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Old Elsenham Exhibition June 1 & 2
St Mary's Church

elsenhamnews@hotmail.co.uk

June 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
 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

June 2024 diary

Sat	1 & 2	Old Elsenham Exhibition	St Mary's Church 10am to 5pm
Mon	3	Parish Council Meeting	Memorial Hall 7.45pm
Tues	4	Henham & District Garden Soc	Memorial Hall 2 for 2.30pm
Tues	4 & 18	Elsenham Community Choir	Village Hall 7pm
Sat	8	Charity Quiz	Bowls & Social Club 7.30pm
Mon	10	Natter Night	The Crown 7.30pm
Tues	11 & 25	Life Drawing	Village Hall 7.30pm
Wed	12	History Society Meeting	Memorial Hall 7.45 for 8pm
Fri	14 & 28	Church Lunch Club	Memorial Hall 12.30pm
Thurs	20	WI	Memorial Hall 7.45pm
Sat	22	Village Fete	Playing Field 1 - 4pm
Sat	22	Village Fete Live Music	Playing Field 5 - 8pm
Mon	24	Elsenham Eagles	The Crown 7.30pm
Sat	29	Elsenham Farmers Market	Village Hall 12.30 - 2.30pm
Sat	29	Bingo	Bowls & Social Club 7.30 for 8pm
Sun	30	Elsenham Open Gardens	11am - 5pm (see page 23)



Mobile Library
Every third Thursday stopping at Glebe End
11.50 am to 12.20 pm
20 June

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	8.45am-2pm	Cakery & Barista	Memorial Hall
	6-7.15pm	Cubs (Bear Pack)	Ugley Village Hall (term-time)
	6.45-7.45pm	Jump Fit	Elsenham Village Hall
Friday	10-11am	Little Fishes	Memorial Hall (term-time)
Saturday	8.15am-1pm	Tarte au Citroen	Playing Field
	9-11am	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



June promises to be a bumper month for events in the village.

To open the month, there is the exhibition featuring pictures and artefacts from days past to be held at St Mary's (June 1 & 2). One not to be missed if you are interested in the history of the area.

The village fete returns this year on Saturday June 22. There are far too many planned stalls to list here, and this year there will be events in the evening.

The Elsenham Flower Show Society will be holding the annual open gardens on the thirtieth to round the month off.

What a month it should be.

In this month's issue, we are pleased to have a couple of articles from readers.

Lee Beresford tells us all about his involvement with the London Marathon and Alex Lambourne celebrates a year of Tarte au Citroen.

If you have been involved in any events that you feel our readers may be interested in, please submit an article and we will do our best to get you in print!

We hope you enjoy this issue and we hope you enjoy the month of June as a resident of this active and thriving village.

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

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

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

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

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

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ELSENHAM PARISH COUNCIL APRIL 2024

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



The Annual Parish Council Meeting 13 May 2024

Cllr. Graham Mott was elected Chair for the coming year: this is Cllr. Mott's sixth consecutive year as Chair. Cllr. Bob Burlton was elected Vice-Chair. Cllr. Mott thanked Cllr. Donald for taking on the role of Vice-Chair for the last two years. Cllr. Donald felt with her ever demanding role as District Councillor it was time to step down, but remains a parish councillor.

Councillors and Co-opted members were elected to the ten Committees, two Working Groups and ten Appointments of Representatives to Outside Bodies.

The report on the Gladman planning application for up to 240 dwelling North of Bedwell Road commissioned by 24Acoustics on behalf of Elsenham, Henham and Ugley Parish Councils, has been submitted to Uttlesford District Council. The report is founded on the noise that this development would be exposed to every day from the motorway and the railway.

The Playing Field Committee have asked Dania, the company that installed the new equipment and paths in the children's play area, to address the problem of grass growing on the paths. Dania have now sourced a pesticide that is an acetic acid/water-based solution. It is therefore organic and biodegradable and compliant with Elsenham Parish Council Pesticide Policy. However, the children's play area would need to be locked for 24 hours after application to allow the treated areas to dry.

Elsenham Parish Council are no further forward in part funding a PCSO for the village. A meeting on May 7, to sign the contracts, was cancelled by Uttlesford District Council at the last minute, this is the second time the meeting has been cancelled without explanation. The PCSO's contract should have commenced on April 1 2024.

Ever since taking over the allotments on Smith Road from the developer, Crest Nicholson, there have been problems with the water taps. The taps had not been installed by the developer to the specified standard. The taps have now been made compliant and are all working in time for the summer.

The Centre Contract Company withdrew the bus service 59/590 in Uttlesford. Essex County Council said that this withdrawal had not been approved. Essex Travel worked with AB Travel and Stephenson's of Essex and the service has now been reinstated. Travel will be free until the routes are registered; the timetable remains the same. It is unsure why the routes were withdrawn, but it shows how fragile our rural bus service is.

The next Parish Council meeting is on Monday June 3, starting at 7.45pm in the Memorial Hall.



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DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORT

By Cllr Lees and Cllr Donald

✉ Cllrdonald@uttlesford.gov.uk

✉ Cllrlees@uttlesford.gov.uk

☎ 07836 346717

☎ 07713 074656



The sun is shining, and we are hopeful the summer has begun. We look forward to seeing you at the Village Fete.

This month we thought we would highlight a few of our health and wellbeing initiatives.

Find out how you can build your strength, improve mobility and meet new people with our seated exercise programme.

You can register your interest and sign up for a 12-week exercise programme which is delivered in small groups at community venues throughout Uttlesford.

This service is free to adults living or registered to a GP practice in Uttlesford, Harlow and Epping. Classes are in Stansted, Newport, Thaxted, Saffron Walden and Great Dunmow.

The sessions are fun and welcoming and for the majority of the time you will be seated. On some occasions and if you are able during certain exercises the instructor may ask you to use the chair as a balance to help build your core strength.

