Elsenham News





February 2021

elsenhamnews@hotmail.co.uk

75p where sold

Please note that following government advice regarding Covid-19, all regular activities that would normally take place in the Memorial Hall or the Village Hall have been cancelled until further notice.

The following groups or activities are suspended until further notice:

Brownies Community Choir Life Drawing Rainbows Tots & Toddlers Zumba

Guides Line Dance Shape to the Beat Yoga Village Café, tea, coffee and lunch

Some groups are meeting online or in a limited way

Beavers and cubs Church services, Little Fishes and special events (please see page 27) Elsenham Tennis Club activities (please see page 47) Elsenham & Stansted Hall Cricket Club training & fixtures (see website) Kick Boxing (on Playing Field) WI (online, please see page 25)

Parish Council meetings are being held by Zoom. The next meetings are on **Monday 1 February and 1 March**. Contact Louise Johnson for information by email on ⊠ louise.epc@gmail.com



Mobile library visits to Elsenham have resumed. Visitors are restricted in numbers so you may have to queue. Face coverings must be worn.

Place: Glebe End. Time: 11.50am to 12.20pm Day: Thursday Dates: 18 February and 11 March

ELSENHAM NEWS - can you help?

We have a vacancy for a Distribution Co-ordinator. Each month, the printed magazines need to be collected from Prontaprint in Bishop's Stortford, sorted into bundles and distributed to our fabulous team of deliverers who walk the streets and pop the magazine through your letterbox. This is the role of the Distribution Co-ordinator. Covid-19 has increased the importance of this task to reduce the number of people handling the magazine each month. Do you have one day a month to spare and a car? If you do and would like to help please get in touch on **elsenhamnews@hotmail.co.uk**.



Happy New Year to all our readers, we hope you are safe and healthy.

Covid restrictions are impacting what we can all do and lots of clubs and activities have stopped. Indeed we are producing this magazine only as a PDF. However, there is still a remarkable amount of things that can be done in the village so we are delighted to flag those up here.

We hope to be back with a printed magazine next month and we are looking for a Distribution Co-ordinator for the magazine, see p2. If you think you could help out please contact us for a no-obligation discussion.

There are two requests for help to draw to your attention. Any unwanted Christmas decorations can be passed on to the Aid to Romania appeal, see p 33. Daisy May's Farm would really appreciate your support to ensure that the animals remain safe and well while there is no income from visitors.

Our regular feature writers continue to provide interesting articles that help us to understand and to appreciate what we see around us in the village. Ray's Reflections on p4, for instance will be looking at the history of specific areas of the village over the course of the year. Natural Outlook, see p19, highlights what there is to see in the natural world and The 100 Parishes article on p23 sheds light this month on the lumpy rocks that are actually called puddlestones.

We also have reports from clubs and societies who are meeting via Zoom, which of course you are welcome to join. There is something for everyone.

23

43

26

49 17

Happy reading, see you next month,

Stay safe!

The Editors

Book review

Church letter

Cookery Corner

Regular f	eatures
100 Parish	

Development Developments

History Society	31
Natural Outlook	19
Neighbourhood Watch	33
Parish Council	39
Ray's Reflections	41
Women's Institute	25



Apologies - a gremlin got into our December article. Please see below for the correct website address

Map of The Footpaths of Elsenham

There are still some copies available.

If you would like a copy please email your postal address to erowos@btinternet.com We can deliver a copy to you.

A printable version of this leaflet is also available on the erowos website:

https://e-voice.org.uk/erowos/footpaths-ofelsenham-map/

The Spinney: A Spinney working party will take place later in the year when restrictions allow

S.E.P TREE CARE & GARDEN MAINTENANCE

Tree Topping & Felling Pruning & Pollarding Hedges cut, Trimmed & Removed All waste Chipped & Removed Garden, Garage & Site Clearance Gravel Driveways & Paths Fencing Turf Supplied & Laid Jet Washing Paths & Driveways Local Tradesman



Local Tradesman 20 years experience For a free estimate Phone **07903 621657 08000 588057** 14 Day Cooling off Period





ORDER ONLINE: WWW.GREENPEARECO.COM

February 2021

LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

Letters must contain the author's name and address (which may be withheld). The Editors reserve the right to allow replies to letters/articles to be made in the same magazine when appropriate. The Editors' decision is final.

Dear Editors,

Shout out for the Post Office team

I would like to say a big "thank you" to the wonderful people who have kept our Post Office up and running during this last year. Colin, Karen, Dean and our posties have provided a fantastic service, particularly during lockdown. The were kept busy, often with parcels, but still had time to offer help when needed and always with a smile.

It meant a lot to our village, and especially to people living on their own that they found time to have a cheery word. During lockdown sometimes the posties were the only people they spoke to.

I am sure they will offer the same service in 2021 and we can look forward to using the service. Well done!

Name & address supplied.

Dear Editors,

Bowls Club Update

I hope everyone's New Year has had a safe and healthy beginning - long may that continue for you all.

As you know the Bowls & Social Club is closed with no sign as yet of when we will be able to reopen. But as soon as we can, rest assured, we will be ready to welcome you back with open arms, whether it is just to have a drink at the bar, play bingo or to have a game of bowls on our wonderful green.

Thinking of all our members, stay safe and hopefully we will see you soon.

Sue Waite Bowls Club Committee







HANDY MAN SERVICES

NEW YEAR LOOK AROUND THE HOME

All decorating in any colours using Dulux paints. All new flooring installs any type: light wood, dark wood and oak. Electrical new lighting LED, fittings, sockets, switches change to chrome/brass. Alterations to out houses, garages to extra room, dining room, office and many more. Extensions.

Call Dennis. Free Quote 07946 231302





Covid, masks, tiers, restrictions, the economy, missing hugs....Fed up hearing bad news?

Are you longing for some good news?

What about hearing the best news ever?

Christianity is all about Christ and **Christ IS** the best news ever. But don't just take our word for it. Join us on Zoom as we follow an eyewitness account of the life of Jesus Christ and see for yourself how he really is the best news for all people.

Courses via Zoom at times to suit you.

If you would like a place on a course, contact <u>office@heuchurch.co.uk</u> with the days and times (am, pm or eve) that are best for you.

Dear Editors,

Message from Options Hair Design

My thoughts are full of gratitude and heartfelt thanks to all our clients, and the people of Henham and Elsenham who offered us virtual hugs and friendship through the salon window during December. It is always so good to see folk walk by, sometimes with their four-legged friends, to make the day feel special.

We are so missing seeing everyone but we are planning, plotting, researching and Zooming each other with new ideas for our New 2021. We aim to go forward with renewed energy and zap but we would like you to be part of it.

Please when passing the salon pop in an envelope or email ann@h2d4.com with your ideas for how we can improve, excite and ensure that we gallop into 2021 with a salon dedicated to what the folk of our villages like and need.

The most inspirational idea wins a voucher for Afternoon Tea with a friend at our Fabulous Farm Shop, Clifford's at Pledgon Barns. (When we are out of lockdown, of course.)

We very much look forward to mixing your inspirations with ours at Options. I feel we are on the way to a very interesting recipe.

Ann Fegan Options Hair Design and The Hair Loss Clinic

Dear Editors,

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

For obvious reasons It has been a tough year for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. However, I am delighted to say that in our little area, we still managed to raise over \pounds 6,400 for the charity. A big pat on the back for all of our locations and contributors who managed to raise this incredible amount.

Unfortunately, after 6 years I am now standing down as the Poppy Appeal Organiser and moving on to pastures new. One of my volunteers has taken on the challenge and will be the new PAO for 2021. Simon Bambridge lives in Henham and can be contacted on 07768 955454.

Thanks for all of your support and generosity over the years, good luck Simon, and here's to a prosperous 2021.

Craig Willcox



10 AM - 3 PM SUN

We're Open For Takeaway!

OPENING HOURS:

9.30 AM - 3.30 PM

MON TO SAT

www.bearandeden.com

WE ARE A FAMILY-FRIENDLY COFFEE SHOP, BASED IN THE HEART OF STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET VILLAGE

SERVING THE BEST LOCALLY SOURCED COFFEE FOR MILES....



31 LOWER STREET, BREWERY BARN, STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET, ESSEX, CM24 8LN



WINDOW CLEANING SERVICE

We specialise in residential properties offering a quality and regular service for exterior and interior cleans Serving the Elsenham community for the last 10 years

Call or text Malcolm for a FREE quote 07817 481901

Dear Editors,

To all the People of Elsenham

On behalf of Sharon, my daughters and myself I want to say a big "thank you" to you all for all your lovely cards over Christmas as well as the many kind words we received via email and on Facebook wishing us well as we leave. We were given a cheque as a parting gift to which lots of people from the village had made a contribution and we are so grateful for it.

God bless you all. Wishing you all the very best for the future.

