

Elsenham News



elsenhamnews@hotmail.co.uk

March 2023
75p where sold

Elsenham Village Regular Weekly Activities

Day	Time	Activity	Location
Monday	9.30-10.30am	Zumba	Memorial Hall
	10.30am	Health walk	Start at De Mandeville Green
	7-7.45pm	Boxercise	Village Hall
	7.30-8.30pm	Shape to the beat	Memorial Hall (not 1st Monday)
Tuesday	9.30-10.30	Touchpoint Food Share	Bowls & Social Club
	4.45-5.45pm	Rainbows	Memorial Hall (term-time)
	6-7.15pm	Cubs	Henham Village Hall (term-time)
	6-7.30pm	Brownies	Memorial Hall (term-time)
	7.30-10.30pm	Tennis Club night	Tennis Courts
	8pm	Fitness Yoga/Pilates	Memorial Hall
Wednesday	9.45-11.30am	Tots & Toddlers	Memorial Hall (term-time)
	5.30-7.30pm	Slimming World	Memorial Hall
	5.45-6.45pm	Beavers	Henham Village Hall (term-time)
	7-9pm	Scouts	Henham Village Hall (term-time)
Thursday	6-7.15pm	Cubs	Henham Village Hall (term-time)
	6.45-7.45pm	Jump Fit	Elsenham Village Hall
Friday	10-11am	Little Fishes	Memorial Hall (term-time)
	5.45-6.45pm	Beavers Group 2	Henham Village Hall (term-time)
Saturday	9am-12pm	Junior Football	Playing Field
	8.45-9.30am	Little Kickers Mighty	Village Hall (term time)
	9.35-10.20am	Little Kickers Junior	Village Hall (term time)



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THE NEWS REPORT

From The Editors



If you are looking to play an active part in your local community there seems to be a good choice of roles for you this month.

We at Elsenham News need a new pair of hands to look after the advertising, our village hall has two roles that they would welcome fresh faces to fill (see page 8) and the community shop in Henham has a vacancy (also page 8).

We had intended to have the front cover depict a few of our well known and long serving buildings and places over the next few issues. How sad therefore that the first of them, The Crown public house, again seems to be facing changes. It used to be such an integral part of village life and always busy. Is the change a reflection of the demographics of the village or just a change in societal behaviour generally? Either way, use it or lose it is a phrase that springs to mind.

Again, we welcome a number of new advertisers this month and hope the trend continues. If you would like to help us continue in this vein and have a well organised way about you, we would love to hear from you. Sadly we are losing our advertising editor and need a new person in place and ready to handle things for the May issue. Can you help? Drop us an email with your contact details and we will contact you: elsenhamnews@hotmail.co.uk.

We can bring you no real good news on many of the issues that continue to blight the village: continued housing developments, speeding HGVs and cars. However, there are people in the village doing their best to address them. Read their reports here, as always.

Thank you for continuing to read and comment on this publication, and we look forward to doing our best to keep you informed and up to date on all the local issues.

Regular features

District Council Report	7	Natural Outlook	33
Parish Council	9	Bowls Club	35
Development Developments	11	St. Mary's Fabric Fund	37
Elsenham Fete Appeal	13	U3A	39
Daisy May's Farm	17	100 Parishes	41
Elsenham History Society	19	Ray's Reflections	43
Elsenham WI	23	Tennis Club	45
Church Calendar	25	Cookery Corner	47
		Book review	49

Elsenham Tots & Toddlers Group

We meet in the Memorial Hall on Elsenham Playing Field

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DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORT

By Cllr Lees and Cllr LeCount

✉ Cllrlecount@uttlesford.gov.uk

✉ Cllrlees@uttlesford.gov.uk

☎ 07836 346717

☎ 816675



We have been inundated with requests for information and anger regarding Essex County Council's Decision (again disappointedly without consultation) regarding bringing in a booking system to all refuse centres in the County. As we all know – One Size does not fit all, and the landscape of Uttlesford's refuse centre does not lend itself to traffic congestion and long queues and other difficulties recognised across the county. We have written to ECC regarding our disappointment and asking for the decision to be revisited and to stop the introduction in Uttlesford. If, when you read this the decision has not been changed, please contact us and Ray Gooding expressing your views.

Just as household budgets have been hit by spiralling costs, the Council is also facing significant budgetary pressures from factors outside its control, such as high inflation and rising utility bills. Its funding from central government has also been significantly reduced over a number of years. Within the budget papers is also a proposal for a below-inflation Council Tax increase of just £5 a year - about 10p per week for an average Band D property. This will generate an additional £195,000 that would be put into a Cost of Living Support Fund to provide Council Tax discounts to households who may be experiencing hardship, with a particular focus on those who are not eligible for other forms of support. This is in addition to the discounts for vulnerable and low income residents through its local Council Tax support scheme, which remains the most generous in Essex.

Petrina has been involved with the Local Government Association Debate Not Hate Campaign, The intimidation and abuse of councillors and officers undermines democracy. LGA's Debate Not Hate campaign aims to tackle the abuse and intimidation councillors and officers face from the public for carrying out their role. The so called Silly Season will soon be upon us, where the ante is upped. As Leader I receive some interesting communications! We are grateful for the measured response and support here.

The Officers at UDC have decided not to defend the refusal at Bedwell Rd , as the Independent Advisors have strongly recommended that they will not win. It is believed that costs are not awarded routinely just because one side loses; they are only awarded if the Inspector decides that one of the parties has indulged in 'unreasonable behaviour'. It is considered unreasonable if you ignore independent advice and continue procedurally. Here at a cost of £50k - £100k. There are over 55 Civil Parishes in Uttlesford. If the Council took a punt every time a Parish requested us to - despite the advice and the Council lost the appeal the costs could run into the millions. I appreciate that we all feel differently when it is our own parish, the Planning Director does have a duty not to expose the Council to unnecessary and excessive costs. The political leaders do not have any influence here.

Continued on pg 35



Elsenham Village Hall

Important Roles to Fill

Are you looking to do something interesting for your community, which is not too challenging or time consuming?

We are looking for both a new **Booking Clerk** and a **Chairperson** from March/April this year. Our current ones are both stepping down after several years in the positions and feel that the time is right for new people.

Support will of course be given by the entire team and there will also be a handover period. If you are interested ✉ elsenhamvillagehall@gmail.com for details.

We really look forward to hearing from you.

ASSISTANT MANAGER REQUIRED

HENHAM COMMUNITY STORE

The Village Shop Committee is seeking an Assistant Manager to work 12 hours per week including 8am to 10am Monday to Friday plus Saturday 8am to 9am on the premises. A job share is available to the right applicants.

Previous experience is not necessary as full training will be given. The role will include balancing and paying in daily takings, stock management with some stock ordering, plus general shop hygiene and food safety.

We can offer a competitive salary and the opportunity to be part of an enthusiastic team serving the community.

If you are interested please phone Linda Peake on 01279 850374 to organise an interview.

ELSENHAM PARISH COUNCIL FEBRUARY 2023

By Louise Johnson, Clerk. ✉ louise.epc@gmail.com ☎ 07456 791727



The Annual Parish Meeting is to be held on Wednesday 15 March 2023 at 8pm in the Village Hall. This meeting gives residents the opportunity to have their say on issues in the village. Essex County Councillor Ray Gooding, District Councillors Petrina Lees and Garry LeCount will give reports and be available to answer any questions. Everyone is welcome.

At the last Parish Council meeting Cllr. Gooding said he was going to write a letter to Essex Waste regarding their HGV vehicles driving through the villages. Essex County Council's legal department has advised him not to write the letter, but to work with the police on this matter.

