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MAY 2024

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VIEWS & NEWS**

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EDITORIAL

April is certainly living up to its reputation as we put this magazine together. One minute sunny, then wet, then windy and then hailstones. Still May promises to be an improvement, fingers crossed. There is plenty to do this month with fetes, Dog Show, open gardens, a concert, Race Night and a quiz. A village depends on its societies and events to keep its heart together. People meeting people, children playing, chatting and enjoying other's company. No interaction and it becomes as soulless as a large town, and we chose to live in a small community! So, choose one or more and go off and enjoy yourselves.

The front cover photograph is of our village school which was built on the site of an earlier school founded by Richard Milles (1734 – 1820). It seems certain that his school, built in 1813 was completely demolished and rebuilt in 1873. It had 3 rooms – a school room, a classroom and an infants room, which housed 258 children at that time.

Over many years it was amended and it took until 1958 for the overcrowding to be eased and separate toilets were built thus relieving the “unwholesome smell from the offices” noted by the School Inspector!

The school was totally refurbished and a splendid extension added and the Bishop of Norwich performed the grand reopening in April 1997.

We are delighted to see how well the Countrysiders are doing and they are obviously enjoying themselves as seen in all their photos and can highly recommend them.

Thank you to our regular Station Road donors. We appreciate your donation

NEXT DEADLINE: 14TH MAY

We welcome contributions from everyone in the village. Please share your stories, events, club activities and heartfelt tributes to loved ones with us. Your participation is crucial in making the Elmham News a true reflection of our village. Please email your article to each of the Editors.

VOLUME 47 : ISSUE 4

EDITORS

Caroline Payne

carolinejpayne@hotmail.co.uk
01362 668704

Meg White

megandnigel@gmail.com
01362 668302

Janet Woodhouse

robert.woodhouse2@gmail.com
01362 668525

ADVERTISING

Martin Phillips (Treasurer)

martin.s.phillips@btopenworld.com
01362 668409

MAGAZINE DESIGN

Sarah Felton

sarahfelton@yahoo.com

DISTRIBUTION

Debbie Coull

elmhamdebbie@aol.com
01362 668951

OTHER COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Bob Fletcher

Brian Wheeler (Chair)

01362 668 621

brian.wheeler456@btinternet.com

COMMUNITY WEBSITE

www.elmham.org.uk

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NORTH ELMHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 6TH MARCH, 2024

The following information is taken from the Draft PC minutes and may be expanded where the Editors feel more explanation is necessary. The full official minutes can be viewed in the Post Office and on the Community website, once approved.

Those councillors present: Mrs. J. Borgnis (Chairman), Mr. M. Phillips, Miss A. Ferris, Mr. T. Fitzalan Howard, Mr. B. Gee, Mr. P. Grainger, Mrs. A. Keeble, Mr. J. Labouchere, Mr. N. Markwell, Mr. M. Rayner and Mr. C. Smith.

Also in attendance: Mr. K. Webb (Clerk) and Mr. G. Bambridge (District Councillor).

UPDATED INFORMATION AND MATTERS ARISING

Land Management Matters

Village Green: The cutting of trees had not yet commenced because of the recent poor weather. The safe route to school has been flooded and is currently in a wet and muddy condition. Mr. Grainger is to liaise with Highways regarding this situation.

Cathedral Ruins: The tree that fell has been chopped, with the wood and brash piled up. Mrs. Keeble has asked for information as to what is to happen with this.

Cathedral Meadows: Hedges down the lane have been cut with others to be done. The map that had been wrenched off its base is relatively undamaged but the supporting bracket has been twisted. Mr. Fitzalan Howard is to obtain a quotation for the required work from Ruth Murray and Signs Express.

Millennium Wood and Jubilee Wood: Ben Darby has provided a quotation for £380 + VAT to repair the fence around the pit. All in favour of accepting it.

Church Meadow: A letter has been received from the Vice Chair of North Elmham Parochial Church Council requesting an easement for the drainage pipe from Church Meadow to Jubilee Wood. All in favour.

Allotments

An offer was made to purchase a mirror, which is not currently being used, from Fulmodeston and Barney Parish Council. To date, there has not been a response. The Clerk will chase.

Street Lights

Mr. Markwell reported that T.T. Jones have fitted the interim light at the Eastgate Centre. No progress has yet been made with the light at 28 Eastgate Street.

Highway Matters

Mr. Grainger said that an increasing number of reports have been received regarding potholes in the village. One in Station Road has been fixed but is already beginning to show signs of failure. It has been confirmed that potholes in the telephone kiosk area near to Elmham Hall Farm are the responsibility of Highways. There is a large pothole near the station in the middle of the road. There is also one in Eastgate Street. Mr. Gee is to take a picture of this and will forward to Mr. Grainger.

A parishioner has asked for some cutting back to be carried out at the Great Heath Road exit on to Pump Street. An inspection has been carried out and it is felt that this would not have much effect although some minor trimming back of branches could help a little.

It was suggested that the bus shelter should be cleared and refurbished. It was agreed to form a working party to address this when the weather improves. Mr. Phillips asked if the district sweeper could visit to clear leaves, mud and general debris off the roads



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Pavilion and Playing Field

The Football Club has asked for the field to be cut although it is currently too wet for this to happen. The Clerk will contact Nurture to request the first cut of the year to be done later this month.

The Clerk had engaged in discussions with Biffa with a view to renegotiating the current waste services contract for which the Parish Council pays £135.32 per month. This runs until 31st August, 2024 at which time a notice period of three months has to be given to exit the agreement. Lee Hart, Business Improvement Manager, has offered to reduce the monthly charge to £65.16. After appropriate consideration, this has been rejected. A further period of negotiation has followed, resulting in a lower monthly payment of £51.02 being agreed. This will produce an annual saving of £1,011.60.

The Chairman of the Tennis Club had advised the intention to hold a 24 hour Tennisathon event from 12 noon to 12 noon covering the 15th and 16th July. The aim is to raise money for Brisley Church and local tennis initiatives. All members were agreeable to the event proceeding.

Brookside Development Update

Mr. Phillips had attended a meeting with the developers. The new gate has not yet had wire attached at the bottom to prevent dogs going underneath. There are concerns over drainage issues and another meeting is to be arranged to discuss this matter.

Overview of Parish Council Financial Situation

Notification had been received from The Cambridge Building Society of the addition of £197.04 to the Parish Council account which is interest earned for the month of December, 2023.

Defibrillators

New pads have been received.

Archive Group Records

Two quotations are still awaited and will be chased.

CGM Group and Grounds Maintenance for 2024

The contract with CGM (Nurture) has been agreed and a copy, to be signed by both parties, is to be chased. Notice of dates of cutting is to be requested from the contractors to assist the Football Club with marking out the white lines.

North Elmham Living Sustainably (NELS) Group

An open drop-in meeting had been held. A suggestion has been made that the open space near the pond at the bottom of Boars Hill could be utilised at some stage in the future.

S106 Monies (£15.1K) Received from Breckland Council

A quotation had been received from Daren Brown to provide a base for an outdoor table tennis table between Spencer's Close and the Play Area. Acceptance was proposed by Mr. Fitzalan Howard and seconded by Mr. Smith. All in favour. A quotation from NGF Play Ltd to carry out essential work to the Play Area was also discussed. The amount involved is £4,916.90 + VAT and, in addition, the replacement of a nest seat costing £664.17. Mr. Fitzalan Howard wondered whether we could, as a loyal customer, obtain a discount. Mr. Rayner suggested installing an additional area of new matting (exact dimensions to be considered). Miss Ferris proposed that the above action be commenced, subject to requesting some form of discount together with an extra area of matting. This was seconded by Mr. Rayner. All in favour.

CCTV Policy

A policy for the Eastgate Centre Trustees has been completed and duly approved.



