

# Elsenham News

---

Happy

New

Year



---

[elsenhamsnews@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:elsenhamsnews@hotmail.co.uk)

February 2025  
75p where sold

## Elsenham Village Regular Monthly or Quarterly Activities

Parish Council 1st **Monday** of month 7.45pm (excl. Bank Holidays) Memorial Hall  
Natter Night 2nd **Monday** of month 7.30pm (contact organisers for venue)  
Elsenham EAGLES 4th **Monday** of month 7.30-9pm (contact organisers for venue)  
Henham & District Garden Soc. 1st **Tuesday** of month 2 for 2.30pm Memorial Hall  
Community Choir 1st & 3rd **Tuesday** of month 7- 8.30pm Village Hall  
Life Drawing 2nd and 4th **Tuesday** of month 7.30 - 9.30pm Village Hall  
Village History Society 2nd **Wednesday** of month quarterly 7.45pm Memorial Hall  
Women's Institute 3rd **Thursday** of month 7.45pm Memorial Hall  
Gong Baths 4th **Thursday** of month 7.30pm Memorial Hall  
Church Lunch Club 2nd & 4th **Friday** of month 12.30pm Memorial Hall  
Elsenham Farmers' Market last **Saturday** of month 12.30 - 2.30pm Village Hall

## February 2025 diary

Sat 1 & 15	Bingo	Bowls & Social Club 7 for 7.30pm
Mon 3	Parish Council Meeting	Memorial Hall 7.45pm
Tues 4	Henham & District Garden Soc.	Memorial Hall 2 for 2.30pm
Tues 4 & 18	Elsenham Community Choir	Village Hall 7pm
Mon 10	Natter Night	The Crown 7.30pm
Tues 11 & 25	Life Drawing	Village Hall 7.30pm
Fri 14 & 28	Church Lunch Club	Memorial Hall 12.30pm
Thurs 20	WI	Memorial Hall 7.45pm
Sat 22	Famers' Market	Village Hall 12.30 - 2.30pm
Mon 24	Elsenham Eagles	The Crown 7.30pm
Thurs 28	Gong Baths	Memorial Hall 7.30pm



**Mobile Library \*\* new day\*\***  
**Every third Saturday stopping at Glebe End**  
**9.30am to 10am Next visit: 8 February and 1 March**

## Elsenham Village Regular Weekly Activities

Day	Time	Activity	Location
Monday	9.30-10.30am	Zumba	Memorial Hall
	10.30-11.30am	Health walk	Start at De Mandeville Green
	4-4.30pm	Rascals (3-4yrs)	Memorial Hall (term time)
	4.30-5.30pm	Rascals (5-7yrs)	Memorial Hall (term time)
	5.30-7pm	Rascals (8-12yrs)	Memorial Hall (term time)
	7-7.45pm	Pilates	Elsenham Village Hall
	7.30-8.30pm	Shape to the beat	Memorial Hall (not 1st Monday)
Tuesday	9.30-10.15am	Touchpoint Food Share	Bowls & Social Club
	9.30-11.30am	Village Café Coffee	Memorial Hall
	4.45-5.45pm	Rainbows	Memorial Hall (term-time)
	4.45-5.45pm	Beavers	Ugley Village Hall (term-time)
	6-7.15pm	Cubs (Wolf Pack)	Ugley 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 (after half-term)
	5.30-7pm	Slimming World	Memorial Hall
	7-9pm	Scouts	Ugley Village Hall (term-time)
	7.30pm	Aerobics	Elsenham Village Hall
Thursday	6-7.15pm	Cubs (Bear Pack)	Ugley Village Hall (term-time)
	6.45-7.45pm	Jump Fit	Elsenham Village Hall
Friday	10-11am	Little Fishes	Memorial Hall (term-time)
Saturday	8.15am-1pm	Tarte au Citroen	Playing Field
	9-10am	Dance Scene	Memorial Hall
	9am-12pm	Youth boys & girls 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)

**hpc** (State Registered)  
**Chiropodist**

CH09088

Home Visiting Practice

Mrs. Julie Golden  
*Est. 1994*  
01279 873492

A professional service at a competitive rate

DANCE  
SCENE

New Classes Every Saturday  
morning Elsenham Memorial Hall

Baby Ballet - 9:00-9:30

(Ages 3-5)

Junior Ballet - 9:30-10:00

(Ages 6-8)

Musical Theatre/ Street - 10:00-10:45

(Ages 5+ )



For more information and to  
book a free trial please contact-

Come along to our new fun  
classes and get involved at our  
well established dance school!

Lorraine Hodges -07711 745193  
lorraine@dancescene.me.uk



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**



# THE NEWS REPORT

From The Editors



OK it's February already but the front cover says Happy New Year! Please allow us our little indulgence as this is the first issue of the year.

This is a much smaller issue than usual, it seems a lot of our contributors are still in hibernation! We look forward to welcoming them back in the next issue.

Sadly, as you may be aware, the Crown has now closed. We will bring you any news as and when we have it. Hopefully Elsenham will have a thriving pub once again in the very near future.

It's a new year and we face it with the same ongoing challenges faced by many local publications up and down the country. Our community is growing, costs are rising, revenue intake is limited and so on. All these issues mean we must, once again, review the future and how we reach all residents of Elsenham. We will provide more detail of this review in coming issues.

One thing for sure, we at Elsenham News will continue to do our best to provide you with as much information on events and clubs and associations as we can. We hope you use the information to enjoy all the village has to offer.

So, Happy New Year!

*Did you know that Elsenham News is available on the ECA Website*

[www.elsenhamcommunityassociation.org.uk](http://www.elsenhamcommunityassociation.org.uk)



---

## Regular features

Parish Council	7	U3A	25
Development Developments	9	Community Choir	27
Village History Society	11	Aubrey Buxton Reserve	29
Daisy May's Farm	13	Cricket Club	29
Elsenham WI	15	100 Parishes	31
Citizens Advice	17/19	St. Mary's Fabric Fund	33
Royal British Legion	19	Bowls Club	35
Ray's Reflections	21	Cookery Corner	37
Church Calendar	23	Book review	39

# GLYNN'S CHIMNEY SWEEPS

Est. 1995



**VACUUM AND  
BRUSH  
NACS MEMBERS  
HETAS APPROVED**

**COMPETITIVELY PRICED**

**01279 424983**

[www.glynnschimneysweeps.com](http://www.glynnschimneysweeps.com)



**JLT ROOFING**  
07974 953162

All roofing works undertaken, including :

- \*Slatting
- \*Asphalt
- \*Tiling
- \*Flat Roofing
- \*Leadwork
- \*Fascia and Soffit
- \*Guttering

\*All works fully guaranteed \*

**PROFESSIONAL RELIABLE AFFORDABLE**

Please contact for a free no obligation quote:

07974953162 [info@jltroofing.co.uk](mailto:info@jltroofing.co.uk)

## COOK UPHOLSTERY

[www.taylorandcookltd.co.uk](http://www.taylorandcookltd.co.uk)

*Don't Replace It ... Re-cover It !*



**Any Item Reupholstered**

Sofas • Armchairs • Headboards • Divans •  
Kitchen Chairs • Ottomans

**Wall Padding**

Create a beautiful feature wall in your lounge or  
bedroom • Large Choice of fabrics and designs

Call Gary on 07787 518022

Email: [garycook99@btinternet.com](mailto:garycook99@btinternet.com)

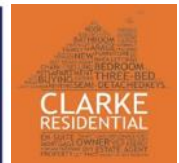
*Text or email a picture for an immediate quote*

## ***THINKING OF SELLING OR RENTING YOUR PROPERTY?***

Please call either of us to find out  
how we can help make your move  
a whole new experience!

