

Elmham News

MAY 2022

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see page 47

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EDITORIAL

We are looking forward to the Jubilee Celebrations. Have you dusted off your tiara, bunting and Union Flags in preparation for the long weekend? People have already been thinking about the picnic and choosing their wine in readiness to toast Her Majesty during the Sunday lunch which she had suggested as a means of bringing communities together. After the past two years of not being able to meet up, this will be a fabulous opportunity to celebrate her 70 years on the throne.

Many congratulations to The Teapost and their customers for raising £250 that has been sent to support Ukraine.

We hear that the recent Brisley Concert also raised a staggering amount of much needed cash for them also.

Look out for a Tombola on the Village Green on Sunday 5th June which will also be raising funds for Ukraine. Put some cash in your pocket so you can buy a ticket.

On another fundraising plan, as you may know, customers at Tesco can use their blue tokens to help organisations. Our North Elmham School has been lucky enough to be shortlisted for £1000 if they receive enough tokens, so why not use your blue token and help them achieve this.

Our thanks for donations go to Anon on Station Road.

**North Elmham community
website www.elmham.org.uk**

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

Volume 45, No 4, May 2022		DONATIONS APPRECIATED	
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DISCLAIMER			

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DONATIONS IN MEMORY

Would you or your family like to give a donation in memory of a loved one? The Flower Festival has a dedicated Book of Remembrance which will be on show during this year's Festival on Saturday 30th and Sunday 31st of July. The money received goes towards the cost of the flowers.

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

GARDENING CLUB

At the last meeting Thursday 24th March, Trevor Nash, who was accompanied by his wife, gave a fascinating talk with slides, on Bee Keeping. Trevor is the Chairman of the Norfolk Beekeeping Association. He explained the origin of the Honeybee which had been here in Norfolk for 130M years. There are 250 species of the Honeybee and 25 species of the Bumble Bee. The Honeybees are the only bees that have evolved into social colonies and live through the winter months. Not all bees sting, as the male bee's anatomy does not allow him to sting, so only females do.

The honeybees only sting when threatened and the Worker bees feel their hive, which contains their Queen, has to be protected, and can be aggressive. Therefore, bees require calm confident handling.

Unfortunately, after using their sting, the Honeybee dies, which isn't good for honey production. The person said to be the Father of Bee keeping was Rev. Lorenzo Longstroth 1810-1895 USA who invented and patented the modern day Longstroth Hive.

As the Norfolk Bee Keeping Association information states, today bee keeping is a complex diverse activity of interest

to many for honey production and sale and as a hobby working with and understanding a fascinating animal and can provide many rewards and enjoyment including studying natural history, for little time and money.

Thank you, Trevor, for an interesting evening and talk and for bringing honey with you.

£100 was raised after his talk by the raffle, sale of plants and books which has been donated via The Teapost to the Emergency Disaster Fund for Ukraine.

The next meeting of the Club on Thursday 26th May will be in the Memorial Hall at 7.30pm when Derek Edwards will delight us with a talk on Medieval Aerial Archaeology.

There will be the Flower of the Month and a raffle. Refreshments will be available (gentle reminder to Heather and June).

Please come along, you will be most welcome.

Ann Ferris

FORGE COTTAGE CATTERY

To all my customers past and present, I have decided to close the cattery as from May 1st.

I would like to say a big thank you for your support over the last 22 years.

I have really enjoyed looking after your cats, but after so long now feel that I need to have a bit more time to myself!

Best wishes to you all.

Harriet



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NORTH ELMHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 2ND MARCH, 2022

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

Councillors Present Were:

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

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

Apologies for absence: Miss A. Ferris

Public Participation

A parishioner expressed a desire to buy some parish land, (approximately 11 acres), in the northern part of the village, having recently submitted a letter giving details. It would be the intention to keep some cattle on the field from July to October. Advice was given that requests of this nature are given full consideration by the members of the Parish Council.

A view was expressed that the village needs a good clean as there are areas where there are piles of leaves and debris. A number of drains are blocked by leaves. This situation is the responsibility of Norfolk County Council, Highways and Mr. Grainger advised that five issues have previously been logged but are still outstanding. There had been some response in November following help given by our County Councillor. Unfortunately, paint on the road identifying areas to be tackled had been washed away by rain. Mr. Labouchere reported that, following an inspection carried out by Paul George, Operations

Manager of Norfolk Rivers Drainage Board, Water Management Alliance, it was clear that many gullies had not been properly cleared. The matter is due to be discussed later in the meeting.

It was reported that a senior lady had been terrified by some young boys who had been throwing things into her garden. It was stressed that issues of this kind need to be reported to the police. Mr. Smith is to speak with the Police Liaison Officer.

A parishioner had sent in a letter expressing concern that a low flying drone had been passing over and near to his property. He had reported the matter to the police.

Land Management Matters

Village Green: Mr. Gee produced two very impressive plaques (total cost £276) which are to be attached to wooden boards. The tree planted last year has been decimated by vandals. The matter has been reported to the police. A tree in Cedar Close bordering the village green needs to be cut back. The owner of the property is to obtain a quotation for the work with the intention being for the Parish Council to pay 50% of the cost.

Cathedral Meadows: Mr. Fitzalan Howard said that the brash has been burnt and the ash will be taken away. The hedges on either side of the lane have been cut.

Millennium Wood and Jubilee

Wood: According to a parishioner, the mechanism on the gate to Jubilee Wood is broken. The Chairman will inspect.

Prince William Wood: The springs have come off the gate to the road. Mr. Labouchere felt that self centering hinges, relying on gravity, would provide a better option. Mr. Markwell will speak to Ben Darby regarding this matter. A parishioner had said that some fences were broken which meant that the wood was no longer a secure enclosure. Mr. Markwell will inspect but it was stressed that the Parish Council is only responsible for those fences that it has erected.



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Street Lights

Mr. Markwell reported that light 31, which is situated outside 29 Eastgate Street, is going to be discussed by the letting agent and the owner of the property. Light 76 in Wensum Drive is now working. There is no power to the pole in Pump Street. U. K. Power Networks is to be contacted by Westcotec.

Highway Matters

There has been no progress regarding a number of issues which were reported in November, 2021 and on which assurances were given. Mr. Grainger is to write again on this matter with copies going to the Highways Supervisor and Mr. Borrett (County Councillor).

Pavilion and Playing Field

A number of jobs are in the pipeline. It is understood that the Football Club wants to return to the village and wish to attend the next meeting of the Parish Council with a view to doing a presentation. Mrs. Keeble has contacted Mr. Duffield about the large pothole in the car park. The Tennis Club plans to resurface in the week beginning

13th March. The basketball hoop is to be moved to the top of the field.

Youth Club Facilities

Proposals are to be submitted at the next meeting. Mr. Fitzalan Howard said that he was concerned with the prospect of spending money on items which could be vandalised.

Eastgate Centre

The AGM was held last week. The annual grant from the Parish Council will not be requested this year as funds have been received in the form of Covid grants. A new Girl Guides group is using the facility.

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022

It may be possible to get another band. The Chairman is to investigate.

Defibrillators

Mr. Smith reported that the Institute Committee is considering the possibility of acquiring a defibrillator and the Football Club may also wish to have one at the Pavilion.

