they perceive to be 'wrong-doings'. But... as luck would have it, they failed to get their acts together. So they'll now have to wait for a few more months!

So where are we now? Well, we've started the season pretty well. Yep, honestly. We've won two of our first three games (results below). Our skipper - David 'Wink' Peachey - every one for a laugh, puts this down to the artistry and decisiveness of his captaincy. Our Vice-Captain has, with his usual modesty and aplomb, suggested it's the product of his batting skills and the pin-point accuracy of his field-placing. Some have scurrilously alleged that its poor opponents, weakened by the onslaught of Eileen Brooks' homemade teas. Whatever. We're doing OK... and a little gamesmanship never did any harm - ask the Australians!

Anyway, we still need new players so if you have any cricketing skill at all, or not, then we're the Club for you. Our average age is increasing so a few youngsters, you know - those of you under 50 with working limbs and the ability to count over six, would be much appreciated. We're starting to struggle. Starting...??!! Take Deano Rust (please) - he bowls two or three overs against Lavenham, pulls a hamstring (whatever that is) and can't bat. In most clubs this would be bad luck. For Elmswell, it's more the norm. Ben 'One T' reckoned the last time I played you could hear my knees cracking in Stowmarket. What's happened to respect for the older generation?

Then there's the Captain. 'Two Fridges' Peachey. Why 'Two Fridges? You may well ask. He makes John 'Two Jags' Prescott look positively normal. Did the latter buy a second car because he hadn't realised the first had been switched off at the

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Around and About cont'd., p218

mains? I think not. Rumour has it Wink was in the Co-op, recently and was mistaken for David Dickinson. Heaven help us if he's ever Tango'd - the likeness will be genuinely frightening. Mind you, even non-cricketing readers, familiar with the concept of a bowler 'buying wickets', will know that taking 1 wicket for 44 runs (in just four overs) hardly comes within the framework of "cheap as chips". Anyway, suffice to say he doesn't so much take to the field as steps just out of the shadow of The Blackbourne.. and stops. So the match strategy is left to Vice-Chairman Jordan - who tends to place players around a field much in the same way you'd imagine his busy headline-grabbing namesake might!

What this Club really needs is people called Nigel (either sex, we don't mind). We've only got three at present. Mr [Hon. Sec] Bailey, of course, has already retired due to a personal injury about which we do not speak. Having two players with the same name can as anyone who has encountered such situations knows, cause problems. Again, in most clubs with two of them, a potential catch would result in someone shouting "Yours Nigel" - and there'd be the sounds of running feet as two slim, athletic cricketers sprinted fifty yards each prior to that horrible silence as two bodies collide at speed, the ball ends on the ground and the batsman run five or six. With our Nigels, Burch and Greathead, there's a more pragmatic, no-nonsense approach. We should, they look at each other and then blame us for not being specific. Do come and join us - you don't know what you're missing. Than again, maybe you do!

Results

Friendly: Brandon 145 (Peter Vandeburg 3 for 32, Doug Reed 2 for 6); Elmswell

146 and 8 (Steve Jordan 63, Reed 31 not out). Won by 2 wickets.

League: Elmswell 174 for 6 (Jordan 43, Andy Brown 28); Thurston 2nd XI 120 (Nigel Greathead 4 for 12). Won by 54 runs.

League: Lavenham 210 for 4 (Dean Rust 2 for 33); Elmswell 89 (Greathead 29). Lost by 121 runs.

Doug Reed (Tel: 241009)

PS: Mark (Baptists). Thanks to you and your colleagues for the games evening at The Blackbourne on 3 May. I don't wish to sound churlish but you'll appreciate this Club's 'team' was disadvantaged - being reduced to just only two give the enforced absence of our other members who were unavoidably detained the "Brookside" omnibus. And yet you still felt the need to produce dodgy dice for the 'beetle drive' which only seemed to have five sides when it was my turn to shake. And then for the MC to start criticising me... saying that I was drawing a dragonfly rather than a beetle. I ask you? Next time I'm bringing my own bat, my own ball, my own 2HB (how could I draw with that blunt instrument I was given - though I know what I should have done with it) - and my own dice!

Elmswell CC Century Draw

April Draw: Results

£15 D Reed (No 68), £10 S Graves (No 65), and £5 H Wilson (No 85).

