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JUNE 2026

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VIEWS & NEWS**

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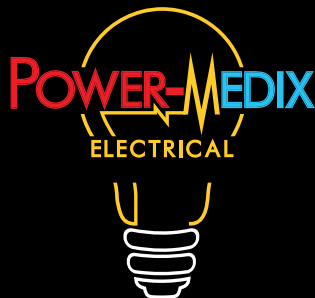
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EDITORIAL

Can you guess what our colourful cover picture is depicting? Thank you to Liz Vince for sending this photo taken by her husband Rob's drone in November. The answer will be at the back of the magazine. Wonder how many of you will get it right.

Are we the only ones to be baffled by the non collection of small electrical items (to be placed on our refuse bins as instructed by the Council)? Apparently, it transpires that the facility which collects these items has suffered from a fire and so they can no longer deal with them. We will have to recycle them ourselves until instructed otherwise.

We notice that North Elmham Football Team are recruiting the under 14's, so Year 9 come September. Boys and Girls are welcome so message Stanley Andrews on North Elmham Community website.

We would like to extend our congratulations to local resident, Paul Carr who was recently elected as a Norfolk County Councillor for Elmham and Mattishall.

We would like to thank Bill Borrett for his many years of dedicated service to this community.

Thanks to our regular donors from Station Road, we always appreciate any donations.



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NEXT DEADLINE: 14TH JUNE

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 49: ISSUE 5

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ELMHAM NEWS THE FUTURE ?

Last month's magazine included a feature reflecting on our 50th anniversary in 2027, and also an honest look at what the future of the magazine might be beyond that milestone.

As mentioned in the article, the current volunteer team remains committed to seeing Elmham News reach its golden anniversary before handing over to a new team — if people are willing to come forward and take it on in whatever form suits modern village life. Otherwise, we will bow out with a special celebration edition.

We are, therefore, keen to hear from anyone who may be interested in forming a new team.

We are also looking to collect stories, memories and photographs from across the decades as part of our 50th anniversary celebrations.

If you missed the article in last month's edition, you can find it on page 5. If you would like to know more, please do get in touch.

ABLE COMMUNITY QUESTIONS

Question: I have heard of Benevolent Funds, but what are they and can they help with care costs?

Answer: Benevolent funds in the UK are charitable organisations that provide financial support, grants, and practical assistance to individuals facing hardship, often linked to specific trades, professions, or industries that a person has worked in.

They can offer advice and practical help, including grants for items such as furniture, computers, and white goods,

as well as assistance with everyday living costs. In addition, they may provide funding towards care home fees, top-up costs, or home care services, such as daily care visits during times of need.

If you are unsure whether your former employer or the industry you worked in has a benevolent fund, you can find out by contacting Turn2us. Turn2us is a UK-based national charity that helps people experiencing financial hardship access welfare benefits, charitable grants, and support services. Their helpline number is 0808 802 2000 and their website: www.turn2us.org.uk

Question: How do you qualify for a Council Tax reduction?

Answer: Council Tax Reductions are under claimed, with an estimated 2.4–2.7 million eligible people missing out—around 1 in 4 households. People may qualify in several ways, including:

- A 25% single-person discount
- Full exemptions for full-time students
- Reductions for those with severe mental impairment, people diagnosed with conditions such as severe dementia may qualify for a reduction of between 25% and 100%, depending on circumstances and council rules.

In England, schemes are set by local councils, while Scotland and Wales have national systems.

Council Tax Reduction is not automatic—you must apply through your local council.

Organisations like Citizens Advice and Age UK can help check eligibility and support applications.

*Angela Gifford
Managing Director*



COUNTRYSIDERS

Another busy month for North Elmham Countrysiders began with the Norfolk YFC Dog Show at the Royal Norfolk Showground. Some of our leaders helped out on the day, while several Countrysiders took part and represented the club brilliantly.

On Sunday 26th April, nine of our Countrysiders took part in the Stock Judging Competition. Learning to judge the condition of an animal — whether it is ready for breeding or for market — understanding ideal body condition and placing animals in order from best to worst is a real skill. All of our Countrysiders gave it their very best effort and should be proud of themselves.

Monday 27th April saw us enjoy a Football Taster Session at Fakenham Football Club. The Countrysiders had a great insight into a football training session, getting fully involved in all the activities before finishing with a friendly match between two teams. Even some of the parents joined in!

The Farm Event on 10th May was our second biggest competition day of the calendar. With a wide range of competitions, including pre-made exhibits and activities completed on the day, there were plenty of certificates won. Overall, North Elmham Countrysiders achieved an excellent 2nd place. Stock Judging results were also announced, with several of our Countrysiders receiving well-deserved certificates for their hard work and achievements.

On Monday 11th May, we held a fantastic team-building session — Den Building at Holt Country Park. With amazing help from Joe Savoury, who works at the park, five teams were given one hour to build their shelters. Once completed, each team had to sit inside their den while

Joe poured water over them to test how waterproof they were! Some amazing creations were built, although a few children got a little wet during the rain test. Thankfully, it certainly didn't dampen anyone's spirits, and a brilliant evening was had by all. A huge thank you to Joe for hosting us.