Revd Gary Townsend

The National Census

Every ten years, the Office for National Statistics conducts a census of the population in England and Wales, **and the next one will take place in March 2021.** Everyone with an interest in family history appreciates the value of census information but the census plays a much wider role in our everyday lives - often without us ever realising it.

The information from the census is used to plan and allocate funding for services such as school places, GP surgeries, housing, care provision and transport links. But did you know that water companies use the information as well? The census gathers information about place of work and commuting; water companies use this data to plan levels of peak water demand - when travelling to and from work was the norm, apparently the first thing we all did when we got home was put the kettle on and go to the loo!

The General Register Office (GRO) and the post of Registrar General were set up by the Births and Registrations Act of 1836 but birth registration did not become compulsory in England and Wales until 1875. The first Registrar General was Thomas Lister who also wrote "*silver fork novels*" (satirical tales of scandal and illicit sex amongst the upper classes!) and "*A Dialogue for the Year 2130*", an early science-fiction or "futuristic" book.

All census data is kept safe, confidential, secure and private. No-one has access to any personal information until it is released after 100 years for historical and research purposes.

So make sure that you complete your census form. Please encourage your family, friends and neighbours to do likewise. And who knows, in 100 years time, your descendants may be wondering at the employment descriptions of "check-out operator" or a "systems analyst". By the way, you don't have to list your pets on the 2021 census!

There are some census facts on pages 21 and 41.

MASKALLS TREE SURGERY

small family business Big expertise in trees

Call George M: 07982 601 570 | T: 01279 819 127 email: george@maskalls.co.uk www.maskalls.co.uk

All types of tree care & hedge cutting undertaken. Call for a free estimate.



DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORT FEBRUARY 2021

By Cllr Lees and Cllr LeCount

Cllrlees@uttlesford.gov.uk

營 07836 346717 營 816675

A belated Happy New Year. Happy and healthy feels more appropriate than other years.

The vaccination programme has begun. We are hopeful that this will continue and we will soon be able to live the new normal. The pandemic continues and the Council is able to continue to provide all the statutory services.

We are hugely disappointed that once again a Government Inspector has deemed this area suitable for development. The absence of a local plan is due to the failure in 12 years to produce a Local Plan. Though tempting to tinker with the plan, it was nigh on impossible, as stated by the Inspectors, "We are of the view that withdrawal of the plan from examination is likely to be the most appropriate option". We then engaged expert consultants via the Local Government Association to see if the plan could be saved, but they confirmed it was a failure. As stated before, please do respond to the Local Plan Consultations.

Non-determination claims are slightly misleading. Essex Highways procrastinated in responding to this application for a year, thus allowing non-determination to be used for an application to go straight to the inspector. Essex Highways did not respond in a timely manner regarding the Fairfield application. Essex Highways practically reversed their position of being against the development, to one of supporting at the appeal hearing. If these applications had been determined and recommended refusal, they would still have gone through the appeal process and brought before the Planning Inspectors and their narrow remits.

We have initiated an external review of the workings of the Planning Dept. This is more complex than turning round the committee. We are also looking to boost the resources of the dept. So this part of the transformation is still work in progress. What we can't greatly influence is government policy. We must continue to respond and lobby at every opportunity.

We are approached about planning more than any other council business. Though we do not welcome new builds, we do appreciate those who have moved here and embrace this village.

Whilst writing, If there are residents struggling because they have been told to isolate through test and trace, there is a discretionary grant of £500 that anyone can apply for (they don't have to be on benefits etc). Contact Uttlesford District Council for more information. $\sqrt{2}$ www.uttlesford.gov.uk



LOGS LOGS LOGS

- Well seasoned hard wood
- Transit load / bulk builder bag
- Cut to fire size

Call today 🕾 01279 718555 Or email 🖂 <u>dar13@mail.com</u>



D BONNEY & SONS MANUDEN MOTOR VEHICLE ENGINEERS

MOT TESTING ALL MAKES OF VEHICLES SERVICED INCLUDING FOUR WHEEL DRIVES TRW BRAKE CENTRE DIAGNOSTIC AND FAULT FINDING WELDING AND CHASSIS REPAIRS SELECTION OF USED CARS CALOR GAS STOCKIST WE HELP YOU THE MOTORIST WITH A CHEAPER LABOUR RATE

GUARANTEED WORKMANSHIP FREE COLLECTION AND DELIVERY IN LOCAL AREA

PLEASE RING: MALC, NEIL OR CRAIG ☎ 01279 813315 OR ☎ 01279 815946

Elsenham Village Fete - Saturday, June 5th 2021

By Elaine Terry ☎ 812363 or 07962 586825 ⊠ elaine.terry2011@btinternet.com



After the year we have all had, let's make this year's fete one to remember and celebrate what a fantastic community we live in.

The Village Fete organisers are an optimistic bunch, and we are pressing on with arrangements for this year's fete, which as you can see from the header is going to be on **SATURDAY 5th JUNE** from 1-4pm and you are ALL invited!!

We intend on having a fantastic day with LOTS of stalls and attractions and if you would like to be involved in any way, please do let us know.

We always want to keep the fete fresh and interesting and the best way to do that is to have new folk helping to plan and organise it. You can get involved as much or as little as you want, we just value some new input.

There are lots of ways you can help – maybe by joining us in our monthly brainstorming sessions (which will be online at the moment), helping to organise certain aspects of the fete, by running a stall or by helping set up on the big day or by giving us some fresh ideas of what you would like to see at our fete – take your pick. You can help in a big way or as little as you feel comfortable with – any help is much appreciated!

Please join us in putting on this brilliant event for our village. Whatever you can do, we'd love to hear from you, so please get in touch via the details below the header and let us know. Thank you.



ST MARY'S FABRIC FUND ELSENHAM Registered Charity No 1052884 By David Hill 🕾 812397



New year, new lockdown. At least we can look back on Christmas – and didn't the village do well!

We had wonderful Christmas trees and sparkling Advent windows. I don't think that I have ever seen the village looking so bright.

Looking to the future, any plans we have for Fabric Fund activities are currently on hold but as soon as things ease up we will swing into action. And here's hoping our twice-postponed Christmas Tree Festival can take place this year. It can complement those sparkling trees and windows you display!

However, Teri Williams did not let the situation stand in the way of her "Surprise Parcels". Clifford's Farm Shop in Pledgdon Barn kindly gave her the space to display and sell her beautifully wrapped presents in aid of our fund. Our grateful thanks to Teri and Clifford's (if you don't know it, their shop is worth a visit).

Here's looking to the future. These things will pass.

Until then, best regards from your Church Fabric Fund Committee. Stay safe.

February 2021



TREE SURGERY - STUMP GRINDING HEDGE CUTTING - FENCING

01279 755545 07940 231964

INFO@ALLASPECTSTREESERVICES.CO.UK





⊠ elaine.terry2011@btinternet.com



Advertise your business in Elsenham News

Contact us at

elsenhamnews@hotmail.co.uk



DECORATING SERVICES ALL ASPECTS OF DIY

NO JOB TOO SMALL

For a friendly reliable service Just Ask......

GARY KING

Home: 01279 850001

Mobile : 07951 452602

g.king962@btinternet.com

Taylor Computer Services (Stansted) On-site Computer Maintenance/Repairs

DON'T BE RESTRICTED TO OFFICE HOURS, I CAN VISIT YOUR HOME OR OFFICE DURING THE DAY, EVENINGS OR WEEKENDS AT A TIME TO SUIT YOU.

Email and Broadband Setup, Data Transfers/Data Recovery, Hardware & Software Installation, Virus & Spyware Removal & Protection, New PC Setup & Training

> Call Derrick on 01279 816418 ~ 07926 289749 Email: Info@tcsstansted.co.uk



Fed up with moss and weeds?

I offer:

- Regular lawn feeds
 - Weed treatment
 - Moss treatment
 - Aeration
 - Scarification

CALL ANDREW NOW FOR A FREE LAWN SURVEY on 07791 128399 or visit my website

www.simplylawns.co.uk

Local Business. Friendly, professional service

Development Developments

By Graham Mott 🕾 812516 🖂 motts@grahammott.plus.com



Government planning inspectors wasted no time in deciding to allow appeals by Fairfield for up to 350 homes between Henham and Elsenham, and another 99 by Wallace Land Investments on two sites at the west end of the village, comprising 61 off Isabel Drive and another 38 off Stansted Road, next to the motorway on the left as you come into the village.

Inevitably the question of road access through Stansted was raised at both Inquiries. Essex Highways did not object to the Fairfield Appeal, which meant that Uttlesford District Council did not contest on highways grounds and it was left to the villages to put up a robust case. The part of the Inspector's report concerning highways seemed so stupid and ill-informed to me that I have not read it for a second time.

Essex Highways mounted an objection to the Wallace proposal, on the grounds that a tipping-point had been reached, and more traffic would result in exponential increases in the length of the queues from Elsenham. The prospect seemed promising - until, on the first day of the Inquiry, it was announced that an understanding had been reached with the applicants and Highways had withdrawn their objection. UDC therefore did not object on highways grounds, leaving the question to be fought without notice by the harassed but determined representative of the Parish Council.