The programme has been designed to help you maintain your strength and balance, help you become more active and improve your general wellbeing. To be part of the programme you must:

- live in the Uttlesford area or are registered with a West Essex GP (Uttlesford, Harlow and Epping)
- be 18 years old or over
- be at risk of falling or have reduced strength and mobility
- need to increase your activity level

How to get help if you are self-isolating, need financial or practical help or you're feeling isolated.

The Uttlesford Community Response Hub is available to help anyone in need.

It is run as a partnership between Uttlesford District Council, Volunteer Uttlesford and the Council for Voluntary Service in Uttlesford.

When to ask for help

You can ask for help if you:

- are self-isolating and need help with shopping or prescriptions
- are in immediate financial difficulty
- are feeling lonely and isolated
- need support with staying independent at home
- would like advice on how to stay active
- need support if your mental health has been affected



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DEVELOPMENT DEVELOPMENTS

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



In an unprecedented move, this column includes an illustration. It is of oxlips, a rare and protected species found in this country only in a limited part of eastern England. The most significant area in Essex is in the very local Alsa Wood, to the west and north of Isabel Drive, between Dandara's developments off Isabel Drive and off Stansted Road. There was a planning Condition attached to their development whereby they were to produce a 'Woodland Management Plan'. This they did, and said there were primroses in the wood, no doubt because the leaves are similar to oxlips. But in fact there are no primroses, the error was pointed out to them and they seemed to take it on board. Shortly thereafter, however, they produced their 'Recreation Strategy', to fulfil another Condition agreed with the development. Their proposals made much of display boards which would inform everyone about the wood - and again, they said there are primroses and made no mention of oxlips.

The Condition should have been discharged by now, since the first residents have moved in (welcome to Elsenham; we moan about new developments, but that doesn't mean we hold it against you personally). There are several other conditions also now overdue. Dandara should have made improvements to the footpath which runs alongside Alsa Wood, and they should have made a contribution to Essex County Council for improvements to the footpath which runs east from Isabel Drive to the footbridge over the motorway. They have been delayed in making the payment because, absurdly, there seems to be no-one at ECC with the capacity to raise an invoice, and little confidence that any payment made will end up in the correct county pot to ensure the work is put in hand. Just for good measure, by now Dandara should also have made proposals for a signal enhancement scheme on Grove Hill. The idea is to reduce queues downhill through an additional vehicle detector, whilst implausibly claiming that queues uphill will not be affected. Developers agree conditions on a 'whatever' basis in order to secure approval, but often they have little regard for what the conditions actually mean and whether they will in fact be fulfilled at the agreed point in the development.

Vistry have offered a feeble excuse for their failure to discharge conditions due before they started work between Hall Road and Fuller's End. They claim that they closed their regional office and lost the conditions, held electronically, during the move. Uttlesford's threats of Enforcement have proved ineffective so far. Back in March, I commended Vistry for keeping open the public right of way which runs through their site. Shortly thereafter, the footpath was closed for construction works, and is not due to re-open until September, or perhaps earlier if they get on with it.

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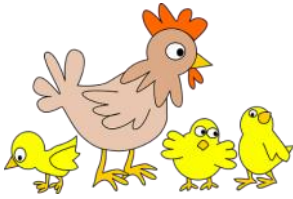
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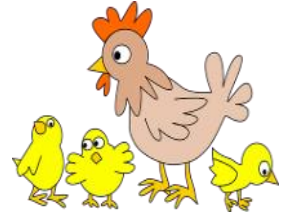
Daisy May's Farm

Hall Road, Elsenham, CM22 6DN

Even with the changeable weather, our babies just keep on coming in all sorts of shapes and sizes, but what they all have in common is that they are **really cute**.

There is so much to do:

- Hold the ducklings & chicks.
- Bottle feed the orphans.
- Meet the farm animals
- Cuddle the babies.
- Arts & crafts
- Enjoy our play area.
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
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As ever, thanks so much for your continued support.



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

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ELSENHAM VILLAGE HISTORY SOCIETY

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



Last month I mentioned in passing the building of the combined School Hall and part time Village Hall. Even with this new facility in place there was still a need for some sort of community centre and the form this might take had been pondered for some years.

It has been more than thirty years since the new community centre on the Playing Fields first opened for business in February 1988 hosting that year's ECA Annual General Meeting. This had followed nearly fifteen years of talking, planning and finally, building the centre by a group of volunteers. The way was also beset by any number of setbacks en route. When it opened there was no concrete path to the hall from the Leigh Gate on Station Road so wellies were essential to navigate one's way to the hall during the winter months. The Parish Council provided a permanent path in June that year when the building was finally completed. It was at this point that the volunteer builders suddenly found that their weekends were free to do other things which were mainly the jobs that had been put off at home! In October 1988, the building was given its present name, the Memorial Hall, at a short dedication ceremony performed by the then Vicar of Elsenham, the Rev. Brian Green. The hall proved extremely popular and was used by a large number of village organisation and private hirers. So much so that four years later it was clear that there was need for a bigger hall and more storage space. The ECA set up a fund-raising committee and started planning for an extension. Planning permission was granted in June 1994 and by the end of August the building shell was complete. The volunteer army was mobilised once more to fit out the interior and in April 1995 the extension was complete.

A fuller account of the building of the Memorial Hall may be found in "Elsenhams, The First 1000 years", a book published by the Parish Council to celebrate the Millennium. The book tells the story of Elsenham from its appearance in the Domesday Book to 2000 and is compiled from articles provided by very many contributors. It is my intention to dip into the book for future articles.

Unfortunately the book is now long out of print and the high cost of reprinting make it uneconomic to sell printed copies. We are however looking at ways of providing digital copies – watch this space.

