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APRIL 2025

**NORTH ELMHAM
VIEWS & NEWS**

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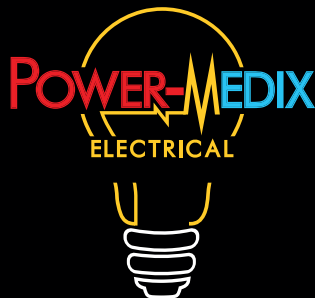
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EDITORIAL

No doubt you've noticed that Easter is late this year which means, hopefully, the weather will have improved somewhat. That short spell of exotic weather in March had us fooled briefly.

Easter Sunday depends on a calendar linked to the sun and moon and is not a fixed date on the Church's calendar. The date is the Sunday after the full moon after March 21st which means there can be a whole month difference in the date. Next year, Easter will be at the beginning of April!

It's that time of year too, when Councils look back at what they have achieved and then tell us what they are planning to do in the coming year .

The Government plan to scrap all County and District Councils and respond with new authorities. Norfolk would be one, headed by a Mayor! You can give your opinion at <https://www.future-east.co.uk>

We sat down and tried to precis the very thorough report by our District Councillor, Bill Borrett , which includes how parishes can benefit from the Parish Partnership Scheme, how Highways plan to repair roads and use resources for patching and repairs. The Apprenticeship Scheme will be continued, and Hazardous Waste Days will be held .

The full report can be seen on the Community Website www.elmham.org.uk

Our sincere thanks for your donation go to C & J Kirby.

This month's cover is a beautiful spring morning taken across Cathedral Meadows.

NEXT DEADLINE: 14TH APRIL

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

VOLUME 48: ISSUE 3

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CYSTIC FIBROSIS EASTER BINGO

Easter Bingo, North Elmham Memorial Hall on Monday 14th April with eyes down at 7.30 p.m.

Various prizes have been received so far, including various days out in Norfolk, tickets to Fakenham Races, a photo sitting in Norwich, bottles of wine, lots of Easter Eggs and much, much more.

Look forward to seeing you there.

Sharon

KNIT AND NATTER

A sad start to our meeting this month due to us hearing that Pat Long, one of our very ill members had passed away the night before. Our thoughts are with her family at the time of writing, and a sympathy card has been sent.

The meeting then went forward with everyone showing the knitting which they had done since last time we met. Amongst other things, June produced six beautifully knitted matinee jackets. A good selection of knee blankets, made from knitted squares was shown around the table and then gathered together to be taken out to appropriate places. There were also a number of little animals and toys, which will be prizes for our game at the garden fete. Everyone using their imagination from owls and spiders to fish for a fish tree, rainbow caterpillars, toy air balloons, and tiny birds. Also, we have promises of knitted carrots and even ice cream cones, complete with knitted ice cream. Vanilla of course. Probably all these things are more fun to make than the usual useful things,

that we spend our time on, however, hats, warm scarves and sensory bands are always needed - so on we go.

Our thanks go to everyone who has donated wool this month.

Next meeting 1st April (no jokes please) 2-00 til 4-00 in the Pavilion.
Everyone welcome.

Eileen Cotterill 01362 668380

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DAYS

More household hazardous waste days to be held at Norfolk's recycling centres.

As part of the Norfolk County Council budget for the upcoming year, additional household hazardous waste events will be held across the county. These events will take place at seven recycling centres this spring, supplementing the usual autumn events.

The free events will be held throughout April and May 2025, and residents must use the recycling centre booking system to attend. Bookings will open one week before each event.

These events are exclusively for residents disposing of hazardous household waste. They are not open to businesses, groups, or other organisations. If residents do not have hazardous waste to dispose of, they will be directed to an alternative site, as the events are expected to be in high demand.

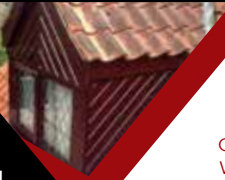
The spring hazardous waste events will be held on the following dates:

- 11th and 12th April at Dereham
- 9th and 10th May at Hempton

Please note, there will be no hazardous waste events over the Easter weekend.

A list of acceptable items for disposal at the hazardous waste days can be found here: www.norfolk.gov.uk/hazardouswaste

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GARAGE/YARD SALE

Calling All Villagers!

The North Elmham Memorial Hall Committee is considering organising a village garage/yard sale early in September after the school holidays. We are scoping interest from our villagers.

It's a good opportunity to get rid of anything you no longer need and make some cash without having to ship it to and from a car boot sale!!

If you would be interested in buying a pitch at your home (£7 per slot) - please register your interest by emailing elmham-memorial@outlook.com leaving your name and a contact email.

We will provide village maps for participating homes for purchase/ collection by visitors at Memorial Hall on the day. All proceeds raised will be used towards upkeep of North Elmham Memorial Hall.

Tonia Culpin

GARDENING CLUB

We had an excellent Annual Dinner and Raffle in February, which was enjoyed by 47 members, friends and family. A sincere thank you to Ben and his team from the Teapost for providing such a satisfying and delicious meal.

Unfortunately, our planned speaker for March was unable to attend but we were fortunate to have Frank Lambert who stepped in at last minute to talk about "Fuschias". Ray, spotting an opportunity to exploit and made sure every member was given a Fuschsia plug to grow on for our August Show – where there will be a small prize for the best exhibit! The Fuchsia growing competition is for members only.

Our next meeting on April 24th sees Martin Davey coming along to talk about Alpines and Rock Plants. If they float your boat, why not come along and join us for the evening. £3.50 which includes delicious refreshments.

Don't forget that our Annual Show on August 2nd has its schedule already available and anyone can enter!

As well as fruit, vegetables, flowers and plants there are also a wide range of hobbies and skills to be tested. So, whether you are a keen gardener, flower arranger, budding artist, a star baker or jam maker, a keen photographer, sewer or knitter, there is a category for you. There are also new categories for the young.

The schedule can be downloaded from the home page of the North Elmham Community Website www.elmham.org.uk

It is also available on our facebook page in the pinned posts and the photo album "Show Schedule 2025". If you are not able to print off an entry form or have any questions please get in touch with Ray on 01362 667226.

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NORTH ELMHAM PANTOMIME

**ANYONE READY FOR THE NEXT PANTO?
OH YES YOU ARE!!**

Hello Lovely People

I've had a great response so far to get this PANTO on the road, BUT still need more hands on board please.

I will hold a meeting in the Memorial Hall on Wednesday 16th April at 7pm to have an informal chat to move this forward. If you can attend, that's great! If you can't attend and would still like to participate then please let me know so I can put your name down with your chosen part etc. It doesn't matter how much you can help, many hands make light work!

Whether you are an actor, performer, singer, make-up artist, painter, back-stage help, ice-cream/bar assistance, marketing, pianist, sound, techy person - I NEED YOU!

