

# Elmham News

SEPTEMBER 2021

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## EDITORIAL

As things begin to open up and we hear of more events being planned, we are beginning to feel slightly more optimistic about our future. Please keep us up to date with plans, thoughts, photos and reports.

We are really delighted that Chris Reeve has had such success with the footballers of the village, please keep on supporting him.

We heard that the Executive Head Teacher at the school has left. We look forward to welcoming her successor and renewing the community's link with the children.

The King's Head has also had a change and Folk Music is back on the cards again.

Holt Road closure may have caused problems for drivers, but it was really peaceful for a week with only the odd roar of a motorbike as it braved the road works.

Hopefully the Flower Festival will bring in some much needed revenue for the Restoration Fund and offer visitors a

chance to see our beautiful old church bedecked with glorious flowers.

Finally, on a personal note, all the Editors wish to remember the people of Afghanistan who are facing such traumatic and devastating futures.



**North Elmham community  
website [www.elmham.org.uk](http://www.elmham.org.uk)**

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

**Volume 44, No 8, September 2021**

**DONATIONS APPRECIATED**

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# **NORTH ELMHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY 7TH JULY**

*The following information is taken from the Draft PC minutes, The full official minutes can be viewed in the Post Office and on the Community website, once approved.*

*Councillors Present* :Mr. M. Phillips, (acting Chairman), Mr. B. Gee, Miss A. Ferris, Mr. T. Fitzalan Howard, Mr. P. Grainger, Mrs. A. Keeble, Mr. J. Labouchere, Mr. M. Rayner, Mr. C. Smith.

*Also in Attendance*: Mr. K. Webb (Clerk).

*Apologies*: Mrs. J. Borgnis, Mr. N. Markwell

## **Public Participation**

None

## **Land Management Matters**

*Village Green*: An electronic version of the RoSPA report has been received; hard copies are to follow. In the meantime, any urgent matters will be addressed. The report is to be fully discussed at the next meeting. There has been more vandalism. A person tried to pull up the fence and was confronted by a parishioner who immediately became the recipient of abuse. It was suggested that CCTV cameras should be installed and appropriate notices erected. This is also to be discussed at the next meeting. The hedges are to be cut at some stage. Mr. Phillips is to look into this matter.

*Cathedral Ruins*: Mrs. Keeble said that the slopes are due to be cut but the specialist remote control machine is currently out of action.

*Cathedral Meadows*: Mr. Fitzalan Howard reported that the derogation to burn the brash has not yet been received. Brown and Co have authority to deal with matters but it was considered appropriate for them to have access to the records. A parishioner has suggested having a small area for wildlife and flora, ten metres

wide, at the far end of the middle field. A small notice is to be put up advising people of this. All agreed that this was an excellent idea.

*Broom Green*: Mr. Labouchere confirmed that work has been completed.

*Bridleway on disused railway line and other railway linked matters*: Mr. Rayner has sent a holding reply to Norfolk County Council.

*Prince William Wood*: Mr. Markwell had received a number of queries from a parishioner. Matters raised will be considered and action taken where necessary.

*Allotments*: Mr. Phillips said that there is currently a waiting list of people wanting an allotment.

## **Highway Matters**

Mr. Grainger reported that there had been no update on the outstanding matters. The Clerk will chase Linda McDermott, the County Programme Engineer for Norfolk County Council. Miss Ferris said that the vegetation along Station Road towards Worthing is overgrown and has started to cover the pavement. The volunteers are to be asked to attend to this. The road near the Brookside development is in need of repair and has been reported to Highways who have been out to inspect.

## **Pavilion and Playing Field**

The RoSPA report has been received with some items due to be dealt with in the near future. The new loft ladder is being installed tomorrow (8th July).

## **Youth Club Facilities**

Mr. Fitzalan Howard said that the response to the questionnaire was extremely disappointing. 773 forms had been issued (including some by the school) and only 48 had been returned, representing a response rate of 6.2%. A mere ten people (1.3%) had said that they were prepared to be involved.

One parishioner raised concerns regarding "an increasing prevalence of

## SEPTEMBER DATES TO REMEMBER

Thu 2nd	Friends & Neighbours Wives + All Tour of Elmham Estate	Pavilion Elmham House	2.00pm 6.00pm
Tue 7th	Knit and Natter	Pavilion	2.00 pm
Wed 8th	Parish Council	Pavilion	7.30 pm
Thu 9th	Beer and Hymns British Legion Meeting Wives + All Talk by Lyn Milns	King's Head restaurant King's Head Memorial Hall	7.00 pm 8.00 pm 7.30 pm
Fri 10th	Housing Survey to be delivered to every house hold		
Wed 15th	Mobile Library	The Heath to Orchard Close	2.30–5.20 pm
Thu 16th	Friends & Neighbours	Pavilion	2.00 pm
Sat 18th	English Songs with Jonathan and Willow	St Mary's Church	2.30 pm
Thu 23rd	Gardening Club	Memorial Hall	7.30 pm
Sat 25th	Flower Festival	St Mary's Church	10.00 am–5.00 pm
Sun 26th	Flower Festival Festival Car Boot Festival Service with Bishop Jane	St Mary's Church Paddock opp church St Mary's Church	10.00 am–4.00 pm 10.00 am 4.30 pm
25th Sept to 10th Oct	Open Studios see article on page 45		
Thu 30th	Friends & Neighbours	Pavilion	2.00 pm
Wednesday evenings	Mah-Jong	See article on page 40	at 7.30 pm

*Please remember, we can only print dates that YOU give us.*

# Elmham News

If you contact us via email please email it to all of the Editors. If you only send it to one of us we might miss it. Thanks.

**Janet:** robert.woodhouse2@gmail.com

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**Caroline:** carolinejpayne@hotmail.co.uk

**Chris:** laine.hill@icloud.com

drug dealing in the village". It was felt by this person that the current skate park, at the top of the playing field, is in the wrong place and consideration should be given to it being relocated.

### **Affordable Housing Update**

The Housing Need Survey is to be distributed by the Housing Association.

### **Brookside Development Update**

It has been confirmed by the Parish Council that limited street lighting is required. Mr. Rayner said that the precise details, (how much and where), is to be negotiated with the developer.

### **Defibrillators**

Miss Ferris has spoken to Mr. Lee, Chairman of Fulmodeston Parish Council, who have two defibrillators installed. The matter will be discussed at the September meeting.

### **Village Green Tree Planting Scheme**

Mr. Grainger has received an acknowledgement from Norfolk County Council. Our interest has been registered.

### **The Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022**

The Jubilee in 2022 will involve an extended Bank Holiday weekend from 2nd to 5th June. There will be a national chain of Beacons to be lit at 9.15pm on 2nd June. A further discussion will be held at next month's Parish Council meeting with a suggestion already having been made to hold a village party on the Green. It is not possible to accommodate a visit from the circus this year and Mr. Smith is to contact them. He will stress that they would be welcome at some other more suitable time.

### **Letter Re: Possible Land Purchase**

A letter had been received from a parishioner who declared interest in purchasing parish land of approximately 10 or 11 acres, being a meadow near the church. This matter was given full consideration and the decision was taken that it is not in the best interests of the local community to sell at the present time.

Proposed by Mr. Fitzalan Howard and seconded by Mr. Labouchere. All in favour.

## **Planning Applications and Determinations**

### **Applications**

(i) Ivy Properties Ltd – erection of dwelling and garage – 3PL/2021/0798/F – Vicarage Farm, Church Lane – objection to be lodged. The application is contrary to a number of Local Plan policies.

(ii) Mr. M. Hammond – demolish concrete panel garage and replace with new garage and office – 3PL/2021/0764/LU – 48 Station Road – no objections.

(iii) Mr. and Mrs. M. Reeves – erection of a decked pergola – 3PL/2021/0777/HOU – Grey Gables, Pump Street – no objections.

(iv) Mid-Norfolk Railway Preservation – retrospective planning application for installation and operation of miniature railway at County School Station – 3PL/2021/0868/F – County School Station, County School – objection to be lodged. The development goes beyond that permitted by the Transfer Deed signed with Breckland Council.

(v) Mr. M. Sexton – single storey front and rear extensions to existing attached garage plus proposed enlarged opening to rear of property to accommodate bifold doors – 3PL/2021/0880/HOU – 11 Wensum Drive. (Amendment – part of extension stepped in away from neighbouring boundary) – no objections.