Lots more exciting activities are still to come!

1st June: Crab off against Seniors at Wells Harbour.

15th June: Wells Lifeboat station Visit with sea Safety Talk.

If you have a child aged 10–16 who is interested in meeting new people and learning more about the countryside and farming, please get in touch. Two sessions are free to try. After that, there is a yearly admin fee (which covers insurance for meetings and all events) plus £4 subs per session.

Email us: north_elmham_cs@norfolkyfc.co.uk

Find us on Facebook and Instagram North Elmham Countrysiders

AGE UK SUPPORT

Age UK can help fill in the Attendance Allowance application for claimants in their own home in case completing them online is too daunting. Trained members of the team come to their home to do this.

The team also offer advice and help to claim other benefits and offer services such as companionship events and advocacy.

This is the link to the website which includes the phone line: www.ageuk.org.uk/norfolk

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DEREHAM WALKERS ARE WELCOME

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.

Following the success of our Twilight Walk last year, we are running another on Saturday June 20th. Do come and join us to explore Rushmeadow.

For up-to-date information on all our walks, please check our website www.derehamwaw.org.uk/,

Contact Ken Hawkins: ken-hawkins@tiscali.co.uk or on 07505 426750.

DITCH DESECRATION

Over the last month we have received several letters from residents who have expressed deep concern about weedkiller applied to the ditch on the open space at Boars Hill.

"How sad to see that some of the lovely new wild meadow on Boars Hill has been killed off and some has been strimmed. Surely in this day and age it is time to let the fauna and flora have a chance to grow and give back the habitat to nature and all that goes with it. Its such a shame as the meadow was just coming to life."

"What a shame that part of the water ditch on Boars Hill appears to have been treated with weedkiller, leaving a hideous brown, dead and dying patch of plant life.

Last year, I recall work being carried out with the planting of wildflowers

and grasses on the sides of the ditch to encourage more wildlife, insects, small mammals and bird life, as well as making it more attractive for us humans.

That work is coming to fruition as new life is beginning to show and with it, the birds appear to be taking more interest.

Let's hope next year the entire ditch will remain green and give our wildlife the chance it deserves to thrive alongside us. After all, that area was their playground long before development took place."

"Just a note to the PC to raise my concern about the sad destruction of a wildlife habitation space.

The area is the ditch just behind Boars Hill, near the new car park, leading to the recent landscaped meadow. I assume this area is owned by the Parish, so it's very sad to see that weedkiller and lawn mowers have been used to "tame" parts of this area in an effort to train it to corporation neatness.

Apart from the two large patches of scorched earth looking very unsightly, the destruction of habitat will be impactful to many species of plants and animals, especially at this time of year when nature is renewing and growing rapidly.

Unfortunately the damage having been done means it will take patience and time for it to be undone. It is especially poignant seeing this "vandalism" at a time when we are reading about the life and work of Sir David Attenborough - a long time advocate of nature.

Can the PC please request the people concerned to desist from this activity and encourage the reinstatement of the wildlife space.

Finally, thank you for your efforts in providing this safe path from Cathedral Drive to the Millennium Woods and beyond,

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SINE (Help)
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Snooker Wed
Tea@Two
The May Singers
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Gill King, 01362 668530
Karen Cornall, 07752 580414
Millie Fisher, fishermillie15@gmail.com

it means alot to many of us who frequently use the path and can now avoid the trauma of walking along The Hill pavement."

.....

"I was saddened and annoyed to see the recent use of excessive weedkiller along the fencing of Boars Hill on the banks of the drainage ditch. What was previously a healthy strip of natural vegetation has been left as an unsightly and unhealthy scorched brown scar.

I am flabbergasted that as the land in question lies outside the resident's property boundary and ownership, that they felt it appropriate to apply weedkiller in the first place.

But also, the area is not simply one of "untidy weeds", but land that has been set aside as a surface water drainage ditch and a wildlife habitat to support insects, birds and small mammals.

Housing developments on open farmland are controversial, and these green spaces and wildlife areas were included in the original plans to soften that impact and preserve some connection with the natural habitat that existed before. As this is surface water drainage ditch I am also concerned about the potential for weedkiller to enter the water course during heavy rainfall.

Finally and perhaps something for the resident to consider? As this bank forms part of a drainage ditch surely the plant-life that has been destroyed helps stabilise the bank and manage the surface water? So removing it not only damages biodiversity but could also increase the risk of erosion over time to the bank and garden behind.

Hopefully the natural vegetation will take hold again in the future and the important wildlife and pollinators will reclaim the habitat for themselves once again."

.....

Ed's note: We were aware this subject was discussed at the most recent meeting of the Parish Council and so approached them for a response:

"Concerns expressed by a number of parishioners regarding the Parish Council land at Boars Hill had been received. This involves the wildflower meadow and saplings which had been planted by the developers, Orchard Homes, on the steep bank behind the bungalows. There is a suspicion that weedkiller has been applied as all vegetation has been destroyed with the area turning brown. It is felt that a real danger to wildlife exists from the action that has been taken. The members agreed that action needs to be taken to rectify the current position."