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NORTH ELMHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 5TH FEBRUARY

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

Pre Meeting Business: None

Public Participation: It was felt that the village is very scruffy in a number of areas. Breckland Council will be asked to sweep the streets. Boars Hill has a new 20 mph limit and it was asked if Eastgate Street could have the same. Highways, Norfolk County Council will be made aware of this request. Two parishioners pick litter from time to time. The members are aware of this and appreciate their efforts.

Councillors Present: Mr. P. Grainger (Chairman), Mr. M. Phillips (Vice Chairman), Miss A. Ferris, Mr. T. Fitzalan Howard, Mr. B. Gee, Mrs. A. Keeble, Mr. N. Markwell, Mr. M. Rayner, Mr. C. Smith and Mr. J.Sowinski (co-opted at the start of the meeting)

Also in Attendance: Mr. K. Webb (Clerk) and two parishioners.

Apologies for absence: Mr. F. Gillespie and Mr. G. Bambridge (District Councillor)

Co-option of New Member

Joe Sowinski was proposed by Mr. Phillips and seconded by Mr. Fitzalan Howard. Agreed by all. He was welcomed to the Parish Council by the Chairman.

Updated Information And Matters Arising

Land Management Matters

Village Green: Mr. Gee has completely cleared the tree that fell down.

Broom Green: The Chairman is to speak to the Broom Green representative when appointed.

Millennium Wood (and Jubilee Wood): Mr. Sowinski has cut up damaged trees.

Allotments: Mr. Phillips reported that a large water container has been taken, presumably stolen.

Street Lights

Mr. Markwell has responded to the letter received from Debra Wicks of Amey, a national street lighting company with a local presence. They manage Norfolk County Council's Street lighting and signs. No update has yet been received from UKPN regarding the issue at 29 Eastgate Street.

Highway Matters

The matter regarding the temporary bus stop near the County School Station junction is now being dealt with by Rob Pratt, Public Transport Development Office, Highways, Transport and Waste, Norfolk County Council. It is the responsibility of the bus operator, Konectbus, to evaluate the site, apply their own health and safety criteria and accept the liability for serving it. Mr. Pratt says that it is clear that the stop is not suitable or safe and he will, therefore, be challenging Konectbus on its existence. Norfolk County Council has an obligation to transport children safely to their school and he is confident that the service 23 journey is subsidised by NCC. In parallel to the safety assessment, he will be talking to the school transport team as to how the problem can be overcome through their statutory obligations.

From Mr. Pratt's evaluation of the site, he concludes that locating the stops sufficiently away from the junction but also the curvatures in the B1110 that hamper visibility for overtaking cars, both to the north and south, is a significant challenge. There is also the feasibility of constructing trods/footways on inadequate verges to allow safe passage

CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS



GROUP

Archive Group
Art 4 All Norfolk
Bowls - Institute
Bowls - King's Head
Brisley & North Elmham Cricket Club
Countrysiders
Elmham Football Club
Elmham News
Elmham Surgery Patient Participation
Elmham Tennis Club
Friends of North Elmham School
Gardening Club
Guides
Knit and Natter
NELS (North Elmham Living Sustainably)
North Elmham Trailblazers
Reading Group
Royal British Legion
Sewing for Pleasure
SINE (Help)
Snooker Mon & Fri
Snooker Wed
Tea@Two
The May Singers
Walking Football
Walking Group
Wensum Valley Birdwatching Society
Wensum Valley Miniature Railway
Wives + All
Yoga
Young Farmers

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Ella Jeary, ejeary23@gmail.com

to the stops. Updates on progress have been promised.

Pavilion and Playing Field

Miss Ferris reported that a new battery had been bought for the defibrillator at the Surgery.

It was agreed by all to pay the small invoice for £24.12 from Nurture as they had provided evidence that some cutting had been carried out in October of some small areas next to the Pavilion.

Brookside Development update

We have been advised that the road and footpaths are being asphalted and the work will be completed within a few days. Mr. Phillips will speak to the solicitors for an update on the current position.

Archive Group Records

The Chairman is to liaise with Mr. Smith.

Christmas Lights Arrangements

A letter had been received from the Chairman of the Elmham News Committee whose members were uncertain whether the switching on of the Christmas tree lights was an Elmham News or Parish Council event. As a result, they have made the decision not to be involved in the 2025 event.

The Parish Council members are adamant that it has never been regarded as a Parish Council event. As a gesture of goodwill, the cost of insurance incurred by the Elmham News had been refunded by the Parish Council. Any Christmas events for this year will be given appropriate consideration in due course.

Mention has also been made by the Chairman of the Elmham News of the five village notice boards which they had previously sponsored and installed. They wondered if the Parish Council would take over responsibility for maintaining them. It was the view that the boards were in generally good order and an asset for the village. It was felt that the general day to

day responsibility for the input of items in the notice boards should remain with the Elmham News. The Chairman will inform the Chairman of the Elmham News.

New Village Hall

A sub committee has been formed and has initially assessed all activities currently taking place at the three buildings, i.e. the Pavilion, the Memorial Hall and the Eastgate Centre. Mr. Gee is to update the list now and on an ongoing basis. It will be circulated to members. The potential of each site and their values is to be considered. It will be particularly important to consult with Sport England. Mr. Sowinski is to join the committee which is due to next meet on February 25th.

Reports from District and County Councillors

Mr. Bill Borrett had submitted reports for December, 2024 and January, 2025. These can be viewed on the Parish Council section of the website.

Mr Gordon Bambridge Upper Wensum Ward Breckland Council Report to Parishes and Others Upper Wensum Ward Feb 2025

January has been extremely busy this year and February is developing in the same way. I have been working with our MP George Freeman and Terry Jermy the new Labour MP for the South of Breckland regarding domestic flooding issues in our area as a whole. Flooding seems to be getting worse and predictions are not good for the future, like many of you I live in a flood prone location, and recently came within an inch or so of water indoors so I do sympathise with those under threat. I have been the Breckland rep on the Norfolk Rivers Inland Drainage Board for over 22 years and have never had so many cases come up They do not make the news as they are mostly just one or two homes at a time, like mine, but they are a tremendous impact on the individual. It is to this end that I

have attached my report on the Norfolk Strategic Flood Alliance meeting last week to this note and as a couple have asked will also send you next week my Breckland report on the Association of Drainage Authorities annual meeting I attended this week (expect that in 2-3 days).

Flooding Hotline call 0344 800 8013 to report flooding anywhere in Norfolk. This is a single 24/7 reporting line.

At Breckland I am dealing with individuals enquiries as usual for a ward member including planning matters and missed bins which always top the list. I normally attend several Breckland meetings each month and have a policy of responding to emails promptly so please feel free to direct queries to my Breckland email.