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Reorganisation of the Parish Charities

Mr. Phillips said that there are currently six charities and he strongly felt that some streamlining was needed. The suggestion is to merge the North Elmham United Charity with the Church and Townlands Charity. A decision will need to be made on a name for the merged charity. The Annie Mary Smith Charity is to remain as it is. The Diamond Jubilee Green Support Trust Charity has been dormant for three years and perhaps should be closed. The funds would be transferred to the main Parish Council account to be used to assist with projects to improve the village green. This policy was proposed, in principle, by Mrs. Keeble and seconded by Mr. Fitzalan Howard. All in favour but time is to be given for further contemplation with a view to finally confirming the courses of action at the next meeting.

Maintenance of Churchyards

An email had been received from Mrs. Catherine Newey, treasurer of St. Mary's Church, North Elmham. The Parish Council has previously made annual contributions of £1,000 for the maintenance of the churchyards. There are additional costs this year as the parishioner who cut the old churchyard for some years on a voluntary basis is no longer able to do so.

The quoted price for this year between May and September (11 cuts on a fortnightly basis) is just under £3K (£2,750, represented by 11x £75 for the old churchyard and 11x £175 for the new churchyard). A request has been made for the Parish Council to provide increased funding of £3K. It is understood that mention was also previously made of the possibility of assisting financially with the church larder.

The matter was discussed at length with a variety of views expressed. Last year it was agreed that the Parish Council was unable to commit funds to the church larder.

This decision has been reiterated for the current year. Mr. Rayner mentioned that the Bishop of Norwich had recently urged that churchyards should be rewilded to increase biodiversity. He wondered if consideration had been given to developing a "land action plan" as recommended by the Bishop. Mr. Grainger proposed that the Parish Council should provide a grant of £1.5K but for it to be reviewed next year in conjunction with a request for wildlife and ecological options to be considered. This was seconded by Mr. Smith. Seven members were in favour of the proposal, with one member against and three members abstaining.

Report from District and/or County Councillors

Mr. Bambridge stated that flooding and drainage have been major problems. The plans for a new so-called railway village appear to have fallen at the initial stage. It will be possible, however, for those involved to submit a planning application should they wish. The development of Swanton Morley Barracks is still a possibility when the base is no longer needed which could be around 2030. There is room for between 1,000 and 2,000 houses on the site. Appropriate infrastructure would be needed.

The draft Breckland Local Plan is to be published between 6th and 8th April. It will then be subject to another round of consultation, which will include the proposed sites for housing, before being sent to the Inspector for approval. It should be in place by the end of the year. The nutrient neutrality issue is likely to have some proposals put in place in the not too distant future. Breckland is having a boundary review. The village's roads can be swept a few times each year. This should be arranged with District Councillors, preferably to coincide with special events. Mr. Bambridge is to be informed when a sweep of the roads is

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needed. The other person to contact at Breckland Council is Sarah Simpson. The Clerk mentioned the rave lasting three days which took place at Sennowe Park last year. There had been a number of complaints and full details would be forwarded to Mr. Bambridge.

Planning Applications and Determinations

Applications

i) 3PL/2024/0138/LB and 3PL/2024/0137/F – Nelson House, High Street – Mr. and Mrs. Earle – conversion of outbuilding to create annex accommodation with occasional holiday let use (no objections).

ii) TRE/2024/0050/TCA – Lyndale, 78 Holt Road – crown reduction of walnut tree.

Correspondence

Email from parishioner regarding an “eyesore along Eastgate Street” (Mr. Rayner is to draft a reply).

APRIL PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

There are no Parish Council minutes for the April meeting in this edition as they had not been received in time.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Wednesday 1st May at 7.30 pm in the Pavilion. Parishioners are always encouraged to attend.

FAKENHAM & DISTRICT FLOWER CLUB

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CONTACT

Janet Woodhouse, 01362 668525
Angie Campbell Redwood, art4allnorfolk@yahoo.com
Tony Langford, 01362 668854
Martin Phillips, 01362 668409
Mark Ballman, 01362 668935
north_elmham_cs@norfolkyfc.co.uk
Chris Reeve, 07468 569699
Meg White, 01362 668302
Roger Thornley, 01362 668804
Geraldine Leeder, northelmhamtennis@gmail.com
Naomi Brien, 07442 709136
Ray Norman, 01362 667226
Marian Morgan, 01362 696221
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Fliss von Christian, 07787 161446
Eileen Church, 01362 668330
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David Fairbairn-Day, 07398 758421(10-5)
Neil Page, 01362 668296
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Jo Fitzalan Howard, 01362 668232
Tony Langford, 01362 668854
Paul Carr, carrpaulus@aol.com
Jenny Cunningham, 01362 668224
Sue Gale, publicity@wvbs.gmail.com
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GARDENING CLUB

This month we found ourselves in the Eastgate Centre for a change, since the Memorial Hall was hosting the annual visit from the Walsingham Pilgrims, it being Maundy Thursday.

We welcomed Richard Ravencroft to talk to us about trees, pruning and something about diseases.

Richard is the son of Brenda Ravencroft, a well known and expert florist who lived on Station Road. It seemed inevitable that Richard developed a love of horticulture and then trained as a tree surgeon, finally developing his own business at Foulsham. He and his team have worked all over the UK.

He showed us many slides of trees that have been pruned incorrectly causing the tree to become unsightly and in some cases to die. He urged us to use an expert to prune our trees.

The health of trees is changing today. In WWI, ammunition boxes filled with munitions were sent to the UK made from hardwood grown in the US. The boxes were made into sheds, shelves etc. In WWII, again the boxes were sent here from the US and again they were made into furniture etc. Now a virus has developed from them and is causing problems in our trees.

He explained about airborne, water borne and fungal diseases and the restrictions in the import of trees and how we have to be aware as it can change our landscape.

Finally, he offered us 30 different samples from trees to be identified. Joanne identified the most and received a £20 Gift Token for her skill.

Richard waived a fee but asked that a donation be given to the PSP Association in memory of his mother which we were delighted to do.

Heather, Liz and Meg produced Easter Fare with a delicious Simnel Cake, chocolate Easter Buns and Easter biscuits.

In May we were back in the Memorial Hall with Allen Archer talking about the Norfolk Wildlife Trust on Thursday 25th April and then on Thursday 23rd May, Kathy Gray will talk on the Diversity of the British Garden. Visitors are always welcome.

WALRUS IVORY PLAQUE, 10TH-11TH CENTURY

By coincidence, I had also seen this splendid artefact (See Matthew Synges's photograph, Elmham News, February, p.43) in the Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology when I had a day in Cambridge last August, where it is on permanent display.

It measures 10cm by 6.5cm and is thought to be from a book cover or perhaps a portable altar. It shows 'The Last Judgement' and the inscription above Christ reads 'all of you see my hands and feet', which is from the Bible, Luke 24, verse 39. Two angels hold the cross on the bottom part, possibly watched by eight figures, unless that is just geometric ornament. So here is a reminder of the Crucifixion, Resurrection, and the Last judgement for the viewer. There are mounting holes at the top and bottom. It was acquired by S. E. Kerrich in 1847, and I am still trying to discover more about that person.

It was accessed into Cambridge Museum's collections in 1883. Norwich Castle Museum did not open until 1894. The provenance is not absolutely certain, but it has been linked to the site of the Cathedral in Elmham, the church of which was dedicated to the Virgin Mary and St. Peter. This was established here in the mid 10th century.

It can be viewed on-line, and further details found in the Norfolk Historic Environment Record, No. 2905. It has been described in a few publications, including 'Ivory Carvings in Early Medieval England' (1973) by John Beckwith (Cat 8).

Robert Rickett





NORTH ELMHAM COUNTRYSIDERS

We hope you all had a lovely Easter. In April we have enjoyed Easter Fun Night. Decorate an Easter Egg Competition 'Farm Theme'. The Countrysiders brought in their creations and Matt from our senior club kindly came in and judged the entries. 1st place was an amazing pheasant, 2nd place was sheep in a field and 3rd place was a box of cows.

The Countrysiders took part in various challenges including, cup stacking, picture quiz, egg throwing and easter popper catching as teams. They also pinned the tail on the bunny. We finished the evening with a Don't let your balloon egg get burst. Each person had to keep their balloon up to avoid it being burst by another Countrysider.

A lot of fun was had by all, and everyone got chocolate treats including parents at pickup.