### **Determinations**

(i) Mr. M. Hammond – demolish concrete panel garage and replace with new garage and office – 3PL/2021/0764/LU – 48 Station Road – approved.

(ii) Mr. and Mrs. Pardoe – proposed demolition of an existing conservatory and erection of a garden room – 3PL/2021/0589/HOU – Monument House, Broom Green – approved.

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(iii) Mr. C. Fish – dismantle gable end brick work and rebuild – 3PL/2021/0582/LB – College Farm, Broom Green – 3PL/2021/0582/LB – approved.

### **Next Meeting**

Wednesday, 4th August 2021 at 7.30 p.m at the Pavilion

## **NORTH ELMHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

### **WEDNESDAY 4TH AUGUST**

*The following information is taken from the DRAFT PC minutes, the full official minutes can be viewed in the Post Office and on the Community website, once approved.*

*Councillors Present:* Mrs. J. Borgnis (Chairman), Mr. M. Phillips, Mr. B. Gee, Miss A. Ferris, Mr. P. Grainger, Mrs. A. Keeble, Mr. J. Labouchere, Mr. N. Markwell, Mr. M. Rayner, Mr. C. Smith.

*Also in Attendance:* Mr. G. Bambridge (District Councillor), Mr. K. Webb (Clerk) and two parishioners.

*Apologies:* Mr. T. Fitzalan Howard

### **Public Participation**

a) A drain halfway down Church Hill is clogged with leaves. The Clerk will contact the County Council to request that this is attended to. In addition, a village sweep of the roads is overdue. The Flower Festival is to take place on the 25th and 26th of September and a request will be made of Breckland Council to carry out a sweep a week before this event.

b) The current position regarding the affordable housing project was queried. The next stage is for a Housing Needs Survey to be carried out with Broadland Housing's aim being to deliver forms to parishioners on Friday, 10th September. A piece informing residents of the survey will be placed in Elmham News.

c) It is some ten years since the Village Green was purchased. An undertaking was

given that the names of all contributors to the fund-raising would be displayed at the location. This has not yet happened. Precise details on how this will be achieved will be discussed fully at the next meeting.

### **Land Management Matters**

*Village Green:* Mr. Smith said that the RoSPA report had provided several recommendations. In addition, there are three items requiring attention – the zip wire, the small slide and the climbing frame. The last item has already been fixed. Mr. Phillips is to contact NGF Play Ltd. The hedges will be cut after September 1st. Mr. Smith reported that the contractors have not been cutting and strimming in certain areas. The Chairman will contact them regarding this with a view to getting an Operations Manager to visit so that the problems can be clearly detailed. Mr. Smith said that some shots had apparently been fired near the Play Area. The matter is in the hands of the police. The circus is visiting the village between 30th August and 4th September.

*Cathedral Ruins:* Mrs. Keeble said that the slopes have not yet been cut.

*Cathedral Meadows:* Mr. Fitzalan Howard had forwarded a report. There has been no development yet on the disposal of brash from hedge cutting. Natural England will need to make a decision but, at this stage, there is no urgency. On the middle meadow, signs have been put up to divert the footpath a few meters to allow a small area of specific interest to wildflowers and insects to remain undisturbed. A new footpath has been established. Unfortunately, it has been noted that the rope has been removed from the area.

*Broom Green:* Mr. Labouchere said that drainage work has still to be done but is in hand.

*Bridleway on disused railway line and other railway linked matters:* Breckland Council have advised that they will respond to our original letter at some stage.

A close-up photograph of a white bowl filled with a thick, orange-brown soup, topped with a dollop of white cream. In the foreground, a chocolate cake is decorated with numerous almonds. The background is softly blurred, showing what appears to be a wooden table and a dark object.

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*Prince William Wood:* Mr. Markwell said that the gateways had been tidied up. The parishioner who asked the question regarding a fire break has advised that he will not do the work himself. The Parish Council had made a manual contribution on an occasion in the past but there was no commitment to make this a regular occurrence. There is an intention to provide an additional dog waste bin and the Chairman will check with Breckland Council to ensure that they are content with this proposal.

*Street Lights:* The Parish Council is in favour of having some limited street lighting in the new Brookside development but has accepted that this is not realistic due to environmental issues involving the bats. Lighting for the car park and footbridge, however, is still required and will be pursued with the developer.

### **Highway Matters**

Mr. Grainger reported that the outstanding Parish Partnership projects have been completed. A parishioner has voiced concerns about speeding traffic in Station Road. Police have been carrying out speed checks with a number of vehicles identified as travelling in excess of the limit. The police have said they will return to carry out further monitoring at a later date. A number of potholes near the Brookside development are to be repaired. Mr. Gee is to look into the possibility of having safety rails, perhaps by making use of the Parish Partnership scheme, outside the Post Office to protect people exiting.

### **Pavilion and Playing Field**

The moles seem to have disappeared and the amount of rubbish at the top of the field has decreased. Local organisations have started using the pavilion again.

### **Youth Club Facilities**

Research continues.

### **Eastgate Centre**

The Centre is now open for bookings with relevant precautions in place.

### **Affordable Housing Update**

The Housing Needs survey is to be distributed by the Housing Association (see "Public Participation" b).

### **Brookside Development Update**

Please refer to item above.

### **Defibrillators**

This matter will be discussed at the September meeting.

### **Village Green Tree Planting Scheme**

Norfolk County Council has now advised that an application needs to be made to the Woodland Trust. The minimum number of trees for an applicant is 500! Mr. Bambridge said that Breckland's scheme provides 100 trees, free of charge, and he will inform Mr. Grainger of contact details.

### **The Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022**

This matter was carried forward to be discussed at the September meeting. In the meantime, it was agreed by all to form a small working group, led by Mr. Smith, and also including the Chairman and Mr. Gee.

### **CCTV Cameras**

Mr. Labouchere, as agreed, had obtained a quotation for a CCTV surveillance system. This amounted to £1,362.00 (inc VAT). It was acknowledged that we would need a policy and a named administrator. In addition, there are GDPR considerations. It was also felt that concentrating on one area could put pressure on other parts of the village. As such, a parish project would be more appropriate. Mr. Grainger proposed that a vote be held, which was agreed by all, with three options:

- a) A village project incorporating a number of cameras with a maximum spend of £10K.



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b) To place the matter on hold for a year with the costs to repair items following any acts of vandalism being monitored.

c) Proceed with just one camera for now.

All members voted against a), all voted in favour of b) except Mr. Labouchere who abstained but was in favour of c).

## **Planning Applications and Determinations**

### **Applications**

(i) Mr. N. Steggles – proposed single storey side extension – 3PL/2021/1092/HOU – 64 Orchard Close – no objections.

(ii) Mr. Pointer – side single storey extension and replacement porch – 3PL/2021/1098/HOU – 1 Ash Court – no objections.

(iii) Mr. and Mrs. M. Reeves – erection of a decked pergola – 3PL/2021/0777/HOU – Grey Gables, Pump Street – no objections.

(iv) The Willows, 57 Eastgate Street – request to remove trees with attempt to be made to retain as many as possible that are not impacting on drains or dampness – TRE/2021/0194/TCA – no objections.

### **Determinations**

(i) Ivy Properties Ltd – erection of dwelling and garage – 3PL/2021/0798/F – Vicarage Farm, Church Lane – refused.

(ii) Mr. and Mrs. M. Hammond – first floor rear extension and rear dormer extension – 3PL/2021/0840/HOU – 48 Station Road – refused.

(iii) Mr. J. Ashford – conversion of one half of double garage to dog grooming parlour – 3PL/2021/0727/F – Orchard House, Pump Street – approved.

(iv) Mr. M. Sexton – single storey front and rear extensions to existing attached garage plus proposed enlarged opening to rear of property to accommodate bifold doors – 3PL/2021/0880/HOU – 11 Wensum Drive – approved.

(v) Mr. and Mrs. M. Reeves – erection of a decked pergola – 3PL/2021/0777/HOU – Grey Gables, Pump Street. – approved.

### **Tree Preservation Order**

Order 2021 NO.09 dated 21/7/21 served on Leslie and Maria Cole, Church Farm, Holt Road. "The trees are important landscape features with high amenity, historical and biodiversity value. It is considered expedient to protect the long-term future of the trees by way of serving a tree preservation order".

