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MAY 2020

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Editorial

As we are all coping in these unprecedented times with the Covid-19 pandemic, it is heartening to read the report from David Fairbairn-Day who gallantly offered to coordinate the volunteers who have put themselves forward to help anyone in need in our village. As David outlines, the requests have been less than 30 which indicates that we live in a great community spirited village with neighbours assisting neighbours, friends etc. Thank you to everyone who volunteered and to anyone who is assisting others.

One of our Editors has reminisced about her childhood, also emphasising how fortunate we are to live in this lovely village, with wonderful walks, lovely people and a great sense of community. We all take so much for granted and as awful as this pandemic is, it has also shown the good and great of our village.

On a sad note, we are sorry for recent the loss of two parishioners. Bobby Wade sadly passed away recently. He worked for the Don family; first for the Air Marshall then Robin. Our sincere condolences to Bobby's family.

Jimmy Brown lost his fight in early April. Jimmy has done so much for the village over the years. He gave so much to his community and we will miss him greatly. Our sincere thoughts are with Pat and their family.

As the lockdown proceeds, we do not know when we will physically publish the next magazine but whatever happens, it will be on the community website www.elmham.org.uk.

Whatever happens, we are all in this together, we have no choice; so smile or wave when you see anyone however far away they are; keep in touch with your family and friends and stay safe.

PLEASE NOTE: If we have a June edition then the deadline will be 14TH MAY 2020. Please email your article to each of the editors listed below asap before the deadline.

Volume 43, No 4, May 2020

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North Elmham Parish Council

Wednesday 4th March 2020

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

Councillors present: Mrs. J. Borgnis (Chairman), Mr. M. Phillips, Mr. T. Fitzalan Howard, Mr. P. Grainger, Mr. M. Rayner, Mr. C. Smith and Ms A. Ferris (co-opted at the beginning of the meeting).

Also in attendance: Mr. K. Webb (Clerk) and seven parishioners

Apologies for absence: Mr. J. Brown, Mr. J. Labouchere, Dr. P. Wade-Martins and Mr. G. Bambridge (District Councillor)

Ms Ann Ferris was co-opted to the Parish Council and welcomed by the Chairman. Proposed by Mr. Rayner and seconded by Mr. Fitzalan Howard. All in favour.

Public Participation

A parishioner thanked members of the Parish Council for investigating concerns that had been expressed regarding the model railway at County School. Two young parishioners requested some improvements to the skateboard area, and they are engaging in some fund raising to enable this to happen. The matter will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting. Also, a request was made to place a storage box in the Millennium Wood in which footballs, blankets and other items could be securely kept.

Land Management Matters

Village Green: A reply is awaited regarding progress with the new tree. The path

across the green is maintained by Norfolk County Council Highways as the "Safe Route to School" and recently designated by them as a cycle track. Dr. Wade-Martins has reported the need for the surface to be made up with fresh Breedon gravel and has given Highways the key code to get onto the green to carry out these repairs.

Cathedral Ruins: Nothing to report and there is no sign of movement from English Heritage over the repair of Bob Fletcher's wall, although it is now so well supported with wooden shoring there is now no urgency from a safety point of view.

Cathedral Meadows: It is now time to sign another grazing agreement with the grazier. At some stage fresh tenders may be sought but there is no time for that for this year.

Designing of the new information panel is now complete and the designer's bill is available for payment at the meeting. The manufacturer's bill will fall in the next financial year and the Chairman has asked for the appropriate order to be placed.

We are struggling to have the hedges cut during the window permitted by Natural England (up to the end of February) because of the excessively wet weather.

Mr. Phillips reported that he had instructed Brown & Co to complete the application form in respect of the Basic Payment Scheme.

Millennium Wood: The hedges have been cut back.

Prince William Wood: Mr. Darby is to be requested to proceed with the fence.

Street Lights: Light number 18 will be dealt with in due course.

Highway Matters

Parish Partnership bid for 2020/21 Still no news.



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Parish Partnership Eastgate Street Parking Scheme 2019/20. The street will need to be closed during the works and Highways have agreed to postpone closure until the Easter holidays (probably 6th April) to avoid the school bus problem as much as possible. All residents will be given advance notice and I have also written a piece for Elmham News to give further advance warning. Although residents won't be stopped from reaching their own properties, they will be encouraged to enter the street from the east end as far as possible.

Speeding in Station Road. We are looking into the idea of encouraging the residents in the road to organise their own Community Speed Watch Scheme. If eleven speeding offences are reported within a month, then the police will follow that with their own speed traps. We hope to distribute the proposal to the residents through leaflets delivered via Elmham News. Paul may be able to report further on this.

Access to a resident's drive opposite the Holt Road build-out. No progress on this despite a reminder from Peter Wade-Martins and from our County Councillor.

Overhanging trees at the east end of Eastgate Street. Tom F-H has reported that the worst offending branches have been removed and our Highways Engineers has now been notified of this outcome.

The following faults have been reported:

- Three potholes in the village (including a nasty one at the entrance to Cathedral Drive)
- Two drains previously reported blocked are still blocked.
- More gravel has been requested to make good the muddy areas on the Safe Route to School across the green (as mentioned above).

