

# Elsenham News



ELSENHAM IN LOCKDOWN  
PHOTO COMPETITION  
SCARECROW FESTIVAL

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

July 2020

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 specific events have been cancelled:**

Elsenham Flower Show Saturday 22 August 3pm Memorial Hall

**The following groups or activities are suspended until further notice:**      **General cancellations include:**

Beavers  
Brownies  
Community Choir  
Cubs  
Football  
Guides  
Kick Boxing (on playing field)  
Little Fishes (online)  
Life Drawing  
Line Dance  
Nordic Walking  
Rainbows  
Shape to the beat  
Slimming World  
Tots & Toddlers  
Yoga  
Zumba

Church services and special events (please see page 23)  
Church Lunch Club  
Elsenham & Stansted Hall Cricket Club training & fixtures  
Elsenham Tennis Club activities (see page 39 for details)  
Mobile library visits  
U3A events  
Village Café, tea, coffee and lunch  
WI (online)

Parish Council meetings are being held by Zoom. The next meeting is on 6 July. Contact Louise Johnson for information by email on [✉ louise.epc@gmail.com](mailto:louise.epc@gmail.com)

**Some groups are meeting online or in a limited way. See individual articles for specific information**

# THE NEWS REPORT

From The Editors



Definite stirrings of loosening lockdown aren't there? More traffic, more planes, kids off to school! Regardless, there are still a lot of people seriously restricted by lockdown. The Elsenham Good Neighbours Network is still in operation, there to help those who are self-isolating or working on the front line. Thank you to everyone involved. Contact Petrina Lees ☎ 816675 for details of how to offer help or how to seek help.

## Good news – Daisy May's Farm has re-opened

You can visit by appointment only, on Tuesday, Thursday or Saturday and social distancing rules apply. Lockdown has been very hard for Daisy May's, see p13 for details of how you can help to keep the animals fit and healthy and of course, how to arrange visit.

## Scarecrow Festival

Nothing to do with the uncut hair and untrimmed beards around the village, this is an initiative from the Village Fete committee to let us have something to enjoy as a village, without breaking the rules. From 17 – 19 July please show off your very best homemade scarecrow outside your house; and then take time to walk round and admire everyone's handiwork. See p7 for details.

## The WI of yesteryear

For those who like a trip down memory lane, see p27 for a photo where over 50 WI members from way back when have been identified. Thanks to the WI for the inspiration and to Ray, Gordon and Chris at the History Society for their hard work in identifying people.

The Church has suggested ways to join in with their regular activities remotely, see p23.

See p5 for how to enter the photograph competition, Elsenham in Lockdown.

If you would like to contribute to the magazine – letters, articles, photos – please get in touch, [elsenhamnews@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:elsenhamnews@hotmail.co.uk), it would be great to hear from you. Stay well.

## The Editors

We are continuing to produce Elsenham News in PDF format only. It's available via the Henham & Elsenham Facebook group and the Elsenham Community Association website. We can email it to anyone who requests it via [elsenhamnews@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:elsenhamnews@hotmail.co.uk). We are still running adverts from our regular advertisers to keep them visible to the local community; where you can, now or in the future, please support local businesses.

## Regular features

100 Parishes	15	History Society	17
Book Review	37	Natural Outlook	29
Church letter	21	Ray's Reflections	31
Cookery Corner	41	Women's Institute	25
Development Developments	19		

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# ELSENHAM SCARECROW FESTIVAL 2020

✉ elaine.terry2011@btinternet.com  
☎ 07962 586825

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Saturday 6 June was a sad day for us, as it should have been the village Fete (cancelled for obvious reasons). However, we have come to realise that in Elsenham, we have an amazing community and we thought it would be great to do something that will bring us all together, while staying safe and socially distanced.

One of our wonderful fete committee came up with the fabulous idea of having a **Scarecrow Festival from Friday 17 July - Sunday 19 July**. The scarecrows can be made of 'stuff' that you have around your home and no longer need and you can recycle these materials into your scarecrow! It doesn't have to be a person - it could be an animal, a robot or an alien, in fact anything you would like it to be.

Display your scarecrow outside your house over the festival weekend and villagers can walk or drive around the village to see them and enjoy everyone's efforts. Please put the date on your calendar and get rummaging, saving, upcycling, imagining and most importantly, creating! There are lots of ideas on the internet too if you need help. If you have any queries or there are any ideas you would like to share, then please get in touch with us.

Let's make this another Elsenham event to remember!

## ELSENHAM FLOWER SHOW SOCIETY

By Sue Johnson ☎ 812704

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### Flower Show 2020 Cancelled

It is with great regret that we have to announce the cancellation of this year's Flower Show. The health and wellbeing of all of our competitors, judges, helpers and visitors are, of course, our prime concern. Therefore, we have decided it would be impossible for us to organise the show given current restrictions and particularly the worry of safe social distancing.

We apologise to those of you who have been sowing and growing, but we know you would be doing that anyway. Photographs and handicrafts can be exhibited in 2021 as we will be using most of the prepared 2020 schedule for next year's show. Just keep practising with the baking! Exhibitors holding trophies from 2019, if you are happy to, please hang on to them, otherwise they can be returned to us anytime.

The income from our very successful May "virtual" Plant Sale has put the Flower Show Society in a good position going forward into next year. We very much hope we will be "back to normal" by then!



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# ELSENHAM PARISH COUNCIL 1 JUNE 2020

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



Schools extended their admissions on 1 June 2020. Essex County Cllr. Ray Gooding praised Linda Reid, Head Teacher at Elsenham Primary School, and her team for their outstanding work, preparing for the children to return to school, and giving up their Easter Holiday to make sure everything was in place.