**Nicola 07909 548028**

**Jacqui 07956 513238**



# ELSENHAM PARISH COUNCIL JANUARY 2025

By Louise Johnson, Clerk. ✉ [louise.epc@gmail.com](mailto:louise.epc@gmail.com) ☎ 07456 791727



The Parish Council held its first meeting of 2025 on a Wednesday, not on the usual first Monday of the month. This was due to the Memorial Hall having a new heating system installed, which wasn't up and running on the Monday.

Most of the meeting was taken up with discussing budgets for the next financial year, which starts on 1 April 2025, and then agreeing a precept for 2025/26.

Budgets were set for the playing field, flowerbeds, allotments, open spaces, village general and more. Funds were added to ear-marked reserves to help accumulate funds for large expenditures that may arise in the future, such as the pond and access road in Tye Green and resurfacing the road and car parks in the playing field.

A budget for a PCSO of £6,000 was accounted for in the budgets. However, more information on hours and costs is required before the Parish Council will vote on whether to use the £6,000 to part fund a PCSO.

The Full Council voted unanimously for a precept for 2025/26 of £170,000. Although this is £20,000 extra than last year's, because of the extra housing in the village, it represents a small decrease for a Band D household.

*The next Parish Council meeting will return to the first Monday on February 3, in the Memorial Hall.*

---

## ELSENHAM COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

By Allan Hathaway, ECA Chairman

---

### Memorial Hall Heating & Lighting

Elsenham Community Association is pleased to announce that, following the award of £10,000 to upgrade the heating and lighting in the Memorial Hall, all the lighting has been replaced by energy efficient LED lights. The storage heaters have been removed and 10 - ARC infra-red heaters (similar to those put in the Toilets in 2023) have been installed. Our thanks to Jarvis Electrics who efficiently completed the work.

This project is part-funded by the UK Government through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. Grants such as these supplement income from hall hire and fundraising such as the Fete, which enables us to maintain and improve the hall.

Our AGM is in the Memorial Hall on Thursday 13th March. All are welcome to come along and hear about us or join in with the work of the ECA.



# TRADITIONAL DRIVEWAYS

☎ 01992 450356

☎ 07961 882027

✉ [tdmaintenance@btinternet.com](mailto:tdmaintenance@btinternet.com)

[www.tdms-driveways.com](http://www.tdms-driveways.com)

Block paving specialists. Black and red tarmac. Hand and machine laid tarmac. Turfing and fencing. Residential and commercial. All work guaranteed. Free estimates.



## LOGS LOGS LOGS

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

Call today ☎ 01279 718555  
Or email ✉ [dar13@mail.com](mailto:dar13@mail.com)



# BURY LODGE

HOTEL | WEDDINGS | EVENTS

Weddings – Parties – School Proms – Wakes – Dinner & Dances – Corporate Events

We are a family run 16<sup>th</sup> century barn, and we can accommodate up to 250.

Using this code BURY10 you will receive 10% off any booking made from this advert.

Email: [teresa@burylodge.com](mailto:teresa@burylodge.com)

Tel: 07741845201 / 01279 816737

Bury Lodge Lane, Stansted, CM24 8QE



# DEVELOPMENT DEVELOPMENTS

By *Graham Mott* ☎ 812516 ✉ [motts@grahammott.plus.com](mailto:motts@grahammott.plus.com)



Uttlesford District Council continues to be 'designated' by Government for major applications, following the decision that too many of the Council's refusals of planning approval were being overturned at appeal. Developers now have the choice of either submitting their applications to UDC in the usual way, or applying direct to the Planning Inspectorate through the 'S62A' procedure.

Two recent decisions show very clearly that the S62A route, like much else in the planning system, can be heavily loaded in favour of developers. An outline application for 50 homes to the south of Bedwell Road was refused by UDC's Planning Committee in June 2022 because of noise from the nearby M11. It was allowed at appeal in July 2023. The developers decided to take the S62A option for their detailed application, no doubt anticipating that the Planning Committee would be no more favourable to the second application than they were to the first. The S62A application was published on 8 July 2024, with written representations to be made by 6 August. There was no Hearing. The decision was issued 16 weeks later, on 27 November, and amounts to nine pages. That gives an average return of 1.7 recurring pages per week, a low rate of productivity which could support the Government's contention that the planning process is ripe for improvement.

Why the long delay? The Inspector allowed the developers repeated efforts to submit something which was even marginally acceptable, in view of the noise factor. At one point, he asked them whether it was OK with them if he deferred his decision in order to allow them more time to respond, and unsurprisingly they said 'yes, that's a great idea'. There was no chance for anyone else to give their views over this protracted period. It seems the Inspector was determined to view the application in as favourable a light as possible. He eventually approved a shocking design, with a three-storey block of 'affordable' flats on the side towards the motorway, intended to act as a buffer against noise for the benefit of the more affluent householders in the two-storey houses.

There has been uncertainty regarding the field bounded to the north by Rush Lane and to the east by Robin Hood Road, with outline applications agreed allowing access from both locations. However, apparently Robin Hood Road has the nod, with a detailed application submitted. There is much which is objectionable, not least that the outline application was made through the S62A procedure, and the Inspector knocked out any contributions towards health, education, or the new Community Centre. The affordable homes are very obviously clustered together alongside the railway, whereas UDC policy expects them to be dispersed throughout the site. The visitor parking is not distributed around the site either. Four -bedroom houses have the stipulated three parking spaces, but they are triple-tandem, one behind the other. Pedestrian access is poor, with one footpath running through the children's play area. Moreover, some issues previously raised are . . .

But I've run out of space.

# *Ella Bella* BEAUTY

## **Nails**

Acrylics - Builder Gel - Gel Polish

## **Facial Treatments**

Dermaplaning - Microneedling - Galvanic

High Frequency - Chemical Peels

Hydro Gen - Radio Frequency

## **Brow & Lash Treatments**

Brow Lamination- Lash Lift

Brow & Lash Tints

# 20% OFF

Introductory Offer  
Your First Treatment

Limited Time

Hall Close Henham, CM22 6AU

Tel: 07525 475954

Insta: ellabellebeautyuk

## **CARPETS 2 U**

Carpet, laminate, Lvt, vinyl, karndean  
All types of flooring done

*The best for less*

Latex floor levelling, plyboarding preparation  
Old uplifted and disposed of  
Plenty of choice brought to your home

I try to give the best quality for your budget.  
30 years' experience

Steve 07939739845  
Carpets2u@icloud.com

# ELSENHAM VILLAGE HISTORY SOCIETY

By Mike Rea, Secretary ☎ 813634 ✉ evhs12@hotmail.co.uk  
🌐 www.elsenham-history.co.uk



As we enter the New Year I was reflecting on recent changes to the village and as we welcome new residents to Elsenham, I remembered that Elsenham was not always Elsenham!

How so you might ask? The first mention of Elsenham was in the Domesday Book in 1086 when it was known as Alsenham. The next recorded instance of the village name occurred around 1250 when it was known as Elseneham. Between then and the end of the 13th century, it was known variously as Helsenham, Elsinham, Elselham or Ellesham and Elsingham. In the latter part of the 14th century the name had become Elsynham by Thremenhale which by 1420 became Elsyngham. By the turn of the 15th century and into the 16th the name changed again becoming in turn Ilsyngham, Islyngham, Hellysnam, Ellisnam and by 1540 Ellysnam. There are few recorded instances of the village name after that until 1817 when during the trial of the Elsenham Gang at Chelmsford Assizes, they were reported as coming from Elseningham! Sometime between then and the start of the 20th century the modern spelling was adopted and has not changed since.