Matters in process at the moment include the Breckland Budget which will be set next week (along with all your precept demands) That meeting will be live on youtube or can be watched later. The Breckland boundaries review, although with devolution we may not be here after 2027. Devolution itself which seems even closer that before, although we have been faced with this before, being political, which I do try not to be between elections, this is very much a labour part aim and policy to separate the people from the power in government. In Norfolk two tier government does work well, and in my opinion Districts are working better that County. If the proposals we have seen are introduced we will have another type or two tier in my opinion, and considerably more expensive. At the moment Breckland has the lowest council tax, so just balancing will mean we all will have bigger bills without the more costly mayoral//unity system. You will all make up your minds of course, and to help in this at least one session will be held for Parish Councils within the Breckland office.

Parishes struggling with the 'clunky' planning portal please talk to me or use the generic planning email at Breckland. I am told to expect a 'soon' resolution to it.

As an individual I do not support the cancellation of the County Council elections in May. I believe it is a diminution of democracy and whilst some conservatives on County supported it others did not. It is definitely a labour party move to increase their influence in the shires and I have told senior members that is my opinion.

On 31st January I attended the Norfolk Flood and Drought Conference at County Hall representing the villages of Upper Wensum Ward and Breckland. I am sure some of you tuned into the live broadcast but for those who were not able to the gist of what happened is below and I am happy to seek to answer questions.

For me representing local people at these events enables a direct contact with senior people from different agencies on specific local matters which on this day including problems along the Wensum, protecting the Tud, various causes of flooding across the Ward.

Breckland issues including funding protection actions from many causes, the drainage levy and of course an extension of ward matters.

National issues such as how to react to huge increases in rates in some areas and how we can manage, and how other countries manage these.

Within The Conference These Matters Were Discussed

DEFRA spoke about 'looking at rivers natural flow management'

WRE spoke about 'joint actions on the Yare'

WMA spoke about 'revision of the demanding project'

NCC (leader) spoke about 'diversity of responsibility and sharing work'

ADA (CEO) spoke on 'demanding and described how to keep it simple'

UEA spoke about 'greater global warming and Imagination should be the 5th aim'

DDC* spoke about 'described Netherlands attitude and priorities - ensuring awareness is the key

NCC 'we need information and must all share DEFRA 'helping people with insurance and living with water'

ADA 'described the Somerset settlement of 1.5% public taxation'

ADA 'dealing with silt, thinking globally, soil management, allowing buffer strips'

NCC 'discussion regarding building reservoirs'

Proposed Actions To Follow And Report On At Next Years Meeting

'Under certain circumstances land owners can extract a spot change in flood management with a .gov.uk link to be sent to all parties'

'Some thought enforcement of riparian responsibilities is the key'

'Some thought two way information channels should be opened'

AW 'committed a big spend on resilience with Norfolk being The Centre of Excellence'

George Freeman MP asked for 'Circulation of the maps shown'

'Forecast of when and where housing'

'List of all Norfolk organisations'

'List of all local action groups'

'Draft plan for Norfolk including priorities'

Planning Applications and Determinations

Applications

i) 10 Oak Avenue, North Elmham – PL/2024/1200/HOU – demolition of existing attached garage and erection of new single storey lean-to side extension, including the re-modelling of the interior, proposed first floor balcony and fenestration changes - (no objections but comment to be made that the demolition

of the garage will result in the loss of a parking space)

Determinations

None

Mention was made of 55 Eastgate Street which is in a very poor condition. An acknowledgement has been received from Breckland Council who advise that the matter has been forwarded to their Private Sector Housing Department who will monitor the situation.

Correspondence

1) Request from parishioner regarding the positioning of a new dog bin on Boars Hill – (it is believed that the District Council will not agree to collect another bin (this will be checked). The Parish Council has no plans to request another bin).

2) Information from Dereham Meeting Point and request for a donation. (All agreed to a donation of £100 which will be made at the next meeting – proposed by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Phillips).

3) Carriageway resurfacing works between 25th and 28th February (B1145 – B1110)

4) Parishioner concerns regarding the parking area behind and adjacent to numbers 2 to 6, Eastgate Street - (the Parish Council has no authority on this matter. It was felt that the parishioner should approach Victory Housing. The Chairman is to draw the matter to the attention of Tom Forster, Highways Department. Mr. Gee will also speak with the parishioner).

5) Letter from PCC advising the intention to close the old churchyard (The Clerk will liaise with Mr. Bambridge, District Councillor. It was noticed that the box B2 was not ticked regarding the presence of war graves).



NORTH ELMHAM COUNTRYSIDERS

Another Busy Month!

February 15th Saw the leaders put on their glad rags and attend the North Elmham Young Farmers Club Valentine's Dinner Dance at Sprowston Manor. A good night was had by all despite the snow that fell.

On February 24th, we presented a YANA representative with a cheque for £153.00 raised at the Fakenham Tree Festival. This was alongside a talk by YFC Ben Johnson about mental health and how to have good mental health as young people. This also tied in with the week before for Children's Mental Health Week.

Sunday March 2nd saw us attend the North Elmham YFC Club's Ploughing Match with our cake stall. A brilliant day, the weather was very kind and some hungry tractor drivers and families tucked into some yummy bakes. £117.70 was made for the club.

March 10th, we enjoyed pancake fun, the children all took turns to make and top their own pancakes. Some very strange topping combinations happened on the night!

Easter Break 7-22 April, there are no meetings during this time.

We would like to thank everyone for their support, and wish you all a Happy Easter.

Leaders -Wendy, Rob, Kirsty and Ella and all the Countrysiders.

We meet every other week on a Monday term time only. 7pm-8.30pm at North Elmham Memorial Hall (unless otherwise stated).

For more information call or message Wendy 07557388228 or email north_elmham_cs@norfolkyfc.co.uk. we can also be found on Facebook and Instagram

BRISLEY AND NORTH ELMHAM CC

This month will see the opening of the cricket season with the Saturday seconds entertaining local rivals Beeston 2s on April 26th in a pre-League friendly. Other early home fixtures are listed at the bottom of this article and we would welcome all new supporters as well as long-standing ones to come down to the beautiful Brisley ground . Pre-season nets have been well-attended and practice will soon switch to outside, weather permitting. Any potential new players for the Saturday teams should contact Ollie Hall on 07387 184473 for further details.

The Ladies team fixtures have now been arranged with the first Friday evening home game towards the end of May. The Ladies will be competing in a six team League with 5 home and 5 away matches. The new joint captains Tor George and Sophie Hall have again arranged for Norfolk's Steve Goldsmith to deliver coaching sessions at Brisley. The first will be on Thursday May 1st at 6.30 pm and will continue for six more weeks. Again all potential new players are welcome to attend.

