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JULY 2020

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EDITORIAL

First it's hot, then it's wet, then it's cold and finally as we write this it is warmish, sunny with clouds. The weather is very like the situation we find ourselves in with suggestions, rules, that we must adhere to, except that some people don't feel it applies to them. Up and down and we are not sure how it will all work out, BUT it will sort itself out, eventually.

It was a bit like that with the magazine, will there be enough content, shall we publish, will it get delivered, will the printer print? The situation is resolved and last month we were able to produce and deliver our Elmham News.

Thank you to Sue and Ivan for putting the magazine on line and they will continue to do in the future. The hard copy will go on being produced and thank you to our stalwart contributors and deliverers for not letting us down.

There's more history this month than usual but we find once you start delving, you keep turning up interesting things and Janet can't keep her eyes off old records! We particularly love the story of John Craske, who though seriously ill managed the most incredible sewing and his Evacuation of Dunkirk is unbelievable, especially as it is 13 feet long and he did not see it. His wife, Laura must have been a wonderful support to him.

If you have any funny stories about the village from the past or did you know of a character who lived in the village please put pen to paper and share the story with us. Now with the wonders of technology if you have emigrated to Australia or another part of the world through work and have some Elmham tales please email them to us and we will be delighted to print them.

**North Elmham community
website www.elmham.org.uk**

PLEASE NOTE: Submission deadline for articles to be included in the August edition is 14TH JULY 2020. Please email your article to each of the editors listed below asap before the deadline.

Volume 43, No 6, July 2020

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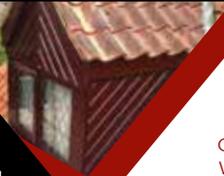
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How about sending us a photo of your garden, or a special tree or plant. It's not a competition, just if you want to send a photo of all the work you have been doing in your garden or a marvellous plant we would love to see and publish it! As there will be no Gardening Show in August, what about any misshapen vegetables??

Finally, keep your patience, enjoy as much social contact as you are allowed and look forward to July when perhaps we will be allowed out for a coffee or a meal.

Just to bring you up to date... the Parish Council notes record that the SAM speed monitors were not working. However, the batteries had gone down and bearing in mind that we were in lockdown and two people are required to change them, they were unchanged for a while. We are pleased to say that they are back working, and still recording people exceeding the speed limits.

John Hansell

Browsing through one of the scrapbooks belonging to the Kerrison family I found a newspaper cutting of a funeral in July 1912.

The funeral account was probably written by our Vicar, the Rev Townsend.

"Mrs Elizabeth Hansell was laid to rest in the churchyard. She was the widow of Mr Ambrose Hansell and had four children". But what caught my eye was the sentence "she was the mother of that once famous cricketer, the late Mr John Hansell".

So I looked him up... he was born here in Elmham and was baptised in St Mary's church on 12th August 1849.

In Wisden, the cricketing Bible, I found this "John Hansell (Norfolk) died at North Elmham in Norfolk, January 19th, 1900, aged 49. Bowled fast to medium (right hand) and batted left hand with good batting power. In the match at Lords,

in July 1885, Hansell was one of three batsmen (the brothers Jarvis being the other two) who scored a hundred in the Norfolk innings against the MCC. The total of 695 by the county remained a record for Lords ground for over 10 years".

So I carried on looking him up! I checked out the family on the Census returns.

In 1861 he lived in Eastgate Street with his parents.

In 1871 he still lived at the family home but he was a gamekeeper.

In 1881 he was a professional cricketer but was here at the family home when the Census was taken.

In 1891 the Census return was exactly the same as in 1881.

He married Clarissa Brunton in October/November/December (not sure which month) but was widowed in 1890. Again not sure where he was married. I also discovered he played professionally for Malton CC in Yorkshire.

Now does anyone in Elmham know any more about John Hansell and his cricketing career? If you do please let us know.

Janet Woodhouse

Ed's comments: We have to remember that professional cricketing was very different from that of today.

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Clap for Carers

Last month we reported on the clapping for carers. The last clap took place on Thursday 4th June. Pictured is Paul with his cornet who led the residents of Cathedral Drive and Cedar Close with his musical renditions.

I think we all miss our Thursday nights. Hopefully we will all soon be able to come together as a community and maybe our local musicians can again entertain us.

North Elmham Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday 8th May 2020 via Zoom

The following information is taken from the official PC minutes which are issued by the Clerk once ratified by councillors at the subsequent meeting. The full official minutes can be viewed in the Post Office and on the community website, once approved.

Councillors present by logging in were: Mrs. J. Borgnis (Chairman), Mr. M. Phillips, Miss A. Ferris, Mr. T. Fitzalan Howard, Mr. P.

Grainger, Mr. J. Labouchere, Mr. M. Rayner, Mr. C. Smith and Dr. P. Wade-Martins. Also in Attendance: Mr. K. Webb (Clerk)

Updated Information & Matters Arising

Land Management Matters

Village Green: Mr. Smith reported that some young people had been using the shelter as a meeting place. The bin has been removed. The sign advising that the facilities are closed has been ripped down on a number of occasions. Dr. Wade-Martins had noticed that the contractor hasn't been cutting the edges of the village green. The Chairman is going to ask them to carry out some strimming to remedy the situation.

Cathedral Ruins: English Heritage has agreed that our ruins can stay open, although at other sites where the danger of anti-social behaviour is an issue, their monuments have been closed during the lockdown. Dr. Wade-Martins has agreed with Julian Duffield that to ensure he can maintain his social distancing, he should lock the gates and put up a sign saying 'closed for maintenance' during the 2/3 hours he works there early in the morning once a week. English Heritage is aware and has agreed to this arrangement.

Cathedral Meadows: The new information panel has now been installed close to the gate leading from the ruins. Dave Appleton provided the wildlife information and there is a QR code on the panel to encourage visitors to explore the wildlife of the area further. We hope people will find the panel interesting and attractive, and it is designed to match the panel for the Millennium and Jubilee Woods.

Members will remember that at the last meeting which Jimmy Brown attended he asked that the livestock-proof kissing gates internal to the Meadows should be replaced with ordinary gates so that mothers with buggies should have easier access to the Meadows. This can work provided the gates are on compression springs so that they remain stock-proof.



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In addition, some of the original fencing now needs to be replaced. Dr. Wade-Martins has asked Mr. Fitzalan Howard if he would join him in managing the Meadows, and when agreed by Parish Council, they will work out costed options and report back with proposals. Meanwhile, the main post for the gate between the wildflower meadow and Church Loke has broken off. It will be replaced.

Millennium Wood: The gate is dragging on the floor as the pole that supports it and the fence is leaning over. Two quotations are to be obtained. Ben Darby is to inspect and will be asked to advise on the type and size of a new gate. There is a sign on the gate informing that the Parish Council is aware of the damage. Spraying of thistles in the Jubilee Wood is to be carried out and one damaged tree is to be removed.

Bridleway on Disused Railway Line: The Mid Norfolk Railway signs are still in place and Richard Cullen (Station Master) has not responded to our letter. They are incorrect in stating that it is a permissive path. It is a public footpath. A new letter will be sent to Mid Norfolk Railway informing them that if the signs are not gone by a certain date, they will be removed by the Parish Council. The path from the buffers to the railway crossing is permissive.