BRISLEY AND NORTH ELMHAM CRICKET CLUB

In terms of results, it has been a disappointing start to the new season with neither Saturday team yet to register a victory. On the positive side, we have good availability with a number of new players joining and the spirit is strong and undaunted and the first win cannot be too far off.

RESULTS

April 25th

2nds v Beeston (A) Friendly
Beeston 138 B&NE 139-3
B&NE won by 7 wickets

B&NE welcomed some new signings and were able to offer two players to old friends and rivals Beeston to enable a 12-a-side match to be played over 40 overs. Several bowlers had an opportunity with Olly Bould impressing with 3-27 and Noah Poole enticing some attempted slogging and grabbing 4 wickets for just 5 runs. Several batters too prepared themselves for the league season with useful time out in the

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middle with Fordham (32) Bould (23) Barker (25) and Poole (18) all unbeaten as the visitors coasted to victory.

May 2nd

1sts v Overstrand (A) League
B&NE 144 Overstrand 150-3
B&NE lost by 7 wickets

This game was lost in the first hour and a half as the visitors struggled to 55-7 before Noah Poole (38) and Archie Thompson (29) at least set some kind of target. For a while Overstrand also struggled against Najam Hassan (3-9) but his fellow bowlers failed to make an impact as a 4th wicket century partnership saw the hosts ease home with 20 overs to spare.

Black Schuck MoM:

Noah Poole

2nds v Blundeston & Somerleyton (H) League
B&S 184-9 BNE 134
B&NE lost by 50 runs.

Extras conceded was the difference between the sides as the hosts gave 60 runs away including 35 wides and 11 no balls. Steve Curley took 3-30 and Taylor Bidewell 3-47. The home team made a spirited reply chasing almost 200 runs, reaching half a century after just 9 overs but a flurry of wickets followed by a hat trick left opener Damian Wheddon running out of partners.

Black Schuck MoM:

Damian Wheddon for his 65 runs.

May 9th

1sts v Ketteringham Hall (H) League
Kett Hall 184-7 B&NE 135
B&NE lost by 49 runs.

The visitors were made to work hard in the first part of their innings and with Euan Mayfield taking 4 wickets were in trouble at 113-6 before reaching a very chaseable target of 185. However, a disastrous start to their reply saw the

home team subside to 10-4 and with only 3 batters making more than 4 runs it was left to Ollie Hall (58) Tom Chamberlain (28) and Callum Futter (26) to keep B&NE in the game but the task was too much.

Black Schuck MoM:

Euan Mayfield for his 4-50

2nds v Martham 2 (A) League B&NE 180-8
Martham 181-4. B&NE lost by 6 wickets

The visitors set a decent target lead by MoM Tom Thorpe who fell short just short of a half-century and he was supported by Fordham (36) and Mackay (31). A great opening spell from Max Wiseman and George Bridges had the hosts struggling at 15-3 and when debutant James Palmer took his maiden wicket with the score on 46 hopes were high but an unbeaten partnership of 135 saw Martham home as skipper Darren Wiseman gave eight bowlers an opportunity but to no avail.

Mark Ballman

FAKENHAM CHORAL SOCIETY

Vivaldi's Gloria and Mozart's Coronation Mass on Saturday 20 June

Vivaldi's Gloria was composed around 1715 during Vivaldi's employment at the Pio Ospedale della Pieta, a home for orphaned girls, renowned for its advanced all-female choral ensemble. Mozart wrote the 'Coronation Mass' in 1779 at the age of twenty-three, a commission from the Archbishop of Salzburg. The mass appears to have acquired the Coronation Mass nickname in Vienna, in the early 19th century, after becoming the preferred music for royal and imperial coronations.

Chair of FCS, Rosemary Dear, says: 'This will be a concert of choral works which are well loved by both singers and audience

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and very much in the tradition of music that FCS has performed over the years. It is therefore a fitting concert for Mark Jones's final concert as our music director.

Saturday 20 June 2026. 7.30 pm at Fakenham Parish Church

Booking: www.fakenhamchoralsociety.org/forthcoming-1

KNIT AND NATTER

By the time you read this the North Elmham Garden Fete will have come and gone. Whatever the weather did to us, we hope you all had a good time, spent some money, and won some lovely items in the raffles.

We are now back to our day job of knitting for our usual charities and groups. We would still be pleased to receive any unwanted wool etc. because squares and blankets require quite some wool, so the more we have the more items we can produce.

At our next meeting in the Pavilion, if you would like to, you can drop in and see us and have a cup of tea, where you will find us knitting away and, of course, nattering.

Next meeting June 2nd 2-00 til 4-00 pm.

Eileen Cotterill 01362 668380.

MAY PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

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

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Wednesday 3rd June at 7.30 pm in the Pavilion. Parishioners are always encouraged to attend.

GARDENING CLUB

The speaker at our April meeting, Mrs Annette Hurst proved to be a very passionate gardener devoted to soft fruit. She gave us advice and handy hints to deal with the usual run of fruits that we grow in our gardens. She happily answered the many questions that were put to her.