The best theory for the difference in names lies with the clergy. Until the 19th century it was likely that the only educated person in a rural village was the Reverend and it was very often personal preference, and bad spelling, that dictated how a place name was recorded in the parish records. Oh, and why Elsenham? From, we believe, the ham or hamlet of Elesa or Elsa, thought to be a Saxon Noblewoman.

Whatever the name may have been, we welcome all our new arrivals to modern day Elsenham and look forward to meeting you at one of the many Clubs and Societies in the village.

Our Chairman Ray Franklin in his Reflections this month features the village schooldays of our Founder, Gordon Barker. Gordon's anecdotes and many others are to be found in our "History of Elsenham School" that we published in 2013 to mark the 150th anniversary of the founding of the school. If you would like to know more about the Village School, copies of the book are still available at just £2.00. Contact us via the website, e-mail or telephone as listed above.

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday 12th March at 8pm in the Memorial Hall and will include our AGM. The speaker for the evening will be our Chairman Ray Franklin who, in his own inimitable style will tell the story of St Mary's Church. Visitors are always welcome at our meetings for a very modest two pounds but even better, membership still costs just five pounds for a full years meetings. A bargain!

**Are you replying to an advert in the magazine?  
Please remember to say where you saw it as it helps keep the magazine going.**



## 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 – 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**

**Craig Pike**

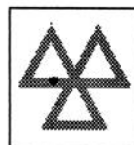
**Email: info@pikesph.co.uk**



**Web: www.pikesph.co.uk**

## **GARRETT'S** GARAGE SERVICES

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



- 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**



**Daisy May's Farm**  
Hall Road, Elsenham, CM22 6DN

First of all..... **HAPPY NEW YEAR!!**

Well, 2024 whizzed by in a flurry of animal babies, train rides, lovely visitors, campers and mud!!!

Can you believe that we still have lambs being born and they are so cute, they simply must not be missed!

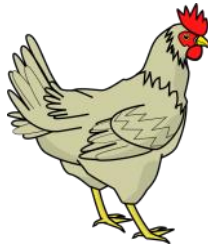
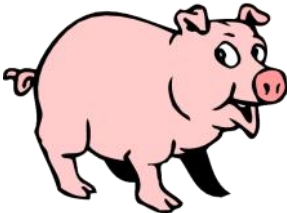
It is very muddy on the farm at the moment, so if you (or your children!!) love jumping in muddy puddles, then Daisy May's Farm is the place for you. Come on down!!

So, **get your wellies out** because you just know it's going to be muddy and come and enjoy the Woodland Trail, our arts and crafts, the play area, the Snack Shack, Ollies, train rides, but most of all.... **our lovely animals!**

Blow those cobwebs away with a visit to our farm and see all that has been going on over the winter and more importantly, what we have planned for 2025.

We are open every day, but please make sure you keep an eye on our Facebook page for updates and to see what is going on.

So once again, thank you so much for your support and we look forward to seeing you again soon.



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 8 [www.daisymaysfarm.org](http://www.daisymaysfarm.org) to find out more. Thank you so much.

# Mat Duxbury

## PAINTING

**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](mailto:mat@duxburypainting.co.uk)

ELSENHAM



# tdcelectrical

covering all aspects of  
domestic electrical installations

contact us for a free estimate

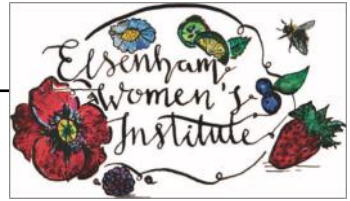
**07960 941138**

[contact@tdcelectrical.com](mailto:contact@tdcelectrical.com)

[www.tdcelectrical.com](http://www.tdcelectrical.com)

# ELSENHAM WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

By Moyra Jackson ☎ 647351



It may be February but I hope you will forgive me for wishing you all a Happy New Year – would be rude not to!!!

I hope 2025 brings you all you wish for. New Year is a time for resolutions and that is exactly what happens in the Women's Institute (WI) during January. It is our opportunity to shape the campaigns for the whole organisation for 2025 and beyond. This year our choices cover raising awareness about incontinence, CPR, starting a repair revolution and the problems of recycling medical packaging. Watch this space for more information.

We have a marvellous programme of meetings and events planned for 2025 and I am sure there will be something for everyone in it – history to art, topical issues to distillery talks, murder mystery evenings to dressing celebrities! What's not to like?? We also have the opportunity to meet up with members from WIs across Essex at workshops and events held at WI Centre, Hatfield Peverel as well as local events we arrange ourselves. Our subgroups include Bookworms, Cinema Club, Ladies Who Lunch/Dames Who Dine, Crafternoon, Natter Night, 10 Pin Bowling and Walking.

Our meeting in February always raises awareness about climate change and how we can do something to help. This year we have the fabulous 'Jean Genie' coming along to customise, innovate and up cycle pre-loved denim. We meet on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> starting 7:45pm in the Memorial Hall, and visitors are welcome.

Coming along to Elsenham WI is a really good way to make friends especially if you are new to Elsenham. The 'Jam and Jerusalem' traditions of our formation in 1921 have allowed us to grow and develop into the modern and forward-looking WI that we are today. We are happy to dispel any of the stereotypes associated with the WI – but our cakes *are* delicious! Why not come along (or come back) – visitors and new members are always welcome, and you can join at any time throughout the year.

*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!**



**Options Hair Design**  
2 Ambrose Corner, Elsenham  
01279 812665  
[www.optionssalon.co.uk](http://www.optionssalon.co.uk)

At Options Hair Design we work hard to provide the very best of care to our clients.

From the moment you enter our salon our aim is for you to feel like the most confident and beautiful version of yourself.

Our dedicated and talented team of professionals use the very best and innovative, organic products to achieve the look that you want for your hair. We work with you to achieve this as we believe that confidence comes from a hairstyle that you are happy with.

Our team of five stylists each bring with them a wealth of experience, and each display their own creativity whether in colouring, cutting, styling, or finishing.

Our ethos is that the salon experience we provide ensures you leave feeling relaxed, pampered and confident.

**My name is Samantha, I am an Accredited BACP Counsellor.**

How have you been? Are you struggling with everyday life? Perhaps feeling overwhelmed, feeling lost inside, anxious or depressed. Sometimes it can feel overwhelming, painful and confusing to navigate life.

I offer a warm, friendly non judgmental counselling service for adults and young people. Working with a range of issues including trauma, addiction and recovery. Relationships, anxiety, depression, self-worth and identity, disability and chronic health conditions.

My therapeutic orientation is person-centred therapy I will work with you on your journey to a more peaceful mind. You have the tools, I will simply be there with you, and provide a space for you to work things out.

I also offer a mobile service for clients who live locally in the Epping area.

**Samantha Allison**  
**07944 044207**







---

The start of a new year is the perfect time to carry out a financial health check. Below are some helpful suggestions to help you on your way.

**Blitz your budget** - Get a clear idea of how much you spend. Some bills vary from month to month, so take an average of these outgoings and use it to build a realistic budget. There's a free budget planner to get you started at [www.moneyhelper.org.uk](http://www.moneyhelper.org.uk)

**Sort out your debts** - Make a list of your creditors, how much you owe and when you need to pay it back. Refer back to your monthly budget and see what you can afford to pay. If you can't afford them all, go to [www.citizensadvice.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk) for information on which debts should take priority or call us for advice.

**Maximise your income** - check you are claiming all the benefits you are entitled to. Claiming certain benefits may in turn entitle you to reductions in Council Tax and water rates as well as help with NHS costs, healthy start vouchers, free school meals and pupil premium funding Use the online benefits calculator at [www.uttlesford.entitledto.co.uk/home/start](http://www.uttlesford.entitledto.co.uk/home/start) or if you need a bit of help, ask our friendly advisers to carry out a benefit check on your behalf.