Prince William Wood: The new fencing is excellent. The legal documents have been examined and there is nothing that restricts the Parish Council from carrying out the work that has been done.

Street Lights: Number 18 may possibly need attention. Mr. Fitzalan Howard is to investigate.

Highway Matters

Parish Partnership Projects: Project for 2019/20, the parking improvement works on Eastgate Street, delayed until Monday 6th April to minimise disruption to the school buses, were postponed by County Highways the previous Friday

and no new date is currently available. The residents most affected by the works have been kept informed about the delay, and arrangements have been made for the two vans which were parked on the designated car parking area to be moved to new locations.

For 2020/21 County Highways have awarded us 50% grants for three new schemes for this year. That must be a cause for some celebration. Our 50% has already been paid, but no date for the works is currently available. These will include:

- additional 20 mph repeater signs on the Post Office bend,
- a new 'gateway' to be constructed just to the east of the Worthing turn on the Billingford Road. Care needs to be taken to ensure that the 'gate' on the south verge does not obscure the vision for traffic turning out of the Worthing road,
- Replacement signs at the Kings Head crossroads to give more advance warning of the need to stop at these crossroads – details of these signs have still to be agreed with Highways.

SAM2 Signs: These three signs have not been kept charged and are now no longer functioning. Parish Council needs to decide if that situation is to remain or if other volunteers can be recruited who will feel able to keep the signs running during the lockdown. While most drivers have been sensible, others are taking advantage of the empty roads to drive faster.

Community Speedwatch Scheme: There was a suggestion that Parish Council should recruit volunteers to run a scheme on Station Road, but so far this has not been taken further.

Reporting Highway Defects: County Highways have recently been notified of the following defects:

- One of the wooden posts on the pinchpoint near the surgery has been partly knocked over.

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- A series of potholes is developing along the centre line of Holt Road near Spencers Close and on the lower part of Church Hill. It seems that the bonding between the tarmac of the two carriageways is breaking down.

- Potholes on the north side of Eastgate Street and on Station Road (where the tarmac has deteriorated around a street drain).

- A ghastly patch of black tarmac has been placed on the brendon gravel cycleway across the green; this needs to be removed and replaced with the correct gravel both there and elsewhere on the cycleway in the areas where the path turns muddy in wet weather.

Street Sweeping: Breckland have been asked twice to sweep the verges of Holt Road where debris accumulated during the autumn storms. Although their contractor is required to do this regularly, it seems that prompting is still necessary otherwise street drains are more quickly blocked. The debris is particularly bad at the new buildout where the drain through the buildout has been blocked by debris from the overhanging trees – a problem we had not foreseen.

Parish Seats

Parish Council has approved a rough price from Charles Seaman for treating all the seats for which the Council has some responsibility, either with teak oil or paint as appropriate. The Chairman and Vice Chairman have agreed the list of seats, and Charles Seaman has been asked to do the work when he feels lockdown conditions will permit him to do so.

Pavilion and Playing Field – Play Area

No information regarding costs has been received for improvements to the skateboard area. Mr. Fitzalan Howard will ask if any progress has been made and Mr. Smith will also make enquiries.

Planning Applications and Determinations

Determinations

Mr. and Mrs. Jaggard – conversion of existing building to annex – 101 The Old Homestead, Eastgate Street (3PL/2020/0143/F) - approved

Coronavirus Crisis

There are more volunteers than people who need help. All those identified as vulnerable have been covered. There is a Facebook group – SINE (self isolation North Elmham) – and all appears to be working well.

Responsibilities of Members

Some amendments were agreed and Mr. Phillips will collate these for submission to the Elmham News for publication.

Mr. Rayner is to lead the planning group which will also include Messrs Phillips and Labouchere.

Dr. Wade-Martins is to be joined by Mr. Fitzalan Howard on the management of Cathedral Meadows.

Mr. Brown's roles are to be allocated as follows – Allotments (solely Mr. Phillips), Environment and Maintenance (the volunteers, directed by Mr. Phillips), Village Green (Messrs Phillips and Smith), Playing Field and Pavilion, including bookings (Miss Ferris), Footpath Warden (Mrs. Borgnis and Miss Ferris) and Memorial Institute (Miss Ferris).

The Camel (and Other Things)

Mr. Labouchere confirmed that he is in possession of the camel. He believed that the spring mounting is possibly in Mr. Brown's garage. Mr. Phillips and/or Miss Ferris will check with Mrs. Brown. The railings in front of the bus shelter are in a poor state and need refixing. The car park potholes are to be kept filled with planings. The Clerk mentioned the need for an up to date Assets Register to be produced and suggested a small team of

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three or four members could perhaps take on this project over the coming weeks.

Grants

Sums of £10K for both the Pavilion and Eastgate Centre had been received following retail/leisure applications made to Breckland Council in respect of the coronavirus crisis. It is hoped that a similar sum will be forthcoming for the Institute, an application having been submitted.

Memorial to Jimmy Brown

All agreed that Mr. Brown's memorial should be sited in the garden near the shop. Mrs. Brown is to be consulted.

Update on Volunteers

It is understood that the volunteers intend to continue with their much appreciated and very important work.

Annual Reports of Charities

Due to the current circumstances, it will not be possible to hold an Annual Parish Meeting on 27th May but, over the next few weeks, reports for the various charities will be produced and circulated. A permanent record will then be prepared in the usual format.

North Elmham Parish Council Meeting

3rd June, 2020 (via Zoom)

The following information is taken from the draft PC minutes which will be ratified at the next PC meeting on 1st July. The full official minutes will be available to be viewed in the Post Office and on the community website, once approved.

Those Councillors Present by Logging In Were: Mrs. J. Borgnis (Chairman), Mr. M. Phillips, Miss A. Ferris, Mr. T. Fitzalan Howard, Mr. P. Grainger, Mr. J. Labouchere, Mr. M. Rayner, Mr. C. Smith and Dr. P. Wade-Martins. *Also in*

Attendance: Mr. K. Webb (Clerk) and Mr. B. Borrett (County and District Councillor)

Land Management Matters

Village Green: Some young people have again been causing problems by riding bicycles in prohibited areas. A chain and padlock has been placed on the gate but they have gained access to the Play Area. An ash tree has had some bark peeled off which will probably result in it dying. The tree will be monitored. Mr. Grainger said that this was yet another example of the anti-social behaviour that was discussed at a previous meeting. It was agreed to cut the grass on the edge of the village green, up to the fence on the Spencer's Close side. The Chairman has mentioned this to the contractors (Mark Wyatt). Mr. Smith is to keep the shelter tidy and will dispose of cans, cigarette stubs, etc. The Chairman is to chase up the new tree (an English oak) to replace the dead one. A potted plant is to be purchased for Mr. Fletcher's assistant on key keeping duties.

Cathedral Ruins: There is nothing to report, and there has been no suggestion from English Heritage that we need to close the site during the lockdown. Dr. Wade-Martins has now ordered the first of the two grass cuts of the steep slopes with the remote-controlled cutters from Hardy Landscapes.