During the Easter holidays Two of our club took part in a Dairy Calf Handling course

along with four other Countrysiders from other clubs. Archie and Iona-May spent the Day at a Dairy farm, learning all about The Dairy Herd, watching milking and having the opportunity to get hands on with the care of the calves. They also learnt how to handle the calves and show them. Although it was a bit of a damp day, everyone enjoyed the experience. On the 20th April they are back on the farm to take part in a Calf Handling competition. The results will be given on the evening of 27th at Easton College.

We have some amazing meetings for the summer term coming up. If you think you know a child who would like to come along and see what we get up to, please email north_elmham_cs@norfolkyfc.co.uk. or find us on Facebook.

Wendy



Elmham News

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We love to include all of the charity event adverts in the magazine but would you please consider making a donation from the proceeds towards the Elmham News. That way we will be about to continue to help promote village events.

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COUNTY SCHOOL WATTS NAVAL TRAINING SCHOOL

Continuing the account written by John Lucken who had grown up there.

The school was formally The County School built for that purpose in 1873 with the Foundation Stone being laid by the then Prince of Wales. The school was taken over in 1903 by Sir Shalford Watts and converted to a school for 300 boys and presented to Dr Barnardo for conversion to a Naval School.

The estate of 58 acres consisting of playing fields and produce gardens was ideally suited for the training of boys destined for the Royal Navy, the Royal Marines and the Army. The school was self-contained having its own generating station supplying electricity, its own bakery and farm and its own hospital which could accommodate up to 16 boys. Down by the River Wensum was an open-air swimming pool and not far off were the gardens where all the vegetables were grown.

The boys had very physical days at Watts where there was a large Playing Field for the usual sports and plenty of space around the actual school building itself for hauling the gun crews, and climbing the Mast, which was 125ft high and was climbed by all new entrants as part of their initial induction.

The swimming pool the school used was at the foot of the hill on the East Front and was water fed from the River Wensum, which flowed through Norwich on its way to the sea. There were filter units for the water to flow through, though boys from other establishments were not very happy about swimming at Watts and thought the facilities quite crude!

All the boys were required to learn to swim. Swimming went on early in the spring to late autumn and all the boys were required to emulate the possibility of a ship sinking beneath them and for this they were dressed

in a canvas suit and then from the top diving board, at the blow of a whistle, jump about 20 feet into the pool. After this, still dressed in the canvas suit, they had to dive to the bottom of the pool and pick up a heavy brick which was wrapped in canvas and swim with it to the shallow end of the pool.

Watts, together with other Barnardo's homes gave a show at the Albert Hall each year which was always well attended. The demonstration with a half-size gun and limber showed how fast a good team could take the gun to pieces and reassemble it on the other side of an obstacle together with its ammunition (Limber... the detachable front part of a gun carriage, consisting of two wheels, axle, pole, and ammunition box).

Christmas Day was always celebrated with Christmas dinner at 12.00 noon. The Christmas puddings were paraded from the galley to the dining hall by a small group consisting of part of the school band playing appropriate tunes.

After the meal the school would take part in the Sunday routine of a five mile march around the roads in the vicinity of the school, accompanied by the school band playing suitable music. The route was often close to the village of North Elmham. Sometimes, the villagers would line the road and cheer as we passed. Many of the staff of Watts were local people living in North Elmham and in the village of Bintry on the other side of the road.

As well as all the Naval things the boys had to learn, they also had lessons in basic subjects which we had to learn at our local school. The author of this book makes no mention of how much time was spent on these lessons.

It is interesting that boys sent to the Navy at this time would have no written contract but they would be signed on for service for 12 years, which only started when they were eighteen years old and the only time they could leave would be when they were thirty years old.

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John Lucken went on to say in 1945, he was an acting Petty Officer about to go to the Pacific theatre of war. The war had ended in Europe but since he was a regular, there was any amount of 'clearing up' to do in the Pacific region and he didn't return home until 1948.

He left the service at the age of thirty, with a civilian suit, a trilby hat and £100.

Janet Woodhouse

KNIT AND NATTER

Busy, busy times, working towards two village fetes. When these are over, we will, no doubt, get back to knitting all our usual items for charities, hospitals, care homes etc., but, for now, it's toys and other prizes to be won at our popular fete games, plus a few items for sale. Every penny we take is given to charities, so come and enjoy what's on offer this year.

Our special thanks, this time, goes to Anita at Guist who makes the most beautiful dolls, teddies etc. for our raffles and special prizes.

This month we had an amount of tapestry articles and silks donated, which we would like to pass on to anyone who is interested in this hobby. We never say "no" to any donated gifts, but there are some things our group just can't use, so they go elsewhere. Nothing is wasted.

I hope to see you all at the Annual Garden Fete on Sunday 19th May at Elmham House.

Next meeting on 7th May 2-00 til 4-00pm in the pavilion.

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MEMORIES OF AUSTRALIA

Have you had an interesting life? Have you seen the World?

One of our residents, Bob Gilbert, has done just that. Here is his story.

I was born in the New Forest, one of four children, three boys and one girl.

At the age of 17 I went into the Army, Royal Engineers & Mechanical Engines (REME) for three years coming out as a 1st Class REME Fitter and with the rank of Corporal. During that time, I met Helga, the love of my life with 61 years together. We were married in England and we had two children, one of each.

Helga and I wanted to buy a house but realised we would need to have a mortgage. I tried to get one but obviously my salary wasn't enough to live on and pay off the mortgage.

One day when I returned from work as a Drag Line Operator, Helga said 'Let's go to Australia'. So, we caught the train to London and went to Australia House to apply, and as Helga being a secretary was able to speak German, English and French and I had a Rigger Certificate, they jumped at us both!!

A few weeks later we were on a plane to Australia and landed in New South Wales, then we were taken to a hostel. We were put in a small hut with two kids, £400 in the bank and told to get on with life!

Helga got a job the next day, I was not so lucky. I applied for the Police Force but was told they only had Bush Police who wore plain clothes and always worked in two's. The closest office would be in the nearest state. I had to sit an examination which I passed.

I worked with my side officer Dave – well, we had a lot of luck catching the ones

we were meant to arrest! The salary was very good, the only drawback was the fact we were working every day with no holidays at all, it was all work. I worked five years with Dave who broke his arm and went straight back to work! Dave was also English, and we both returned to England at the same time. We didn't wear a uniform, we had to blend in with the territory and we always carried a sidearm.

When I joined the Police Force, Helga and I wanted to buy a piece of land in the Blue Mountains for £7,000 and build a house but we were turned down at first. My boss said he would be my guarantor in case I defaulted. Thankfully I didn't! so we were very lucky and had a house built there.

We sold the property when we came back to England and thanked God for a well paid job in Australia which enabled us to buy a house here.

I am lucky to have been able to travel the world. I have been to all parts of the British Isles with Helga and many places in Australia including Perth and Sydney as well as Ayres Rock which is a sacred place, and you are forbidden to set foot on it. Helga and I visited the USA, Fiji, and many of the European countries which she loved.

I would do it all again if I had Helga, but sadly she is no longer here with me. However, I have many kind friends living here, always ready to stop for a chat or muddle as Norfolk folk say.

Ed's note: It must be extremely hard to give up a home here and family and friends to emigrate to a country the other side of the world. You must feel very homesick at times and long to hear an English accent.



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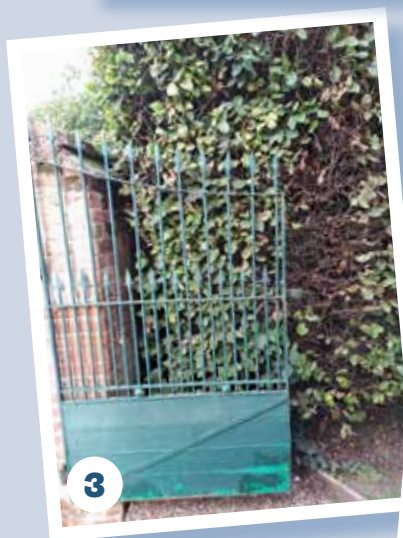


WHERE IN ELMHAM?

