

Elsenham News



Remembrance 2020
10.30am Zoom service,
Sunday 8 November

elsenhamsnews@hotmail.co.uk

November 2020

75p where sold

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

The following groups or activities are suspended until further notice:

Beavers	Brownies
Community Choir	Cubs
Guides	Life Drawing
Line Dance	Nordic Walking
Rainbows	Shape to the Beat
Tots & Toddlers	Yoga
Zumba	
Village Café, tea, coffee and lunch	

Some groups are meeting online or in a limited way

Church services, Little Fishes and special events (please see page 27)
Elsenham Tennis Club activities (please see page 47)
Elsenham & Stansted Hall Cricket Club training & fixtures (see website)
Kick Boxing (on Playing Field)
WI (online, please see page 43)

Parish Council meetings are being held by Zoom. The next meeting is on Monday 2 November. Contact Louise Johnson for information by email on [✉ louise.epc@gmail.com](mailto:louise.epc@gmail.com)



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

Place: Glebe End. Time: 11.50am to 12.20pm
Day: Thursday

Dates:
5 November, 26 November
17 December
7 January 2021

THE NEWS REPORT

From The Editors



We're focusing on the positives here at *Elsenham News*. We have reports from the indomitable WI who are zooming like astronauts p43, pupils at the school are getting a boost from some new tech too on p13 and Elsenham History Society is keeping their site updated, including collecting stories for Elsenham Corona Diaries p41. If all that is not enough, then blow your mind in Cookery Corner p49 with a recipe for Parsnip cake (no, not a typo, parsnips in cake, eat your heart out Mary Berry!).

We are delighted to have so many local businesses advertising with us, we appreciate their support (without them we can't print the magazine) and we hope that they get support from villagers too. As usual at this time of year we have adverts for local suppliers of Christmas Trees and Turkeys and Christmas gifts. The less seasonal suppliers are also available too, should you need gardening, decorating, chimney sweeping, beauty services, and much more ... take a look.

Despite our focus on the positives, we're not immune to the realities of the current environment. It's been a hard year all round and Uttlesford CAB wants everyone to be aware of support available for mental health and well-being and for practical issues, like paying for your heating, see p39. The Food Bank is still experiencing much higher demand than previous years, see p19; they really appreciate every box, tin or packet you can provide. Looking further afield, any high viz jackets are wanted for Romania, along with many other items, see the appeal on p19.

Christmas celebrations seem likely to be somewhat muted, in Elsenham as elsewhere, but there will be a Christmas Tree festival around the village, see p5. The seasonal Operation Christmas Child donations are requested, see p23. For Elsenham families who will be in need this Christmas, there is local support, so make sure you get in touch if that is you, details on p11.

We hope to manage to get the magazine printed again for Christmas. A big shout-out to the deliverers who trudge around with their gloves and sanitiser.

Keep well and stay socially distanced.

See you next month.

The Editors

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From The Heart usually attends Henham Christmas Market selling recycled aluminium products and quirky Christmas decorations. This year the event is not running due to Covid-19, however, products are still available with **free local delivery** of ALL products.

All products appear on Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/fromtheheartshop>, so if anything interests you or you would like a product catalogue then please do get in touch:

Mobile 07932 654744, Home 01279 851942 or

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We hope that you are all keeping safe and well in these difficult times but Christmas is getting nearer and our plans to make Elsenham sparkle need developing, with your help.

We have already suggested in *Elsenham News* that you could help move our Christmas Tree Festival outside, by displaying a decorated tree (any type of tree, and type of decoration) outside your house over the weekend of 5-6 December. We also spoke about the 'Advent Windows' proposal. Well, now is the time to put on your thinking caps and start planning just how to decorate your window to entertain and amuse your fellow villagers. We do hope that many of you will want to take part in what should be a fun and joyous event.

Could all those interested please let us know the date within Advent (29 November to 24 December this year) that you will be setting up your window, together with the street so that we can publish a plan to allow all in the village to walk round and admire your imagination and artistry.

There are only a few weeks to go before the start of Advent, so let's get cracking and make Elsenham a truly magical village this Christmas!

