

# Elsenham News



*Inside for the entry form and rules for the annual  
Elsenham Flower Show Society competition. See the  
centre pages.*



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

July 2024  
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 The Crown  
Elsenham EAGLES 4th **Monday** of month 7.30 - 9pm The Crown  
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  
Cakery and Barista bar Every **Thursday** 8.45am - 2pm Playing Field  
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

## July 2024 diary

|             |   |                                  |
|-------------|---|----------------------------------|
| Mon 1       | Parish Council Meeting                  | Memorial Hall 7.45pm             |
| Tues 2      | Henham & District Garden Society outing |                                  |
| Tues 2 & 16 | Elsenham Community Choir                | Village Hall 7pm                 |
| Thurs 4     | General Election polling                | Memorial Hall 7am - 10pm         |
| Mon 8       | Natter Night                            | The Crown 7.30pm                 |
| Tues 9      | Life Drawing                            | Village Hall 7.30pm              |
| Thurs 11    | ECA Meeting                             | Memorial Hall 7.45 for 8pm       |
| Fri 12 & 26 | Church Lunch Club                       | Memorial Hall 12.30pm            |
| Thurs 18    | WI                                      | Memorial Hall 7.45pm             |
| Sat 20      | Dusty Springfield Tribute               | Bowls & Social Club 7.30pm       |
| Mon 22      | Elsenham Eagles                         | The Crown 7.30pm                 |
| Sat 27      | Elsenham Farmers Market                 | Village Hall 12.30 - 2.30pm      |
| Sat 27      | Bingo                                   | Bowls & Social Club 7.30 for 8pm |



**Mobile Library**  
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**Next visit: 11 July**

## 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   | 9.30-10.30am  | 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 (term-time)      |
|           | 5.30-7.30pm   | 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)      |
|           | 12.30-4.30pm  | Coffee Bar at the park | Playing Field Car Park         |
| Saturday  | 8.15am-1pm    | Tarte au Citroen       | Playing Field                  |
|           | 9-11am        | Dance Scene            | Memorial Hall                  |
|           | 9am-12pm      | Junior Football        | Playing Field                  |
|           | 8.45-9.30am   | Little Kickers Mighty  | Village Hall (term time)       |
|           | 9.35-10.20am  | Little Kickers Junior  | Village Hall (term time)       |

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# THE NEWS REPORT

*From The Editors*

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We often mention on this page all the superb events and groups this village has to offer. So it is with no apology that we focus on the annual flower show competition on the front cover. There are so many sections, we are sure there must be a category for you.

There are also, within this months pages, many other things for you to consider. Places to take your children during the summer holidays - Daisy May's (pg13) or Golf World Stansted (back page). If you would like to volunteer, then Essex Home Start would like to hear from you (pg25), and so would the Community Choir (pg21) but purely for your pleasure!

Elsenham Eagles would also love your support with their environmental challenges (pg19). But on a different tack, why not learn about the history of the village and surrounding areas with the Elsenham Village History Society (pg15), or get stuck into a range of tasks with the WI (pg17).

Whatever you want to do, there will be something for you in the activities of the village as reported here.

Last month we reported on the achievements of one resident in the London Marathon. If you have undertaken something special and would like to share your experience with others, please drop us a line. We would love to hear from you and will gladly help you put an article together.

So, until next month, enjoy life in Elsenham.

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## Regular features

|                          |    |                       |    |
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# ELSENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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



The Parish Council has been looking into the possibility, of once again, part funding a **Police Community Support Officer (PCSO)** with Stansted and Henham. However, the new contract from Uttlesford District Council has been changed. The contracted hours for the PCSO have been reduced from 10 hours per week to 5 hours per week. This included his travel to and from Elsenham. Taking off holidays and any sickness it meant the PCSO would spend little time in the village. However, some councillors still felt very passionately that a PCSO would be a good thing for Elsenham. With many police stations closing, residents needed someone they could contact if necessary. Other councillors thought the cost of £4,445.44 for a nine-month contract of 5 hours per week was not good use of public money. The vote went against signing the contract.

The Playing Field Committee have been negotiating with companies about installing extra paths in the children's play area. Some parts of the play area can become very muddy. The tenders for the new Community Centre are now on the Government Finders Contract Website, with the closing date 12 July 2024. The tenders are asking for architects to come forward with a design for a Community Centre based on the specification set out by a survey conducted by the Parish Council.

It was agreed that the Parish Council's grass cutter would no longer cut the two areas of grass on the western side of New Road & Alsa Gardens junction. The site line will continue to be cut but the rest would be left to wildflowers.

The Flowerbed Committee would like to enhance the pump house in the High Street with some flowerboxes, while making sure that they did not damage the structure. However, Elsenham History Society have stated their disapproval, with concerns about water damage. The Pump House was erected in 1903 by Sir Walter Gilbey. In 2016 it was donated to Elsenham Parish Council by Mr Walter Gilbey, grandson of Sir Walter Gilbey. Elsenham Parish Council agreed to take ownership of the Pump House on behalf of the village.

The results of the Essex Bus Survey 2024 have been published. The Elsenham bus, number 7, was 12<sup>th</sup> out of 100 for the number of users, but bus number 7A, was 95<sup>th</sup>. Both services are hopefully going to continue, but villagers must keep using the buses to prove they are an important part of village life.

*The next Parish Council meeting is on Monday 1 July, starting at 7.45pm in the Memorial Hall.*



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# DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORT

By Cllr Lees and Cllr Donald

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

☎ 07836 346717

☎ 07713 074656



As we write this, we are wondering whether summer will ever come! Thank you to all those who give up their time for the village fete, organising and helping out.

We have completed a refinancing deal on funds originally borrowed to purchase Chesterford Research Park. A very substantial discount of £10.2 million was negotiated for early repayment of the outstanding balance of £35.7 million. Even after refinancing the council is better off by £700,000 a year as well as reducing our borrowing by £10 million. Later on this year, we look forward to a profitable sale of Chesterford Retail Park which is receiving strong, worldwide interest from a long list of potential buyers.

Government imposed cuts and their block on councils conducting commercial investments means that UDC have to find nearly £7 million of savings and new revenue, if it is not to reduce quality of services.

We have a four-year programme which outlines how to achieve these savings, whilst delivering the Councils wide-ranging ambitions, improving outcomes for residents and the best services possible. The first year of this programme has already met the £2 million requirement.

June sees the fiftieth anniversary of Uttlesford District Council. To celebrate UDC produced a video featuring many of our councillors, past and present. Both Bianca and I made the cut! Me in my capacity as Leader of the Council and Bianca as one of the newest members, and who is also 50 this year.

This June marked the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Normandy Landings, a day that changed the course of our history. We remembered and honoured the sacrifices of those brave soldiers, whose actions on June 6 inspire us to this day. The poppies on the verges seem especially vibrant this year, as if commemorating the events with us.