We have all heard of the grand old Duke of York and his ten thousand men. But there was more to this man that we will discover when Richard Till returns for our next meeting with his talk "The Grand Old Duke of York and His Embarrassing Mistress". This will be on Wednesday 12th June at 8pm in the Memorial Hall and promises to be an entertaining evening. 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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ELSENHAM WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

By Moyra Jackson ☎ 077655 000807

✉ elsenhamwi@gmail.com



Lots of planning going on at Elsenham WI - planning for our Annual Meeting, for events we will be attending and especially getting ready once again to run the 'Tea Tent' at the Village Fete on the 22nd of this month. Just to be clear, there will be a lot of tea but not a tent in sight as for the third year running we will be transforming the Memorial Hall into our very own Tea Room. As always, a huge array of fabulous WI baking will be available to enjoy with your beverage of choice and to take home with you. As always, many of our amazing members will be on duty so please drop by and say hello and visit our WI Stall for our Tombola – will it be wine or will it be water? We also have a Lucky Dip especially for the kids.



Many of us from Elsenham are going to the National Federation of WI's Annual Meeting this month in what is considered to be the 'home' of the WI, The Royal Albert Hall. The theme of the meeting is No More Violence, and they have excellent speakers including a Q&A session with Melanie Brown MBE, better known as ex-Spice Girl Mel B, with Victoria Derbyshire asking the questions.

Our meeting this month is on Thursday 20th and follows on from National's campaign (again, it all comes down to planning!) and we have Helen Kirkham and Claire Buttress from Foort Taylor coming along to talk about "Legal Issues Unique to Women". This month's competition is something beginning with the letter **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!

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

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ELSENHAM EAGLES

Elsenham Action Group for Local Environmental Sustainability

By Rachel Geller

✉ elsenhham.action@btinternet.com



Bats

Thanks to those who came along to the bat walk. We have raised over £60 (which hopefully can be used as a starter for some projects). The practice walk the weekend beforehand actually had the most bats, as it was a little chilly for it on the day. We heard common and soprano bats, a nathusius pipistrelle bat, and a young lady holding on to the good old analogue duet detector spotted a common pipistrelle emerging from the back of church. We also heard noctules flying over along the bridle way - a bigger bat which can often be seen flying over high in a straight line. As expected, we only had a few as it was a bit too cold for it really on the 20th, as bats, while they are flying, eat insects like moths and mosquitoes which are more active in warmer weather, by bouncing ultrasonic calls off them.

May 4 was called off due to forecasted rain, only to be clear skies. What can you do? The MET office can't control it all. If you would like to be informed of a more informal bat walk, (probably with confirmation on the day of the weather as this is proving to be tricky), please provide us with your email or mobile and I will endeavour to get in contact with details in advance, then confirming on the day.

If you want to encourage bats, night scented flowering plants like honeysuckle for moths, and ponds, encourage insects. Also, if you have room to provide a roost, large trees can naturally provide this – or bat boxes can be installed in combination with bat friendly lighting in the garden. By area, UK gardens now outnumber the size of all the nature reserves combined in the UK so what we do is important in gardens. It's not just bees, all insects are declining. Log piles and a patch of longer grass alongside a tidy mown lawn all help.

Big scale thinking is great, but it is thought that individuals need to 'look after their own patch' to make these changes. Any litter anywhere can make its way to a drain, a stream, a river to the sea and could end up in the North Atlantic Ocean garbage patch. It would be great if there was a "wall" of gardens near the M11 with plants still able to take in carbon dioxide when leaves fall off the trees. We would love to aid mapping habitats through Elsenham and encourage a wildlife corridor to be created, especially with all the new housing coming in. Keep up all the good work, people already do!

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Craig Pike



Tarte au Citroen!

By Alex Lambourne

✉ Hello@tarteaucitroen.com



It's been a year since we introduced Elsenham to Nicole, our little Citroen van, when she made her first appearance at the Elsenham Village Fete in the vintage car section! She caused quite a stir and the messages flooded in from villagers saying you couldn't wait for us to start! Tarte au Citroen has since become a weekly staple, serving the village every Saturday since September. With this, I wanted to take the opportunity to tell you a little of her history, what we have been up to since we became the proud owners of the business and most importantly to say a heartfelt thank you to all our customers!

We knew there was a gap in the village for fresh barista coffee and cake. Passing through Stansted with their popular cafes, we thought this was something our villagers deserved to have available to them, all within walking distance. With my past role as cabin crew, running a pop-up gin bar at events and a keen baker, it all fell into place when I saw the business up for sale.

Our iconic 1963 Citroen H Van, is in completely original and operational condition, rescued from a French barn and reinvented into a self-contained mobile barista coffee bar. A little bit of French history along with her quirky and vintage charm certainly brings a smile to people's faces as she is unique to the village.



An overdue catch up with an old friend created another sliding doors moment, when I was introduced to Arron from Ninth Coffee Roastery in Saffron Walden. A young but thriving local business, they ethically source their beans and roast them weekly. Ensuring their product is sold as it should be, Arron trained the Tarte Team and gave us all the info. Who knew coffee from start to finish is a real science! In addition, we have recently acquired our alcohol licence, so have happily added that to our hire service.

Along with our team, Jo and Rachel, I wanted to say the biggest heartfelt thank you to each and every one of you, for all the likes on the village Facebook page, contacting us for private and corporate events and of course popping up to see us every Saturday at the Recreation Ground. It really is our pleasure to meet you and we genuinely love seeing all our regulars and new faces every week.

We will continue to serve throughout the summer and of course we look forward to seeing you at the village fete!

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ELSENHAM



ELSENHAM FLOWER SHOW SOCIETY

✉ suewaite2003@yahoo.co.uk

✉ lynda.jolly@btinternet.com



Open Gardens Day - Sunday, 30 June 2024. 11am – 5pm

A big **THANK YOU** to all of you that came along to support Elsenham Flower Show Society on our annual Plant Sale a few weeks ago, I hope you are all pleased with the produce you bought. All proceeds will go towards the costs and prizes of the Annual Flower Show on **August 17** in the Memorial Hall. We also send our thanks to the people that kindly grew or donated plants for the show.