Further details from Jill (☎ 812397) or Elizabeth (☎ 813543).

Stay safe, all of you.

TERRY ROSAMOND

It is with great sadness that we pass on the news that Terry Rosamond recently passed away.

Terry had lived in the village for many years and was a dedicated member of the Elsenham News editorial team until he left Elsenham to move to Oswestry a few years ago. He loved receiving his online copy of *Elsenham News* and often commented on the magazine.

Advertisers who have been with us a while will probably remember their communication with Terry as it was all handwritten notes and cheques and cash in those days.

Terry was also a key member of the Thursday printing team who worked to get the magazine printed every month. He was a lively and fun member of the editorial team with lots of laughs and plenty of jokes. One of Terry's main contributions each year was to dream up the magazine's April Fool's prank. He was a kind-hearted, generous and humorous man that we miss.

Our thoughts are with Eileen and his family at this sad time.





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ELSENHAM PARISH COUNCIL 5 OCTOBER 2020

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



The Chairman welcomed the three new Councillors, Andrew Buonocore, Susan Waite and Inge Curlewis onto the Parish Council.

The rate of infections of Covid-19 has increased in Uttlesford and is presently the highest in Essex. **It is increasing through transmission within the community as there is no evidence which attributes these cases to a particular event, area or outbreak. If cases appear in this way across a district, it makes it much more difficult to manage, contain and prevent further spread.** Please remember to follow the Government guidelines, handwashing, social distancing and wearing a face covering.

The village is incredibly lucky to have such dedicated litter pickers who keep our village litter free. However, there has recently been an increasing number of facemasks just dropped on the ground, this not only makes the village look untidy, but it is unhygienic for litter pickers to have to pick them up. Please dispose of your facemasks in the litter bins around the village or take them home.

North Hall Road closure has been extended for a further six months. The banks of the river need to be structurally contained and the entire road needs to be rebuilt. Highways are looking into a diversionary route to avoid Grove Hill, Ugley Green and Patmore End.

Since lockdown there has been an increase in reports of child domestic violence across the county. Essex County Council is trying to recruit more foster parents to help with these children.

The winter planting in all the flowerbeds around the village took place on 20 October 2020. As in previous years the begonias and geraniums, that are currently in the flower beds, were offered to residents,

A big 'thank you' goes to Annie Gleeson, who since the retirement of two of our councillors has taken over updating the Parish Council's website.

Sadly, the usual acts of remembrance at the Memorial Gardens cannot be held this year. St. Mary's Church, and Parish Council, however, are encouraging organisations to lay wreaths at the Memorial Cross in the Memorial Garden. The Parish Council is purchasing a poppy wreath which will be laid by one of the councillors. If you are able to give a donation to the British Legion this year, it would be very appreciated as they will not be able to have the normal door to door poppy day appeal as in past years.

The next Parish Council meeting is to be held via zoom on Monday 2 November 2020 at 8pm. Members of the public are welcome, if you wish to join the meeting please look at the Parish Council website for joining instructions.

The next Parish Council meeting will be 2 November 2020, 8pm via Zoom.



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DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2020

By Cllr Lees and Cllr LeCount

✉ Cllrlecount@uttlesford.gov.uk

✉ Cllrlees@uttlesford.gov.uk

☎ 07836 346717

☎ 816675



There is a lot of talk behind the scenes about a Government White Paper coming out for consultation. It is regarding proposals to abolish county and district councils and replace them with mid-sized 'unitary' councils, with an elected mayor at county level (despite the county not existing any more). To throw in a bit more, they intend to increase the new housing requirement on Uttlesford from 14,000 to about 22,000 houses, which would be the equivalent of building about three Saffron Waldens. If control over housing permissions is largely removed from councils (whichever council that might be) and left in the hands of landowners and developers, it is unclear whether mandated requirements would have any significance if there is no body with the power to implement them.