For our green-fingered residents, our green bin waste service subscription is now open to new subscribers, please check UDC website for details.

We have our Ward Initiative Fund for local projects - please do make a request.

Our Surgery this month is at OSCA in Henham at 6pm July 8 (we may be lured to play table tennis after- they need more players!)



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# DEVELOPMENT DEVELOPMENTS

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



At the meeting of Uttlesford District Council's Planning Committee on 29 May, two planning applications of very different size were approved in Henham, both close to the Elsenham boundary. Detailed approval was given to the application by Bloor Homes to build 200 dwellings to the east of Elsenham station and to the north of the 350 homes now under construction. Outline approval had been given in April 2023 under the S62A provisions whereby developers can apply direct to the Planning Inspectorate rather than to the District Council, but Bloor preferred the Planning Committee for the detailed application.

Once an application has outline permission, detailed approval is usually only a matter of time, but nevertheless both parish councils made representations. Henham Parish Council raised well-reasoned objections regarding surface water disposal, given the propensity of Old Mead Road to flooding. Amendments were made to answer Elsenham Parish Council's concerns regarding the lack of communal space for the flats and inadequate bungalows. The applicants are especially proud of their proposed green 'Circular Walk' around the perimeter of the site. They did not answer the objection made by the Parish Council that it has gaps, with nothing to show whether the walker is expected to hop over them or proceed along housing estate roads. Members of the Planning Committee were impressed that only one three-storey block was proposed; they questioned whether parking complies with local standards, but gave the application the nod anyway.

Approval was given on the casting vote of the Chairman to an outline application for seven houses to the east of Old Mead Road. Planning Committee members were concerned regarding sustainability on a site with difficult access and no footway towards the station. Henham Parish Council again raised the issue of flooding in Old Mead Road. Elsenham Parish Council objected that there are no social or economic benefits, given the vast amount of housing already approved, and queried whether residents' parking provision would be sufficient.

Also outside Elsenham parish, but close to the boundary, further details have emerged regarding Gladman's outline application to build 240 homes to the north of Bedwell Road, between the motorway and the railway. They were refused permission at appeal to build 220 on this site in October 2021 on account of excessive noise. They have now provided a 'Sketch Layout', which indicates that the numbers have crept up to 244, and shows the three-storey houses alongside the motorway which they claim will baffle the noise sufficiently. They would be in pairs and groups of four, with nothing to explain how noise would be prevented from escaping through the gaps.

The Inspector who refused the previous application for 220 said that talking to neighbours in the street would be difficult, and that the open spaces and play areas would be in the noisiest parts of the site, which 'would not encourage community cohesion nor social wellbeing'. Nothing daunted, Gladman have bashed on with the current application, where the same objections must surely apply.

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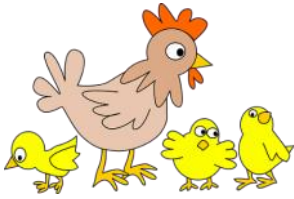
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What a fabulous holiday and all for just £25 a night and on your doorstep! Please message us through our Facebook page to book.



As if that wasn't enough, we still have babies of all sorts everywhere. Chicks, ducklings and you can even cuddle the lambs and kid goats and trust me, they don't come much cuter!

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We are open every day, but please always check our Facebook page just in case.

There is so much to do and see at the farm and our animals love seeing you all. So do be sure to come and see us over the summer. We can't wait to see you!

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

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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)

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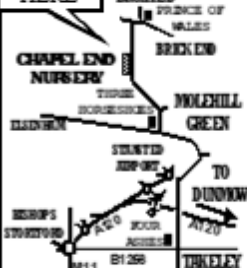
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# ELSENHAM VILLAGE HISTORY SOCIETY

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



Over the years Elsenham has had many clubs and societies within its boundaries. These have covered a wide range from angling to wine appreciation, taking in bowls, boxing, cricket, karate, football and a few other sports along the way. Neither must we forget the Sports and Social and Working Men's Clubs, the WI of course and at one time or another all three of the main political parties had thriving associations in the village.

Amongst these various groups was the Pantomime Society. Formed in 1977, its first panto was Babes in the Wood, performed in January 1978. Such was the success of the first production that work started on producing a second pantomime, Little Miss Muffett, that was to play to full houses amidst atrocious weather in January 1978. The full story of the Pantomime Society may be found in our very first publication aptly entitled Elsenham Pantomime Society. This book is still in print and available from EVHS for just £1.

Since then, we have published several other books as listed below.

- |  |       |
|--|-------|
| <b>Elsenham Pantomime Society</b>  | £1.00 |
| <b>A History of Elsenham School</b>  | £2.00 |
| <i>This was published in 2013 to celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the school in its present building</i>  |       |
| <b>For The Duration – Elsenham in Conflict</b>   | £5.00 |
| <i>Published to commemorate the centenary of the start of WW1, this book was created by a team of dedicated researchers and tells the story of those men, remembered on the village war memorial, who lost their lives in service of their country from WW1 to the present day</i> |       |
| <b>The Robin Hood Public House</b>   | £3.00 |
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All these titles are available by contacting EVHS either through the website, by e-mail or telephone. See details above.

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September in the Memorial Hall. I have still to confirm the speaker for this meeting but will let you have the details next time.

Visitors are always welcome for a very modest two pounds but, even better, membership costs just five pounds for a full year's meetings. See you there?



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By Moyra Jackson ☎ 077655 000807

✉ elsenhamwi@gmail.com



Our Annual Meeting was very well attended, and our members heard the Committee Report read by Gill Hathaway, a Treasurer's Report from Sue Waite and the President's Address from myself. I am delighted to say that our Committee for the coming year is Sue Coleman, Gloria Eatson, Julie Hardy, Gill Hathaway, Moyra Jackson, Louise Johnson, Penny Lee, Fiona Lelland, Jo Lushey, Anne McCullagh, Barbara Pether and Sue Waite. I am very happy to report I have been appointed President for a further year.

Many of our members have been out and about at various Annual Meetings – a wonderfully enthusiastic bunch came along to Blackshots at the Federation of Essex Annual Meeting and they were a great support to Gill and me as we undertook our various duties for Essex Federation.



An even larger group of us went to London to the National Federation of WI's Annual Meeting held this year at the Royal Albert Hall. Almost 5,000 women in that amazing setting, singing Jerusalem was a truly spine-tingling moment. If you have a look on WI Essex Facebook page you can see and hear it. We had a fabulous time and met up with not only Essex members but members from all over England and Wales. The theme this year was to highlight the effect of domestic violence on women and many of the speakers' stories were heartbreaking. It made us all very proud to be part of what is the biggest women's movement in the country.

Our next meeting is on July 18<sup>th</sup> – "Suffragettes and the Endell Street Military Hospital" with Richard Pusey and the competition is something beginning with **W**.