The applicants propose an additional traffic detector approaching Stansted from Elsenham in order to reduce the queue at peak times. This implausible solution was enough for Highways, and the Inspector decided that if they were happy, then so too was he, even though there was little to show that such a provision would have any great effect. That's the thing with Highways - not only do they not know what they're talking about, when you do think they're on your side they're liable to slip away at the last moment.

The Inspector decided that the traffic modelling by computer on which the applicants set much store should be accepted as reliable, although it was based on a single day's survey in 2018, and despite many representations detailing real-life experience from residents of Elsenham and Stansted. Remarkably, the Inspector was uninterested in differences between the modelling outcomes of the two applications, finding that it was sufficient that both had been validated by Essex Highways.

UDC is no more help than Essex. The big problem is that they don't have a Local Plan. Their stated policy is that parish councils will be included in discussions of the 'Section 106' provisions which are intended to offset the impact of developments. Despite several remonstrances by Elsenham Parish Council, no such involvement was arranged. The Parish Council wishes to secure more funds for the new community hall which will be even more badly needed when all the new houses are built.

Summary: Inspectorate stupid, Essex Highways ignorant and UDC disgraceful.



Wills, Will Trusts, Lasting Power of Attorney, **Funeral Plans, Estate Administration** and Safe Document Storage

Personal, confidential service in the comfort of your own home, at a time that suits you

Single Wills from £180 * Joint Mirror Wills from £250 LPA's £300 each + Court Fees * NO VAT PAYABLE

01763 848555 / 07703 258555

Christine Grisbrooke MIPW chris@christineswillwriting co.uk

www.christineswillwriting.co.uk







Insurance Certificate supplied - Fully Insured - Free Smoke Test

Open Fires - Multi Fuel Stoves -Aga - Rayburn - Gas - Oil

CCTV Surveys - Bird Nest Removal Local Business

Tel: 0800 112 3600

Mob: 07918 708626

www.stephenschimneysweep.co.uk



Professional Interior and Exterior Painting Specialist

References available on request

20 Years' experience

Fully Insured

NVQ Qualified and Health and Safety Certified

Local, reliable and friendly service guaranteed

For a free estimate please contact Mat on 🕾 07810 250426 or email mat@duxburypainting.co.uk **ELSENHAM**



NATURAL OUTLOOK ON INTERESTING GARDENS

By Heather Salvidge 🕾 814153

Last February was the wettest on record and this autumn/winter has kept it up with a prolonged soggy, milder spell leading to serious floods in parts of the UK. It also meant that there were red admiral butterflies seen in the allotments in November and that I picked delphiniums in flower in early December and had to feed the hedgehog for longer than usual. The local fox was about in the



back gardens of Station Road and New Road before Christmas but the RTAs were not observed in local roads until later on as they move about more in the mating season.

When it was still mild before Christmas a medium-sized dark brown/greyish moth spent two nights in our side porch. It was identified as a "winter moth" by a knowledgeable neighbour. During the mild bit, the major tree work to The Spinney was carried out. This year many of the mature ashes were cleared leaving the remainder to have room to spread their canopies. The wildflower patch has had some common mallow planted and more seeds (red poppy) scattered. Fingers crossed now for a more colourful show later on.

We had experienced some frosts from November but they were late starting and not long-lasting. Then on Christmas Eve the icy spell started; it did give us a clear night sky by which to observe the conjunction of Saturn and Jupiter, which I did. Then on Christmas Day, at 9:30am, we had three minutes of snow – wow! In 2020 New Year's Day was the warmest on record for 178 years. This year it was about 2:5 C.

Birdwise, the song thrush, based either side of Station Road near the station, started tuning up on St Andrew's Day and sang on and off until the bad weather, started again in the New Year.

In our garden nearly all my 'winter regulars' showed up except, so far, the reed bunting and siskins. There are the extra continentals e.g. jays and blackbirds needing acorns and manky apples respectively and these add to the year-round regulars.

There was a flock of redwings based, unusually, in the oak by the entrance to Ridley Gardens . From there they would fly across to the well-berried hollies at the back of Elm Close, sometimes about 20 of them, until after a while they had finished, leaving just a few for the local blackbirds. During this time they also came to our garden to roost in the black mulberry bush. They sussed out our small wellberried holly and drank water from the stream when bird baths were frozen.

Before going to press, I have seen just the one lone Fieldfare on De Mandeville Green but hope to see more of him. The local flock of Canada geese have periodically grazed in the field between Hall Road and Elsenham Place. They usually feed down near Stansted Brook, sometimes with a heron and one or two other goose species. More on my "best new bird" of the season later.



Same day as waste collection

www.binwash-uk.com 01799 529899 enguiries@binwash-uk.com

Naomi Gardening & Design Creating outdoor spaces for living

🗳 Garden Maintenance & advice

- Garden design & Consultation
- Bespoke planting designs

Call for a free estimate

M: 07778 620576

E: Naomi@NaomiGardenDesign.co.uk

W: www.NaomiGardeningandDesign.co.uk

Trained at Capel Manor College



Established 1972 Domestic Appliance Repair Service

We offer Specialist Dishwasher, Refrigeration & Cooker Service, in addition to our long established and renowned Washing Machine Service

Our Engineers are Experienced and Trained to service most makes



01279 658767

Friendly Prompt Service

NICK SHUTES PAINTING AND DECORATING LTD

High quality interior and exterior redecoration

Woodwork repairs and replacements

Fascias, soffits and cladding

01799 542385 07885 778213

www.nickshutesdecorating.co.uk







Daisy May's Farm

Hall Road, Elsenham, CM22 6DN www.daisymaysfarm.org



Despite the new year not starting as we had hoped, we are going to wish you all a very happy and healthy new year, because that is what we would like for each and every one of us (including the animals of course).

We had a really great Christmas and lots of you lovely people came and saw us and, despite the mud, you thoroughly

enjoyed meeting and feeding the animals. You counted all the candy canes in the festive woodland trail, made some beautiful Christmas crafts and listened so nicely to Mother Christmas's story before she handed out your presents. You all had a fine, festive time!

We were just getting back on our feet then lockdown happened and sadly, once again the farm had to close, which, of course, has had a massive impact on us.

The animals are fine and we are making sure they are all well fed, snug and comfy, but that comes at a price. So if you would like to help us, we have a crowdfunding page with JustGiving (see link below) and anything you can give is VERY much appreciated. Thank you so much. https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/alison-thomson-920



Once again, thank you for your support and we look forward to seeing you again soon.

Please keep an eye on our Facebook page for updates.

Census fact #1 The census of 1801 recorded the population as being 9 million and this had risen to 63.2 million by 2011. Among the population, there have been some very interesting responses over the years.

In 1841, there was one bee dealer, 20 peg makers and 9 makers of artificial eyes; and there were 734 female midwives compared to the 31,255 in 2011, 330 of whom were men.

Luxury Toilet Hire (UK) Ltd



Whether you are arranging a wedding, private party or corporate event, let Luxury Toilet Hire (UK) Ltd provide you with the perfect toilet facility to make your occasion a memorable success.

Cesspit emptying also undertaken.

Tel: 01371 873003 or 01279 504638 Email: info@luxurytoilethire.co.uk Web: www.luxurytoilethireltd.co.uk





We also hire out mobile fridge and freezer units.

Please contact us for a quote: Tel: 01371 873003 or 01279 504638 Email: info@chillermatic.com Web: www.chillermatic.com

BMH

WINDOW CLEANING CHERRY PICKER HIRE

(12.5M)

Window Cleaning Gutter Cleaning Commercial Window Cleaning Excellent Rates Professional & Trustworthy Fully Insured References on request 07852 722139

"Get rid of the grime with a Tony shine"

- Extensions
- Barn conversions
- New Homes
- Loft conversions
- Planning Drawings
- Building Regulations
- Project Management





 Free initial consultation
 aiun

 t: 01799 540600
 design

 e: info@alundesign.com
 architectural design

 www.alundesign.com
 planning

 Alun Design Consultancy, Neville House, Station Road, Wendens Ambo, Saffron Walden, Essex, CB114LB
 project management

February 2021

THE HUNDRED PARISHES SOCIETY

* www.hundredparishes.org.uk



Our area has a good number of so-called 'Hertfordshire puddingstones'. I am not convinced that Hertfordshire has any real justification for claiming the puddingstone

because examples can be found on both sides of the Essex / Hertfordshire county boundary. I recently acquired a copy of 'Puddingstone Walks in Essex', a neat little book that describes walking routes which in total pass more than twenty puddingstones or groups of puddingstones in the Essex part of the Hundred Parishes.

A puddingstone is a conglomerate of many small, rounded and colourful pebbles that appear to have been cemented together. Geologists explain these were formed around 50 million years ago and were deposited in this area by a retreating glacier, possibly only 10,000 years ago at the end of the last ice age.