Local government proposals: the proposals are said to be partly to reduce costs. To put this in perspective, most of the local authority costs are county. UDC's precept is only about 9% of the total council tax, and the vast range of UDC council services cost tax-payers about £140 per person per year. As our commercial investment strategy builds up, the cost to tax-payers will fall to about £104 per person a year. Essex precept is 72% of the total and 19% is fire, police and parish.

The proposal for Essex is to split it into three authorities which would cover all functions. This would presumably mean splitting all the Essex functions such as highways, education, social care, libraries and waste disposal. This must surely increase costs not decrease them. Although UDC collect waste, it is transferred to Essex at a site near Dunmow and recycling is done elsewhere by the county.

There would also be an elected Essex mayor, and no doubt a mayoral department, despite Essex County Council no longer existing. So, the reorganisation would not even remove a governance layer. If the three councils were under Labour, Conservative and independent control taking different views, there would not even be a coherent political structure. Removal of district councils would also reduce local accountability. In a much larger council local residents groups like R4U, without a national footprint, would find it more difficult to lead a council and the change would certainly concentrate power with Labour or Conservatives to the exclusion of smaller groups. Petrina did raise this in a meeting with the Minister who declined to discuss it. There would also be a reduction in the number of councillors so an increase in workload. We cannot see it being particularly attractive to be a councillor with responsibility for a very large ward with meetings at, say Harlow and be in a minority in a large council controlled by one of the two big parties, and have to deal with decisions on matters far outside of their locality.

The current structure was set up nearly 50 years ago. Any mass reorganisation would be very costly and disruptive and difficult to manage. It would be integrating not just two entities, but several district councils into one and adding a third of a county council (in disarray) on top, and a mayoralty on top of that. The IT implications of this alone are eye wateringly complex. *Continued overleaf*

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In a business, there is the advantage of executive power to mandate decisions, but in the local authority world, life is more complex with the officers reporting to a chief executive and a separate political structure headed by a council leader, and with each party having its own leader.

The financial implications are also complicated. The tax take per head varies widely across the county and Uttlesford is the largest. As we continue to build our commercial investments, we will shortly have a major part of our services funded from this income rather than from taxation. I'm not sure we would be happy, having worked hard to set all this up, to have the assets and income handed over. Nor should local taxpayers be required to have responsibility for any legacy financial issues which may exist in other authorities.

I think local authorities, despite years of funding cuts, have handled the tasks and responsibilities for Covid-19 much better than some government ministries (except the Treasury). With a government that can't even deal reasonably with exam results, Brexit still unresolved and no other trade deals sorted out, which may end up triggering the break-up of the Union, we think the government needs to sort itself out before casting around elsewhere.

We noted above that UDC provides a very large range of services. Many are not obvious such as being the Port Authority for Stansted Airport, and thus dealing with Brexit changes, or being the authority which would need to attend at an exhumation. We are hopeful that these government's proposals will in the end get buried.

More planning changes are afoot, interestingly the government debated one of the White Papers within days of the consultation end date.


May we gently remind all residents, of the mantra - Hands, Face, Space. We are still in difficult times.

It is with great sadness, we had to announce the death of our own, Alan Storah, who died suddenly on 11 October. He was chairing our new Local Plan Leadership Group, bringing his vast planning experience to the table. He had a smart brain and a winning smile. He often stated it was a "true joy and honour" to represent his villages. He will be sorely missed.

We are available to chat, despite surgeries being suspended. Happy to Zoom ...

Do you know anyone in need at Christmas?

We all know Christmas can be rather overwhelming, particularly if life isn't going well.

There are two local charities that donate to those in need at Christmas. Both started many years ago, one began with blanket donations. Any Elsenham resident is eligible to receive some help. If you are in need, or know anyone who may be, this Christmas, please contact me at petrinalees@hotmail.com or phone on  816675 Your call/email be treated in the strictest confidence.

Petrina Lees



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ELSENHAM C. OF E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

By Linda Reid, Headteacher



Our annual Harvest Festival celebrations took place earlier this month and, thanks to the generosity of parents, we were able to donate a great deal of food and other items to the Bishop's Stortford Food Bank. The items pictured in the display below will make a huge difference to the many people who rely on the Food Bank to help feed their families. A grand total of 25 full shopping bags of food were taken to the Church Office at Old Frank's by our Year 6 children. We are very grateful for the Church's support in ensuring that these contributions were transported safely to the Food Bank.