### **Retrospective Planning Application**

3PL/2021/0868/F – miniature railway

Following the Parish Council's objections to the application, a letter was sent by Mid-Norfolk Railway to the Development Management Planner at Breckland Council. As a result, a further objection is to be lodged with a view to addressing what are considered to be factual inaccuracies.

Mr. Bambridge is also to attempt to bring this application before the District Council's Planning Committee.

### **Correspondence**

Among the correspondence were:

a) E-mail from parishioner concerned with speeding and overtaking on Pump Street (problems were acknowledged but these are essentially matters for the police)

b) E-mail from parishioner complaining that the village is "scruffy", as requested, the e-mail was read out. There is already awareness of the issues stated with action either taken or being planned. The phone boxes are to be repainted, the car park weeds are to be sprayed, hedges are to be cut (after September 1st) and Breckland will be lending litter pick kits.

### **Next Meeting**

Wednesday, 8th September 2021 at 7.30pm in the Pavillion

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## ANOTHER FLINT IN THE WALL

As I'm certain many of us may have noticed while taking our daily 'Covid' stroll through the village over the summer a solitary worker has been restoring the estate wall along the Holt Road. Peter Trent from Great Ryburgh a long experienced Flint worker took a well deserved break to tell me about his craft and the techniques he is employing to bring the wall back to its former glory.

The wall dates back to the 1840s when Elmham House was remodelled explained Peter. Naturally being Norfolk, the material of choice was locally sourced flint with red bricks that would also have come from the area.

Peter went on to show me the 'core' of the wall made from an assortment of what by today's standards would be classed as building rubble. He says the wall would have been built in part using materials from demolished buildings such as the row of cottages that ran on a street parallel to Holt



Road. Bricks sizes were not standardised until the 1850s and he showed me pieces of Tudor bricks he had discovered.

The wall would have been built up from both sides with the core at the same time. When looking at the back Peter suggested that apprentices could have made that side which is less commonly seen!

Flint work is ever common in Norfolk especially on modern properties as features. However, the flint work on the estate wall is structural not decorative – each flint being strategically placed to supply strength to the structure. Peter showed me how when positioning a flint, it is chosen to touch the adjoining on



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all sides. This gets more complex at the top of the wall where smaller flints have to be found to fill the last course. But of course the magic ingredient that holds the whole thing together is the authentic lime mortar that Peter makes and brings to site in large plastic containers. It has to be mixed very carefully because of its volatile nature.

One of the reasons for the very necessary repair work that Peter is undertaking is due to previous repairs using cement instead of lime mortar. Cement does not have any expansion qualities when set so when water does penetrate the wall and freezes it expands and pushes flints outwards.

The mortar which is the consistency of thick ice cream is applied carefully and generously around each flint. After it has started to 'go off' Peter points up around each to give a very pleasing result. This is a different technique to that seen on modern buildings whereas much flint as possible is left visible.

Another surprising fact that Peter brought to my attention the brick details that are seen at approx 6m intervals are actually there for a purpose. They allow the wall to expand and contract naturally. It is interesting that they understood about expansion in the 1840s. If they weren't there the wall could be liable to cracking even with lime mortar.

As much as I had enjoyed chatting to a traditional Norfolk craftsman, I had to let him return to his work which will be there for a long time in the future admired by all who pass by.

*Terry Hylton*

## PROPERTY WANTED

Seeking a small single storey property rental for an elderly relative anywhere in North Elmham. We are new to the village and hope to find somewhere for my father to relocate to locally. Please call Miranda on 07799630568.

## BEER & HYMNS

The first Beer & Hymns for 2021 nearly got rained off. But a few hardy souls braved the July downpour and the sky cleared enough to enjoy an hour's singing outdoors.

The next Beer & Hymns will be indoors, in the restaurant area of the King's Head, from 7.00 pm on Thursday 9th September. All welcome!



## MUSIC AT ST MARY'S

Our thanks to Natasha Hood for a very enjoyable 'Come & Sing' workshop at St Mary's North Elmham on 14th August. The monthly music afternoons continue with a varied programme, 2.30-4.30pm, with refreshments. Free entry – donations invited to cover expenses.

**18th September:** 'England's Green and Pleasant Land': a celebration of English song from the time of Henry VIII to Elizabeth II. Jonathan Dodd & Willow Swiatek.

**16th October:** 'Come & Sing' concert and singing workshop with Sonrisa (Norwich) – acapella group singing an eclectic mix of traditional and contemporary songs.

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# ELMHAM FOOTBALL



One year on from when this football club resurrected and hasn't this been a crazy year. So, this is a massive season for the club. A newly formed under 7s starting up in a league in September, run by Harrison Smith and the under 9s starting their second season in the Youth League under the watchful eye of Ben Pierce.

The men's team have started in the Central South Norfolk division and played two league games this season, the first game a home 2-2 draw versus Bowthorpe and an away defeat 2-1 vs Northwold. The boys have been working hard in training and will continue to do so.

We have also got our Walking football team who have started up and have had 2 sessions now, with the latter having 14

over 40s playing walking football. This has been a huge success so far.

The final team being added to our roster is our women's team, this is a new team and will be training and playing friendlies throughout the season, and leading onto hopefully joining the league next year.

The club has come on by leaps and bounds since the reforming 12 months ago and we appreciate all the support we have from the village and our sponsors, Habify, The Kings Head, Madhouse and Scribbles Pre School.

We would love for this support to continue throughout the club.

Let's kick in as a club and continue our rise.

Up the Elmham!

*Chris Reeve*  
*Chairman at NEFC*

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## NEW EXCEPTION HOUSING SCHEME

You may have read about plans for an affordable housing scheme in the Parish Council minutes. As part of this process, it is hoped that residents will support the plans to provide housing to meet local needs. It will be really helpful if you would complete and return a Housing Needs Survey, which will be posted to you to arrive on your doormat close to Friday 10th September. The survey should be returned using the pre-paid envelope which comes with it.

Exception housing schemes are allowed on land that would not otherwise be permitted for development. Sites need to physically adjoin the built-up area of a village (the settlement boundary). Once the local housing need has been established (that's why it's important to have as many returned surveys as possible!) there will be a call for sites, so that landowners can put forward potential sites for consideration. The survey will help to decide how many and what type of housing we need in North Elmham.

The Parish Council has selected Broadland Housing Association to deliver a 'local needs' housing scheme for North Elmham. Broadland Housing is an award-winning local housing association, providing 5,000 homes across Norfolk with area office in Dereham.

What is proposed?

Broadland is proposing three types of housing tenure:

- affordable rent (rents set at 80% of market, capped at the Local Housing Allowance)
- shared ownership (where leaseholders buy an initial equity share and pay rent on the remainder)
- market homes (unfortunately Government grants do not fully fund the

affordable rented homes. So, Broadland is proposing that approximately a third of the overall development will be sold on the open market, to generate surplus funds that will cross-subsidise the affordable homes)

People in housing need who have a local connection will get first priority for the affordable homes.

Once the housing need has been established, we'll be publicising how potential sites can be put forward.

*Michael Rayner  
Planning Lead,  
North Elmham Parish Council*

*Ed Mumford-Smith  
Head of Development, Broadland  
Housing Association*

## ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

The Royal British Legion will have their first meeting on 9th September since February 2020. This will be held at the Kings Head at 8.00 pm .

It will be the AGM . We will be hoping that new members come along . Members in position at this time tell me they are retiring. If no members take over the branch will close .

*RGC*

## COLOURFUL HYMNS

The Elmham Festival will be ending on a cheerful note with a Songs of Praise in the church led by Bishop Jane of Lynn, with James Lilwall and the All Saints' Festival Choir. All the hymns as well as the music will have a colourful theme, so come and sing your hearts out amongst the beautiful flowers in the church. September 26th 4.30pm in St Mary's Church.

*Susanna Wade Martins*



## AERIAL PHOTOS

The photos on the left were taken by John Fielding, accompanied by Peter Wade-Martins who obtained permission for them to be used. Thank you to both John and Peter for such lovely aerial views.

The Diamond Jubilee Green is a great asset to the village. The Green was originally part of a smallholding farmed by Spencer Lowe. From 1999 the Parish Council leased the land from Norfolk County Council. The footpath was commissioned in 2004 as part of the NCC Safe Route to School initiative. The Parish Council and School worked with NCC to make safety improvements including the path across the Green.