Following on from last month here are some more places around the village for you to look out for.

How did you do last month the answers were:

1. Gates at 45 Holt Road
2. Long wall at 45 Holt Road
3. Windfall House, Holt Road
4. Opposite The Tea Post
5. Bike Rack, The Tea Post Car Park.



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BRISLEY AND NORTH ELMHAM CC

This article is well-timed for the start of the cricket season with the opening Saturday League games taking place on Saturday May 4, First team at home to Castle Rising and Second team away at Aylsham St Giles. This season sees the introduction of the second team and we would welcome any new players to strengthen the squads. Please contact second team captain Phil Bend on 07999 569120 or come along to training at Brisley on Wednesday evenings 6pm. The ladies team starts their fixtures with a friendly on May 10 against Bradenham and again all new recruits welcome. Ladies training is at Brisley on Thursday evenings 6pm from May 2. Anyone potential new players can contact Catherine Newey 07379 651399. Nets have been well-attended and hopefully players will benefit when the real thing starts.

Of course, the weather has proved a major challenge for Dave Pearson and his Groundforce team and the Club is extremely grateful for their efforts in doing everything possible to prepare the ground for the due start date. At the time of writing the ground is looking in great condition and we are all looking forward to a great summer of cricket. Below are the May home fixtures and we would

welcome spectators to each and all of these matches. Friday evening games in particular have traditionally been a wonderful social occasion with food and refreshments available and there can be few better ways to spend a convivial summer evening than at the beautiful Brisley setting.

We are also grateful to Henry Collinge for loaning his sheep over the early spring to keep the grass down, to Payne Crop Rotation for providing essential fertiliser for the outfield and square and to all members who turned up for the Club Day in mid-April to assist in final preparations for the season. Dave too would welcome any volunteers to add to his Groundforce team so if you can spare a couple of hours a week to help mow and cut please contact him on 07816 139926. Full training provided.

We are as ever grateful to our sponsors new and old and watch this space for fresh developments in this area. Club funds were also significantly boosted by a Quiz and Chips evening in March organised by Dave Pearson, the Fordham family and volunteers from the Brisley Village Hall. We also congratulate Billy Fordham on achieving the ECB Core Coach Award proving that you can indeed both do and teach.

MAY FIXTURES			
Date	Team	Category	Opposition
May 4th	Saturday 1sts	League	Castle Rising
Fri May 10th	Ladies	Friendly	Bradenham
May 11th	Saturday 2nds	League	Lowestoft 4
May 18th	Saturday 1sts	League	Thornham
Fri May 24th	Ladies	League	Downham Stow
May 25th	Saturday 1sts	League	Beeston

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LETTER TO THE EDITORS

I would like to ask if it possible to publish in the News details of Elmham Surgery and Pharmacy planned disruptions to normal operating times and dates. Training days or building work would be examples of these.

My reason for requesting this is that recently I needed to visit the Pharmacy but found that I had chosen to call on the first day of a three-day closure. Others also arrived at the same time, unaware of the closure despite a Notification being displayed. However, if, like me, your prescription collection is every 4-5 weeks it is all too easy to miss the notice or if seen, to forget the dates shown.

I understand that there may be difficulties in obtaining this information in time for printing in the relevant copy of the News. However, as every household in the village receives a News copy, this would be a positive help for the information to be readily available to all.

Thank you for considering this request.

Regards,

David Leech

Ed's Notes: Thanks David we do endeavour to include as much useful information as possible for our readers, unfortunately we can only print what we are given and we didn't know about the Pharmacy Closure either!

WIVES PLUS ALL

At the April monthly meeting of Wives Plus All, members were given a very interesting talk by Kathy Dentten which may have 'played' with one's imagination prior to her visit as her subject was "What you can do with a nun's dress."

Kathy's career prior to her retirement was in Costumes for the Stage with the

London Fashion House Lachasse. A previous stage production had a cast of nuns in their habit costumes and these habits were reused again and again for different stage shows. Kathy brought along a tailor's dummy and initially dressed it with a nun's dress, a string cord round it's waist, a large cross round it's neck and a nun's headdress to create the character of a nun. Then during her talk, she demonstrated and created several different characters on the basic nun's habit for example a vicar, choir boy, angel, a medieval person, a bishop, and soldier by the use and the addition of different coloured tabards, coloured materials, hats, headdresses, and personal stage props items. A very enjoyable entertaining evening was had, and thanks go to Kathy for a very interesting subject using her imagination and creativity.

Wives Plus All's next meeting will be on:-

THURSDAY 9th MAY 2024 at 7.30 pm, in NORTH ELMHAM MEMORIAL INSTITUTE VILLAGE HALL when there will be a talk with video by members of the TEAM OF EAST COAST TRUCKERS.

There will also be a Wives Plus All Raffle and refreshments. Please come along.

Ann Ferris

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

The meeting was held on the 28th March at The Kings Head at 8.00 pm. After the exhortation, the minutes of the last meeting were signed off. Details of the Garden Fete were gone through and discussed.

Our meeting in April will have been on 25th April to make final arrangements for the Fete. The May meeting will be on 30th May, 8.00 pm at The Kings Head.

Mike Aston, Branch Sec

SPRING QUIZ

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7.00pm for 7.30pm

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In aid of North Elmham Memorial Hall



AN URGENT PLEA

Do you have a copy of a slim book called 'North Elmham's Memorial of the World Wars'. It was published in 2014 and researched by Janet Woodhouse. The book was sponsored by the Parish Council.

Janet has also researched the story of the two man crew fatal Mosquito crash not too far from the Police House along Back

Lane and had it published about the same time as the book above.

If you have copies of either of these books and no longer want them please contact Janet on 01362 668 525 who will be delighted to buy them from you.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Wed 1st	Parish Council Meeting & Annual Meeting of the Parish Council	Pavilion	7.30 pm
Thu 2nd	Norfolk Police & Crime Commissioner Election	Pavilion	7.00 am–10.00 pm
Mon 6th	Cream Teas	Worthing Church	2.00–4.00 pm
Tue 7th	Knit and Natter	Pavilion	2.00 pm
Wed 8th	Tea at Two	Memorial Hall	2.00 pm
Thu 9th	Wives Plus All	Memorial Hall	7.30 pm
Sat 11th	Madhouse Tea Party Sonrisa Workshop Spring Quiz King's Head Bowls Club Race Night	Eastgate Centre St Mary's Church Memorial Hall King's Head	11.00 am–1.00 pm 2.00–4.30 pm 7.00 for 7.30 pm 7.00 for 7.30 pm
Sun 12th	Open Gardens for St Johns Ambulance	Elmham House and Silverstone Farm	12.00–5.00 pm
Mon 13th	Countrysiders	Memorial Hall	
Sun 19th	Annual Garden Fete	Elmham House	12.00–4.30 pm
Wed 22nd	Mobile Library	The Heath to Orchard Close	2.30–5.20 pm
Thu 23rd	Gardening Club	Memorial Hall	7.30 pm
Thu 30th	Royal British Legion	King's Head	8.00 pm

DON'T FORGET

Wednesdays	Norwich Bus	Bus Shelter (Pavillion)	9.37 am
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ADVANCE WARNING

15/16th June	Tennisathon	Tennis Courts	
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MONTHLY THEME NIGHTS
JUNE IS....

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THURSDAY 6TH JUNE

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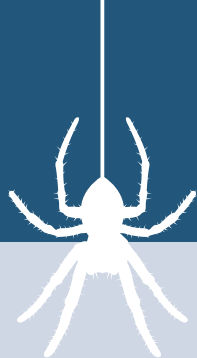
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ELMHAM WILDLIFE



I wonder if you are participating in “No Mow May” this year? According to the charity Plantlife we have lost an incredible 97% of our flower-rich meadows since 1930, and with them vital food needed by our pollinating insects like bees and butterflies. 97%! Just 3% remaining – no wonder we are living through such a dramatic collapse in our insect and bird populations.