Gate-keeper Clare Budget has been unlocking the gate each morning and Bob Fletcher has been locking up in the evening for a long time. With Clare's departure due at about the end of July, George and Corinne Moore, who will be moving into Clare's house, have kindly agreed to take on that role. Bob Fletcher will continue to lock up as before. We are extremely grateful to Clare, and indeed to Bob, for their years of service to the village.

Cathedral Meadows: Hedges and fencing Dr. Wade-Martins and Mr. Fitzalan Howard have reviewed the fencing and decided that, although some posts are

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rotted through and need replacing, nothing can be done about assessing the need for fence repairs until after the hedges are cut in the autumn. We were unable to cut the hedges in January and February because of the excessive levels of rain and then we were not allowed by Natural England to cut the hedges in March because that would be too late in the season. We were, however, told that this year we could cut in September, whereas usually the cutting window is limited to January and February.

Kissing Gates: In order to meet Jimmy Brown's wishes, Mr. Fitzalan Howard and Dr. Wade-Martins believe it is possible to modify all the kissing gates to make them child buggy friendly while at the same time ensuring that they remain stock-proof. We will be asking two contractors to quote for doing this. At our last meeting Dr. Wade-Martins reported that the main post for the kissing gate between the wildflower meadow and Church Loke had rotted through. This has now been replaced.

Millennium Wood (and Jubilee Wood): An assessment has been carried out on the Millennium Wood heavy metal gate and it was agreed that it needed to be re-hung on a fresh post. Julian Duffield was asked to do this for £150, which included providing a tall new post and new hinges. Unfortunately, it has been hung too high so that dogs off leads in the wood could escape. Julian has now agreed to re-hang the gate at a lower level. A suggestion was made to site a new picnic table in the middle of the clearing in the wood. This did not receive support as it was felt that it would encourage litter and it would not be possible to have a rubbish bin at this location.

Rory Hart, who sprayed Church Meadow last year, has now sprayed in Jubilee Wood to remove the heavy infestation of thistles to stop the seed spreading back out into Church Meadow and into Cathedral Meadows. While in the wood

he will be removing the old tree guards, several of which have been falling off.

Bridleway on Disused Railway Line:

There had been no response from Richard Cullen (Station Master) and it is understood that Mid Norfolk Railway are to seek legal advice from their solicitors.

Parish Seats: The seats have all been treated by Charles Seaman as per his quote and an invoice will be submitted. There is, however, a problem with the seat at the bottom of Orchard Close. One slat needs replacing, but the concrete support needs replacing too in due course. It was agreed to look at the possibility of obtaining a new seat and Dr. Wade-Martins is to investigate alternatives.

Street Lights: The problem with light number 18 has been solved. It is possible that there will not be a bill. Light number 17 requires a new cover.

Highway Matters

Parish Partnership Projects: NCC

Highways are not yet able to give us any information on when these projects are likely to resume.

Highway Repairs: We continue to report highway defects and County Highways continues to carry out repairs and clear blocked drains, albeit at a slightly slower pace.

SAM2 Signs: It is good to see that the SAM2 signs are now working again, and it is interesting that the sign near the Post Office corner does seem to discourage northbound traffic from overshooting the buildout.

Mr. Grainger produced some traffic reports which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting. It is clear that the effectiveness of the build-out is governed by the volume of traffic passing through it. In general terms, a decrease in the amount of traffic results in a similar increase in measured speeds. The impact of the build-out is lessened

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with lower volumes of traffic. Mr. Grainger is to draft, and circulate, a letter to the parishioners who queried this matter and will also write a piece for Elmham News.

Pavilion and Playing Field

It had been noticed that a group of as many as ten young adults had been playing football on the field. This is in direct contravention of the coronavirus regulations including the social distancing rules. The position is to be monitored.

It is clear that there is not a published tariff for hiring the pavilion. Miss Ferris and Mr. Smith will discuss rates and submit a proposal for the next meeting.

Jimmy Brown's family have mentioned to Miss Ferris the possibility of having a seat. They are agreeable to the idea of a memorial garden as previously discussed. There is to be a wooden sign and Mr. Labouchere is to obtain a price. The Parish Council will pay for the seat which will be positioned somewhere near the football pitch. Dr. Wade-Martins will investigate options.

All have agreed that, on the resumption of local football, Longham F.C. will be able to play matches on a Sunday with a cost of £30 per game being levied.

Zoom Meetings – Enhanced Access

As always, the Parish Council is determined to fully meet its transparency obligations at all times. With this in mind, it was agreed by all to invite a member of Elmham News to be present at the next and future Zoom meetings. Should they so wish, they would be able to take notes in order to provide news to the community, in addition to the official minutes produced of the meeting.

AGAR Approval and Submission

The annual accounts have been examined by the Internal Auditor. The figures show income of £69,979 (£55,433), expenditure of £46,418 (£94,522) and bank balances of £100,234 (£76,673). Recommendations have been made and some have already

been implemented. Remaining action will be taken in the near future. It was agreed by all to approve the 2019/2020 Annual Governance Statement and also to approve the 2019/2020 Statement of Accounts. The return will be forwarded to the external auditors.

Assets Register

The internal audit has recommended an update of the Assets Register. It had previously been identified that this action would be taken. Messrs Phillips and Grainger kindly volunteered to work on this important task.

Planning Applications and Determinations

Applications

- Ms. L. Simkins – proposed new cartlodge/garage – 53 Eastgate Street (3PL/2020/0471/HOU) – no objections but Case Officer is to be asked to fully assess the impact on the neighbouring property.
- Icon Architectural – side and rear extension and external refurbishment of existing house – Station House, Eastgate Street (3PL/2020/0497/HOU) – no objections.

Determinations

- Mr. and Mrs. Grainger – erection of dwelling and garage – The Post Office, 62 Holt Road (3PL/2020/0242/F) – approved

Brookside Development

A response had been submitted to the S106 agreement and Mr. Chris Hobson (Principal Development Management Planner) had replied. Two issues were discussed.

- It is considered that LED lighting should be included. Advice from Breckland is that street lighting is normally only considered in association with estate scale developments which are of nine or more houses and where the road is being designed to an adoptable standard.
- Dr. Wade-Martins asked if there were to be raised pavements. Mr. Labouchere

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agreed that there should be for safety reasons with a suitable footpath on one or both sides. Mr. Rayner is to check the meaning of the dotted line on the plan. It was agreed to press for a raised kerb on one side of the roadway.

Thanks were expressed by all to Mr. Rayner for all his hard and valued work on this matter.

A letter had been received from Mr. Thomas, Principal Ecologist of Riverdale Ecology Ltd, who is working on the ecological mitigation and management plan for Brookside Farm. He asks if the Parish Council would be interested in including a community orchard on part of the site. After appropriate discussion, it was unanimously agreed that this was not something with which the Parish Council wished to be involved.