MAY DATES TO REMEMBER

Mon 2nd	Bank Holiday		
Tue 3rd	Knit and Natter	Pavilion	2.00 pm
Wed 4th	Sewing Group	Tumbleweed, Eastgate St	2.00 pm
Fri 6th	Tennis Club Re-opens		
Sat 8th	Sonrisa Music	St Mary's Church	2 - 4.30 pm
Wed 11th	Tea @ Two	Memorial Hall	2.00 pm
Thu 12th	Wives + All - Clay Barn	Memorial Hall	7.30 pm
Wed 18th	Sewing Group Annual Meeting of PC	Tumbleweed, Eastgate St Pavilion	2.00 pm 7.30 pm
Wed 25th	Mobile Library	The Heath-Orchard Close	2.30 pm-5.20 pm
Thu 26th	Gardening Club see article	Memorial Hall	7.30 pm

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Village Green Board Displaying Names of Contributors to the Fund Raising

Mr Gee has produced plaques.

Affordable Housing

Mr. Rayner said that there has been no recent contact from Broadland Housing.

Improvements to the Frontage of North Elmham School

The Federation has obtained quotations for the proposed work, the most favourable being for £699 + VAT. Mr. Smith proposed that the Parish Council make a 50% contribution to the cost, i.e. £349.50, and this was seconded by Mr. Grainger. All in favour.

Millennium Wood Bench

The Chairman suggested that the additional bench be in the form of a raised timber seat and will duly investigate options.

Community Plaque

Mr. Fitzalan Howard said that the oak board on which the plaque presented in respect of the community response to the pandemic is to be placed has been cut and shaped. It is to be oiled.

District and/or Council Councillors' Reports

Mr. Bambridge confirmed that bin collection dates and times will be changing for some people. Help is being given to those who are experiencing problems with paying Council Tax. Breckland Council will be calling for sites in respect of the Local Plan. A new accommodation block is being opened in Thetford. A shop has also been opened in Thetford selling cheap food obtained from supermarkets. A bus is to travel around the area and one of the weekly stops is to be in North Elmham. The District Council has a net carbon zero target (without buying credits) by 2023. Grants are still available for the forthcoming Jubilee. There are bursaries of up to £500 with about twenty remaining.

Mid Norfolk Railway – Transfer Deed, Footpath and Other Matters

A meeting was held at Breckland Council on this day attended by the Chairman, Mr. Rayner and Mr. Markwell (Parish Council), Mr. Robinson (Chairman) and the Finance Director (Mid Norfolk Railway) and Ralph Burton, Zoe Footer and Gordon Bambridge (Breckland Council). It was considered to be a generally positive meeting and minutes are to be written and issued. Both Breckland and the MNR agreed that the footpath is not permissive and there is no intention to change the status. Wording in an agreement would need to be included to allow them to close temporarily for maintenance or emergency reasons. This is all subject to agreement by the MNR board. An assurance was given that there would be no further development north of the point in the transfer deed in respect of the Miniature Railway. It was mentioned that the recent tree felling did not need consent as it was either covered by a Works Order or is not in the Conservation Area.

Eastgate Street Drains

Messrs Labouchere and Phillips met Paul George, the Area Manager of the Inland Drainage Board, on 4th February to look at the problem. Eight gullies were measured and there is a lot of silt in them which is being taken towards Eastgate Street. A quotation had been obtained to carry out necessary work - £3,315 plus £700 to cut the hedge where there is no ditch. It was acknowledged that mud is coming from the Brisley Road and is blocking the drains. The gullies need to be cleared on a regular basis. Mr. Smith proposed that the hedge should be cut, the ditch cleared and Highways Department requested to flush out the gullies. All in favour.

Breckland Council's New Commercial Waste Service

Breckland has started a new commercial waste service which appears to be competitive regarding price. The Parish

CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS

This is a list of people who can be contacted if you would like to know more about any of the following:

Archive Group	Janet Woodhouse 01362 668525
Art4 All	Angie Redwood 07979 666197
Bowls - Institute	Tony Langford 01362 668854
Bowls - King's Head	Martin Phillips 01362 669409
Elmham Cricket Club	Mark Ballman 01362 668935
Elmham Football Club	Chris Reeve try Facebook
Elmham Guides	Marion Morgan 01362 696221
Elmham News	Meg White 01362 668302
Elmham Surgery Patient Participation Group	Roger Thornley 01362 668804
Elmham Tennis Club	Geraldine Leeder
Friends of North Elmham School	Sharon Phillips 01362 01362 668866
Gardening Club	Ray Norman 01362 667226
Guides	Marian Morgan 01362 696221
Knit and Natter	Eileen Cotterill 01362 668380
Netball Club	Juliet Boyce 01362 668484
Patient Participation Group	Roger Thornley 01362 668804
Reading Group	Eileen Church 01362 668330
Royal British Legion	Michael Aston 01362 668959
Sewing for Pleasure	Janet Woodhouse 01362 668525
SINE (Help)	David Fairbairn-Day 07398 758421(10-5)
Snooker Mon & Fri	Neil Page 01362 668296
Snooker Wed	Chris Werrell 01362 668564
Tea@Two	Jo Fitzalan Howard 01362 668232
The May Singers	Tony Langford 01362 668854
Walking Group	Jenny Cunningham 01362 668224
Wensum Valley Birdwatching Society	Sue Gale publicity@wvbs.gmail.com
Wives + All	Gill King 01362 668530
Young Farmers	Steven Britton 07810 897792

Council is served by Biffa and the position will be assessed prior to August when the current contract is due for review.

Storm Damage to Property Bordering the Village Green

An email has been received from a parishioner stating that during the recent strong winds some damage to the boundary fencing has occurred as a result of bushes on the village green being blown over on to them. Two boundary fences have been damaged beyond repair and a request has been made for the Parish Council to make a contribution towards replacements. It was agreed by all, in principle, to make a payment of 50% towards the reasonable cost of two new panels.

Update on Village Facilities

It was agreed to carry this matter forward to the next meeting.

Planning Applications and Determinations

Applications

- (i) Mr. and Mrs. R. Allen – single storey extension to – 3PL/2022/0148/HOU – 46 Orchard Close – no objections.
- (ii) Mrs. S. Gillespie – erection of shed and summerhouse - 3PL/2022/0129/HOU – Ash Tree Cottage, 43 Eastgate Street – no objections.
- (iii) Mr. C. Healy – the erection of three single bedroom holiday cabins – 3PL/2022/0107/F – The Railway Arms, 40 Station Road – no objections.

Determinations

- (i) Mr. and Mrs. Newey – two storey side rear extension with balcony, single storey front extension and new entrance porch with associated internal remodelling – 3PL/2022/0025/HOU – Primrose Cottage, Great Heath Road – approved.
- (ii) R. Mumford – single storey side and rear extension – 3PL/2021/1678/

HOU – Rackham House, 39 Holt Road – approved.

(iii) Orchard Homes – proposed pedestrian walkway to link residential development to school – 3PL/2021/1675/F – land to the rear of Brookside Farm, Holt Road – approved.

The attention of the Parish Council has been drawn to application 3PL/2020/0497/HOU regarding Station House, Eastgate Street. A standard condition of the permission stated that the development shall be constructed using the materials specified on the planning application form and/or submitted drawings. Both the application form and the floor plan state that the new roof will have “plain tiles – to match”. At present, the new tiles do not match the existing ones. This matter will be drawn to the attention of the District Council.

Correspondence

- 1) Letter from a parishioner expressing an interest in buying some parish land. (Following appropriate discussion, it was agreed by all that there is currently no intention or desire to sell parish land).
- 2) Report from a parishioner of a low flying drone in the village. (It was acknowledged that this is not an issue for the Parish Council. It has previously been reported to the police who will, no doubt, proceed accordingly).

Any Other Matters (for information only)

Mr. Phillips said that a parishioner in Brookside had reported some very loud bird scarers going off every 30 minutes from 9.30 a.m. each day and stopping when it gets dark.