Mrs Reid has presented Zoom meetings to over 100 parents, sent out videos of the classrooms, given instructions on entering the school and explaining how she and her team will educate and care for the children while maintaining social distancing. This has given parents confidence that their children will be safe while attending Elsenham Primary School.

The Elsenham Youth Football Club (EYFC) has been unable to use the football field for practising or playing games since going into lockdown due to Coronavirus. The Parish Council has, therefore, as a gesture of goodwill, waived the quarterly payment.

EROWOS Committee is taking over the management of the triangular piece of grass between the copse and the children's play area, they hope to encourage the growth of wildflowers.

Before progressing with the adult gym, which would be installed on the playing field, a short questionnaire will be placed on social media, asking residents whether such equipment would be welcome. A grant will be required for the gym, prices range from £10K to £20K, depending on the number of pieces purchased.

Members of the Planning Committee are holding a Zoom meeting with members of Uttlesford District Council Planning Department, to try and make some progress with the new Community Hall.

If social distancing is to be maintained, a double decker bus with 80 passenger capacity will only be allowed to take 17 passengers. The instruction from Department of Transport is that when the bus has reached its reduced capacity it should not stop at any further bus stops. This could leave passengers stranded. Essex County Cllr. Ray Gooding has written to the Secretary of State voicing his concerns.

A big thank you goes to all the volunteers who have offered to water the flowerbeds in the village.

The Communication Committee is running another photo competition, called 'Elsenham in Lockdown'. To enter, mail a photo with a name and contact number to ✉ [EPCphoto@outlook.com](mailto:EPCphoto@outlook.com). All entries must be submitted by Saturday, 20 July 2020. See p 5 for more details.

The next Parish Council meeting will be 6 July 2020, 8pm via Zoom.



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# DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORT

## JUNE 2020

By Cllr Lees and Cllr LeCount

✉ [Cllrlecount@uttlesford.gov.uk](mailto:Cllrlecount@uttlesford.gov.uk)

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☎ 816675



Though we are all going through one of the most serious pandemics for 300 years, the council continues to operate and is fulfilling statutory obligations.

Our ambitious delivery plan has had to be reassessed due to a lack of funds. It will be an ongoing process of continual re-evaluating as a greater understanding of our financial standing becomes clearer.

Our investment board has recommended investments that should cover the shortfall. Here lies an interesting conundrum - as residents, would people prefer us to raise council tax (to cover the financial need of the council, as government funding continues to be reduced) or invest public money? We would be happy to hear your thoughts on this and, as a group, we will be discussing this in the future. A reorganization of the council is required post pandemic.

We are proud to represent this village and this pandemic has highlighted how we as a village have come together and supported each other. We have been a beacon for other areas, and we bask in the reflected glory of the kindness, compassion, empathy, and generosity both monetary and of yourselves. Do use the Good Neighbours Network, it's marvellous.

Business support grants – We have paid out more than £18 million in government support grants to around 1,500 local businesses. For details of the grants and criteria: [www.uttlesford.gov.uk/covid19-business-grants-fund](http://www.uttlesford.gov.uk/covid19-business-grants-fund). The online application form is available: [www.uttlesford.gov.uk/business-grant-fund-application-form](http://www.uttlesford.gov.uk/business-grant-fund-application-form).

The Future Fund – this scheme will issue convertible loans of between £125,000 and £5 million to innovative UK-based companies which are facing financing difficulties due to the coronavirus outbreak. For information ; [www.uttlesford.gov.uk/covid19-future-fund](http://www.uttlesford.gov.uk/covid19-future-fund).

Though we are not having regular surgeries, we are more than happy to be contacted at anytime. Stay safe.

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

Hoe weeds when it is warm and they will shrivel on the soil surface.



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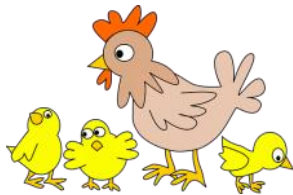
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*We are now able to re-open, by appointment only. We will be allowing a controlled number of families on site at any one time on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. Sessions are 10am -12 noon and 1 - 3pm. Sessions finish promptly so we can prepare for the next group.*

*You can book via the Facebook booking system, search for Daisy May's Farm, Elsenham. £5 per person, pay in advance by bacs or PayPal.*

While we were in lockdown, we have not been idle. We have created a calming sensory area that leads safely down to the stream (it's glorious), made a lovely forested picnic area with den building nearby, chicken sheds and hutches have been repaired and lots have been repainted. Work is continuing on the Woodland Trail which will be magical, so we really cannot wait for you to all see it .

Of course, we have our wonderful animals and at this time of year, they could not be better as there are so many lovely babies. As you can imagine, all this costs a terrific amount and as we have no income, things are tight to say the least!

If you would like to help us, you can do this in a couple of ways. We have an **Amazon Wish List** with all sorts on it, nothing is terribly expensive, but everything is very much needed. If you would like to buy something, please follow the link [https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/1B5UNRLQREZDL?ref=cm\\_sw\\_sm\\_r\\_wl\\_mw\\_jrTk174ecxfGq](https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/1B5UNRLQREZDL?ref=cm_sw_sm_r_wl_mw_jrTk174ecxfGq)

If that doesn't work, to find the wish list go to Find a Wish List (under Accounts & Lists in the menu bar) and search for Rachel Berry.

We also have a **Crowd Funding page** for donations to this appeal. You can find it at [www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/alison-thomson-5](http://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/alison-thomson-5) Anything you can give is MASSIVELY appreciated.

Keep an eye on our website for news – [www.daisymaysfarm.org](http://www.daisymaysfarm.org).

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By Tricia Moxey, Trustee

Recently we have enjoyed above average hours of sunshine and walking or cycling along paths, bridleways and less busy roads has enabled us to admire the abundance of wildflowers and their insect visitors on field margins and wayside verges.