County School Access

A reply had been received from Stefan Malherbe (Chair of the residents' association). The upkeep of the roadway is paid for by the residents and there has been a significant increase in footfall over the last few weeks. It was agreed that the Parish Council could contribute to the provision of a more robust sign at eye level warning drivers that there is no vehicular access. We would wish to liaise with Bintree Parish Council over this suggestion. The Chairman would contact Mr. Malherne for a further discussion.

Repainting the Village Sign

Dr. Wade-Martins felt that the sign needed a repaint. Mr. Fitzalan Howard is to obtain a price. Correspondence

- Mr. Phillips had written to Brown and Co regarding the annual BPS (Basic Payment Scheme) application which has been submitted.
- A parishioner had queried whether the new road from the end of Larch Grove onto the green is a private road or a

public right of way. He has been informed that it is a private access to the green.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, 1st July 2020 at 7.30 p.m. (Zoom)

Shopping Guidance from Norfolk County Council

As more shops reopen we may be thinking about going out to get some things we need. But it's important that we remember it's not a return to normal and we should continue to take steps to stay safe. That might mean...

- Checking which shops are open before you leave.
- Being considerate to those who are less mobile.
- Making a list to reduce the time you spend inside.
- Checking if your favourite shops have launched a click and collect service.

Please read the full guidance on what to consider before, during and after you head out: <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/care-support-and-health/health-and-wellbeing/adults-health/coronavirus/guidance-for-shoppers>

Save These Dates

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Dangers of Dishwashers

We had a new Bosch dishwasher just before Christmas. Unfortunately, the two young men delivering it dropped it in our yard. It was damaged, so it was taken away and we had to wait a few days for a replacement. We thought all would be well, but a couple of days after its installation we had a water leak we thought came from the washing machine. We called Gary the plumber to have a look and guess what, it wasn't the washing machine but the dishwasher! The outlet pipe hadn't been correctly tightened so Gary tightened it. Once again we thought all would be well.

At the beginning of lockdown, we had a flashing red light on the dishwasher saying 'check water'. So, I rang Bosch and it was very civilised, but of course there was no way an engineer could come to see the dishwasher until restrictions were lifted.

This week an engineer came on Monday. He was very pleasant and replaced the outlet pipe with a new one, started a short cycle and told me to let it finish and hopefully 'all would be well. It wasn't, the same problem came up again. Another call to Bosch. On Friday, a different engineer came to have a look.

He had a quick look round and then he looked at the heating element. It had a lot of papery kind of stuff in it. He said, 'what sort of tablets are you using?' so I showed him the box which were 'Finish Classic'. He told me to look on the back of the box, the writing was in Polish. Now if you are like me you stick to the same kind of cleaning stuff all the time and don't turn over the pack to look on the back.

He went on to say you can use Aldi or Lidl or whoever for replacements but never use any tablets that come from Poland. So, I will make sure I don't!

Janet Woodhouse

Reply to Janet from Caroline... "Sounds like you've had a nightmare. I can top that though! Our Hotpoint dishwasher flew on fire, flames leaping from under the worktop! An experience I won't forget! We never run ours at night anymore as this happened when we had gone to bed! Thank heavens for smoke alarms!"

School News

As the majority of children are sadly still not yet permitted to be back in school, lots of them have been carrying on with their home-learning activities and tasks and are doing a fabulous job of it! Lions Class have been enjoying English work based on 'The Boy in the Tower', and year 6 have also been doing activities preparing them for transition to high school after the summer. Dove class has been doing science investigations at home, plus learning about the geography and architecture of Europe. Children in Whales and Sheep Class have been investigating their family trees, drawing family coats of arms and self-portraits. We are so proud of the children for making all this effort to keep busy at home!

We opened the school to Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 pupils this week, following our agreed plan. I am pleased to say all is going well and everyone is coping with the necessary changes. For those children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 who have returned to school in our bubbles, we have been very busy!

In the Early Years and Key Stage One Bubble children have had a great time being back at school! We have used lots of stories to support our learning; a particular favourite was 'Whiffy Wilson!'. We have also been busy doing lots of Science experiments; learning about how easily we can spread germs and facts about sneezes! The Story 'The Wizard and the Princess' inspired our Maths learning this week.



If you go down in the woods today, you're sure of a big surprise...

Many people walking around Millennium Woods recently have come across lots of cuddly characters hiding amongst the trees. Thank you to whoever created the hunt, many were re-homed... there maybe a stray one still hiding though!



The Y6s returning to Lions Class have really enjoyed the week and have realised how much they've missed school. We've been reviewing calculation methods in Maths and are studying a book called Boy in the Tower. In addition, we have liked learning about the Seven Natural Wonders of the World in Geography, and we have been discussing mental health. Children learning at home have been joining in with these lessons remotely and we've had a super response to the work set at home. Thank you, children and parents.

This pandemic has had a huge effect on us all. Therefore, we are adopting and delivering a recovery curriculum at the moment and we will continue this moving forward.

A recovery curriculum is a construct based on children's lived experience during covid time. The live experience of our pupils is where we will start. We want our children to enjoy being with each other again. So, when they are back in school, we will talk about Thursday clapping for the NHS and carers and the Nightingale hospital. We will discuss how they felt when they saw and heard the daily news alerts, so we know how to support them to re-build their confidence and skills.

Our starting point is not how far behind they are, because we know an anxious child is not a learning child. Actually, our standpoint is that the curriculum froze at a point in time. The children haven't lost learning they have paused. Equally, we know many children have learnt a great many other skills during this time, some have even started up their own successful businesses!

In the new academic year, one of the teachers from our Federation schools will be teaching outdoor/forest schools learning for our pupils at North Elmham. This new provision will enrich our children's learning experiences and support mental health.

Kelly Hunter

Wives Plus All

Hi everyone! Just to keep you updated – our meetings for July (Yarmouth Hippodrome Summer Show), August (Visit to Burn Valley Winery, North Creake) and September (talk by Mrs. Lyn Milns) are cancelled, and at this moment in time we are not sure about October plus the proposed Bingo – so please watch this space!

We will also be in touch regarding our November meeting nearer the time. It would be nice to think that we will have resumed some kind of normality by then, but who knows! Martyn Shults, who is a trained opera singer, is booked to make a return visit to us. Last year he entertained us with songs from the shows, a truly enjoyable and memorable evening - fingers crossed that all will be well!

We have really missed seeing you all, take care and keep well.

Gloria, Sheila and Gill

Letter to the Editors

We write in support of the pertinent observations made by Mrs Linda Webb in June's issue of Elmham News regarding endangerment to the public from the siting of the new traffic 'chicane' on Holt Road.

We have had similar near misses with speeding drivers disregarding the priority to southbound vehicles and also from the other direction whilst negotiating the chicane with speeding oncoming traffic suddenly appearing from around the bend.

As a veterinary surgeon, my professional opinion and practical experience towing a trailer containing livestock through this location is that the new traffic chicane has significantly increased the risk of a road traffic accident.

Stationary, heavy towing vehicles have to accelerate slowly from the chicane



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and are unable to swerve suddenly without endangerment to the animals being transported. The significant extra combined length of vehicle and trailer also compounds the risk, as the driver is forced to remain longer on the wrong side of the road approaching a blind bend. All too frequently, southbound oncoming speeding vehicles appear from this blind bend.