Cllr. LeCount said he was disappointed that Elsenham Parish Council had voted at the last meeting not to continue with the 'No Airport Parking' signs in the village, the reason being that they thought this would only move the problem on to other roads. Although these signs were not enforceable, they had helped deter some airport parking in Stansted. Cllr. LeCount said he would continue with the signs and that he had a meeting with representatives of Stansted Airport at the beginning of March.

There had been no further correspondence regarding the repair of the war memorial in Church Lane, which had been damaged by the lorries delivering earth to the adjacent field. Allan Hathaway has very kindly offered to make a memorial with the original wood, although he will be restricted as there is very little of the original structure left.

Elsenham Youth Football Club (EYFC) were given permission to fence off an area, no larger than 12m by 20m, to store roll-on goals. The area would be in the far-left corner on entering the recreation ground from the car entry. However, planning permission may be required.

The Parish Council are to investigate the possibility of a legal licence agreement with EYFC, allowing them to play football on the Elsenham playing field for the next 25-30 years. The agreement for EYFC to play on the playing field has always been just a verbal agreement, with the club paying half towards the maintenance of the field. If a legal agreement was set up it would allow the club to apply for grants.

The appeal for the Rochester Properties planning application for 50 dwellings south of Bedwell Road, which was refused by Uttlesford District Council's Planning Department on the grounds of noise, is to be held on 21 March 2023. Disappointingly, Uttlesford District Council are not going to defend their decision. EPC Chairman, Cllr. Mott, has registered to speak at the appeal, against the application, on behalf of Elsenham and Ugley Parish Councils.

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Monday 6 March at 8pm in the Memorial Hall. All residents are welcome.



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DEVELOPMENT DEVELOPMENTS

By *Graham Mott* ☎ 812516 ✉ motts@grahammott.plus.com



At the last meeting of Uttlesford District Council's Planning Committee, Dandara applied for detailed approval of their scheme to build 99 homes on two sites, 51 off Isabel Drive and 48 off Stansted Road. They have gone through three consultants and a dizzying six tranches of new documents in attempting to fulfil the Condition concerning noise. The tactic that emerged after this heroic struggle with reality was to say that they were sure they could meet the Condition, it's just that they're not in a position now but they should be able to make a separate application later, which will meet every noise requirement, such that the only problem could be intensity of the silence. The Parish Council was unimpressed with this promise of jam tomorrow and insisted that bread and butter must be offered today, and cited the refusal of the appeal into the application by Gladman for 220 homes north of Bedwell Road as a precedent.

Members of the Committee also took heed of the Urban Design Officer, who made some late adverse comments on some of the attempts to reduce the noise, and suggested that a couple of the houses should be removed altogether. After a fair amount of umming and aahing, the Committee decided to defer a decision so that Dandara could improve matters, although it wasn't very clear what it was exactly they're expected to improve.

Elsewhere near the M11, UDC's Planning Committee voted in July 2022 to refuse the application to build 50 homes to the south of Bedwell Road, having visited the site and taken due regard of the amount of noise. The applicants banded in an appeal in December, and, extraordinarily, UDC have decided not to defend their decision. It is impossible to know the full extent of discussions behind the scenes, but it seems that the applicants gave UDC seven days in which to agree not to contest the appeal, failing which they would apply for costs. However, costs are not awarded routinely just because one side loses; they are only awarded if the Inspector decides that one of the parties has indulged in 'unreasonable behaviour'. It seems unlikely that an Inspector would find it unreasonable to defend a decision to refuse 50 houses south of Bedwell Road when 220 north of Bedwell Road were refused at appeal. Indeed, it could more sensibly be claimed that not opposing the Appeal is unreasonable.

But there we are, and the Appeal will be heard by the Planning Inspectorate, PINS to those who know it well, at UDC's premises in Saffron Walden, but without their active participation, on March 21. Elsewhere, PINS has gone very quiet, prompting fears that its officers have joined others on strike without actually telling anyone. The Hearing into the application for another 200 homes by Bloor was heard as long ago as December 12, with no sign of a decision at the time of writing. The application for 130 south of the Crown seems to be emerging from a period of hibernation and a hearing might, or might not, be held on 13 April.



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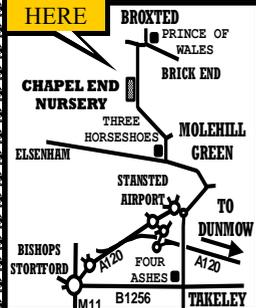
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Welcome to Elsenham Village Fete 2023!
Saturday 17th June 1-4pm
(A date for your diary NOW!!!)

We are so looking forward to our big day and have lots of exciting things planned to entertain you throughout the afternoon. There will be lots of attractions for everyone of all ages to enjoy, lots of different refreshments to eat and drink, lots of friends to meet, lots of quirky vehicles to see – it's going to be AMAZING!!!

We want this fete to be one to remember, so if you would like to get involved in any way, please let us know. There is a fete booking form below for you, but if you would like to help on the day, donate something to our raffle or just be a general Fete helper, please get in touch – we would love to hear from you.

This fete can only be what we would like it to be, with **your** help.

Please contact Elaine Terry ☎ 07962586825 ✉ elaine.terry2011@btinternet.com
or Allan Hathaway ☎ 07811 386027 ✉ allanhathaway@sky.com – we want to hear from you!

Please reserve __ pitch(es) for me at the Elsenham Village Fete on Saturday 17th June 2023

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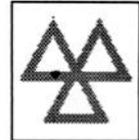
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NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

By Frances Lambert ☎ 07771 728332



I am often asked what can I do about this or that, and who should I report it to. The rule of thumb is Is it an emergency? If so it's ☎ **999**. For everything else it's ☎ **101**.

Reporting it on Facebook won't bring you the help you need. It makes people aware of a problem in the area but they are not the people who can bring you help.

If you have a problem with noisy and disruptive neighbours and you have tried a polite word with them, keep a diary for a month of the times and dates and what type of noise.... shouting...music...noisy cars etc. Then call Uttlesford Council who have a department to report it to. If you are aware of drug taking, dealing or the growing and manufacturing of the plants let the police know, and your information will always be dealt with in confidence.

Unless we report all crimes the police are not aware of them and think our village is crime free, but by reporting all incidents to them they are then aware of the problems we have and keep an eye on the village. So many times, when I have been told of an incident, I have asked "Did you report it?" to be told "No it wasn't worth it". With all the information we give the Police they can build a pattern of where certain crimes are being committed and if you are making an insurance claim for something stolen an incident number will usually be needed.

If you have any information regarding incidents contact Essex Police on '101 or Crimestoppers anonymously on ' 0800 555 111.

Elsenham Community Speed Watch

By Frances Lambert ☎ 07771 728332



20's Plenty for Essex Campaign

Community Speed Watch has been in the village since April 2007 when I first joined. In those sixteen years, I have seen a lot of changes in the traffic coming through the village.

The village has grown, and so has the airport, which all creates more traffic. Everyone seems to have left it too late to get to where they are supposed to be, which means many vehicles speed through our village to get there in time. There is an Essex campaign called "20's Plenty for us" that is inviting villages to support their campaign to bring 20mph to all villages They now have this in Wales, where all villages have a speed limit of 20mph. If adopted, it won't solve our speeding problem overnight, but it may help to slow vehicles down a bit, and every little helps.

The Parish Council will be discussing this at their March 6 Parish Council meeting. If you like, or hate, the idea, please let me know via my email address ✉ franceslambert1964@gmail.com and I will present your views. It's your village.....what do you want.....please let me know.



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Daisy May's Farm

Hall Road, Elsenham, CM22 6DN

Brrrrr, it's been a bit chilly lately, but our gorgeous animals are all lovely and snug and looking forward to having lots of visitors come and make a fuss of them.