Many of these insects are the familiar pollinators such as butterflies, hoverflies and bees. For obvious reasons, observations of insect / plant interactions after dark are less well studied, especially pollination activities. Concerns about the impact of bright lights on the behaviour of night-flying moths assumed a greater importance when a report published in 2017 revealed that crop yields could be reduced by as much as 13% in well-lit areas as the pollinating moths became disorientated. Ongoing research is revealing the importance of various moths in pollinating flowers, including those of crops such as soft fruits, peas and beans.

Moths transport pollen on their tongues and undersides as they flit from flower to flower under the cover of darkness. Maintaining a wide variety of food plants for their caterpillars is a good reason for the retention of unmown verges, wildflower meadows or flower-rich gardens.



Darker nights also help our own appreciation of the wonders of the universe. Away from 'civilisation' there are many excellent locations for star gazing across the Hundred Parishes where there is little artificial light after dark. You can check the details for your own location on the online map of CPRE's 2020 star count on [www.cpre.org.uk/starcountresults](http://www.cpre.org.uk/starcountresults).

Bright lights can be intrusive and there are concerns about their impact on human health and wellbeing. Local councils can adopt policies to tackle light pollution and protect our dark skies. Minimising the use of bright lights can save money and will enable moths to keep busy with their valuable pollination services in unlit areas.

*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).*

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# ELSENHAM VILLAGE HISTORY SOCIETY

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

🌐 www.elsenham-history.co.uk

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Having perused the answers to the Village quiz last month I wondered how you all got on. Were you enthused enough to go looking for more information on some of the answers? One correspondent certainly was and contacted us to find out more about the shooting of Mrs Dixon mentioned in the answer to question 15.

The story was as follows. At the time of the shooting, said to be around 1940, a Mrs Dixon lived in one of the cottages opposite the Pumphouse. The shot was fired by the Village Policeman, George Johnston who lived in the Police House on the other side of the railway and was in his garden taking pot shots with his shotgun. At this time the railway cutting was clear of trees and bushes and there was a clear line of sight between the Police House and Mrs Dixon's garden that then extended around the back of the old Chapel (the 1881 building opposite Park Road). It would appear that Mrs Dixon was in her garden when she was hit in the back by a ricochet and subsequently died.

Following some digging into Parish records and going back and forth with our correspondent we ascertained that Mrs Dixon was Rose Eliza Thomas born 12 September 1905 in Bethnal Green London. She died on 6 July 1940 in the Herts & Essex Hospital just a few days after the shooting aged 34.

Her parents were Henry William Thomas born in 1876 in Bethnal Green London and Rose Tenison born in 1879 in East London. On the 1939 Register it shows them being the licensees of the Robin Hood Pub. She was married to Lawrence Dixon who was born in 1896 in Elsenham. They married in 1928 in Bishop's Stortford and he died on 21 November 1951.

It is always pleasing when we are able to flesh out the bones of a story like this and my thanks go to our correspondents Graham Jackson and Chris Bush for their research.

As an aside to the above, if you would like to know more about The Story of The Robin Hood Public House then the publication of that name is just for you. It contains 24 pages and many memorable photographs, costs £3 and is available through our website.

Meanwhile, we continue to seek material for the Elsenham Corona Diaries so whatever stories and anecdotes you may have of the lockdown, please consider passing them along.

Looking ahead our next meeting is due to be held on Wednesday 9 September 2020 at 8pm in the Memorial Hall. Our speaker is Anthony Tuck, who has spoken to us before, from the Newport Local History Group who will be speaking about "Newport: A Great and Poor Town". I am pleased to say that Anthea Hawden from Raking Light, who was to be our June speaker, has agreed to come back in June 2021 to deliver her talk about Church Graffiti.

Whenever our next meeting is held however, we look forward to welcoming you all. In the meantime please keep well and stay safe.

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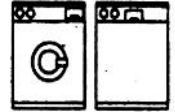
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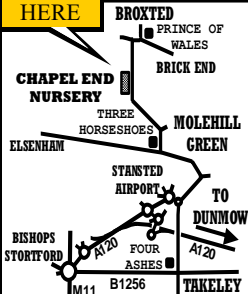
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## DEVELOPMENT DEVELOPMENTS

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



There are three different types of planning appeal, depending mostly on the size of the application, and at the moment Elsenham has one of each type outstanding. Most appeals are decided by written submissions, and this method is in use for the appeal regarding 'Crossways', Station Road, where the proposal to knock down the existing house and other buildings and replace with three four-bedroom houses was refused by Uttlesford District Council Planning Committee in December 2019.

The planning officer who recommended approval got into a muddle over parking standards, but the Planning Department has stood him on his head and now agrees with the Parish Council that there is not enough parking space and that the application amounts to over-development in the centre of the village. The Parish Council added for good measure that the applicants were not entitled to fill in the drainage ditch at the rear, and that the provisions concerning replacement dwellings should apply. As no meeting is needed, the decision might be issued fairly soon.

Next in the hierarchy of planning appeals is determination by a hearing, which means that all the interested parties gather round a table and the Inspector hears what they have to say in a fairly informal but still structured way. Typically the hearing lasts for a day or so. The appeal against refusal of up to 40 new dwellings in the field at the bottom of Rush Lane, adjacent to the railway, would have been heard through this method by now were it not for the Coronavirus emergency. The Planning Inspectorate is now attempting to get to grips with what is becoming known as 'the new normal' by holding virtual meetings. UDC's main ground for objection to the application is the impact on the countryside; the Parish Council points out that countryside has diminished in and around the village recently, making all the more reason to preserve what is left.