Coming along to Elsenham WI is a really good way to meet friends especially if you are new to Elsenham. While we are very proud to have a history of Jam and Jerusalem traditions, we are so much more than that, and always happy to dispel any stereotypes associated with the WI. 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, X and Instagram – search for Elsenham WI. Visitors are welcome to our monthly meetings. We meet at 7.45pm on the third Thursday in the month in the Memorial Hall.*  
**Elsenham WI – There's a lot going on!**

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## ELSENHAM EAGLES

### Elsenham Action Group for Local Environmental Sustainability

By Rachel Geller

✉ [elsenham.action@btinternet.com](mailto:elsenham.action@btinternet.com)

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## How to support wildflowers, wildlife and us

I'm certain that we're all aware now of the need to encourage wildflowers to support bees, other pollinators (vital for our own food production), insects and the birds and mammals which depend on them.

Wildflower meadows are an essential part of the UK landscape that's sadly diminishing every year. Half of Britain's native plants have declined over the past 20 years, and we have lost 97% of UK wildflower meadows.

So how can we help to support and encourage wildflowers?

*If you are in the woods stay on footpaths and admire wildflowers from afar as even a couple of steps can be detrimental to a variety of wildflower species.*

*You can introduce wildflowers in a range of areas at home, for example: your whole lawn, a section of your garden, in raised beds, in window boxes, in plant pots or at your allotment.*

*Use local seeds where at all possible. Using seeds of British origin will help support native species that are in decline.*

*Be patient! Establishing a meadow takes time, and over the next 2-3 years you will start to see some spectacular flowers bloom – as well as all the amazing wildlife that will begin to appear in your garden.*

*If you have a dog, then please don't let them urinate or defaecate on wildflower areas. This is because dog urine and faeces contain a lot of nitrogen and phosphorus which causes the grass to grow which pushes out the wildflowers.*

Most ecosystems are naturally low-nutrient environments, and over fertilisation reduces biodiversity by allowing several thriving plants, like hogweed or nettles, to dominate, which forces out other plants and the wildlife depending on them.

We meet on the fourth Monday of each month at 7.30pm in The Crown. Our July meeting will be on Monday 22 July and anyone interested in what we do is warmly invited to attend this meeting.



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**Craig Pike**



# ELSENHAM COMMUNITY CHOIR



Would you like to make new friends? Well, singing in a group, such as a choir can help forge social bonds fast!

Do you worry about getting stale? Well, singing not only exercises the brain it also helps improve posture, muscle tension and breathing.

Singing, whether alone or in a group, has been shown to improve our sense of well-being and happiness and learning new songs is cognitively stimulating and can help the memory, so it's a win, win!

So why not give the Elsenham Community Choir a go? You will make new friends, feel uplifted with a sense of achievement, and have some fun too. Oh, and we also always have chocolates!

So why not try something new? **Come and join us the first and third Tuesday of every month at 7.00pm until 8.30pm in Elsenham Village Hall (attached to the school).**

There are no auditions at our choir, all you must do is turn up and sing.

There is always a warm welcome on your arrival, whether with friends or on your own, everyone has a place in our Choir.

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

We look forward to welcoming you!



**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.

**01279 871 777 - 0800 587 2556**

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

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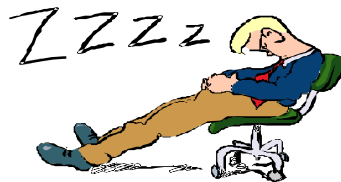
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## Reflections & Exercises


I have been walking/limping around the village.

This was because in April 2023 I split my knee cartilage. Having seen my doctor, I was referred to the Physio Clinic within Bishop's Stortford (Haymeads) Hospital. Louise did a good job there, but what happened next was the best thing.

I was encouraged to contact the "Nuffield Health Joint Pain Clinic." They have a Wellbeing Centre in Bishop's Stortford. You contact them, you can self-refer, for an initial joint pain assessment. This includes measurement of blood pressure and a HBA1c from a finger prick blood test. During this appointment you may be recommended to seek medical advice from your GP before participating in their Joint Pain Programme.

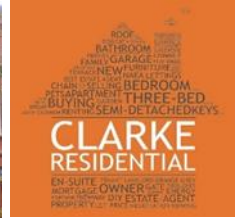
The Joint Pain Programme consists of six supported weeks with two per week personal trainer led education and weekly exercise sessions. Then six weeks of independent sessions, although there are trainers around to assist.

This Joint Pain Programme is entirely FREE. You receive a 90-page journal which is packed throughout with useful information. This is also used by you to record your progress.

Throughout the 12 weeks in addition to using the high-tech gym equipment you may also use the swimming pool, steam room and sauna. You will be offered the opportunity to become a member of the Gym **although there is no obligation whatsoever**, just go to  [www.ssoNuffieldhealth.com](http://www.ssoNuffieldhealth.com)

Ray  
Franklin's

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



May we take the opportunity of introducing ourselves to the residents of Elsenham and surrounding villages as two down to earth, experienced independent estate agents who offer a friendly honest service!

Both previously working as Branch Managers for Churchill Estates in East London, we have been working independently for almost ten years, Clarke Residential as the selling part of the business and Dardis Estates on the rental side. As working Mums we joined forces and have had lots of local success in our respective areas. With Nicola living in Elsenham for 18 years and Jacqui in Brentwood and Nazeing over the last decade, we are now focusing on expanding into more local areas and want to bring something different to our home towns. Many of our clients move from London to Essex and Hertfordshire so it has made perfect sense to expand the business into our own areas.

We are very different from other agents but offer exactly the same coverage using Rightmove, On The Market and our own website. We are quite the “one stop shop” and between us we list, market, and run the sales from start to finish. From the day we first visit on the valuation to the day we hand over the keys we are with you every step of the way.

We are always available to advise, chase, negotiate and even offer a shoulder to cry on when things get fraught! We have many contacts in the business from removals to mortgage advisors and great conveyancers you can actually speak to who offer competitive fees, all highly recommended personally by ourselves too so we can help in all aspects of your move. We are always at the end of the phone for you!

There is certainly a gap in the market for a good old fashioned honest agent with down to earth advice and a proactive attitude. 90% of our sales result from recommendations. Over the years we have moved friends, neighbours, Mums, Dads, their children, and now grandchildren! Certainly makes us feel old!

Please call either Nicola on 07909 548028 or Jacqui on 07956 513238 to find out how we can help make your move a whole new experience!



# ELSENHAM FLOWER SHOW SOCIETY

*By Allan Hathaway*

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**Memorial Hall**

**Playing Fields**

**Saturday 17th August 2024**


In this magazine you will find the Rules and the Schedule for the 2024 Flower Show, together with an Entry form, which will take place in the Memorial Hall and outside in a Marquee.

If you would like to be part of this show then please read the Rules and Schedule and complete an entry form which should be delivered to Sue Waite or Lynda Jolly (details on the form).