Leaf sweeping on verges and pavements Parish Council has twice decided not to ask Breckland to have these swept which on reflection I feel was a mistake because Breckland don't seem to do it automatically and as a result more material is available to block drains (including the drain which runs under the new buildout alongside the kerb). I would ask that the Parish Council changes its decision on this and agrees that I should raise the matter with Breckland.

Mr. Grainger reported that the average speed along Holt Road is 10 mph lower since the build-out was put in place. The statistics, therefore, confirm the positive impact made by this project.

Pavilion and Playing Field – Play Area

Anglian Water work has been delayed but is scheduled to take place. The annual Norfolk PFA membership certificate has been received. It was agreed to arrange for two extra cuts of the playing field in April, i.e. before the start of the cricket season. The Clerk will speak to the contractors.

Allotments

The remaining allotments are beginning to be let.

Volunteers

The finger post in Church Lane has slipped down. The volunteers are to be asked to adjust this.

Website

Concerns remain regarding the website accessibility requirements. The Clerk will again speak to Edit Website with a view to establishing the cost of making the Parish Council section of the website compliant with the new legislation.

Pump at the north end of the village

A further quotation of £1,270 had been obtained to replace the pump. It was

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generally felt that this was also too high and, as such, all agreed not to proceed with this matter.

Memorial Hall

Mr. Smith reported that there have been improvements made to the kitchen. In addition, the toilets and kitchen have been decorated. New blinds have been fitted.

Footpath on railway line

A meeting had taken place with Mr. Robinson (Chairman MNR) and Mr. Cullen (County School Station Master). The Chairman and Mr. Rayner were present. It was very positive and Mr. Cullen is to put a piece in the Elmham News about the plans. It is the intention to have a miniature railway at some stage with a tearoom, but probably not this year. The Mid Norfolk Railway is looking at the possibility of putting a footpath on top of the embankment, but it is believed that a width of three metres is possibly needed. The Breckland Tree Officer is aware of the tree felling. The status of the footpath is to be resolved.

Brookside Development

A written request had been received from Mr. Jason Barber, agent for Orchard Homes, enquiring as to whether the Parish Council would be prepared to take over the ownership of and responsibility for the barns which are homes to bats. It was unanimously agreed that this was not a desirable proposition and should be rejected. Proposed by Mr. Fitzalan Howard and seconded by Mr. Smith. All in favour of turning down this request.

Visit to recycling Centre

Mr. Rayner had produced an excellent report for Elmham News regarding the visit which had been made on the morning of 5th February to the Costessey Centre.

Affordable Housing Update

Five possible dates had been identified to meet the three housing associations. These are 28th April, 26th May, 2nd June, 9th June and 16th June.

Sports, Social and Community Facilities Review

Mr. Grainger said that more information is needed regarding the activities of the Pavilion and the Institute. Mr. Smith agreed to provide this.

New Information Panel

The new panel has been ordered.

Walsingham Way Pilgrimage Route

Mr. Fitzalan Howard is to attend a meeting later in the week to discuss the route. It will cover a distance of about two miles through the parish.

Payroll Service for 2020/2021

Thinking Rural had advised that, after the end of the current financial year, they would no longer be providing payroll services. Two quotations had been received from other companies and the most cost effective was from Mandrake (U.K.) Ltd of Dereham. The expenditure would be £20 + VAT per month, i.e. for each payroll run. Acceptance of this option was proposed by Mr. Grainger and seconded by Mr. Smith. All in favour.

Priscilla Bacon Hospice Request for Donation

A request had been received to financially support the new hospice for Norfolk. A number of charitable approaches of this type are made and it was suggested that a percentage sum, linked to the precept, should be made available to meet suitable requests of this nature. These would cover donations to external organisations outside the normal village contributions. A figure of 2% of the annual precept was agreed.

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Mr. Smith proposed that a donation of £100 should be made to the Priscilla Bacon Lodge at the next meeting. This was seconded by Mr. Grainger. All in favour.

Planning Applications & Determinations

Applications

Mrs. H. Gibbons – proposed front extension – 11 Brookside (3PL/2020/142/HOU)

A report was made to Breckland District Council regarding activity at the gateway just east of the Worthing junction on the Billingford Road. The verge has been cut through and the gate lowered which means there is the potential for vehicle rather than just pedestrian access. This is likely to be something that should have required planning permission with County Highways being made aware.

Hello Everyone

Instead of doing more housework and cutting the grass again, I sat down and decided that it was more important to find out how everyone in the Panto Gang is getting on.

When I work in my front garden folk drive by and give me a hello by pipping the horn, I wave but have no idea who I am waving to unless recognise the car.

It will be great to meet again when all this thing is sorted out. In the meantime back to cutting the grass again. Or doing a lap of the village green.

Best wishes to all

From a frail and vulnerable old trot on Holt Road.