Added to this, there is need to avert focus on the road directly ahead whilst using wing mirrors to manoeuvre the trailer around the obstruction.

Both drivers and animals are being placed in an unacceptable and unnecessary risk. As we live in the village, there is no practical alternative route and this problem will be the same for other livestock owners living within the community.

It is shocking news to hear of the recent hit and run at the chicane location. Sadly, now there has been an accident directly as a consequence of this poorly considered installation, should the parish and district councils not urgently review safer traffic calming alternatives?

Dr. and Mrs. M. Spicer

Gardening News

The vegetables, lawns and all plants are reviving due to the welcome rain we received in early June. After what was the driest spring on record, it always surprises me how resilient the plants are and adapt to adverse conditions.

Due to the government restrictions it will come as no surprise to you all that the Annual Gardening Show in August will be cancelled for this year, and for a bit of fun one of our normal listed categories is for misshapen fruit or vegetables. If you have any of these this year please send your

image to Elmham News and they will be included in future additions open to all.

Tips for July

Sow your spring cabbage, turnips & fennel.

Sow last of your peas outside now so that they develop before the frost.

Set flowers that bridge the gap between spring and summer and grow biennials such as forget-me-not, wallflowers, sweet william and foxgloves for flowering next year.

The flower in last month's magazine was from the Ginger family - well done to all who recognised it.

This month's image is of a self seeded stranger in the garden what is it ?



Keep well

Ray



Enchantress

Admiralty Yacht, 1903-1935

Winston Churchill adored navy life aboard the Admiralty Yacht Enchantress, and after taking up office as First Lord of the Admiralty he set out to visit every capital ship and Royal Navy base in the British Isles. He spent eight months of his first twelve in office aboard the yacht.



Revd Sally told me there is often a silver lining to some awful situations. I think I have found one! Every man needs a shed - and I am lucky to have one. I call it my workshop, and I escape to it whenever I have an hour or two spare.



Sixteen years ago, I found a derelict garden seat in Guist built of teak from the dismantled Enchantress. It had been beautifully constructed in 1935 by the ship breakers at Blyth in Northumberland. The little label on the centre back post tells us that. Sometime after the war the then owner painted it white - not a good idea as paint is the one thing guaranteed to rot teak wood. It traps moisture between the paint and the wood and destroys the weakest points of the construction - i.e. the joints.

Well, the Lockdown, a disaster in many ways - seemed an opportunity to 'have a go' at putting things in order. So, I

arranged to fit in some work between my Carer duties while my wife Mary continued to regain her health. I was lucky enough to be apprenticed to a Master Joiner in Norwich in the early 50s, but in truth I have not really exercised my skills to the full for around 55 years. But below are a few photographs of the wonderful seat in various stages of recovery. Of the sixty-three original pieces of teak I have replaced eleven - with Iroko, as Burma Teak is no more available. But they are both woods with a large content of natural grease which keeps the weather at bay. And I rebuilt six of the major mortise and tenon joints which had rotted beyond recovery. I hope somebody will look after it for a further 85 years.

A silver lining, indeed!

John Labouchere



Photos: The label (1.5" x 1.125"), As it came to me, Re-construction, Restored

Holt Road Build-Out

The Parish Council were updated on the impact that the "build-out" is having in its aim to reduce speeding in the approach to the 20mph area covering the Post Office, Doctors Surgery and the School.

Data from the Speed Awareness Monitor (SAM2) had shown a good reduction in average speeds when analysed earlier this year. However, a repeat analysis carried out more recently has shown average

speeds on the increase again. The most recent data shows a significant reduction in traffic volumes which can be attributed to the Covid 19 lockdown effect. It therefore seems reasonable to conclude that the build out does require enough traffic to have the desired impact on slowing vehicles down.

This conclusion is also consistent with some of the more outrageous speeding that is captured during the night when little traffic exists.

The Parish Council is committed to improving road safety in the village, but the current policies of the police and Norfolk Highways prevent us from taking any further measures (eg installing speed cameras) until someone is injured or even killed.

Paul Grainger

North Elmham Parish Council

North Elmham School House and Land Charity

Are you under 25 years of age and were a pupil at North Elmham School? Do you need financial assistance to help you gain further qualifications to enable you to undertake higher education or to develop non-academic skills?

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Then & Now: Elmham Tea Post

My brief is to write about The Stores, Holt Road (now the Tea Post). The big question I have been asked by the Editors "Was The Stores also the Post Office?". My text is made up from family research and documents specifically about my great grandfather Robert Kerrison, and my own memories of The Stores in the 1950's and 60's.

The first evidence I have, comes from the Probate Records of 1890 which record detail of the will of Betsy Richardson, late of Great Ryburgh, being proved by Robert Kerrison of North Elmham as a Grocer Draper and Postmaster there. Betsy Richardson ran the Post Office at Great Ryburgh with her husband – they were the parents of Robert's wife Jane. The 1891 census records Robert living at The Stores with his wife Jane and 5 of their children. Robert Kerrison came to Elmham from Tittleshall where he was a Grocer, Draper and Post Office Agent to the Accidental Assurance Company (1883 White's Norfolk Directory).

In 1905 Kelly's Norfolk Directory features Robert as "Grocer, Draper, Ironmonger, Dealer in Ammunition and Sub Postmaster." At the start of WW1 Robert appealed against the call up of his son Frank. Frank was an Assistant at The Stores. Robert was 74 years of age and he needed help to run the Post Office. Frank was given a temporary exemption until August 1916. A further appeal was disallowed in October 1916. Robert then resigned as the Post Master. But did he? Frank was called up in November 1916 but then recorded as "temporary unfit for three months". In March 1917 he was posted to ASC York and was then demobilised in March 1919. Frank had married Agnes in February 1908 and Agnes is remembered as a very strong

character and an arduous worker. Agnes may well have helped Robert keep the Post Office running until Frank's return from War. Indeed, Agnes kept The Stores running after Frank's unexplained and tragic death in 1922, aged only 44 years.

Robert Kerrison was also an enthusiastic and successful horse breeder. When his wife Jane died in 1923 the Probate Records describe Robert as a dealer in horses. The family effects were recorded as £2,586 2s 2d – not an untidy sum of money at that time!

Frank and Agnes had four children. The third child born on 5th January 1913 was George William Kerrison MBE who took over the family business on returning from World War II in 1946. The Stores, up until 1969 had nearly 7 acres of land behind it (now part of Cathedral Drive). The land was used for various livestock and for growing fruit and vegetables which were sold in the shop. From the late 1950's The Stores also had an off-licence where barrels of sherry and delicious apricot wine would be used to fill the empty bottles brought in by the thirsty village folk! Another early memory of The Stores was an underground cave, access by a stairway, in the garden where goods were kept cool.

The Stores also had a nearby lock up shop which sold ironmongery. Much later, it became a wool shop and then a paper shop. The Stores, including the Ironmongery, was sold by George in 1968 to Beryl and Arthur Woods who moved to Elmham from Liverpool. Arthur died quite suddenly on holiday abroad and the Stores was taken over by Pam and Reg Neve, who already lived in Elmham.