Next Meetings

Wednesday, 27th April 2022 at 7.30 p.m.
(Annual Parish Meeting)

Wednesday, 18th May 2022 at 7.30 p.m.
(Annual Meeting of the Parish Council)

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KNIT AND NATTER

We have done our bit for the Ukrainian appeal. Most of the badges in the photo, were made by our members, and at the event held last week, in Brisley, people who took one offered voluntary donations which raised £219. Many thanks for your generosity. We'll keep going!

Next meeting Tuesday May 3rd, 2.00 pm til 4.00 pm at the Pavilion.

We will be having a stall at the mini fete planned for Saturday 4th June at Elmham House from 2.00—5.00 pm. Look forward to seeing you there.

Eileen Cotterill 668380

DEAR EDITORS

It was with great pleasure that I read your article headed "Cricket Mid Norfolk Village Shield Success".

The inscription on the shield says that it was first presented to the "Norfolk County Cricket Club by a few subscribers for the encouragement of village cricket in Mid Norfolk, 7th January 1904".

North Elmham won this shield five times before WW1 including on the eve of war in 1914. They won it again six times between WW1 & WW2. The last time North Elmham won the Shield was in 1948. I am not sure who their main opposition was but the balance of probability suggests it was Rougham.

In 1908 the North Elmham captain was Dr Rackham, whose picture is on the wall of the village surgery.

Michael Cummings, *HCPC Registered, D.Pod.M.,M.Ch.S.,*

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The man who presented the shield was Mr William Lewis Boyle who was the Liberal MP for Mid Norfolk. His maternal grandfather was General Sir Lorenzo Moore CB, who fought and won a duel on Wimbledon Common on 13th February 1832. His opponent, Miles Stapleton, who later became Lord Beaumont, was wounded but recovered and did not pursue the matter any further. The General was arrested and confined at Kingston and was released against a recognisance of £4,000 provided by a friend, John Gideon Millingen.

The shield itself is still keenly competed every year since, with the only exception being the war years and the recent pandemic. In 2021 it was won by Swaffham.

Stay healthy, stay safe

Colin King

Chairman, Mid-Norfolk Sunday Cricket League

NORTH ELMHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 6TH APRIL 2022

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

Councillors Present Were

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

Also in Attendance: Mr. K. Webb (Clerk), P. C. Benton (Dereham Police), two representatives from North Elmham F.C. and two parishioners.

Public Participation

Chris Reeve from North Elmham Football Club, accompanied by the Club Manager, Luke, gave a summary of the Club's formation two years ago and the current position. The progress made over a relatively short period of time has been spectacular and they have men's and ladies' teams, a walking football side and a large, thriving junior section. Games in the current season have been played at Billingford but there is a strong desire to return to North Elmham. An ambition exists to improve facilities in general with proposed work to be done on the changing rooms (e.g. redecorating). It was mentioned that 80% of the junior players live in North Elmham. The members will discuss the situation at the next meeting but there is a positive intent to support the Club's growth and improvement aims.

Mr. Howell stated that he wished to talk about the Stewardship Scheme and that he was proud to be a farmer. He said that Scheme rules were not being met by the Parish Council and, as a result, he had lodged a complaint with DEFRA. Mr. Fitzalan Howard stressed to Mr. Howell, and attempted to reassure him, that all rules had been followed to the letter. Mr. Howell also questioned why he had heard nothing regarding his offer to provide land under the affordable housing call for sites process. Mr. Rayner explained that this was being handled by Broadland Housing and, as such, all submissions have to be made to them. To date, the Parish Council has not received a report from the Housing Association.

Police Visit

The members were pleased to welcome P.C. Roger Benton, Beat Manager from Dereham who stressed the importance of reporting all incidents to the police. There is a team providing high visibility policing. SNAP meetings take place every three months at the Breckland Offices with the next one on 13th April. Key area



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issues at the moment include anti-social cycling and speeding on Norwich Road, Dereham. Mention was also made of the Streetsafe scheme where particular places or locations of concern can be reported on the police website.

In the period from 1/1/22 to 3/4/22, North Elmham has had a total of eighteen crimes which have been reported. When compared to other villages of a similar size, this figure is considered, in the main, to be on the low side. The importance of reporting all incidents in person, online or by telephone was emphasised however. Mr. Fitzalan Howard asked about drug problems and P.C. Benton was unaware of any specific issues in the village although there have been major problems with county line gangs in Norwich.

Mr. Grainger stated that our SAM data shows 4,000 speeding incidents per month in the village and there has been a concern for some time that the police will not make any use of this information.

P. C. Benton has asked for details to be forwarded to him. He will forward the data to the appropriate person (Safety Camera Team) and report back.

Mr. Labouchere expressed his concerns regarding e-scooters. Individuals have to have a driving licence (provisional or full) to rent the equipment through authorised companies. Personal e-scooters can only be used on private land. The equipment can be seized if conditions of use are not fulfilled.

Land Management Matters

Village Green: The boundary fencing on the property bordering the village green has been replaced (see previous minutes) but Mr. Gee reported that a slope has resulted which could be dangerous. He has, therefore, partially filled it in to reduce the risk. A bicycle and chair appeared next to the bin on the green. The bicycle eventually disappeared but the chair remained, only to be broken up at a later date.

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Millennium Wood (and Jubilee Wood):

The Chairman has inspected the gate to Jubilee Wood and is of the opinion that no action is needed. Darren Brown is dealing with the installation of the new bench and Julian Duffield is to handle arrangements for the other seat.

Bridleway on disused railway line and other railway linked matters: The board of the Mid Norfolk Railway confirmed the agreement made at the meeting held at Breckland Council offices. Mr. Rayner is to chase a copy of the written agreement.

Prince William Wood: Mr. Markwell confirmed that new springs for the gate to the road have been successfully fitted and the gate is working well. He has looked for gaps in the fence but has been unable to find any. Flagship Housing has said that the residents are responsible for maintaining the yellow cross hatching outside the gate although this is open to debate.

Street Lights

Mr. Markwell reported that light 31, which is situated outside 29 Eastgate Street, has not yet been discussed as the letting agent has been unable to make contact with the owner of the property. A report on the position with the Pump Street light is awaited.

Highway Matters

Mr. Grainger reported that there had been much recent activity in Holt Road. Work on dressing the surface will commence on 11th May with road markings to be done on 25th May. The only item still outstanding is the cycleway across the Village Green. It was noted that the road at Pump Street had started to break up near the telephone box. It had been reported as "done" by the County Council but the matter has not yet been resolved.

Pavilion and Playing Field

All outstanding jobs have been completed. The Football Club plans to return to the village (please see "Public Participation" above). The Cricket Club has left a number

of items behind but has taken the white line marker which is thought to be the property of the Parish Council. The Clerk is to write to the Chairman to ask for all equipment to be removed from the pavilion and behind the bus shelter. In addition, a request is to be made for the return of keys to the pavilion and the white line marker by the end of April.

The tennis club has finished resurfacing. The large pothole in the car park has been filled in. The basketball hoop has been positioned at the top of the field. The kickwall has been repaired but improvements will need to be made to it next year. The Clerk is to send annual invoices to the Tennis Club and Bowls Club.

Eastgate Centre

A broken window has been reported.

Brookside Development Update

Electric vehicle charging points will be installed.

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022

A meeting is to be held next week. It is the intention is to have two bands and there will be a fete.

Affordable Housing

An update has been requested from Broadland Housing.

Millennium Wood Bench

This matter is proceeding as planned.