**Cut your energy bills** - Use an energy comparison website such as [www.uswitch.com](http://www.uswitch.com) to check you are getting the best energy deal for you. Consider ways you could use less energy or make your home more energy efficient. Contact our energy specialists for advice!

**Switch and save** - If you're coming to the end of your contract for phone or broadband, take a few minutes to see if you should stay or switch. Check you're not paying for services you're not using, or regularly going over your allowance and getting expensive bills.

**Get a better deal** - If you claim benefits, you might be able to get a cheaper internet, mobile or phone deal called a 'social tariff'. You can move at any time - you don't have to wait until the end of your contract. If your provider doesn't offer a social tariff, you can switch to another provider that does. To check which providers offer social tariffs go to [www.ofcom.org.uk/phones-and-broadband/saving-money/social-tariffs](http://www.ofcom.org.uk/phones-and-broadband/saving-money/social-tariffs)

**Claim childcare costs** - Funded childcare is now available to families with children from 9 months old. To find out more and see whether you qualify go to [www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/](http://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/)

## 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](http://www.feet.org.uk)

**Binwash**  
We clean  
your  
wheelie  
bins!

Commercial & Domestic



Low cost & highly efficient service!

Professional machinery

4 weekly schedule or one-off clean

High pressure wash and dried

Disinfected and deodorised

[www.binwash-uk.com](http://www.binwash-uk.com)

**01799 529899**

[enquiries@binwash-uk.com](mailto:enquiries@binwash-uk.com)



**Street Dance**  
**Pop Singing**  
**Acting**

**FREE Trial Offer**



**New classes in**  
**Elsenham**

Fun classes  
inspiring Confidence,  
Character & Creativity  
for children aged 3-12yrs

For more details:  
Tel: 01376 331543  
Email: [admin@rascals-uk.com](mailto:admin@rascals-uk.com)  
Web: [www.rascals-uk.com](http://www.rascals-uk.com)



**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](mailto:g.king962@btinternet.com)



---

## Uttlesford Citizens Advice is here to help

January is always a difficult month. Utility bills are high and many people struggle to keep their homes warm. Speak to our friendly warm homes team for help with:

- Fuel debts and money worries
- Advice on tariffs, switching and buying fuel
- Energy efficiency measures
- Benefit applications and checking entitlements
- Council tax support
- Budgeting
- Housing and repair issues
- Emergency funds for fuel, food, prescriptions and essential travel
- Referral to local food banks and children's clothes banks

Our advice is available to everyone and is always free, confidential and impartial.

If you would like to support our work in the community you can make a donation via our website or by calling 01799 618840. We will use your donation to help people save money on heating costs, including access to help with insulation, understand what financial help is available and manage any fuel-related debts.

---

### ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

*By Simon Bambridge, Stansted District*

---

Thank you to all of my volunteers and those who kindly donated to my 2024 Poppy Appeal.

Not only did we manage to break the record for the Airport Terminal collection, (which raised £21,468 in itself) but our district raised just over £37,000. An overall increase of £7,000 on the previous year!

Again, thank you to all those who supported the RBL, whether by collecting or donating.



**"Immense gratitude to you all !!!"**

## 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](mailto:info@luxurytoilethire.co.uk)

Web: [www.luxurytoilethireltd.co.uk](http://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](mailto:info@chillermatic.com) Web: [www.chillermatic.com](http://www.chillermatic.com)

*Clare's* Gents hairstylist  
@ Rickling Green

★ Appointments from  
7am Mon-Sat

★ FREE easy parking

★ Fully qualified  
& insured



Call: 01799 542424

Text: 07791 058406

City &  
Guilds  
Qualified



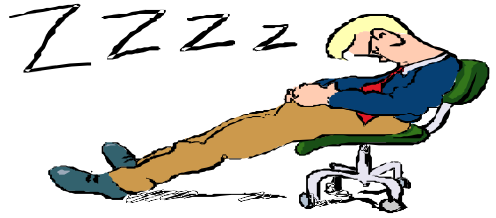
# Charles & Son Jewellery



**Wanted - Cash Paid:**  
*Coin Collections*  
*Costume Jewellery*  
*Gold/Silver Jewellery*  
*Watches (working/not working)*  
*Broaches, Watch Chains*  
*Stamp Collections*

**Day: 07775 998628**  
**Night: 01376 326163**





## Memories of Elsenham School

The piece below was given to me by the late Gordon Barker in 2013, it affords a glimpse of educational yesterday.

I started at Elsenham School in 1938, leaving in 1948. My first teacher was Caroline Bates, the junior teacher was Mary Alcorn. The children's name for her was "Trotty" because of her pigeon-toed walk, her classroom was the small one to the rear of the school. On the wall was a picture of a boy being asked "When did you last see your father?" During the early years of World War II we used the chapel which was opposite Park Road. The windows had sticky tape to prevent flying glass. Two air raid shelters were built for the boys and the girls. A cycle shed was in the front playground next to where Mr Chalk, our headmaster, kept his 1936 Morris Eight. Nurse Chitterdon came periodically to inspect our hair for head lice.

At play times as I lived close-by I would slip home, so Eddie Powell a senior pupil, was given the task as my minder. School dinners were provided, also school milk in one third pint bottles, delivered from Robinsons, Mill Farm that was based in Stansted Road. Start of the day was prayers and register. There were garden plots to the rear of the school for the boys. Water was drawn from a hand pump adjacent to the small back playground. Next to the pump house was a small wooden building used as a wash house. We had a Christmas party in the old Village Hall, which was next to the school, organised by Mr Knappett, who lived in Elsenham Hall. We had to take a cup with a spoon tied to the handle. Party games were played and at the end we were given an orange, apple, and a brand new threepenny piece.

The Barkers attended Elsenham School for almost 100 years. My father, my sister, my children and grandchildren also attended.

Ray  
Franklin

# ST MARY'S CHURCH ELSENHAM

Office@heuchurch.co.uk

## Thought For The Month by *Louis Wilson*

Are you a rhino or a hedgehog? Apparently, psychologists say there are two ways in which people react when hurt or angry, and it seems that the population is split roughly fifty-fifty between these two patterns of behaviour.

Rhinos are aggressive, charging when threatened. Hedgehogs are more defensive, using their prickles as a shield. Both can make relationships, and disagreement, quite challenging!

Healthy disagreement may require more restraint from rhinos than comes naturally, and more boldness from hedgehogs than is comfortable. It got me wondering how the Bible might help all of us: rhinos, hedgehogs or a mix of both.

In our All-age Service on the first Sunday of every month, we have been looking at the Beatitudes: sayings of Jesus which all begin with the word Blessed, and all found in Matthew chapter 5.

To be blessed can certainly mean to be happy. But in the Bible it means more. To be blessed is to be approved by God. To be blessed means God looks at you and declares: Good man! Good woman!

The Beatitudes therefore describe Jesus. They are also supposed to describe people who follow Jesus. For his followers, the Beatitudes should be a bit like our Jesus jumper or blazer. When I went to secondary school, by wearing my blazer, people knew which school I belonged to. I wasn't born wearing the blazer or going to that school. I wore the blazer only when I became part of

that school. In the same way, the Beatitudes tell us how to live Jesus' way. When we live his way, it's as though we're wearing the same blazer Jesus wears. People can see that we belong to him.

In the first Beatitude, Jesus says: 'Blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.' It's the basis of all the other Beatitudes and a reminder right at the beginning that we have to come to God with our spiritual wallet empty. We can't do anything or give anything to God to get us into his family. Only Jesus can do that for us. I don't get God's love and blessing because I deserve it. No one does. We become part of God's family when we trust Jesus.