Di Dann

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Kerrisons Stores

The Post Office in the Stores finished when the Rook family, later the Rencrofts took over in the 1920s and continued at the top of Eastgate Street with different Postmasters. The last one being Mr Pledger and after he died, the Post Office came back in 1972 when George sold the business to Arthur and Beryl Woods. Arthur was the Postmaster and Beryl ran the shop, adding a clothes and wool shop just up the road.

Arthur died tragically on holiday abroad and Beryl decided to sell up to Pam and Reg Neve. Reg, retired from Crane Freuhof took on the job as Postmaster and Pam ran the shop.

After Pam and Reg Neve, it was sold to Alan Wise and Gina who will be remembered for their involvement in entertainment in the village and Morris dancing. Rose and her husband, were there for a while subsequently selling to Jeremy Steer, whose son Jed is a professional footballer with Aston Villa, playing as a goalkeeper. He sublet part of the building to Mike Broom as a café for a while before using it as an Estate Agent.

Finally, he sold the business to the Grainger family in 2014. Ben created the Tea Post and improved the Post Office.

During the 1950's my mother worked in George Kerrison's shop. As a child I can remember listening to her when she came home telling us some of the stories she had heard whilst at work.

Now George delivered groceries one afternoon in his van leaving mother and Lily Drew in charge of the shop. In those days many things had to be weighed out, sugar in blue bags, lard had to be wrapped in greaseproof paper, currants also in bags, (can't remember what colour). As Di said in her article about the shop you could take your bottle for wine, I think a refill was 5/-, and also vinegar was

loose, that meant you had to take your own bottle for a refill.

In those days cheese wasn't pre-packed. It came as a very large round muslin wrapped cheese, very heavy to carry. Now if mother or Lily needed some cheese to cut up and they wanted a new cheese from the warehouse out the back of the shop they had a plan because it was too heavy for them to carry. They opened the back door of the shop wide open, manhandled the cheese onto the ground on its side in the warehouse door and if they had got the whole cheese at the correct angle it would roll down the slope and into the open door!

Necessity is the mother of invention!!!

Janet Woodhouse

A Postman in Elmham

This was a newspaper clipping and is now in one of the Kerrison scrapbooks. Who wrote it for the press we have no knowledge.

The death took place early yesterday of Mr H. Hewett, after a lingering illness. The deceased who was 72 years of age, was formerly a postman in connection with the Elmham Post Office.

He commenced postal duties at the age of 19, and had about 42 years of faithful service. His retirement eleven years ago was brought about by a sudden seizure of heart failure in the Post Office at Elmham early one morning and he never regained his normal health. He has since received a deserved pension weekly from the Post Office. Mr Hewett was well known all along the Elmham, Worthing, Billingford, Bawdeswell and Foxley parishes having for a great many years served this route, first by foot and later by horse and cart, until his retirement.

By his death, the parish loses a much-respected inhabitant, one who never, by his quiet reserve, interfered with local

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matters. At his funeral on February 2nd 1912, the staff of Elmham Post Office was represented by ex-RP, Mr W. Warnes, postmen J.H. English, R. Sheldrake, and A.E.Took.

By our reckoning he must have started as a postman in 1859. We love the note about him not interfering in local affairs! There is no note of how many miles he walked or rode each day.

Panto Thoughts

I hope everyone is staying safe and keeping well in these very challenging times that we are encountering at the moment. I think our community is coming together stronger than ever before, which is great to see and be part of.

Due to the current situation and restrictions, I cannot envisage us getting a production up and running for January 2021 (as predicted) in such a short space of time even if we are granted an indoor social gathering in late Autumn. Therefore, unfortunately we will not be going ahead with a production for next year.

For all you lovely people that took part in our Cinderella Panto 2020, I would like to have another social evening before the end of the year, if we are allowed, so we can gather our thoughts for our forthcoming production in 2022. Hopefully we can start rehearsing in April 2021 or thereabouts.

Can I add that if anyone who did not take part/help with our Panto and feel they could offer their services then please let me know? Thank you.

We all had a tremendous amount of fun and laughter throughout the rehearsals and I would welcome any additional help and, of course, not forgetting, the amazing amount of funds everyone raised for our wonderful village.

May I also take this opportunity to thank all my lovely friends in the village who

have either telephoned to chat, had a social distance walk, had a social distance cycle, shared a cuppa, shared a glass of something stronger (hic!). I really appreciate all your love and support. Thank you!

Please watch this space, I will be in touch.

Stay safe everyone.

Theresa Gower, 668589

Summer on the Allotments

Well. What a difference a rain makes! After a good start to the growing season May saw more sun and almost no rain at all. Even though water was poured onto plants via a series of watering cans, they were beginning to look very dry and distressed. But then came the good old British summer with early June bringing a few days of rain. Just in time.

All the vegetables are now in full growing mode and some have started to bear fruit. The ground is also now ready to accept the planting out of the winter veg such as Brussels sprouts, leeks and cabbage etc.

Everything is now growing well. Unfortunately so are the weeds. So there is still work to be done, but the rewards are starting to be felt.

If you are interested in having an allotment you are not too late for this season. Please contact Martin Phillips on 668409.





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Wildlife at the Cathedral Meadows

Red Kites are among the easiest of our raptors to recognise with their long, forked tails. Thirty years ago you'd have been very unlikely to see one in the village – they had long since stopped breeding in England and were only a rare visitor from the Continent. Thanks in part to a successful reintroduction scheme that began in the 1990s there are now numerous breeding kites across much of Norfolk. A resident recently informed me that he'd seen Red Kites locally and three weeks later I saw one flying over the meadows. In the last week or two I've seen them in the village on two more occasions, so it's worth looking out for them at the moment.

Most of the partridges you see locally are the introduced Red-legged Partridge (or 'French' Partridge). I've also seen Grey Partridges at the meadows on a few occasions this spring, including a close encounter with a calling bird at dusk a few evenings ago. These were once our common 'English' partridge but they've declined massively. They are declining elsewhere too—they have just been declared extinct in Switzerland, and the German population has reduced by 90% in 25 years. I hope they manage to hang on in here.

The dry spring hasn't helped the wildflowers this year but where there are flowers there are insects. You can find a great variety of different insects feeding on flowers in the summer, such as the metallic green Swollen-thighed Beetle that is numerous on Goat's-beard and other dandelion-like flowers at the moment.

I've not seen many of the larger dragonflies yet this year but there have been a few colourful damselflies. One of my favourites that can often be found around the meadows is the Banded Demoiselle. Only the turquoise-blue

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males have the dark bands across their wings that give rise to their name, but the green female is just as beautiful.

People tend to think of moths as being nocturnal, and indeed many of them are, but there are lots that can be found in the daytime too. Some of the smaller ones are much easier to find during the day and a few of the larger ones are readily found in the daytime too. I've seen a lot of the spectacular Yellow Shells in the daytime recently.