Eastgate Street Drains

The suction team from the County Council had visited and eight blocked gullies had been tackled. Unfortunately, two were not done correctly and a return trip was needed. The position is to be monitored over the next six months. The decision on whether to cut down trees or reducing the height of them will be considered at that time.

Update on Village Facilities

Mr. Fitzalan Howard detailed the key items which included a BMX track (not

enough land), basketball hoop, skate park, outdoor gym and outdoor tennis table. Decisions will be made on whether or not funds are to be spent to provide any of these facilities. Mr. Grainger mentioned that he had had a conversation with Active Norfolk. Breckland Council are due to appoint someone who will have specific responsibility for Breckland villages. In particular, they will be looking to concentrate on particular locations where there are gaps in facilities. There is now a basketball hoop on the playing field

The Situation in Ukraine

The Chairman wondered if there was something that could be done on a community basis. Mr. Gee mentioned that Brisley were planning to hold a fund raising function. On balance, it was agreed not to take any action at the current time.

Breckland Mobile Store Project

A communication had been received from Sophie Soto, Early Intervention Officer at Breckland Council. They are preparing to launch a new project, the Breckland Mobile Food Store and the village has been identified as a location on the proposed route. The project has been developed in response to rising household costs and the need for more affordable and healthy food options, plus access to wider support services to help address issues residents are experiencing. It was felt that the Church larder (free) and the local shop were already doing good jobs and, as such, this new service was not needed at present.

Finance

Mr. Phillips presented the Management Financial Report for the year ended 31/3/22 which showed income of £59.1K and expenditure of £39.5K. Allowing for the difficulties caused by the pandemic, particularly in respect of the delay to and cancellation of certain work and projects, these figures were broadly in line with expectations.

Planning Applications and Determinations:-

Applications

None

Determinations

- (i) Mr. and Mrs. R. Allen – single storey extension to rear – 3PL/2022/0148/HOU – 46 Orchard Close - approved.
- (ii) Mrs. S. Gillespie – erection of shed and summerhouse - 3PL/2022/0129/HOU – Ash Tree Cottage, 43 Eastgate Street – approved.
- (iii) William Seaman (Yaxham) Ltd – proposed dwelling and the redevelopment of an existing dwelling – 3PL/2022/0079/O – 55 Eastgate Street - refused.
- (iv) Orchard Homes Ltd – discharge of planning obligations – 3OB/2021/0010/OB – land east of Brookside Farm – approved.
- (v) Mr. and Mrs. M. Blundell – proposed roof extension – 3PL/2022/0060/HOU – 2 Mill Cottage, Billingford Road – approved.

Correspondence

- 1) Letter from East Anglia's Children's Hospices asking for a donation and enclosing their Footprints booklet. (A donation of £50 was recommended and this will be ratified at the next meeting).
- 2) Letter from parishioner enclosing a quote for the cost of pruning a tree. (50% Parish Council contribution agreed in principle).
- 3) Breckland Local Plan: "call for sites" between 4th April and 20th May, 2022.
- 4) Letter of thanks from Priscilla Bacon Hospice re the donation of £100.
- 5) Criminal damage to the bench on the Village Green and the option of Restorative Justice (RJ) – all agreed to proceed with discussing the RJ option with the police.
- 6) Brochure from Elan City giving details of new traffic management products.



NORTH ELMHAM QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

2ND–5TH JUNE 2022

THURSDAY 2ND JUNE

8.00 pm: BBQ with light refreshments in the pavilion.

9.00—10.00 pm: Queen's Jubilee Beacon Lighting plus fireworks on the playing field.

SATURDAY 4TH JUNE

Elmham House Open Garden, 2.00—5.00 pm

Stalls include bric-a-brac, books, plants, Knit & Natter

Tom Paddon and his Street Organ will be providing musical entertainment

Light refreshments available

SUNDAY 5TH JUNE

10.30 am: Jubilee Thanksgiving Service in the church

12.00 midday—5.00 pm: Jubilee Lunch on the Village Green

Set up picnics from 11.30 am

Musical performances from Anto Morra, The Fried Pirates
and Back Pages

"Doves for Ukraine" colouring competition for primary school
aged children.

A Bottle Tombola will be raising funds for the Ukraine Appeal.



The circus will also be visiting the Village Green over the Jubilee weekend.



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CRICKET IN THE 50'S

Found in a scrapbook from the early 1950's.

Cricketers All

North Elmham Can Be Proud Of Its Record.

In a village which has won the Mid Norfolk Shield more than twice the number of times of any other village in the League, you can expect to find more than the usual percentage of cricketing enthusiasts. As it is, in North Elmham the difficulty is to find any man over 40 who has not played for the village at

some time or other. Get a few old timers together and you will hear countless yarns of sixes dropping onto the Kings Head bowling green and fierce struggles with the neighbouring clubs – in those days – at Billingford and Swanton Morley.

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

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

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

Mr Bradfield tells the story of how the Reserves challenged Billingford about 34 years ago, after they had beaten Elmham's

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senior team four times that season and how they scored 30 and then dismissed Billingford for less than 20. A providential Thunderstorm prevented Billingford getting their revenge in a second innings, and an exultant Reserves team made the 1st X1 members' lives miserable for months afterwards

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

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

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

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

For many years, therefore Elmham Cricket Club has been unwittingly breaking the law. The players will be relieved to hear that this week the Parish Council was notified that the land had been transferred to another Act which makes games legal. A committee headed by Mr George Marsh is going ahead with arrangements for a bulldozer to level the field, and by next season the club should have a first-class ground. Perhaps if the spirit of the old days can be revived it will have a first class team as well.

Janet Woodhouse

Bottle Tombola

for the Ukraine Humanitarian
Appeal Disasters Fund

**Sunday 5th June
at the
Jubilee Picnic**

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BROCCOLI & STILTON SOUP, CRISPY CROUTONS & ROSEMARY FOCACCIA (GFO)	£ 6.00	NACHOS, CHEDDAR, MOZZARELLA & SALSA (GF) (V) (VEO)	£ 6.00
PORK, CONFIT DUCK LEG & PISTACHIO TERRINE, RED ONION CHUTNEY & TOASTED CIABATTA (N)	£ 7.00	SPICED HONEY GLAZED HALLOUMI, FIG AND ALMOND SALAD (GF) (V) (VEO) (N)	£ 7.00
ROASTED PEPPER, GOATS CHEESE & RED ONION TARTLET & KALE PESTO (N) (V) (VEO)	£ 6.00	SAUTÉ WILD MUSHROOMS GARLIC BUTTER & STILTON, TOASTED CIABATTA (V) (GFO)	£ 7.00
SMOKED SALMON, PICKLED BEETROOT & HORSERADISH CRÈME FRAICHE (GF) (V)	£ 6.00	BREADED CHICKEN FILLET, KATSU CURRY SAUCE, PICKLED VEGETABLES	£ 7.00

◆ CHIPS & FRIES ◆

FRIES, BACON BITS, SPRING ONION, MOZZARELLA, CHEDDAR & GARLIC MAYO	£ 6.00	FRIES, CRISPY HALLOUMI, SPRING ONION & SRIRACHA MAYONNAISE	£ 6.00
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◆ MAINS ◆

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NORTH ELMHAM WILDLIFE

During the last couple of days the warm southerly airflow has brought a flurry of migrant birds to mid Norfolk. There was a Pied Flycatcher in Reepham, 4 Wheatears at Brisley, Ring Ouzels at a few places and a Redstart or two – and I was stuck indoors working, missing out on all of the action! Hopefully by the time you read this I'll have been able to get out and find birds of this quality here in North Elmham. Earlier on I had enjoyed my first Willow Warblers of the year, one singing from a Birch tree off Great Heath Road followed by one in a neighbour's garden audible from my bedroom. Their song is a beautiful descending warble, but sadly this is a species in decline and we don't hear it anywhere near as often as we did a couple of decades ago.