Early Season Fixtures. Home matches are as follows, all with 1pm starts:

Saturday April 26th
Seconds v Beeston 2s

Saturday May 3rd
Seconds v Narborough 2s League

Saturday May 10th
Firsts v Ketteringham Hall League

Saturday May 17th
Seconds v Sandringham 3s League

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THE SCIENCE BEHIND WEATHER FORECASTING WITH CHRIS BELL

WIVES PLUS ALL

At March's Wives Plus All Meeting in the Memorial Hall, North Elmham on Thursday 13th March Chris Bell Meteorologist Weatherman and Presenter from Weather Quest and BBC Look East gave an illustrated and informative talk on how the daily weather reports are predicted.

Information from the Met Office web site states "that creating forecasts is a complex computer process which is constantly being updated." There are three important stages to a weather forecasts and Chris highlighted these to us:-

- Knowing what the weather is doing now,
- Calculating how this will change in future
- Using meteorological expertise to refine the detail.

Therefore creating a modern day weather forecast starts with observing the weather,

not just locally but all around the world. In the past that data was plotted on charts and the weather forecast projected by humans on paper. In today's age weather observations including data from weather satellites orbiting the Earth are fed into supercomputers which calculate complex maths equations to predict the weather for the coming days and weeks. Over 200 billion weather observations are made daily and supercomputers from weather agencies from all over the World run their supercomputers to predict the weather in modern times. The role of the human forecaster is to interpret the data from the computers and discuss how it will impact the life and business of the end user such as farmers tending their animals and produce, and if the temperature is slightly lower than expected that can mean the difference between frost or not by the end



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of the night and whether a User's lorry needs to go about and grit the roads,

Chris said the forecast accuracy has improved greatly with time and in general a 3-5 day forecast was over 80% accurate but predictability of the weather is all about the weather patterns we are in.

There is still a long way to go in predicting the precise location of a summertime downpour!

Thanks go to Chris for a very enjoyable and entertaining evening explaining and showing the complexities connected with weather forecasting.

The next meeting of Wives Plus All will be on THURSDAY 10th APRIL 2025, commencing at 7.30 pm in the Memorial Hall, North Elmham. Tim Fisher from the Norfolk Rivers Trust will give a talk entitled "Why is Norfolk Water Precious"

There will be refreshments and a raffle. All are welcome.

Ann Ferris

WIVES PLUS ALL PROGRAMME

Our programme of talks and events until the summer are as follows:

10th April

Talk by Tim Fisher of the Norfolk Rivers Trust "Why is Norfolk's Water Precious?"

8th May


Talk and video by a representative of Redwings "Behind the Scenes at Redwings Horse Sanctuary".

12th June

Walk the Wildflower Meadow with Dave. Meet at the Ruins 6.30pm.

10th July

Visit the garden at Severals Grange, Holt Road, Wood Norton NR20 5BL, arrive ready to start at 6.30p.m. Travel by cars. There will be a small charge for the garden, either £5 or £6 per head depending on number attending, plus £2.50 tea/coffee/cake.

OPEN GARDENS FOR ST. JOHN AMBULANCE 2025		
Home-made Refreshments and Plant Sales		
Sunday 9th March Open 11 - 4pm CHESTNUT FARM , West Beckham, Holt, NR25 6NX Adults £5: Children free Dogs on leads welcome Home made refreshments Plant Sales	Sunday 29th June Open 12 - 5pm WEST BARSHAM HALL , West Barsham, Fakenham, NR21 9NP Adults £8: Children free Dogs on leads welcome Home made refreshments	
Sunday 18th May Open 12 - 5pm SPRING FARM , Gressenhall, Dereham, NR19 2RS Adults £5: Children free No Dogs Home made refreshments Plant Sales	Sunday 13th July Open 10 - 4pm SALLE PARK GARDENS , Salle, Reepham, NR10 4SF Adults £6: Children free Dogs on leads welcome Home made refreshments Plant Sales	
Sunday 25th May Open 12 - 5pm CAVICK HOUSE , Cavick Road, Wymondham, NR18 9PJ Adults £5: Children free Dogs on leads welcome Home made refreshments	Sunday 7th September Open 12 - 5pm SEVERALS GRANGE , Wood Norton, Fakenham, NR20 5BL Adults £5: Children free Dogs on leads welcome Home made refreshments Plant Sales	
Sunday 8th June Open 12 - 5pm ERPINGHAM HOUSE FARM , The Street, Erpingham, NR11 7QD Adults £6: Children free Dogs on leads welcome Home made refreshments Plant Sales		

Sunday 18th May 2025
12pm until 4.30pm

Elmham Garden Fete

Free Parking | Entrance £2 | Children Free
CASH ONLY EVENT

Pimm's & Beer Tent ~ Tea & Cakes ~ Open Gardens ~ Jazz Band
~ Raffle ~ Tombola ~ Games ~ Bouncy Castle ~ Craft Stalls ~
Plants ~ Books ~ Bric-a-Brac ~ Ice Creams & much more!

Dog Show Classes (begins 2.30pm)

1. Dog with the Waggiest Tail
2. Best Junior Handler (14 & under)
3. Dog, Egg & Spoon Race
4. Best Biscuit Catcher
5. Dog with the most Character
6. The Musical Sit

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NORTH ELMHAM SURGERY UPDATES

Online Triage

As you may all be aware by now, we recently introduced a new way of working which enables patients to request medical appointments and make administrative requests for sick notes for example using the online form.

We have been actively monitoring this change in procedure and as a result will be making some minor changes.

With effect from 12th March all medical online triage requests will be available on our website, www.elmhamsurgery.com from 7.30 until 12 noon.

After this time, you will not be able to access the triage form until 7.30 am the next working day.

If after 12 noon you believe your problem is urgent, please telephone the surgery.

For all non-urgent requests made after 12 pm, patients will be signposted for them to access care elsewhere where appropriate,

- Pharmacies are now able to see patients with coughs, colds, sore throats, earaches, infected insect bites, impetigo.
- The Walk in Centre in Norwich is open (7 am to 9 pm) for all acute minor illnesses and injuries.
- GP Front Door – this service can be found at the NNUH and Queen Elizabeth Hospital Kings Lynn.
- Community Urgent Eyecare Service, who deal with all sore, red, or painful eyes, loss of vision or foreign body in eyes.

We aim to respond to all medical requests within 48 hrs

If you cannot access the internet, or do not have a smartphone, you can call the

surgery between 10 am -12 noon. A Patient Service Advisor can then complete the online triage form for you on your behalf, alternatively paper copies of the form can be found in reception at the surgery.

Covid Vaccinations – Spring 2025

We will be carrying out covid vaccinations again this year, the clinics will be run from our Swanton Morley Surgery Site.