The largest appeals are held by means of a public inquiry, and that will be the method for the appeal by Fairfield concerning their application to build up to 350 new homes off Henham Road. An inquiry is rather more like a court hearing, with legal eagles and cross-examination and so on. Humble members of the public can attend and even have a say, but can expect the legal big-wigs to look down their judicial noses at them, in the nicest possible way of course. The issues are likely to be planning policy generally, transport, air quality and landscape, with both sides calling their own witnesses in the form of consultants charging significant fees as a token of the depth of their claimed expertise, and the whole shebang going on for several days.

Quite how appeals by virtual meetings will work out, given that participants will be in their own homes and the possible technical hiccups, including forgetting to unmute, and frozen attitudes through insufficient bandwidth, and so on, remains to be seen. But it could be interesting. Or not.

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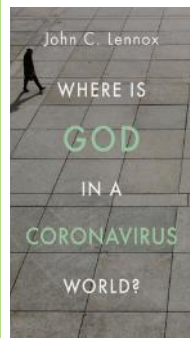
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**Where is God in a coronavirus world?**

Maybe, like so many of us in lockdown, you have found yourself pondering the Really Big Questions of life: Why am I here? Is there more to life than this? Where is our hope now? And, if He exists at all, where is God?

Your friends at Henham Church would like to offer you a free copy of **“Where is God in a Coronavirus World?”**

by Christian and mathematics professor, John Lennox.

**You can collect your free copy from Henham Village Stores,** or if you can't get to the shop, please contact

[office@heuchurch.co.uk](mailto:office@heuchurch.co.uk) and a free copy will be posted out to you.

We would be thrilled if you could find time to read it and reflect upon it. And we welcome any questions you may have, please email questions to [office@heuchurch.co.uk](mailto:office@heuchurch.co.uk).

If you would like to know more about the Christian faith and discover who Jesus is, we are running Christianity Explored sessions via zoom. These sessions give you the chance to look at an eyewitness account of Jesus Christ, find out why he came, and why it matters (more information at [www.ceministries.org](http://www.ceministries.org)).

Please contact the church office to join a group [office@heuchurch.co.uk](mailto:office@heuchurch.co.uk)



## ST MARY'S CHURCH ELSENHAM

Vicar: Gary Townsend

The Vicarage, Carters Lane, Henham ☎ 850281

### Adjusting to lockdown?

Who would have predicted that in 2020 we would be in lockdown because of a global pandemic? This has been such a shock to our everyday lives and as I write this we still don't know what the future looks like. The pandemic has caused much death, sorrow and fear. Even for those not infected, the everyday things of life, the things we took for granted, have been taken away from us or significantly adjusted. Holidays abroad and at home have been cancelled. We have been separated from family and friends. Work and school life has changed. We live under the "2 metre rule".

This has been difficult for regular church-goers and those planning weddings and funeral services in church. The churches have been trying to play catch-up ever since as the government advice has changed over time, and no doubt we haven't always got it right.

As we saw what other churches were doing we started doing a weekly recording (from home) of a full service with songs and prayers and Bible readings and a talk on video and uploading it on to YouTube, linking in contributions from other people. (YouTube, search for Henham, Elsenham and Ugleby Churches.)

Other church members have similarly found themselves using technology in new ways. A lot of prayer meetings and fellowship groups and church business meetings are now done via the internet by video-conferencing software such as Zoom. Indeed in early May, the Zoom platform experienced serious connection problems resulting in an amusing tweet 'Looks like the church broke the internet' as thousands streamed their Sunday morning services.

Of course none of these are substitutes for the real thing – for actual face to face fellowship with each other. We crave relationship - a phone call can mean so much – seeing other friends on a computer screen can be uplifting-

but we hunger for more. We are relational people made in the image of the only one and true God, Father, Son and Spirit in loving fellowship. We're glad that our churches are now able to be open for private prayer (open to all - have a look at the church notices for details) but we long for the time when we can all regularly meet together for worship.

At this difficult time of lockdown, we need to remember that the church is not the building but the people. We worship God in Spirit and in Truth and we can truly have real spiritual fellowship without being in the same building as we join with God by His Spirit and gather together using technology. Indeed, God can't be locked down. He is not confined to a building but the God of the Universe!

The apostle Paul speaking in Athens said: "The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by hands." (Acts 17:24).

Some sort of normality will return, we don't know quite when but God does. Look ahead to the time when we can gather together in the same place but in the meantime we are to worship God, whether we can physically get to church or not. God wants people to reach out to Him! He is to be our Lord and King, we are to look to Him and give Him honour and praise.

More people are praying today than have for many years because of this pandemic and more and more people are asking deep questions about God. Why not have a look at the church website [heuchurch.co.uk](http://heuchurch.co.uk) for more of what is going on (like the Christianity Explored course) and check out the YouTube service. Life on earth is fleeting and fragile but look to God, who sent His Son Jesus, to bring us into a loving fellowship with Himself by His Spirit and a life forever with Him.

God bless and stay safe!

Rev Gary Tubbs (Associate Minister)



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## CHURCH EVENTS IN OUR VILLAGES JULY 2020

### Church Services

We are currently unable to meet for services in church buildings but we can still meet 'virtually'! Join us for any or all of our Sunday gatherings each week:

#### HEU Combined Churches Service via recorded video stream

Available via the website:

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

Or search 'Henham, Elsenham and Ugley' on YouTube

#### Elsenham '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](mailto:c@willbe.me.uk)) for the link

#### HEU Coffee & Catch-up: 11:40am - 12:30pm

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

### Church buildings are open for personal prayer:

#### St Mary's Elsenham

Open at all times

#### St Mary's Henham

8am – 8pm every day

#### St Peter's Ugley

Sundays 10am – 8pm

**A poster is displayed at each church with directives on how to stay 'COVID-19 safe'. Please ensure these instructions are followed at all times to keep yourself and everyone else safe. God bless!**

### Little Fishes Pre-School Group

**Elsenham Fridays, 10am Now available via Zoom!** We meet for a chat, have a bible story, craft activities and sing some songs with actions. It is just so lovely to see the children, their parents and carers. We would love to welcome new mums to the group, and look forward to when we can meet again face to face.