The Flower of the Month was a simple cowslip from Meg's wild garden which obviously appealed to Annette.

We will have visited Dillington Herbs in May and are looking forward to our visit to Fuller's Mill at West Stow near Bury St Edmunds on Thursday 25th June leaving Boar's Hill carpark at 12 noon.

There are spaces on the coach if anyone is interested, please contact Ray 01362 667226 by the 10th June for more information.

Don't forget our Annual Garden Show is on Saturday 8th August and the show schedules are easily available from the web at elmham.org.uk/whats-on/clubs-groups/gardening-club/ Our Facebook page also has a full copy of the schedule. Ring Ray 667226 or email Sarah sarahefelton@yahoo.com for physical copy if you are unable to download.

Remember you don't have to be a member to take part. It will only cost you 20p per entry! So why not come along and join in the friendly fun.





NORTH ELMHAM PRIMARY ACADEMY

Whole School News

Year 3 and 4 Residential

North Elmham and Stibbard All Saints Y3 and Y4 pupils had a fun filled 2 nights and 3 days at Horstead Activity Centre. The children tried a variety of adventurous outdoor activities ranging from 'Crate Stacking', rock climbing and archery. The children worked really well together and supported one another in the activities, kept their rooms tidy and packed up their belongings on the last day. The first night was an exciting first one spent chatting with friends and putting sleep off for as long as possible. The second night was thankfully (for the adults) not as late and everyone slept so soundly that they had to be woken up the next morning. We were all very proud of every child for embracing all that was on offer. Well Done!

KS2 Federation Sports Day

Children from across Key Stage 2 at both North Elmham and Stibbard All Saints were to have taken part in a variety of events including sprint races, relay races, obstacle courses and field activities. Sadly, the weather proved inhospitable and the afternoon had to be cancelled. However, we are looking forward to our KS1 Sports Day in a few weeks time!

Tea at 2

Some children from Oak Class had a fantastic time attending Tea at 2! It was wonderful to share our learning with members of the community while enjoying live music and, of course, some delicious treats!

Community Day

Saturday 4th July, 9:15am

F.O.N.E.S have secured two grants to develop a sensory garden and a wildlife

garden on our school grounds. We would like to invite you to join us for a morning of planting, building, and environmental care at our Community Gardening Day!

From planting flowers and vegetables to decorating garden spaces, we need your support to help bring our vision to life for our pupils, staff, and wider community.

Whether you can lend a hand with gardening, building, decorating, or simply come along to support the project, your help would be greatly appreciated.

If you would like to support us, please contact the school office to register your interest. Refreshments will be provided.

Class News

Acorns

This half term, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 have been incredibly busy with lots of exciting learning! During our Maths Days, the children challenged themselves with activities that tested both their maths knowledge and physical skills, showing fantastic teamwork and resilience. Year 2 have worked especially hard during their additional tests and should be very proud of their determination and positive attitudes. Year 1 have been making great progress in their phonics sessions and have been practising their sounds and reading skills with growing confidence. In Science, we have been learning all about seeds and plants and exploring what they need to grow. In History, we have loved discovering the story of the Great Fire of London and learning how it changed London forever. In English, we have begun planning our own story about Friendship and have been using our imaginations to create exciting ideas. We have also enjoyed learning about the Jewish festival of Passover and thinking about its importance. The children had great fun designing and building shelters to protect against unpredictable weather, showing

Walk through a millennium of history on a summer evening



The two oldest buildings in North Elmham are the church and the ruins beside it.

At the half-way point in the calendar year, spend an evening learning about Elmham's unique story from Saxon times to the present day, with a guided walk led by local historian, Susanna Wade-Martins.

Tuesday, 30th June at 7pm
Meet at the gates to the ruins

The evening will end with refreshments in the church

excellent creativity and problem-solving skills. Well done everyone!

Oak

The children in Oak Class have had a truly fantastic term and should be incredibly proud of all they have achieved. In English, they have shown great creativity and determination through their in-depth narrative writing, producing imaginative and detailed pieces that demonstrate just how much their confidence and skills have progressed. In Art, the children thoroughly enjoyed creating beautiful scenery pieces inspired by famous artists, showing excellent attention to detail and creativity throughout their work. It has also been wonderful to see the tremendous progress the class has made across all areas of learning. During KS2 Sports Day, the children displayed outstanding sportsmanship, encouraging one another while also embracing the competitive spirit of the day with enthusiasm and determination. A very special mention must go to our brilliant Year 6 pupils, who approached their SATs tests with maturity, resilience, and positivity.

We are incredibly proud of the hard work and dedication they have shown, and they should all feel extremely proud of their achievements.

Woodland Room Nursery

Open Day

Monday 1st June - 1:30pm-3:00pm

We'd love to welcome you to visit our school and see our Nursery in action. Whether you're new to the area or already part of our school community, a visit is the perfect way to experience our warm, friendly atmosphere and discover how we help every child grow in confidence, curiosity, and independence.

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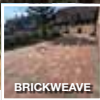
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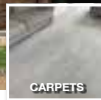
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MID NORFOLK SINGERS - 80 YEARS OF SINGING!!!