The Parish Council, after long negotiations purchased the Green from NCC in 2012 with money from PC reserves, grants, gifts and local fundraising.

The play equipment followed in 2015 after the Community Plan identified that for most people a safe children's play area was a high priority for the village.

I'm sure all readers will agree that our Green is a lovely place for all to enjoy thanks to the huge number of residents who worked tirelessly to achieve this.

*Caroline Payne*

## SCRAPBOOK MEMORIES

Found in a scrapbook from the early 1950's.

### **Cricketers All North Elmham Can Be Proud Of Its Record**

In a village which has won the Mid Norfolk Shield more than twice the number of times of any other village in the League, you can expect to find more than the usual percentage of cricketing enthusiasts. As it is, in North Elmham the difficulty is to find any man over 40 who has not played for the village at some time or other. Get a few old timers together and you will hear countless yarns of sixes dropping onto the Kings Head

bowling green and fierce struggles with the neighbouring clubs – in those days – at Billingford and Swanton Morley.

How did Elmham win the shield ten times? Mr Dick Hewett who was playing cricket at the turn of the century and captained the 1st X1 for ten years, can give the answer. 'It was training that did it' he claims. 'Old Tom Case – one of Elmham's most famous captains – who died recently at the age of 80 had us boys out on the Green Field every night of the week. We had two nets, and each man had ten minutes with the bat. We got so many along that we didn't have time to give everyone a turn. That gives you an idea of how keen we were in those days.

Nowadays says Mr Hewett, you see a cricketer on the field during the week. If they get a good ball as soon as they go in on Saturday, that's their batting finished for another seven days. A village this size should be able to produce a first class team. The spirit of the game has improved since the old days, and that's a good thing but the youngsters are not as keen as they were' he claims.'

His opinion is shared by many of the old villagers who turned out for Elmham in the days when every match, as Mr Hewett puts it, was treated like a Yorkshire – Lancashire battle. There is little Ben Reeve, well known in most of the villages in Mid Norfolk, and in Dereham as well, as a cricketer, a footballer and a runner before the first World War. There is Mr Olly Smith, one of the most useful players Elmham has had. There is Mr J. Bradfield, the village butcher who captained the Reserves when the late Mr Frank Kerrison, then the village grocer, captained the first X1.

Mr Bradfield tells the story of how the Reserves challenged Billingford about 34 years ago, after they had beaten Elmham's senior team four times that season and how they scored 30 and then dismissed Billingford for less than 20. A providential Thunderstorm prevented Billingford

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getting their revenge in a second innings, and an exultant Reserves team made the 1st X1 members' lives miserable for months afterwards

And there is Mr Bertie Marsh, another stalwart of the early days, whose family has been carrying on Elmham's cricketing tradition ever since. His two sons George and Fred, have given years of service to the club and their cousin John is another regular player.

Mr George Marsh was either Captain or Secretary or both from 1931 to 1947. During that time he collected a host of medals and set up records which are still unbeaten. Playing against Swanton Morley on the Green Field in one hour and five minutes he scored 99 runs. And in a Fisher Cup final against Bircham, against a bowler who was reckoned to be 'Unplayable' he scored 32 runs in the first over.

His brother Fred still turns out for the Club but his finest performances were at Dereham when he bowled regularly for the Town. On his mantelpiece at home is a clock presented to him in 1946 for taking 117 wickets in the season for an average of 8.6 runs each. His pace has slowed a little at the age of 39, and a leg injury has been causing him trouble but he was still able to take two wickets in last week's Fisher Cup final.

Throughout the years the cricket centre of Elmham has been the Green Field, a piece of land which the Parish Council bought in 1913. Only recently was it discovered when plans were discussed at a parish meeting to improve it, that according to the terms of the Smallholdings and Allotments Act of 1908, it was illegal for football or cricket to be played on it.

For many years, therefore Elmham Cricket Club has been unwittingly breaking the law. The players will be relieved to hear that this week the Parish Council was notified that the land had been transferred to another Act which makes games legal. A committee headed by

Mr George Marsh is going ahead with arrangements for a bulldozer to level the field, and by next season the club should have a first-class ground. Perhaps if the spirit of the old days can be revived it will have a first class team as well.

## ELMHAM ARCHIVES

Our Archives, with lots of photographs and maps, will be on view at the Flower Festival in September. If you are interested in our local history, please come and visit the church and go into the St John's Room and look at part of our collection of photographs and maps of the village. We have a growing collection of memorabilia which is ongoing, being collected from old newspapers and photographs from people who live in the village and who have donated various snaps from the past for us to share.

As well as the old buildings, which are sometimes hard to recognise, as are the roads and the fashion of clothes which clearly show that Elmham was a farming village, not up to date in the fashion stakes!

Please come in and have a chat as you look around, we are always ready to talk about our lovely village.

*Janet*

## DONATIONS IN MEMORY

It is not too late to give a donation in memory of a loved one. This tradition was started many years ago so that people could remember and have their names inscribed in the Book of Remembrance which is on show during Flower Festivals. The money goes towards paying for the flowers.

Any amount is most acceptable and if the money could be placed in an envelope with all details and given to Meg White, 2 Cathedral Drive, we would be most grateful.

# NORTH ELMHAM FLOWER FESTIVAL



25th–26th September 2021

10.00am–5.00pm (Saturday)

10.00am – 4.00pm (Sunday)

Light refreshments daily 10.00am–4.00pm

Raffle ♦ Climb the Tower (Sunday 11.00am-3.00pm)

Village archive exhibition in Church

Stalls in Churchyard

Songs of Praise Sunday at 4.30pm

Music in Church both days 11am -12 noon and 2pm - 3pm

Free admission & free car parking

**Sunday 26th Car Boot 10.00am**

Opposite the church

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*All proceeds to St. Mary's Church North Elmham (Restoration Fund).*

# SING A SONG OF COLOUR

SEPTEMBER 25TH AND 26TH

This will be the first Flower Festival since 2016 here in St Mary's church. A group of us have got together to resurrect the Festival, because we are passionate about the lovely building and the part it has always played in village life (oh, if it could only talk!)

Very sadly, the church is badly in need of some TLC, water has badly affected the north wall and it will cost many thousands of pounds to dry it out and re plaster the wall. That is just the beginning.

The church is the oldest building in the village and without constant repair it would soon need more than a few bricks and a bucket of mortar. We can't let that happen.

Tish Moore has worked her socks off asking, pleading, cajoling friends she knows, who are wonderful flower arrangers, to think of a song with colour in its title and come and create a wonderful arrangement. Bless their hearts they have all jumped at the chance and will be here doing just that. Do come along and see if your favourite song is featured here and enjoy the ingenuity of the arrangers and exhibitors.

There's a chance to see old photos and maps to take you back in time.

The Book of Remembrance lists those dear ones we have lost and wish to remember here.

There will be light refreshments at the Memorial Hall, tents in the churchyard for produce, crafts and a book stall and Bric-a-Brac, as well as a Car Boot on the paddock opposite the church. Watch out for Gill who will sell you some raffle tickets as you go into church. On Sunday, the tower will be open for careful walkers to go to the top and look in four directions, the views are stunning. Colin and his team are already getting fit to accompany visitors!

As a final coup, the new Bishop of Lynn, Dr Jane Steen will be here at 4.30pm

on Sunday to help us sing out colourful hymns. Why not drop in and join us.

Any donations of raffle prizes, bric-a-brac, cakes, scones or sausage rolls would be most welcome ( and necessary). Let Janet 668525, Caroline 668704, Susanna 668435, Theresa 668589 or Meg 668302 know if you can help.

# WIVES PLUS ALL

This year marks the 50th Anniversary year of the existence of the Club and after many months of not being able to, we were able to meet together again on Thursday 5th August in the Memorial Hall here in North Elmham for a Celebration Evening.

Chair of the Wives Plus All Club, Gloria Feeke welcomed everyone to the meeting including past and present members.

Gill King, who has been Secretary of the Club since its founding 50 years ago gave the history of the Wives Club and how it had started in her house when a few young friends met together. After a while it moved to the Memorial Hall where it has continued to meet successfully and regularly on the 2nd Thursday of the month over the years enjoying many interesting and enlightening Speaker's talks and other events. Refreshments were served including an exquisite Celebration Cake made by member Ann Shiel and a toast was given to the Club's success, to a resounding singing of Happy Birthday. A most enjoyable evening was had by all, and it was lovely to meet up again after events of the last year, on such an auspicious occasion .