You can find several different types of ladybird at the meadows, from the tiny yellow 22-spot Ladybird to the larger black and red Harlequin. I've seen more ladybird larvae than usual recently: the larvae of some of the commoner ladybirds are grey with red spots, but the larvae of 24-spot Ladybirds are yellowish (unlike the adult which is red) and covered with amazing spiky tower-like spines. At an earlier stage these spines secrete noxious substances to defend themselves from predators.

Why not come along to the meadows and see what wildlife you can find? Let us know what you see: email [appleton.dave@googlemail.com](mailto:dave@googlemail.com) or phone 668431. You can also follow us on Twitter at @ElmhamMeadows or see our recent tweets on the Parish Council website (www.elmham.org.uk/cathedral-meadows/).

Dave Appleton

Photos: Swollen-thighed Beetle, Banded Demoiselle (female), Banded Demoiselle (male), Yellow Shell moth, 24-spot Ladybird larva

Herring Curing in Mid Norfolk

Trawling through a 1912 scrapbook I found this written by the Rev. Ernest Townsend, our Vicar at St Mary's Church from 1898–1946.

"Few people seem to be aware that a very considerable herring curing trade is carried on in the very heart of rural Norfolk. But at North Elmham, at the tiny village of Worthing, and the larger parish of Foulsham there have long been families conducting this business.

At North Elmham, not far from the railway station, the stranger must notice an outstanding pole or mast, which marks out the dwelling place and curing houses of Mr John Craske, fish curer and scion of a very old Sheringham family.

We soon espied a shed in which were evidences of Mr Craske's vocation and lost no time in making his acquaintance. He is a fine handsome young fellow, as good a specimen of a teetotaller as anyone need wish to see there in mid Norfolk

He receives large supplies of fish all year round from Lowestoft, being in partnership with his father from Dereham and a brother at North Walsham. When the local North Sea yield fails, supplies are obtained from Norway. On an average, Mr Craske of North Elmham, cures and sells not less than 50,000 herrings every year, disposing of them all in his own district."

Now I cannot remember how I thought I knew that a fisherman who lived in the village was a master craftsman at embroidery. Rather a strange hobby for a man anyway and for someone with a physically demanding job, it seemed even more alien! But I forgot about him until the sewing group, who meet here in the village, went to the Time and Tide Museum in Great Yarmouth and there we saw some of his work.

John Craske, born in 1881, was part of a large Sheringham family, all fishermen. In 1905 the Head of the family, Edward Craske, gave up the life of the sea and started the business of a wet fish shop in Norwich Road, Dereham. He went round the local district with a pony and later with a van selling his fish.

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However, in 1911 John Craske was married here in Elmham with a business near the station and on the Census form, he said his job was a fish curer. But I'm not sure when he went back to Dereham to help with the business there.

Certainly he joined up in 1917, living in Dereham, but was invalided out of the army because he had a nervous breakdown in 1918 and went back to Dereham to live. Presumably his wife Laura was there too.

But from then on he was always an invalid. We don't know if he had always scribbled sketches or patterns but supposedly having an active physical life he wouldn't have had time for serious sketching.

Now he began painting when he felt unable to work. He painted any surface which would hold paint was his canvas. He painted on doors, walls, shelves, scraps of paper, cardboard even crockery!

Then when his legs would not hold him up he began sewing. I don't know if his wife, Laura sewed or perhaps someone else in the extended family sewed but he never had any formal training with stitchery.

He spent long periods in bed and that is where he sewed. He used pudding cloths, any scraps of fabric he could lay his hands on and he used all kinds of thread, wool, string or whatever came to hand. He stitched what he knew best, always the sea and fishing and sailing.

Depending on what sort of material he had and how big it was, determined the size of the finished picture. Some of his work was scant, some was small but the largest piece shows the evacuation of Dunkirk, all eleven feet of it except for a small piece of the sky. He died in 1943 without finishing it. He had never been to Dunkirk and he had no first-hand knowledge of that terrible time but he listened to people talking and I expect he also listened to the radio and out of his

head he stitched a wonderful panoramic view of those beaches.

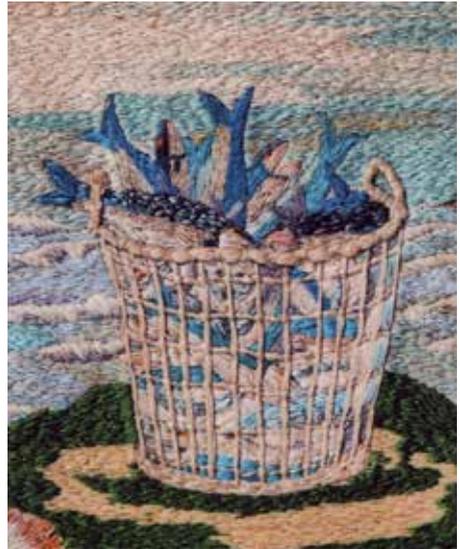
His family conclude that John's poor health in later life was, what we know now as ME/ chronic fatigue syndrome, complicated by diabetes. He died of septicaemia.

His embroidered works are scattered around various museums. His Dunkirk embroidery is at the Castle Museum. His other works are in the MO at Sheringham, Cromer Museum, the Glandford Shell Museum, and many others have found their way to America. Some of his embroideries are at the Britten Pears Foundation in Suffolk which I believe is a large tranche of John Craske's work.

Truly a clever talented man who was never truly appreciated until fairly recently. If this article has sparked your interest, just Google "John Craske- embroideries" to find out more about this amazing man who achieved so much despite his serious ill health.

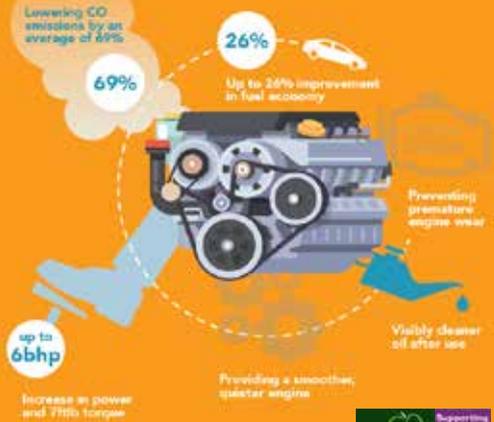
My grateful thanks to Julia and Tony for their help with this article.

Janet Woodhouse



Basket of Fish on a Cliff by John Craske

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Letter to Editors

Just emailing to see if you would be able to publish a bit in Elmham News about Memorial vases being stolen off the graves as it's the second time this has happened to my dad's. Once end of last year and now again as my sister went up to put flowers on today and the vases that we replaced are gone again. My sister has contacted the Church warden and I've contacted Vicar as it's not right that we should have to keep replacing them because someone thinks it is ok to move or take them. It's really upsetting all our family that this keeps happening. We would be very grateful if a piece can be published, many thanks Jane Potter.

Ed's comments: We have also had the report of another parishioner who lost a vase too . You will be pleased to know, that the Churchwarden, Susanna has agreed to replace the vase lost by the Potter family.