ROY FINCH PROMOTIONS

GOOD NEWS... The Carl Finch Memorial Fund has, so far, banked £1805.00 to go to Woolpit Health Centre - and there's more. A draw is being made at The Tavern on 8th June at 9.00 pm...tickets £1.00 a strip from either The Tavern or The Fox.



*Chas Nunn speaks on behalf of
Elmswell Methodist Church*

ELMSWELL MEMORIAL GARDEN

Over 160 people, lead by our newly installed Rector, Mike McNamara, gathered at the site adjacent to the Memorial Library in Cooks Road for the inauguration of the newly created Memorial Garden. The site is owned by the Amenities Association and was created to echo the memorial which was represented by the old Memorial Hall which had originally stood there since 1956.

All 3 of the village church congregations were represented, as well as the Roman Catholic congregation based at

Stowmarket and the Salvation Army whose Norton Corps Band provided splendid accompaniment to the 3 hymns, 'Amazing Grace', 'When I Survey the Wondrous Cross' and 'Abide With Me'. The 1st Elmswell Scouts paraded their Colours, as did the Royal British Legion and the St John's Singers performed a delightfully appropriate 'Beauty for Brokenness'. The Scouts read Psalm 148 - 'The World Should Praise the Lord', and Tamsin Hewett of the Elmswell Guides, watched by a strong supporting contingent of Guides and Brownies, planted the Elmswell Millennium Yew Tree - a cutting from a 2000 year old Yew certified by the Archbishop of Canterbury and held in safe custody by the Kiln Meadow Wildlife Group waiting to mark this special occasion.

Following the Blessing from Father Denys Lloyd, Scout Ashley Greathead played a trumpet solo verse of the National Anthem and the band lead the singing of the first verse. This set the tone for a moving finale as two Salvationists rendered an impeccable 'Last Post' and the Standards slowly dipped to be raised again at 'Reveille'.



*3 of the St John's Singers - Jean Folkard,
Helen Tilney and Rosemary Oliver backed
by David Oliver on guitar and
Graham Tilney on organ out of the picture*



*L to R - Chas Nunn, Rev Mike McNamara,
Tony Cock of Elmswell Baptist Church, Stan Howe, Herbert
Leggett, and Firemen Brian Hawes and
Paul Kerridge with the Norton Corps Salvation
Army Band in the background*

planned and developed by the Elmswell Amenities Association with the help of community groups and individuals as a mark of respect for those who gave their lives in conflict of war and in the hope that their sacrifice will advance a more peaceful future for the world.

The garden, which was designed and built by Guus Hamel of Tulipa Gardens, will be open during every day as a place for quiet enjoyment and peaceful appreciation of the of the setting.



*L to R - Dick Burch, Stan 'Ginger' Howe and Herbert
Mulley who helped to build the Memorial Hall in
1955/56*

The Memorial text is to be carved into a block of Kerton Sandstone recently rescued by the Amenities Association from the demolition of the old Lord's Bridge over the railway at Eastern Way. The stone has already played a part in the village since 1846. When it is installed to do so again, it will read;

This garden celebrates the spirit of the Memorial Hall and bowls green which occupied the site between 1956 and 2001. It was

Photographs kindly provided by Peter Edmonds and Mick Heselden.

Around and About cont'd., pg20

The list of Sponsors this year includes; Falcon Promotions (Mr & Mrs P. Peachey), Tulipa Landscaping (Guus), Mr & Mrs R Leeks, Bob Rice, Mr & Mrs M Davey, Pat Burch, Gobblins (Peter Dow), Des Bevan, Louise's Hairworks, Elmswell Tavern Social Club (Chris & Debbie), Elmswell Plant Hire Ltd, JD & RJ Baker Farms Ltd, Colin Finch & Sons, Woolpit Swan, G. Goymer, Mr & Mrs J Petchey, Thurlow Nunn Standen Ltd, John Rannoch Foods Ltd, Woolpit Fish Shop, Legget's Transport, Tax Assist Direct (Clive Jenkins), Elmswell Co-op, Burnett Barker Solicitors, HC Wilson transport Ltd, Russell, Simon & Aidan Lomax, Mr & Mrs K Hollings, Euro Food Machinery Ltd, Roger Dalby, Stanley King, Jean Barker, Eric King, Mr & Mrs R McClagan, Mrs P Jones, Sharon Finch, Chrissy's Bouncy Castles, A&A Cars,

N Catterwell, Mr & Mrs Taylor, Mr T Pollard, Groupbridge Ltd, David Rayner, Bob Barter, Barry Hayward, Dick Burch, Val Warby, Super Bee Disco, Vision Window Cleaning Services, Yardell Joiners, Mr A Clark, David Peachey, Colin Gould, Gill Peachey, David Royal, Mr & Mrs D Handyside, Alli Leeks, & Michelle, Mr & Mrs Bob Goodall at Elmswell Post Office, Mark McBurney, The Elmswell Fox, Chris & Paula Bennington & the rest of Andy's bar staff, Barry and Teresa Foot of 'Heart & Soul'.