The Shelduck (photo) isn't usually thought of as a summer visitor as they are present in the county all year, but round here they are rarely seen in winter, arriving in March to breed in small numbers. They are a large and distinctive duck, mostly white but with blocks of dark green, chestnut and black, a bright red bill and pink legs. The only duck that is a true summer visitor, normally absent from the country in winter, is the Garganey. They're pretty scarce usually but it's been a good spring for them. I found a couple of drakes on the pool by Bintree Mill recently.



Resident birds are often easiest to find in the spring as males belt out their songs to mark their territory. The Yellowhammer (photo), a declining farmland bird, is still holding on around our parish. I'm not quite so keen on the wheezy song of the Greenfinch (photo) but I'm pleased to be seeing and hearing them again as they're population seems to be recovering a little. They used to be really common and familiar garden birds until 2006 when they, along with Chaffinches, were hit by a disease called Trichomonosis. Previously



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

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this disease had been largely restricted to cage birds and to pigeons and doves, but rapidly spread among our wild finches, through contaminated garden bird feeders and water baths. Regularly cleaning feeders seems to help and now at last these finches seem to be increasing again. During the winter I'd seen the largest flock of Greenfinches that I'd seen for years, at least 50 birds strong.

Our vitally important pollinating insects become much more evident in spring as nectar-laden flowers start to bloom. I've written before about the importance of dandelions for our insects, especially in spring. They're great plants to have growing in your lawns or between the cracks in your paving – please don't rush to get the weedkiller out – enjoy them and the bees and other insects that feed on them! Another spring flower that the bees love is Ground Ivy (photo). The garden variety of Yellow Archangel is a mixed blessing. It escapes into the wild and in some places it out-completes the natural wild Yellow Archangel (which doesn't have the variegated leaves of the garden variety) and is a threat to that wildflower's survival. But it is also enjoyed by the insects like the Common Carder Bee (photo). Different types of bee seem to prefer different flowers and this year I've noticed Hairy-footed Flower Bees at comfrees. The buff-bodied males have fringes of long hair on their feet but the females (photo) are largely black insects, with an orange pollen brush on their hind legs (which looks white when it's covered in comfrey pollen as in my photo). Some of the mining bees can be really hard to identify but one that is easy to recognise is the female Tawny Mining Bee, rich reddish-brown behind the head and orange behind (photo) – I don't see many of them but one place I've seen them repeatedly is the field around the chapel ruins.

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Not a bee, the Dark-edged Bee-fly looks a bit like a bee with long straight mouthparts protruding out in front of it as it hovers at flowers or rests on dead leaves in the sunshine (photo). They're a delight to watch on sunny days in early spring, frequenting gardens as well as the countryside. It's currently the only species of bee-fly in Norfolk but the southern Dotted Bee-fly is worth looking out for. It is expanding its range northwards and is expected to colonise here soon. Look at the wings – solid dark at the front on Dark-edged Bee-fly but as the name suggests, dotted on Dotted Bee-fly.



I love seeing the first butterflies appearing in spring. One that has just started to appear is the Speckled Wood (photo), a species whose fortunes have changed over the years. Once common and widespread it declined greatly in the nineteenth century before starting to recover again in the twentieth century. It became re-established in the Brecks in the 50s but remained rare elsewhere in the county for a while longer. Now once again it is found commonly pretty much throughout Norfolk.



It has been said that butterflies are just moths with better PR, and there's a lot of truth in that. They are biologically the same group, in fact most recent research places butterflies as a clade within the larger group of moths. Moths certainly have the advantage of diversity – you'd have to try really hard to see 40 different species of butterfly in Norfolk in a lifetime whereas I've seen 973 different species of moth in North Elmham alone in just 7-8 years. One of my favourites at this time of year is the Muslin Moth. Looking at them from above they have grey-brown wings with black spots and a hairy body, but looking at them from the front they look quite a character with yellowy-orange hair and big feathery antennae (photo).

There's always plenty of interesting wildlife to see around the village. Milly got in touch with a photo of some Common Lizards she and her son George had found in her garden. I've not seen lizards here before so it was great to hear they're around locally. Do get in touch if you have anything interesting to share (email appleton.dave@googlemail.com, phone 668431 or message me via Twitter at @ElmhamMeadows).

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ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

The branch held their meeting at The Kings Head Hotel on the 7th April, 8 members attended. After the exhortation was read, the minutes of the last meeting were read and signed off.

Several matters were discussed including that of the Poppy Appeal which is still awaiting final monies to arrive.

The Queen's Jubilee was mentioned, and it was agreed that the Legion's plans would be finalised at the next meeting which has had to be brought forward as our next scheduled meeting would have been the same date as the celebrations start. The next meeting is to be held on Thursday 12th May, once again any interested people please come along.

FLOWER FESTIVAL 2022

Sat 30th and Sun 31st July

ALL THAT'S ROYAL

A tribute to the 70 years of the Queen's reign

We are delighted that Caroline Payne has stepped forward to take on the task of organising the flower side of the Festival and we intend to use the theme of All that's royal to create stunning displays.

As usual, to complement the flowers, we will be having stalls in the church yard for a Raffle, Bricabrac, Books, Plants etc. There will be the ever popular Archive display of old photographs in the church. Music from local performers will be on both days from 11.00-12.00 noon and 2.00-3.00 pm.

There will be Trips up the Tower offered on both days from 11.00 am until 3.00 pm for those adventurous enough to want to see the beautiful views of the surrounding countryside.

The Memorial Hall will be the place for coffee and teas along with rolls, and scrumptious cakes.

A Car Boot Sale on Saturday from 10 am, will give you time to rise and shine, but not too early, to enjoy a rummage before perhaps having coffee and a look round the church. We are therefore on the look out for volunteers to help on the stalls, serve food, wash up as well as cake bakers and plant growers. If you like arranging flowers and would like to help, we are always happy to have you. It doesn't have to be a complicated arrangement.

We need your unwanted gifts and your items that you need to find a good home for. Remember your clutter may be someone else's treasure.

Please let any of the following know if you can help or donate:

Susanna 668435 (Refreshments),
Caroline 668704 (Flowers)
Christine 667260 (Bricabrac, books)
Meg 668302 (Plants, anything else!)

OLD COMRADES NIGHT

This will be held on Friday the 21st October 2022, at the Memorial Institute, tickets are now available at £15 per person, entertainment by A J, and a buffet by TeaPost. Tickets can be purchased from The TeaPost, Kings Head Hotel or from Mike Aston 01362 668959. If for any reason the event does not go ahead, too a few tickets sold or Government restrictions, full refunds will be given. Please give this event your support as it is always a very good night out. Raffle prizes will be sought in later nearer the event

NORTH ELMHAM BRISLEY CRICKET

By the time this article is published the 2022 season will have commenced, weather permitting as always! The Brisley venue is looking splendid with new covers, 4 sightscreens and a new practice net. The newly amalgamated club features 3 teams – the Saturday League team based predominantly on last season's highly successful league winning side, the Belladonnas the Ladies team who play League and friendly fixtures and a midweek social team. All the home fixtures have been added at the bottom of this article. The Saturday team will be playing in NCL Division 3W and looks forward to some new opposition and venues.

We are delighted that our main sponsor J&L Stoves has not only agreed to renew their sponsorship but to increase significantly the value of their support.

Please come and support us at our new home. It is a lovely setting and there are refreshments available. Weekend games commence at 1pm, weekday games at 6pm.