Those eligible for the vaccine will be the over 75-year-olds and those who are severely immunosuppressed, we will not be able to vaccinate under 18-year-olds.

We will be starting vaccination clinics at Swanton Morley Surgery in the w/c 14 April. We will be sending out the invites to all eligible patients via SMS again, as we have done in previous years, this will then allow you to book an appointment using the link that is sent to you.

We will also be contacting the housebound patients from 1st of April onwards to arrange vaccinations for those patients who are completely housebound and have no means of being able to attend the surgery clinics.

Patient Contact Details

Please could we ask all our patients to ensure we have the correct contact details and that they have opted to receive SMS. This is how we keep our patients informed of changes etc. Anyone who has not given us a mobile number or think their mobile number that we have on their records is not up to date please let us know by going to www.elmhamsurgery.com/form-change-of-contact-details.

Easter Opening Times

- Closed - Good Friday
 - Closed – Easter Monday
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Please come and join us for a walk in the local area. We have two regular walks each month. Our shortest, easiest walk of around two miles is on the second Tuesday of the month and a slightly longer one of around four miles is on the first Friday of the month. We have a longer walk planned for the middle of May which will involve catching a bus to Beetley and then walking back to town.

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

FRIENDSHIP AND FLOWERS

Fakenham & District Flower Club

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Tuesday 1st April at 7.30 pm
(and the first Tuesday of the month hereafter)

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We welcome new members and guests to join our flourishing, friendly

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Barbara 01328 701218

APRIL DATES TO REMEMBER

Tues 1st	Knit and Natter	Pavilion	2.00 pm
Wed 2nd	Sewing	Eastgate Street	2.00 pm
Sat 5th	Race Night: KH Bowls Club	King's Head	6.30 for 7.00 pm
Mon 7th	Schools closed till 22nd		
Wed 9th	Tea at Two	Memorial Hall	2.00 pm
Sat 12th	Islands and Childhood	Eastgate Centre	3.00 pm
Mon 14th	Bingo: Cystic Fibrosis	Memorial Hall	7.30 pm
Wed 16th	Sewing PANTO meeting	Eastgate Street Memorial Hall	2.00 pm 7.00 pm
18th –21st	Easter Weekend		
Wed 23rd	Schools reopen		
Wed 23rd	Mobile Library Visits	The Heath to Wensum Drive	13.15–16.40 pm
Thu 24th	Gardening Club - Alpines and Rock Plants	Memorial Hall	7.30 pm
DON'T FORGET			
Wed Weekly	Norwich Bus	Bus Shelter by Pavilion Opposite Orchard Close	9.37 am 9.39 am
ADVANCE WARNING			
Sun 18th May	Elmham Fete & Dog Show	Elmham House	12.00–4.30 pm

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RACE NIGHT

at Kings Head North Elmham

to support the Bowls Club

2 Holt Rd, North Elmham, Dereham NR20 5JB

Saturday 5th April 2025

6.30pm for 7pm Start

FREE Entry All Welcome

Space is limited and Booking is essential.

A great night at the races!

Racing on the BIG SCREEN, lots of competitive fun

Prize Raffle at the end of the night

Sausage and Mash Meal after first 3 races

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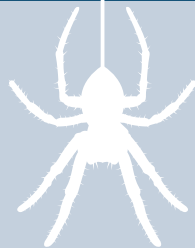
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ELMHAM WILDLIFE



There are just two species of moth in the UK whose larvae are likely to feed on clothes or carpets – out of well over 2,000 species. The vast majority of moths will do no damage at all to your textiles. The two that might are known as clothes moths but sometimes get called carpet moths. The moths that are properly called carpets are something entirely different, and they're completely safe around your carpets (although they'd prefer to be outside). These carpet moths are, at least I have always assumed they are, so named because they are among the relatively small proportion of moths that hold their wings flat to the ground when in normal resting position.



This month I am going to talk about the Common Carpet, a very common species as its name suggests. As with many of the nocturnal moths the best way of finding them is to use a light-trap at night, but this species isn't too difficult to find during the day as well. They're a medium-sized moth with a wingspan of about 2.5 cm so they're not too hard to spot especially if they're resting on some darker vegetation and the pale colours of the moth stand out (photo 1).



At a glance you might be tempted to pass one off as a rather dull brownish-white moth but take a closer look and you'll see they have quite attractive and intricate markings, at least when they





are fresh (they become a bit less exciting when they're worn). The exact pattern varies between individuals but they nearly always show a broad irregularly-edged dark band across the centre of the wings that is edged on both sides by narrower whitish bands. The dark band can become more uniform when worn (photo 2) but on fresh individuals it's made up of a complex mix of browns, beiges, blacks and greys.



I caught one in my garden once that had a much narrower dark band than usual (photo 3) – this is a very unusual form for this species and I don't think I've ever seen another one like it.

When they're relaxed they usually rest with their wings flat, but at other times they often hold their wings up (photo 4), sometimes held so tightly together that you can't see their upperwings at all.



Adult Common Carpets normally start flying in late April or May but they have two overlapping generations of adults each year, the first peaking in June and the second in July/August.

The caterpillars of Common Carpet feed on Cleavers and other bedstraws. Cleavers (photo 5) is sometimes known as Goosegrass or Catchweed among a whole host of other names. It's often regarded as an annoying weed, the Velcro-like hooks sticking to our clothes or pets' hair, but next time you feel like pulling some up to get rid of it, spare a thought



for the Common Carpet caterpillars that might be relying on it for their next meal.

There are a few other moths that can be easily mistaken for Common Carpet. The most similar is a relatively scarce moth called Wood Carpet. It's so similar that some cannot be identified with certainty even in a lab but usually they're a little larger and have a broader, cleaner white band across the wings.