We now turn our attention to the village **Open Gardens Day, Sunday June 30, 11am - 5pm**. There are a few new gardens opening their gates this year. You will find information on the roads where gardens will be open below. There is a one-off entrance fee of £3 per adult, which is taken at the first garden you choose to visit. You will then receive a yellow booklet, with information on all the gardens that are open and an introduction from the garden owners outlining relevant information to do with their garden, which you should find useful. Please show this booklet on entering every garden you visit.

Some gardens may have refreshments, for a small donation. I hope you can come along and enjoy seeing all the different gardens in the village and this may inspire or assist you with your own garden. Hopefully, summer will arrive soon and we can all enjoy our gardens more.

Alsa Leys (off New Road, opposite the station) 1 garden

New Road 3 gardens

Station Road 3 gardens

Park Road (by the Pump House) 1 garden

High Street Nr the School 1 garden

Franklin Drive (off Stansted Road) 1 garden

Sant Road (off Franklin Drive) 1 garden

Purcell Close (off Sant Road) 2 gardens

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We hope everyone has been keeping safe over the last month.

Welcome to our article on what it is like to be an on-call fire-fighter in this beautiful corner of Essex.

The month of April brought many challenges for the team here at Stansted. As well as attending incidents, the crew were training hard and continuing to support the development of two trainee fire-fighters that have recently joined the team.

A notable date in the month was Monday April 15 when our very own FF Johnson was awarded a Chief Fire Officers Commendation for her bravery in dealing with a medical incident she came across on Cambridge Road, Stansted. The whole station are incredibly proud of FF Johnson's actions and it was great to see she was recognised by the wider service, especially for the skills she has learnt as an on-call fire-fighter and proving that those skills can be used even when you're off duty.

On May 4, we observed a minute's silence for National Fire-fighter memorial day and paid tribute to active and retired firefighters in the UK and all around the world, for their extraordinary courage, selflessness and dedication — and for the ultimate sacrifice so many men and women firefighters make in the line of duty.

Lastly, for anyone interested in joining the team please feel free to pop down and see us on a Thursday drill night at 7pm. We are at the fire station on Chapel Hill. Stay Safe and kind regards to all.

[Stansted Fire Station | Facebook](#)



ST MARY'S CHURCH ELSENHAM

Office@heuchurch.co.uk

Thought For The Month *by Louis Wilson*

By the time you read this, our churches will be in the midst of hosting Olympic Adventure Bible Holiday Club in Henham and Ugley School Hall. Games, challenges, medals, songs, craft and a book in the Bible called Acts. Holiday Club was open to all Primary School age children whichever school they attend (or not). It might not be too late to sample what we did at the closing Ceremony (All-age Service) at HUSCH on Sunday 2 June at 10.15 am.

Of course, the actual Olympic Games return to Paris this summer for the first time since 1924. The 1924 Games were made famous in Britain by the participation of Eric Liddle who was both an outstanding track athlete and a Scotland rugby international.

In the run up to the games, he was known to be an exceptional sprinter. But it became clear that the heats for the 100m. dash would take place on a Sunday. Because of his Christian conviction to keep Sundays as a day for worship and rest, not work or organised recreations, he had long since resolved not to compete on the Lord's Day and therefore could not qualify for the 100m. He started to train for the 400m instead.

What happened in the Olympic 400m final was extraordinary. Ten years later, his great rival Harold Abrahams recorded: 'From the start Liddle ran like a man inspired. He set off at a pace which looked so ludicrously fast that we expected him to crack.... But he seemed to maintain it right to the finish and won by yards and yards in the new Olympic record time of 47.6 seconds.'

He returned to Scotland as a hero. But having been born to missionary parents in China, he chose in 1925, to leave Scotland to return to the land of his birth as a missionary teacher.

And he was there when the Japanese invaded and overran the country. As the situation deteriorated, he arranged for his pregnant wife and two daughters to leave for Canada. But Eric Liddle stayed and along with other British nationals was interned in what was effectively a civilian prison camp.

He died in the camp in 1945 aged 43, 6 months before it was liberated by American troops. His grave was marked with a cross on which his name was inscribed with black boot polish, but the grave is unknown today. His third daughter was born in Toronto in 1941, but sadly never met her father.

His story was partly remembered in the 1981 film *Chariots of Fire*, a film well worth watching but which scarcely does justice to the man. On the day he died, a fellow internee made this diary entry:

He certainly didn't look like a great runner, but the fact that he had been gave him a self-confidence that men of his type don't often have. He wasn't a great leader or inspired thinker, but he knew what he ought to do and he did it. He was a true disciple of the Master. We have lost of our best, but we have gained a fragrant memory.

With best wishes,

Louis

CHURCH EVENTS IN OUR VILLAGES JUNE 2024

Church Services

Sunday 2nd June

10:15 All Together All Age Service,
Holiday Club Special, HUSCH*,
Henham

18:00 Sunday@6, HUSCH*, Henham

Sunday 9th June

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 16th June

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 Communion,
HUSCH*, Henham

Sunday 23rd June

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, HUSCH*, Henham

Sunday 30th June

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, HUSCH*, Henham

* HUSCH: Henham & Ugley School Hall

Other Events:

Ladies' Summer Pudding Evening
Wed 19th June, 7.30 for 8pm, OSCA

Puddings, drinks, fun crafts, lots of chat and a surprising tale of lost and found.