Some puddingstones lay where they were deposited, whilst others have been moved to more convenient locations and sometimes put to good use. Brent Pelham and Arkesden have incorporated them into their war memorials. Others are visible in Arkesden in the stream of Wicken Water beside the bridge.

Stones have been used as building material within walls in Much Hadham and Wendens Ambo, in Great Hallingbury's church tower and in St Helen's Chapel at Wicken Bonhunt.

One in Standon is proudly displayed, whilst a large puddingstone in Newport seems to have been unceremoniously abandoned beside the approach road to the station. Others stand in Tilty churchyard, by the pump



at Ugley Green, in Saffron Walden Museum's grounds, by the Shell House in Hatfield Forest and beside the Yew Tree pub in Manuden.

No doubt there are many more – I would be pleased to hear of any that I have missed – please \boxtimes hundredparishes@btinternet.com, if possible with a photo. Will we find more in Hertfordshire or Essex?

Ken McDonald, Secretary

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.



The Beauty Shack Elsenham 07703 784466 / 01279 497236

- ✤ Waxing
- ✤ Facials
- ✤ Massage
- ✤ Nails
- & Tints
- ✤ Spray Tans
- ✤ Lash Extensions
- ✤ Lash Lift
- * Occasion Hair and Makeup

Vouchers Available

hpc (State Registered) Chiropodist

Home Visiting Practice

Mrs Julie Golden *Est. 1994* 01279 873492

A professional service at a competitive rate

Do-It-4U Repair, Care & Maintenance For your Home and Garden

- Plumbing, Electrical & Carpentry Services
- Drain Blockages Cleared
- Gutters Cleaned, Repaired or Replaced
- Gardens Tidied & Maintained
- Hedges & Topiary Trimmed & Shaped
- Fences Erected & Repaired
- Sheds & Other Sectional Buildings Erected

Telephone 01279 814411 Mobile 07774 877320



ELSENHAM WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

By Moyra Jackson 🕾 647351

On behalf of Elsenham WI I would like to wish you all a happy and healthy New Year. I am sure most of us made a New Year Resolution. These usually centre around



giving up something you like which is bad for you or starting something that's good for you but you really don't want to do – hence the reason most resolutions made around New Year fail to make it into February let alone to the end of December.

We have resolutions in the WI too. Every January we are given a shortlist of possible campaigns and we all get to choose the one we think we can adopt successfully and make a lasting difference. Our shortlist this year includes Ovarian Cancer, Chronic Coronary Disease, Racial Discrimination, Wildlife in the Community and Peat-free Gardening. We had an extra meeting on Zoom for our members to talk about these options. The discussions were open, balanced, well researched and heartfelt. All our choices count and go forward to first Federation then to National to decide on the two we will look at later in the year and vote on. Our campaigns have successfully tackled issues that matter to our members. From equal pay to climate change, mental health and violence against women, over the past 100 years our members have embraced a diverse set of challenges.

And talking about one hundred years - it's HAPPY BIRTHDAY to us! We were

established in 1921 so this is our centenary year and we have a fabulous programme of events planned throughout the year. No matter what 2021 throws at us our events will go ahead, either in person or virtually, and we will continue to serve the needs of our members and maintain our



involvement in village events. Just as we have for the past one hundred years in fact!

Our next meeting is on 18 February and it is our annual 'Show the Love' meeting where we highlight Climate Change. Deborah Smailes will be joining us on Zoom to talk about Fast Fashion and our competition for the month is an upcycled garment.

Visitors are always welcome at our meetings. Our contact details are at the back of the magazine.

Facebook: Elsenham WI Twitter: @elsenhamwi Instagram: elsenham_wi Email: elsenhamwi@gmail.com Elsenham WI – There's a lot going on!



ST MARY'S CHURCH ELSENHAM The Vicarage, Carters Lane, Henham 🕾 850281

Life in a Covid-19 world

When Covid-19 first came to Britain, many of us didn't think we'd still be deeply impacted by the virus a year later. As I write this in mid-



January, Professor Chris Whitty, the chief medical officer for England, said that he is "confident" normality will come back but society is "quite a long way" from it. We long to know when is it going to be over – but in the meantime we are worried about how can we continue to cope with this deadly virus that has dominated so much of this last year. On the radio I heard the start of a discussion about how people are coping in lockdown. one person started talking about their love of books. For many to dive into a good novel is a great and enjoyable escapism from the ongoing social exclusion. Others have been greatly helped by social media. We had hoped to visit my son and his young family in Fulham at Christmas, but that wasn't possible, so we watched video clips through WhatsApp of the grandchildren excitedly opening Christmas presents we'd posted to them. My daughter did a Christmas guiz that we shared over the internet with family. With my wife and daughter over this last year we have been exploring new board games (such as Wingspan, Scythe, Azul and Terraforming Mars) and have a running scoreboard - I'd like to say I'm winning but that wouldn't be true. We can find diversions and fun things to do, but things can still seem very bleak. Covid-19 is a challenge to us about how we adjust to the new "normal", and for us all to ask some really fundamental questions about life and to think about the future and where we might find

meaning and hope.

If I was asked about how I have coped in lockdown, I would want to say that my Christian faith and my personal trust in Jesus are central to all of life in all of its ups and downs. I draw strength from God, from Holy Scripture and from my fellow Christian believers, including Christian authors. Our group of 3 churches (Henham, Elsenham and Ugley) have a Christian Book Club, which, prior to Covid, would meet and chat over a Christian book with coffee and cake or over a soup lunch. We now meet over the internet via Zoom and invite you to consider joining us to chat over a book by Tim Dennis called "Life in a Covid-19 World". It is a small book (only 50 pages) but it might help you find hope in these hard times. You can order the book from 10ofthose.com or contact office@heuchurch.co.uk for a copy - it is less than £1 (future books will be dearer, but there is help if finances are tight). We will chat over the book at the end of March via Zoom when people have had a chance to read it. We have had some great discussions and found the meetings really helpful. You are not committed to anything, you can read the book and not join in with the Zoom meeting if you like.

There is hope even in dark times but sometimes we need to actively reach out for help.

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 15:13) God bless.

Gary Tubbs (Associate Minister)

CHURCH EVENTS IN OUR VILLAGES FEBRUARY 2021

While we are in lockdown, there will be no 'physical' services, so there is <u>no</u> service at St Peter's Ugley for the time being. We are still meeting 'virtually'! Join us for any or all of our Sunday gatherings each week:

HEU Combined Churches Service Available via the website:

www.heuchurch.co.uk Or search *Henham, Elsenham* and Ugley' on YouTube

'Zoom Services' at 8:45 and 10:15am

We use the *same link* at the respective times each week. Contact Charles Willbe (c@willbe.me.uk) for the link

HEU Coffee & Catch-up: 11:40am - 12:40pm A chance to chat and catch up and have fellowship with the church family via Zoom: **same link** each week. Meeting ID: 771 5918 0523 Password: heuZOOM

CHRISTIANITY EXPLORED WHAT'S THE BEST NEWS YOU'VE EVER HEARD?



Covid, masks, tiers, restrictions, the economy, missing hugs....Fed up hearing bad news?

Are you longing for some good news? What about hearing the best news ever? Christianity is all about Christ and Christ IS the best news ever. But don't just take our word for it. Join us on zoom as we follow an eyewitness account of the life of Jesus Christ and see for yourself how he really is the best news for all people.

Courses via Zoom at times to suit you. If you would like a place on a course, contact <u>office@heuchurch.co.uk</u> with the days and times (am, pm or eve) that are best for you.

Other regular events St Peter's Ugley Junior Church

Parents are sent out material for each week's session, to be done at home. Term time only.

Elsenham Sunday Club/Explorers

(Y1-Y6) We continue to run the magazine programme each week. This includes a story, teaching sheet, family prayers, quizzes and crafts. Contact the administrator to receive the magazine.

Henham Sunday Club (age 5-Y3)

We continue to send an audio file, a picture story and activities to parents by email. Looking at stories Jesus told.

Henham Explorers (Y4-Y6)

Not currently running. Contact the administrator to take part in the Elsenham programme and receive the magazine.

Christian Play (Y1- Y2)

We continue to run the magazine programme each week. This includes a story, teaching sheet, family prayers, quizzes and crafts. Contact the administrator to receive the magazine.

Henham Little Fishes pre-school

group Thursdays, 10.15am Meeting via Zoom unless restrictions change to enable us to meet physically.

Elsenham Little Fishes pre-school group Weekly resources provided during term time.

Pathfinders (Y7-9) Sundays, 6pm Meeting via Zoom. We'd love to have new members join us!

<u>Crammin' (Y10-Y13)</u> Sundays, 7pm Zoom sessions for an hour including chat; games; and a short bible discussion - until such time as we have a solution for meeting physically again.

For information on all events, please contact the administrator at office@heuchurch.co.uk

Green Light REALIGNMENT

Energetically clean your property, restoring peace, joy and comfort.