Eileen

Gardening Club Notes

I am writing these notes in the garden on a lovely sunny day with the hedge sparrows building their nests and the blue tits already sitting on eggs, a sure sign of spring. And I take it you all have been busy in either the potting shed, greenhouse or garden catching up on all the jobs we have left unfinished in the past.

At our club dinner in February (remember those days, when we could socialise) those present were given a packet of sweet pea seeds and I hope you have had success in germination and that are ready for planting outside, It is still uncertain if the Annual Garden Show in August will take place, this depends on the government's advice in the near future. Let's be positive this show can happen.

A reminder and suggestion of things to do in May :

- Prune spring flowering shrubs once they have finished flowering.
- Sow half-hardy annual seeds outdoors where they are to flower.
- Plant cabbages, cauliflowers, Brussel sprouts and broccoli. May is the last month for sowing Brussel sprouts if you want them for the end of year.
- Keep healthy and safe in these difficult times and enjoy being in your gardens until our monthly meetings resume.

Ray Norman

Sarah found this link to virtual garden visits and thought you might like to see them. One of them is the Cambridge Botanic garden which we had planned to visit in June!

www.theenglishgarden.co.uk/gardens/virtual-garden-tours

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Wildlife at Cathedral Meadows

For those of us who have been able to walk round the meadows as our daily exercise during lockdown, there have been plenty of interesting things to see while walking. The biggest surprise was a visit from a White Stork which spent a night roosting on the roof of the church before being seen feeding in Church Meadow the next morning. White Storks are very rare visitors to the UK from Europe, but they're also kept in captivity and many of the birds seen over here have escaped from captivity. In recent years there has been a new source of White Storks in the UK: wild birds in Europe are sometimes found injured, perhaps having flown into a powerline for example, and then taken to specialist centres in the UK to rehabilitate. With a few exceptions (such as gamebirds) it is illegal to release non-native birds in the UK, but controversially these rehabilitated storks are allowed to go free when they have recovered, and when they do they tend to roam all over the country. Well, our bird had a ring on its leg which enabled us to trace it: it was a wild bird in Poland that had been brought to a centre



in Surrey in 2018, presumably after being found injured. It left the centre in 2019 and was then seen in Sussex, Wiltshire, Oxfordshire and Cambridgeshire before arriving here in Norfolk. Maybe one day it will find its way back to Poland.

A new information sign has been erected at the meadows, near where you go in from the chapel. Among other things it features Yellowhammers, and these have been particularly easy to find at the meadows recently. These sparrow-sized birds feed on the ground but are more usually seen when perching in the hedgerows where the bright yellow males belt out their distinctive song at this time of year.

The last month has seen a welcome surge in the number of insects. One classic spring species which you may have spotted in your gardens on sunny days

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is the Bee-fly, or Dark-edged Bee-fly to give it its full name. These large furry flies resemble bees and have a distinctive long proboscis sticking out in front of them. They're quite harmless and you can often see them hanging in the air like hoverflies. Another fly I found recently was new to me – something called a Downland Bibio, a distinctive black fly with a yellow body and a red hump behind its head. Bibios are closely related to the larger all-black St Mark's Flies which you may have seen swarming with dangling legs on warm spring days. Other insects that have appeared include several species of ladybird, one of my favourites being the little yellow 22-spot Ladybird.

If you visit the meadows let us know what wildlife you see: email appleton.dave@googlemail.com or phone 668431. Otherwise you can follow us on Twitter at @ElmhamMeadows or you can see our recent tweets on the Parish Council website (www.elmham.org.uk/cathedral-meadows/).

Photos: 1. New information sign 2. White Stork 3. Dark-edged Bee-fly 4. Downland Bibio 5. 22-spot Ladybird 6. Sheep in the Meadows



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Have you noticed.....

Quite a lot has been written about the quality of the air since we have all been in lockdown. Suddenly I realised how blue the sky seems to be and how vibrant the greenery of the hedges and trees is. Now I can't stop looking, tell us what you have noticed.

Jethro's poem for April

Friendship

They say that relations you're stuck with,
And friends you can pick & you choose
But for every friend you must be a friend
Or else you could very soon lose

My first friend a girl of just seven
I took her to school every day
Folks said, " One day they'll get married "
But that was a long way away

She went her way, I went mine
& life rolled by fast so it seems
She found a husband & I found a wife
Yet strangely it fulfilled our dreams

We met one day not so long ago
An old lady she had become
But now she's gone & life's moved on
Those were innocent times, & such fun

Now the world has been brought to it's knees
& is threatened with bad virus ills
And old folks must all stay at home
Can't go shopping, nor even fetch pills

No relations & not any children
So friends come & fetch all our needs
We are grateful & thank God in heaven
For He showed us that friendship
succeeds

Thank Him for friends & for friendship
You'll not find them growing on trees
For they are made of real solid stuff
They give with such selfless ease

Our pleasures our pastimes & int'rests
we share
Forged in the fire of mutual care,
hammered out on the anvil of love
For a friend in need is a friend indeed
A great blessing from Him up above

Elmham Post Office

If you have been in or passed the Post Office, you will notice that Ben is busy redecorating! Not sure if Lily has been much of a help but she celebrated her first birthday on 17th April, so hopefully all work was stopped and lots of cake and goodies were in evidence.