### Other regular events:

#### Ugley Junior Church

A weekly lesson document is emailed to the parents. To be added to this email list contact [office@heuchurch.co.uk](mailto:office@heuchurch.co.uk)

#### Elsenham Sunday Club/Explorers

**(Y1-Y6)** We are running a magazine programme each week. This includes a story, teaching sheet, family prayers, quizzes and crafts and is going down a storm! Contact [office@heuchurch.co.uk](mailto:office@heuchurch.co.uk) to receive the magazine.

#### Henham Sunday Club (age 5 - Y3)

Recorded stories are sent weekly to parents along with pictures retelling the story, plus a selection of activities, colouring & puzzles. To be added to email list, contact [office@heuchurch.co.uk](mailto:office@heuchurch.co.uk)

#### Henham Explorers (Y4-Y6)

Currently suspended – contact [office@heuchurch.co.uk](mailto:office@heuchurch.co.uk) to receive the info and activities being sent to Elsenham Explorers.

#### Pathfinders (Y7-Y9) via Zoom each Sunday, 6-7pm to chat and play games.

Material is being emailed to parents for the youngsters to look at on-line in advance. For the link, contact [office@heuchurch.co.uk](mailto:office@heuchurch.co.uk).

#### Crammin' (Y10-Y13)

Meeting weekly on Zoom for fun, chat and Bible! For the link, contact [office@heuchurch.co.uk](mailto:office@heuchurch.co.uk)

#### Christian Play (Y1- Y2)

We are running a magazine programme each week. This includes a story, teaching sheet, family prayers, quizzes and crafts and is going down a storm! To receive the magazine, contact [office@heuchurch.co.uk](mailto:office@heuchurch.co.uk)

#### Little Fishes Pre-School Group

**Henham, Thursdays, 10.30am. Now available via Zoom!** Bible storytelling, singing with instruments & a prayer. Craft work is sent out in advance. Everybody with a pre-school child or baby is welcome; parent, grandparent, nanny, carer or guardian. Contact Vanessa Gibbons on 07968 596304 for zoom joining details.

Contact [office@heuchurch.co.uk](mailto:office@heuchurch.co.uk) for the link.

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# ELSENHAM WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

By Moyra Jackson ☎ 647351



Why is it that whenever I start to write this, the weather takes a turn for the worse? Possibly divine intervention to get me in from the garden and do some work! Hopefully as soon as I finish this, the sun will once again be shining! This may be a very short article.

Elsenham WI continue to exist in a virtual state of Zoom. With our first meeting under our belts we are becoming much more relaxed with this form of communication and some of our members are using it to broaden their horizons with training courses and talks on a myriad of different topics.

Nicholas Henderson was an interesting and engaging speaker for our virtual meeting last month, when he told us about Jane Seymour and Anne of Cleves. We had just under 40 people tuning in and it was lovely to see everyone again.

We now have a completely changed Programme for the remainder of 2020 for obvious reasons. In the coming months we now have:

- 16 July, Paul Martin Entertains
- 20 August, Quiz Night with Sam Briggs
- 17 September, Simon Gregor: London – an Illustrated History
- 15 October, Taming the Flood – A Beaver's Tale with Darren Tinsley

Members will be provided with the relative joining information for all these meetings. For any of our members who are still a little apprehensive about taking the plunge zoom-wise, please let me know and I will be happy to help you.

If you are not a member and would like to come along please contact me for further details – we are always happy to welcome visitors. All meetings start at 8pm and are on the 3rd Thursday every month.

We have Natter Nights every Tuesday evening from 7.30 pm – more the merrier!

This month's photo (see p27) is a blast from the past taken in 1951 when our membership was around 70 members. Thanks to help from the Village History Society many names of our members have been identified.

Love and best wishes from all at Elsenham WI.

Stay Safe.

*Details of our programme, events and activities can be found on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram – search for Elsenham WI.*

**Elsenham WI – There's a lot going on!**



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- |                    |                     |                  |                    |                     |                  |                   |
|--------------------|---------------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Mrs Partridge    | 2 Pauline Ciacciola | 3 Not known      | 4 Not known        | 5 Not known         | 6 Not known      | 7 Irene Butters   |
| 8 Not known        | 9 Violet Service    | 11 Nin Claydon   | 12 Mrs Lock        | 13 Violet Franklin  | 14 Not known     | 14a Not known     |
| 15 Gladys Dixon    | 16 Peter Prior      | 18 Mrs Bovey     | 19 Robert Bovey    | 20 Dorothy Fielding | 21 John Fielding | 22 Mary Glider    |
| 23 Not known       | 24 Mrs Olley        | 26 Malida Dixon  | 27 Not known       | 28 Miss Buttress    | 29 Kate Marlow   | 30 Not known      |
| 31 Not known       | 32 Patricia Paul    | 34 Mary Parish   | 35 David Dixon     | 36 Lydia Powell     | 37 Pamela Irons  | 38 Peter Irons    |
| 39 Nellie Whiteley | 40 May Dixon        | 42 Emily Harding | 43 Alice Fowler    | 44 Mrs Robinson     | 45 Sybil Livings | 46 Alice Easy     |
| 47 Valerie Glider  | 48 John Oly         | 50 Mary Barret   | 51 Elizabeth Orger | 52 Mary Day         | 53 Elsie Sell    | 54 Not known      |
| 55 Mrs Vratls      | 56 Annie Harding    | 57 Mrs Cutler    | 59 Elizabeth Prior | 60 Mrs Frecknell    | 61 Mrs Cloumes   | 62 Florence Siney |
| 63 Doris Thomas    |                     |                  |                    |                     |                  |                   |



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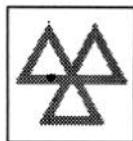
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# NATURAL OUTLOOK ON DIFFERENT SURROUNDINGS

By Heather Salvidge ☞ 814153



Last July we actually had a holiday! It was in Northumberland and we stayed in a village inland from Bamburgh and the Farne Islands. Lovely country and by exploring got to know some species new to me and to see some already known but in much greater numbers.