Nobody wants to be poor. But Jesus says being poor in spirit is absolutely essential. Blessed are the poor in spirit because they are ready to come to Jesus with empty hands and trust in him for their forgiveness and future. That requires humility.

And so we come to the third Beatitude: 'Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth,' a verse for rhinos and hedgehogs alike. Meekness is not weakness. Meek is the word Jesus chose to describe himself (Matthew 11: 29) and he was never weak.

To be meek means to know: I'm not Number 1 - God is, and then to live that out in all our relationships, showing restraint, patience, humility and boldness as required, rather than simply rejoicing to be the hedgehog or rhino we may naturally be.

## CHURCH EVENTS IN OUR VILLAGES FEBRUARY 2025

### Church Services

#### Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February

- 10:15** All Together All Age Service,  
Elsenham Village Hall  
**18:00** Sunday@6, HUSCH, Henham

#### Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> February

- 08:45** Prayer Book Holy Communion,  
Elsenham Church  
**10:00** Morning Service, Ugley Church  
**10:15** Morning Service  
Elsenham Village Hall  
**18:00** Sunday@6, HUSCH, Henham

#### Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> February

- 08:45** Prayer Book Morning Prayer,  
Elsenham Church  
**10:00** Prayer Book Holy Communion,  
Ugley Church  
**10:15** Morning Service  
Elsenham Village Hall  
**18:00** Sunday@6, HUSCH, Henham

#### Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February

- 10:15** Joint Service at  
Elsenham Church

For information on all these events,  
please contact [office@heuchurch.co.uk](mailto:office@heuchurch.co.uk)

\* **HUSCH:** Henham & Ugley School Hall

### Other Regular Events

#### SUNDAYS:

#### Elsenham & Henham Sunday Club/ Explorers (Reception-Y5)

(Y1-Y6) Starts at EVH then on to  
Old Frank's, Elsenham, 10.15am  
Sundays: 9<sup>th</sup>

#### Pathfinders (Y6-Y9)

Starts in HUSCH, Henham 6.00pm -  
leave from service to meet in the  
**OSCA, Henham.**  
Sundays: 2<sup>nd</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>

#### Crammin' (Y10-Y13)

Starts in HUSCH, Henham 6.00pm -  
leave from service to meet in  
**Henham Church Hall**  
Sundays: 2<sup>nd</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>

#### MID-WEEK AND SATURDAY:

#### Start the Week with Prayer

**Old Frank's, Elsenham 9.30am**  
Mondays: 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>

#### Seekers After School Bible Club

(Y3-Y4) **Old Frank's 3.20pm**  
Mondays: 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>

#### Christian Play (Y1-Y2)

**Rowan House, Elsenham 3.15pm**  
Tuesdays: 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>

#### Little Fishes Pre-School Group

**Church Hall, Henham 10.30am**  
Thursday: 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>

#### Little Fishes Pre-School Group

**Elsenham Memorial Hall 10.00am**  
Fridays: 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>

#### Church Lunch Club

**Elsenham Memorial Hall 12.30pm**  
Fridays: (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month):  
14<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>

For information on all these events,  
please contact [office@heuchurch.co.uk](mailto:office@heuchurch.co.uk)



## ESSEX MOTORCYCLE BUYERS

We buy all Motorcycles, Mopeds  
Scooters, British Motorcycles,  
Barn Finds or Parts

LOOK IN YOUR SHEDS, GARAGES, GARDENS

Boxes of Parts Wanted

Call Darren : 07775 998628




Replace, Repair & Revive Your Double Glazing

All types of double glazing repairs, maintenance & installations, including emergency callouts. At [replaceglaze.com](http://replaceglaze.com) we provide a reputable, family-run double glazing repair & installation service.

Our services include:

- Double glazing installations, repairs & maintenance
- Aluminium, composite & uPVC installations
- Windows & door handles
- Locks & hinges
- Mistled units
- Patio door wheels
- Door adjustments & lubrication
- Aluminium bifolding doors
- Composite doors
- Aluminium/uPVC roof lanterns



01279 282997 01371 701000

[info@replaceglaze.com](mailto:info@replaceglaze.com) [www.replaceglaze.com](http://www.replaceglaze.com)

[replaceglaze](#)



# TAKELEY IRONING & DRY CLEANING

OPENING TIMES  
MONDAY - FRIDAY 8AM - 5PM  
SATURDAY 8AM TO 12PM

## FREE LOCAL COLLECTION & DELIVERY TO YOUR DOOR

Takeley, Elsenham, Henham, Stansted, Felsted, Hatfield Broad Oak, Hatfield Heath, Sheering, Dunmow, Sawbridgeworth, Broxton, Spellbrook, Molehill Green, Broxton, Little Canfield.

- ✓ WASHING & IRONING
- ✓ IN HOUSE DRY CLEANING
- ✓ 48 HOUR SERVICE
- ✓ DUVETS
- ✓ CURTAINS
- ✓ ALTERATIONS
- ✓ WEDDING DRESSES

The Centre, Dunmow Road (Behind Londis)  
Takeley, Bishops Stortford  
Herts, CM22 6SH

Email: [takeleyironing@gmail.com](mailto:takeleyironing@gmail.com)  
[takeleydrycleaning@gmail.com](mailto:takeleydrycleaning@gmail.com)

Tel: 01279 871245



# U3A STANSTED

By JULIA COOK

✉ stanstedu3a@gmail.com



“ Dull one isn't it?”

“ But it is going to get out this afternoon!”

“ Ah, enjoy it then!”

An alien might wonder what “it” was but as passers by we don't need to articulate our reliance on the sun - we just monitor it constantly - appreciating the lift in our mood and occasionally recognising the miracle of growth it brings about.

The Garden group in the u3a is clearly attuned to growth and how it can be nurtured and guided to create plants and produce to gladden us all. Meeting on the second Monday of the month from 2 - 3.30pm the group examines a broad range of topics all reflecting its members' interests. As well as regular meetings there are also visits to historic and beautiful gardens. Planned for February is a visit to Bennington Lordship gardens near Stevenage which boast an ancient family home and a diversity of types of garden, including a formal rose garden and walled garden, as well as drifts of snowdrops at this time of year.

The Garden group is but one of many classes and activities which you could participate in were you to join the u3a. Run by volunteers the u3a is a nationwide movement which exists to encourage local people to continue learning by following their choice of activity in the company of people who become friends.

The range of activities to choose from is impressive. Take the monthly meeting with its 2025 eclectic mix of talks, including a second visit from Lindsay Whitehouse former governor of Chelmsford Prison. Also in the Saturday Seminars, to stimulate your brain further, Professor Anthony White will give a talk on 'Rockets and Space' on 8 March. If all that were not enough, each meeting comes with tea and biscuits!

For more information visit [www.stansted.u3asite.uk/](http://www.stansted.u3asite.uk/) or call 07874 385541.

## **GARDEN HINT** *By Sue Johnson*

Cut back perennials - any herbaceous plants and grasses left standing for winter interest and wildlife can be cut back now. Cut them down to the base, just above any new shoots that are already emerging.



**EVERY TUESDAY IN ELSENHAM**

**WHAT IS THE TOUCHPOINT COMMUNITY FOOD SHARE?**

Our volunteers collect food donated by local supermarkets and retailers that would otherwise go to waste, and distribute it free to the community

The Community Food Share is all about reducing food waste and is for everyone. We have fruit, vegetables, meat, baked items and more... and everything is absolutely FREE!

Where? Elsenham Bowls Club (off Leigh Drive)  
When? Every Tuesday, 9.30am-10.30am

The produce has a short shelf life, so please only take what you will be able to use in the next few days.