Are you buying or selling a property? Moving into a new rental property? Having issues selling or renting out your property? House feel chaotic for no reason? Unable to keep house organised no matter how hard you try? Is there a corner in the house that you and your family avoid? Feel uncomfortable in your own home? Do you feel stuck in life but can't explain why? Feel drained all the time? Hear, see or feel things in your home? Heightened emotions for no reason? Something just feel off in your home?

Negative energies in our home can impact your emotional and physical health, your relationships and even your children and pets.

GET IN TOUCH NOW TO RESTORE PEACE, JOY AND COMFORT BACK TO YOUR HOME

> www.greenlightrealignment.com info@greenlightrealignment.com





ST MARY'S CHURCH ELSENHAM The Vicarage, Carters Lane, Henham 🕾 850281

Farewell to Revd Gary Townsend

When Gary Townsend arrived in the summer of 2010 Elsenham Church was in the middle of celebrating 900 years as the parish church. His first get-to-know-you event was a beer tasting at Parsonage Farm, Henham when the Saffron Brewery launched a beer specially brewed to celebrate the nona-centenary. Gary, his wife Sharon and daughters Evie and Maybelle quickly settled in to village life and became well known throughout the three parishes of Henham, Elsenham and Ugley. His sound, bible-based teaching, was greatly appreciated.

He was also active across the Saffron Walden Deanery and instituted the annual Evangelical Sunday where preachers swapped pulpits across the Deanery to enthuse and inspire evangelism in different parishes. Unfortunately, Covid-19 prevented this taking place in 2020, but it is hoped to resurrect it this year. Gary was active throughout the benefice and enjoyed talking to his 'largest congregation' when he led assemblies at Elsenham School.

Gary adopted the pattern of worship that had existed in the Benefice since the 1980s, but added a regular 6.00 pm service in Henham Church aimed at young people but which attracted a number of people of all ages from across the benefice and beyond. He and Sharon also started the Dragons Youth Club in Henham and instituted the very popular Big Christmas Mix.

Gary's pastoral work was also appreciated by very many people. Acting quietly and sensitively he brought comfort, solace and hope to many people, often whilst they were facing difficulties in their lives.

After ten years Gary had a new vision for the future which involved changes to leadership, worship patterns and theology. Many members of the three PCCs thought his expectations unworkable and could not subscribe to that new vision, so Gary has decided that it is time to move on. He is to become Rector of Mereworth, Wateringbury and West Peckham in Kent. We wish Gary and his family well and trust that God will bless his ministry in his new parishes.

We now enter a period of time without a Vicar, known as an interregnum. The Churchwardens and PCCs have started work on the task of finding a new Vicar to lead us, and this is likely to take several months.

Our Associate Minister, Revd Gary Tubbs, will be leaving us at the end of February to take up a post in the Carlisle Diocese. An appreciation of his work will appear in next month's magazine.



The Executives Choice Chauffeur Company providing clients with premium transport at affordable prices. Airports, sporting events, theatre trips etc.

Corporate accounts welcomed. 7 Seater available

To discuss your requirements

Contact Graham Anderson:

graham@execschoice.com

Phone 07481 494988

www.execschoice.com

Your local, independent sales & letting agent

Sell or let your home with no fuss & the best price possible
 Accompanied viewings weekends & evenings
 Fixed fees or percentage (No VAT to pay)

rightmove Zoopla OPrimeLocation OnTheMarket.com

1 Station Road, Stansted, CM24 8BE Email: peter.james@murdochsestateagents.co.uk

www.murdochsestateagents.co.uk

Call 01279 813318 to book a free, no obligation valuation.



February 2021

f) o

ELSENHAM VILLAGE HISTORY SOCIETY

By Mike Rea, Secretary [®] 813634 ⊠ evhs12@hotmail.co.uk [®] www.elsenham-history.co.uk

Welcome to the new year everyone and my first offering of 2021.

The first thing to report is that Jean Beeston has decided to step down from the Committee. Jean has made a significant contribution to EVHS.

Jean has written a short biography of Dorothy Paget, a fascinating woman, for the website. Jean's history of Broom Farm makes her our bestselling author, this book having 'recently' been reprinted. Thank you Jean for your contribution to the smooth running of our society, we wish you well for the future.

In the normal course of events we would invite nominations for the vacancy and would vote at the AGM, current circumstances however preclude holding the AGM in March so this will be deferred to a later date when things have settled down.

Meanwhile, we have been investigating the rumour of Elsenham Mill. It has been long thought that there was once a windmill in Elsenham but no one quite knew where. Study of old maps and detective work has determined that the mill in question was to the south of Henham just to the north of the site of the long closed Mill Road station on the Thaxted Branch railway.

The first mention of a windmill on this site is in 1363 referring to 'a parcel of the barony of Fitzwauter including a windmill in ruins'. The next mention is in 1728 when the Henham Estate was sold by Governor Feake. This shows that George Fuller, a miller was at that time renting the windmill for £8 per annum. The only known photograph dating from circa 1880 is reproduced here wrongly naming it as Elsenham Mill. Maybe, the source of the original rumour. The last miller was Robert Wright who took over the mill in 1894, within ten years, however, according to a 1903 press report, the mill was dismantled leaving just the thatched



round base as a farm store that in later years housed a generator to provide power to the chicken house on the other side of the road. The building was still marking the site of the mill in 1973 but has now been reduced to a circle of brickwork about two feet (600mm) high.

More information on the mill as well as a personal account from the last owner of the mill may be found at http://www.henhamhistory.org/HenhamMill.html

My thanks go to Ray Franklin, Chris Bush and Nina Gaubert and the Henham History website for the above information.





Extensions – Loft Conversions Roof work – Carpentry – Roof Tiling First and second fix carpentry Kitchen fitting Built in wardrobes Decorating interior and exterior Floor and wall tiling Fencing – Decking – Patios Supply and fix u.p.v.c. windows House maintenance

Call Trevor for friendly help, advice and FREE estimates

tel 01279 816097 mob 07932 666224

E. N.C. Electrical Limited

Industrial Agricultural Domestic

Electrical Installations Fire Alarms/Emergency Lighting Fault Finding

Portable Appliance Testing

Fixed Wiring Test & Inspection

Over 25 Years Experience in the Electrical Industry

Contact: Ian Arran

Tel. 01279 647042 Mobile 07776 252994



Email: encelectricalltd@btinternet.com

44 Alsa Gardens Elsenham

Bishop's Stortford Herts, CM22 6HB

GARRETTS GARAGE SERVICES

42 Golds Business Park, Elsenham Bishop's Stortford, Herts CM22 6JX \bigotimes

- Mechanical Repairs
- Servicing
- Tyres
- •Engine Tuning
- Computer Diagnosis
- •Windscreen Repairs

- •M.O.T.'s Catalyst & Diesel Tested
- •E.H.D.C. Authorised Hackney Carriage Testers
- Batteries
- •Exhausts

- MODERN WELL MAINTAINED WORKSHOP
- ALL MAKES OF VEHICLE
- *FREE COLLECTION AND* *DELIVERY SERVICE*

TEL: 01279 647777 FAX 01279 817622

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH By Frances Lambert <u>franceslambertnhw@btinternet.com</u>

There is another fraudulent text message that is now circulating claiming to be from the NHS, that is encouraging people to 'apply' for their COVID vaccine.



The text message contains a link that takes recipients to a very convincing website which proceeds to ask for personal and payment details.

This should be an immediate red flag, along with the bad grammar and spelling mistakes on this website.

Remember: the COVID-19 is free via the NHS only.

It is not possible to purchase the vaccine or obtain it via other methods

If you are not in one of the priority groups, and are not expecting contact regarding the vaccine, report these messages to Action Fraud at actionfraud.police.uk or call them on 0300 123 2040

If you wish to confirm the text, contact your GP on a trusted number.

If you know someone who is vulnerable, and who has received this text or has been a victim of fraud please call the police on 101 or the above fraud line number.

If you would like further advice regarding fraud and security please look at the Essex Police website www.essex.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention

The police ask locals to report any unusual activity to police on 999 or on 101 after the event. "Do it online" www.essex.police.uk/do-itonline/report-a-crime/ or anonymously to Crime stoppers on 0800 555 111.

If you would like to receive the Neighbourhood Watch Police reports on crimes in our and the police social media updates please send your email address to franceslambertnhw@btinternet.com to be added to the village mailing list.

AID FOR ROMANIA

We would love to have any Christmas decorations that you no longer need. We will send these out next autumn but would welcome them now when they are being taken down after a somewhat 'unusual' Christmas season!! We are also short of beds for some reason. This time so we can take any single size divans with drawers underneath as well as metal & timber framed types. Many thanks for the items delivered so far for the April lorry. As usual we are always short of children's clothes.

Please contact Richard Peake on 2 850374 before delivering to our house, 1 Hall Close, Henham.