BAD NEWS...owing to the lack of numbers at the last four dances, I have decided to call it a day, but I will carry on with dances already booked.

ELMSWELL MILLENNIUM HISTORY GROUP

At our third anniversary meeting last month, Rosy Hayward talked about the Drinkstone mills, one of them probably

the oldest windmill in England. Tree-ring dating of timbers in the post mill has given felling-dates in the 16th century, and there is documentary evidence of a mill on the site in 1616. The mill now has a vane to keep it turned into the wind, but this was salvaged from Woolpit mill, and originally the whole structure was pushed round by the miller (it got its own back in a memorable *Dad's Army* episode, when Lance-Corporal Jones was caught in the sails). The other mill on the site was once a horse-driven mill, on top of which a smock mill was built over 200 years ago. The site is next open during the afternoons of 13th and 14th September. This month's meeting was engrossed by Stuart Bowell's account of Suffolk breweries, from medieval alehouses to the new micro-breweries. Between the early 19th century and 1920 the number in the county declined from about 200 to only eight, and eventually to the 'Suffolk Trinity' of Adnams, Greene King and Tolly-Cobbold. Although one of these has recently disappeared, there are now 13 'one-horse' breweries in operation. Sadly, no samples were provided.

The History Group meets on the second Thursday of the month at 7.30 pm in the Church Room (in St John's Church), unless otherwise advertised (£2.50, members £1). On June 12th, Pip Wright's subject is the Dissolution of the Monasteries. On Saturday 12th July we are visiting the Long Shop Steam Museum, Leiston: meet at the museum in time for a 10.30 a.m. start (admission £3.50, senior citizens £3.00, free parking). If you would like a lift, please contact us.

Enquiries to Norman Kenyon on 01359 241569

www.elmswell-history.org.uk

Around and About cont'd., pg25

CATHOLIC PARISH OF OUR LADY, STOWMARKET

Parish Priest:

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

MASSTIMES:

Saturdays (First Mass of Sunday),
Woolpit C of E Parish Church, 6pm

Sundays

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

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 :
Mrs Hilda Jackson, Holly Cottage, Long Thurlow, Badwell Ash IP31 3JB. Tel: 01359-259944.

GOD IS FRIENDSHIP

What's most important in life? It's good to give some thought to that question. The more we think about it, the more likely it is that most of us will come up with this answer: being able to love - enjoying friendship ...

I remember many years ago being struck by a very wise word about love. It was this - that 'love is not so much looking at one another, but looking together in the same direction'. Very often what makes a good,

lasting marriage is the love father and mother have - the shared love they have - for their child for children. It's much the same with good friendships. True friendship means having something really important in common - it means being outward-looking. If we're simply looking at one another- whether it's marriage or friendship- what we're doing will end up with our idolising each other. And in the end it will turn sour.

Our experience of love and friendship can be a real help to us in glimpsing what God is like. The Christian Faith speaks of God as the Holy Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. In the middle of this month, on Sunday June 15th, Christians celebrate the Feast of the Holy Trinity.

The Holy Trinity is not some kind of mathematical puzzle! Rather, the Holy Trinity is all about love - all about friendship. God the Father and Jesus His Son are bound together by the love each has for the Holy Spirit, the Third Person the Holy Trinity. God the Father and Jesus His Son love each other perfectly - because both are looking together in the same direction - both are united in the shared love they have for the Holy Spirit. And when we pray, that is the wonderful shared life and love we are drawn into!