Our regular monthly meeting commenced again, when Wives Plus All members and friends met at St Mary's Church on the 12th August where Suzanna Wade-Martins gave a talk on the history of the Church. The Church was first built by Bishop Losinga in the 11th century after the Anglo Saxon Cathedral moved from North Elmham and

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Susanna pointed out the changes made century by century, the additions to the building, the architecture, etc and the following is a quote from the first paragraph of the Church's souvenir guide :

*"the Church of St. Mary's North Elmham has a fascinating story to tell. Not only does it contain examples of beautiful medieval art and architecture, but it's fabric reflects the great events of our national history as well as significant changes in the local community over the past 900 years."*

So, for 900 years this magnificent Church has been here for worship, private prayer, quiet, and family events, weddings, baptisms and funerals. A focal point for us all. We are so lucky.

Thank you Susanna for a very interesting evening.

Wives Plus All will meet again on THURSDAY 2nd SEPTEMBER when Tom and Jo Fitzalan Howard have kindly invited us for a Tour of the Historic Parts of the Elmham Estate. PLEASE ARRIVE ready to start the Tour at 6.00pm.

And on THURSDAY 9th SEPTEMBER our monthly meeting will be in the Memorial Hall, North Elmham at 7.30pm when Lyn Milns will give a talk about STREET WORK WITH YOUNG PEOPLE which she has been involved in for 17 years entitled "LOVE THEM WHERE THEY ARE" along with a brief account of her life experiences.

All are welcome to our meetings but PLEASE LET ONE OF THE FOLLOWING KNOW If you are coming along on the 2nd September as we will need to know numbers: Gloria 01362 668552, Sheila 01362 668296, Gill 01362668530.

Thanks.

*Ann Ferris*

## KNIT AND NATTER

Our first meeting for nearly two years was a nice, informal, successful afternoon. Like so many of our village organisations, despite being careful about social distancing, nothing could stop the companionship brought about by the nattering and sharing of ideas, which we had so missed.

We had new ladies too, who joined in with enthusiasm, when we discussed our involvement in the September North Elmham flower festival. The theme of "sing a song of colour" started our creative juices flowing, and we could show some very colourful items that had already been knitted. We hope to have a display in the church and a stall to sell knitted goods, in the church grounds. All proceeds to go to the church restoration fund. Please come and support this special occasion to be held on September 25th and 26th.

Up to date we have collected 152 and counting, Innocent Drink bottle hats for Age UK - so many thanks to everyone who joined in.

Our next meeting will be held in the pavilion again on Tuesday September 7th at 2.00pm everyone welcome.

*Eileen Cotterill Tel: 01362 668380*



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CHEDDAR TOPPED NACHOS, SALSA & GUACAMOLE (V) (VEO)	£7	FRIES, CRISPY HALLOUMI, SPRING ONION, SWEET CHILLI SAUCE (V)	£6
TEMPURA KING PRAWNS, SWEET CHILLI SAUCE	£6	RUSTIC CHIPS, TRUFFLE OIL & PARMESAN	£4.50
SMOKED SALMON, ASPARAGUS, AIOLI & POACHED EGG (GF)	£7	PAN FRIED SCALLOPS, CHORIZO, PEA PUREE	£9.50

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HOMEMADE BEEF BURGER WITH BACON, CHEESE, BABY GEM, TOMATO & BURGER SAUCE IN A TOASTED BUN & FRIES (GFO)	£13.00
GRILLED HALLOUMI, ROASTED PEPPER & PORTOBELLO MUSHROOM BURGER, SIRACHA MAYO & FRIES (V) (GFO)	£12.50
TAGLIATELLE, BASIL PESTO, RED ONION, CHERRY TOMATO, OLIVES & MOZZARELLA (V) (N)	£13.00
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## **NORTH ELMHAM CRICKET CLUB**

### **July 17th v Denver (League)**

NECC 253-5 Denver 51 all out. NECC won by 202 runs.

A magnificent unbeaten 120 from stand-in opener Josh Hall on a difficult wicket and aided by contributions from Futter (37) Hunt (23) and Bend (25 no) was far too high a target for the hosts to contemplate. In reply they could only scrape to 51 with Ben Hunt's deadly accuracy bringing him 5 wickets all bowled, Bend claiming 2 and Harvey contributing 2 run outs. North Elmham now have a healthy lead which they will maintain despite not having a fixture next Saturday.

J&L Stoves Man of the Match : Josh Hall for his 120 not out followed by a smooth display of the art of wicket-keeping.

### **July 31st v Dersingham (League)**

NECC 189-9 Dersingham 109 all out. NECC won by 80 runs

North Elmham all but confirmed promotion with a comfortable victory over third placed Dersingham. The team's strength in depth was clearly on display as 5 batsmen made 20 or more with Ollie Hall's 40 leading the way and then Ollie Jaggard who had only bowled a couple of overs previously became the side's fifth bowler to claim a five-wicket haul as he tore through the visitor's top order batsmen.

J&L Stoves Man of the Match: Ollie Jaggard for his 27 runs and 5-25.

### **August 7th v Narborough (League)**

Narborough 62 all out NECC 63-2. NECC won by 8 wickets

North Elmham confirmed promotion with this away win when in truth the biggest challenge was the weather. Despite rain interventions, the Elmham bowling attack made short work of their task, Marcus

Webb leading the way with 4 wickets while Phil Bend's brace saw him rise to the top of the Division leading wicket-takers. In reply James Harvey's unbeaten 31 and Dan Hall's 27 saw the visitors clinch victory in the 15th over.

J&L Stoves Man of the Match: Marcus Webb for his 4-26

## **NORTH ELMHAM SCHOOL HOUSE AND LAND CHARITY**

Are you under 25 years of age? If so, were you 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?

If your answer is yes to these questions, the North Elmham School House and Land Charity may be able to help you.

To apply write to:-

Clerk to the School House & Land Charity,  
Mrs C Payne  
84 Eastgate Street  
North Elmham  
Dereham  
Norfolk  
NR20 5HF

Closing date: 30th September.

All applications will be carefully considered by the trustees and a reply will be sent.

**Ed's notes:** You may be interested to learn that Jonathan Jones (see article Not One But Two on page 43) bought his first camera with a grant from this charity.

## WILDLIFE AT THE CATHEDRAL MEADOWS



Last month I mentioned Cuckoo Bees and this month it's the turn of Cuckoo Wasps. Cuckoo Wasps lay their eggs in the nests of other types of wasp but for me it's not so much their behaviour that fascinates me as their appearance. Also known as Jewel Wasps, they are clothed from head to tail in brilliant metallic turquoise-green splendour, their heavily-sculptured surface comprising a myriad of tiny bumps that catch the light and reflect their colour such that the little insects look like they are smothered in glistening emeralds. And that's the plain species. On others, known as Ruby-tailed Wasps, the tail is blushing cerise-pink as if the emeralds have been replaced by rubies. This shining pink and green combination is found on several different insects from completely unrelated families, like the exquisite Willow Flea Beetle which you can also find at the meadows. As I looked through the insects feeding on the Hogweed flowers recently I found another even more striking variation on the bedazzling Cuckoo Wasp theme. Like the others, this insect's whole head and body was covered in jewels, but this time it wasn't just the tail that was pink, the shoulders were pink too (photo 1). This pattern is shared by several cuckoo wasps that haven't been assigned common names so if I'm going to tell you which one this was (I can't not – it would be really bad form to leave that information out) I'm afraid I shall have to use its rather less sparkly scientific name, *Hedychrum niemelai*.

It's proving to be quite a mediocre year for moths. In fact that's being generous, but I have managed to catch a few interesting moths on the odd occasion. Among them was a Herald (photo 2) a unique moth that is easily recognised by its bright orange colour, its broad wings with a scalloped rear edge and two pairs of tiny but conspicuous pure white spots on the wings. Other delights that

night included the bronzy-green Large Clover Case-bearer and the large yellow Swallow-tailed Moth. Another attractive insect I found at the meadows recently was a yellow leafhopper with a unique arrangement of dark spots and lines near the end of its wings (photo 3). It's another one where I have to use its scientific name (*Eurhadina pulchella*) as it hasn't been assigned a common name.