Sat May 7th

North Elmham v New Buckenham

Friday May 13th

Belladonnas v Snettisham

Saturday May 21st

North Elmham v Bircham A

Friday May 27th

Brisley v Curl XI

Friday June 3rd

Jubilee Interclub mixed game

Saturday June 4th

North Elmham v Aylsham St Giles

Friday June 10th

Brisley v TBC

Sunday June 12th

Belladonnas v Winterton

Friday June 17th

Belladonnas v Great Melton

Friday June 23rd

Brisley v West Norfolk

Saturday June 25th

North Elmham v Denver A

Friday July 1st

Belladonnas v Brooke

Saturday July 2nd

North Elmham v Sheringham A

Friday July 8th

Brisley v Dereham Hockey

Saturday July 16th

North Elmham v Overstrand A

Saturday July 30th

North Elmham v Dersingham

Friday August 5th

Brisley v TBC

Saturday August 13th

North Elmham v Rocklands A

Saturday August 20th

North Elmham v Horsford C

Mark Ballman

MUSIC AT ST MARY'S

A summer programme of music afternoons at St Mary's North Elmham.

7th May, 2.00—4.30pm

Sonrisa – Sharing songs for a spring afternoon

11th June, 2.30—4.00pm

Jonathan Dodd, Willow Swiatek with Musicamira

9th July, 2.30—4.30pm

Natasha Hood, Come and sing!

No need to book, just come along on the day and make a donation.



QUILTS FOR PREMATURE BABIES

The Elmham Sewing Group has enjoyed making 8 quilts, all different in colour and designs, for the Premature Baby Unit at the Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital.

They are big enough to go over the incubators (36" x 48"), keeping out the light for the baby underneath.

YOGA IN THE MEMORIAL HALL

Yoga classes on Tuesdays 6.30—7.30 pm and also 8.00—9.00 pm run by Abbie Whitaker.

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NORFOLK HONEY CAKE

2oz (50g) butter
5oz (125g) clear honey
5oz (125g) demerara sugar
10oz (300g) plain flour
Pinch of salt
1 teaspoon of bicarbonate of soda
1 teaspoon ground mixed spice
1 teaspoon ground ginger
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
4oz (100g) chopped mixed peel
1 egg
1/4pint (150ml) milk
1oz (25g) flaked almonds

Grease a 1lb (450g) loaf tin. Preheat oven to 180C/350F/Gas MK4.

Melt the butter over low heat. Take off the heat and stir in honey and sugar. Mix well and leave until lukewarm. Sift together flour, salt, bicarbonate of soda, spice, ginger and cinnamon and stir in the peel. Beat the egg and milk together and add to the honey. Pour liquid into the flour and beat until smooth. Pour into prepared tin and scatter almonds over the top. Bake 1¼ hours. Cool in the tin for 5mins and turn out onto a wire rack to cool. Serve sliced and buttered. (Naughty but nice!).

TENNIS CLUB RE-OPENING

The Tennis Club is expected to re-open on the evening of 6th May, following the conclusion of its court resurfacing project.

Work began on 14th March and concluded on 4th April, at which point the new macadam surface was left to settle for a period of four weeks. The courts will be painted over four days beginning on 3rd May.

Weekly tennis sessions, including Tuesday junior coaching (5-6pm), continue on the courts opposite the Dereham Leisure

Centre. The committee would once again like to thank the Parish Council, Bowls club and local residents for their support.

Ahead of the Club's re-opening there will be a tidy-up morning on 1 May from 10am, focusing on the pavilion and surrounding areas.

Junior coaching will restart at North Elmham on 10 May from 3:45-6:30pm and inter-club tennis league matches will begin on 17 May. Additionally, lady members will play a friendly match at Gresham's School on 21 May.

On 11 June, the Club will hold an Open Day and everyone is welcome to come along for free junior and adult group coaching from midday. There will also be a tournament and barbeque social, following the presentation of the Club of the Year award at around 5pm.

Join As A Member

If you're interested in joining the tennis club, membership runs through to 30 April 2023.

Adult: £70 - Any player who is over 18 and not in full-time education;

Couple: £120 - Two adult players, who are over 18, and not in full-time education and live at the same address;

Junior (ages 4-11): FREE - A player who is aged 11 and under;

Junior (ages 12-17): £15 - A player in secondary school education;

Student: £25 - A player who is in full-time college or university education;

Parent: £15 - For parents wishing to hit with their child, who is under 12.

*New members will need to pay an additional £6.50 (refundable) for a key fob to access the main gate and pavilion.

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WIVES + ALL

April's Wives+All meeting took place at The Eastgate Centre, in North Elmham on Thursday 14th, when Laura Eastell from "Wreaths for All Occasions" came along and demonstrated to members her skill in wreath making which resulted at the end of the evening Club Members creating their own individual Easter Wreath. Thanks go to Laura for making it an enjoyable fun evening.

Our next meeting will be on :-THURSDAY 12th May 2022 in the Memorial Hall, North Elmham at 7.30pm.

Clay Barns will be coming along to the Hall and Club Members will be able to try their hand with pottery, painting or glass fusion under the guidance of Clay Barns.

A raffle will be held and also Refreshments will be available. Please come along you will be made most welcome.

Ann Ferris

WVBS

For our second field trip of the year a group of 16 members met at Strumpshaw Fen on a cold bright day with not a cloud in the sky. After looking at the feeders, where the usual birds included Marsh Tits and Siskins, the group divided into two. Sadly only part of the reserve was accessible because of flooding so Tower Hide could not be reached. In the woodland there were Treecreeper, Nuthatch, Marsh Tit and Song Thrush, the latter loudly singing. Bullfinch and Siskin were also seen, and a very smart Reed Bunting once out of the cover of the woods. The group that started in Fen Hide managed to see Golden Plover, Marsh Harrier and Common Crane, although those following only managed Greylag, Coot and Moorhen. Five Snipe flew over their heads as they arrived at the hide.

After lunch the group made their way to Buckenham Marsh, seeing a field full of Fieldfares and a Mistle Thrush on the way. At Buckenham all seemed very quiet initially, but eventually four large flocks of Wigeon flew in, looking spectacular in the sunshine. They joined the dozen or so of Chinese Water Deer that were grazing on the marsh. A Great Egret flew over, and Teal. Oystercatcher and many Lapwings were seen. There were notably lots of Rooks around, indicating that the Rook roost at dusk might be interesting, but members were too tired to stay on for that. One group did walk around to the old windpump, from which they saw Pintail, Ruff and a Red Kite but even these were defeated by the biting wind and long wait in prospect.

Our first indoor meeting in person this year included a talk by Carl Chapman entitled Birds by Habitat, in which he showcased many of his beautiful photographs. We were sorry that the turnout was low, affected by the recent upsurge in Covid cases, but those of us who made it very much enjoyed the talk and the chance to

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 HM Government



Try to **stay at home** if you are feeling unwell.

mix with fellow members, many not seen for a very long time!

Forthcoming Events

Indoor meetings at Great Witchingham Village Hall at 7.30pm. All are welcome but there is a small charge for non-members.

Thursday 19th May – Beach Nesting Birds of East Anglia by Paul Davies; Thursday 16th June – Martin Hosier on Borneo

Field Trips

Sunday 29th May – How Hill (There may be an early trip on Sunday 8th May for the dawn chorus – keep an eye on the website for confirmation)

More details and information can be found on the website, www.wvbs.co.uk, or contact Sue Gale – wvbs.publicity@gmail.com

A TALE OF TWO TAILORS

During the last century there was a Doctor Barnardo's home at County School, on top of the hill. It was for destitute boys and most of them joined the Royal Navy or Merchant Navy when they became 14.