If you would like to get involved and join our team of volunteers, please call 07572 114882 or email [info@thetouchpoint.org](mailto:info@thetouchpoint.org)

- 📞 07572 114882
- ✉ [info@thetouchpoint.org](mailto:info@thetouchpoint.org)
- 🌐 [www.thetouchpoint.org](http://www.thetouchpoint.org)



**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: [encelectri-calltd@btinternet.com](mailto:encelectri-calltd@btinternet.com)

**44 Alsa Gardens Elsenham**

**Bishop's Stortford Herts, CM22 6HB**



**DREAM, EXPLORE, Discover**



**YOUR LOCAL *Personal Travel Consultant***

We can look after all your travel requirements including hotels, flights, package holidays, villas, cruises, car hire and much more.

\*Subject to availability. Only available on selected deals. Please mention advert when requesting a quote.

Carla Jayne at Hays Travel    [cj\\_haystravel](https://www.instagram.com/cj_haystravel)

01279 886731 | 07590 804702 | [carlajayne@hays-travel.co.uk](mailto:carlajayne@hays-travel.co.uk)  
[haystravel.co.uk/personal-travel-consultants/carla-jayne](http://haystravel.co.uk/personal-travel-consultants/carla-jayne)



**Hays Travel**

# ELSENHAM COMMUNITY CHOIR

---

Did you know that singing in a choir can help your self esteem, build your confidence, help you to make new friends, engage the emotions and most importantly, enable all sorts of people to come together to meaningfully create something wonderful?



So why don't you try doing something wonderful?

Come and join us on the first and third Tuesday of every month at 7.00pm until 8.30pm in Elsenham Village Hall (by Elsenham Primary School).

There are no auditions at our choir, everyone is welcome, just come along and sing!

Please just turn up or find us on our Elsenham Community Choir Facebook page or call 07962 586825.



---

## Uttlesford Citizens Advice

✉ [help@uttlesfordca.org.uk](mailto:help@uttlesfordca.org.uk)  
🌐 [www.uttlesfordca.org.uk](http://www.uttlesfordca.org.uk)  
☎ 01799 618840



---

## Are you missing out?

Pension Credit, Universal Credit and Child Benefit

If you have internet access you can quickly and easily check your eligibility for support using a benefit calculator like the one on the Uttlesford District Council website: 🌐 [uttlesford.entitledto.co.uk/home/start](http://uttlesford.entitledto.co.uk/home/start)

If you would like some help, or are confused about making a claim, you are not alone! Our friendly advisers are here to help. Call ☎ 01799 618840 or email ✉ [help@uttlesfordca.org.uk](mailto:help@uttlesfordca.org.uk).

Alternatively, pop into our office in Saffron Walden, or come and see us at the Library in Dunmow, Stansted and Thaxted or the Old Schoolhouse in Takeley. If we aren't there in person you can still speak to an adviser in confidence via our simple one-touch video link.

You can also get support and advice at the Social Outreach Service at Saffron Walden Community Link on the last Thursday of each month, 10am - 2pm

# S. PERRY CHAPEL END NURSERY

**SEED POTATOES ONION SETS & SHAL-  
LOTS  
POTTED SPRING BULBS, SUMMER FLOWERING BULBS**

**SEED & CUTTING COMPOST  
25 Litre Bag  
£5.25 EACH 3 For £13.50**

**HORTICULTURAL GRIT  
COLOURED GRAVELS  
PEBBLES COBBLES**

**ROFFEY  
MULTIPURPOSE COMPOST  
70 Litre Bag  
£9 EACH 3 For £23.75**

**WE ARE  
HERE**



**COUNTRY VALUE SEEDS  
Most 99p per PACKET  
Mr Fothergills Seeds  
Buy 5 Packs get Cheapest Free**

**OPEN 9 am to 5 pm  
MONDAY TO SATURDAY (CLOSED SUNDAYS)  
MOLEHILL GREEN ROAD  
BROXTED DUNMOW ESSEX CM6 2BW  
01279 850771**

**VEGETABLE PLANTS  
BASKET & TUB PLANTS  
ALPINES  
HERBACEOUS  
HERBS  
ROSES  
SHRUBS  
POND PLANTS  
AQUATIC COMPOST  
GODWIN COMPOST  
WILD BIRD FOOD  
SUNDRIES**

## 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**

# THE AUBREY BUXTON NATURE RESERVE

By John Welham, Warden

✉ communications@essexwt.org.uk



Surveys of the invertebrate life in our ponds have shown the lower two ponds are significantly below the quality of the top pond. So in December we carried out work to help improve the lower pond. There were three main tasks:

1. Removal of fallen branches and dead wood which was slowly decaying in the water. This involved donning waders and fishing out branches or for the largest branches dragging them out with a winch.
2. We pollarded some trees to improve the amount of sunlight reaching the pond surface to help improve the environment for aquatic plants.
3. We opened up the route for the prevailing winds to put a breeze across the pond surface to increase the amount of oxygen that is dissolved into the water.

We made sure to leave plenty of bankside vegetation overhanging the water to provide cover and nesting locations for our mallards and moorhens. We also left in place the fallen tree that spans the pond and provides a convenient resting spot for the mallards and their ducklings in the spring.

This winter we have also done some more coppicing of hazel stands, opening up the floor of the wood to another cycle of regeneration and continuing a hazel wood management cycle that has been practised for hundreds of years.

It won't be long now and we will be looking for the first signs of spring.

---

## STANSTED HALL & ELSENHAM CRICKET CLUB

By David Brown ☎ 831011 ✉ david1.r.brown@gmail.com



With snow on the ground and very cold and frosty mornings there is still much to do within the cricket club.

The General Knowledge Quiz was again very successful with a full house at Bishop's Stortford College. We continue to look for funds to ensure that we can keep standards up for the junior section. We are improving our club website and have appointed a social media 'guru' (that's you Gina) to help to communicate to all that we offer as a club.

Indoor nets have already begun at the Herts & Essex Cricket Centre. We are hoping that some of our members will attend an umpires' course which is arranged for March.

If you want to join our club, or have any questions, please contact me as above.



## 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

## NEW BEGINNINGS COUNSELLING

### A safe environment to explore your thoughts and feelings

*A private practice with parking based in Takeley  
Represented by Michele Simpson MBACP*

Ever felt sad, overwhelmed, lost or just not quite right? Most people at some point in their lives have felt so overwhelmed that they find it impossible to see a way out of a situation.

My beliefs are that everybody has the resources within themselves, given the right environment, to experience therapeutic change. Give me a call to see how I can help you to improve your life.

Counselling could enable you to have that new beginning  
phone: 07956 224954 or 01279 879009

email: [ms@newbeginningscounselling.co.uk](mailto:ms@newbeginningscounselling.co.uk)

[www.newbeginningscounselling.co.uk](http://www.newbeginningscounselling.co.uk)

## JOHN COLEBY

### Experienced Interior and Exterior Decorator

For a friendly, reliable service please telephone

**01279 815510 or 0793 9070818**

for a free estimate

## 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](mailto:Info@tcsstansted.co.uk)



This article was drafted by a member of The Hundred Parishes Society who has allowed us to adapt and publish it.



*Elmdon - looking south from B1039 towards Rockell's Wood*

Like others, I have covered many miles through the patchwork of landscape in the Hundred Parishes and have often crossed intersecting footpaths, stopping to examine my map to understand why they exist and where they go.