Plantlife recognise that our lawns can, if managed right, begin to make up for some of that loss, and that’s why they promote No Mow May, the idea being that people like you and I leave our lawns uncut during the month of May. Better still, maintain 2-3 different lengths of grass throughout the whole year, not cutting some of it at all, cutting some of it 2-3 times but outside the period April to August and cutting the rest once a month or so.

One group of very important insects that will benefit if you do this is the bees, and that’s what I’m going to focus on this month. Benefiting bees isn’t purely altruistic: we need bees. Along with many other insects they are great pollinators, without which we would not be able to grow many of our crops (including most that our livestock feed on). They do a lot of other good for us too – without them our whole ecosystem would collapse.

Someone asked me this week if we should have more bee hives to help the bees, as they knew that bees are important. But bee hives only support one species of bee, the Honey Bee (photo 1) – and that’s a domesticated species that’s probably not even native to the UK. Many of the initiatives that help Honey Bees also help other wild bees, but Honey Bees can also out-compete our native bees which are the ones that really need our help. It’s important to understand this, as Marks & Spencer discovered when they faced a





huge backlash from conservationists over their plans to release 30 million Honey Bees as part of their Farming with Nature programme. As one expert put it, "It's a big like the RSPB launching a campaign to save birds by encouraging farmers to keep more chickens."

Some people aren't fans of bees because they're afraid of their stings. Well if that's you then that's another reason to favour the wild bees over Honey Bees. Honey Bee is the only species of bee that commonly stings people. That's not to say that other bees can't or won't ever sting people – some of them do if they are threatened – but they're generally much less aggressive and so less likely to sting. Did you know it's only female bees that sting? Male bees don't even have the apparatus needed to sting.

Next to the Honey Bee, probably the best-known bees are the bumblebees. There are seven very common species of bumblebee, including Tree Bumblebee



(photo 2) which only colonised Norfolk 15 years ago and is already one of our commoner bumblebees. Perhaps our commonest bumblebee is the Buff-tailed Bumblebee (photo 3).

As well as the normal bumblebees there are also cuckoo bumblebees, or just cuckoo bees. Rather like the bird Cuckoo, females enter nests of other bumblebees, lay their own eggs in the nest and control the worker bees to continue collecting pollen and nectar to feed the cuckoo bee's offspring.

Most bees aren't as gregarious as Honey Bees, though bumblebees are also fairly sociable, nesting in smaller colonies. Most other bees, known as solitary bees, do not nest communally. An example is the Red Mason Bee (photo 4) which nests in holes or cavities such as in bee hotels (great idea by the way, but clean them out each year or you risk spreading diseases) or cracks in old masonry.

I most often see Hairy-footed Flower Bees in spring when they seem to love Comfrey flowers. The females are usually black (photo 5) but males are buff coloured (looking a little like small Common Carder Bees – a very common species of bumblebee). You need a really close look at the males' feet to see the long hairs that give them their name, or to see their distinctively yellow bearded face (photo 6).

A very unusual-looking bee which used to be common but isn't any more is the Wool Carder Bee. I've only ever seen one here in North Elmham. Note the bold yellow spots on its body and stripes on its legs (photo 7).



The black-and-red blood bees look quite unlike most other bees but there are several species that are extremely difficult to tell apart from one another. One of the few that I've managed to identify is the Bare-saddled Blood Bee (photo 8).



Nomad bees are another group of bees that differ in appearance from other bees – they look almost wasp-like – but again they can be hard to identify to species. A bit like cuckoo bees with bumble bees, nomad bees attack some of the smaller bee species like the mining bees (of which there are lots of different species which I don't have space to cover today). The nomad bee I see most often in North Elmham is the Flavous Nomad Bee (photo 9), a species that parasitises a type of bee called Chocolate Mining Bee.



When people ask me what the difference is between moths and butterflies, I often say that there is no consistent difference – butterflies just have better PR. It's a bit like that with bees and wasps – few people like wasps (though there are plenty of good reasons to do so) but most people are ok with bees. Bees are in fact just a subset of a group of insects that are mostly called wasps. Bees do much good for the environment and for us, but there is very little that they do that isn't also done by at least some of the many different species of wasp. So love bees, but love wasps even more! I must write about wasps another month...



If you participate in No Mow May let me know what wildlife you see in your garden, or if you have anything else interesting to share please do drop me an email me at appleton.dave@googlemail.com, or phone me on 668431 or message me via X at @ElmhamMeadows.

Dave Appleton



X @ElmhamMeadows

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12pm until 4:30pm

Elmham Garden Fete

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WVBS

It won't come as any surprise to learn that the exceptionally wet weather has curtailed some of the activities of WVBS. Our year got off to a good start with our annual bird count on the first Sunday of the year, although I do remember driving through the river at Lyng and some pretty large puddles elsewhere! This event is great fun, as teams of up to four find as many bird species as they can before repairing to Great Withingham Village Hall for tea and cakes and to tell everyone how you got on. Besides being enjoyable this event provides valuable information about the birds of the valley for our recorder. At the end of January, the visit to RSPB Strumpshaw Fen and Buckenham Marshes took place as planned, but much of Strumpshaw was closed because of flooding. Highlights of the day included sightings of Cranes flying over and calling; a Barn Owl catching a vole, which it ate while perched in a tree across from us; a Great White Egret; a hunting Short-eared Owl and fields full of vocal Wigeon under a sky full of Lapwings.

Our intended February visit to Sculthorpe Moor had to be cancelled because the reserve was closed because it was so severely affected by flooding. This event will be rearranged. Our March outdoor event was a visit to the Brecks area. The very wet conditions along the riverbank at Santon Downham had restricted access for some time and it still seemed a risky walk for a large group, so this year we started at Lynford Arboretum. Over 20 of us gathered at 9.00am and took it in turns to view the Hawfinches feeding on the ground in the so-called tunnel. Also seen there, in what has been a very productive viewing area this year, were Brambling (a first ever for one member) Yellowhammers and plenty of other finches and tits. A few members spotted a Firecrest while queueing for the loo!

A walk down to the lake produced the hoped for Marsh Tits, and good sightings of a raptor which may have been a Goshawk or maybe a Sparrowhawk. Birdwatching isn't an exact science and we are still uncertain which one it was! Later we called at NWT Weeting Heath where Stone Curlews had arrived and were seen from the hide, and which made an excellent picnic spot for lunch. In the afternoon we headed for Mayday Farm, a new venue for many, where a pleasant walk along Thetford Forest tracks led us to excellent views of Crossbills, with Siskins and Redpolls.

Our indoor meetings for the year have included entertaining musings from Mark Avery in January, the very amiable Gordon Hamlett in February talking about his guide to birding in Scotland, and Dominic Buscall from Wild Ken Hill in March. Full reports of all meetings can be read on our website – WVBS.co.uk

Forthcoming Events

Indoor Meetings

These are held at Great Withingham Village Hall on the third Thursday of each month. Visitors are welcome for a small charge of £3.00.

Thursday 16th May
Jenny Donelan of the BTO will hold a Bird ID workshop.

Thursday 20th June
Drew Lyness (tbc)

Outdoor Meetings

Saturday 11th May
Dawn Chorus at Pensthorpe (fully booked)

Sunday 26th May
Wild Ken Hill

Sunday 30th June
Little Tern colony, probably at Winterton

For more details please see the website.

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GARDENING CLUB ANNUAL SHOW

Our annual show will be held on Saturday 3rd August in the Memorial Hall. Many of our members are already busy thinking of what to grow for the show. But did you know that the show is open to everyone, you don't need to be a gardening club member to participate and it's not just about gardening, there are cookery, photographic, arts and crafts and a children's section. Cups are awarded for the winners, but the main goal is to have fun and celebrate the joy of gardening and other hobbies.

Below is a basic list of the exhibit classes, perhaps there is something you would love to have a go at? If so, the show schedule is available to download from the community website www.elmham.org under Gardening Club and also from Ann Keeble 01362 668 216.