Other Regular Events

SUNDAYS:

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

Starts at EVH then onto
Old Frank's, Elsenham, 10.15am
Sundays: 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th

Pathfinders (Y6-Y9)

HUSCH*, Henham 6.00pm - leave
from service to meet **in the Church**
Hall, Henham. Sundays: 9th, 16th, 23rd
& 30th

Crammin' (Y10-Y13)

HUSCH*, Henham 6.00pm - leave
from service to meet at **OSCA,**
Henham. Sundays: 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th

MID-WEEK AND SATURDAY:

Start the Week with Prayer
Church Hall, Henham 9.30am
Mondays: 3rd, 10th, 17th & 24th

Seekers After School Bible Club
(Y3-Y4) Old Frank's 3.20pm
Mondays: 3rd, 10th, 17th & 24th

Christian Play (Y1-Y2)

Rowan House, Elsenham 3.15pm
Tuesdays: 4th, 11th, 18th & 25th

Little Fishes Pre-School Group
Church Hall, Henham 10.30am
Thursday: 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th

Little Fishes Pre-School Group
Elsenham Memorial Hall 10.00am
Fridays: 7th, 14th, 21st & 28th

Church Lunch Club

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

Afternoon Tea

OSCA, Henham 2.00pm

For information on all these events,
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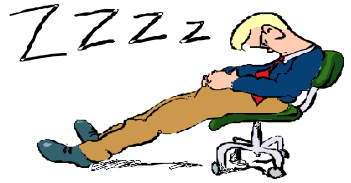
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ALSA WOOD

The first mention of the wood which is now known as “Alsa Wood”, is in 1269. At that time it was known as “*Alsieshey*” (*Park*). Then the name changed many times getting close to “Alsa Wood” in 1704 and 1730 when it is called Alseywood.

But the name changed again, in 1805 an O.S. map refers to “Assey Street”. The site was transferred between the two civil parishes. In 1946 an area of 36 acres was transferred from Stansted to Elsenham followed by another 117 acres between 1951 and 1961.

The ownership of the wood has been transferred many times. In 1704 Thomas Middleton of Stansted Mountfitchet sold the lordships and estates of Stansted Mountfitchet (Stansted Hall). The estate included ‘All that Grove and Wood com[m] only called Alsey wood’. A gentleman called Bayley Heath evidently also acquired both Alsa Wood and Elsenham Hall before his death in 1835. Some time later the lands of Bentfield Bury manor, Elsenham Hall and other places including Ugley, were all under the ownership of the Heath family.

Elsenham Hall manor remained in the Rush family, being held by George Rush in 1840 but the estate did not include Alsa Wood. These estates appear to have passed from the Heath family to the Rush family around the turn of the 19th century.

In 1811 Kitty Rush sold the manor of Elsenham Hall to John Coles, including “Alsey Wood” and the farm commonly called “Alsey Street Farm”. In 1843 Alsa Wood, then measuring 78 acres, 1 rood and 35 perches, had passed to Spencer. He also owned the Alsa Lodge and Norman House later the home of the late Aubrey Buxton, ornithologist and Director of Anglia T.V. He created the “Buxton Estate,” formerly part of “Alsa Wood”. The wood, now divided by the M11, still remains.

Ray
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NATURAL OUTLOOK

By Heather Salvidge ☎ 814153



A while ago, in fact pre-Covid, I had a lovely visit to Sawbridgeworth Marsh, an Essex Wildlife Trust reserve, with the Stort Navigation as its western boundary. While there I made some notes about what was at the site e.g. alders, willows, hawthorns on drier ground, flowers and insects. It's not called 'a marsh' for nothing and the trails can get muddy but it's very lush.

When I was there, there were some yellows in flower: flag irises in the marsh runnels, yellow water lilies in the Stort, yellow rattle in low-growing grass and buttercups on the side of some paths. Also on path edges were southern marsh orchids. These grow up to about 30 inches tall with small pink-purple flowers in thick clusters on the top of the stalk. There were also purple tufted vetch and tall purple thistles, either spear or marsh, but very spiky.

The pale marsh valerian, which was mainly white but flushed pink at the edges, thrusts itself up through the thick growth, some of which is meadowsweet. Meadowsweet likes it moist, is tall and has small, scented, white flowers borne high up the flower stalk. By contrast, the lesser stitchwort has white star-shaped flowers and is low-growing where it finds short grass

Water figwort gets up to 8 to 9 feet tall on water edges and has some very small red flowers at the top. There is some 'ordinary' figwort in our garden, but I have not managed to compare the two. For pink colour there is the tall greater willow herb with its flowers at the top of the stem (there is some in the Aubrey Buxton reserve) and the dreaded Himalayan Balsam, an introduced plant now regarded as a desperate weed. This is attacked in late summer by groups of volunteers, both in Aubrey Buxton and the Stort in Bishop's Stortford.

The reed mace was "in flower". This plant of the bulrush family has a dark chocolate cigar-shaped part. The lower part is female and is closely packed with tiny flowers while the upper part is narrower and consists of male flowers. So I am told!

The birds were on song as well and I identified at least 3 different male blackbirds and some other warblers. I did manage to name the reed bunting and a sedge warbler but not all of them. Over in the Stort there was a collection of insects, mainly demoiselles by the dozen and the more commonly found dragonflies.

This year I shall make a point of going back, on a sunny day, to see if anything has changed and if the Stort is still flowing well. To get there you go along the Hallingbury Road, via Latchmore Bank and Gaston Green, towards the level crossing but stop several hundred yards short of that and find somewhere sensible to park.



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Time waits for no man

They say “Time waits for no man” but I can’t believe how this year is slipping by. Hard to believe that we are only three weeks away from the longest day.

What a sobering thought.

However our attention this weekend, 1 & 2 June from 10am - 5pm, will be very much focused on the Elsenham Exhibition of Pictures and Artefacts. I am sure there will be something of interest for everyone. So do come along to St. Marys Church and here’s hoping that the sun will shine. Entry to the exhibition is Free.