As you will see there are lots of varied classes to enter for adults and children from flowers, plants, photographs, baking, painting, writing and even liqueur making.

So please come along and get involved, this is held annually, like the Fete and has been going for many years, it would be great for you to show your support.

Exhibits for the Show should be at the Memorial Hall on show morning between 08.30 and 10.45am.

The Top Tray and Top Vase classes will be sponsored by the Flower Show Society with garden vouchers as prizes. Please contact Sue Waite for details of the rules  07956 899326.

The show opens to the public at 2.30pm, and after all the judging is completed closes around 4.30.

Some of the items may be available for sale if not retained by the competitor. See you there!

# ST MARY'S CHURCH ELSENHAM

Office@heuchurch.co.uk

## Thought For The Month by *Louis Wilson*

An atheist was once addressing a crowd of people in the open air. He was trying to persuade them that there was no God, no heaven or hell, no resurrection, no judgment and no life to come.

He talked boldly and the crowd listened eagerly. But suddenly a poor old woman pushed her way forward, looked at the atheist full in the face and said:

Sir, are you happy? He ignored her but she wouldn't stop asking the question. In the end, the atheist had to abandon his speech. He could not reply to her question. His conscience would not let him; he could not say that his atheism had made him happy.

I wonder what you would say? Is there anything that can bring us happiness or contentment? Where do you look for it? In this election month, a new government perhaps? Or a not new government?

Most of us firmly believe, and persuade ourselves, that the secret of contentment is found in changing our circumstances. If only I could tweak this, or adjust that, get a new job, receive a little more recognition, then I'd be happy (I really would!).

But how much is enough? How much money or power or comfort or recognition do we need before we finally feel content?

In the Bible, the apostle Paul says that real contentment has nothing to do with how much you have or don't have. In Philippians chapter 4 verse 11, he says: I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in

need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation.

What is this secret? I definitely want to know! The rest of his letter, in fact the rest of the Bible, tells us what it is: Your joy has to be located in something more than this world can give you. Because every single thing this world can possibly give you is inherently unstable, uncertain, and changeable.

Just over 100 years ago, JC Ryle the first Bishop of Liverpool said this: All the good things that money can buy are only momentary: they either leave us or we're obliged to leave them.

All the sweetest relationships in life are liable to come to an end; death may come any day and cut them off. The person whose contentment depends on things here below is like the one who builds their house on the sand. You can't rely on it.

According to the Bible, the secret of contentment in all circumstances is simple, but very challenging. The secret is learning to treasure Christ above all things. That is the secret of joy - to learn that in all things, Christ is enough.

So, in Philippians 4: 13, Paul says: I can do this – I can do contentment, in all circumstances, through him who gives me strength. I can know really deep and lasting contentment, when I find it in Christ.

With best wishes.

## SHOW ENTRY FORM

Please tick each Class(es) you wish to enter.

**(Exhibits to be retained by exhibitor must have the class number circled)**

| FLOWERS | VEGETABLE/<br>FRUIT | PRODUCE                 | FLOWER-ARRANGING        |
|---------|---------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1       | 12                  | 32                      | 46                      |
| 2       | 13                  | 33                      | 47                      |
| 3       | 14                  | 34                      | 48                      |
| 4       | 15                  | 35                      | 49                      |
| 5       | 16                  | 36                      |                         |
| 6       | 17                  | 37                      | HANDICRAFT Classes      |
| 7       | 18                  | 38                      | 50                      |
| 8       | 19                  | 39                      | 51                      |
| 9       | 20                  |                         | 52                      |
| 10      | 21                  | BAKING Classes          | 53                      |
| 11      | 22                  | 40                      | 54                      |
|         | 23                  | 41                      | 55                      |
|         | 24                  | 42                      | 56 <i>Children only</i> |
|         | 27                  | 43                      |                         |
|         | 28                  | 44                      | PHOTOGRAPHY Classes     |
|         | 29                  | 45 <i>Children only</i> | 57                      |
|         | 30                  |                         | 58                      |
|         | 31                  |                         | 59                      |
|         |                     |                         | 60                      |
|         |                     |                         | 61 <i>Children only</i> |
|         |                     |                         |                         |

### EXHIBITOR'S CONTACT DETAILS

TOTAL NUMBER OF ENTRIES \_\_\_\_\_ ENTRY MONEY ENCLOSED \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ TEL NO \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

ENTRY MONEY Each exhibit charged at 50p. For 10 or more entries total equals £4.00. Children Free.

Completed form should accompany your entry fee and sent / passed to:

**Sue Waite** 1 Sant Rd Elsenham. or **Lynda Jolly** 2 Purcell Close Elsenham.  
 Suewaite2003@yahoo.co.uk Lynda.jolly@btinternet.com  
 07956 899326

**All entries must be submitted by Saturday 10 August**

## **FLOWER Classes:**

1. A Vase of Roses, no more than 5 stems.
2. 3 Cactus, Ball or Pompom Dahlia Blooms.
3. 5 Stems (each one a different flower).
4. Flower heads floating in a saucer of water.
5. Vase of Foliage - 5 kinds.
6. My Best Bloom.
7. Flowering Pot Plant - max. pot size 20cms (8").
8. Foliage Pot Plant - max. pot size 20cms (8").
9. Succulent/Cactus in container - max. 20 cm (8") diameter.
10. Fuchsias – 6 flower heads –mounts for flowers supplied at the Show
11. EFSS TOP VASE CLASS

## **VEGETABLE/FRUIT Classes:**

12. Vase of Herbs.
13. 6 Hot Chilli Peppers (with some stalk attached).
14. 4 Carrots (with 7.5cms (3") tops).
15. 4 Potatoes.
16. 6 Pods of Runner Beans (with some stalk attached).
17. 6 Pods of French Beans (with some stalk attached).
18. 4 Tomatoes, not cherry (ripe with stalk).
19. 6 'Cherry' Tomatoes (ripe with stalk) not exceeding 3.5 cm diameter.
20. 1 Cucumber.
21. 2 Courgettes (10 – 20cms long, or if round, 7.5cm dia. approx.).
22. 3 Beetroots (with 7.5cms (3") tops).
23. 2 Of the same kind of vegetable not already listed.
24. 3 Bulbs of Garlic.
25. Heaviest Marrow.
26. Heaviest Onion.
27. Heaviest Potato.
28. Longest Runner Bean.
29. Longest Stick of Rhubarb.
30. Plate of Fruit, one variety.
31. EFSS TOP TRAY CLASS.

### **PRODUCE Classes:**

32. 1 Jar Marmalade.
33. 1 Jar Strawberry Jam.
34. 1 Jar Raspberry Jam.
35. 1 Jar Stoned Fruit Jam.
36. 1 Jar Lemon Curd.
37. 1 Jar Chutney.
38. 1 Jar of Preserve, not already listed.
39. Bottle of Home-made Liqueur (e.g. Sloe Gin).