DESCRIPTION	QTY
Fruit, Vegetables & Flowers	
Runner beans	5
Longest runner bean	1
Dwarf beans	5
Truss of tomatoes ripe/ripening	1
Truss of cherry tomatoes ripe/ripening	1
Tomatoes ripe	5
Cherry tomatoes ripe	5
Onions, ripened, tops tied, roots trimmed	3
Shallots (pickling) max dia. 3cm	5
Shallots - large	5
Carrots - foliage on	5
Beetroot - foliage on	4
Courgettes - maximum 15cm	3
Lettuce - stem left on	1
Potatoes - one named variety.	3
Cucumber	1
Cucumber - ridge	1
Garlic bulbs	3
Four kinds of herbs - in leaf and named	3
Four kinds of herbs - in flower and named	3
Sweet peppers	3
Chillies	3
Cabbage (any type) with 5cm stalk	1
Misshapen fruit or vegetable	1

Any fruit on a plate - grown outdoors	
Any fruit on a plate-grown under glass	1
Heaviest potato	
Corsage	
Flower arrangement in a cup & saucer	
Flower arrangement celebrating norfolk	
Foliage arrangement	
Roses	3
Flowers grown from bulbs, corms, or rhizomes	5
Dahlias	3
Gladioli	3
Sweet peas	5
Cosmos	3 stems
Cactus or succulent	1
Foliage pot plant	1
Flowering pot plant	1

Domestic Section

Jar of raspberry jam	
Jar of orange marmalade	
Jar of lemon curd	
Jar of piccalilli	
Jar of red tomato chutney	
Apple crumble	
Sausage rolls - approx 3ins/7.5cms	3
Chocolate chip cookies	3
Blueberry muffins	3
Battenberg cake	
Cherry & coconut cake (see recipe on schedule)	

Photography

<i>Colour Photos 7in x 5in to mounted on white card 9ins x 7ins</i>	
Through the gate	
Fungi	

Art

<i>Any media e.g. paint, sculpture, collage etc.</i>	
Birthday card for a 10 year old	
A wildlife collage	

Handicraft Section

Knitted scarf	
Crochet scarf	
Fabric table runner	
Fabric cosmetic bag	

Children's Section

An edible necklace. Ages up to 8 years old	
A Small decorated flowerpot . Ages 9-16	

MIDSUMMER MADNESS II

24-hour Tennisathon

at North Elmham Tennis Club, Holt Road, North Elmham NR20 5JA

From 12pm, **Saturday 15th June**
until 12pm, **Sunday 16th June 2024**

Core team on court for 24 hours

Saturday PM
Inclusive tennis
Tournaments
BBQ

Also:



Sunday AM
Cardio tennis
Bacon rolls

Coffee, tea and cake.
Strawberries and cream.

A joint venture fundraising event in aid of:

North Elmham Tennis Club

and

St.Bartholomew's Church, Brisley

No entry fee to get involved, but donations gratefully received.

(Suggested donations: adults £10, children £5.)

Donate via the JustGiving link:

https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/james-biggie?utm_term=MpKkvMV7k



TENNIS CLUB

Dear North Elmham Residents

Twelve months on from a 24-hour charity DJ music event, when Brisley and former North Elmham resident Jim Biggie uttered the immortal words, "Let's do this all again next year", it's time for Midsummer Madness II...

On Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 June, Jim will join James Buddell for a 24-hour tennis fundraiser at nearby North Elmham Tennis Club.

If you're a tennis novice, have never played before, no matter your age, get on court between 12 noon on 15 June and 12 noon on 16 June to raise funds for North Elmham Tennis Clubs' award-winning inclusive tennis programme and St. Bartholomew's Church, Brisley.

Come along, play tennis for however long you would like to participate — one hour, two hours, or five hours... — between 12 noon on 15 June and 12 noon on 16 June.

How to Book Your Spot/Time

You will be able to view this spreadsheet when you click on the link shown below using an electronic version of the Elmham News.

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1NXX-rp2xUqJ3QcWdFezxyPUI7CLgKhAp/edit#gid=416196178>

The suggested donation to participate is £10 for adults and £5 for children via a JustGiving page. You will note a QR code included within the promotional poster opposite and which, when launched, will take you straight to the JustGiving page. A card reader will be available on the weekend, or if people prefer to pay by cash, charity buckets will be available.

All members, friends and family, and members of the community can play! Three hours of coaching for all ages and abilities are scheduled from 2-5pm on 15

June with Jim and James, and Jim will lead cardio tennis from 9-10am on 16 June.

There will be food and refreshments at a small cost on Saturday afternoon/evening via a barbeque, with meat and vegetarian options. On 16 June, bacon rolls will be offered as part of a Fathers' Day special.

Useful links: https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/james-biggie?utm_term=MpKkvMV7k

25 YEAR CAREER WITH THE YHA

Animals

I may have already said that this first hostel was set in 25 acres of mainly wooded hillside, plus some water meadow, and a large field, which we promoted for campers. The only problem being, how do we keep the grass down. We erroneously thought that a couple of goats would be the answer. No. Goats are browsers, not grazers. They mainly like to browse on shrubs and trees. They will eat grass, but not neatly as sheep do. Anyway, you would need a small herd of goats to clear a field the size of the one we had. However, it did introduce us, mainly Eileen, to the joys of goat keeping. Of course, in order to produce milk, nanny goats need to breed every year, so two milkers rapidly become four. One year we had seven kids, and somehow the local paper heard about them and wanted a story. So, we arranged for seven children from the school party that was staying with us, to bottle feed the kids, and the photograph appeared in the paper, with the caption, "7 kids with 7 kids".

One of the bribes we offered our children to make our move more palatable was that we promised they could have a dog. In the end we had two rough collies. You know, the Lassie dog, who, I must say, produce more loose hair than any other animal I know!



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The children staying with us loved the goats, and Eileen had many a willing hand to milk them. It always amused me that some children were afraid of the goats but were quite happy with the dogs. The only one that could be remotely dangerous, was, of course, the carnivorous dogs, not the vegetarian goats. Though they would stand on your toes given half a chance! We had families coming back year on year, just so the children could milk the goats, and play with any kids we had. We even received Christmas cards for the goats. We became quite famous for our goats, and even ran weekend goat keeping courses. It even went as far as Eileen appearing on TV on a now defunct program called "Pebble Mill at One" from Birmingham. Fame at last!

Over the 8 years we were at Welsh Bicknor hostel we had quite a menagerie. Four milking goats, various kid goats, chickens, two Gloucester Old Spot pigs, numerous cats, the two dogs, guinea pigs, rabbits, tropical fish, and our son actually found some slow worms, which he kept in an old fish tank. Eileen always fed as many pheasants as hens, (not intentionally), and we considered those part of the collection. There was a local hunt which fox hunted the land around us. We delighted in making them dismount and walk their horses through the YHA property.

Having all this mixed habitat on our doorstep meant that the wild flora and fauna list was quite extensive. I always considered that knowing what wildlife was around as part of my job. An additional perk! We had a list of 70 bird species and 120 flowering plants. We also saw fox, hedgehogs, roe deer, mice, rats (of course), rabbits, and last, but not least, adders. The latter I could have done without. I did put up a notice which read "Trespassers are requested not to play with the adders". I'm not sure it worked, but it produced the odd smile.

All part of the rich life of running a rural enterprise. Incidentally, the answer to the

grass on the camp field was to allow the local farmer to run a flock of sheep on it, on the understanding he moved them when we had campers.

Whilst all this was going on we had 12,000 overnights and produced 22,000 meals per year. All with a staff of three and two cleaners. Busy, busy!

John and Eileen Cotterill

King's Head Bowls Club

Race Night & Raffle

on
 Saturday 11th May 2024 At
 The King's Head North Elmham

Sausage & Mash & Peas (optional)
 £12.00 per person

7PM. First Race will commence at 7.30pm
 Bookings must be made – All welcome

Please contact – Lilian 01362 668007 or 07942883383
 Or Ian - 07780524549

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FOR ST JOHN AMBULANCE



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This month, the North Elmham Living Sustainably (NELS) members will be taking part in No Mow May. This national campaign has now been going since 2014 and encourages gardeners to leave the mower in the shed for May. The aim is to let wildflowers flourish and provide food for pollinators, many of which are declining rapidly. But it can also help your lawn lock up atmospheric carbon, reduce air pollution and provide homes for a variety of other animals - as well as adding a dash of colour to an otherwise boring lawn.