Ben's plan is to use Facebook, the shop window and the official Post Office website to update hours on a week by week basis.

He will open Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 0900-1230 for the foreseeable future. This is a moveable feast as he is obviously governed by a few factors outside of his control such as government updates, sickness, overall viability and upcoming bank holidays. (Bank holiday weeks, he plans to do Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday to make sure we still get three 'days' in). You will appreciate that these times are not set in stone, so please be flexible.

All the very best to everyone, and we cant wait until we can get out to enjoy coffee and cake again.



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Jimmy Brown

Everyone knew Jimmy Brown – usually to be seen around the village mending or fixing something, or digging and weeding in the garden alongside the Playing Field.

In another life Jimmy had spent most of his working days as a long distance lorry driver, working his way across the country and beyond, and was very proud to say he drove everywhere without the use of a Sat Nav!

For a number of years Jimmy had been an active member of Elmham Parish Council which he joined when he retired. He was responsible for the Playing Field, was part of the Allotment Team and also the Environment and Maintenance Group. This was where he emulated George Kerrison both coming from the same mould, usually with some sort of gardening equipment to hand. We

thought of both of them as a New Age 'Mrs Mop' of the community. He was first and foremost an honest and practical man and tried to put himself in the shoes of parishioners.

During Parish Council meetings, if Jimmy didn't understand quite what point was being made, he was quick to point out that "he only went to a secondary modern school and had never swallowed a dictionary" to make a point. Everyone always laughed!

Jimmy was an wonderful friend for the village. He served his village conscientiously and well. If he saw something which needed doing, he didn't ask 'should I do that,' he got on and did it!

He was an ardent supporter of Norwich City FC, going on Peelings bus from Elmham to the home matches. He has been heard on the radio coming home from the match giving us all the benefit of his wisdom or otherwise of the game, and not afraid to give his opinion of any shortcomings of the team!

Not once during his illness did anyone hear him grumble or complain, he accepted what was with great stoicism and humour.

Jimmy, we salute you and hope you are as always, busy with your barrow and spade getting to grips with God's Garden, which must need an army of volunteers just like you, to make it perfect.

Our heartfelt thoughts and prayers are with Pat and their family.

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- Nick Long -

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Cryptic Confectionery

Each answer is a well known chocolate or sweet, past and present. Answers can be found on page 35.

1. Sly giggles- 8
2. High class thoroughfare – 7,6
3. Money making royalty – 4,9
4. Mother's local – 4,3
5. Clever folk - 8
6. Sport for princes - 4
7. Good children get these - 6
8. Garden flowers -5
9. Assorted girls – 5,8
10. Arrange marriage partners -11
11. Edible fasteners – 9,7
12. Wobbly infants – 5,6
13. Talk quietly - 6
14. Big bus – 6,6
15. Gem orchard – 4,6
16. 100% Au – 3,4
17. Big cats pub – 4,3
18. Noisy insects - 7
19. Lots of parties - 12
20. Outside meal - 6
21. Reward - 6
22. Ten cent pub – 4,3
23. Sweet tooth cleaner – 5,5
24. Little Diamonds -6,4
25. Seaside Stone – 9,4

Reminder

We have been asked to remind everyone that just as the Pavilion, Eastgate Centre and the Memorial Institute are closed due to the current legislations, so is the children's Play Area.

Red Kite Sighting

I spotted a Red Kite take off from the ground in North Elmham churchyard at around 1.30 pm, Thu 18th April. I also saw it on the west side of the Millennium Wood later this afternoon.

Graham Bloomfield

Ed's note: Please let us know about of all the birds you are seeing Graham, you have very sharp eyes, or a good pair of binoculars!

VE Day Celebration

Scheduled for Friday 8th May this has been cancelled but it has been mooted that we celebrate VJ Day instead, which is Saturday 15th August.

So, if we are all out of lockdown by then, and who knows, but how about a big whole village street party to celebrate on the Jubilee Green? We could have music, bring your own food and drink to share and have a really good time.

Reminiscing

During the recent lockdown I have done more walking for my daily exercise in the village than I have done for quite some time! We are so lucky to have such wonderful surroundings to enjoy and my heart goes out to those who live in high-rise flats with no garden and nowhere to enjoy the outdoors.

Whilst on a recent walk with my husband Julian I found myself reminiscing about my childhood here in North Elmham. As a pupil of the school our lovely teacher Mrs. Bales would take the whole class for nature walks down Church Lane. We would collect wild flowers, and anything of interest and take it back to the classroom for our nature table.



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Whilst on our walks Mrs. Bales would make us all stand quietly and listen and identify birds and birdsong, insects and butterflies. Our nature table always had a bowl of tadpoles too, I can't remember what happened when they developed into frogs!

Continuing our walk down the railway line we passed the stream where my friends and I would go fishing with nets and jam jars. We would catch crayfish and sticklebacks; I doubt whether you would find these in the stream now!