### **BAKING Classes:**

40. Celebration Cake
41. Bread Pudding
42. Victoria Sponge – *Recipe available see page 51*
43. A Savoury Pasty
44. Strawberry Flan
45. **CHILDREN ONLY** - 3 Chocolate Cornflakes Cakes

### **FLOWER ARRANGING Classes:**

*All arrangements in the classes must use fresh flowers and foliage. Boards 60cms x 60cms (24" x 24") will be available upon which arrangements must be displayed. For classes 46-47, 48 and 49, arrangements must be displayed within the area of the board. No part of the arrangement may exceed the size of the board.*

46. A Miniature Arrangement (max. 10cms (4") overall).
47. 'Ruby Wedding'.
48. A Dinner Table Arrangement with a Candle.
49. 'Fireworks'.

### **HANDICRAFT Classes:**

50. An Article of Crochet.
51. A Knitted Caterpillar, pattern to be supplied.
52. A Hand Knitted Article. *Caterpillar pattern available from Sue Waite*
53. An Article in Cross Stitch using Embroidery Silks.
54. A Picture in Any Medium (max. size 45cms (18") square).
55. A Handwritten Limerick – 'There was a young woman from York ....'  
[to be mounted on card measuring 15cms x 20cms (6" x 8")]
56. **CHILDREN ONLY** A Lego Model.

### **PHOTOGRAPHY Classes:**

57. 'Through an Open Door'.
58. 'English Weather!'.
59. 'Sky at Night'.
60. 'Bluebells in the Wood'.
61. **CHILDREN ONLY** - 'My Pet'.

# RULES OF THE ELSENHAM FLOWER SHOW

1. Competition is open to all living in the Parish of Elsenham. Outside exhibitors are at the discretion of the Committee.
2. Staging from 8.30 a.m. to 10.45 a.m. on the morning of the show.
3. Judging is from 11.00 a.m. (Public not admitted to this.)
4. Open to the public 2.30 p.m. Admission - £1.00.  
Accompanied children are Free.
5. Stewards will indicate donated exhibits (see rules 7 and 13) from the show tables at the end of the show (approx. 4.30 p.m.). These exhibits will be marked for sale at the tables where exhibited, after which the presentation of awards will be made.
6. Entry money - Each exhibit charged at 30p. For 10 or more entries (total) equals £3.00.
7. Upon arrival, competitors will be given class cards, each one to accompany each article exhibited. Each competitor will be given an exhibitor's number. Vases, paper plates and saucers will be made available. Exhibits to be retained by competitors will be marked by a coloured sticker on class cards.
8. All exhibits must be grown, owned for at least 6 months, or made by the exhibitor (with the exception of the Flower Arranging Classes).
9. Only one exhibit allowed in each Class per person. **Please note that only entries with one name per exhibit will be accepted, including Children's Classes.**
10. Children Only entries - Free
11. Children may enter main classes, but Rule 6 charges apply.
12. Certificates will be awarded to the first three placings in each Class.
13. **Each** exhibitor must complete an Entry Form. Entry Forms, together with appropriate fees, must be submitted to Sue Waite or Lynda Jolly by Sunday, 11th August 2024. PLEASE NOTE: ANY EXHIBITS TO BE RETAINED MUST HAVE THE APPROPRIATE CLASS NUMBER CIRCLED ON SUBMISSION OF THE ENTRY FORM.
14. Additional copies of the Entry Form can be obtained from Sue Waite 1 Sant Road, Lynda Jolly 2 Purcell Close, the Post Office or the Railway Station.
15. The Society will not accept responsibility for any loss or damage caused to exhibits before, during or after the Show.
16. Points for each Class will be awarded as follows: 4 points for a 1st; 3 points for a 2nd; 2 points for a 3rd and 1 point for Highly Commended. The Parish Council Shield will be awarded to the exhibitor gaining most points overall.
17. The judge's decision is final. Awards/points may be withheld from any exhibit of insufficient merit.
18. Trophy winners are responsible for loss or damage to the Society's trophies whilst in their possession. Please ensure that our trophies are covered by your household insurance.
19. Children's classes will be scored separately.
20. No other exhibitors' entries can be moved without the permission of the stewards.

## CHURCH EVENTS IN OUR VILLAGES JULY 2024

### Church Services

#### Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July

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

#### Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> July

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

#### Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> July

- 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 28<sup>th</sup> July

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

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

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

### Other Regular Events

#### SUNDAYS:

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

**Starts at EVH then onto  
Old Frank's, Elsenham, 10.15am**  
Sundays: 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>

**Pathfinders (Y6-Y9)**

**HUSCH\*, Henham 6.00pm - leave  
from service to meet in the Church  
Hall, Henham.** Sundays: 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>

**Crammin' (Y10-Y13)**

**HUSCH\*, Henham 6.00pm - leave  
from service to meet at OSCA,  
Henham.** Sundays: 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>

#### MID-WEEK AND SATURDAY:

**Start the Week with Prayer**

**Church Hall, Henham 9.30am**  
Mondays: 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> 22<sup>nd</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>

**Seekers After School Bible Club  
(Y3-Y4) Old Frank's 3.20pm**

Mondays: 1<sup>st</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>

**Christian Play (Y1-Y2)**

**Rowan House, Elsenham 3.15pm**  
Tuesdays: 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>

**Little Fishes Pre-School Group**

**Church Hall, Henham 10.30am**  
Thursday: 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>

**Little Fishes Pre-School Group**

**Elsenham Memorial Hall 10.00am**  
Fridays: 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>

**Church Lunch Club**

**Elsenham Memorial Hall 12.30pm**  
Fridays: (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month):  
12<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>

**Afternoon Tea**

**OSCA, Henham 2.00pm**  
Saturday: 20<sup>th</sup>

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



# 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



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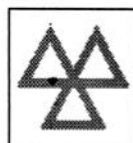
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Over 50 children enjoyed 2 days of Olympic themed fun during the half term break. Teams GB, France, USA and Australia amassed team points throughout the holiday club, culminating in a final quiz and medal ceremony during our Sunday All Age service on June 2, where Team France were the outright winners.



We laughed a lot as we danced like Zorba the Greek with “Stavros” and “Stellia”; we played football and board games; we stitched bunting and iced biscuits; we line danced, dodged balls, and our oldest group even had a go at archery.

Together we were transported back to Athens of 2000 years ago and heard how the apostle Paul told the people of Athens about the living God who made the world and everything in it. God is in charge of his world. But the people of Athens ignored God and turned away from him, which made Paul sad. So Paul told them the great good news that Jesus took the punishment they deserved for turning their backs on God, so if they put their trust in Jesus they can be friends with God.



And the best bit of holiday club was hearing that this good news is good news for us too.