Our choir began in Elmham in 1946 as an evening class and has developed into a successful choir singing a varied repertoire. We are led by the amazing Benedict Collins Rice, and accompanied by Jonathan Dodd – well known to many of you in Elmham. On 27th June at 5pm as part of our 80th Anniversary celebrations, we will be returning to our roots singing at Elmham Church. The program includes some Last Night of the Proms favourites.

New singers are always welcome – rehearsals are held at the Salvation Army Church in Dereham on Thursday evenings in term time.

*Sue Baldwin secretary@
midnorfolksingers.org.uk*

PRICILLA BACON HOSPICE

I'm writing to share a short update from Priscilla Bacon Hospice Charity about the support available for local residents affected by life-limiting illness, caring responsibilities, and bereavement.

Our new Impact Report, Compassion Without Walls, outlines how the Charity supports people both at Priscilla Bacon Lodge and across Norfolk and Waveney, alongside our NHS partners at Norfolk Community Health and Care NHS Trust (NCH&C).

Many people still think hospice support is only for the final days of life. In reality, specialist palliative care increasingly helps people to live as well as possible with serious illness, including working-age adults and families, as well as older people who may face barriers such as long journeys, limited transport links or digital exclusion.

We would be grateful if you could share the following information locally:

Our website (including how to access support and how to get in touch): www.priscillabaconhospice.org.uk

A link to our Impact Report: Compassion Without Walls <https://www.priscillabaconhospice.org.uk/news/compassion-without-walls-our-2025-impact-report/>

*Hugo Stevenson
Head of Fundraising and Communications
Priscilla Bacon Hospice Charity*

MILLENNIUM WOOD LARGE GATE CLOSURE

The large metal gate between Jubilee Wood and Millennium Wood has been found to be left open on numerous occasions. This has meant that deer have been able to enter and then get trapped when the gate is next closed. This can be very distressing for the deer and may also create a risk of injury for the deer, dogs, and people nearby.

To help prevent this, the Parish Council has reluctantly decided to lock the large gate from 8th June. Access for wheelchair users and pushchairs will still be available via the entrance from Boars Hill.

*Joe Sowinski
North Elmham Parish Council*

ST. MARY'S CHURCH

Volunteers Needed...please...!

Do you have approx. 1 hour to spare say every eight weeks? We are looking for persons to join our Church cleaning team - any offers of help will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you.

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NORTH ELMHAM SCHOOL HOUSE & LAND CHARITY

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

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

To apply, write to: The Clerk to the School House & Land Charity, Mrs Julia Hardwick, Flint Cottage, Eastgate Street, North Elmham NR20 5HE by 31st July. Unfortunately, the Trustees are unable to consider applications after this date.

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

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

The branch held a meeting at the Kings Head on Tuesday the 5th May, various points were raised regarding the History Weekend we were involved in which have been taken onboard, and final plans made for the Garden Fete.

The next meeting will be Tuesday July the 7th at the Kings Head, and the branch AGM on the 1st September.

Mike Aston Branch Secretary

DATES TO REMEMBER: JUNE

Mon 1st	New Term Begins Countrysiders: Crab Off Nursery Open Day	Wells Harbour School	Contact Wendy 1.30-3.00 pm
Tue 2nd	Knit and Natter	Pavilion	2.00 pm
Wed 3rd	Parish Council Meeting	Pavilion	7.30 pm
Wed 10th	Tea at Two	Memorial Hall	2.00 pm
Thu 11th	Wives+All: A royal visit from Queen Victoria	Memorial Hall	7.30 pm
Sat 13th	Singing Workshop	St Mary's Church	2.30-4.00 pm
Mon 15th	Countrysiders: Visit	Wells Lifeboat Station	Contact Wendy
Wed 17th	Mobile Library visits	The Heath-Wensum Drive	1.15-4.40 pm
Thu 25th	Gardening Club Visit	Fullers Mill Garden	12 noon at Boars Hill
Sat 27th	Mid Norfolk Singers return	St Mary's Church	5.00 pm
Tue 30th	History Guided Walk	Cathedral Ruins Gates	7.00 pm

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Wed Weekly	Norwich Bus	Bus Shelter by Pavilion Opposite Orchard Close	9.37 am 9.39 am
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ELMHAM WILDLIFE



The caterpillars of some of our smaller moths are so tiny that they can live and feed inside a leaf, munching a path through the middle of the leaf. The shape of the trail they leave depends on the species of moth – sometimes it is long, narrow and winding, other times it is more of a blotch. These moths are called leaf-miners and this month I am going to tell you about one particular genus of leaf-miner moths called *Phyllonorycter*.



An adult *Phyllonorycter* is only about 3-4mm long, so they're easy to miss. Most of them are quite striking to look at, though you may need a magnifying lens to appreciate this. We have nearly 50 different species of *Phyllonorycter* in Norfolk but as adults, many of them look extremely similar to one another on the outside. The different species keep themselves separated from one another partly because they tend to live on different types of plants but also because the different species have unique structures to their genitalia which makes it difficult for them to cross-breed. This means that those of us who study these moths sometimes need to dissect them and examine their genitalia under a microscope if we need to work out which species they are.