Continuing to Worthing, again where we used to fish, this time for 'mud gudgeons', hiding under rocks, we would spend hours messing about in the river. Our childhood allowed us plenty of freedom and we would only go home for food!

I feel really privileged to have been born and brought up in North Elmham and to have lived here all my adult life. Lockdown continues and we can continue to enjoy our countryside and exchange words with our lovely neighbours. Times like these, which I'm sure none of us ever thought would happen, makes us all feel so thankful for what we have.

Stay safe, stay well and keep smiling.

Caroline Payne

Window Cleaning on Hold

David and Teddy Adcock are very sorry but say they are ceasing to continue their window cleaning service whilst the Coronavirus is in full swing, and we are all in lockdown. They will have their buckets filled and sponges ready as soon as full service is allowed!

Self Isolation North Elmham

SINE was set up on 16th March and with support from the Parish Council and the Elmham News team, we were able to print and distribute 700 information leaflets by 20th. This was very fortunate, being only three days before the government lockdown!

Since then, we now have 50 volunteers willing and able to help those who have to isolate, or who are designated by the government as people who need "shielding." It is a credit to our community that the number of requests for help have been under 30 to date, which I think shows the amount of support there is from those around us.

However, for those who have been helped it has been for very necessary and sometimes urgent needs. There have been some requests that we haven't been able to carry out, such as going inside people's homes or taking card payment for essential shopping. We have to abide by all safe distancing rules and are of course, just villagers helping out where we can.

We are now coordinating with local agencies and charities and as time goes on, this will become more important.

I must say a big thank you to all of the volunteers, for every request for help, I have had at least 6 people offering to assist, usually within one hour.

David Fairbairn-Day

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Then & Now: Coffin Row, Lawes Court





Coffin Row

Coffin Row (photo top left) was a row of cottages at the bottom of the church hill. The photograph of them looks idyllic and pretty but the truth is they were unsanitary, damp, and cramped. But obviously good enough for farm workers and their families!

The Lord of the Manor, Lord Sondes who lived at Elmham Hall, across the park opposite the church had died, and the estate was being carved up and sold off. He owned almost all the land surrounding the village and most of the property including Coffin Row in the village. During the 1800's many cottages were knocked down because of the bad living conditions, but he never got round to Coffin Row!

This row of cottages belonging to the estate was auctioned off on Wednesday 16th March, 1921, at the Kings Head, along with other buildings and woodland within the village. The sale catalogue says this was a row of seven cottages, one of them being a Reading Room. Auctions had been taking place since the late 1800's whilst the Elmham estate was being sold off and the family were living at their other home in Kent. Who bought this row I do not know?

Just after World War II, Ray Howlett bought one of the Bakeries in Eastgate Street and also acquired this row of cottages. Each of these had a strip of garden and there was a row of sheds and toilets between the gardens and the cottages.

Ruth Grimmer and her husband Don lived in one of the middle cottages when they were first married. She thinks the rent per week was ten shillings which she took to Ray Howlett. Hilary Howlett, Ray's son remembers as a very small boy going with his father to Coffin Row to collect the rest of the rents on a Sunday morning.

Ray Howlett sold the row of cottages to Norfolk County Council with the gardens which stretched up to the Institute in 1966. They were demolished and the old peoples flatlets were built by Pedder's Way.

Here are Ruth Grimmer's memories of living in Coffin Row

"We moved into Coffin Row in the spring of 1957 after being married for 2 ½ years. Don had just done his National Service and whilst he was away doing that, I lived at home with my parents in Colkirk. There were five houses in Coffin Row, Olive and Dick Bloy with their younger daughter lived in the end cottage nearest to the village, this whole row was said to look like a coffin. Next to them lived Mrs Dawson.

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She was a widow and I think she lost her husband in the war. My husband Don and I lived in the middle cottage, then a Mr and Mrs Collins, they came from London. We did not see much of them. In the end cottage, nearest to the Institute lived Olive and Leslie Atterwill with their two little boys. I used to take their youngest son out for walks in his pram.

There was no hot water, just a cold tap (Don fitted the sink in the kitchen), and the pail toilets were up the yard. Each cottage had a large garden.

Mrs Dawson's cottage had one bedroom, a living room and a very small place she called her kitchen. She was a lovely friendly lady and I had many a cup of tea with her, but I always had to take my cup with me if I went to hers!

Our cottage had two bedrooms with very high ceilings and there were also two other rooms and a long narrow kitchen. The rooms were small and very dark. From the bedrooms we had a lovely view across the park to the lake. In the kitchen there was a copper, which on a bath night was filled with water, a fire lit underneath and the water was heated up. The bath was a tin bath which hung outside the back door when not in use and it was a task having to bail the water in and out of the bath.

It was very noisy living there with the lorries from Seaman's and Mickleovers passing through. I can remember some nights when army lorries were going past all night and the cottage seemed to shake because we were so near the road.

Happy days, this was our first home."

(Seven cottages in 1921 now only five, I don't know if any were knocked down).