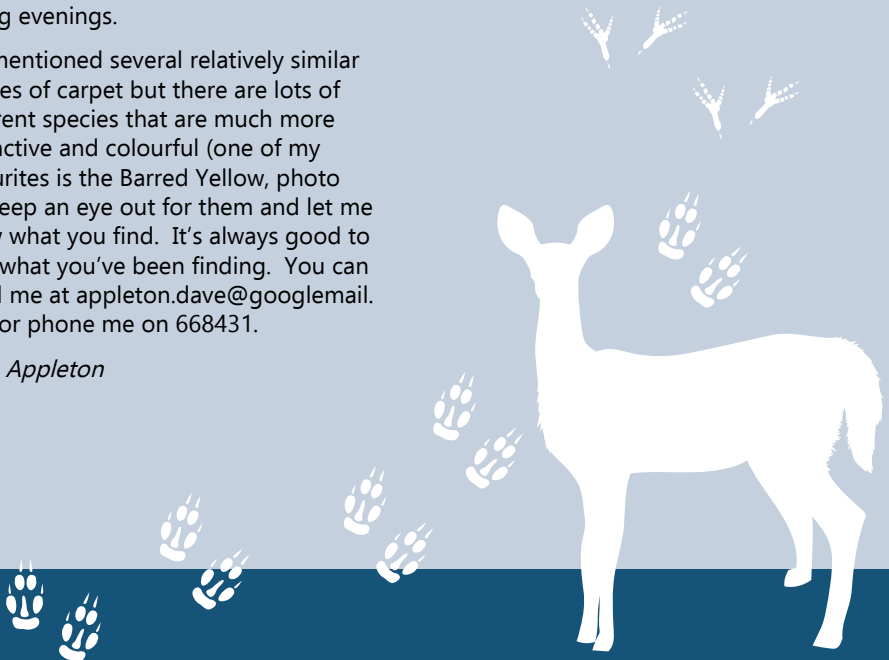
Another similar species that you're more likely to find is the Sharp-angled Carpet (photo 6). The name provides a clue as to how to tell them apart from Common Carpets – the dark band across the middle has a sharp-angled tooth pointing towards the rear of the wing.

The Silver-ground Carpet (photo 7) is quite variable and some can be fairly similar to Common Carpet, but they are normally much paler. This is another species that you can often find during the day – and especially at dusk on warm late spring evenings.



I've mentioned several relatively similar species of carpet but there are lots of different species that are much more distinctive and colourful (one of my favourites is the Barred Yellow, photo 8). Keep an eye out for them and let me know what you find. It's always good to hear what you've been finding. You can email me at appleton.dave@googlemail.com or phone me on 668431.

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NORTH ELMHAM CEVA PRIMARY ACADEMY

Acorn Class (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2)

After a generous donation from Toftwood Garden Centre, the children have been busy planting herbs, flowers and vegetables ahead of our plant topic in Science. The children have started their own experiment to investigate what a plant needs to be healthy.

Acorns have predicted the seeds with soil, water, sunlight and placed in the correct temperature will be the healthiest. The children enjoyed diving into a range of Pancake Day activities before welcoming their adults in to stay and play at the end of the day.

Oak Class (Year 3 to Year 6)

Over the course of this half term, Oak Class have been working hard to develop

their understanding of the Victorians. They have been completing various research tasks that focus on comparing our life now to life during this historical period. The children have been excited about this. As we move closer to the end of the topic the children will have a chance to showcase their learning in a variety of ways, including presentations, posters, written work and or a short recorded video.

Whole School News

World Book Day

North Elmham looked fantastic throughout the course of World Book Day. The celebration of books and characters within them was wonderful to see. The children joined classes before lunch and took part in a shared reading session which allowed the youngest years to tell the oldest about

RACE NIGHT

at Kings Head North Elmham



to support the Bowls Club

2 Holt Rd, North Elmham, Dereham NR20 5JB

Saturday 5th April 2025

6.30pm for 7pm Start

FREE Entry All Welcome

Space is limited and Booking is essential.

A great night at the races!

Racing on the BIG SCREEN, lots of competitive fun

Prize Raffle at the end of the night

***Sausage and Mash Meal after first 3 races
priced at £12 per head***

Please Contact Lilian on 07942 883383 as booking is essential.

**If you wish to become a horse owner for 1 or more races
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**All standard bets are £1 each bet,
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their favourite book and the oldest years an opportunity to read to a small group. North Elmham then followed this in the afternoon by completing various tasks such as 'Bizarre and Bonkers stories' and 'Designing your own book cover'

Norfolk Cricket Board

This half term both classes have had weekly cricket skills sessions. The children have thoroughly enjoyed developing their batting skills and throwing with increased accuracy.

Playground Games - John Massey

John Massey joined the school to teach the children playground games. The year 5 and 6 children observed different activities and are looking forward to implementing them during break and lunch times!

Tea @ 2

Another wonderful afternoon spent with members of our community, sharing our work we are most proud of. We enjoyed live music whilst eating delicious cakes and sandwiches! Thank you for always making us feel so welcome and including us in such an important event!

Building work

The new toilets are nearing completion. The new windows are in! We are hoping the work will all be completed by the Easter break.

Friends of North Elmham School (FONES)

FONES are collecting unwanted Christmas jumpers to Recycle, please hand in any unwanted jumpers into the school office.

There is a rag bank at school, which is available for all of the community to use. Please feel free to use this as this is a great way to raise money for the school.

SAVE THE DATE for our first community yard sale on June 22nd with further details to follow.

Outdoor Materials

We are still working on our outdoor spaces and would appreciate any donations of the following:

Wooden offcuts, logs, pond liners, plants, bulbs, guttering, paving slabs and artificial grass.

Please contact the school office if you feel you could help!

Do You Have a Child Who Will Start School 2025-2026?

If you are interested in a place for your child next academic year, we would welcome you and your child to come and look round our wonderful school and see what we have to offer!

We also have places in other year groups so please contact the school office if you are interested in a place!

The school office contact number 01362 668318.

New web address

Please note our website has a new link www.northelmhamschool.uk

Locations

Doctors Surgery,
Holt Road

Pavilion,
Holt Road

Call 999 Start CPR Switch on defibrillator Follow its instructions

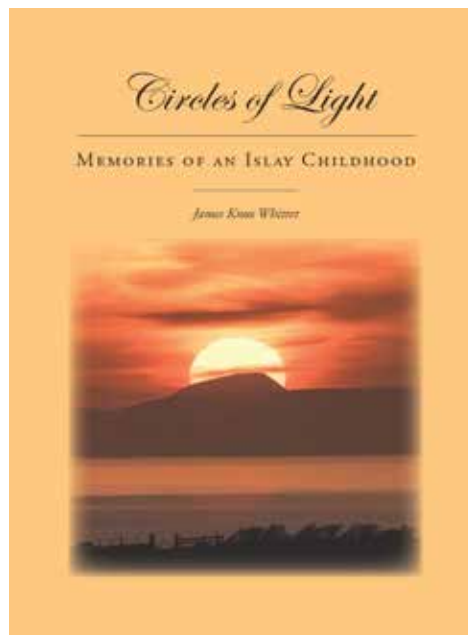
Islands and Childhood

An afternoon of prose, poetry, music and song in English and Gaelic

Eastgate Centre, North Elmham on Saturday, 12th April at 3pm.

Entrance fee of £3 will be donated to the East Anglian children's hospice.