The Fabric Fund will once again be attending the Village Fete later in the month. So do call by for a chat. We always love to meet new people to the village. I was very glad to hear that a new committee has been formed to keep this popular event going . It would be sad to see the Fete disappear from the Village calendar.

That’s all for this month.

From The Parish Registers

Burial of Ashes:

On Saturday 20th April in Henham Churchyard, Penelope Anne Hatt.

On Saturday 27th April in Henham Churchyard, Roshan Banatvala.

Wedding:

On Friday 10th May at St Mary’s Church, Elsenham, Daniella Charlotte Blackie and Glen Anthony Church.

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

Vicar	01279 850480 louis.wilson@heuchurch.co.uk	Rev. Louis Wilson
Church Office	01279 814285	Anna Hicks
Church e-mail	office@heuchurch.co.uk	
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Encounters of the Third Kind

Boldly venturing on a European holiday alone, Stansted member Susan Sedgebeer was pleased to happen upon a fellow u3a member from Bishop Auckland. The happy coincidence, miles from the UK, led to an interesting arrangement. Fast forward to Sunday 7th April when eight Stansted members drove to Cambridge to meet up with a large party from Bishop Auckland u3a! They joined together for a guided tour of the city given by the knowledgeable Tony Rodgers MA BSc. All 'Thirdagers' had a super time and recommend being a tourist in your own city!

The Garden Group recently looked into the History of the Cottage Garden with the help of Andrew Sankey, gardener, author and lecturer. Forget any chocolate box notions with hollyhocks at the gate. The original cottage gardens were a key source of food for their inhabitants (as well as the site of their al fresco restrooms). Any hollyhocks were self-seeded, not deliberately planted.

The itchy feet of the Bus Pass Group took them to the Botanical Gardens in Cambridge for their recent outing. The beautiful array of lilacs, orange blossom and magnolias did not disappoint the travellers. Inside the hothouses, where they took refuge from the cold winds, they found the exotic Jade Vine. This plant is usually pollinated by bats - with none available, the botanical gardeners have had to do this by hand to ensure a crop of juicy fruits later in the year.

Sadly, the group arrived in Cambridge by means of the train, having taken the decision that the buses were less than reliable. Let us hope this does not become a permanent situation.

Finally, do please remember that new members are always very welcome. Please check out the website: u3asites.org.uk/stansted or phone 07874385541 to find out more information about the variety of activities on offer.

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

Replacement bus service

With little warning Central Connect have advised that they no longer wish to run the 301 bus service. Essex Travel have secured the services of A2B and Stephenson's will be running the 15.28 service. I know that residents from Elsenham travel to Stansted on the 7 or 7A and then catch an onward 301 Bus to Saffron Walden. The cost of running the service is huge, so please let's **USE THE BUS SERVICE OR LOSE IT!**


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LONDON MARATHON

By Lee Beresford

Lee writes of his experience raising £4,155 for Child Bereavement UK by running the London Marathon this year.

In 2022 I was watching the London Marathon and after watching these inspirational people running I thought I could do that.

In 2023 I entered the ballot without telling anyone but didn't get in. I told my friend (Boss) and he said he had friends involved with a charity called Child Bereavement UK. He made a call and I got an entry and had to raise £1000 so I got some trainers and started running. I picked up an injury in 2023 so had to defer until 2024. I never give up and just kept running round Elsenham and Henham increasing my miles each month. The weather wasn't great but I pushed myself and Sunday mornings were my long runs. Local people were great, they would wave out of their windows and shout out whenever they saw me, which kept me going.

On Sunday the 21st of April I got on the bus and went up to the marathon with family and friends and ran a time of 5hrs 15 mins and raised over £4000 for this great charity. My running days are now over but thanks to everyone for the wonderful donations and support.

Child Bereavement UK helps families to rebuild their lives when a child grieves or when a child dies. They support children and young people when someone important to them has died or is not expected to live, and parents and the wider family when a baby or child of any age dies or is dying. They provide training to professionals in health and social care, education, and the voluntary and corporate sectors, equipping them to provide the best possible care to bereaved families.

Visit the website www.childbereavementuk.org/ if you wish to make a donation.

GARDEN HINT *By Sue Johnson*

Give tulip bulbs some love: Lift and divide tulips that have finished flowering. They can be lifted, dried and stored when the foliage has died down, or clumps can be replanted





The Farmers Market is now up and running on every last Saturday of the month.

As a reminder, here are the dates for the rest of 2024 – pop them in your diary!

29th June

27th July

No market during the holiday season

28th September

26th October

30th November (our festive market)

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

You will be able to buy eggs, honey, flowers, homemade savouries perfect for lunch, fish and other frozen yummy products, British cheeses, wild local game, freshly made chilli jams and ginger jellies, homemade fresh and natural juice shots, and we are constantly on the lookout for new and fresh ideas, so make sure you pop by.

Helen will be there with Ernie, her converted milk float selling food refills like rice, pasta, etc, so be sure to bring your containers! She will also have her sustainable cleaning products too.

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

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

Best wishes, The Elsenham Farmers Market Team

THE HUNDRED PARISHES SOCIETY

By Ken McDonald, Secretary ✉ www.hundredparishes.org.uk



The Hundred Parishes includes much of the extensive barley-growing area of the Hertfordshire and Essex borders. The malting of barley in preparation for its use in the brewing industry was a significant activity in several of our larger villages and market towns, especially along the River Stort, from the 18th to the 20th centuries.

Evidence is still to be found in the form of place names indicating the location of former maltings, such as Malting (s) Lane in Much Hadham and Chrishall; and in the names of buildings that were once maltings or associated with one nearby. Thus there are a number of Malting(s) Cottage(s), as in Linton, Bartlow, Much Hadham, Aspenden and Ugley; and Old Maltings as at Manuden, Arkesden and Great Chesterford. In Little Hallingbury there is Malting Farm and The Old Brick Malting.