- * Annual Accounts/Book-keeping * Payroll * Corporate Tax returns
- * Self-Assessment Tax * VAT Returns * New Business Set up * IR 35 advice
- * Construction Industry Scheme (CIS) *Making Tax Digital Advice

A PROFESSIONAL AND TAILORED SERVICE TO MEET YOUR PERSONAL OR COMPANY NEEDS

LOCAL COMPANY

CONTACT US NOW FOR AN INFORMAL DISCUSSION

Tel: 0330 133 0246

Email: info@barleygrove.co.uk

Website : www.barleygrove.co.uk

01279 656 983 - 0800 587 2556

Unit I, Suite 1, Peek Business Centre, Woodside Road, Bishops Stortford, CM23 5RG



- Aerial Installations
- CCTV & Security Alarms
- Audio Visual Installations
- Wireless & Wired Networks
- TV Wall Mounting Services
- Freeview



www.mediacoms.co.uk

Sky Installations & Subscriptions

- Freesat Installations & Receivers
- Multiroom Music & TV Distribution
- Family Run Business



info@mediacoms.co.uk

QUIZ TIME—Answers By Marion Giles

So, here are the answers to the Yule Quiz. I hope you had fun and didn't have to resort to t'interweb too much.

- 1. *The Snowman* was shown on TV for the first time on Boxing Day of which year? [**Answer: 1982**]
- 2. How old is Kevin McCallister in *Home Alone*? [Answer: 8 years]
- 3. According to 1946's Christmas classic *It's Wonderful Life*, what happens every time a bell rings? [**Answer: an angel gets their wings**]
- 4. Which March sister opens LM Alcott's *Little Women* by grumbling "Christmas won't be Christmas without any presents?" [**Answer: Jo March**]
- 5. In what classic novel does the protagonist set sail for a sea voyage on a cold Christmas day [**Answer: Moby Dick**]
- 6. In which children's classic is it 'always winter but never Christmas'? [Answer: The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe by CS Lewis]
- 7. Which Christmas hit originally released in 1984 has been no.1 in the UK charts three times? [Answer: Do They Know it's Christmas]
- 8. Mariah Carey's iconic Christmas hit All I Want for Christmas officially signals the start of the festive period - but what year was it first released? [**Answer: 1994**]
- 9. What's the name of the giant snow monster that guards Elsa's palace in Frozen? [Answer: Marshmallow]
- 10. What does Harry Potter receive from Professor Dumbledore during his first Christmas at Hogwarts? [Answer: An invisibility cloak]



- 11. What Christmas beverage is also known as "milk punch?" [Answer: Eggnog]
- 12. What traditional Christmas decoration is actually a parasitic plant? [Answer: Mistletoe]
- 13. What well-known Christmas carol became the first song ever broadcast from space in 1965? [Answer: Jingle Bells]
- 14. Who invented the Christmas cracker? [Answer: Tom Smith, a 19thcentury London sweet shop owner]
- 15. Which US states have towns actually named Santa Claus? [Answer: Georgia, Arizona, and Indiana]

Options Hair Design and Hair Loss Clinic

An essential choice with a passion for hair

We welcome you with a complete in-depth consultation, whether this is for a change of style or colour or for more clinical advice on the health of your hair and scalp.

For clients visiting The Hair Loss Clinic we are able to offer a completely private consultation and treatment room away from the main salon. We offer proven treatments for hair loss and also provide a complete wig fitting and finishing service. We work closely with a leading UK Trichologist who holds regular clinics with our clients.

Our products are organic and formulated to enhance your hair health. Our dedicated stylists will work with you to achieve the look and feel that you want. Our salon has parking right outside and a warm welcome awaits you.

> Elsenham Salon 01279 812665 Bookings not always necessary

> > www.optionssalon.co.uk

Hair Loss Clients please call Ann on 07957 166436




STANSTED AIRPORT PUBLIC INQUIRY

A Fight for our Future

After more than three years of fierce resistance by the local community, the proposed expansion of Stansted Airport will be decided by a Public Inquiry which opened on Tuesday 12 January. The outcome will determine whether Uttlesford, East Herts, and other surrounding districts will continue to consist of largely rural communities or will, in time, become further blighted and urbanised in the same way as large areas around Gatwick and Heathrow airports.

SSE considers it entirely irrational, and potentially dangerous, for the Government's Planning Inspectorate to insist that the Public Inquiry must start at the height of a pandemic. Stansted already has permission for 35 million passengers and its passenger throughput peaked at 28 million in 2018, with passenger numbers in decline since mid-2019, long before the pandemic. In 2020, Stansted handled just 7 million passengers and has forecast that it will take years to return to pre-pandemic levels. Plainly, there is no urgency to increase the current planning cap.

If approved, Stansted would be permitted to expand to a similar size and scale to Gatwick, which is why Stop Stansted Expansion (SSE) has fought these expansion proposals, tooth and nail, since they were first announced in June 2017 by the owners of Stansted Airport, the Manchester Airports Group (MAG). At that time MAG fully expected Uttlesford District Council (UDC) to approve its proposals within three months.

However, UDC officials and MAG underestimated the strength of local opposition, spearheaded by SSE. Three months has become three years and there is now, finally, an opportunity for the local community to make a stand. We all have a moral obligation to call a halt to ever-increasing aviation emissions, for the sake of future generations as well as for the sake of all other species with whom we share this planet, and SSE will do its utmost to fight for these local and wider environmental principles at the forthcoming Inquiry.

SSE cannot however hide its disappointment that UDC officials have now, behind the scenes, withdrawn most of their objections to MAG's expansion plans for Stansted, subject to a few hollow conditions.

SSE Chairman Peter Sanders commented: "In view of the timing of this Public Inquiry, at the height of a pandemic, SSE is participating under duress, but we have powerful, well-researched evidence to put before the Inquiry and we will do just that, regardless of UDC's position and regardless of the difficulties."



Bobby's Gardening Services Ltd.

We provide high quality workmanship at reasonable prices, letting our work speak for itself. Our work includes both landscaping design and garden maintenance. Local friendly business. Visit our website below. We are also on checkatrade.com.

Our services include: full garden design, decking, fences, new lawns, patio, artificial grass, garden walls, raised beds, sheds, bespoke seating, fire pit, water features, planting, living walls, stone walls plus garden maintenance.

Contact us on: 01279 957770 or 07961 546929

E: bobbysgardeningservices@yahoo.co.uk http://www.bobbysgardeningservices.co.uk



February 2021

ELSENHAM PARISH COUNCIL 4 JANUARY 2021

By Louise Johnson, Clerk. 🖂 louise.epc@gmail.com 🕾 07456 791727



The Parish Council has set their precept for the financial year 2021/2022 at £82,500. This figure is the same as last year, however using the District Council's calculations it represents a 2.5% increase. This seemed very strange as the number of houses in Elsenham had certainly not decreased in the last year, so by setting the same precept an increase should not have occurred, with more houses

setting the same precept an increase should not have occurred, with more houses having been built in the village staying at the same precept should have represented a decrease. The Parish Council has asked Uttlesford how this has transpired.

Both planning appeals, Fairfield, land east of Elsenham on Henham Road, for up to 350 new houses and land off Isabel Drive and Stansted Road, for up to 99 new houses, were approved by the Inspectorate. An extremely disappointing result for Elsenham, putting more pressure on the infrastructure in Elsenham and the surrounding villages.

Uttlesford District Council's defence against the Fairfield application rested mainly on the access to Elsenham using Grove Hill. The inspectorate said the junction is very awkward and constrained, however it was not the responsibility of the developer to resolve existing problems, or poor driver's judgement, and could not take into consideration random behaviour that resulted in grid lock.

To defend any future applications the District Council may need to use a different strategy.

A section 106 agreement is a legal agreement between the developer and the Local Authority (Uttlesford District Council) and should contain improvements to the surrounding area ensuring that where possible the development would make a positive contribution to the local area and community. Despite correspondence with Planning Officers at Uttlesford District Council, Elsenham Parish Council had been unsuccessful in obtaining a commitment from Uttlesford to adhere to their own policy which states that Parish Councils are included in discussion with Section 106 agreements. Elsenham Parish Council had no say in the Section 106 agreement with either of the appeals, Fairfield Development or Wallace Land Investments.

An online meeting with the Chairmen from Stansted, Henham and Elsenham was held regarding the joint service level agreement for the management and joint funding of Police Community Support Officer (PCSO). All three parishes were concerned about the amount of time that the PCSO was spending away from the parishes. This was not a reflection on the PCSO, but on her superiors that were sending her on other duties. The three parishes pay a contribution towards the PCSO's salary on the agreement that she spends her working hours between the three villages and only in an emergency would she be used for other duties. A letter was sent to Fiona Gardener at UDC and Police Inspector Colin Cox, stipulating this. It was agreed to see if the situation now improves. There had been no suggestion at the meeting that any of the three villages wanted to withdraw from the agreement.