Fortunately some species are much easier to identify from the form and shape of their larval leaf-mines, together with knowing what species of plant the mine is on. The Nut Leaf Blister Moth is one very common species that mines the leaves of Hazel. The adults appear very striking





(photo 1), but although that might look distinctive, there are in fact quite a few different species that look almost identical. This is an example where the leaf-mines made by their caterpillars are much easier to find than the adult moths and also much easier to identify – but they don't look as impressive! They are round blotches on the upper surface of Hazel leaves (photo 2). If you find a fresh one and hold it up to the light, you might just be able to make out a tiny caterpillar wriggling around inside it.



The Shining Alder Leaf-miner (photo 3) is a lovely little moth. It's hard to capture in a photo but the scales on the moths' wings reflect the light so they glisten and change according to their angle to the light source. It is one of several similar species whose larvae mine in alder leaves.



The Ilex Leaf-miner (photo 4) is associated with a number of different plant species but not Holly which you might have expected if you know that *Ilex* is the genus for Holly. It's actually named after Holly Oak, or Holm Oak, *Quercus ilex*, which is one of the plants its caterpillars will feed on.



A similar species is the Common Oak Leaf-miner whose larvae form a blotch on the underside of oak leaves. The blotch has a characteristic crease going through the middle (photo 5).

Most of the *Phyllonorycter* caterpillars feed on trees but a few are on shrubs and smaller plants. The Banded Honey-suckle Leaf-miner is one such example (photo 6).

There are three similar species that feed on three different species of Acer: one is on Sycamore, one is on Norway Maple and the third is on Field Maple. All three have white wings with orange bands



crossing them but there are minor differences between the species in the detail of the markings. The one I encounter most often is the Maple Leaf-miner (photo 7) whose caterpillars feed on Field Maple.

Adult *Phyllonorycter* moths can be found at light during the night-time but I often find them flying around their foodplants early in the mornings. These leaf-miners can be very much more numerous in some years than in other years, and in good year another really effective way of finding them is to look carefully on tree trunks where they often rest during the day.

2014 was a really good year for leaf-miners. The Scarce Oak Leaf-miner (photo 8) had not been seen anywhere in the UK for over a decade and in Norfolk it was only known from near the Suffolk border where it was last reported in the early 1980s. So it was quite a surprise when I went for a short walk at Syderstone Common in my lunch break and discovered several of them on oak tree trunks. Later that spring I found scores of them across five different sites and a couple of years later at two more locations, this time including North Elmham. I saw quite a few at various places around North Elmham over the next few years, but not since 2022.

You get this with moths sometimes – a species will suddenly appear in good numbers then remain common for a while before slipping away again. Sometimes that will be a migratory coloniser that arrives here, finds the conditions suitable and then thrives for a two or three years, but then encounters weather conditions that it isn't adapted for and the whole new population is wiped out. Sometimes,



as is probably the case with the Scarce Oak Leaf-miner, the species is probably always present but very thin-on-the-ground most of the time. It may prefer specific weather conditions at each stage of its lifecycle, and on the rare occasion that all these requirements come together, perhaps coinciding with a bad year for whatever species might parasitise or prey on them, they suddenly surge in numbers. You often get one year with particularly large numbers followed by a few years of less impressively large numbers before they go back to being rather scarce again.

Let me know what interesting wildlife you find around North Elmham – it's always good to hear your news. You can get in touch with me by emailing me at appleton.dave@googlemail.com or phoning me on 668431.

Dave Appleton





Fullers Mill Garden Visit

West Stow, Bury St. Edmunds

Thursday 25th June

**Coach leaves Boars Hill
Car Park at 12.00 noon**

Come and join us on our trip to Fullers Mill, an enchanting and tranquil seven-acre garden on the banks of the River Lark. It combines a beautiful site of light dappled woodland with a collection of unusual shrubs, perennials, lilies and marginal plants.

Contact Ray Norman on 01362 667226
by the 10th June for more information.

WIVES PLUS ALL

On the evening of Thursday 14th May in the North Elmham Memorial Hall, the Wives Plus All again had the pleasure of a visit by Meteorologist Chris Bell. Chris lives locally and is well known for having presented the weather forecasts on BBC Look East. He is also Chief Communications Officer and Forecaster for Weatherquest Ltd, along with being the Lecturer in Meteorology at the School of Environmental Science at the University of East Anglia.

Chris gave an enlightening illustrated talk on Climate Change, which (in a very simplified explanation!) is happening because of the burning of fossil fuels that increase the concentration of CO₂ and other greenhouse gases that trap heat in the earth's atmosphere. As the atmosphere heats up, it holds more water, changing our weather patterns. Chris did a much better explaining it than me and had various charts and graphs to back this up. Thanks go to Chris for a very interesting and educational talk and the debate that followed.

Wives Plus All's next monthly meeting will take place on THURSDAY 11th JUNE 2026 at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall, North Elmham when Georgette Vale will give a talk on "A Royal Visit from Queen Victoria".

There will be a raffle and refreshments. Everyone is welcome.