Complimentary refreshments



WVBS

As I write we have just had a week of wonderful weather so it really feels as if spring may have arrived. I feel we have earned it, as the weather has not been kind to us recently. Our February out-door meeting was to have been a late afternoon at Stiffkey, where we could hope to see raptors coming in to roost, including Marsh, Hen and Pallid Harriers. But an icy onshore wind and rain caused it to be cancelled. We were luckier at the end of January when a clear cool morning greeted 15 members at Holkham Nature Reserve. It was Burns Night so this visit came with shortbread and poetry, courtesy of Ptolemy! Having parked in the village carpark, the group fist dipped in to Holkham Park, where they saw Nuthatches and Treecreepers, plus a couple of Roe Deer. Walking down Lady Anne's Drive they soon encountered the visiting wildfowl for which Holkham is famous in winter. Three Great White Egrets were dazzling in the bright light. In the pools on either side were Pintail, Shoveler and numerous Teal while on the grass were Lapwings and Curlews. Overhead Buzzards and Red Kites circled, and Marsh harriers frequently disturbed the grazing birds. There was even a rapidly flying Merlin.

Walking through the pines towards Washington Hide they passed Long-tailed and Coal Tits with flitting Goldcrests, and a reed-lined pool held Little Grebes as well as Gadwall and a Mute Swan. From the hide these was an excellent overview of the marshes full of geese, with the calls of Greylags and Pink-footed Geese keeping them company for the whole day. Further along, from the newly re-stored Jordan Hide they added White-fronted Geese to the list, rather rarer than the other geese, and also Egyptian Geese.

Some members left at lunchtime, but afterwards the rest made their way to the beach for the afternoon. The main target bird at Holkham beach in winter is always the beautiful Shore Lark, which is very distinctive with its yellow and black head. They are not always easy to see but have been very obliging this winter, and sure enough eight were seen. In the same area, behind the dunes, there were also Skylarks. Linnets and Meadow Pipits. Out on the sea were large groups of Common Scoter, perhaps two to three thousand in all, and when they took flight a couple showed the white wing bars that identified them as the less numerous Velvet Scoter. There were also a couple of Great Crested Grebes, a Red-throated Diver, Herring and Great Black-backed Gulls and small parties of Red-breasted Mergansers.

The very busy spring months will soon be upon us, and there are lots of planned trips to make the most of them. Details of planned outings for the year can always be found on our website – WVBS.co.uk – along with reports of all indoor and outdoor meetings.

Forthcoming Events

Indoor meetings

Held at Great Witchingham Village Hall on the third Thursday of each month. Visitors are welcome for a small charge (£3.00)

Thursday 17th April

AGM with a talk from Nick Acheson

Thursday 15th May

Chris Durdin on The Norfolk Cranes Story

Outdoor Meetings

Saturday 12th April

Cley NWT

Saturday 10th May

Dawn Chorus at Pensthorpe

Full details of outdoor meetings can be found on the website - WVBS.co.uk

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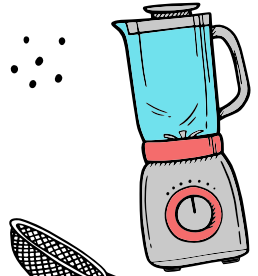
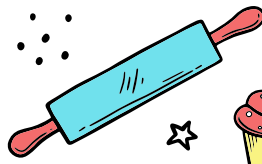


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THE AMAZING CAKE

This eggless, sugarless and fatless cake has to be tasted. Given to us by Maxims, a café in Great Witchingham in 2003, it has proved a winner.

Ingredients

- 8oz (225g) dates – chopped
- 10fl oz (255mls) water
- 1lb (454g) mixed fruit
- 3 teaspoons (14g) of baking powder
- 6oz (175g) plain flour
- Grated rind of an orange
- 4 tablespoons (60 mls) of orange juice
- 1 teaspoon (4g) of mixed spice

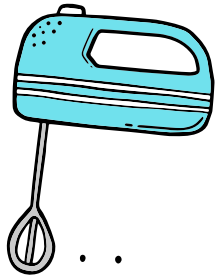
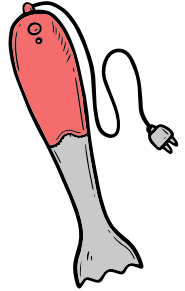
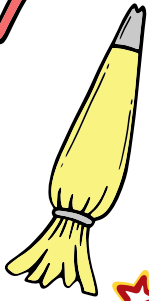
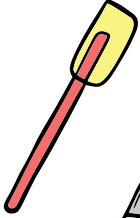
Method

Pre heat oven to 180C

Put dates and water in pan and heat gently until soft. Remove from heat and mash to break up dates. Place all other ingredients in mixing bowl, add the dates and stir really well.

Spoon mixture into a greased and lined 2lb loaf tin and level the top. Bake for 75 to 90 minutes until a skewer comes out clean. NB: Cover with foil after 40mins to avoid a burnt top.

For extra decadence, butter it before serving!



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ST MARY'S CHURCH

Dear Friends,

On Saturday 21st June, St Mary's Church is hosting an Eco-Fair – the first of its kind in North Elmham. There will be a range of exhibitors, from conservation and wildlife organisations to all things organic! We're also planning children's activities and refreshments in the Memorial Institute Hall. Do save the date – more details to follow next month.

The Bishop of Norwich, the Rt Revd Graham Usher, is national lead for the Church of England on environmental is-sues and is passionate about his subject - leading the Diocese's pledge to be carbon neutral by 2030, including, of course, all of the churches and their churchyards. He says: "Responding to the climate and biodiversity emergencies is not an optional interest for the ministry

of the Church, it is an imperative for the mission of God's Church." A fascinating thing about our churchyards is that they are unique habitats as they are never treated with chemicals and fertilizers (other than 'spot' spraying for persistent invasive weeds). At St Mary's, we have invited the Norfolk Wildlife Trust to visit the churchyard to advise on how it can be managed well to encourage a diversity of flora and fauna.

April will see our gardens, and our churchyard, burst into growth, beginning the season for grass-cutting and weeding and hopefully, more enjoyable garden tasks!

April is also the month when we journey with Jesus in the final weeks of his life as we approach Holy Week and Good Friday to stand at the foot of the cross. When all seemed lost and hopeless as Jesus died, and the disciples turned away to resume their former lives, God did something

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Dates for your diary

12th MARCH

9th APRIL

14th MAY

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new, something almost unbelievable. For early in the morning of that first Easter Day, Jesus burst forth from the tomb, overcoming death. In doing so, he invited all of us, across all time, to enter a new relationship with God, to know that we are his treasured creatures and to enjoy his presence and the promise of eternal life.

Do join us at St Mary's to celebrate Easter joy – Sunday 20th April, 9.00 am – a family Communion service that will probably involve chocolate in some way!

Yours, in Christ,

Revd Sally

WORTHING NEWS

BISHOP'S LENT DIOCESAN APPEAL 2025: LENT BRUNCH

Sunday 6th April, from 9.30am

A simple brunch with rolls, cheeses, fruit, hot drinks / juices will be served in church. Any kind donation received will be passed on to fund YANA's (You Are Not Alone) telephone helpline, offering confidential support to those in need.