The Great British Spring Clean will be postponed until the autumn, becoming the Great British Autumn Clean.

The next Parish Council meeting will be 1 February 2021, 8pm via Zoom (see p2).



Essex Autospray

Your local Collision Repair Centre - Est 1982

- Free Courtesy Cars
- Free Estimates
- Low Bake Ovens
- Blackhawk Alignment



Tel: 01279 816296 E: info@essexautospray.co.uk

www.essexautospray.com

M11 Business Link, Parsonage Lane,



NEW VENTURES FOR NEW YEAR

Having received the green light from the *Elsenham News* editors I propose two new types of articles starting in 2021.

The first, inspired by the greatly missed *Herts & Essex Observer* will be my take on their "On the Street where you live." Chatting to both new residents and also those who have lived within Elsenham for some years. Secondly, almost a quarter of a century ago I started to compile pieces that formed a section within my book published in 2000. This was on clubs, organisations and groups that are in our village. This requires updated as much has happened over those 25 years. This is the first.

ELSENHAM ALLOTMENTS

The first recorded allotment site ran adjacent to the railway line and stood on what is now Glebe End Estate. This ceased to be an allotment in 1970 being sold for housing. Older residents have spoken about their parents visiting allotments, so it is apparent that they have been present within Elsenham since the First World War. At one time a small site was just to the rear of Mill Close. This ceased to be available in 1993 when work began on Rush Lane. The allotments then moved to the walled garden site which at one time was part of Elsenham Hall Estate, this is to the rear of Elsenham Church. All 23 plots are taken.

Now to bring things up to date. There are now new allotments next to Elsenham Vale Estate. Over 60 plots are available. These border the M11 Motorway and almost go as far as Stansted Road. Securely fenced with adequate parking and onsite water taps, they include a large grassed area which will be maintained by the Parish Council. The Elsenham Parish Council Clerk will be contacting those who have indicated an interest in having a plot. You will be given details on how you can choose your allotment etc. HAPPY GARDENING.

Census facts #2 In England, William the Conqueror conducted the first census which history records as the Domesday Book of 1086.

The next official census of England and Wales was not until 1801 when it was carried out partly to ascertain the number of men able to fight in the Napoleonic Wars.



Pike's Plumbing & Heating

Whether you're looking for a plumber or heating

engineer, Pike's Plumbing & Heating can help.

If it's an emergency, simple problem or you're just thinking about a new boiler or bathroom give me a call – I'm available when you need me 24/7. Now's a good time to think about servicing your boiler too and make sure you're not left out in the cold! No Call-Out Charges & Free Quotations

Tel: 07889 140035

Email: info@pikesph.co.uk

Web: www.pikesph.co.uk

Craig Pike



DANIEL ROBINSON & SONS

Independent Family Funeral Directors & Monumental Masons

Always here when you need us...

- Arrangements in the comfort of your own home, if preferred
- Private Chapel of Rest
- Pre-paid funeral planning services
- Traditional & contemporary funerals to suit your wishes

79/81 South Street BISHOP'S STORTFORD 01279 655477



Est 1892

www.drobinson.co.uk

THE VOLUPTUOUS DELIGHTS OF PEANUT BUTTER

AND JAM by Lauren Liebenberg Reviewed by Marion Giles

Nyree and Cia live on a remote farm in the east of what was Rhodesia in the late 1970s. Beneath the dripping vines of the Vumba rainforest, and under the tutelage of their heretical grandfather, theirs is a seductive childhood laced with African paganism, mangled Catholicism and the lore of the Brothers



Grimm. Their world extends as far as the big fence, erected to keep out the 'Terrs' whom their father is off fighting. The two girls know little beyond that until the arrival from the outside world of 'the bastard', their orphaned cousin Ronin, who is to poison their idyll for ever.' So says the blurb on the back of the book.

Reviews⁻

Full of memorable characters and flavoured with the intensity of childhood, this is a debut that stays with the reader long after the last page is read. Waterstone's

This was the choice for the book group this month. We all wanted to love this book with its great title. For most of us it fell short of expectations.

We anticipated gaining a greater understanding of the country and its history as it's set in an interesting place and period with a real-life geo-political story bubbling away in the background. However, Nyree is an 8-year old girl and as a narrator, she didn't paint those pictures for us. Perhaps the author felt she could not put that understanding into the voice of a child but it made everything secondary to the little childhood world they inhabited. The book felt like guite a struggle to get in to. There were too many descriptions so it felt a little overwhelming and repetitive. We would have liked a bit more plot. The author uses much local terminology which is unexplained. There is a glossary at the back but it became tiresome to keep looking those up especially on a kindle, so most of us just guessed at meanings, which didn't seem to matter. What little action and plot there was seemed quite obvious from the outset. What happens is guite moving near the end but the abrupt finish is inconclusive and unsatisfactory.

Published by: Virago

ISBN: 978-1844084685



CHRISTMAS AT COLD COMFORT FARM by Stella Gibbons Over the Christmas period, we choose a Christmas-themed book from a list and this book of short stories polled the most votes. For lovers of the original classic story, Cold Comfort Farm, it would probably be best to avoid this. The stories are very twee, not well written, very dated and of their time and, to be frank, quite boring,

Published by: Vintage

ISBN: 978-0099528678

February 2021

SDS Installations Ltd



AERIAL AND SATELLITE SERVICES FOREIGN SATELLITE SYSTEMS - CCTV - EXTRA TV POINTS - SKY LINK UPS PHONE POINTS - HOME SIGNAL DISTRIBUTION - WALL MOUNTED PLASMA/ LCD SCREENS - CABLES SUPPLIED AND HIDDEN

Alan Smith

50 Sunnyside Stansted Essex CM24 8AX 01279 279012 07771 881042 sdsinstallations@hotmail.com sdsinstallations.com

6 Windmill Close Great Dunmow Essex CM6 3AX

- 'Gas Safe' registered
- Boiler and appliance servicing and breakdowns
- Plumbing and heating installation and maintenance
- Natural gas
- Landlord certificates

Andrew Allen Heating Services

07973 688286

lunarpond@hotmail.co.uk



Keeping Warm this Winter

Over 3,000 households in Uttlesford are estimated to be in fuel poverty – this could be because people are out of work, managing on a low income or living in an energy-inefficient property.



With Covid-19 squeezing household finances further and compelling people to spend more time at home, being able to keep warm is more important than ever this year - particularly as some health conditions caused or worsened by cold homes, such as asthma and COPD, also place people at greater risk from the virus.

The good news is that help is available. Energy Specialists at Uttlesford Citizens Advice can offer advice on a range of areas, including winter benefits and cold weather payments, the warm home discount scheme, energy efficiency measures, home improvement grants, switching energy suppliers and the priority services register. They can also help people to manage fuel related debt and access emergency support if needed. Call 01799 618858 or email warmhomes@uttlesfordca.org.uk

If you are in receipt of a winter fuel allowance and feel you don't need it, it would be wonderful if you could consider making a donation to support the work of Uttlesford Citizens Advice in this area.

Alternatively, if you would like to directly support someone else in the community who is having a difficult time, you could donate to Sophie's Fund. This small charity works closely with Uttlesford Citizens Advice, providing small grants to help local people who are struggling. A £20 donation could help someone buy fresh food, pay for prescriptions or school dinners, heat their home or access safe accommodation. You can donate online at www.sophiesfund.org

Uttlesford Citizens Advice, Barnards Yard, Saffron Walden, CB11 4EB 01799 618840 <u>help@uttlesfordca.org.uk</u> <u>www.uttlesfordcab.org.uk</u>

Compassionate Neighbours

St Clare Hospice is actively recruiting volunteers who are able to spare time to bring friendship to the lives of people who are lonely and socially isolated. Regular training sessions are being run, currently via online meeting platform Zoom and volunteers are DBS checked prior to becoming Compassionate Neighbours. Volunteering as a Compassionate Neighbour is a rewarding role where people can build genuine friendships by calling or meeting a local, socially isolated person every week. The Compassionate Neighbours are 'matched' based on common interests, lifestyles and experiences and both parties benefit from a mutual, supportive relationship as friends. For more information and to find out more about becoming a Compassionate Neighbour visit: https://stclarehospice.org.uk/your-community/compassionate-neighbours/get-involved/



Double Glazed Units - SAME DAY

- Table Tops
- Shelves
- Emergency Glazing
- Replacement Misted Double Glazing
- Greenhouse Glass

- Cat and Dog Flaps Fitted
- Splash Backs Any Colour
- Glass Cut To Size
- Emergency Boarding
- Safety Glass
- Mirrors

LOCAL COMPANY – GREAT PRICES – RELIABLE **PROMPT SERVICE**

Elsenham – Great Dunmow – Bishops Stortford - Stansted



Bobby's Construction

Services Ltd.