ELMSWELL FOOTBALL CLUB

Club Sponsors: Mirror Group Newspapers

First Aid Sponsors: Euro Food Machinery (Elmswell)

Match Day Sponsors: Harris Cuffaro Nichols (Solicitors, Old Harlow, Essex)

Summer School Sponsors: Wells Stitched Embroidery (Elmswell)

1st Team Sponsors: Mirror Group



Newspapers

2nd Team Sponsors: Elmswell Fox

(A) Team Sponsors: Wilsons Transport (Elmswell)

Match Ball Sponsors: Rota-Rod (Bob Barter), Travelstop (Elmswell), Stowmarket Golf Club, Tulipa Landscaping (Elmswell)

1st Team Manager: D Scase. Assistant B Barter.

2nd Team Manager: D Carter. Assistant T Warby.

(A) Team Sponsors: S Beasant. Assistant **Under 14 Sponsors:** Abbots Estate Agents (Manager P Case)

Match Ball Sponsor: W Jarvis (Landscaping Elmswell)

Under 11 Sponsors: D J Fishbar (Elmswell) (Manager T Ingram)

Under 10 Sponsors: Village Homes (Manager J Tuzinkiewicz)

Over 35 Sponsors: C G Finch & Sons.
Monthly Draw March, drawn by J Tuzinkiewica

No 399	R Granger	£50
No 244	A Wright	£35
No 37	A Clark	£25
No 125	D Wallace	£15
No 342	E Oates	£15

The above winners are for March as last months winners were for April and should not have been in the newsletter until this month.

Anyone wishing to join the Football Club please telephone Barry Hayward on (01359) 240951. Training nights Wednesday nights, Blackbourne at 18.15. Compiled by H Mulley (01359) 240889.

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ELECTION RESULTS...ELECTION RESULTS...ELECTION R

There were 13 candidates for the 11 places on the Parish Council which took place on 1st May.

The results were as follows;

Doug Reed	686
Dick Burch	652
Mary Feeney	647
Roy Finch	641
Peter Edmonds	579
David Hawes	513
Alan Hall	474
David Barker	467
Mike Schofield	465
Tracey Murphy	461
Jane Heselden	444

All of the above were elected

Norman Kenyon	439
Jeanne Crook	428

The turnout was 35.53% - 905 electors voted out of a possible 2547.

On the same day ...

there were 3 candidates for the 2 places on the Mid Suffolk District Council, all of whom stood on a Party Political ticket.

The results were as follows;

Carol Milward (Liberal Democrat)	873
Doug Reed (Liberal Democrat)	850

Both of the above were elected

David Etchells-Butler (Conservative)	453
---	-----

The turnout was 37.92% - 1337 electors voted out of a possible 3526 (the ward now includes Tostock & Norton).



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from Adèle Nicholls of Warren Close

Blue Peter Bikeathon!

To All My Friends and neighbours,

I would like to say a big THANK YOU to all my friends and Neighbours who kindly sponsored me for the Blue Peter Bikeathon, in aid of Leukaemia Research, on Sunday 4 May.

I hope to have raised in excess of £100.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH

from District Councillor Carol Milward

... thank the residents of Elmswell ...

I would like to thank the residents of Elmswell for their vote of confidence in returning me to office to represent them at Mid Suffolk.

I would also like to thank them for their personal support over the last six months.

from Dermot O'Riordan of Station Road

Broadband for Elmswell

Can I say how pleased I was to see Geoff Hayward's letter in the last Newsletter on the subject of getting broadband for the Elmswell telephone exchange. Can I also thank Geoff and Neil Thomson for their hard work in initiating the campaign and call on the new Parish Council to pick up the baton and run with the issue. I would suggest this would be an excellent opportunity for them to demonstrate their commitment to improving life in Elmswell.

Already, by word of mouth alone, 157 people have registered with BT an interest in upgrading the Elmswell exchange. It is likely that we would need at least 400 for BT to instal broadband. However BT have not yet set a trigger level for our exchange and there is a real risk that without more registrations now they might never do so.

If you have not already registered then either do so at the homepage of your internet service provider or visit <http://www.01359broadband.co.uk/> who will guide you through the process.

If you would like to help in the campaign then contact broadband@elmswell.info
Without the fast, affordable, "always-on" internet that broadband offers rural areas such as Elmswell will be left at a permanent disadvantage for individuals and businesses.

from Doug Reed (Parish and District Councillor) of Church Road

... many thanks ...