Gt Dunmow Maltings



Manuden Old Maltings

As well as conversion to private houses, surviving maltings have been renovated and converted to a variety of uses. Great Dunmow's is now a museum and community resource. In Wethersfield the maltings is now the village hall and shop, while the station maltings in Newport and those in Central Arcade in Saffron Walden are commercial premises. Multi-storey maltings in Sheering have been converted into apartments and in Stanstead Abbots to a business centre.

The classic form of a malting reflects the various processes which took place within the building. Grain was hauled in through the lucam or hoist housing at one end of the building where it was then steeped in water to start the germination process.



Newport Station Maltings

The grain was laid out on germination floors before growth was halted at a particular stage by applying heat in the kiln at the other end of the building. The process of initiating and then halting germination is known as malting.

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.

Henham, Elsenham and Ugley Churches
Invite you to

Summer Pudding Evening for Women

Wednesday 19 June

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7:30 for 8pm

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Community Centre Communication

Architects Wanted!

It has long been recognised that Elsenham could do with a new community hall because of the large increase in the number of residents in the village. The existing halls do not satisfy all the current and forecast needs. Uttlesford District Council accepted this, and the empty space off Southfield Close (off Isabel Drive), to the west of the playing field, was set aside for the purpose.

Funding was to be provided from new developments at that time: Isabel Drive (175 homes), Franklin Drive (165 homes) and west of Hall Road (130 homes). Difficulties over detailed approval for west of Hall Road and legal setbacks over title to the land delayed the project for several years.

The agreed contributions were not sufficient for the purpose. The Parish Council tried to get extra funds from more recent housing developments, with mixed success. There will still be a shortfall, which the Parish Council will seek to cover through a Public Works Board Loan, available from the Government for such a purpose. Village residents will be consulted and asked to give their approval, via a public referendum, before the Parish Council takes out the loan and authorizes construction to start.

In Spring last year, residents were consulted as to what should be included in the new hall. Based on the results, it was decided that it should be referred to in future as the Community Centre. It is expected that it will include:

- A community café with its own kitchen and seating area;
- A hall to support events with 200 standing or 120 seated at tables, capable of being divided into three meeting rooms through folding partitions;
- Changing facilities with direct access to the playing field;
- These facilities to include toilets with separate external access;
- Parish Council office and meeting space;
- Small room to provide internet access for residents to contact Citizens Advice and similar bodies;
- Ample storage space.

Initial responses to invitations to tender for architectural services were disappointing.

Here's where you may be able to help!

If you can suggest likely architects who would like to design this new, important building for the village, please contact the Clerk: louise.epc@gmail.com



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ELSENHAM BOWLS AND SOCIAL CLUB

By Trevor Hackett



By the time you read this, Gary Benjafield will have entertained us as “Neil Diamond”. It should be an excellent night judging by our previous tribute acts such as Elvis and the Beatles. Our next music night will be on July 20 when Ali Rose entertains us as amongst others Dusty Springfield. Once again, the Tickets will be just £6 each including nibbles. Make sure you do not miss this event. Be sure to buy your tickets early to guarantee entry as these nights are very popular.

On June 8 we are hosting a Charity Quiz night in aid of Tiger Tops Swiss Air Preschool in the Chitwan National Park in Nepal. Tables of 8, £6 per person/brain attending. 7.30 for 8pm start time. This is an annual event to provide funds to clothe, feed and educate the poorest youngsters whose families cannot afford the state school fees. (To date, I have managed to send the school, the sum of £18,869. This has been raised by quiz nights, an annual quiz booklet and donations.)

Our next Saturday night Bingo session will take place on June 29. At the time of writing, the bingo bonus has still not been won so the prize is well over £100 now so come along and get your chance to win. Eyes down at 8pm.

We have a second Open Day on Saturday June 22 starting at 2pm. If you missed the one last month, why not come along, and try your hand at this social and competitive sport of bowls. Flat soled footwear required. We do have a few sizes available in the club that you can use. We supply the bowls. You supply the enthusiasm. All for free on the day.

The highlights of the calendar for this month are:

June 8	Charity Quiz Night 7.30pm
June 22	Open Day – 2pm to 4pm
June 29	Bingo – Eyes down at 8pm

We have home matches on June 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 13, 15, 16, 19, 24, 25, 26, 28 and 30. You are welcome to come and watch the bowling on these dates.

If you wish to join as a Social or Bowling Member then either call in at the bar from 7pm weekdays or contact the Secretary (Therese Clear) on 07759 158859.

I hope to see you in the club house at one of our events.



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ELSENHAM TENNIS CLUB

By Petra Studholme ☎814667



ETC at the Village Fete

We will open our courts to the public during the Village Fete. All you need is to have some suitable footwear, non-marking trainers. We will provide rackets and balls. A nice way to see if you like tennis. Children are welcome, but under 12s must be supervised by an adult.

Elsenham Tennis Club offers bespoke membership packages for everyone. We have some of the most reasonably priced subscriptions in the area.

Adult: £80

Couple: £145 (living at same address)

Family: £155 (includes 2 adults and all children living at same address)

Senior: £50 (65 and over)

Student: £45 (must provide us with valid student card at time of sign-up)

Junior: £20 (under 18)

Non-playing: £10

We have two all weather courts and floodlights so you can play before or after work. We are situated right in the heart of the village, on the playing fields.

Morning Play: (Wednesdays and Fridays 10am – 12pm) – best way to trial before you commit

If you fancy trying tennis again, you could always join us for our Morning Play before you sign up for full membership. Doubles format, welcoming small groups and gentle hit.