Apart from the usuals, I saw for the first time bloody cranesbill which is a medium sized plant of the cranesbill family with bright magenta flowers. This was mixed in with many more familiar plants, for example: whites, ox-eye-daisies, wild carrot, white clover, upright hedge parsley; for yellows, meadow vetchling, lady's bedstraw, common cat's ear: mauves, self heal, tufted vetch: pinks, rest harrow and the tall, rosebay willow herb. Round here, the blue meadow cranesbill is a rarity – there is a special roadside verge devoted to it in Clavering – but in Yorkshire and Northumberland there are many splendid stretches.

We had two wonderful sea trips to see the offshore wildlife. The first was around Coquet Island. Again some of the things to be seen were familiar but were seen in their hundreds or thousands, puffins, guillemots, cormorants and gannets. Less familiar were common and roseate terns and even two little terns.

Then there were the 'common' or 'harbour' seals. The males are about two metres long and the females smaller. They have round heads and their nostrils make a distinct 'V'. A variety of grey or brown colours with darker spots. They haul out to shore in June or July to give birth. Our boat kept a good distance. You can also see these round the Essex coast now that their numbers are growing.



## *Bamburgh Castle and seals*

On a second sea trip, this time a partial tour of the Farne Islands, we saw grey seals. The males, are much heavier and longer at 3.8 metres, but the females are rather smaller. Their heads are wedge-shaped, settling into a good, thick neck. Their breeding season is late summer and early autumn and they are much more prevalent than harbour seals. You may well have seen them around the Essex coast and especially the Norfolk coastline. Again there were many birds: thousands of puffins and guillemots, dozens of cormorants and shags, some common terns, sandwich terns and some eider ducks in eclipse. This is an incomplete list of the wildlife things that we saw and admired and we hope to revisit the area next year, fingers crossed.



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### Further Lockdown Things

Been in contact with a friend. He tells that he has been encouraged to pursue his somewhat limited musical talents. "While I am in Lockdown I will practice on my Bagpipes!" He reckons he is getting more tuneful. Apparently the neighbours have been breaking his windows so they can hear him better.

In my never-ending quest to recommend resources for children as young as three, I suggest they go online and watch Matt Lucas's "Baked Potato Song". This explains why we're washing hands. You can find it on Spotify and YouTube.

Axel Scheffler, the illustrator of *The Gruffalo*, has created a digital book about coronavirus. It is suitable for children aged five to nine and published by Nosy Crow. It is free on the website, [www.nosycrow.com](http://www.nosycrow.com)

There are a number of places on the internet where you can get free templates to create cut-out animals and buildings etc. If you do not have a computer and printer which can printout A4 thin cardboard sheets, you may know someone who has. Go online and try "Cannon" just Google it!

Latest words of wisdom from children at home:-

- Did you know that if you play with mud and do not wash your hands you can get the "Grown up" Virus?
- If I am naughty during Home-Schooling will I get an on-line detention?

Final thought. Don't let the internet rush you, no one is posting their failures.

### **AID FOR ROMANIA**

Our spring lorry has been significantly delayed as you might expect with limits on social distancing and Romanian lorry drivers somewhat unwilling to venture out of their country for fear of having to go into quarantine on their return. So as I write (late May) the lorry has not yet been loaded but we hope to do this in about 4 weeks. We are still intending to send another lorry load in October in time for their winter and Christmas.

Some of the goods will be given free to needy families as nominated by the local Baptist church, with the remainder sold through our charity shop with proceeds helping the same poor sections of the population with health, education and improving their terrible housing conditions.

If you have any of the above please bring them to 1 Hall Close, Henham during July. Contact Richard Peake first on ☎ 850374 to arrange delivery etc.

See over leaf on **page 33** for a list of things required.

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## Do you participate in Facebook quizzes?

People are being urged to stop participating in seemingly innocent online quizzes during the coronavirus pandemic, as they could be unknowingly exposing themselves to online hackers. Information shared when people complete questionnaires online can be collated by sophisticated hackers to gain access to a host of personal accounts, say cyber security experts.

With many people spending more time on social media while self-isolating due to COVID-19, there has been a rise in people sharing detailed information about their lives to Facebook.

Popular trends involve people answering a series of questions relating to their lives, and often include the name of their family pet, the school they attended, the cars they drove and names of loved ones. While this may appear an innocent concept, it is these quizzes that have made it easier for hackers to guess people's passwords based on the details revealed in their answers. Lots of people use words like the name of their dog for a password, and lots of online accounts only require a password to gain access. Most people don't use random passwords; they use passwords that are easy for them to remember. Make it harder for the hackers by using passwords that are not associated with your home family friends and pets.