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# NATURAL OUTLOOK

By Heather Salvidge ☎ 814153

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Our recent summers have all been different and this one is already. Because of possibly the mild winter – just four frosts – it has meant that many plants, shrubs, trees and grasses have got larger than usual. Our big mulberry came into bud about three weeks early and the two buddleias are showing signs of flower buds before August.

Birds, too, have bred earlier e.g. in May, when the starlings were feeding in their nests before arriving on the grass with the youngsters. Actually they can be fun to watch; they descend en masse, parents brightly coloured followed by the teenagers with their brown coats and large feet, squeaking to be fed. The parents give them a beak full or two to encourage self feeding and eat some food for themselves and have a drink – then shove the kids out of the way as one or two leap into the low water bowl and have a lovely bath. When they and any others finish the bowl is half empty and needs filling. Then the young ones get the idea and jump in with less splashing and wing flapping, using up the water which then needs a refill! Until now we have had only about 3 jackdaws ‘visiting’, and the odd rook or two. This year when I put the front feeding out a large collection of young jackdaws and rooks arrive and scared all the others off. I scare them off and the others return. I hope the ‘big birds’ will be ‘off to the fields’ sooner than last year. As blue tits, goldfinches and greenfinches hatched early, in May - will there be a second brood?

July is usually a good month for butterflies and moths, I sometimes record 14 different butterfly species and several day flying moths - many of them keen on the buddleias in flower.

There will be warm weather, heat waves, rain with or without thunder – and evenings where you can pleasantly sit out.

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If you would like to make a difference to the lives of children and families, then please get in touch. You do not need to be a parent to volunteer, any experience of working or volunteering with children is welcome also.

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For those of you who managed to attend the Gordon Barker Exhibition I hope you enjoyed browsing through the many pictures and antiquities on display of a time gone by in Elsenham's history when life was a lot slower than it is today.

Gordon had a wonderful collection and spent his whole life in pursuit of anything connected to Elsenham.

Our thanks go to Heather, Gordon's wife and her daughter Anne for assembling and displaying the exhibition and the rest of the family who were involved in one way or another.

Thanks also to the Elsenham History Society for their presentation and Roger Clark for his talk on St. Mary's Church. The event was concluded by Ben Jarvis, Gordon's grandson, who gave an amusing speech on Gordon's life to a packed church.

The sun shone on the second day, and everyone seemed relaxed enjoying the company, food and drinks in a wonderful tranquil setting.

Thank you everyone who supported this event and for your kind donations. I would not say we raised a fortune, but a good time was had by all which is important to us. I am sure the exhibition will be remembered for a very long time to come.

On a more sombre note, I find it sad that it is no longer safe to walk to our church from the village via Hall Road without being splattered by dust, water or mud from the constant stream of traffic and heavy lorries thundering by. The school have long given up attending the church at Easter or Christmas as it is simply not safe. We have all had to endure more and more development in the village without any consideration to the people who live here and want to cycle or walk around the village safely. So come on developers put your hand in your pocket and build some proper access routes and paths for us all to enjoy.

---

**Your bus service – use it or lose it! *By Bus Co-ordinator Ray Franklin***

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## U3A STANSTED

Julia Cook

✉ stanstedu3a@gmail.com 🌐 [www.u3asites.org.uk/stansted](http://www.u3asites.org.uk/stansted)

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For the first time in its history the u3a nationally is holding a Festival this July. u3a Festival 24 will take place in the beautiful city of York over 3 days from 18 to 20 July and will be held at the University of York based around their exhibition centre.

Members will be running a wide variety of activities - talks, sporting events, musical entertainment and workshops - which will make this u3a national festival something to remember. A number of members from Stansted Mountfitchet will be going, including one or two from the committee, so we hope to bring back lots of fresh ideas for our own u3a going forward.

This month the Garden Group will be visiting David and Anne Willet's garden in Little Hadham. David, who, in February, entertained us with a talk on Famous Gardens, is a member of Thorley u3a and opens his garden annually in aid of charity.

May's Saturday seminar plunged into a highly contested controversy in paleontology. Did birds evolve from dinosaurs or reptiles? Our speaker Mike Howgate, began by saying, very forcefully, that he was going to give the minority view, speak against the conventional wisdom of the day and argue that it was from reptiles. He gave a witty, compelling and fascinating account of his views, tracing the theory of flight from reptiles such as Longisquama Insignis, and denouncing the arguments that flight evolved from dinosaurs. Such was the combative nature of his argument, that it left us all wanting more. So watch this space - it may be that the dinosaur pathway will get an airing soon too!

Finally, do please remember that new members will always be very welcome to try out any class before committing.

Do check out the website: [u3asites.org.uk/stansted](http://u3asites.org.uk/stansted) or phone 07874 385541 to find out more information about the variety of activities on offer.

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## NEWPORT & DISTRICT FLOWER CLUB

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### Fun with Flowers

Our July club meeting will be on July 17 with a demonstration by Morag Bennett. Her title is 'Let's Celebrate Flowers'. This will be a fun evening and the arrangements are raffled at the end of the evening. Please do come along and bring a friend with you.

We meet on the third Wednesday of the month (except January, August and December), 7pm at Ugley Village Hall, Cambridge Road, CM22 6HR. Visitors are always very welcome. Enquires to ✉ [flowersanzp2020@gmail.com](mailto:flowersanzp2020@gmail.com)

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# Aubrey Buxton Nature Reserve

By John Welham, Warden

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The reserve has three main types of habitat: ponds, meadows and deciduous woodland. Each attracts different species that go together to make this such an interesting environment, but it is the transition zones between habitats that often have the greatest variety of species. The woodland edges, where they join the meadow areas or the fields, receive more sunlight and allow a greater variety of plants, which in turn support more butterflies and other insects. The pond margins, rather than the open water, provide food and cover for the aquatic species and are where you will see the Moorhens and the Heron.

The moorhens, by the way, along with the mallards, successfully reared chicks again this year. They are not, however, as cute as ducklings, due largely to their large bald heads.

With regard to the ponds, we need to ask members of the public not to allow their dogs to enter the ponds. The reason is twofold. Firstly, there has been very significant bank erosion to the top pond where dogs enter and exit the water. Essex Wildlife Trust has now commissioned revetment work to be carried out to this area at the cost of several thousand pounds of the charity's resources. These works will be carried out in the near future. The second reason relates to the anti-flea and tick treatments that we give our dogs. There is now increasing evidence that these treatments are harming our ponds and streams and negatively affecting the invertebrate species in the water.



I am sure some will be disappointed by this, but we ask for your cooperation in helping to look after the nature in this reserve.



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# THE HUNDRED PARISHES SOCIETY

By Ken McDonald, Secretary  [www.hundredparishes.org.uk](http://www.hundredparishes.org.uk)



The 19th century was a period of great railway development. Several railways in The Hundred Parishes no longer exist although they played an important role during their hundred-year lifetime.