Coaching – individual and group sessions

We have individual and group coaching sessions, cardio run by our dedicated and experienced coach Steve Smith. Get in touch with him via email:

stevesmith865@hotmail.com or call/text 07790 561 817. Please note that Cardio is open to non-members. Cardio is a great way to get or stay fit. Our coach's choice of music is sometimes questionable, but everyone is definitely having fun and is getting a great workout.

Hire our courts – open to non-members

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

Tennis Club Weekly Activities

Tuesday evening – 6.30pm cardio tennis
(non members welcome)

Tuesday evening – 7.30pm club night

Wednesday morning – 10am casual play

Thursday evening – 6.30pm beginners
group session

Thursday evening – 7.30pm team practice

Friday morning – 10am casual play

Sunday afternoon – 2pm casual play

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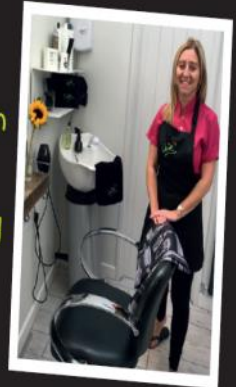
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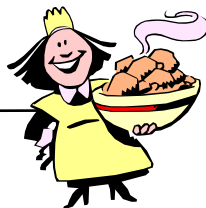
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COOKERY CORNER

By Sue Johnson 🍳 812704



You can't beat a lovely Victoria Sponge. There's one in the baking section in the Flower Show schedule this year. Here, therefore, is my own go-to recipe for one of our best loved cakes.

VICTORIA SPONGE CAKE (serves 8)

6oz (175g) baking spread, straight from the fridge
6oz (175g) caster sugar
3 large eggs
6oz (175g) self-raising flour, sifted
a few drops of vanilla essence
half a jar of raspberry jam and a 300g carton of double cream, whipped

Preheat the oven to 180°C/fan 160°C/Gas Mark 4. Grease and line two 7 inch (18cm) sponge tins with baking paper.

Cream together the butter and sugar until pale and fluffy (use a food processor, if you have one). Add the eggs one at a time, beating well after each addition. Stir in vanilla essence. Sift in the flour and lightly fold into the mixture. Divide the mixture equally between the two sponge tins. Bake in the oven for 25 minutes until well risen and golden and the centre feels springy when lightly touched with fingertip.

Remove tins from oven and allow to cool a little before turning out the cakes on to a wire rack. Leave to cool thoroughly.

When cold, spread the bottom of one cake layer with jam, the other with a thick layer of fresh whipped cream. Sandwich the two together. Sprinkle icing sugar on the top.

CHEF'S RECOMMENDATIONS:

Two non-stick baking parchment circles, one placed on the bottom of each sponge tin, save time and work well. Avoid opening the oven door until the cakes are cooked, as this can cause the sponges to sink in the middle. Instead of fresh cream, make buttercream by beating 4oz (100g) softened butter until pale, gradually beat in 8 oz (225g) sifted icing sugar with a tablespoon of milk and a few drops of vanilla essence.

To make a larger cake, use two 8" (20cm) sponge tins, 8oz (225g) each of baking spread, caster sugar and self-raising flour, 4 eggs and a few drops more vanilla essence.



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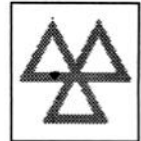
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'Sentaro has failed. He has a criminal record, drinks too much, and his dream of becoming a writer is just a distant memory. With only the blossoming of the cherry trees to mark the passing of time, he spends his days in a tiny confectionery shop selling dorayaki, a type of pancake filled with sweet bean paste.

But everything is about to change. Into his life comes Tokue, an elderly woman with disfigured hands and a troubled past. Tokue makes the best sweet bean paste Sentaro has ever tasted. She begins to teach him her craft, but as their friendship flourishes, social pressures become impossible to escape and Tokue's dark secret is revealed, with devastating consequences. ...' So says the blurb on the back of the book.

- **“Charmingly written, the plot is a continual surprise. A tale of sorrow that feels uplifting by its end.”** *The Independent*

This was the choice of the book group last month. It was very well-liked.

This is a short story (224 pages) and an easy read. The language is not complex and as it has been translated from the Japanese it is hard to be sure whether that was intended or simplified in translation. Our thoughts were that it was written that way—a simple story, a poignant exploration of the human condition taking us on a journey of Japanese culture and cuisine with strong and powerful messages of friendship and understanding that are allowed to shine through.

Sentaro is 'trapped' in a confectionery shop paying back a loan from a business friend when he leaves prison. Sentaro does not have any strong feelings about the dorayaki, in fact, he dislikes them. So he uses sweet bean paste from commercial outlets and makes them without much care. The shop ticks over.. However, an elderly visitor to the shop, Tokue, asks for employment and says she will show him the proper way to prepare the paste. He realises she is elderly and has very disfigured hands but her paste is delicious and so he hires her. She takes him through the complex process of preparing the paste. These detailed descriptions are eloquent and vivid and bring the process alive so we really begin to understand the importance of the confectionery craft. The shop makes profits.

A young woman, Wakana, often comes to the shop and the three of them form an unlikely bond. However, there is much speculation from others about Tokue's history and prejudice rears its head. The owner insists that Tokue is fired. Sentaro and Wakana stay in contact with her and gradually begin to understand her story. Through Tokue's view that there is beauty in every purpose, Sentaro realises that dorayaki is not just a way to repay debt but resolves to use his senses to interact with the world. Although the ending is sad, it is a story of kindness and resilience.

Editorial Information

Articles

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

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

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

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

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

General Notes

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

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

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

The editors' decision is final.

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

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**

Advertising

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

To place an advertisement:

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Emma Bailey
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David Newland

Previous issues of Elsenham News are available on the ECA Website

www.ElsenhamCommunityAssociation.org.uk

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dusty Springfield Tribute 20 July Bowls and Social Club
 Elsenham Flower Show Society Flower Show 17 August Playing Field
 MacMillan Coffee Morning 27 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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