*Continued from previous page (31)*

### Romania List

- Warm winter clothes and boots for adults and children (under 3yrs must be new). **Single** and Z beds with mattresses (sturdy iron or wooden framed beds are very desirable). Bed sheets, pillows, duvets and blankets (single and double), towels, toiletries (including loo rolls), umbrellas and rugs.
- Building and workshop tools (also some types of gardening tools and sturdy wheelbarrows). Surplus school tables (must be 2ft clearance underneath i.e. not infant) and stackable adult size chairs.
- Small sturdy chest of drawers (not flat pack built as these do not survive the five day truck journey to Romania), bedside cabinets, folding tables. Irons and boards. Kitchen items (crockery, cutlery, utensils, pots/pans – especially big sizes e.g. preserving pans).
- Wheelchairs, crutches, walking sticks, zimmers and I have a special need for all sizes of bikes (especially smaller children's sizes). Bandages and dressings (*absolutely NO pills, medicines or creams*). Rucksacks and holdalls (must be in good condition). **Costume jewellery**. Suitcases - but not the old 'cardboard' types.
- Ear defenders for manual workers.

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## Local Hospice launches Bereavement Café online communities to support those experiencing grief during coronavirus lockdown



St Clare Hospice is launching online bereavement support for people across West Essex and East Hertfordshire in an effort to diversify their service amidst the COVID-19 pandemic and support those experiencing grief during lockdown.

Bereavement Cafés offer a place to meet and connect with other local people who may have had a similar experience, and to chat, share and support each other. Since the national COVID-19 lockdown, Bereavement Cafés were postponed. The Community Engagement team has been working hard to take the

project online so that bereaved local people can be supported virtually during the lockdown period.

The new service consists of a series of seven local Bereavement Café online community Facebook Groups, which cover Harlow, Hastingwood, Abridge, Ongar, Theydon Bois, Dunmow, and a group for young people (aged 18-30) called Youth Bereavement Café.

Having these groups affiliated to locations across our catchment area means that people experiencing bereavement can stay connected with local people in their own area.

Find your local Bereavement Café online community on Facebook, by visiting the main St Clare Hospice page at [facebook.com/stclarehospice](https://facebook.com/stclarehospice) and clicking on the Groups tab.

To find out more about St Clare Hospice's Virtual Bereavement Cafés visit [stclarehospice.org.uk/bereavement-cafe](https://stclarehospice.org.uk/bereavement-cafe) or call ☎ 773700 or email [bereavement@stclarehospice.org.uk](mailto:bereavement@stclarehospice.org.uk)

For help to sign up to any of St Clare's virtual fundraising activities, please call ☎ 773750 or ✉ [fund@stclarehospice.org.uk](mailto:fund@stclarehospice.org.uk). To donate directly, please visit [stclarehospice.org.uk/urgent-fundraising-appeal](https://stclarehospice.org.uk/urgent-fundraising-appeal)

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.

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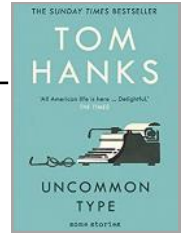
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# UNCOMMON TYPE

By Tom Hanks

Reviewed by Marion Giles



*'Tom Hanks explores in his first work of fiction, a collection of stories that dissects, with great affection, humour and insight, the human condition and all its foibles. The stories are linked by one thing: in each of them, a typewriter plays a part, sometimes minor, sometimes central. To many, typewriters represent a level of craftsmanship, beauty and individuality that is harder and harder to find in the modern world. In his stories, Tom Hanks gracefully reaches that typewriter-worthy level. Known for his honesty and sensitivity as an actor, Tom Hanks brings both those characteristics to his writing. By turns whimsical, moving and occasionally melancholy, Uncommon Type is a book that will delight as well as surprise his millions of fans. It also establishes him as a welcome and wonderful new voice in contemporary fiction, a voice that perceptively delves beneath the surface of friendships, families, love and normal, everyday behaviour. . . .'* So says the blurb on the back of the book.

## Reviews:

- 'The central quality to Tom's writing is a kind of poignant playfulness. It's exactly what you hope from him, except you wish he was sitting in your home, reading it aloud to you, one story at a time.' *Mindy Kaling*

This was the choice of the book group this month. A collection of short stories from the actor Tom Hanks, inspired by his love of and collection of typewriters. Generally we liked it. However, we were all of the same opinion that only a few of the stories had substance and several just didn't stick with us. Most stories were quite nice to read but some were instantly forgettable. It was a light easy read, perfect for these lockdown times when concentration is more difficult. So short stories are easy as one can read one or two a night. It is great for dipping into and not perhaps to be read in one sitting.

There are 17 stories in total. There are four characters that feature in a few of the stories: a hectic sexual affair between two best friends; friends going to the moon and back in a rocket ship constructed in the backyard and a triumph in the bowling alley. There are also a few features from a small-town newspaper columnist with old-fashioned views of the modern world. Other stories feature a World War II veteran dealing with his emotional and physical scars; a second-rate actor plunged into sudden stardom and a whirlwind press junket; a woman adjusting to life in a new neighbourhood after her divorce; a teenage surfer stumbling into his father's secret life; a person addicted to time travelling back to the state fair of New York and a rather sweet story about a second-hand typewriter bought by someone who wants to start to write.

Apart from the connected stories, the stories stand alone and the only connection is that they all include a reference to a typewriter.

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# ELSENHAM TENNIS CLUB

By Petra Studholme ☎ 01279 814667



## **Elsenham Tennis Club is open for play!**

Our **reduced membership fees (pro rata to start in June until end of March)** are as follows: Adult - £55, Couple - £95, Family - £105, Senior - £30, Student - £30, Junior - £12.50

Further benefits (once normal play is allowed to resume): club nights, Sunday afternoon leisure play, ladies' Friday morning play, weekly Wednesday evening coaching sessions and more. We have floodlights so you can play until late. For more info, go to [www.elsenhamtennisclub.co.uk](http://www.elsenhamtennisclub.co.uk).