Through your newsletter can I thank all those who were kind enough to vote for me in the Parish and District Council elections. Having gained a place on the Parish Council at a by-election some two years ago, I'm now grateful for the chance to be able to be there for a full term, and to seek action on those matters which I hope put Elmswell back on the map in a positive rather than negative way. As I indicated in my pre-election statement, I will endeavour to work on an inclusive, consultative basis and to continue to vote in an independent way for what I hope and believe to be best for the village.

In terms of Mid Suffolk District Council I'm on new ground and having to learn very quickly but I trust that the dual role I've landed will have benefits both ways i.e. that I'm aware of the vital issues facing Elmswell and can represent the village at MSDC on an informed basis; and that I can keep you and the Parish Council, in turn, properly informed about decisions at MSDC which have implications here - not least, I hope, through this newsletter.

Many thanks again for your generous support which I will do my best to repay in action and results.

The Old Tea Room



Veterinary Surgery and Pet Health Care Centre

The Level Crossing, Elmswell

New Opening Hours:-

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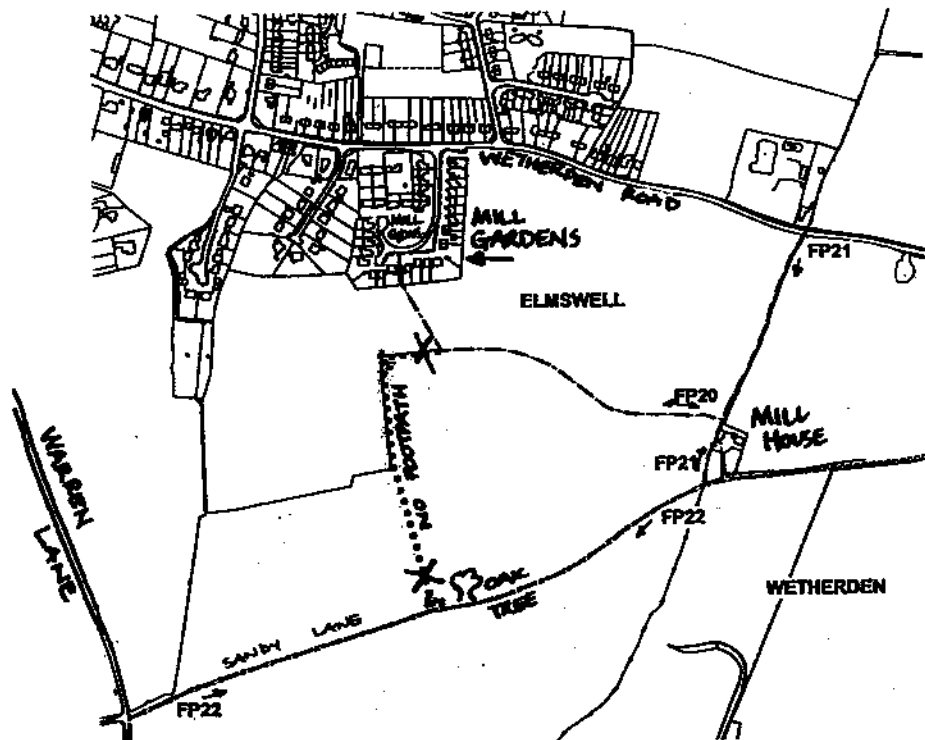
PLEASE NOTE

The footpath network in Elmswell is a very valuable amenity. Considerable and responsible use has meant that landowners have entered into a working partnership which allows relatively trouble-free access.

Please help this situation to continue by observing a plea from the farmers concerned to stick to the footpaths which run:

- from Mill Gardens across to Mill House parallel with Wetherden Road (footpath 20), and;
- Sandy Lane which takes you from the junction of Kiln Lane and Warren Lane up to Mill House and beyond -footpath 22).

From Mill house you can, of course, follow the field edge down to Wetherden Road (footpath 21).



There is no footpath from the oak tree on Sandy Lane across the field to join the Mill Gardens path.

This is clearly indicated on the ground. Public co-operation will help to encourage proper access for all.

PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL MEETING

Eleven Councillors were elected on 1st May (see our Election results feature on page 30) and all attended the first meeting of new administration, the Annual Meeting, together with 40 members of the public, at Blackbourne on 7th May. The following matters were among those discussed.

Chairman: Cllr David Barker was elected as Chairman and welcomed one and all to a Fresh Start. He expressed the intention to work closely with the public and paid a debt of gratitude to re-elected Councillors Peter Edmonds and Mary Feeney who had stepped into the breach and who had borne a tremendous burden of responsibility over the last few months when previous officers of the Council had, without notice, resigned their posts. He also praised Cllr Dick Burch, re-elected to his 13th year in office, for having stuck to his principles through thick and thin over recent years although often in deep despair.