Our small animals are cosily tucked away in the woodland area and are absolutely loving being amongst the trees near the pigs. Also in the woods are the owls, who if you stand very still and quiet, might just come out and see you.

There really is so much to do at the farm at the moment including **riding on our train through the woods**, meeting the **new lambs and kid goats**, **holding chicks and ducklings**, a **woodland stamp hunt**, **paddock walks** and **seasonal arts and crafts** and more!

We have all sorts of chickens, ducks, guineafowls, turkeys, and geese and don't forget, we often have chicken and sometimes duck eggs for you to buy.

Come on down to our farm and blow those cobwebs away! There is so much to do and see on Daisy May's farm and you really must not miss all the new additions who will be born over the coming months.



Check our Facebook page for updates on our new arrivals and most importantly, all our opening hours, and our **Hatch a Chick** scheme which is now up and running again, along with other farm news updates.

We look forward to welcoming you to the farm.

We **always** need help in so many ways, particularly when there is **so** much to do. So if you have a little time to spare, **please** get in touch, we would **love** to hear from you. Please contact ☎ 07747 787973 or take a look at our website 🌐 www.daisymaysfarm.org to find out more. Thank you so much.



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discussed along with an in depth examination, including the use of a specialist scalp
camera to arrive at a diagnosis and treatment plan.

Whatever the cause of your hair loss, or the extent, we are here to help you.

ELSENHAM VILLAGE HISTORY SOCIETY

By Mike Rea, Secretary ☎ 813634 ✉ evhs12@hotmail.co.uk

🌐 www.elsenham-history.co.uk



I was rather saddened to read in the local paper that the Crown Inn was closing its doors possibly for the last time. It opened for business as the Rose & Crown around 1770 before becoming the Crown Inn in 1840 following the coronation of Queen Victoria. It has served the village ever since in several capacities. Until the coming of the railway, it served as a way station for stagecoaches to surrounding towns and was for many years a thriving farrier business. During the war the USAF were stationed at Stansted Airport and we have recorded memories that they often frequented the Crown Inn and of course the long closed Robin Hood just around the corner in Robin Hood Road.. In the 1960s the local hunt used the Crown as a base of operations and could often be sighted cantering down Hall Road before galloping off across the fields. We must hope that if the pub's doors are shut, they re-open in the not too distant future.

Following last month's article about the village in the second World War, we coincidentally received an enquiry about military units stationed in Elsenham during that war. We have recorded memories from Gordon Barker who talked about troops being stationed at Elsenham Place during World War 2. He thought they were Royal Army Service Corps and he remembers their lorries being parked out of sight under the trees in Hall Road and Church Road. Gordon also said that he recalled the Royal Horse Artillery being billeted at Elsenham Place. There are other recollections of anti-aircraft guns being mounted at Gaunts End and Takeley and search lights positioned at Tye Green and of course we have already mentioned the USAF stationed at nearby Stansted Airport

Previously we had ascertained that during World War 1 the 60th Casualty Clearing Station (CCS) was set up in Elsenham Hall run by the Royal Army Medical Corps (Territorial Force) R.A.M.C.T. When they arrived is not clear but on 8th December 1915, musicians from the unit gave a concert - entrance one penny (1d) - in the Village Hall so were clearly well established by then.

There is more to be discovered about the above topics on our website, As well as Gordon's contribution, there are several other recordings of village residents past and present who shed light on village life in the last century. These recordings are accompanied by written transcripts to aid understanding. Please take the time to have a look, you won't be disappointed.

Our next meeting will take place on Wednesday 8th March 2023 and will include our AGM. The talk that evening will be given by Chris Bush and will recount the "Story of Park Road". As always, visitors will be very welcome for a small fee, just two pounds. This is the first meeting of the year however so for just five pounds, you can become a member and enjoy four interesting evenings of talks through the year. We look forward to saying hello.



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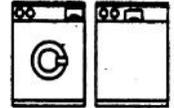
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Aid For Romania

Richard Peake ☎️ 01279 8750374

We are so grateful for all the donations from fellow villagers to our 'Aid for Romania' appeals over the past few years. So, it was a privilege to be asked to join the organiser on a visit to see the late autumn lorry being delivered to our distribution centre last October.

It takes us 5 hours to load the lorry from our Great Chesterford barn and after 6 days travel we arrived in Mărășești (about 4 hours drive north east of the capital Bucharest, not far from the Ukraine border). On arrival there was an army of local church folk waiting to unload which they do in less than 2hrs! Whilst the staff sorted out the goods, we were able to see the very poor end of town (already a backwater in Romania). We visited one young mum with two children in her one room shack which comprised of upright wooden poles with sheets of ill-fitting plywood for the walls. Winter must have been hell with no insulation and holes in some of the sheets. The children ran about the 'yard' in bare feet whilst the husband tries to find casual labouring



work. She is shortly to lose her home to make way for a road extension and will have to re-build again elsewhere with no help from authorities. Her story used to be common in Romania, but we saw a lot better housing in this poor area since we last visited 5 years ago.

Back at the distribution centre they were ready to receive 40 poor families who had been invited by the Baptist minister we deal with out there. He knows a lot of the families in need both from within the church family and elsewhere in the town. Mostly it was the mums that came with their children, and they could choose suitable winter clothes for the whole family from our well stocked racks. Then they could have a box of kitchen equipment and a larger item of furniture (e.g. a single bed which will sleep up to 3 children out there or a chest of drawers) plus a chair or two.

After we had given all the free goods away the staff prepared the centre to be a charity shop selling the goods to the better off people in the town. The proceeds are used to partly support the Baptist minister and help the poor section of the town with housing repairs and medical bills. Charity shops are unheard of in this area of Romania where the legacy of communism still lingers. Everyone just calls it the 'English shop' and its opening is eagerly awaited. The best sellers are beds and bikes.



So many thanks to all that have contributed over the past few years – your gifts are much appreciated. We next go in late April so please bring suitable goods to 1 Hall Close, Henham very soon as we will have to stop collecting and prepare the manifest for EU customs. Please contact me on 01279 8750374 to arrange a mutually convenient time for the drop-off of your much needed contribution.



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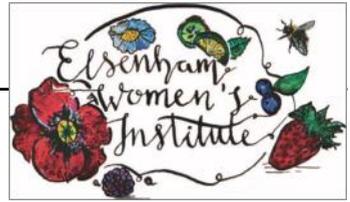
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Craig Pike



ELSENHAM WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

By Moyra Jackson ☎ 647351



It's that lovely time of year when we start to see new growth and some beautiful spring flowers in the gardens and in the countryside around us. Maybe the worst of the winter weather is behind us now.

We finally managed to have our Christmas Party in January and a fabulous night was had by all! The refreshments table was groaning under the delights brought and shared by our members, Santa was very generous with his lucky dip and as always our members rose to the Presidents Challenge of dressing someone at their table from a bag of recycled or re-usable items. May not have been Haute Couture but it was great fun.

We had two presentations to make - The Doris Thomas cup is presented every year to the winner of the Christmas Competition. This year it was won by Gill Hathaway for her fabulous crafted Christmas Card.

The Janet Tully Cup, named after our late secretary is awarded to the overall winner of all our competitions throughout the year. This year our lovely Lynda Jolly was the very worthy winner. Well done to all who entered our competitions - lots more to come this year and you definitely have to be in it to win it!

Our March Meeting is on Thursday, 16 March and it is the excellent Gary Matthews with his talk on 'Easton Lodge – the Countess and her garden'. Gary is an excellent speaker and this is one not to be missed.