Lawes Court

Lawes Court was built in the mid sixties and was a sheltered home for elderly people. There were eight flatlets, two of them were doubles,

Each flatlet had a sitting room with a curtained off section for a bedroom and a small kitchen and its own toilet. Three units shared a bathroom but as Marion Smedley who was the Warden for a few years said, all the residents got on well together and knew when their neighbours were going to have a bath so there was no gate crashing!

As well as their own rooms there was a laundry room- the residents had their own days for using the facilities and a communal lounge.

Marion said it was a happy place to live.

The lounge faced the road and several village people have said they visited some of the residents and joined them in the lounge for a cup of tea and no doubt put the world to rights.

This complex covered most of the ground that Coffin Row was on as well as the gardens which went with each cottage right up to the Institute wall.

Lawes Court Today

I can't find out when the flatlets were demolished but in May 2006 the Parish Council was told that affordable housing for local people was needed. A survey was to be circulated to gauge the feelings of the locals and as a result in November 2006 there was a proposal for eight units in Elmham – to be shared between rental and shared ownership. Applicants were to have a strong local connection.

We cannot find out anything else about these houses despite trawling through scrapbooks and old editions of Elmham News. If you can enlighten us please give us a call or an email.

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North Elmham Primary School News

We ended the term learning new playground games, taking part in World Book Day; dressing potatoes up as characters and making puppets to retell our own fractured fairy tales, celebrating British Science Week and raising money for Sport Relief by participating in a 'Just-Dance-a-thon'.

We want our children to know we are thinking of them, their families and the community of North Elmham during this time and know we will be back together soon! On our daily exercise it's lovely to see rainbow pictures made by children and on Thursday evenings when we clap we are thinking of our pupils too!

We have some activities and useful websites at www.northelmhamschool.com. This is being updated with useful resources.

There are further resources on the BBC website and the Norwich Cathedral website has lots of Science and History activities too!

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H2SJP33678 11/19

More Funnies

Why did the Mexican throw his wife of a cliff? Tequila!

.....

TRAFFIC UPDATE: A lorry carrying treacle has overturned on the A47 near Dereham. Police are advising drivers to stick to the inside lane.

.....

My wife and I were sitting at a table at my high school reunion, and I kept staring at a drunken lady swigging her drink as she sat alone at a nearby table.

My wife asked, "Do you know her?"

Yes, I sighed, "she's my old girlfriend. I understand that she took to drinking right after we split up those many years ago, and I hear that she hasn't been sober since."

"Good grief!" Said my wife, "who would think that a person could go on celebrating that long?"

.....

Mortal: What is a million years like to you?

God: Like one second.

Mortal: What is a million pounds like to you?

God: Like one penny

Mortal: Can I have a penny?

God: Just a second...

.....

Some Advice

I am passing this onto you because it definitely worked for me in these troubled times, and we could certainly use a little more calmness in our lives. By following this simple advice that I heard on the radio yesterday, I have finally found inner peace.

The phone-in show was talking about the stress of returning to work and the routine of the new year. The life coach who was on the phone-in proclaimed, "the way

to achieve inner peace is to finish all the things you've started and never finished."

So, I looked around the house and to see all the things I'd started and hadn't finished, and before leaving the house this morning, I finished off a bottle of Merlot, four cans of Stella, a bottle of Baileys, a bottle of Bombay Sapphire, a packet of Jaffa Cakes, the remainder of a box of Aspirin, the rest of the cheesecake, a King Prawn Jalfrezi and a box of chocolates.

You have no idea how good I feel. The man is a genius!

.....

Two hydrogen atoms meet. One says "I've lost my electron." The other says "Are you sure? The first replies "Yes, I'm positive."

.....

Quiz Answers

1. Snickers
2. Quality Street
3. Mint Imperials
4. Mars Bar
5. Smarties
6. Polo
7. Treats
8. Roses
9. Dolly Mixtures
10. Matchmakers
11. Chocolate Buttons
12. Jelly Babies
13. Whispa
14. Double Decker
15. Opal Fruits
16. All Gold
17. Lion Bar
18. Humbugs
19. Celebrations
20. Picnic
21. Bounty
22. Dime Bar
23. Candy Floss
24. Midget Gems
25. Blackpool Rock

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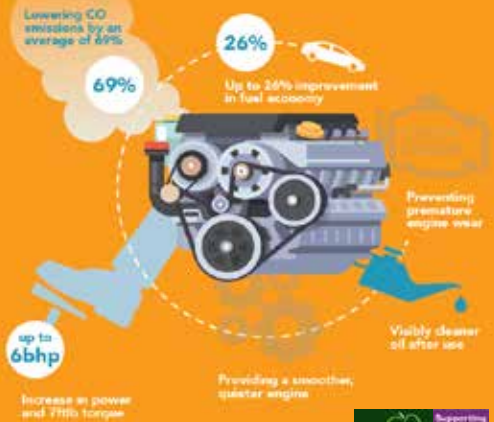


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D



DANGER ENSURE THE SCENE IS SAFE

FOR YOURSELF AND OTHERS. IF IT IS NOT SAFE OR YOU ARE UNCERTAIN CALL 999 AND WAIT FOR HELP TO ARRIVE



R



RESPONSE CHECK THE CASUALTY NEEDS HELP

CHECK RESPONSE BY **TALK AND TOUCH**.
SPEAK TO THE CASUALTY IN BOTH EARS, TAP COLLAR BONES. DO NOT SHAKE THEM!