Vice Chairman: Cllr Mary Feeney was elected as Vice Chairman and, although no longer acting as Proper Officer in the absence of a Clerk, undertook to continue to administer the cemetery until a new Clerk is in post.

Meetings: It was decided that meetings would be held on the third Monday of the month, omitting August, unless and until some other arrangement was adopted.

Crown Mill Play Area: The feeling of the meeting was that repairs are not as onerous as might have originally been thought and that they can be effected quickly once a Clerk is in post to make the necessary arrangements. The longer term future of the site could, it was suggested, then be considered.

Wheelie Bins: District Cllr Carol

Milward reported that there were, inevitably, teething problems with the implementation of the new system but that, according to a survey of 6,000 affected households, landfill had already been reduced by 50%. She acknowledged that problem of non-emptying of litter bins and doggie bins and had promised to pursue the matter.

Blackbourne Nuisance: Several residents who live in the proximity of Blackbourne complained of the problems caused by youths in cars and on motorcycles - not all of them from Elmswell - behaving irresponsibly. With advice from the Police, various initiatives are in hand, including the logging of incidents for Mid Suffolk District Council's attention and the recording of registration numbers. Cllr Roy Finch undertook to co-ordinate between the various parties involved and to investigate the cost and feasibility of a barrier across the car park entrance.

Finances: With no Clerk in post, meaningful figures were not available and the Chairman made it clear that the rationalisation of the financial position must be a priority for a new Clerk. Cllr Peter Edmonds, who had struggled to make some sense of the parlous situation which he had inherited so unceremoniously, spoke of considerable numbers of financial commitments which had emerged with very little evidence of having been

properly sanctioned by Council. In the meantime, only payments against established contractual agreements are to be made.

Youth Working Party: Although some work had, apparently, been done towards determining action related to the various urgent youth issues which have been evident for some time, little information had been presented to Council which would allow for progress. Cllr Doug Reed agreed to pull together what had been discussed as a possible basis for further action.

Parish Clerk: Councillors agreed to meet without the public present at the end of the evening to discuss the recommendation from the Working Party set up by the previous administration to take further the appointment of a Parish Clerk.

New Building at Blackbourne: Cllr Peter Edmonds outlined just two of the serious obstacles which had emerged in the building of the lean-to addition to the side of the Hall at Blackbourne which was, apparently, sanctioned by the last administration. He said that the plans, which he had not seen until a recent meeting with the architect, included no access roadway to the existing kitchen and no diversion of the live gas supply which runs beneath the new building, now 60% complete. Cllr Alan Hall, who has wide experience of building projects, suggested that it is not a good idea to site a building over

a live gas supply. Cllr Doug Reed confirmed that the plans, as they now appeared to be, had never appeared before Council. It was further confirmed that no contract for the work, initially costed at £25,000 was ever signed. The Chairman suggested that until all paperwork is to hand the muddle will remain and that this would be a priority once a Clerk is in post.

Planning: Amongst other results, it was noted that the application for a bungalow to the rear of Winterthorn (next to the Mace Shop on Ashfield Road) had been refused on grounds of overdevelopment and excessive infilling. Councillors agreed to sustain their objection to building in the garden of 7 Prescott Drive, despite a variation reducing the number of dwellings applied for from 2 to 1. There was no objection raised to the erection of a satellite dish at the Co-op to service the cash machine there.

Tree Officer: John Ibbetson agreed, from the floor, to resume his position of Tree Officer to the Council which post had lapsed under the previous administration. Other similar posts are to be filled on the recommendation of the Finance & General Purposes Advisory Committee when it is formed and convened.

Stress: In the time allowed for public comment, Council was thanked for a peaceful, stress-free and productive meeting.

ORDINARY MEETING

The first Ordinary Meeting of the new administration took place at the Blackbourne on 19th May attended by all Councillors and 14 members of the public. The following matters were among those discussed.

County Council: Cllr Jane Storey, our Ward member at Suffolk County Council, invited bids for her 'Locality Budget,' which is money to be spent

within her ward on her recommendation towards community improvement. Her spending so far has included £2,000 to Little Elms Pre-

School and £1,000 to 1st Elmswell Scout Troop for camping equipment. She also confirmed that Elmswell Library is soon to open on Sundays.