Our membership year runs from 1 April to 31 March. Now is a great time to find out what a modern WI is all about. It is a wonderful way to meet new friends and enjoy a variety of speakers, events and trips. While we are very proud of our Jam and Jerusalem traditions, Elsenham WI is so much more than that and we are always happy to dispel any stereotypes associated with the WI. Why not come along (or come back) – visitors and new members are always welcome.



Details of our programme, events and activities can be found on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram – search for Elsenham WI. Visitors are welcome to our monthly meetings so please come along. We meet at 7.45pm on the third Thursday in the month in the Memorial Hall.

Elsenham WI – There's a lot going on!

ST MARY'S CHURCH ELSENHAM

Office@heuchurch.co.uk

Thought For The Month by *Louis Wilson*

In January, we started a brand-new monthly service for all our Sunday morning congregations in the Henham, Elsenham and Ugley Benefice. Our aim is that it should be a genuinely all age service suitable for everyone: the young, the old and the in-between. We want it to be engaging and interactive, and as clear and welcoming as possible so that when we say everyone's invited, you really are.

At the same time, there is a growing need for us to provide a regular service which is accessible to families and young children. The new all age service meets at 10.15 am each first Sunday of the month at Elsenham Village Hall (the school hall) on Elsenham High Street.

Over the coming months, as we meet together, we'll look at who Jesus is as presented in Mark's Gospel, from the moment he steps out into Galilee, to his death on a Roman cross a few short years later.

Along the way, we'll look at his identity. Who was Jesus? He claimed to be God himself come to earth - somehow fully God and fully human. He proved he was by healing the sick, feeding the crowds and making the unclean clean. He proved it by the authority with which

he taught and by his life of transparent compassion and godly obedience. But supremely, he proved his identity by conquering death and rising to new life.

We'll look at his mission. Why did Jesus come? Despite being God himself, he came not to be served, but to serve and to give his life as a ransom or payment for the sins of many. He is the suffering servant of Isaiah 53 to whom all the Old Testament scriptures point: pierced for our transgressions and crushed for our iniquities, so that we could be reconciled to the God who made us.

And finally, we'll look at his call. What does Jesus require? He gave himself for us freely and offers forgiveness at no cost. But then calls us to a life of costly obedience to him. Following Jesus really does bring life to the full, life in relationship with our maker as it's meant to be. But at the same time, Jesus warns that it will require self-denial, sacrifice and sometimes suffering. In the words of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, 'When Christ calls a man, he bids him come and die.'

All of this means that Jesus is the King and Lord of all. We'd love to invite everyone, whatever your age, to come along to Elsenham Village Hall on the first Sunday of the month and meet the King.

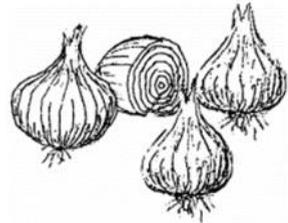


ELSENHAM FLOWER SHOW SOCIETY SHOW SCHEDULE 2023

(* Trophy Classes)

FLOWER Classes:

- 1 Specimen Rose (named if possible), all buds should be removed *
2. 3 Specimen Roses (any variety or varieties), all buds should be removed *
3. 3 Stems of Floribunda Roses
4. 3 Decorative and/or Ball Dahlia Blooms
5. A Mixed Vase of Dahlias – 5 blooms or more
6. 3 Dahlia Blooms (bedding/dwarf variety)
7. 3 Cactus/semi-cactus Dahlias
8. 5 Stems (each one a different flower) *
9. 9 Sweet Peas *
10. 5 Asters (all singles or all doubles)
11. Vase of 'Shades of Red' Flowers (up to 5 stems)
12. 3 Spikes Gladioli
13. 3 Pansy heads floating in a saucer of water
14. Vase of Penstemons (3 stems)
15. Vase of Foliage - 5 kinds
16. My Best Bloom *
17. Flowering Pot Plant (not fuchsia, begonia, geranium or orchid) *
- bloom - max. pot size 20cms (8")
18. Foliage Pot Plant - max. pot size 20cms (8") *
19. Geranium Plant in Bloom - max. pot size 20cms (8") *
20. Bush Fuchsia Plant in Bloom - max. pot size 20cms (8") *
21. An Orchid Plant in bloom - max. pot size 20cms (8")
22. A Begonia Plant in bloom - max. pot size 20cms (8")
23. Succulent/Cactus in container - max. 20 cm (8") diameter
24. Fuchsias – 6 flower heads – mounts for flowers supplied at the Show
25. **CHILDREN ONLY** - 'A Posy in a Jar. *
max. A4 size.
26. EFSS TOP VASE CLASS



VEGETABLE/FRUIT Classes:

All vegetables and fruit shall be of the same cultivar, unless otherwise specified.

27. Herbs - one vase - 3 kinds
28. My Best Herb, as grown (max. pot 15cm (6"))
29. 3 Sweet Peppers (with some stalk attached)
30. 6 Hot / Chilli Peppers (with some stalk attached)
31. 4 Carrots (with 7.5cms (3") tops)
32. 4 Potatoes (coloured)

Continued overleaf

33. 4 Potatoes (white)
34. 6 Pods of Runner Beans (with some stalk attached)
35. 6 Pods of Dwarf French Beans (with some stalk attached)
36. 1 Lettuce (with root)
37. 4 Tomatoes, not cherry (ripe with stalk)
38. 6 'Cherry' Tomatoes (ripe with stalk) not exceeding 3.5 cm diameter
39. 1 Cucumber
40. 2 Marrows
41. 4 Onions each one 250 grams or under
42. 4 Onions each one over 250 grams
43. 2 Courgettes (10 – 20cms long, or if round, 7.5cm dia. approx.)
44. 5 Shallots
45. 3 Beetroots (with 7.5cms (3") tops)
46. 2 Of the same kind of vegetable not already listed
47. 3 Bulbs of Garlic
48. 1 Vegetable Oddity
49. Heaviest Marrow *
50. Heaviest Onion *
51. Heaviest Potato
52. Longest Runner Bean
53. Longest Stick of Rhubarb
54. Plate of Fruit, one variety, not already listed (all fruit with stalks, if possible)
max. plate diameter 23 cms (9")
55. Plate of 3 Dessert Apples (all fruit with stalks, if possible) max. plate 23cms (9")
56. Plate of 3 Culinary Apples (all fruit with stalks, if possible) max. plate 23cms (9")
57. **CHILDREN ONLY** - 'A Vegetable Family', made from a selection of vegetables and/or fruit; max. overall height, width and length – 30cm (12")
58. EFSS TOP TRAY CLASS



PRODUCE Classes:

Jars to be filled and covered with clear cellophane tops except for Classes 65 and 67.

59. 1 Jar Marmalade
60. 1 Jar Strawberry Jam
61. 1 Jar Raspberry Jam
62. 1 Jar Stoned Fruit Jam
63. 1 Jar Fruit Jelly
64. 1 Jar Lemon Curd
65. 1 Jar Chutney
66. 1 Jar of Preserve, not already listed
67. Bottle of Home-made Liqueur (e.g. Sloe Gin)



BAKING Classes:

68. **MEN ONLY** 5 Sausage Rolls *
69. 'Show Stopper' – Let your imagination run wild!
70. 5 Ginger Biscuits
71. Marble Cake
72. Savoury Quiche
73. Granary Loaf
74. Butter Scotch Apple Meringue (*recipe to be supplied*)
75. **CHILDREN ONLY** - 3 Pieces of Rocky Road



FLOWER ARRANGING Classes:

All arrangements in the classes must use fresh flowers and foliage. Boards 60cms x 60cms (24" x 24") will be available upon which arrangements must be displayed, with the exception of Class 76. For classes 77, 78 and 79, arrangements must be displayed within the area of the board. No part of the arrangement may exceed the size of the board.