S



SHOUT SHOUT FOR HELP

IF THE CASUALTY DOES NOT RESPOND, SHOUT FOR HELP.
DO NOT LEAVE THEM AT THIS STAGE. **DIAL 999 NOW!**



A



AIRWAY ENSURE AIRWAY IS OPEN AND CLEAR

OPEN THE AIRWAY BY LIFTING THE CASUALTY'S CHIN AND TILTING THEIR HEAD BACK. DO NOT PUT YOUR FINGERS IN THE CASUALTY'S MOUTH, YOU MAY PUSH AN OBSTRUCTION FURTHER DOWN.



B



BREATHING LOOK, LISTEN & FEEL FOR NORMAL BREATHING

KEEP THE HEAD TILTED BACK AND LISTEN FOR BREATHING & LOOK TO SEE IF THE CHEST IS MOVING FOR AT LEAST 10 SECONDS. IF THE CASUALTY IS NOT BREATHING NORMALLY OR YOU HAVE ANY DOUBT, **CALL 999!**



C



COMPRESSIONS NOT BREATHING NORMALLY? START COMPRESSIONS!

PLACE YOUR HANDS IN CENTRE OF THE CASUALTY'S CHEST AND PRESS DOWN HARD. JUST DO COMPRESSIONS. YOU CAN DO BREATHS IF YOU FEEL CONFIDENT - 2 BREATHS FOR EVERY 30 COMPRESSIONS - PUSH TWICE PER SECOND



D



DEFIBRILLATION GET SOMEONE TO FETCH A DEFIBRILLATOR

IF YOU ARE ALONE DO NOT LEAVE THE PATIENT, DO CHEST COMPRESSIONS AND WAIT FOR HELP TO ARRIVE, IF SOMEONE IS AVAILABLE SEND THEM TO GET YOUR NEAREST COMMUNITY DEFIBRILLATOR

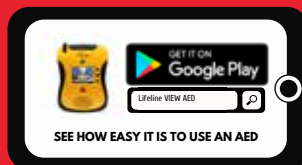


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St Mary's Church

John 20.19-end: Jesus appears to his "locked-down" disciples, including his encounter with 'Doubting Thomas'.

The second Sunday of Easter is often referred to as Low Sunday. There may be many reasons it has become known as that, but to my mind the first part of verse 19 exemplifies its meaning. Ten of the apostles are gathered together on the first Easter evening. Their mood must have been really low. They had lost their leader and despite rumours, they themselves had not witnessed the resurrected Jesus.

That they were locked away behind closed doors for fear of the Jews is given amplified poignancy in our present situation. So many of you like my wife (Jean) and I are confined at home, not necessarily behind locked doors, only allowed when we do leave our homes to communicate with our neighbours at a distance. But think what it would have been like a few short years ago without the technology that gives us virtual communion. What a joy it was to take part in our Easter Zoom service and to be able to speak with so many (of you).

The rest of the passage is about the doubts of Thomas and Jesus' appearances to the apostles. I have often wondered on hearing or reading the passage, why was Thomas not there at that first meeting?

Was he out getting supplies for the others risking himself for his friends, as so many are doing now? This is something we shall never know. But after initial doubts and his witnessing of the resurrected Christ, he did all he could to take the good news of the Gospel wherever he could. He travelled to India and it was there that he was martyred.

In order to believe, Thomas needed factual evidence not as he may have regarded the hearsay of his friends. Jesus admonishes him with the words "blessed are they who have not seen but have come to believe".

Do we need factual evidence of God's goodness to Humankind? If so, we do not have to look far to see a reflection of God's love for his creation through the work of those who are giving themselves selflessly to help others. Those who work on the frontline in the NHS and the many who have volunteered to help others restricted in what they can do.

When we open ourselves up to God it will allow him in the words of Augustine "to touch us and inflame us with the love of his peace", in the same way as Jesus brought new hope to the Apostles in their locked room.

I pray that all of you will experience the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the Love of God over the coming weeks.

Norman

Zoom Sunday Services

Forty-one people were able to join the Zoom service on Sunday 19th April. That must be a record for a rural Low Sunday!

We're now holding regular Sunday services (10.30am) using Zoom. If you'd like to join us, please email heartofnorfolkchurches@gmail.com

We are concerned about those who cannot access this technology, as it feels rather exclusive, which is not how the Church should be. A possibility would be to connect people by speaker-phone (and get the Order of Service to them in advance) so they can at least hear the service and feel part of it.

More 2 Life Christian Fellowship

Currently we are in lock down, and we hope to be seeing light at the end of the tunnel by the time this gets published. How has the lockdown been for you? Maybe you have enjoyed a time of rest during this time, maybe you have been struggling with job insecurities or with ill health, or the passing of loved ones and not being able to be with them. Maybe you have found yourself to be a keyworker and having to make sacrifices and working extra hours to serve your communities in what has been a strange time.