I'm not generally a big fan of spiders. Not only am I a little bit arachnophobic but many of them are also very difficult to identify to species, often requiring microscopic examination with only the adults possible at all (and invariably I seem to find immature ones). Occasionally I find a spider that looks so distinctive that I figure even I might have a chance of identifying it and one such individual turned out to be something called a Cricket Bat Spider (photo 4). The dark marking on its body is supposed to resemble a cricket bat – judge for yourself whether you think it does. According to the British Spiders website it's mainly found on heaths and open woodland, but I wouldn't describe the place where I found it as either. It's mostly found in the south of England with relatively few dots on the records map as far north as Norfolk.

Among the bird sightings during the last month, another view of a Red Kite was probably the highlight although they aren't nearly as rare as they once were. Another raptor that is now common in Norfolk but which you would have been lucky to see here 30 years ago is the Buzzard (photo 5) – it's now possible to see up to a dozen in the air together over the meadows in spring, with smaller numbers present throughout the year.

If you asked me what my favourite wildflower was I would probably give you a different answer each time, but Common Centaury would always be high up on the list of contenders. Their clusters of perfect-pink flowers are delicately



placed above a pleasing green stem and leaves but they're flowers that I haven't found at the meadows before. This summer I found one growing along the railway at the bottom of the meadows (photo 6). There's a much better display of them a bit further up the railway in the open area north of the County School station orchard, but finding this one plant here for the first time was enough to give me a little rush of adrenaline.

# NEW VILLAGE SIGNS



Anyone noticed that as you travel into North Elmham from Billingford, near the Worthing turn we have brand new village signs, we think they are called "gates".



When I first became interested in dragonflies you had to travel to a particular site in the Brecks if you wanted to see a Scarce Emerald Damselfly in Norfolk (photo 7). I knew they had been seen at one new site more recently but I hadn't realised they'd undergone a significant range expansion. So I was perhaps a bit more excited than I ought to have been when I discovered a colony of them here in North Elmham. They weren't quite at the meadows, but very close – by the small pond in Church Meadow.

Why not come along to the meadows yourself and see what you can find. Let us know what you see: email [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/](http://www.elmham.org.uk/cathedral-meadows/)).

*Dave Appleton*

## **GARDENING CLUB**

On the 22nd July, our club of 30 members visited a garden at Severals Grange, Wood Norton where we were greeted by Jane and Brenda on a glorious warm and sunny evening. They introduced us to its history of being a garden and a nursery mainly known for its grasses, as Jane said, well before the ornamental grass became a feature in today's gardens having them exhibited in the past at national shows like Chelsea and many others.

About four years ago they decided to close the nursery section and concentrate on improving and perfecting their garden, having to remove four polytunnels and shingle beds of containers and pots for sale. This first section has been transformed into a beautiful lawned area with wide curved borders of shrubs, annuals and of course Jane's amazing grasses of different heights and textures, when walking past you just have to touch them.

The second section is hidden behind a hedge but towering above is a selection of trees and upon entering it was then clear to us all how this part of the garden had a different feel to it with an underplanting of shade loving plants and grasses and a pond at one end with insects flying around in the evening sun .

The third section has wide beds with curved edges backing onto a meadow and Jane explained that it has been planted with late summer and into autumn in mind to give a splash of colour and was their latest project to date, which is already mature with sharp lawn edges and not a weed to be seen.

After our wander around the three sections, some taking notes, names and several photographs, we returned to the first seating area and sat around in groups catching up with each other and bringing out our wine, soft drinks and of course cakes made by a club member. It was lovely to hear laughter, chat and for some having not met since March 2020, a great first meeting.

Finally, a thank you to Jane and Brenda for letting us share their mature, peaceful and colourful garden with us all if only for a few hours.

A reminder for anyone interested in gardens Severals Grange is in the Norfolk National Garden Scheme, although it will have had its Open Day this year by the time you receive this edition of Elmham News. Look for the date next year, it is well worth a visit and is on our doorstep and the money raised by the National Garden Scheme goes to different charities and in 2020 raised £2.88 million nationally.

For our August meeting, we were delighted to have been invited up The Heath to see Liz's garden. September's meeting will be on Thursday, 23rd September, 7.30 pm in the Memorial Hall.

*Ray*



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## MID-NORFOLK RAILWAY UPDATE

So, finally, after sixteen months of no passenger trains, we were able to start running again in July and how nice it is to hear the sounds of a steam locomotive pulling out of Dereham Station with a rake of restored carriages behind it! Our first major event was the Vintage Bus Day on 1st August, and I hope you may have spotted some of the vintage buses making their way through the village en route to and from County School Station during the day. Our second event was last weekend, the 7th and 8th August, with our 1940s Weekend when large numbers of visitors arrived in period costume, there were battle re-enactments at Dereham Station and even spam sandwiches on sale at our Tea Room there. Trains are now running every Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday so do have a look at our website, [www.midnorfolkrailway.co.uk](http://www.midnorfolkrailway.co.uk), for up to date information about timetables and what's on.

No further news as yet about the permissiveness of the footpath from the buffer stop north of North Elmham level crossing to County School, hopefully this will arrive in the not too distant future. However, as I've said before, whatever the decision is, the footpath will stay, the only times it may close will be for maintenance or development work and will be for as short a time as possible.

The new footpath to the south of County School next to the old running line is nearing completion. The new fence was finished some months ago and the footpath itself is nearly ready to be opened. This will ensure that access along the path will remain open even when the lower path next to the stream disappears under floodwater in the winter months and a huge thank you has to go to our volunteers who have worked extremely hard to make sure this happens.

And our Tea Room at County School, thanks to our Station Master and excellent staff, is now going great guns on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays so do pop along for a cuppa at a 1950s style station.

Finally, two events to look forward to, we are delighted first of all to announce that Flying Scotsman, the world's most iconic steam locomotive, will be visiting the Mid-Norfolk Railway for two weeks at the beginning of October. Tickets can be purchased online, either for a train ride on the first two weekends in October or the third Saturday, or a visit to see the locomotive at Dereham and perhaps visit the cab and sit in the driver's seat. Full details can again be found on our website.

The second is the return of our Polar Express™ Train Ride which will be leaving Dereham Station in November and December heading for the North Pole. With hot chocolate and cookies served on board and the opportunity to receive a very special present from Santa himself, tickets are selling fast. Once again, please see our website for more details and to book.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact us at [info@mnr.org.uk](mailto:info@mnr.org.uk) and we'll respond as quickly as possible.

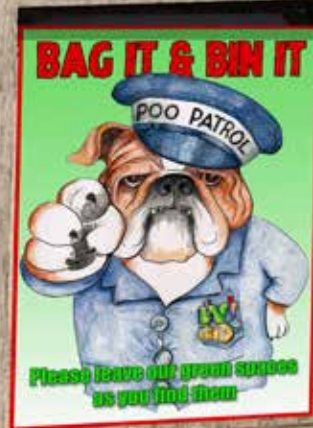
*Charles Robinson  
Chairman, Mid-Norfolk Railway  
Preservation Trust*





It is now 6 months since we started the village awareness campaign to remind dog owners to clear up after their hounds. To keep the momentum going the Doggy Tales team have kindly designed a new poster that you will see appearing around the village. And if you would like to help and post one in your window, please go to this LINK ADDRESS kindly set up by Sue and Ivan:

<https://www.elmham.org.uk/posters/>



## WANT TO LEARN TO PLAY MAH-JONG?

The game originated in China toward the end of 19th Century and became popular in the west in the 1920's. One of my aunts was brought up in Hong Kong where it was one of the pastimes to learn along with Bridge. Her own children learnt to play, as did the rest of the family on her return to Scotland. The family began teaching and playing with friends that were interested to learn.

Mah-Jong is a traditional Chinese strategy game played, usually by four people, with 136 or 144 rectangular pieces called tiles. It is a game that involves skill, strategy, and luck. The object being to collect winning sets of these tiles, as in card games such as gin rummy. Each game is scored, the winner is the one with the highest score at the end of the evening.

Mah-Jong is now played all around the world. However, it has meant that it has evolved with many variants and different rules. Playing Mah-Jong in the Far East will be different from playing Mah-Jong in USA, or Europe for that matter. There used to be a saying that for every set of Mah-Jong bought, there would be another set of rules. Even within a wider family there could be slight variations, different ways of calling for example, as I found when I set up a couple of groups in Scotland with my cousin (whose mother was my aunt from Hong Kong). We played the same game, but over the decades the two branches called differently. In fact, it became etiquette for players who have not played together prior to the game, to agree to play by the 'rules of the house' to avoid confusion and squabbles.