76. A Miniature Arrangement (**max. 10cms (4") overall**) *
77. 'A Sign of the Zodiac'
78. A Dinner Table Arrangement in a Glass *
79. 'Green is the Colour', *an all foliage arrangement.*

HANDICRAFT Classes:

No exhibit will be accepted which has been exhibited at a previous show, or is more than three (3) years old.

80. A Piece of Origami *
81. A Decorated Box, max. size 15cm x 20cm (6" x 8")
82. A Hand Knitted Article *
83. An Article in Cross Stitch using Embroidery Silks
84. A Picture in Any Medium (max. size 45cms (18") square)
85. A **Handwritten** Limerick - 'There was a young man from Dundee'
(to be mounted on card measuring 15cms x 20cms (6" x 8"))
86. **CHILDREN ONLY** 'A Decorated Stone', max. size to be 15cm (6").

PHOTOGRAPHY Classes:

Photographs should measure 15cms x 20cms (6" x 8") and labelled, and be mounted on stiff card, measuring no more than 18cms x 23 cms (7" x 9"). Entries must be original photographic images; no computer created pictures will be accepted.

87. 'Colour Green'
88. 'Close Up'
89. 'Worm's Eye View'
90. 'Sporting Life'
91. **CHILDREN ONLY** 'A Bug's Life'

RULES OF THE SHOW

1. Competition is open to all living in the Parish of Elsenham. Outside exhibitors are at the discretion of the Committee.
2. **Staging from 9.00 a.m. to 10.45 a.m.** on the morning of the show.
3. Judging is from 11.00 a.m. (Public not admitted to this.)
4. Open to the public 3.00 p.m. Admission - £1-00
Accompanied children are free.
5. Stewards will remove donated exhibits (see rules 7 and 13) from the show benches at the end of the show (approx. 4.00 p.m.). An auction will be held for donated exhibits, after which the presentation of awards will be made.
6. Entry money - Each exhibit charged at 40p. For 10 or more entries (total) equals £4-00.
7. Upon arrival, competitors will be given class cards, each one to accompany each article exhibited. Each competitor will be given an exhibitor's number. Vases, paper plates and saucers will be made available, **with the exception of Class 26**. Exhibits to be retained by competitors will be marked by a coloured sticker on class cards.
8. All exhibits must be grown or made by the exhibitor (with the exception of the Flower Arranging Classes).
9. Only one exhibit allowed in each Class per person. **Please note that only entries with one name per exhibit will be accepted, including Children's Classes.**
10. Children Only entries - Free
11. Children may enter main classes, but Rule 6 charges apply.
12. Certificates will be awarded to the first three placings in each Class.
13. **Each** exhibitor must complete an Entry Form. Entry Forms, together with appropriate fees, must be submitted to Sue Johnson by **Sunday, 13th August 2023**. **PLEASE NOTE: ANY EXHIBITS TO BE RETAINED MUST HAVE THE APPROPRIATE CLASS NUMBER CIRCLED ON SUBMISSION OF THE ENTRY FORM.**
14. Additional copies of the Entry Form can be obtained from Sue Johnson, 'Le Touquet', Station Road.
15. The Society will not accept responsibility for any damage caused to exhibits before, during or after the Show.
16. Points for each Class will be awarded as follows: 4 points for a 1st; 3 points for a 2nd; 2 points for a 3rd and 1 point for Highly Commended. The Parish Council Shield will be awarded to the exhibitor gaining most points overall.
17. The judge's decision is final. Awards/points may be withheld from any exhibit of insufficient merit.
18. Trophy winners are responsible for loss or damage to the Society's trophies whilst in their possession. Please ensure that our trophies are covered by your household insurance.
19. No points will be awarded for Class **68**. Children's classes will be scored separately.

**

Sue Johnson (Secretary)
'Le Touquet', Station Road
Tel: 01279-812704



CHURCH EVENTS IN OUR VILLAGES MARCH 2023

Church Services

Sunday 5th March

10:15 All Together All Age Service,
Elsenham Village Hall

18:00 Sunday@6, Henham Church

Sunday 12th March

08:45 Prayer Book Communion,
Elsenham Church

10:00 Morning Service, Ugley Church

10:15 Communion Service,
Elsenham Village Hall

11:15 Morning Service,
Henham Church

18:00 Sunday@6, Henham Church

Sunday 19th March

08:45 Morning Prayer,
Elsenham Church

10:00 Prayer Book Communion,
Ugley Church

10:15 Morning Service,
Elsenham Village Hall

11:15 Communion Service,
Henham Church

18:00 Sunday@6, Henham Church

Sunday 26th March

08:45 Morning Prayer,
Elsenham Church

10:00 Morning Service, Ugley Church

10:15 Morning Service,
Elsenham Village Hall

11:15 Morning Service,
Henham Church

18:00 Sunday@6, Henham Church

Other Regular Events

St Peter's Junior Church

St Peter's, Ugley 10.00am

Sundays: 12th, 19th & 26th

Elsenham Sunday Club/Explorers

(Y1-Y6) Old Franks, Elsenham

10.15am Sundays: 12th, 19th & 26th

Henham Sunday Club/Explorers

(Reception-Y5) Church Hall,

Henham 11.00am Sundays: 12th, 19th
& 26th

Pathfinders (Y6-Y9)

St Mary's, Henham 6.00pm - leave
from service to meet in OSCA

Sundays: 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th

Crammin' (Y10-Y13)

St Mary's, Henham 6.00pm leave

from service to meet at Church Hall,
Henham Sundays: 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th

MID-WEEK AND SATURDAY:

Start the Week with Prayer

Church Hall, Henham 9.30am

Mondays: 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th

Seekers After School Bible Club

(Y3-Y4) Old Frank's 3.20pm

Mondays: 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th

Prayer Supper

Church Hall, Henham 7:30pm

Monday 27th

Christian Play (Y1-Y2)

Rowan House, Elsenham 3.15pm

Tuesdays: 7th, 14th, 21st & 28th

Little Fishes Pre-School Group

Church Hall, Henham 10.15am

Thursdays: 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th

Little Fishes Pre-School Group

Elsenham Memorial Hall 10.00am

Fridays: 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th & 31st

Church Lunch Club

Elsenham Memorial Hall 12.30pm

Fridays: (2nd & 4th Friday): 10th & 24th

Afternoon Tea

OSCA, Henham 2.00pm, Sat 18th

Events

Join us for our new monthly Family
Service for all ages, 10:15am at
Elsenham Village Hall on the 1st
Sunday of every month.

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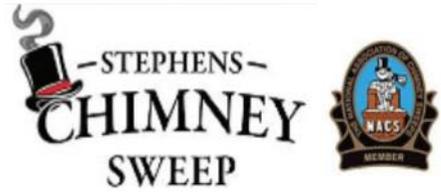




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ELSENHAM FLOWER SHOW SOCIETY

By Sue Johnson ☎ 812704



Plant Sale - Saturday May 20

As usual we have already begun sowing the seeds and taking cuttings for a large range of vegetable and flowering plants ready for the sale in May.

Please refer to our Elsenham Flower Show Society (EFSS) Facebook page for the latest information about the Plant Sale. A full list of plants will be available online by Saturday 6th May.

Thanks to all our wonderful growers and supporters who provided so many plants last year, the proceeds from the Plant Sale went a long way towards the cost of putting on the Flower Show in August. Please let us know if you would like any pots, or have small pots you don't need, we can always use them.

Elsenham Flower Show - Saturday August 19

Elsenham Flower Show will be held on Saturday 19th August in the Memorial Hall and Marquee on the village playing field. The schedule for the Show can be found in the middle pages of this month's magazine and on Facebook. The show entry form will be in the August edition of Elsenham News, along with a repeat of the schedule.