We participate in the Essex Small Club League in Men's, Ladies and Mixed if you want to join our teams. The Summer league has been cancelled but we are hopeful that this competition will resume in Autumn.

The Hospital Cup tournament has also been cancelled.

As a member of ETC (and becoming a member of British Tennis for free) it means that you are eligible to enter the Wimbledon Ballot we hold again in Spring of next year. If you fancy applying for Wimbledon tickets, becoming a member of ETC is a great way to increase your chances to watch Wimbledon at SW19 .

## **Our courts have been re-opened: court bookings for members – subject to change if advice from the government and LTA guidelines change**

All bookings to be made online, no turn up and play, to ensure that we do not have too many players on court. We strictly adhere to LTA and government guidelines. Additional measures are in place to ensure all our members' safety.

## **Court bookings for non-members (court hire) – subject to change if advice from the government and LTA guidelines change**

In line with government and LTA (our governing body) guidelines, Elsenham Tennis Club is opening up the courts to hire again. We must stress that we will review this if any advice on use of outdoor spaces changes. We will insist that everyone using our facilities adheres to the strict measures we will put in place to ensure social distancing, public safety and hygiene, with regard to hand washing, using sanitisers and wiping down commonly used surfaces such as locks, handles and the net equipment. Those in self-isolation are not allowed to use the courts until their full isolation period has ended. For further info, please refer to our website.

## **Coaching update – subject to change if advice from the government and LTA guidelines change**

Individual lessons with Steve are now available. See our website for more (details above) or email [mail@elsenhamtennisclub.co.uk](mailto:mail@elsenhamtennisclub.co.uk). We will let everyone know once group lessons resume.

**WEEKLY ACTIVITIES are currently suspended until further notice – keep an eye on the ETC website and follow us on Facebook for the latest info.**

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### FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

#### Funerals:

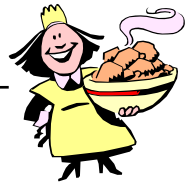
- Service of Thanksgiving at St Mary's Elsenham graveside on 26 May 2020, Alan Ernest Smith, aged 95 years, of Alsa Gardens, Elsenham.
- Service of Thanksgiving at St Mary's Elsenham graveside on 26 May 2020, Mary Madge Claydon, aged 91 years, of Alsa Leys, Elsenham.



## COOKERY CORNER

By Sue Johnson ☎ 812704

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This is a recipe I have shared with many over the years - rich, luscious Florentine biscuits, gorgeous served with tea or coffee either in the morning or after dinner. Absolutely no flour involved!

### FLORENTINE SLICES (Makes 12 to 16)

- 8 oz (225g) dark chocolate, broken into pieces
- 2 oz (50g) butter or margarine
- 4 oz (100g) demerara sugar
- 1 egg beaten
- 2 oz (50g) mixed dried fruit
- 4 oz (100g) coconut
- 2 oz (50g) quartered glacé cherries

Put the chocolate in bowl and melt over hot water. Spoon into well greased 7½ inch (19cm) square cake tin. Spread over bottom and leave to set.

Meanwhile, cream together the butter and sugar until mixture is light and fluffy. Beat in egg thoroughly. Mix together remaining ingredients and add to creamed mixture. Spoon into the tin and spread over set chocolate.

Bake in centre of cool oven (150C/300F/gas Mark 2) for 40 to 45 minutes, until golden brown. Remove from the oven and leave for five minutes. Carefully mark into 12 or 16 squares with a sharp knife. Leave until quite cold, then loosen with a palette knife and lift each square carefully from the tin.

**CHEF'S RECOMMENDATIONS:** If you haven't any mixed dried fruit, it is fine to substitute sultanas, raisins, cranberries or any dried chopped fruit. Instead of glacé cherries, you could use chopped mixed peel which is as equally delicious. After cooking and cooling the Florentines, put the tin in the refrigerator until really cold. This way, the slices will come out without any trouble.

# 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 12<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 12<sup>th</sup> 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 12<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:** 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 [elsenhamsnews@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:elsenhamsnews@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 12<sup>th</sup>. You must also provide the flyers.

## Editorial Team

Sarah Alder	817660
Marion Giles-Donovan	812763
Heather Baxter	812924

## ECA Website

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



## UPCOMING EVENTS TBC

**Elsenham Village History meeting 9 September**  
**Santa visits the village 5 December 1pm Village Hall**

### VILLAGE 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.ElsenhamCommunityAssociation.org.uk	
ECA (Chairman)	Allan Hathaway	813385
ECA (Secretary)	Jill French	647543
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 <a href="mailto:elsenhamguides@gmail.com">elsenhamguides@gmail.com</a>	Gemma Lewis	07792 572423
Henham & District Garden Society	Moyra Jackson	647351
History Society	Mike Rea <a href="mailto:evhs12@hotmail.co.uk">evhs12@hotmail.co.uk</a>	813634
Member of Parliament	Kemi Badenoch	0207 219 1943
Memorial Hall Bookings	Cheryl Rae	817834
Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator	Frances Lambert	07771 728332
	<a href="mailto:franceslambertnhw@btinternet.com">franceslambertnhw@btinternet.com</a>	
Parish Clerk - Louise Johnson	<a href="mailto:louise.epc@gmail.com">louise.epc@gmail.com</a>	07456 791727
Elsenham Parish Council Website	<a href="https://elsenham-pc.gov.uk/">https://elsenham-pc.gov.uk/</a>	
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	<a href="mailto:elsenhamvillagehall@gmail.com">elsenhamvillagehall@gmail.com</a>	
Women's Institute	Gill Hathaway	813385
WI website	www.elsenhamwi.co.uk	
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.



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