Therefore, starting up the beginner groups, it was decided to follow the rules laid down by the UK Mah-jong Association (UKMA). The UKMA states it is keen to see all



versions of the game played more widely in the UK, but it was easier for us to teach using the same terms.

It may look complicated initially to an onlooker, but even children as young as seven years of age can be taught to play the game. It is a lot of fun and very social.

So, if you want to learn to play, then contact number below. Even if you are not sure come along for a taster. Currently we meet informally on every Wednesday evening at 7.30 pm finishing between 9.45–10.00 pm.

However, if enough interest is generated, alternative arrangements will be made to accommodate the needs of a second group, such as playing on an alternative night, and whether collectively as a group they wish to meet weekly, fortnightly or monthly.

Contact: Heather Robinson 01362 667814

## THIS TIME LAST YEAR

### September



The Parish Council was busy once more. A lot of business is discussed at the monthly meetings covering a wide range of issues.

One thing discussed was the facilities for young people under the age of 13 years which are good, but facilities for older teenagers are sadly lacking. Tom Fitzalan Howard has met with some of these youngsters and will research various items which were mentioned and availability of them. There should be some funds available at some stage from the Brookside development which could be used for the above.

The Bridleway on the disused railway line seems to generate a lot of angst, however the Railway Company cannot officially give permission for walkers to access it but are content to allow people to walk along the route until a new footpath is constructed.

Bonfires on hot days are causing a nuisance as the smoke hangs around and causes breathing problems for nearby households.

Ray Norman with his gardening piece produced some stunning pictures of a lovely new fuchsia, called Swanley Beauty....well done Ray.

We published the 'Log of the Wensum Hero' found by Tony Langford, which created a lot of interest. This involved the school at County School for boys (not Watts Naval School which came later) when three of the personnel at the school decided to navigate the Wensum as far as Norwich. A lovely story, part 2 will be published in the October News.

The Guides were finally allowed to hold outdoor meetings. They had a cookout, and a wonderful time was had by all.

Rod Chapman wrote about playing Poker, is it still going Rod?

Susanna writing the church news was optimistic about the Vestry roof being repaired by the end of September – (it wasn't finished until the end of November). There's a saying 'the wheels of time grind slowly'!

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## GARDEN VISITOR

Here are a couple of pictures of a squirrel that visits my bird feeders. After he has had a feed, he sits next to the stone squirrel on my bird bath as though telling him how to get to the sunflower hearts by hanging upside down.

As he has been eating so much, I've bought a squirrel-proof bird feeder so he can't get to the seeds. He went and sat next to his stone friend and together they worked out that if he shook the feeder enough, he could shake out the seeds and eat them on the ground, if he can get there before the blackbirds.

*Phyllis Chittock*

## NOT ONE, BUT TWO EMMYS!

Congratulations to Jonathan Jones, an ex Elmham boy, (who bought his first camera with a grant from the School House Trust) he has scooped two Emmys for a Netflix animal show, with a difference!

The awards were for Outstanding Travel, Adventure and Nature Program and Outstanding Cinematography for an eight part animal drama series *Tiny Creatures*. Jonathan's business is based at Hingham where he is executive producer, director, cinematographer and also co writer for *Tiny Creatures*.

After taking 18 months to put it all together, it depicts animals' journeys filmed in authentically mocked up sets at the Hingham Studio to mimic natural habitats from Arizona, New York, Minnesota, Texas, Louisiana, Florida,

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For further information regarding these classes or classes in Norwich, please contact Krystyna Doherty on 01362 695581.

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Washington and New Hampshire, all in North America.

Jonathan said 'We wanted to make something that had a message'. The adventures and challenges the animals faced in the drama series were fantastical and amazing. He said the team of 20 behind the project used new techniques to create the episodes, which involved filming animals separately and combining different sections together, so no animals came to any harm.

The film maker from Hingham described receiving the Emmys via a virtual ceremony from Los Angeles at 4am, " it was a privilege".

Well done Jonathan, keep flying the flag for Norfolk... and Elmham.

## **OPEN STUDIOS**

**25 September – 10 October 2021**

### **Jenni Thorneley - Artist**

My studio in Worthing will once again be open to visitors for the annual Norfolk Open Studio fortnight, this year taking place in September/October. I continue to work in acrylics and believe the diversity of subject matter intrigues and delights my visitors and encourages me to explore and be enthused by new techniques. A colourful palette as well as expressionistic studies of natural and imagined forms aptly describes the artwork on display. As an artist I have used the last eighteen months to produce a number of artworks for open Studios. I am excited to have many new and vibrant paintings, both large and small, that I have thoroughly enjoyed working on and I am confident they will both intrigue and delight all those who visit my studio in Worthing. You can be sure that your visit will be Covid safe with plenty of ventilation and hand sanitisers. Masks will be available if required. I look forward to

seeing you in September. All details can be found in the brochure (available soon)

Jenni Thorneley, The Old Stables, Swanton Morley Road, Worthing. NR205HS

Jennifer.thorneley@sky.com

### **Kay Barker – Fine artist**

Visitors to my studio will be asked to wear a mask. Hand sanitiser available.

Taking inspiration from sea, land, sky and geological studies, my artwork allows me to express my response to nature and the environment. I try to communicate a sense of atmosphere by capturing the motion of the sea, the tranquillity of the land, and the texture of the rocks. I also let my work develop and take over from my initial direct reaction. The elements of the environment are not only beautiful, and calm but vast, complex and dangerous. This relationship between fear and tranquillity are emotions I can identify with. Engaging with nature has helped with my wellbeing and to overcome my recent surgery to remove a brain tumour. I admire and appreciate more so now the beauty found in an individual leaf or a spectacular view.

I find using different media invaluable for creating texture and depth of tone within my work. In my current practice, as well as printmaking and painting, I am employing techniques such as sand casting and layering with mixed media to produce both two and three dimensional pieces.

Should you wish to purchase my work, I will be donating a percentage to The Brain Tumour Charity.

Kay Barker, 46 Station Road, North Elmham, NR20 5HH

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## WAKE UP ELMHAM

I have lived in the village for nearly 70 years and I don't think I have seen it look so scruffy as it is now. The owners of properties and tenants don't seem to care a damn what the village looks like beyond their boundaries, their remarks seem to be, it's not our responsibility. I know the councils, both Breckland and Norfolk County Council are strapped for cash and the Parish Council have very little to say about paths and highways, we have very bad road surfaces and potholes, weeds left to die after spraying and not cleared up, drain manholes blocked up, the church yard not cared for, I know it is the PCC's responsibility.

Can we rely on the parish council to set us an example by clearing weeds off the playing field car park, come up with an idea what to do with the two phone boxes that were purchased for a pound each that are looking very scruffy, hedges

need cutting around the playing field and village green if left, the spoil will have to be disposed of, (Don't blame the conservationist as an excuse).

As for the path causing problems with flooding it seems that the engineers for the County Council who installed it, were not aware that in the flooding area there used to be a catchment pit with water all the year round, and the suggestion to plant trees on the bottom end of the green is stupid, only creating another scruffy area.

*N A Lowe*

**Ed's Note:** This letter was sent to the Parish Council by Mr Lowe and you can read the Council's reply in the Draft Parish Council notes for August in Correspondence part b.



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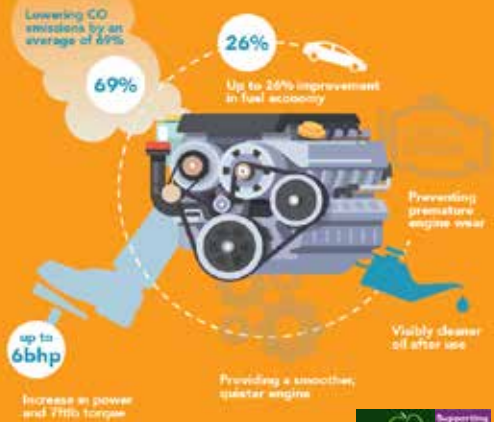
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## ST MARY'S CHURCH

Where has the last year gone? At the end of August, my family celebrated my grandson's 1st birthday. A strange celebration in a way as my daughter, partner and little Henry live in Sydney, so everything moved online, especially with Sydney in lockdown, so no local party with friends and wider family either.