If you look at the schedule, you will see the different classes there are to enter, ranging from flowers, vegetables, and fruit, as well as baking, produce, flower arranging, handicraft and photography classes, including five different children's classes.

You don't have to be a gardener to enter. Lots of you are photographers, many of you are bakers – both male and female, many of you are a whizz at handicraft and flower arranging. So, why not give it a go? It's fun and easy to enter. If you start thinking now, you can be organised by August!



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NATURAL OUTLOOK

By Heather Salvidge ☎ 814153



I have a much yellowed cutting from a sports page in *The Daily Telegraph* from Saturday 9 March 1963 headed 'First Race Meeting in England for 75 Days'. This was to mark the end of the legendary winter of 1962/63 with a meeting at Newbury. This winter hasn't been **that** bad and there have been some good bits in February but March has its ups and downs. When the sun comes out temperatures get up to 15-20 °C though not for long and we are still likely to get prolonged patches of 'mizzle', wet and windy spells and even a bit of snow. In between, spring starts.

Some of the wild flowers opening now are deep yellow five petalled lesser celandines, with their low-growing spade-shaped dark green leaves, and coltsfoot, paler yellow, more daisy-like with scales on the flower stem; their leaves come after the flowers have all but faded. Deep purple violets and paler mauve dog violets will be around. In 'our' side of Alsa Wood there are a few delicate white wood anemones and in grassier places are lovely mid-blue, low-growing germander speedwells and their blue and white 'cousin', the common field speedwell. Flying about and enjoying the flowers, wild or garden, are some of the early butterflies; yellow brimstones, peacocks and small tortoiseshells.

In fine weather bird song erupts and robins, dunnocks and wrens can be heard in hedges, shrubs and trees along New Road, Station Road and The Spinney and a sole collared dove calls with his repetitive 'What do **you** think what do **you** think?' Males in species which have not paired for life do this to claim territories and/or attract mates. I hope very much to hear at least one song thrush, especially along Station Road where, until recently, there were three calling males, well-spaced and staking their claims. Last year there was only one in a back garden. Blackbirds, starlings, sparrows, robins and blue tits are among those busy nest building. Sparrows and blue tits are quite happy to occupy nest boxes but these will probably need you to clear them out to get rid of insects and other pests. Robins might also use them but I have had them building in sheds where the door was wonky, in tatty old garden pots and so forth. Blackbirds make their own nests in bushes, shrubs, hedges or garden trellises. I have seen them carrying twigs, wet leaves from the pond and finally drier stuff to finish the lining. 'Our' starlings won't be able to get into the loft this year as we have had it 'fixed' so maybe they will choose somewhere under the eaves or gutters. Waiting outside Tesco's I watched a magpie fly across from the silver birch with a twig in its beak to go to a tree behind the shop and then do it again.

If enough water stays in our watercourse we should get frogspawn, which this year should actually be fertile so that we get tadpoles. The newts in the pond **did** produce and teeny newtlets were seen. What I don't want to see is a repeat of that 'orange Sahara dust' that was blown up on warm, southerly winds. The rain washed some of it down on to car roofs, house roofs and the earth and sometimes the higher clouds of it gave an orangey tinge to the daylight.

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ELSENHAM BOWLS AND SOCIAL CLUB

By Sue Waite ☎ 07956 899326



The year is quickly moving into the new bowls season and we eagerly await the opening of the Bowls Green on April 21. The green has been well looked after throughout the winter months and is looking good.

All our fixtures have been arranged from our fun and friendly matches which we usually play at the weekends with local clubs, to more competitive league and county games. The joy of bowling is that you can play as much or as little as you would like – there is something for everyone. We have leagues specifically for women on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays. Our Monday league has won the last two years with the Thursday and Friday league almost winning last year.

Our friendlies are open to both men and women and are a good start to your bowls journey and honing your skills. We have home and away games which gives us the opportunity to visit other clubs and meet other bowlers.

Our North West Essex men's league is played on a Wednesday evening at 6 and is split into three sections – A, B and C. There is also an Essex and Herts senior league which is played on a Tuesday afternoon.

There's a lot going on in the club during the bowls season and it is a great way to spend a sunny afternoon either playing or sipping a drink from the bar and watching. Our club needs YOU – we would love you to come and join us as a Bowling member this season. We offer free coaching, we have bowls and shoes for you to use until you decide to buy your own and we have very friendly members who will help you with your game in any way they can.

Continued from pg 7

I do hope that the Parish Council will attend the Hearing of the appeal as Rule 6 attendee and I will address the Hearing as well.

The Coronation of His Majesty The King and Her Majesty The Queen Consort will take place on Saturday May 6, followed by a weekend of special events. Local councils, charities and community organisations in Uttlesford had the opportunity to apply for funding to help with the costs of events to celebrate the Coronation.

You can use this funding to help to organise street parties, beacon lighting or other celebrations. But your event must be open to everyone. We will be making available at least £700 to each parish in the district to help with celebrations. You can also apply for an additional grant of up to £200 towards planting trees to commemorate the Coronation.

The closing date for applications is midday on Thursday April 13. Our Surgery this month will be 2pm Tuesday March 14 at Elsenham Memorial Hall.

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The first thing to note is that our AGM is coming up on Tuesday the 21st March, 7.00pm in the Church Office, "Old Franks" on the High Street. Please come along if you can, to have your say on our activities, suggest other things that we might do or generally hear about who we are and why.

The events planned for this year so far are a Coronation Afternoon Tea on Sunday, 23 April 2.00 – 5.00pm up at the church. Come along to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III with scones, sandwiches, a cup of tea or a glass of wine.

Our plans for a Beetle Drive in the spring have been put back, and that will now be held in the autumn, date to be announced. We also plan to hold another art exhibition in the church. We have done this a few times before, where we offer a showcase to local artists, and have never failed to marvel at the extent of talent that we have in the village. If you wish to be involved, either as an exhibitor or a helper, please call Elizabeth Barker ☎ 813543 or me. We will be finalising the date shortly and will publicise the details in "Elsenham News".

ST MARY'S CHURCH - ANNEXE

By Rocky Stevens & Roger Clark—Churchwardens

It is some years since we wrote about the progress being made to build an annexe at St. Mary's Church to provide toilets and refreshment facilities, that is because there had been no progress.

Having obtained planning permission to build an annexe to the north of the church we found the cost to be prohibitive. Various options were explored to reduce the cost, but to no avail. Alternative schemes were explored, including siting a small building on the other side of Church Lane, but again we found that this would cost more than we could afford.

Now for the good news. Working with a new architect we have designed a smaller annexe, using cheaper materials, which will be sited further from the church in the north-west corner of the churchyard at the top of the concrete spine that gives access to the car parking. A planning application is currently being considered by Uttlesford District Council and we are hoping to receive approval in the next month or so. Once obtained we will need to gain permission from the Diocese of Chelmsford to build on church land, and this will include the equivalent of Listed Building planning consent.

All being well we hope to be able to move on to the next stages of the project, employing a structural engineer, organizing an archaeological survey of the site and so on in the spring. Watch this space – we hope to bring you further updates in the coming months.



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If you think you could help with either of these, then please contact

Chris Bowker,
elsenhamnews@hotmail.co.uk
 or ☎ 01279 815222

We started off our first meeting of the New Year with our speaker, Peter Maggs regaling us with details of a celebrated murder case nearly 200 years ago in rural Suffolk.

At our February Meeting Dennis Eraut, a local resident, will give a talk entitled 'Medieval Maldon'. Our First Seminar of the year on February 25 on the history of the Conflict between Ukraine and Russia was so popular we had to book a larger venue. The second Seminar will take place on April 29 and there will be more news on this in our next Newsletter, but it promises to be a thought-provoking session.