Elmham Had a Metal Dump

During the war everyone was encouraged to take old cooking utensils and other metal implements to a communal metal dump. We had a dump just about where the rose garden is now and I have seen in the distant past a photograph of it with metal bedsteads sticking up out of the rest of the discarded metal. This

metal was to go for the war effort and the slogan was 'Help to build a Spitfire'. Here is a poem written by a lady who had obviously had a clear out!

*My saucepans have all been surrendered
The teapot has gone from the hob,
The colander's leaving the cabbage
For a very much different job.*

*So now, when I hear on the wireless
Of Hurricanes showing their mettle,
I see in a vision before me
A Dornier chased by my kettle.*

Made us chuckle!

Did You Know?

The following is a list of online sites where there are interesting things to see .

Royal Mint Exhibition
royalmint.com

The Barbican programme
barbican.org.uk

The Globe Theatre – free shows
shakespearesglobe.com/watch

New York Metropolitan Opera
metopera.org

British Bird Songs, all 257 of them
british-birdsongs.uk

True North by Commoners Choir on
YouTube for all true Yorkshiremen.

If you have discovered anything worth watching, please let us know. Thank you

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St Marys Church

We have welcomed the very good news that our church buildings can once again be open for individual prayer and 'small' funerals, and we long to be able to welcome visitors back to our churches as COVID restrictions are gradually eased. However, we are taking a measured and gradual approach to re-opening and, in fact, very few of the church buildings in the Heart of Norfolk Group 'qualify' for re-opening at this time.

The Government guidance on the safe use of places of worship includes the requirement to operate a 'one-way' flow in and out of the buildings, which means that our single-aisle churches do not qualify. These are: Bawdeswell All Saints; Foxley St Thomas; Twyford St Nicholas; Wood Norton All Saints; and Worthing St Margaret.

Even where buildings have two or three aisles, it is not such a simple issue as opening our Church doors at a stroke. A lot of preparation has to take place to maximise the safety and well-being of all who may enter our churches, and they are complicated buildings, as Archbishop Justin Welby said at the very start of lock-down.

For one thing, we have to pack-away any items that people may touch, such as hymn-books, visitor guides, kneelers, children's toys and all printed material. Cleaning is a major issue, given that

most of our regular cleaning-teams are volunteers who fall into the 'at-risk' groups, and should not be exposing themselves to the risk of contamination.

Other church buildings which must be kept closed for the time being, as building contractors are on-site are: North Elmham St Mary, Foulsham Holy Innocents and Stibbard All Saints. We hope to be able to open these churches when the works are complete.

Bintree St Swithun and Themelthorpe St Andrew are in the care of the Diocese of Norwich Churches Trust, who have advised that these churches should remain closed until further notice.

If you would like information on the rest of the Group (Billingford, Guestwick and Guist), please contact the HON Office on 01362 668850 or at heartofnorfolkchurches@gmail.com

I was reminded, right at the start of lock-down (following a post I had put up on Nextdoor) that the Church is not the buildings, but the people. The buildings are, of course, important to us, but my correspondent was absolutely right. The Church – Ecclesia in Greek – is the gathered people of God. In our Christian context, we are the Body of Christ, wherever, and however, we gather together and even when we pray alone.

The Heart of Norfolk Group continues to meet each Sunday at 10.30am for worship via Zoom. Please do be in touch if you would like to join us!

With my prayers and best wishes,

*Revd Sally
Team Rector*



St Mary's Upkeep

The good news is that the builders are back in the church!

Before the builders could start again the vestry had to be checked for sign of bats, but fortunately none were found so we were able to start work again. Before they left the builders had opened up the boarding in the roof and inspected the rafters. This revealed that, as we had feared, many were very worm-eaten and rotten. Some were repairable, but others, such as the one illustrated here, were not. Currently the main work is to carry out timber repairs before re-laying the lead and repairing the stonework around the windows.

We hope that the work will be completed in August, after which it should be possible to open the church again.

Susanna Wade Martins

More 2 Life Christian Fellowship

This past month has seen the rise of the 'Black Lives Matter' movement, following the tragic and unnecessary death of George Floyd. Then came the 'All Lives Matter' movement, which, if we let it, could diminish the cause of 'Black Lives Matter.'

As Christians, we do believe that all lives matter, regardless of the colour of someone's skin, gender, age, nationality, or other characteristics that are used to divide; and that this truth should not be used to deprecate the cause of another. The Bible teaches that every human being is created in the image of God, Genesis 1:27 says 'God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them'. This gives every single human being infinite worth.

When Jesus died on the cross to take the penalty for our sin, and when He rose again overcoming death, He did so for every single one of us, regardless of human made divides.

For more details, and if you would like us to introduce you to Him, please get in touch.

Pastor Anne-Marie Fewell

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Worthing News

Due to the Covid-19 virus, at the time of going to press we will have completed 3½ months of lockdown which has brought great sadness and sorrow for those we have lost and will remember, also trying to understand and cope with the various guidelines and restrictions, the easing of these is very difficult.

We all hope and pray that this will diminish soon! so we can once again restore our communities.

We have heard from a number of sources that all churches must remain closed until it is safe to gradually reopen them, and so it's reassuring to know that this is starting to happen albeit very carefully but allowing only for individual private prayer to take place. Clearly safeguards need to be in place first to protect us all and for the moment, St Margaret's Church will remain closed, hopefully only temporarily.

As Church Warden for St Margaret's I shall continue to regularly review the current closure arrangements so that when preparations have been made to reopen, I shall let you know.

For the present, Worthing like many churchyards are blossoming with an abundance of wildflowers so please drop by and enjoy this special tranquil space that we cherish.

And as we hear so many times now, We'll Meet Again, and we shall, keep safe and well everyone.

Celia

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Meetings are normally held on the first Wednesday of the month in the Sports Pavilion, commencing at 7:30pm. Parishioners are entitled to attend and are most welcome. Our County and District Councillor is also in attendance whenever possible. If, in between meetings, you wish to raise a specific matter for the attention of the Parish Council - please refer to the contact list above.

And finally...

Have you got something interesting you would like to say or think others might be interested in something you do - why not write to us (preferably by email) and let us know, we are always on the lookout for new contributors.

- just email the Editors, simple.

North Elmham Directory

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Community Website	www.elmham.org.uk	

Dereham Library - 01362 693184

Opening times: Mon Wed Thur; 9:15 - 17:00 - Tue Fri; 9:15 - 19:00 - Sat 9:15 - 16:00
 Mobile Library calls in Elmham every 4 weeks

Anglian Water		0845 7145145
Dereham Leisure Centre		01362 693419
UK Power Networks	Electricity - Emergency	0800 7838838
Samaritans		116123
Citizens Advice Bureau		01362 697776

Clergy - All telephone numbers local code (01362)

Church of England	Reverend Sally Kimmis	heartofnorfolkrector@gmail.com	668850
Roman Catholic	Father Brendan Moffatt	35 London Rd, Dereham	694066
Methodist	Rev Betty Trinder	31 Trinity Close, Dereham	695582
Salvation Army	Major Palmer		696341
Baptist	Anne-Marie Fewell		668707

Church Wardens

Elmham	Susanna Wade-Martins	668435
Worthing	Celia Daniel	668928



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