Road Safety: Parish Council representatives to the Transport Plan meeting scheduled for 20th May were agreed and Cllr Mary Feeney drew Council's attention to the Walking Bus initiative on that same day which is designed to get children safely to school on foot and which could be a permanent feature designed to reduce car use for school runs. It was pointed out that the initial thinking on a Walking Bus scheme for Elmswell had reinforced the desirability of a footbridge over the railway line.

Insurance: Councillors agreed to renew the insurance cover with the existing Company at a cost of £4,987. This represents an increase of some £1,000.00, but, with no Clerk in post, it was decided that alternative quotes could not, realistically, be sought at this very late state as renewal is due at the end of the month.

Annual Parish Meeting: It was decided that the Annual Parish Meeting should be held at Blackbourne on Wednesday 28th May beginning at 7.30. A panel of local Councillors, the Police and certain other community representatives is to be assembled to answer questions from the public and all village organisations are to be invited

to make a contribution. It was acknowledged that, despite the short notice resulting from the lack a Parish Clerk and other inherited procedural matters, the exercise is a valuable opportunity to give the public a voice.

Planning Committee: The Planning Committee is to comprise Cllrs Barker, Burch, Feeney, Hall, Hawes, Heseldon and Reed.

Other Committees: A meeting is to be held to which all Councillors are invited to discuss a committee structure for submission to the next meeting of full Council.

Planning: Councillors are to seek rejection of an application at the Links, Church Road, for the erection of a substantial wall to replace the existing hedge along the front of the property which would, they argue, present an unacceptably urban result out of context with adjacent properties.

Parish Clerk: Councillors met without the public present to receive the recommendations of the Interview Panel set up at the last meeting to take further the appointment of a Parish Clerk.

Next Meeting: The next ordinary Meeting is schedules for Monday 16th June at 7.30 at the Blackbourne. The public are welcome and will have a chance to have their say on any matters relevant to Council business and responsibilities.

Peter Dow.

PARISH CLERK

Peter Dow has been appointed as Clerk to the Council as of 20th May. Telephone & fax contact remains on 244134. This number will be manned from 9.00am - 6.00pm every weekday and on Saturday mornings.

Outside of these hours the answerphone will be on and will be monitored at the beginning of the next business day.

Contact by e-mail will be possible on and after 23rd June.

The address is Parish Clerks Office, Station Road Industrial Estate, IP30 9HT.

What's On in Elmswell ?

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

June

- 8 Elmswell CC v Stowupland 2nd XI. League. 2.15pm at The Blackbourne
- 12 History Group, St John's Church, 7.30pm, Pip Wright, The Dissolution of the Monasteries
- 14 AGM Friends of St John's Church, followed by Coffee Morning 10.00am in Church Room
- 22 Elmswell CC v Lakenheath 3rd XI. League. 2.15pm at The Blackbourne
- 28 2.00pm, Methodist Church Strawberry Fayre
- 29 Elmswell CC v Milden. League. 2.15pm at The Blackbourne

July

- 5 St John's Church Summer Fete at The Cedars 2.00pm
- 12 History Group, Long Shop Steam Museum, Leiston, 10.30am, visit to the museum
- 12 Family Disco, Blackbourne, ring 244692
- 26-27 Fuchsia Festival, St John's Church

August

- 3 Elmswell CC v Tendring Park. League. 2.15pm at The Blackbourne
- 17 Elmswell CC v Withersfield. League. 2.15pm at The Blackbourne.

September

- 7 Autumn Fayre
- 11 History Group, St John's Church, 7.30pm, AGM followed by Tony Redman, The development of Suffolk churches, as shown by St John's, Elmswell
- 12-13 Art Festival, St John's Church

October

- 9 History Group, St John's Church, 7.30pm, Colin Cooke, The Bells of St John's
- 16 Village Quiz

November

- 13 History Group, St John's Church, 7.30pm, Ashley Cooper, Three hundred years of countryside history

December

- 11 History Group, St John's Church, 7.30pm

January 2004

- 8 History Group, St John's Church, 7.30pm, Gill Hawkins, The Murder in the Red Barn

February 2004

- 12 History Group, St John's Church, 7.30pm Peter Driver, Suffolk follies and oddities

Tell us more - Tel 241841