The trip to see the Temptations at the Prince Edward Theatre in London on May 11, I'm afraid to say, has already sold out.

A new Geography Group has just started and there is a proposed 'Strictly Singles' group which we hope will soon be up and running. There are more on the back burner. The Gardening Group are still enjoying meeting even though we haven't had the best weather to garden in, but having had a lecture from Geoff Hodge BSc, MCIHort, in January on the best way to deal with bugs and garden plagues, they look forward to their meeting in February visiting Grove Lodge, Saffron Walden, an NGS garden where they will be seeing displays of snowdrops and spring bulbs - minus the slugs!

Do join us at our meeting on 16th March and leave our cold shores to travel with author Philip Caine from Barrow through Africa, Kazakhstan and Russia to Iraq and the Gulf States. He is of course now the author of adventure thrillers and a prolific public speaker.

Our regular meetings are at St. John's Hall, Stansted, every third Thursday of the month, from 1.30pm

Join the Elsenham News Team

We need a new volunteer to handle the role of Advertising Editor. If you can spare a few hours each month, please contact us urgently. This, as with all the roles on Elsenham News, is a voluntary role but is a very important one. Please contact us via email in the first instance: ✉ elsenhamnews@hotmail.co.uk

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The Office for National Statistics (ONS) recently published analysis of the 2021 Census. Nationally, this showed that the population of England grew by 6% in the last 10 years and 14% over the last 20 years. Locally, the increase has been much faster. The population of The Hundred Parishes in 2021 was around 156,000, up 12% since 2011 and 24% since 2001. If roads seem busier, these extra 30,000 people are a major factor.

Half of the increase is accounted for by six parishes close to Stansted Airport. Elsenham, Flitch Green, Great Dunmow, Little Canfield, Stansted Mountfitchet and Takeley have each expanded by more than 50% in the last 20 years. Another big growth was seen in Buntingford: from 4,300 in 2001 to 7,900 in 2021.

The Census is the modern equivalent of the Domesday Book produced in 1086 AD when the national population was less than 2 million, compared to 60 million today.

Today, 8% of the Hundred Parishes population was born outside the UK (compared to 17% in the whole of England and Wales); 10% of homes are flats (v 22%); 36% of houses have 4 or more bedrooms (v 21%); 27% of homes are rented (v 37%); 40% of adults work at home (v 31%); 55% are in professional or managerial jobs (v 46%); 56% of households have 2 or more vehicles (v 35%). We have a different age mix to the UK average, with a shortfall of around 5,000 people in their 20s and 30s offset by around 5,000 extra people aged over 40.

While the previous paragraph highlights contrasts, some statistics are closely aligned with the national picture: 99% of households have central heating; 5% of households have a second home; 51% of the population is female and 49% male.

Each parish introduction on : www.hundredparishes.org.uk has been updated to include the 2021 population. For more information, please go to: <https://www.ons.gov.uk/census>

The Hundred Parishes is 450 square miles of northwest Essex, northeast Hertfordshire and southern Cambridgeshire that is largely unspoilt and is richly endowed with many fine examples of agricultural and built heritage. The area has shared a common history which shaped and preserved its distinctive landscape of small and medium-sized farms linked by winding lanes and ancient rights of way to hamlets, villages and then to small market towns. For more information visit www.hundredparishes.org.uk.

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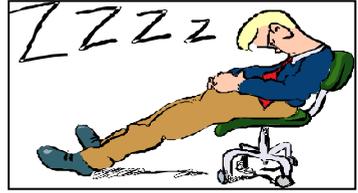
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GROWING UP IN ELSENHAM

By Heather Barker

I moved to No. 11, Gilbey Cottages, when newly built in 1953. It was a snowy February day and I was aged 11. My Father, Bob Jaggard worked at Mill Farm as a herdsman and milkman. I would sit fascinated as he milked the freesian cows by hand and watched the milk going through the sterilising machine. I would help him put the cardboard tops on the milk bottles. Then he would often take me on his milk round in Elsenham, Gaunts End and Tye Green. On arriving at Gaunts End, a quiet little road, he would let me sit on his lap and steer the little green milk van. I thought I was driving!

Mill Farm's cows grazed on the meadows that is now Franklin Drive housing estate. My Dad worked with Percy Mason from Broxted who went to work on a motorbike. He also worked with Frank Smith, who also lived in Gilbey Cottages. He was a herdsman and horseman, tending two shire horses, Joey and Peter. He would walk the horses to Fred Halls, the local blacksmith to be shod.

Alsa Wood, now at the top of Isabel Drive, was the adventure playground. Two ponds on the wood edge have now sadly dried up. They were full of newts, we loved to catch them. We also took frogspawn home in jam jars to watch them grow into newts then take them back to the ponds.

Wild strawberries grew in the bushes and long grass. We would pick and eat them in the sunshine.

Prior to Mill Close being built behind Gilbey Cottages we would walk out of the back of our garden. We would search for mushrooms growing fresh in the meadow for our breakfast.

How this village has changed since those carefree days of the fifties and sixties. These are just a few of the wonderful memories of growing up in this great village.

Ray
Franklin



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Quiz Night – 1 April 2023



Back by popular demand. As usual 7.30 for 8pm start at the Bowls Club with Trevor, our very popular quiz master. Ploughman's supper, licensed bar and raffle. 8 per table, £8 per head (brain). Please book your table as soon as possible with Petra at 07884 024 106 or even better please email mail@elsenhامتennisclub.co.uk

Match reports – good to see that our team practice sessions are paying dividends

Jon's men's doubles: our match against Roydon ended in a split points due to weather conditions and not being able to play. The match against Dunmow ended in a 12-4 points win, with the pairs being Jon and Steve then Stuart and Olly, in which Jon and Steve only managed to drop one game. Stuart and Olly won their first match by 2 sets, but lost their second match dropping both sets. There were some great points and rallies during the matches on a cold February evening, but a great win.

Petra's mixed doubles: In our first match of 2023, Bogdan and Yuliia (with her famous bullet-like backhand), Lewis partnering Petra won 10:6 against Bishops Stortford! Em and Stuart, Petra and Ollie pulled off a convincing 12:4 win against Stebbing at home. Absolutely amazing as all four players had a slow start but then rallied and improved with every game! Well done team. Followed immediately by an impressive 10:6 win for Elsenham away to Braughing. Sue (in her first game for the team) partnering Tom and Yuliia and Bogdan did an excellent job in some close games but came out on top.

This puts both teams into the top third of the league tables for the season.

Coaching – individual and group sessions

We have individual and group coaching sessions, cardio run by our dedicated and experienced coach Steve. Get in touch with him via email: stevesmith865@hotmail.com or call/text 07790 561 817.

Hire our courts – open to non-members

Hire our courts to play with friends and family - £3 per adult, and 50p for under 18s. You can email us or message on Facebook for availabilities, but please, if possible, give us 24hrs notice as we need to arrange to open the courts for you.

Weekly Activities

Tuesday evening – 6.30pm cardio tennis

Tuesday evening – 7.30pm club night

Wednesday morning – 10am causal play

Thursday evening – 6.30pm group coaching (rusty racket)

Thursday evening – 7.30pm cardio tennis

Friday morning – 10am casual play

Sunday afternoon – 2pm casual play

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COOKERY CORNER

By Sue Johnson 🍷 812704



This dessert has been chosen as one of the classes in the baking section of the Flower Show this year. It is easy to make and a real treat to eat.

BUTTERSCOTCH APPLE MERINGUE (serves 6-8)

1lb (450g) cooking apples, peeled, cored and chopped
1½oz (40g) cornflour
1 tablespoon golden syrup
2oz (50g) unrefined light muscovado sugar
1oz (25g) butter
2 tablespoons fresh single cream
2 large eggs, separated
3½oz (100g) caster sugar

-
Preheat the oven to 150°C/130°C fan/gas 2.