The school provided jobs for many local people, and I think the village was proud of the home and the boys. The school had a wonderful band, much sought after for local functions when the lads would arrive in their best uniforms. Seeing these boys in their smart uniforms has given me a lifelong love affair with military uniforms, aren't they great!

I have been given some family history by Gerald Hawkins about his grandfather who worked at County School as a tailor. His name was William Wilton.

This was written by an old boy of the school, called Tony Halson.

" Hello, I was at Watts Naval Training School from the summer of 1941 to 1944.

I well remember 'Doggy Wilton', the tailor, and also 'Crabby Runcie', both of whom kept us all in a tidy fashion, one way or another. I have to presume that the 'nicknames' attributed to both before I arrived at the school, were as a result of their walking difficulties. Both had trouble with their walking. Mr Wilton probably was the least able. Every member of staff had a nickname, usually in recognition of some outstanding feature or trait. So did most of the boys, to some extent they do still.

I was never sure what the relationship was between the two of them. Both worked in the tailor's shop, yet, Mr Runcie wore the uniform of a Watts Instructor Officer, Mr Wilton was a 'civilian'. Both arrived at the school in the morning in what were termed Invalid carriages: black, three wheeled tricycles, driven by a small petrol engine at the back, and steered by a long handlebar at the front wheel. Mr Runcie parked some way from the tailor's shop and walked with the aid of walking sticks. Mr Wilton parked nearby and made the best way he could into the shop.

On first joining the school, one was kitted out in junior sailor's uniform. There was a stack of various sizes, and the nearest fit was adjusted to suit, always bearing in mind that 11 year old boys are going to grow. What a proud day! A sailor at last, even though one's feet were not yet wet.

Repairs were inevitable, but not necessary according to Mr Wilton. We each had two suits, No 1's were best and No 2's were the workaday suit. Mr Wilton expected the No 2's to last for ever so that he did not have to make a new No 1, the existing No 1 becoming No 2.

Rips and 'Fair wear and tear' was not in the vocabulary. I don't recall anyone having a new suit because they grew out of the one they had. I think the First Lieutenant and the tailor should have co-operated more. The former insisted on suits being brushed and cleaned to

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Elmham News

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the extent that they must have been threadbare before their time. The tailor never recognised the cause and reckoned that the boys had been careless.

I remember that Mr Wilton sat, in true tailor's style, cross legged, on the workbench, immediately opposite the door. One was always met with his disapproving glare over the top of his glasses as one entered the tailor's shop. Not surprisingly, considering that the only reason for a visit to his workplace meant more work for him.

He was quite capable of 'tearing one off a strip' if he believed that damage to one's uniform should have been avoided, which he usually did, but boys of that age, being what they are, 'a pinch of salt' comes to mind! "

I'm sorry there is not another page to go with this.

Very sadly Mr Wilton died aged only 62. He and his family lived in Eastgate Street and he had been a member of staff at Watts for 4 1/2 years. Always a keen follower of village sport, he had for many years acted as umpire for the North Elmham Cricket club.

His coffin was borne to the church on a gun carriage drawn by boys from the school and four members of staff.

More from the Wilton Family History another time.

Janet Woodhouse

WHAT'S ON LOCALLY

Dereham Walkers are Welcome

Cool but sunny weather met the walkers who joined us for our walk in April. We were treated to the delight of spring flowers popping up in some very odd places. The daffodils were still going strong but amongst them the primroses were a delight. One surprise was seeing

marsh marigolds peeping through the undergrowth.

Our next short walk is Friday May 6th meeting at Greenfields Road, near the Windmill at 10.15am. If you would like to know details in advance, then do get in touch with Ken and ask to be added to our mailing list.

We have three Heritage Open Day walks around the town planned for Saturdays in May.

For more details, please go to our website <http://www.derehamwaw.org.uk/> or get in touch with Ken. Ken-Hawkins@Tiscali. Co.UK 07505 426750

Advance Warning

25th June Bintree Mill Picnic. Need to book early with Jenny Cunningham on 01362 668224.

FOOTPATH

This footpath is on the Elmham House Estate. From the Cathedral car park area, turn right and walk until you see a red telephone box on the other side of the road, follow the wide public footpath. After a short distance, the footpath in the photo is on your right just after the Park House buildings. Follow the public footpath across the grass to the far left hand corner of the field.

If you turn left (you are now on Greatheath Road) then in about 500 yards there is a turn on the left on to another public footpath. You will pass some houses on your right.

Follow the track as it bends to the left and then turn left on to the way marked path in to the woodland. Follow this path as it winds through the trees and you will end back up on the the wider public path which takes you back to Pump Street and the car park.



ST MARY'S CHURCH

Dear Friends,

My grandmother used to say "Cast ne'er a clout til May be out". It puzzled me as a child. Clout seems to refer to warm winter clothing, so don't be lulled by bright Spring days into thinking summer has arrived. Brace yourself for chilly days when you'll still need a coat on!

It was the reference to May that I couldn't quite understand. It could be the month – but, of course, May is the old name for hawthorn. Only when you see the lovely hawthorn in flower can you be sure of warm sunny days ahead.

The month of May brings with it hope and a sense of celebration. The tradition of 'maying' goes back at least 600 years – on 1st May, people would collect flowers and hawthorn to decorate their houses for one day only. It caught on and grew into a festival of dancing and later the Labour Day bank holiday.

We are still in the Easter season, even if the Eggs are all gone. Easter is the great celebration of new life and hope in the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. During May (26th), we remember Jesus' ascension into heaven and his promise to send his Holy Spirit to empower his followers to share the Good News of God's love throughout the world.

We have much to look forward to this summer, with plans well-underway for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee weekend. Life is getting back to normal after two years of restrictions and extreme caution. As we celebrate our freedom and opportunities for our communities to gather together, we can continue to hold before God all his children who are not 'free'; those who live in fear or poverty.

Let's count our many blessings!

Yours, in Christ,

Revd Sally

MORE2LIFE

It is common today to hear people say "We stand with...". We stood with the NHS, we may have stood with farmers, Sarah Everard's family, the Ukraine, or wherever we perceive there to be injustice. But is there anyone who will stand with us in our hour of need?

As Christians, we have just celebrated Easter, the festival when we particularly remember why the babe, whose birth we celebrated just a few months ago, came. If you are not familiar with the story, Jesus came as God incarnate, God in human form, as a humble baby. But He didn't come to earth just for fun. He came for a purpose. He came to stand with us. He came to stand with you and I in our hour of need.

For Jesus, he didn't "stand with us" to make himself feel better. He didn't "stand with us" as some nice platitude or lip talk. For sure, there are those who stand with certain causes out of genuine concern, and this is not to negate this in anyway; but there are also those who do so because it is good for their image or credibility.

Jesus, however, came to stand with us, not for His own benefit, but because He

sees we are in need of a Saviour. What do we need saving from? Our rebellion, our sin, against God. This gets in the way of us being able to live in God's presence. Don't think you need a Saviour? Think you are not as bad as that other person down the road? Take a look at the Ten Commandments found in Exodus 20:2-17. This is what the Lord requires of us if we are to be in His presence for eternity. Passed all those? If not, and, lets face it, none of us have, then that is why we need a Saviour, and that is why Jesus chose to "stand with us". You, and me. He fulfilled the requirement of a perfect life, and gave himself as a sacrifice, so we might dwell with Him for eternity. Whenever you see the cross, remember, Jesus stands with you.

If you would like us to introduce Him to you, do get in touch.