REEPHAM ARTIST AND MAKERS EXHIBITION

Saturday/Sunday 18th & 19th July
10.00am–4.00pm
Bircham Centre, Reepham, NR10 4JJ
Contact:
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VETERANS CENTRAL

World War Two History Day
Sunday June 21st, 10.00am–3.00pm
RAF West Raynham SHQ NR21 7PL

Visit the military vehicles, re-enactors and displays and learn about the role they played in the World War Two.

Sit in some of the presentations – from the development of airfields in Norfolk, the Royal Norfolk Regiment in the war, 'Over Here' – the American presence in East Anglia, and more. Watch or take part on one of the World War Two wargame scenarios. Browse the various historical displays and photo albums. Get a fantastic book bargain in one of our bookshops.

ST MARY'S CHURCH

Dear Friends,

Our Rector, Sally, has asked me to write her usual letter this month. I am a lay leader of services and was also recently commissioned as an Authorised Pastoral Assistant (APA, see end)*.

We can all become discouraged at times – having someone to encourage us at the right moment is so important.

A favourite character from the Bible who inspires me is St Barnabas, whose name literally means 'Son of Encouragement'. Barnabas has his name day this month. He mentored St Paul and when St Mark was thinking of giving up, Barnabas encouraged him at just the right moment, so that Mark carried on with his missionary journey. I love the fact that Barnabas achieved this quietly, in the background, without drawing attention to himself but his influence can be seen in the work of those he encouraged.

I've recently met people from many walks of life that speak to me of being discouraged by changing patterns and challenges in their work places and

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vocations. These include a doctor, vet, teacher, nurse, farmer, ecological scientist – and the list goes on. They all seem to find that the hope they had in joining their profession was being challenged in a variety of ways.

It can help to have someone who really 'sees' us, who knows what we are about, who is able to encourage us to find our own voice and bring our talents into the world. Especially where these seem contrary to our working environment. Given the varied challenges we experience in our working lives, it can sometimes feel that our own efforts are like throwing pebbles into a vast lake – but we never know where these beneficial ripples might go.

St John was challenged in a similar way by some of the unhealthy patterns developing in the growing church. Although he was the disciple closest to Jesus, John waited 60 years to write his Gospel about Christ's life. Why did he wait so long? Like any growing group or organisation there were discords and

conflicts developing in the early church. Rules and regulations became necessary, but started to take precedence over the loving spirit and mystery of Christ's example which St John re-presents in his Gospel. In doing so he challenged what was happening and reconnected the early church with its true purpose. We can be thankful that he used his voice which can still inspire us in his Gospel today.

It can help for each of us to have what one commentator called a 'community of the heart'. People who, like St Barnabas, really 'see' us and encourage us to carry on and bring our unique gifts into the world.

Mark Burdon

*The APA scheme in the Diocese of Norwich trains and utilises the experience found within the 'laity' (not clergy) as such a 'community of the heart' to add to the number of 'listening ears' available alongside members of Clergy. Contact us through Revd Sally at heartofnorfolkrector@gmail.com

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June 10th

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September 9th

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WORTHING NEWS

Our annual May Day Cream Tea afternoon in Aid of St Margaret's, Worthing Church Building Appeal opened to a flurry of visitors from neighbouring villages and also some newcomers from Sheringham, Brancaster & Toftwood. It was wonderful to welcome you all. Over 60 visitors, children and baby, enjoyed a relaxing couple of hours with good banter whilst being served pots of tea and coffee and some scrummy cakes. During the afternoon, a raffle bonanza took place for those wanting a flutter or chance to win one of the fabulous prizes ranging from bottles of wine, chocolates, stationery, games, toiletries, glassware, china, flowers and plants. In all, 455 raffle tickets meant many winners went home happy and armed with their prizes. This occasion not only meant we formed some new friendships, but it also meant we caught up with other friends and families. On behalf of Worthing Church, a huge thank you to everyone who came.

Total donations raised was £380. 57. May we also remember our wonderful team of volunteers, who organised the raffle and prizes, hot drinks and of course that fabulous chocolate cake, you all helped make this a very successful and enjoyable afternoon, thank you.

Thursday, 11th June Coffee Morning from 10.30am confirmed

St Margaret's Church, Worthing

Sainsbury Institute (SISJAC) was founded in 1999 through the generosity of Sir Robert and Lady Sainsbury to promote knowledge and understanding of Japanese arts and cultures. Their Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures is to promote world class research from the past to the present. In 2024, they exhibited Nara to Norwich: Arts & Beliefs at the Ends of the Silk Roads, 500-1000 AD the Silk Roads beyond their current limits of Chinese

and post-Roman worlds including a 12m roll replica of Kannon Bosatsu, the bodhisattva of compassion and mercy in The Forum, Norwich. To expand their work and by walking through landscapes shaped by Christianity & Buddhism in Britain & Japan.

Worthing welcomes a visiting group taking part in their Pilgrimage journey to Walsingham Way on the 11th. This provides an opportunity for us to exchange local knowledge about our parish and the landscape we enjoy in comparison to that of the Japanese culture. Why not drop by and share your local knowledge and experience over coffee!