Cook the apples in a little water until tender. Blend the cornflour with a small amount of the milk.

Heat the remaining milk with the syrup, brown sugar and butter, until boiling. Add to the cornflour mixture and return to the pan. Bring to the boil and simmer for three to four minutes.

Stir in the cream and egg yolks, then reheat without boiling, before gently folding in the apple. Pour into an ovenproof serving dish.

Whisk the egg whites until stiff, then whisk in most of the caster sugar. Fold in the remaining caster sugar and place the meringue over the apple mixture.

Bake for 20-25 minutes or until the meringue is brown and crisp. Serve hot or cold.

CHEF'S RECOMMENDATIONS: I remember my Mum used to make a pudding like this, she always added some coconut to the apple mixture.

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THE BIRDCAGE by Eve Chase

Reviewed by Marion Giles for Elsenham Book Group



'When half-sisters Lauren, Flora, and Kat are unexpectedly summoned to the Cornish house where they spent their childhood summers, it's the first time they've dared return.

Because the wild cliffs and windswept beaches hide a twenty-year-old secret. The truth about what they did.

Someone who remembers them lurks in the shadows, watching their every move. And there are other secrets, even darker than their own, waiting to be unearthed' So says the blurb on the back of the book.

'Beautifully written. I loved every word' Lisa Jewell

The Birdcage was this month's choice for the book group.

Charlie is a famous artist. Every summer, he leaves his London studio to return to his Cornish studio where his parents live. His mother is very keen on birds and has an African parrot and an aviary full of budgies.

The girls, who have different mothers, spend each summer with their father and grandparents in Cornwall. During the summer of 1999, Charlie decides to paint a portrait of his daughters set against a huge ornate birdcage. Also in 1999, there was to be a solar eclipse which attracted many visitors to Cornwall. The painting of the portrait and the solar eclipse dominate the back story. The flashbacks to 1999 are full of cultural references which we all enjoyed.

The girls have a lot of freedom to roam about on the beaches and in caves and on the headland in between sitting for the portrait. Angie is employed to supervise the girls but is more interested in Charlie. Viv, who cleans for them also seems quite close to Charlie and her daughter, Gemma, spends time with the girls, particularly Lauren.

An event that occurs that summer fractures the family and from then the sisters rarely spend time together. When Lauren's mother, Dixie, dies they attend the funeral and the following January, Charlie invites them to Cornwall as he wishes to make an announcement. So, 20 years later they are reunited in Cornwall and secrets, sibling rivalries, memories and jealousy surfaces.

Each chapter of the story reveals a little more about the sisters. The events of summer 1999 are also revealed little by little. This is the downside of the book as the final reveal is held back until the end of the book. The present day story felt laboured and overly drawn out meaning that we were impatient and so speculated about what happened, to whom and who was involved. All of us in the book group had more or less guessed all the secrets... and so this left us all with a bit of an anti-climatic feeling.

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March 2023

49

Editorial Information

Articles

The **last day** for editors to receive articles, advertising and letters, which must contain the author's name and address (which may be withheld), is the 8th of each month.

Articles should ideally consist of a half page of A5 or a full page of A5. Articles over these sizes or letters containing more than 500 words may be edited depending on space.

Copy submitted after the 8th may not be accepted but will, if deemed appropriate, be held over to the next month. We are happy to receive hand written articles which ideally should reach us earlier than the 8th to allow for scanning etc.

Dates for the Diary must include date, event, venue and time.

Please submit all articles, adverts, letters and queries to the editorial team at:
elsenhamsnews@hotmail.co.uk

General Notes

Whilst every effort is made to ensure that information is correct, the editorial team cannot be held responsible for any inconvenience caused through errors or omissions.

The views expressed within this magazine are not necessarily the views of the editorial team or Elsenham Community Association (ECA).

The editors and the ECA can accept no responsibility for the goods or services advertised in the magazine. Advertisements are included in good faith. The editors reserve the right to allow replies to letters/articles to be made in the same edition when appropriate.

The editors' decision is final.

Wanted/For Sale items: individuals may submit short details of items wanted or for sale etc at no charge. These will be included in the next available issue of the magazine subject to space and acceptance by the editors.

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Advertising

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Inside Page	£50.00	n/a
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Village organisations attract reduced rates, £5 for ¼ page. Half and full-page adverts attract full rates.

To place an advertisement:

For any queries, contact Nathalie. Please send your advert as Word or Publisher via email to elsenhamsnews@hotmail.co.uk

Advertising Editor: Nathalie Kosorin

Business Advertising

Cheques should be made payable to **"Elsenham Community Association"**.

Editorial Team:

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Patricia Davis
Anne White
Nyaradzo Chabata
Angie Wenlock**

Previous issues of Elsenham News are available on the ECA Website

www.ElsenhamCommunityAssociation.org.uk

UPCOMING EVENTS

Good Friday Ramble April 7

District & Parish Council Elections Thursday 4th May

Plant Sale Saturday May 20

Village Fete Saturday June 17

Flower Show August 19

VILLAGE CONTACTS

Airport Roadside Parking		0800 731 2385
Beavers	1sthenhamandelsenham@gmail.com	
Bowls Club	Jean Platt	816151
Brownies	elsenhambrownies@gmail.com	
Church Office (Old Franks, High St, Elsenham)	Anna Hicks	814285
County Councillor (Stansted)	Ray Gooding	813103
Cricket Club	David Brown	831011
Cub Scouts	1sthenhamandelsenham@gmail.com	
ECA (Chairman)	Allan Hathaway	813385
ECA (Secretary)	Moyra Jackson	647351
ECA Website	www.ElsenhamCommunityAssociation.org.uk	
Elsenham Little Fishes	Jackie Stevens	813508
	Hannah Fuller-Lewis	898508
Elsenham Surgery	www.elsenhamsurgery.nhs.uk	814730
Elsenham C of E Primary School	Linda Todd Headteacher	813198
Elsenham Church PCC Secretary	David Hill	812397
Elsenham Rights of Way website	www.e-voice.org.uk/erowos/	
Friends of Elsenham School (FOES)	Gemma Mills	07745 036066
Guides elsenhamguides@gmail.com	Gemma Schafer	07792 572423
Henham & District Garden Society	Moyra Jackson	647351
History Society	Mike Rea evhs12@hotmail.co.uk	813634
Member of Parliament	Kemi Badenoch	0207 219 5214
Memorial Hall Bookings	Cheryl Rae	817834
Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator	Frances Lambert	07771 728332
	franceslambertnhw@btinternet.com	
Parish Clerk - Louise Johnson	louise.epc@gmail.com	07456 791727
Elsenham Parish Council Website	www.elsenham-pc.gov.uk	
Police		101
Post Office		812175
Rainbows	elsenhamrainbows@gmail.com	
Scouts	1sthenhamandelsenham@gmail.com	
St Mary's Fabric Fund	Elizabeth Barker	813543
Tennis Club	Petra Studholme	814667
Tots & Toddlers	Dawn Temple	07944 841358
Uttlesford District Councillors	Petrina Lees	816675
(for Elsenham & Henham)	Garry LeCount	07836 346717
Village Hall Bookings	Annie Gleeson	07809 490731
Village Hall email address	elsenhamvillagehall@gmail.com	647729
Womens Institute Secretary	Gill Hathaway	813385
Youth Football Club (Chairman)	Ricky Lambourne info@elsenhamyfc.co.uk	

If you would like your village organisation contact to appear regularly in the magazine, please contact one of the editors, see opposite for details.

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