Recently, I picked up local author Christopher Hadley's book, *The Road*, in which Hadley explores a spur of Ermine Street which connects former Roman towns at Braughing and Chesterford, carving a straight line for 13 miles through The Hundred Parishes. Hadley draws on years of archaeological and

historical research. Tracing the route, he gathers lost names, locates burial mounds and tracks down archaeology in the hope of revealing two thousand years of history. Through his words, we gain a glimpse of the civilisation that sited and constructed the road, of the people who used and maintained it and, eventually, of what happens when a road passes out of general use and the legacy it leaves behind.



*Elmdon - looking north from Rockell's Wood towards Elmdon*



*Beard's Lane Elmdon - Clavering parish boundary along former Roman road*

Much of this route can be walked still; the actual Roman road is most visible as Beards Lane where it defines straight parish boundaries, with Clavering and Arkesden to the south-east and Langley and Elmdon to the north-west.

In short, *The Road* is a lyrical, nostalgic, sometimes humorous and intriguing social history and travelogue which will enthral enthusiasts of cultural and local history. After finishing this book, I find myself re-examining parish churches, wondering if the red, small bricks in

the tower are Tudor in origin or perhaps pillaged from a lost Roman storehouse.

The highway which is the focus of this book is one of several local routes with Roman origins. Many feature somewhere in the walks that can be downloaded from [www.hundredparishes.org.uk](http://www.hundredparishes.org.uk).



*Shallow tumulus beside Langley - Elmdon - Clavering parish boundary intersection*

*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](http://www.hundredparishes.org.uk).*



- alun
- design
- consultancy
- architectural design
- planning
- project management
- interior design

Local architecture company with over 25 years experience designing and obtaining approval for new homes, extensions and conversions

Free consultation  
01799 540 600

[info@alundesign.com](mailto:info@alundesign.com)

[www.alundesign.com](http://www.alundesign.com)

Neville House, Station Road,  
Wendens Ambo, Saffron  
Walden, Essex, CB11 4LB

# DANIEL ROBINSON & SONS

Independent Family Funeral Directors & Monumental Masons

Est 1892

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

[www.drobinson.co.uk](http://www.drobinson.co.uk)





A very Happy New Year to you all and I hope you all enjoyed a restful festive period with friends and family.

Christmas can be a very lonely time for many people, so I hope you checked on neighbours and the elderly who might have just needed someone to talk to and enquire they are alright.

The Christmas Tree Festival was a great success again despite the ravages of Storm Darragh with high winds and rain on that particular week end. We had a record number of trees entered this year and our thanks go to all of you who decorated and exhibited a Christmas tree in the church. The money we raise from this exhibition is so important to us in maintaining and keeping the building in good repair.

I should also like to thank the organisers and volunteers who worked so hard over the course of the event and welcoming and accommodating all the visitors over the two days.

The church was also full for the Carols by Lantern Service which was great to see and the choir were in good voice. Mulled wine and mince pies were served to round off the evening which was well received.

A new cross was installed with LED lighting on the church tower by the PCC for this Christmas and I felt it made a real statement, shining brightly over the village and surrounding countryside, proclaiming the real meaning of Christmas. So for those of you who noticed it. I hope you enjoyed seeing it there.

There has been some slippage in the construction time for our new church building as we wait for delivery of the windows to be installed but otherwise things are well under way and completion should be by the end of this month.

# 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](mailto:info@essexautospray.co.uk)**

**[www.essexautospray.com](http://www.essexautospray.com)**

*M11 Business Link, Parsonage Lane,*

## **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](mailto:george@maskalls.co.uk)**

**[www.maskalls.co.uk](http://www.maskalls.co.uk)**



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



# ELSENHAM BOWLS AND SOCIAL CLUB

*By Trevor Hackett*



At the start of 2025 I would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year.

We have lots going on at Elsenham Bowls & Social Club throughout the year that is open to both existing and new members. We would obviously like to be able to be bowling outside but have to be patient until the weather warms up a little and the green is ready for the start of the bowling season in April. Until then there is plenty to do at the club particularly for our social members to get involved in.

Just before the Christmas break our members enjoyed our Christmas Dinner and Dance. The music provided by the Elton John tribute act was well received and a good time had by all who attended.

Tickets for our next music night, to be held on March 29, will be provided by Around Midnite who are a three-piece band performing a selection of popular music from the 60s onwards. Tickets are available now at £7.50 for members and £12.50 for non-members. Ticket availability is limited so please call Trevor on ☎ 07445 437437 to secure your ticket for the event.

Our planned Bingo Nights during February will be on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. Eyes down at 7.30 pm. You can just turn up for the bingo events so please come along to the club house on the night.

Our next Quiz Nights are on January 25 and March 15. These are definitely worth putting in your diary and booking your team in early. A team table for up to eight people is £7 per person which includes a light supper. Reserve your table by calling Trevor on ☎ 07445 437437.

Don't forget that there is short mat bowling on Monday afternoons and crib on a Tuesday evening. The bar is also open for members on a Friday evening which is a good time to catch up together.

Social membership costs just £20 for the year. So, if you would like to make the most of all our activities and our member rates for our music nights, please contact either Therese on ☎ 07759 158859, to discuss possible membership, or Brenda on ☎ 01279 870412.

**Jocelyn Donoghue**  
**Certified EFT Practitioner**  
*(Emotional Freedom Technique)*

**Unlock your emotional freedom with EFT.**

Emotional freedom technique (EFT or Tapping) is a method some people use to help manage emotions and troubling thoughts that may be affecting their life.

Have you felt like you have lost your spark and are yearning to reignite it? EFT can help us break free from self-limiting beliefs and embrace boundless possibilities.

**The possibility to be the Wild, Brave and Free individual you want to be.**

If you are interested in learning more, schedule a complimentary 20-minute video consultation or to book an appointment feel free to reach out to me on

07841 098079 or [jocelyntd1@hotmail.com](mailto:jocelyntd1@hotmail.com).

*Based in Clavering*

**01279 871 777 - 0800 587 2556**

6 Newman Road, Little Canfield, Dunmow, Essex, CM6 1GR

# MEDIACOMS

## Aerial Satellite AV Security


- Aerial Installations
- CCTV & Security Alarms
- Audio Visual Installations
- Wireless & Wired Networks
- Solar Panel Installations
- Sky Installations & Subscriptions
- Freesat Installations & Receivers
- Multiroom Music & TV Distribution
- TV Wall Mounting Services
- Family Run Business



[www.mediacom.com](http://www.mediacom.com)

[info@mediacom.com](mailto:info@mediacom.com)

# COOKERY CORNER

By Sue Johnson  812704



Here's lovely warming soup which can be enjoyed all the year round. You can use a variety of white mushrooms for this recipe, including button, chestnut and closed cup.

## MUSHROOM, LEEK AND POTATO SOUP (serves 6)

- 1 oz (25g) knob of butter
- 1 tablespoon of sunflower oil
- 12oz (350g) white mushrooms, sliced
- 3 leeks, washed and sliced
- 2 large potatoes, peeled and cut into a small dice
- 1 large garlic clove, sliced
- 26 fl oz (750ml) hot chicken or vegetable stock
- 4 tablespoons double cream
- 1 tablespoon finely chopped tarragon
- Salt and freshly ground pepper

Heat the oil and butter in a casserole. Add the mushrooms and leeks and fry for 3 minutes. Cover with a lid and cook for a further 2 minutes.

Add the diced potatoes and stock. Cover the pan and simmer gently over a low heat for about 15 minutes, until the potatoes are tender.

Blend until smooth consistency with a hand-held blender or food processor. Season well, then add the cream and tarragon to serve.

**CHEF'S RECOMMENDATIONS:** Serve with crusty French bread, ciabatta or sourdough. Can be made up to two days ahead and stored in the fridge. This soup also freezes well.