If you're thinking about participating in No Mow May this year, here are a few tips to get you started:

1. You don't have to leave your whole lawn to grow wild, for maximum impact pick an area which you know is popular with wild flowers.
2. If you do choose to leave a large area unmown, you can mow paths through it to help you get around without disturbing wildlife.
3. Pollinators forage for nectar all through spring and summer - if you're keen to attract a wide range of visitors consider keeping your No Mow area uncut up to August for maximum impact!
4. Plan ahead - native wildflower seeds can be sown ahead of time meaning your garden will look fantastic and be supporting local biodiversity.

We'll be reporting back in a future issue with sightings of any exciting pollinators or plants that our lawns might attract!

If you'd like more information or to get involved with NELS please contact nicolaruthearle@gmail.com

A large, vibrant photograph of a field of white daisies with yellow centers, filling the bottom half of the page. The daisies are in various stages of bloom, and the background is a soft, out-of-focus green.

Visit plantlife.org.uk/nomowmay

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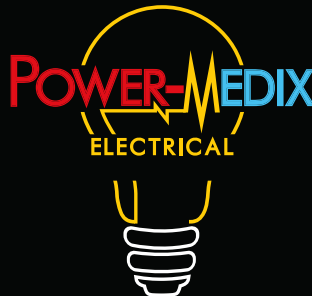
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WHAT'S ON LOCALLY

BRISLEY VILLAGE CINEMA

One Life

Friday 17th May at 7.30 pm

Sir Anthony Hopkins stars as Sir Nicholas Winton who organised the rescue of Jewish children from the Nazis.

Ice cream bars, tea and coffee will be available from the kitchen. The bar will be open for evening performances.

Doors open at 7 pm with the movie beginning at 7.30 pm £4 admission .

Your community cinema is dependent on your support, we hope to see you soon.

Dave Pearson 07816 139926 –
dpearson1954@yahoo.co.uk

WALKERS ARE WELCOME

Please come and join us for a walk in the local area. Our short walk of around four miles is always on the first Friday of

the month. There is a dual walk planned for later in the year (a long walk with a shorter alternative) as well as continuing our walks of just two miles for those wanting an easier walking experience.

For up-to-date information, please check our website www.derehamwaw.org.uk. Email Ken Hawkins: ken-hawkins@tiscali.co.uk or call him on 07505 426750.

DEREHAM MEMORIAL HALL

Dereham Day

Saturday 11th May, 10.00 am onwards

Friends of Dereham Memorial are busily getting ready to make this Year's Dereham Day not only the biggest, but also the best so far. Saturday 11th May is the date and the Memorial Hall and Fleece Meadow are the venues. Everyone is welcome to the town's free celebration of life in Dereham, and to meet the voluntary sector, local crafts and businesses, be entertained and challenged, and see family, old friends and neighbours again, over tea, cake and ice cream.

Afternoon Tea

2~4pm

*cake, sandwiches,
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Wednesday

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10th April

8th May

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Any questions?

Call Jo

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Concert and singing workshop with acapella group Sonrisa

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Saturday 11th May 2-430pm

**St Mary's Church North Elmham
NR20 5JU**

No need to book, just turn up on the day and pay a donation. All welcome, even if you don't want to sing!

Sonrisa will kick off proceedings with a short concert, then they will lead a singing workshop. You'll be singing in glorious harmony before you know it! No previous experience necessary and you don't have to read music either. Everything taught by ear

There will of course be tea and
delicious cake
during the afternoon too!



And there's more : several local businesses, among them local retailers and services, will be offering something 'a little special' to tempt shoppers back into the town centre. More than one hundred and twenty different groups and organisations will be taking part.

From the Opening Ceremony at 10am performers and arts schools will be on The Theatre Stage On Fleece Meadow, expect non-stop music on the East Coast Truckers Stage, and a succession of tasters and demonstrations from dogs to dancers 'on the mat'. Children will be able to pat alpacas and climb into big vehicles; would-be champions will try their strength and expertise (remember the Scouts' tomahawk challenge from last year's event ?), and environment-watchers will be able to keep track of local initiatives. If you're looking for honey, or cakes, or fashioned walking sticks, bring your purse ! Have lunch and stay all day, or head into town ! There will be bargains to be had in the shops, puppets in Ellenor Fenn Garden, old cine films at the Orion, and so much more.

In the evening there's a special treat for big band and swing enthusiasts, as the acclaimed Doghouse Big Band blow away the cobwebs. Go to [ticketsource](#) for more information, and do keep track with other events at the Memorial Hall during May on the Hall's own webpage.

Much more detail will be published on the Friends and Dereham community facebook pages, and in the Event programme, sponsored by Spartek.

C.A.T.S. (CATCH & TREAT STRAYS)

Spring Fayre
Saturday 11th May, 10am - 2pm
Hempton Memorial Hall

Please come and support us. Stalls include: pickles, jams & preserves, crafts, glass & china, plants, kiddies toys, books & games, cakes to take-away plus light lunches will be served.

ST MARY'S CHURCH

Dear Friends,

The month of May marks the transition from spring into summer, with the days gradually becoming warmer and longer. It's a month full of promise and opportunity, with much to look forward to.

The church calendar is also marking a time of transition this month. We're not quite finished with the Easter story because, following the resurrection of Jesus, he appeared a number of times to his disciples and others, even eating breakfast with his friends. Then, having commissioned his disciples to continue his work on earth, Jesus is taken into heaven. We remember this on Ascension Day, 9th May this year. It is followed by the Day of Pentecost (or Whit Sunday, 19th May).

Pentecost truly was a major transition for Jesus' followers! They were all together in Jerusalem, along with thousands of visitors from the known world who had travelled to celebrate the Festival. As Jesus had promised, the disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit and went out into the streets of Jerusalem and spoke to the crowds in their own languages. Peter addressed the crowd, testifying to God's power to free Jesus from death. That day, 3,000 people were baptized and day-by-day more were added to that number (Acts 2.)

Often referred to as the 'birthday' of the Church, it was from this point on that Christianity began to spread and, because of Pentecost, the story of Jesus is still being told today.

Yours, in Christ,

Revd Sally

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WORTHING NEWS

Our Annual Easter Duck Race on the 31st March, was an amazing day. Thankfully, we were blessed with sunshine albeit just for the morning but clearly did not discourage everyone from joining in and to cheer on their sponsored duck to reach the finishing line.

We attracted an enthusiastic crowd of young adults, parents, grandparents and of course children of all ages. Of these, 16 winners went home with their Easter eggs. And for their first appearance, we were also spoilt with a wonderful display of Easter bonnets and other headgear. Ladies (and young chaps) you looked fabulous! We hope to encourage more bonnets and headgear next year, I feel a competition on the horizon! Photos of this year's event may be found on our newly formed Facebook page, details below, so please take a peep.

[www.Facebook.com/
StMargaretsChurchworthing](http://www.Facebook.com/StMargaretsChurchworthing)

The result of your hard work and generous donations raised a total of £438.30 which is absolutely tremendous.

St Margaret's Church would also like to thank our volunteers who made this such a successful Easter Day. In particular, our thanks to our Duck Race Marshals Ben & Wendy, Sharon, Miranda & John, Millstream Cottages Riverbank & Tannery House Hosts. Thank you all and we hope to see you next year!

Once again, we welcomed Pilgrim Cross (previously known as Student Cross) to our church on Maundy Thursday. 32 young people/students walked in total 50 miles over five days in very wet conditions and so when they arrived, St Margaret's were able to greet them with warm drinks and muffins and to prepare them for the next leg of their journey. The pilgrimage is a way of celebrating Easter. They walk

every year to Walsingham - an ancient site of pilgrimage in Norfolk to celebrate Easter & fellowship in the ruins of Walsingham Abbey.

Monday Bank Holiday

6th May from 2.00-4.00pm at Worthing Church and partake in A DELICIOUS CREAM TEA and a flutter in our fabulous raffle!