The Saffron Walden Railway was constructed in 1865. It branched off the London-Cambridge main line and ran from Audley End Station to Saffron Walden. In 1866 it was extended to Bartlow to link up with the Stour Valley Railway. Following loss of passengers and freight from rail onto road (a report in 1964 by Sir Richard Beeching identified many lines that were now deemed uneconomic), many stations and miles of track were decommissioned, including the Saffron Walden line.

In Hertfordshire, a line ran from St. Margarets to Buntingford, including stations at Braughing, Hadham, Standon and West Mill. The Buntingford Line was closed to passengers in 1964 and to goods trains a year later. Buntingford Station, off Aspenden Road, is now a private residence.

Braughing station opened in 1863 and closed in 1964. It too is now a private residence but retains many of the original features including the platform, signal box and signals.



Another line ran from Bishop's Stortford via Dunmow to Braintree. Much of this is now the Flitch Way Country Park, a fifteen mile route that was opened in 1994 and is largely maintained by a group of volunteers, Friends of the Flitch Way. It is used by walkers, horse riders and cyclists and is part of National Cycle Network Route 16. The demise of the original rail line can't be blamed on Beeching; it closed in 1952 for financial reasons.

Our website [www.hundredparishes.org.uk](http://www.hundredparishes.org.uk) includes a fuller exploration of local railways under the Articles section, while the Walks section includes routes from current railway stations, plus a new series of Quiet Lane walks that do not use footpaths.

*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 PARISH COUNCIL MAY 2024

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



## Community Centre Communication



Thanks to everyone who visited the Parish Council stall at the Village Fete.

The search for architects is well under way. Details have been posted to the Government website, and we hope for a good response by the deadline on July 12. There will then be an intensive evaluation process, and a shortlist for interview will be drawn up.

If you know of any likely tenderers, it's not too late – contact ✉ [louise.epc@gmail.com](mailto:louise.epc@gmail.com)

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

Water new plants regularly: Keep recently planted shrubs, trees or perennials well watered during dry periods while they are getting established.

## **From The Parish Registers**

### **Burial of Ashes:**

On Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2024 in Elsenham Cemetery, May Maude Florence Robinson.

### **Funeral:**

A Service of Thanksgiving at Elsenham Church on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2024, Erica Hazel Mead, aged 68 years, formerly of Gaces Acre, Newport, Essex.

### **Church Contact Telephone Numbers, E-Mail and Web-Site Addresses**

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|-----------------|--|-------------------|
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| Church Office   | 01279 814285   | Anna Hicks        |
| Church e-mail   | <a href="mailto:office@heuchurch.co.uk">office@heuchurch.co.uk</a>                             |                   |
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# ELSENHAM BOWLS AND SOCIAL CLUB

*By Trevor Hackett*



At the time of writing, it is now June and for the first time the sun is shining and it's beginning to feel like we are playing a summer sport. Up until now the weather hasn't always been kind to us but here we are in the sunshine playing the sport we love. It's not a long season so we are glad to make the most of it.

Gary Benjafield was a great success when he performed at the club on May 25. For those that missed him he is performing in a show at the Southmill Arts Centre in Bishops Stortford in October this year. If you shut your eyes and listened to him singing you would have thought Neil Diamond himself was performing.

Ali Rose will be doing songs from the 50s to the 80s in the club on July 20 including Dusty Springfield amongst others. Tickets available at just £6 each (including nibbles) from the bar or from Trevor Hackett direct on 07445 437437.

Our next Saturday night Bingo session will be on July 27. The bingo bonus prize of over £100 has still not been won so come along and have your chance to win. Eyes down at 8 pm.

We have new darts teams using the club now on Sunday and Wednesday evenings with up to 24 players using 4 dart boards simultaneously so there is plenty to enjoy if you want to come along and watch.

Our enhanced bar now comes with additional bottled beers including Sharps Doom Bar, Fullers London Pride and Adnams Broadside. By the time you read this we should also have draught Doom Bar available to add to our current Carlsberg, Stella Artois, Ghost Ship and Wychwood Hobgoblin IPA. There are also wines and soft drinks so something for everyone.

We are hosting a County game this coming month so see the dates below and feel free to come and watch some of the County's finest in action while you enjoy a ring side drink. We are also playing a charity match against the Dennyside Bowling Association to raise funds for the Essex & Herts Air Ambulance.

The highlights of the calendar for July are:

- 11<sup>th</sup> Essex v Northants – 2 pm
- 15<sup>th</sup> Elsenham v Dennyside BA – 2 pm
- 27<sup>th</sup> Bingo – eyes down at 8 pm
- 31<sup>st</sup> Bedford Cup Competition – 11.45 am to 3 pm

We also have home matches on July 4, 6, 17, 19, 22, 23, 24. You are welcome to come and watch the bowling on any of these dates.

If you wish to join as a Social or Bowling member, then either call in at the bar from 7 pm weekdays or contact the Secretary Therese Clear on 07759 158859. I hope to see you in the club house.

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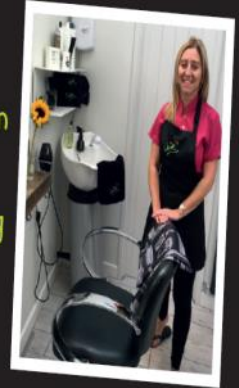
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## COOKERY CORNER

By Sue Johnson 🍴 812704



Make life easy with this delicious traybake meal, packed with seasonal vegetables and fresh flavours. The recipe is adapted from one of a selection of traybake ideas from the Womens Institute.

### **HALLOUMI ROASTED VEGETABLE TRAYBAKE (serves 4)**

2-3 tablespoons olive oil  
Juice 1 lemon  
1 teaspoon red wine vinegar  
1 teaspoon dried oregano  
Pinch chilli flakes (or to taste)  
1 red onion, cut into thin wedges  
1 red and 1 green pepper, deseeded and cut into bite-sizes pieces  
1 small aubergine, diced  
250g cherry tomatoes  
3 large cloves garlic, skins left on  
250g halloumi, sliced  
Fresh basil or rocket leaves to garnish

Preheat the oven to 200°C/180°C fan/gas mark 6.

Whisk together the olive oil, lemon juice, vinegar, oregano and chilli flakes. Season to taste with salt and black pepper.

In a large mixing bowl, combine the onion, peppers, aubergine, tomatoes and garlic. Drizzle over the olive oil mixture, then toss until the vegetables are well coated.

Arrange the vegetables on a large baking tray and place the halloumi slices evenly on top.

Roast for 40-50 minutes or until the vegetables are cooked through and the halloumi is golden on top. Transfer to a warm serving bowl, picking out the garlic cloves and reserving any juices from the bottom of the tray.

Squeeze the garlic cloves out of their skins, mash with a fork and stir into the baking tray juices. Drizzle over the vegetables and halloumi, sprinkle with basil or rocket, then serve immediately.