Specialised joinery and carpentry, wood flooring, painting and decorating, internal & external, tiling, kitchen, bathroom, decking, paving, electrical work

Contact us on: 01279 957770 or 07961 546929 bobbysem@hotmail.co.uk







ELSENHAM TENNIS CLUB

By Petra Studholme 🕾 814667



StClare

Hospice

Elsenham Tennis Club is closed until the lockdown ends but we will keep you posted. The best way to keep up-to-date is via our website, www.elsenhamtennisclub.co.uk and our Facebook page. We are hoping to be able to resume play after the current lockdown restrictions are lifted.

Our new season starts on 1 April 2021. Hopefully we will be able to get some play in before then. Our membership fees are amongst the lowest in the area and we do have floodlights that allow us to play until 10.30pm as well as regular club nights, competitive league play (including inter-club), ladies' mornings and coaching (individual and group lessons). To find out more, you can get in touch via Facebook or mail@elsenhamtennisclub.co.uk.

ST CLARE HOSPICE

🕾 773750

Winter Walkies postponed:

Due to the new Covid restrictions we have decided to hold our 5k Winter Walkies walk later in the spring. At the moment the date is still to be confirmed, but people can register for an update on the event by visiting: stclarehospice.org.uk/event/winterwalkies/

Introduction to Namaste Care for carers – a free online learning event Wednesday 10 February, 10am – 12noon, delivered via Zoom

This introductory course is intended for unpaid carers, caring for people who are living with advanced dementia, across West Essex and East Hertfordshire. The Namaste Care Dementia Support project has been made possible thanks to funding from the Essex Community Fund. This pilot project aims to train and empower carers to deliver high-quality, compassionate care to local people living with advanced dementia. These basic principles are simple to learn and easy to put into practice when caring for someone with dementia. For more information and to book a place on the course, visit the Eventbrite booking page: https:// www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/introduction-to-namaste-dementia-care-for-carers-tickets-133686659397. St Clare Hospice is appealing for local people to knit and donate **Twiddlemuffs** to be distributed through the Namaste Care programme. You can find more details, and download a free knitting pattern, on their website: stclarehospice.org.uk/Namaste-care-dementia-support

St Clare Hospice is a charity providing specialist palliative care for people living with terminal or life -limiting illnesses across West Essex and East Herts border. We care for patients and their families, providing physical, emotional, social, psychological and spiritual support, and ensuring they have timely access to skilled, compassionate and sensitive care in a place of their choice. Our services are free of charge to those who need our care, but cost over £4.6 million a year to run. With limited NHS funding we need to fundraise the majority of this each year through donations and other voluntary sources.



CHIROPODIST & PODIATRIST

Bishop's Stortford

- Orthotics
- Diabetic Foot Care
 - Saturday Clinics
- Routine Treatment

R. Handford & Colleagues H.C. P.C Registered

Bishop's Stortford - 16 Hockerill Street

01279 652249

www.feet.org.uk

JOHN COLEBY

Experienced Interior and Exterior Decorator

For a friendly, reliable service please telephone 01279 815510 or 0793 9070818

for a free estimate

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Interment of Ashes:

• On 8 December 2020 at Elsenham Churchyard, Joan Elizabeth Smith.

A gorgeous variation on your everyday rice pudding, this dessert is a great winter warmer, with easily sourced ingredients and very simple to prepare.

COCONUT, RUM AND RAISIN RICE PUDDING (serves 6-8)

For the rum and raisin syrup	For the rice pudding
5 fl oz (150ml) rum	2oz (50g) butter
4oz (100) dark moist sugar	6oz (150g) short-grain pudding rice
4oz (100g) raisins	4oz (100g) golden caster sugar
	2 x 400ml cans coconut milk
	10 fl oz (300ml) double cream, plus a little extra

1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Tip all the ingredients for the rum and raisin syrup into a large saucepan and heat gently over a low heat for 5 minutes, or until the sugar has dissolved and created a syrup and the raisins have plumped up. Tip into a bowl, cover and set aside.

In the same saucepan (there's no need to clean it) melt the butter over a medium heat until sizzling, then scatter over the rice and toast in the hot butter until the butter is just starting to brown. Stir in the sugar, then pour over the coconut milk, cream and vanilla. Bring to a simmer and continue to cook gently for 40-45 minutes until the rice is tender, adding a splash more cream if it becomes too thick.

To serve hot, stir a third of the rum and raisin syrup through the pudding and spoon the rest over the top. To serve cold, leave the pudding to cool, then chill in the fridge to firm up so that you can serve it in scoops with the rum and raisin syrup spooned over.

CHEF'S RECOMMENDATIONS: The ingredients for this recipe can be easily halved. If you have any rice pudding left over, chill it in the fridge. It will keep up to three days in an airtight container. Stir chopped mango through any leftover rice pudding, scattered with toasted coconut flakes.

GARDEN HINT By Sue Johnson

Remove leaves of pansies affected by downy mildew and black spot, and destroy badly affected plants.





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 12th 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 12th may not be accepted but will, if deemed appropriate, be held over to the next month. We are happy to receive handwritten articles that ideally should reach us earlier than the 12th 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: elsenhamnews@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: village residents may submit details of items wanted or for sale at no charge. These will be included in the next available magazine subject to space and acceptance by the editors.

Subscriptions

Elsenham News is available by email (on a pdf) at no charge, or through the post at a cost of £13 per annum. Contact Sarah, see details below.

Advertising

The costs are as follows:

	Single Insertion	Annual Cost (11 issues)
Half Page	£20	£190
Quarter Page	£10	£100
Inside Page	£50	n/a
Back Page	£75	n/a

Village organisations attract reduced rates, £5 for ¼ page. Half and full-page adverts attract full rates.

To place an advertisement:

For any queries please contact us. Please send your advert as Word or Publisher via email to **elsenhamnews@hotmail.co.uk**

Once your advert has been approved and you are happy with it, you will be sent an invoice, which should be paid by BACS.

Flyers

It costs £50 to insert an advertising flyer into the magazine. You must let us know by the deadline of the 12th. You must also provide the flyers.

Editorial Team

Sarah Alder	817660
Marion Giles-Donovan	812763
Heather Baxter	812924

ECA Website

www.ElsenhamCommunityAssociation.org. uk

If you respond to one of the adverts in the magazine, please tell the advertiser that you found them in *Elsenham News*.



WATCH THIS SPACE - WE'RE SURE THERE WILL BE SOME IN 2021

VILLAGE CONTACTS

V ILLAGE CONTACTS				
Airport Roadside Parking		0800 731 2385		
Beavers	Jackie Weston	816282		
Bowls Club	Jean Platt	816151		
Brownies	Jennifer Jarvis	814434		
Church Office (Old Frank's, High St, Elsenham) Anna Hicks	814285		
County Councillor (Stansted)	Ray Gooding	813103		
Cricket Club	David Brown	831011		
The Crown pub	info@thecrown.info	814444		
Cub Scouts	Linda Gleeson	850504		
Cycling Club (Victoria CC)	Doug Yareham	07884 040892		
Elsenham Community Association (ECA)	www.ElsenhamCommunityAss	ociation.org.uk		
ECA (Chairman)	Allan Hathaway	813385		
ECA (Secretary)	Moyra Jackson	647351		
Elsenham Surgery	www.elsenhamsurgery.nhs.uk	814730		
Elsenham C of E Primary School	Linda Reid, 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 Lewis	07792 572423		
Henham & District Garden Society	Moyra Jackson	647351		
History Society	Mike Rea evhs12@hotmail.co			
Member of Parliament	Kemi Badenoch	0207 219 1943		
Memorial Hall Bookings	Cheryl Rae	817834		
Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator	Frances Lambert	07771 728332		
	franceslambertnhw@btinternet			
Parish Clerk - Louise Johnson	louise.epc@gmail.com	07456 791727		
Elsenham Parish Council Website	https://elsenham-pc.gov.uk/			
Police		101		
Post Office		812175		
Rainbows	Petrina Lees	816675		
St Mary's Fabric Fund	Elizabeth Barker	813543		
Tennis Club	Petra Studholme	814667		
Tots & Toddlers	Trudi Marsh	899864		
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	m		
Women's Institute	Gill Hathaway	813385		
WI website	www.elsenhamwi.co.uk	044454		
Youth Football Club (Chairman)	Paul Jarvis	814434		

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



Fabulous Quality at Fair Prices

Fresh Fruit & Vegetables Meats & Poultry Dairy

Sele-

Cheeses & Deli Range Beers, Wines & Spirits **General Grocery** Breads, Pastries & Cakes Vegan & Free From Ranges

Opening Times | Mon to Sat 08.30 to 5.30 | Sun 10.00 to 16.00

www.cliffords.info

The Barn, Pledgdon Hall, Nr Henham, CM22 6BJ Telephone: 01992 676710

orders@cliffords.co.uk Facebook@Clifford's

Pig Sty Tea Room

Pig Sty Tea Room | Mon to Sat 08.30 to 5.30 | Sun 10.00 to 16.00 Kitchen closed Tuesdays except for Hot Drinks and Cake.