FREE ADMISSION although a donation towards cream teas is appreciated.

So come on by and meet up with friends, families, all visitors and join in the banter over a hot pot of tea and scrummy cakes. Don't forget, there will be some fabulous raffle prizes to be won!

In Aid of Church Fabric Fund.

For further information, please contact:

Celia on 01362 668928

For those that would like to bake and donate a cake for the table, or indeed donate a raffle prize, please contact Celia on email: c.daniel784@btinternet.com or call 01362 668928 your help would be most appreciated.

Church Service Dates

Sunday 12th May Holy Communion and on May 26th, an Iona family service led by Licensed Lay Minister Norman Johnson. All services starting at 10.30am followed by refreshments and local banter.



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For further details, Contact David Rowe on

01328 700500 or 07900 060940

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CHURCH SERVICES



MAY 2024

5TH MAY – SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

9.30 am	Wood Norton	Morning Praise
10.30 am	Bawdeswell + Zoom	Holy Communion
10.30 am	North Elmham	Holy Communion
10.30 am	Stibbard	Holy Communion

12TH MAY – SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

10.30 am	Bawdeswell + Zoom	The '10.30'
10.30 am	Foulsham	Holy Communion
10.30 am	Worthing	Holy Communion
10.30 am	Stibbard	Morning Praise

19TH MAY – PENTECOST

10.30 am	Bawdeswell + Zoom	Holy Communion
10.30 am	North Elmham	Iona Holy Communion
10.30 am	Wood Norton	Holy Communion
12.30 pm	Bawdeswell	Baptism – Archie Bennington
4.00 pm	Foulsham	Sung Evensong (venue TBC)

26TH MAY – TRINITY SUNDAY

9.00 am	Guist	Holy Communion
10.30 am	Bawdeswell + Zoom	Word & Praise
10.30 am	Foulsham	Holy Communion
10.30 am	Worthing	Iona Morning Praise
10.30 am	North Elmham	Morning Praise

*Services at Bawdeswell Church are also available on Zoom.

www.heartofnorfolkchurches.org.uk

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*To advertise in the Elmham News please contact
Martin Phillips: martin.s.phillips@btopenworld.com*

This Month's Photo Contributors

Our thanks go to everyone below who submitted and gave permission for the images included this month.

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NORTH ELMHAM PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH COUNCILLORS

Chair: Jennie Borgnis, 01362 668 952
Vice Chair: Martin Phillips, 01362 668 409
Ann Ferris, 01362 668 580
Tom Fitzalan Howard, 01362 668 232
Brian Gee, 01362 422 799
Paul Grainger, 01362 667 135
Ann Keeble, 01362 668 216
John Labouchere, 01362 668 306
Nick Markwell, 01362 668 557
Michael Rayner, 01362 667 859
Colin Smith, 01362 668 585

PARISH CLERK

Kevin J Webb, 01328 855046
northelmhampc@hotmail.co.uk

MEETINGS

Held on 1st Wednesday of the month in the Pavilion at 7.30pm. All parishioners welcome. Public participation takes place at the beginning of each meeting. County and district councillors attend meetings whenever possible.

Between meetings specific matters for the Parish Council can be notified according to the list below.

VILLAGE FACILITIES

Allotments..... Martin Phillips
Broom Green & Pound Jennie Borgnis, John Labouchere
Cathedral Meadows..... Tom Fitzalan Howard, Ann Keeble
Cathedral Ruins..... Ann Keeble, Tom Fitzalan Howard
Eastgate Centre..... Martin Phillips Paul Grainger Jennie Borgnis
Millennium & Jubilee Wood..... Jennie Borgnis, John Labouchere
Playing Field & Pavilion..... Colin Smith, Ann Ferris
Prince William Wood..... Tom Fitzalan Howard, Nick Markwell
Village Green Colin Smith, Brian Gee
Footpath Warden..... Jennie Borgnis, Ann Ferris

SERVICES

Environment & Maintenance Martin Phillips
Highways Paul Grainger, Brian Gee
Mid-Norfolk Railway Liaison..... Michael Rayner, Nick Markwell
Planning..... Michael Rayner, Martin Phillips, John Labouchere
Street Lighting..... Tom Fitzalan Howard, Nick Markwell, Colin Smith
Tree Warden Tom Fitzalan Howard, Nick Markwell, Colin Smith
Website Jennie Borgnis, Martin Phillips

PARISH CHARITIES

There are a number of charities that make grants to individuals resident in the parish. Please consult the community website for information elmham.org.uk/parish-council/village-charities.

NORTH ELMHAM DIRECTORY

Elmham Surgery, Holt Rd - 01362 668215

Group website: elmhamsurgery.com

Surgery Opening Times Mon, Tue, Thur, Fri 8.30 am–6.30 pm, Wed 8.30 am–6.00 pm

Swanton Morley Surgery, Dereham Road - 01362 638100

Surgery Opening Times Mon–Fri 8.30 am–6.00 pm

Elmham and Swanton Morley Dispensary

Dispensary Opening Times Mon, Tue, Thur, Fri 8.30 am–12.00 pm, 2.00 pm–6.30 pm
Weds 8.30 am–12.00 pm, 2.00 pm–6.00 pm

Other Useful Contacts

NHS Medical Help

Dial: 111

111 online: 111.nhs.uk

POLICE: Non Emergency Dial: 101 - EMERGENCY Dial: 999

Breckland District Councillors	Gordon Bambridge Bill Borrett	01603 881364 01362 860200
Norfolk County Councillor	Bill Borrett	01362 860200
Member of Parliament	george.freeman.mp@parliament.uk	01953 600617
North Elmham VC School	Ms Victoria McConnell, Head Teacher	01362 668318
Chairman of School Governors	Robert Plant chairofgov@northelmham.norfolk.sch.uk	
Memorial Institute	Bookings: Ann Ferris p.ferris84@yahoo.com	01362 668580
Pavilion	Bookings: Ann Ferris p.ferris84@yahoo.com	01362 668580
Eastgate Centre	Heather Caley	01362 668245
Breckland Dog Warden	Confidential message or texts 07771 617417	01362 858500
London Express Tickets	Travel Centre	01362 694211
Sanders	Wednesdays to Norwich	01263 712800
Konect Bus		03300 539358
Community Website	www.elmham.org.uk	

Dereham Library, 59, High Street, Dereham, NR19 1DZ - 01362 693184

Opening times: Mon–Fri 09:30–19:00, Sat 9:30–16:00, Sun 10.00–16.00 (Open Library access only)

Mobile Library calls in Elmham every 4 weeks

Anglian Water		0845 7145145
Dereham Leisure Centre		01362 693419
UK Power Networks	Power Cut (24 hours)	0800 31 63 105
Samaritans		116 123
Citizens Advice Bureau	www.ncab.org.uk	0800 144 8848

Clergy - All telephone numbers local code (01362)

Church of England	Reverend Sally Kimmis	heartofnorfolkrector@gmail.com	668850
Roman Catholic	Father Jay T Magpuyo	35 London Rd, Dereham	694066
Methodist	Rev Betty Trinder	31 Trinity Close, Dereham	695582
Salvation Army	Major Diana Bennetts	dereham@salvationarmy.org.uk	696341
More2Life	Anne-Marie Fewell		01328 701830

Church Wardens

Elmham	Michael Newey	668424
Worthing	Celia Daniel	668928



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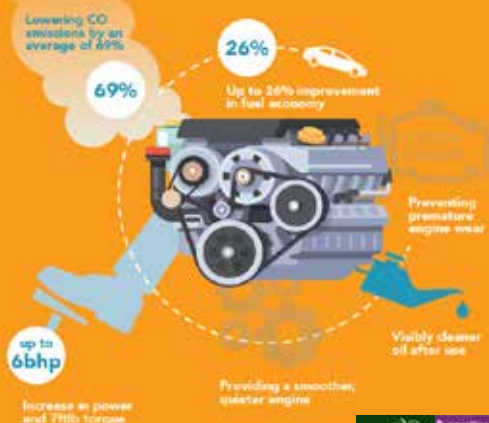
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