**CHEF'S RECOMMENDATIONS:** Delicious served with warmed flatbreads and Greek yoghurt or some hummus on the side. Can also be nicely served alongside a Sunday roast to satisfy the meat eaters in the family!

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## COOKERY CORNER - Class 42. Victoria Sponge (Mary Berry Recipe)

By Sue Johnson 🍴 812704

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serves 8-10

Ingredients:

- 4 large eggs; 225g caster sugar, plus extra for sprinkling; 225g self-raising flour; 1 level teaspoon of baking powder; 225g unsalted butter, softened, plus extra for greasing.
- 200g raspberries; 250g jam sugar. 100g unsalted butter, softened; 200g icing sugar, sifted; 2 tbsp milk.

Equipment

- 2 x 20cm sandwich tins; electric mixer; piping bag fitted with plain nozzle.

Method

Pre heat oven to 180 c electric/350 c gas; grease and line 2 x 20cm sandwich tins: use a piece of baking or silicone paper to rub a little baking spread butter around the inside of the tins until the sides are lightly coated. Line the bottom of the tins with a circle of baking paper.

Break the eggs into a large mixing bowl, then add the sugar, flour, baking powder and soft butter.

Mix everything together until well combined. Be careful not to over mix – as soon as everything is blended you should stop. The finished mixture should be a soft 'dropping' consistency.

Divide the mixture evenly between the tins. Use a spatula to remove all the mixture from the bowl and gently smooth the surface of the cakes.

Place the tins on the middle shelf of the oven and bake for 25 mins. Don't be tempted to open the door while they're cooking, but after 20 mins do look through the door to check them.

While the cakes are cooking, make the jam. Place the raspberries in a small deep-sided saucepan and crush them with a masher. Add the sugar and bring to the boil over a low heat until the sugar has melted. Increase the heat and boil for 4 mins. Remove from the heat and carefully pour into a shallow container. Leave to cool and chill to set.

The cakes are done when they are golden brown and coming away from the edge of the tins. Press them gently to check – they should be springy to the touch. Remove them from the oven and set aside to cool in the tins for 5 mins. Then run a palette knife or rounded butter knife around the inside edge of the tin and carefully turn the cake out onto a cooling rack.

For the buttercream, beat the butter in a large bowl until soft. Add half of the icing sugar and beat until smooth. Add the remaining icing sugar and one tablespoon of the milk and beat the mixture until creamy and smooth. Add the remaining tablespoon of milk if the buttercream is too thick. Spoon the buttercream into a piping bag fitted with a plain nozzle.

To assemble, choose the sponge with the best top, then put the other cake top-down onto a serving plate. Spread the jam then pipe the buttercream on top of the jam. Place the other sponge on top (topside up) and sprinkle with caster sugar to serve.



Did you know that living in close proximity to a Farmers Market can increase the value of your home, as it's seen as a really positive selling feature, so why not make the most of ours?

We have a great range of products, including **eggs, honey, apple juice, chocolate, cakes, savoury pastries, local meat products, healthy juice shots, dog treats, chutneys and oils, plants, fish, whole-foods and spices, bread, cheese...**The list is long and the majority is locally produced. We now have a regular **fruit and vegetable stall**, as well as our usual array of sellers. Most of the produce is homemade, so not only do you get to treat yourself to these fantastic goodies once a month you are also supporting local businesses and coming together with our fabulous community. You might even make a new friend! Our stallholders can vary from month to month, and their products can be seasonal, but the quality is always tip top and there is something for everyone; so, if you haven't been for a while, do pop by.

Not sure what you're after? Why not come for fresh barista coffee and cake and have a browse at the produce whilst you're here...it's a win win!

We are open from **12.30-2.30pm** and this month it is on **SATURDAY 27<sup>th</sup> July.....**  
You will not be disappointed.

The markets for the rest of the year are on the following **SATURDAYS:**

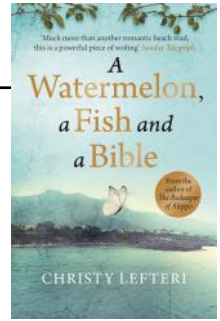
**JULY 27**  
**AUGUST 31**  
**SEPTEMBER 28**  
**OCTOBER 26 and**  
**NOVEMBER 30 (for all things festive & more).**

No charge for entry; just enjoy and immerse yourself in all the gorgeous produce.

We look forward to seeing you.  
Best wishes  
Elsenham Farmers Market Team

**A WATERMELON, A FISH AND A BIBLE** by Christy Lefteri  
Reviewed by Marion Giles for Elsenham Book Group

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*'It is July 1974 and on a bright, sunny morning, the Turkish army has invaded the town of Kyrenia in Cyprus. For many people, this means an end to life as they know it. But for some, it is a chance to begin living again.*

*Everyone has always talked about Koki. They never believed she was her father's daughter and her mother died too soon to quiet their wagging tongues. And when she became pregnant and there was no sign of a husband, her fate was sealed.*

*So she lives outside the town and hides from her neighbours' eyes. But, held captive with the very women who have made her life so lonely, Koki is finally able to tell them the truth. To talk of the Turkish shoe-maker who came to the town and took her heart away with him when he left. And how she has longed for him all these years.*

*Meanwhile, Adem Berker finds himself back in Kyrenia, his former home, now as a member of the invading force. Here he left everything he ever wanted and, by cover of darkness, risking his life, he is searching every house, every cafe, every old pathway, for just a glimpse of the only woman he has ever loved. ...' So says the blurb on the back of the book.*

- **“So much more than another romantic beach, this is a powerful piece of writing.”** *The Sunday Telegraph*

This was the choice of the book group last month. It was well-liked. We were aware that this was her debut novel and thought that her later novels benefit from more polish. However, this story does show her talent at weaving an intricate and emotive story, which is both beautifully descriptive, sad and rich in imagery.

The odd, quirky title belongs to three belongings that an elderly couple take with them whilst abandoning their home at the beginning of the journey through war-torn Cyprus in 1974. The story covers five days at the beginning of the invasion.

There are three sets of main characters. Paniko and Richard are in London and we hear their stories through concern about the situation prompting reminiscences. Koki and Maroulla are imprisoned in Cyprus by the Turkish army. Lastly, Adem and Serkan, Turkish soldiers at the forefront of the battle ground. Throughout the novel we learn how their stories weave in and out of each other.

The horror of war and senseless actions feature throughout the novel as does prejudice, longing and guilt. The novel also explores relationships and prejudice between Greek-Cypriots and Turkish-Cypriots plus the British.

The ending is a little bit predictable, in that you will probably see it coming.

# 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)**

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## 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 Flower Show Society Flower Show 17 August Playing Field  
 MacMillan Coffee Morning 27 September Bowls and Social Club  
 Dean Ferris Sings 28 September Bowls and Social Club

## 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                             | foespta@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                            | 816675                      |
| (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.



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