Pastor Anne-Marie Fewell

WORTHING NEWS

With Easter being a tad later this year, and to hit the print deadline, we hope to offer you a catch up in next month's Worthing News editorial, so keep a look out to read how our Easter Ducks performed and news of our lucky winners.

In the meantime, with spring arriving – and a chilly start – hopefully our Sweet Violets will be in full bloom. So swing by and visit Worthing's church yard and catch a glimpse of these wonderful little flowers. Maybe bring along your camera to take a shot or two! The violets are just inside and along the church boundary wall.

May Bank Holiday Cream Teas

May we remind you to not overlook this annual event in Worthing's calendar, Cream Teas not to be missed!

Monday Bank Holiday

2nd May from 2-4pm at Worthing Church

Come and partake in A DELICIOUS CREAM TEA and a flutter in our fabulous raffle!

FREE ADMISSION (although a donation towards cream teas is appreciated).

In Aid of Church Fabric Fund.

For further information, please contact:

Celia on 01362 668928

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

Pilgrims

For several years now, Worthing once again welcomed Pilgrim Cross (previously known as Student Cross) to our church on Wednesday the 13th April. This Easter pilgrimage involved all ages who walk every year to Walsingham - an ancient site of pilgrimage in Norfolk. They live and walk in community for one, three or seven days before spending an amazing weekend celebrating Easter in the ruins of Walsingham Abbey.

The pilgrimage is a way of celebrating Easter like no other and the friendships made during the week last a lifetime, but mostly, it is the opportunity to step out of the busyness of everyday life for a week and just be.

Church Service dates for May

Holy Communion on the 8th and Iona Family Service on the 22nd. Both services starting at 10.30am followed by refreshments and local banter.

Election of Church Warden(s)

Please note the annual election of church warden(s) is on the 8th May, please come along and support your local Worthing parochial church committee.

Heart of Norfolk Group Services in May

1st May – 3rd Sunday of Easter

9.30 am	Wood Norton	Morning Praise
10.30 am	Bawdeswell + Zoom	Holy Communion
10.30 am	N Elmham	Holy Communion
10.30 am	Stibbard	Holy Communion
5.00 pm	Foxley	Informal Evening Prayer

8th May – 4th Sunday of Easter

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

15th May – 5th Sunday of Easter

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

22nd May – 6th Sunday of Easter

10.30 am	Bawdeswell + Zoom	Word & Praise
10.30 am	Foulsham	Holy Communion
10.30 am	Guist	Holy Communion
10.30 am	N Elmham	Morning Praise
10.30 am	Worthing	Morning Praise

29th May – 7th Sunday of Easter

10.30 am	Bawdeswell + Zoom	Group Holy Communion
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Sonrisa



Sharing songs for a spring afternoon

Saturday 7th May 2.00 - 4.30pm

at

**St Mary's Church, Holt Road
North Elmham NR205JU**



"Great time with Sonrisa this afternoon... I think everyone enjoyed the singing as much as I did!" 🎵

"A really great afternoon. Thanks for giving us all such a wonderful singing time."



Join us for an afternoon of uplifting song. We'll begin with a few numbers from our set then invite you to join us in some easy to learn community songs - no need to read music, no previous experience necessary, just a love of singing with like-minded people. You'll be equally welcome if you'd just like to sit back and enjoy the music, singing not obligatory!

**No need to book, just come along on the day
and pay by donation**

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

This Month's Photo Contributors

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

COVER: Sarah Felton, PAGE 15: Eileen Cotterill, PAGES 31, 33, 35: Dave Appleton, PAGE 39: Ian McIntosh & Meg White, PAGE 43: Eileen Cotterill

North Elmham Parish Council

Chair: Jennie Borgnis

Vice Chair: Martin Phillips

Clerk: Kevin J Webb
01328 855046
northelmhampc@hotmail.co.uk

Group Leader ✓

Group Member ●

Finance & Administration

Eastgate Centre Trustees

Elmham Charities Trustees

Allotments (Annie Mary Smith Charity)

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Nick Markwell	☎ 668 557									
Martin Phillips	☎ 668 409							✓		
Michael Rayner	☎ 667 859									
Colin Smith	☎ 668 585									

Village Facilities

Broom Green, Pound, Millennium Wood

Cathedral Meadows

Cathedral Ruins

Prince William Wood & Tree Warden

✓						●				
		✓			●					
		●		✓						
		✓				●				●

Recreation & Sporting Facilities

Playing Field / Pavilion

Village Green

Footpath Warden

	●									✓
			●							✓
✓	●									

Services & Other

Highways

Planning

Street Lighting

Environment & Maintenance

Railway Liaison

Website

			●	✓						
					●		●	✓		
		✓				●				●
							✓			
						●		✓		
✓							●			

Meetings are normally held on the first Wednesday of the month and take place in the Pavilion, commencing at 7.30pm. Parishioners are entitled to attend and are most welcome. Our County and District Councillor is also in attendance whenever possible. If, in between meetings, you wish to raise a specific matter for the attention of the Parish Council - please refer to the contact list above.

And finally... have you got something interesting you would like to say or think others might be interested in something you do - why not email the Editors (see front of magazine for contact details) and let us know, we are always on the lookout for new contributors.

NORTH ELMHAM DIRECTORY

Elmham Surgery - Holt Rd - 01362 668215

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

Swanton Morley Surgery - 01362 638100

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

Doctors

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

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

NHS Direct 111

POLICE Non Emergency - 101 - EMERGENCY - 999

Breckland District Councillor	Gordon Bambridge Bill Borrett	01603 880557 01362 860200
Norfolk County Councillor	Bill Borrett	01362 860200
Member of Parliament	george.freeman.mp@parliament.uk	01953 600617
North Elmham VC School		01362 668318
Chairman of School Governors	Robert Plant chairofgov@northelmham.norfolk.sch.uk	
Memorial Institute	Pam Neve 01362 668325 or Ann Ferris p.ferris84@yahoo.com	
Pavilion	Bookings: Ann	01362 668580
Eastgate Centre	Heather Caley	01362 668245
Breckland Dog Warden	Confidential message or texts 07771 617417	01362 858500
London Express Tickets	Travel Centre	01362 694211
Sanders	Wednesdays to Norwich	01263 712800
Konect Bus		03300 539358
Community Website	www.elmham.org.uk	

Dereham Library - 01362 693184

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

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

Clergy - All telephone numbers local code (01362)

Church of England	Reverend Sally Kimmis	heartofnorfolkrector@gmail.com	668850
Roman Catholic	Father Brendan Moffatt	35 London Rd, Dereham	694066
Methodist	Rev Betty Trinder	31 Trinity Close, Dereham	695582
Salvation Army	Major Palmer		696341
More2Life	Anne-Marie Fewell		01328 701830

Church Wardens

Elmham	Michael Newey	668424
Worthing	Celia Daniel	668928



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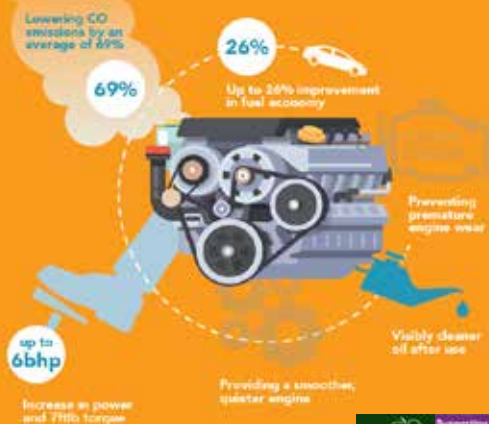
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