With my 'church hat' on, I'm thinking about Christmas and before then Harvest Festivals, All Souls', Remembrance Sunday and Advent. It seems like very soon I'll be wishing you 'Happy New Year'!

This marking of the year, its seasons, major life events and holidays, is actually very reassuring. In these uncertain times, these events will come round – however we celebrate or mark them (or choose to ignore them!) – and life will go on.

In the New Testament, we generally think about Jesus' ministry lasting three years, from the age of 30 to 33. How do we know this? If we read the gospels carefully, we notice that there are three celebrations of the great Jewish feast of Passover, when Jews would travel to Jerusalem to give thanks for their freedom from slavery and to worship at the Temple. In fact, the Last Supper takes place in exactly this context – they were preparing for Passover and this was to be the last meal that Jesus shared with his friends.

Meals together, and celebrations with friends and family, have always been important to us and, as we enjoy our new freedoms following the easing of Covid lockdown restrictions, we can begin to plan again. Maybe a significant family birthday or wedding anniversary, and certainly Christmas.

As we do so, let's also be mindful of those who don't have close family nearby or who are struggling to make ends meet. Do consider making donations to the local Foodbank, especially at Harvest-time, and let's all be aware of our neighbours who might welcome a friendly cup of tea or phone call.

With blessings,

*Revd Sally*

## MORE 2 LIFE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

How lovely to see the achievements of those Olympic athletes competing in Tokyo, bringing some enjoyment to many in this time of turbulence. It's good to watch our favourite sport, but also to have the opportunity to see ones we don't usually get to see. The sacrifice and discipline that goes into each athlete's pursuit of gold is intense. Without it, they would not be able to reach the level they have.

Being a disciple of Christ is much like this. The Apostle Paul says in 1 Corinthians 9:24-25:

*'Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever.'*

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The Olympians this year achieved many new records, and many medals were won. Yet despite these achievements, these records and medals will not last forever. Like an athlete we are to discipline ourselves and run to get the prize, but not one that will not fade away, one that will last forever, which can be found alone in being a disciple of the Lord Jesus Christ until the end of our days here on earth.

If you would like to know more about Jesus and explore what this means for you, we are running Life Explored and Christianity Explored courses in the near future. To find out more, get in touch.

Every blessing,

*Anne-Marie Fewell*  
*Pastor and NCC Domestic Abuse*  
*Champion*

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## **WORTHING NEWS**

Before we begin to share news for this month it is with enormous pleasure and delight to share with you that in July and August, Worthing wedding celebrations swept through our villages for two amazing couples.

A young couple who moved into our village of Worthing and set down roots, returned to the bride's hometown where they were joined with family and friends to celebrate the beginning of married life together.

May we all wish Ginny & Dan great joy and happiness together. Many, many congratulations

With Covid-19 affecting everyone since last year and of course Wedding Celebrations which had to be either cancelled, scaled down or wait till it was

safe and coming out of lockdown, our Worthing couple finally had the wedding they wanted.

From Worthing Mill, the proud parents Mike & Karen, saw their daughter Emily join Alex in wedlock in front of 100 family and friends at St Mary's in North Elmham to celebrate this happy occasion.

May we all wish Emily & Alex great joy and happiness together. Many, many congratulations

### **The Norfolk Churches Trust**

Please come out and support your local church. St Margaret's will be open on Saturday, 11th September from 9.30 am–4.30 pm to meet and greet all enthusiasts taking part either on bike, walking or even travelling by car is now permitted.. This annual sponsored event is in aid of Norfolk Churches Trust and everyone is invited to join in and visit as many churches in the county.

If you wish to take part, it's not too late. Details and sponsor forms from: Celia 01362 668928 or email: c.daniel784@btinternet.com "Blessing" Church Road Worthing NR20 5HR

### **St Margaret's, Worthing** **September Service Pattern**

#### **12th September**

Holy Communion at 10.30 am

#### **26th September**

At 3pm "JOIN IN THE CONVERSATION" followed by a "mini service" celebrating HARVEST TIME and remembering WATERAID.

We hope you can join us.

*Celia*

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## Church Services in September (Heart of Norfolk Group)

### 5th September

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

### 12th September

10.30 am	Bawdeswell	'The 10.30'
10.30 am	Foulsham	Holy Communion
10.30 am	Stibbard	Mzorning Praise
10.30 am	Worthing	Holy Communion

### 19th September

10.30 am	Bawdeswell	All-Age Communion
10.30 am	North Elmham	Holy Communion
10.30 am	Wood Norton	Holy Communion
4.00 pm	Foulsham	Sung Evensong

### 26th September

10.30 am	Bawdeswell	Word & Praise
10.30 am	Foulsham	Harvest Festival
10.30 am	Guist	Holy Communion
3.00pm	Worthing	Join in the Conversation: Celebrating Harvest Time
4.30 pm	North Elmham	Festival Songs of Praise with Bishop Jane Steen

### Other

25th/26th September: North Elmham Flower Festival

26th September: Foulsham Harvest Festival & Lunch

Each Sunday, one of the Services in the Heart of Norfolk Group will be available on Zoom. Please contact the Benefice Office on 01362 668850 or [heartofnorfolkchurches@gmail.com](mailto:heartofnorfolkchurches@gmail.com) for details, or subscribe to our weekly e-bulletin via the HON website: [heartofnorfolkchurches.org.uk](http://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.

COVER: Ian McIntosh, LRPS, PAGE 15: Terry Hylton, PAGE 17: Sally Kimmis, PAGE 19: Chris Reeve, PAGE 21: John Fielding, PAGE 34 & 35: Dave Appleton, PAGE 36: Ian McIntosh, LRPS, PAGE 40: Terry Hylton, PAGE 43: Phyllis Chittock, PAGE 47: Peter Kennedy (Cartoon)



## North Elmham Parish Council

**Chair:** Jennie Borgnis  
**Vice Chair:** Martin Phillips  
**Clerk:** Kevin J Webb  
 01328 855046  
 northelmhampc@hotmail.co.uk

**Group Leader** ✓  
**Group Member** ●

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

### Finance & Administration

Eastgate Centre Trustees			✓		●					
Elmham Charities Trustees	●				●				✓	
Allotments (AMS)									✓	

### Village Facilities

Broom Green, Pound, Millennium Wood	✓						●			
Cathedral Meadows			✓			●				
Cathedral Ruins			●			✓				
Prince William Wood & Tree Warden			✓				●			●

### Recreation & Sporting Facilities

Playing Field / Pavilion		●								✓
Village Green				●						✓
Footpath Warden	✓	●								

### Services & Other

Highways				●	✓					
Planning							●		●	✓
Street Lighting			✓					●		●
Environment & Maintenance									✓	
Railway Liaison							●		✓	
Website	✓								●	

Meetings are normally held on the first Wednesday of the month and due to covid-19 take place over Zoom, commencing at 7.30pm. Parishioners are entitled to attend and are most welcome, please contact the Chair or Clerk for access codes. 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 email the Editors (see front of magazine for contact details) and let us know, we are always on the lookout for new contributors.

# NORTH ELMHAM DIRECTORY

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Dr Simon Carroll                      Dr Alice Griffiths-Jones                      Dr Robert Spooner  
 Dr Abigail Brun                      Dr Samita Mukhopadhyay                      Dr Victoria Lawrence

## North Elmham Village Emergency Telephone System (VETS) - 01362 788700

NHS Direct                      111

## POLICE Non Emergency - 101 - EMERGENCY - 999

Breckland District Councillor	Gordon Bambridge Bill Borrett	01603 880557 01362 860200
Norfolk County Councillor	Bill Borrett	01362 860200
Member of Parliament	george.freeman.mp@parliament.uk	01953 600617
North Elmham VC School		01362 668318
Chairman of School Governors	Robert Plant chair@gov@northelmham.norfolk.sch.uk	
Memorial Institute	Pam Neve	01362 668325
Pavilion	Bookings	01362 668580
Eastgate Centre	Heather Caley	01362 668245
Breckland Dog Warden	Confidential message or texts 07771 617417	01362 858500
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Community Website	www.elmham.org.uk	

## Dereham Library - 01362 693184

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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
More2Life	Anne-Marie Fewell		01328 701830

## Church Wardens

Elmham	Michael Newey	668424
Worthing	Celia Daniel	668928



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