**T.J. Patmore**  
Building Services

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*

mob 07932 666224



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



# YOUNG'S

## 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

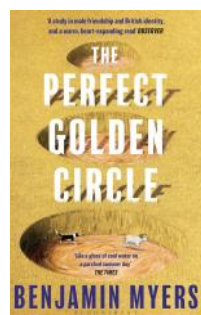
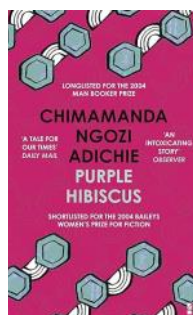
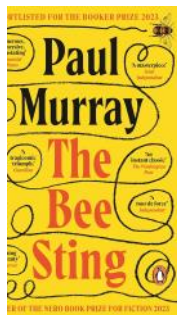
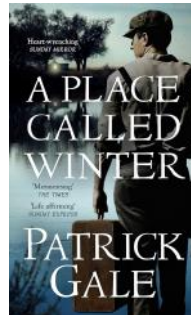
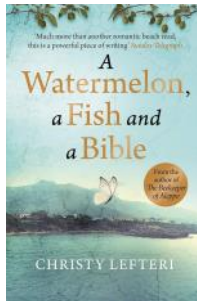
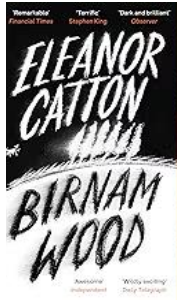
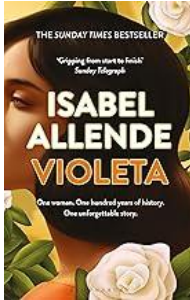
**Call or text Malcolm for a FREE quote  
07817 481901**

# BOOK REVIEW FOR 2024

Reviewed by Marion Giles for Elsenham Book Group

---

The book group didn't select a book to read over the Christmas period so at our meeting in January, we went out for dinner and discussed our method of choosing books for 2025. So there is no book group review this month but we will be back next month with a review of our January reading. Here is a reminder of the ten books we read during 2024.





**The Hair Loss Clinic**  
 North Hall Road, Ugley  
 07957 166436  
[www.hairlosslaserclinic.co.uk](http://www.hairlosslaserclinic.co.uk)

The Hair Loss Clinic is a company set up to provide information, advice, support and above all solutions for people experiencing hair loss. Not only do we provide realistic and workable solutions to those suffering from hair loss but we are also specialists in after and on-going care for hair loss, giving you the very best support. We can help you through your journey from hair loss through to aftercare if your hair grows back. We provide a personalised service and will recommend the course of treatment or other solutions most appropriate to you.

We provide information, support and advice about your hair loss and identify the factors you will need to consider when choosing which solution is suitable for you.

We provide guidance on cutting and styling of your wig or integration piece and advice on what to do when your hair starts growing back.

Monthly Trichologist clinics are held with Eva Proudman, MIT IAT. Eva is widely known both in the UK and Internationally for her work with hair loss. She has appeared on TV many times and supports many major hair companies with her research into hair loss. All consultations are private and last for between 45 minutes and 1 hour; during this time all relevant areas of health, diet, lifestyle, family history, hair care regime will be 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 of the hair loss, we are here to help you.

**CLEAR OVENS**

Oven Cleaning Specialists

01279 89 89 96

*we accept cards!*

Make your oven look showroom fresh with a professional clean from **Clear Ovens**. Our fully insured expert technicians will make it shine like new.



Instagram



The Association of Approved Oven Cleaners



MEMBER OF THE FEDERATION OF SMALL BUSINESSES

Covering Sawbridgeworth, Harlow Epping, Great Dunmow, Braintree, Stansted, Bishop's Stortford and surrounding areas.

01279 89 89 96 or visit us online at [www.clearovens.co.uk](http://www.clearovens.co.uk)

The difference is clear





The Team at the Elsenham Farmers Market would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy, healthy and enjoyable 2025 and we really look forward to seeing you at the Market at some point!

The Market is from **12.30-2.30pm** on the **last Saturday of every month**, but just to make things easier, these are the dates for the first half of 2025:-

**22<sup>nd</sup> FEBRUARY**

**29<sup>th</sup> MARCH**

**26<sup>th</sup> APRIL**

**31<sup>st</sup> MAY**

**28<sup>th</sup> JUNE**

We will have many of our fabulous regular sellers, such as the delicious Mapuldor sourdough bread, the brilliant Mel with her preserves, chutneys and oils, the Flying Pig Company's local meat just perfect for the weekend, the most amazing cakes and fresh coffee from Coco Fleur, even your dog is catered for with Sid n Ivy's superb homemade dog treats!

You will be able to buy eggs, honey, flowers, homemade savouries perfect for lunch, fish and other frozen yummy products, British cheeses, wild local game, sustainable cleaning products, homemade fresh & natural juice shots, microgreens just bursting with flavour, to highlight just a few.

Do make sure you come and enjoy our fabulous Market and help support these local, fledgling businesses, and of course all proceeds from the Market go to local charities.

No charge for entry, you just need to enjoy and immerse yourself in all the gorgeous produce!

Best wishes,  
The Elsenham Farmers Market Team

February 2025

# 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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.

## 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 **[elsenhamsnews@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:elsenhamsnews@hotmail.co.uk)**

## Advertising

The costs are as follows:

	Single Insertion	Annual Cost (11 issues)
Half Page	£20.00	£190.00
Quarter Page	£10.00	£100.00
Inside Page	£50.00	n/a
Back Page	£75.00	n/a

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

## To place an advertisement:

If you have any queries, please email us. Please send your advert as Word or Publisher via email to:  
**[elsenhamsnews@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:elsenhamsnews@hotmail.co.uk)**

**Advertising Editor: TBA**

## Business Advertising

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

**Editorial Team:**  
**Gary Williams**  
**Emma Bailey**  
**Marion Giles**  
**Patricia Davis**  
**Anne White**  
**Nyaradzo Chabata**  
**Angie Wenlock**  
**David Newland**

**Previous issues of Elsenham News are available on the ECA Website**

**[www.ElsenhamCommunityAssociation.org.uk](http://www.ElsenhamCommunityAssociation.org.uk)**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Elsenham Village History Society AGM 12 March Memorial Hall  
 Elsenham Community Association AGM 15 March Memorial Hall  
 Bowls and Social Club quiz 15 March, Bowls and Social Club  
 Elsenham Bowls and Social Club Music Night 29 March  
 ECA race night 4 April Memorial Hall  
 Good Friday Village Ramble 18 April

## VILLAGE CONTACTS

Airport Roadside Parking	0800 731 2385
Beavers	1sthenhamandelsenham@gmail.com
Bowls Club	Therese Clear 816535 or 07759 158859
Brownies	elsenhambrownies@gmail.com
Church Office (Old Frank's, 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 Eagles	elsenham.action@btinternet.com
Elsenham Farmers Market	elsenhamfarmersmarket@gmail.com
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 Fete	ElsenhamSummerFete@gmail.com
Elsenham Rights of Way website	www.e-voice.org.uk/erowos/
Friends of Elsenham School (FOES)	Louise Judd foespata@hotmail.com
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 07713 074656
(for Elsenham & Henham)	Bianca Donald 07941 880279
Village Hall Bookings	elsenhamvillagehall@gmail.com
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.

HAPPY  
*Valentine's Day*

*Introducing the amazing vocals of*  
**ELLIE ROSE**

*Prosecco drinks reception*

*Two course carvery*

*Coffee and mints*

*£30pp*

SUNDAY 16TH FEB 12:30PM  
PLEASE CONTACT  
BAR@GOLFWORLDDANSTED.CO.UK