During this time we, as Christians, have celebrated Easter. A key festival in the Christian calendar where we find hope beyond all measure in the death and resurrection of Christ Jesus.

Paul says in his second letter to the Corinthians 4:8–18 "We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed... because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead will also raise us with Jesus and present us with you to himself. All this is for your benefit, so that the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God... Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary

troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal."

If you would like to know more about the Christian hope, please contact

Pastor Anne-Marie Fewell

Revree7@gmail.com

www.more2lifeforthelmham.com

<https://www.facebook.com/more2lifeNE>

Tel. 01362 668707

Worthing News

Easter and Beyond

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, our planned events were cancelled. Welcoming and supporting the young people from Student Cross – their Maundy Thursday pilgrimage, Lent Luncheon Appeal in Aid of Helping the church in Dogura serve their local community, Easter Sunday Duck Race and VE 75th Anniversary Cream Tea have passed us by.

For many the Easter weekend was sadly not how we had hoped or planned, normally we would be outside celebrating the glorious sunshine in our village(s), meeting up with friends, relatives and neighbours. However, what we have seen and received generously near our doorsteps, is the fantastic community spirit from each of us. At the beginning of the lockdown when phone calls and emails were circulating around Worthing, very quickly and quite naturally a small group of volunteers and neighbours in the village set about checking to ensure each of us was well and offered help, we are so blessed to have each other.

The lockdown it seems will not be lifted anytime soon therefore as time goes on, if anyone, friend, neighbour or volunteer should need some extra help or support when circumstances may change, please contact Celia on 01362 668928 or share with your neighbourly volunteer so we can make the necessary arrangements.

As reported in last month's edition of Elmham News, Worthing Church yard received some fantastic support from Sodexo, adults currently serving a probation period set by the justice system, they gave back to the community their free time and worked extremely hard improving and maintaining our churchyard.

With spring now here and we have enjoyed some warm sunshine, our Sweet Violets are coming into bloom - just inside along the church boundary wall you should find them.

And fairly soon after, we shall hopefully have a beautiful display of Ox-eye daisies.

Please visit the Heart of Norfolk Churches Website www.heartofnorfolkchurches.org.uk under Worthing for full details of the

survey compiled by the Norfolk Wildlife Trust listing many broad-leaved species that can be found in Worthing's churchyard during spring and into summer.

Finally, due to the lockdown, Worthing Church is CLOSED until further notice, but Church Services are available by using technology and Zoom. May we invite you to download from www.zoom.com register yourselves and notify our Team Minister, The Rev'd Sally Kimmis (email: heartofnorfolkrector@gmail.com) who will invite you in joining us for Sunday Services and become part of our Church family.

In the meantime everyone, keep well, keep safe and stay at home, be patient as we look forward to opening our doors when we can hopefully all meet up over a cuppa, chat and of course, a belated Cream Tea afternoon when it's safe to do so.

Celia

More2Life Christian Fellowship

Formerly Victory Villages Church
(Member of Eastern Baptist Association)

Pastor Anne-Marie Fewell

Worship Sunday 10.30 am, Bible study Monday 2.00 pm
Meeting via internet ring 01362 668707 if you wish to join us

Mum's Place (a meeting place for mothers with children of 0-4 years) in abeyance for the moment

See website: www.more2lifenorthernelmham.com



HM Government

NHS

Coronavirus Got symptoms – even mild ones?

DO NOT leave the house at all for 7 days.

Still have symptoms after 7 days?
DO NOT leave the house until they go.

EVERYONE else in your household must
not leave the house for 14 days.

Do not go out even to buy food or essentials.
Stay at home to exercise.

[gov.uk/coronavirus](https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)

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Vice Chair: Martin Phillips

Clerk: Kevin J Webb

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northelmhampc@hotmail.co.uk

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Website

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

And finally...

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

- just email the Editors, simple.

Jennie Borgnis ☎ 668 952

Ann Ferris ☎ 668 580

Tom Fitzalan Howard ☎ 668 232

Paul Grainger ☎ 667 135

John Labouchere ☎ 668 306

Martin Phillips ☎ 668 409

Michael Rayner ☎ 667 859

Colin Smith ☎ 668 585

Peter Wade-Martins ☎ 668 435

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North Elmham Directory

Elmham Surgery - Holt Rd - 01362 668215

Opening Times Mon Tue Wed Thur Fri 08:30 - 18:30 (Wed 18:00)

Swanton Morley Surgery - 01362 638100

Opening Times Mon Tue Wed Thur Fri 08:30 - 18:00

Doctors

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	Paula Jones, Executive Headteacher	01362 668318
Chairman of School Governors	Robert Plant chairofgov@northelmham.norfolk.sch.uk	
Memorial Institute	Pam Neve	01362 668325
Pavilion	Booking - 07789 724 430 or	01362 668698
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 - 01362 693184

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

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

Clergy - All telephone numbers local code (01362)

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

Church Wardens

Elmham	Susanna Wade-Martins	668435
Worthing	Celia Daniel	668928



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