For more information, please visit: sisjac@sainsbury-institute.org

June Sunday Church Services

7th starting at 9.00am Holy Communion and 21st at 10.30am Iona Family Service led by Licensed Lay Minister Norman



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HEART OF NORFOLK CHURCH SERVICES

Church services for June are listed overleaf. Services at Bawdeswell All Saints are available on Zoom: ID: 656 174 6525 Passcode: TwKH7n

Contact: Revd Sally Kimmis, 01362 668850, heartofnorfolkrector@gmail.com for Billingford, Bintree, Guestwick, Guist, North Elmham, Stibbard, Twyford, Wood Norton and Worthing.

Contact: Revd Richard Turk, 07721 035009, revdrichardrwv@gmail.com for Bawdeswell, Bylaugh, Elsing, Foulsham, Foxley, Lyng, Sparham, Themelthorpe.

Raspberry Custard Cake

Ingredients

250g butter
Softened, plus extra for the tin
250g ready-made long-life custard
250g golden caster sugar
4 large eggs
1 tsp vanilla extract
300g self-raising flour
50g ground almonds
½ tsp baking powder
250g raspberries
2 tbsps flaked almonds
Icing sugar for dusting

Method

Heat the oven to 180C/fan 160C/gas 4 and butter and line a 20 x 30cm tin.

Reserve 100g of the custard. Put the rest in a big bowl with the butter and sugar, and beat with an electric whisk until pale and fluffy. Beat in the eggs one by one, followed by the vanilla, then fold through the flour, ground almonds and baking powder. Spoon the batter into the tin, leaving it rough on top. Scatter over the raspberries, dot over dollops of the reserved custard and scatter with the flaked almonds. Bake for 30-35 minutes or until a skewer poked into the middle of the sponge comes out clean.

Cool, then cut into chunks, dusting with a little icing sugar to serve.

Taken from: www.olivemagazine.com





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HEART OF
NORFOLK
CHURCHES

Services
across the
Benefice
and
Neighbouring
Churches

June
2026



7th June : First Sunday after Trinity

9.00am	Worthing	Holy Communion
10.30am	Wood Norton	Morning Praise
10.30am	North Elmham	Holy Communion
10.30am	Stibbard	Holy Communion
10.30am	Bawdeswell	Word and Praise

14th June: Second Sunday after Trinity

10.30am	North Elmham	Iona Holy Communion
10.30am	Bawdeswell	Holy Communion
10.30am	Foulsham	Holy Communion

21st June : Third Sunday after Trinity

10.30am	Wood Norton	Holy Communion
10.30am	Worthing	Iona Morning Praise
10.30am	Bawdeswell	The 10.30
11.00am	Billingsford	Morning Praise
6.00pm	Foulsham	Said Evensong

28th June : Fourth Sunday after Trinity

10.30am	Guist	Holy Communion
10.30am	North Elmham	Morning Praise
10.30am	Bawdeswell	Holy Communion
10.30am	Foulsham	Morning Praise

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To advertise in the Elmham News please contact

Martin Phillips: martin.s.phillips@outlook.com

This Month's Photo Contributors

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

COVER: Rob Vince

PAGE 6: Wendy Cottrell

PAGE 16: North Elmham Primary Academy

PAGE 27–29: Dave Appleton

Cover Photo: Millennium Wood



NORTH ELMHAM PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH COUNCILLORS

Chair: Paul Grainger, 01362 667135
Vice Chair: Martin Phillips, 01362 668409
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 Ann Keeble, 01362 668216
 Nick Markwell, 01362 668557
 Michael Rayner, 07512 029393
 Colin Smith, 01362 668585
 Joe Sowinski, 07960 287528

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 & PoundTo 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, Tom Fitzalan Howard
 Millennium & Jubilee Wood.....Joe Sowinski
 Playing Field & Pavilion.....Colin Smith, Ann Ferris
 Prince William Wood.....Nick Markwell, Brian Gee
 Village GreenColin Smith, Brian Gee
 Footpath Warden.....Ann Ferris

SERVICES

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 Mid-Norfolk Railway Liaison.....Michael Rayner, Nick Markwell
 Planning.....Michael Rayner, Martin Phillips
 Street Lighting.....Tom Fitzalan Howard, Nick Markwell, Colin Smith
 Tree WardenTom 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.

NORTH ELMHAM DIRECTORY

Elmham Surgery, Holt Rd - 01362 668215

Group website: elmhamsurgery.com

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Other Useful Contacts

NHS Medical Help

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111 online: 111.nhs.uk

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

Breckland District Councillors	Gordon Bambridge Bill Borrett	01603 881364 01362 860200
Norfolk County Councillor	Paul Carr	TBC
Member of Parliament	george.freeman.mp@parliament.uk	01953 600617
Nth Elmham CEVA Primary Academy	Mrs Carol Jeary, 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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Community Website	www.elmham.org.uk	

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Clergy - All telephone numbers local code (01362)

Church of England	Reverend Sally Kimmis	heartofnorfolkrector@gmail.com	668850
	Reverend Richard Turk	revdrichardnwv@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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