"YANA is doing vital work by being alongside people working in farming and rural businesses, offering help and hope to those struggling with stress or depression. Those living and working in rural areas are often facing increasing challenges and I have been very impressed by all YANA does to care for people." Bishop Graham

Find out more about YANA:
www.yanahelp.org

No booking necessary, please drop by and join for brunch.



Easter Sunday 20th April Easter Day Duck Race & More!

11.30am - Children's Easter Story with Norman & Duck Race at 12.00 noon

In aid of St. Margaret's Church Building Appeal our traditional Easter Sunday Duck Race in Worthing, starts at Millstream Cottages, by the river.

Suggested Donation £2.50 per sponsored Duck Remember to pick up a ticket or two! Easter egg prizes to be won! Winning ducks/numbers to be announced in May editorial. Good luck everyone!

Church Service Dates for April

Holy Communion on Sunday the 6th April
9.30am Holy Communion & Lent Brunch,
on the 20th April 11.30am Easter Story
with Norman by the River.

Adance Notice

Come and partake in a delicious cream tea on Bank Holiday Monday 5th May from 2-4pm at Worthing Church.

Contact

For all details concerning St. Margaret's Church in Worthing contact Celia Daniel on 01362 668928. Check out our facebook page for additional information and stories. www.facebook.com/StMargaretsChurchworthing/



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CHURCH SERVICES

APRIL



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6TH APRIL – PASSION SUNDAY

9:00 am	Worthing	Holy Communion
9:30 am	Wood Norton	Morning Praise
10:30 am	North Elmham	Holy Communion
10:30 am	Stibbard	Holy Communion
10:30 am	Bawdeswell	Word & Praise

13TH APRIL – PALM SUNDAY

10:30 am	North Elmham	Iona Holy Communion
10:30 am	Bawdeswell	Holy Communion
10:30 am	Foulsham	Holy Communion

20TH APRIL – EASTER DAY

9:00 am	North Elmham	Holy Communion
10:30 am	Wood Norton	Holy Communion
10:30 am	Bawdeswell	The 10:30
11:30 am	Worthing	Village Iona Morning Praise, followed by Duck Race
6:00 pm	Salle	Sung Evensong with the Heart of Norfolk Choir

27TH APRIL – 2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER

9:00 am	Guist	Holy Communion
10:30 am	Foulsham	Holy Communion
10:30 am	North Elmham	Morning Praise
10:30 am	Stibbard	Morning Praise
10:30 am	Bawdeswell	Holy Communion

Services at Bawdeswell All Saints are available on Zoom – please contact Robin Taylor for joining details: robin.bawdeswell@gmail.com

CONTACT DETAILS

Billingford, Bintree, Guestwick, Guist, North Elmham, Stibbard, Twyford, Wood Norton, Worthing: Revd Sally Kimmis, 01362 668850, heartofnorfolkrector@gmail.com
Bawdeswell, Bylaugh, Elsing, Foulsham, Foxley, Lyng, Sparham, Themelthorpe: Revd Richard Turk, 07721 035009, revdrichardrwv@gmail.com



EASTER WORDSEARCH

Z	S	T	V	S	C	M	Y	N	H	S	K	S	A	H	T	L
G	V	P	C	W	I	V	F	C	A	C	P	V	E	Z	D	D
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P	S	B	G	Q	D	A	S	N	A	E	B	Y	L	L	E	J

BUNNY
DUCKLINGS
BONNET

SPRING
EGGS
DAFFODILS

EGG
JELLYBEANS
RABBIT

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

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PAGE 16: Wendy Cottrell

PAGE 19: Sarah Felton

PAGE 29–31: Dave Appleton

PAGE 33: Elmham CEVA Primary Academy



NORTH ELMHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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Vice Chair: Martin Phillips, 01362 668 409
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Tom Fitzalan Howard, 01362 668 232
Brian Gee, 01362 422 799
Ann Keeble, 01362 668 216
Nick Markwell, 01362 668 557
Michael Rayner, 01362 667 859
Colin Smith, 01362 668 585

PARISH CLERK

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

MEETINGS

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

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

VILLAGE FACILITIES

Allotments..... Martin Phillips
Broom Green & Pound To be confirmed, contact Parish Clerk
Cathedral Meadows..... Tom Fitzalan Howard, Ann Keeble
Cathedral Ruins..... Ann Keeble, Tom Fitzalan Howard
Eastgate Centre..... Martin Phillips, Paul Grainger
Millennium & Jubilee Wood..... To be confirmed, contact Parish Clerk
Playing Field & Pavilion..... Colin Smith, Ann Ferris
Prince William Wood..... Tom Fitzalan Howard, Nick Markwell
Village Green Colin Smith, Brian Gee
Footpath Warden..... Ann Ferris

SERVICES

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

PARISH CHARITIES

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

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Elmham Surgery, Holt Rd - 01362 668215

Group website: elmhamsurgery.com

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Norfolk County Councillor	Bill Borrett	01362 860200
Member of Parliament	george.freeman.mp@parliament.uk	01953 600617
Nth Elmham CEVA Primary Academy	Ms Victoria McConnell, Head Teacher	01362 668318
Chair of Governors	John Robson chairofgov@flourishfed.co.uk	
Memorial Institute	Bookings: Kayleigh, elmhammemorial@outlook.com	07595 637031
Pavilion	Bookings: Ann Ferris, p.ferris84@yahoo.com	01362 668580
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Breckland Dog Warden	Confidential message or texts 07771 617417	01362 858500
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Clergy - All telephone numbers local code (01362)

Church of England	Reverend Sally Kimmis	heartofnorfolkrector@gmail.com	668850
	Reverend Richard Turk	revdrichardrw@gmail.com	07721 035009
Roman Catholic	Father Jay T Magpuyo	35 London Rd, Dereham	694066
Methodist	Rev Betty Trinder	31 Trinity Close, Dereham	695582
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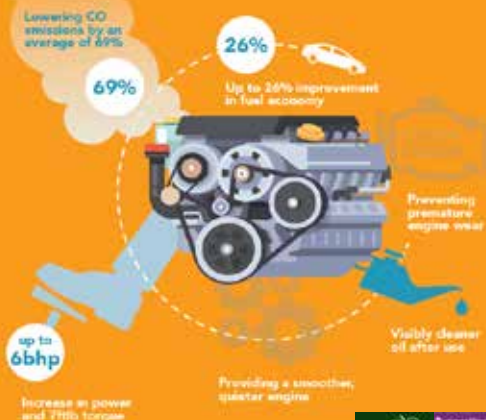
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