While many aspects of school life are a little different at the moment, we are working very hard to keep things as normal as possible for the children. They have been particularly excited by the many new topics being studied across the school and the new iPads,



which were purchased thanks to the fundraising efforts of FOES, our PTA, have been met with great enthusiasm. They are an excellent addition to the IT resources in place, both in the IT room, and across the school. Our food tech room is also extremely popular and a wonderful resource for developing skills for future life.

Sport continues to play a large part in the life of our school and our new Sports Ambassadors, Frankie, Lacymae, Samuel, James, Mia and Max have been very busy organising activities, including the daily mile and static exercises. Thoughts of inter-house competitions and the sports newsletter are well under way and it promises to be a very busy year ahead.

This month we are beginning to welcome the families of children who are due to start school from September 2021. Visits can't take place during the school day as they normally would, due to the current restrictions, but we are fortunate in being able to offer tours, at the end of the school day, after the children have gone home. If you, or someone you know, has a child who is scheduled to start in Reception next September, we would be delighted to welcome you. Appointments can be made via the School Office. A short video will also soon be available for parents on our website.

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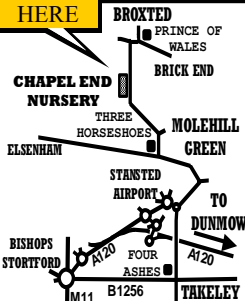
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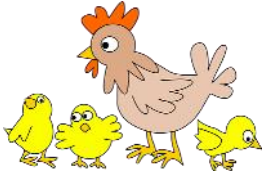


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Well it's all going on down at our farm at the moment. The piglets are still as cute as ever and mischievous as anything and just love a good tickle.



We have a new addition and that is **Roger the Rhea**. He is a distant relative of the emu and ostrich and can be seen charging round his field checking out his new surroundings. He is a very handsome chap and is settling into his new home very well indeed. Do come and see him and say hello.

We are also very excited for some more birds that will soon be joining us, and they are two **tawny owls**. We have prepared their new home and we cannot wait to have such fascinating creatures come and live with us at Daisy May's Farm.

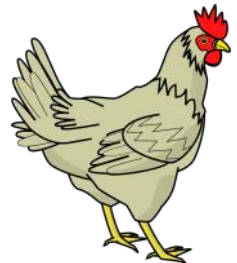
Make sure you put our **Christmas Santa's Sleigh Ride** event in your diary – it will be on **Saturday 28 and Sunday 29 November** and there will be a

whole array of festive things for everyone to get involved with (whilst respecting government guidelines of course). This will be a ticketed event, so make sure you keep an eye out for the booking details when they are released.

These events are a vital lifeline for us to raise enough funds to feed and look after our animals and we can only do this with your help and support. You can help us to raise funds by coming to these events and also by visiting our Facebook Page – **Daisy May's Farm, Elsenham** and donating via our **Just Giving page** – if ALL our followers donated just £1, it would make a huge difference!!!

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



Two planning appeals are scheduled for November. Fairfield's appeal against refusal of up to 350 homes between Henham and Elsenham will start on 9 November and is expected to last for eight days. Hard on its heels, an appeal will start on 24 November and last for five days against refusal of up to 99 dwellings, with 61 on the two fields off Isabel Drive and a further 38 in the field beside the motorway on the left as you enter the village from Stansted. The issues of over-development, impact on the countryside, air quality in Stansted Mountfitchet and road access are likely to be aired at both inquiries.

The size of these appeals would feed no more than a chicken of moderate size when compared with the gargantuan feast of a Planning Inquiry which is scheduled to start on 12 January, and to last for as long as 40 days. I refer to Manchester Airport Group's appeal against refusal by Uttlesford District Council of the application to increase passenger numbers at Stansted Airport. With four days a week - to give everyone time to take stock on the fifth - and possible further short breaks in between, the whole caboodle, complete with the usual panoply of barristers and consultants and sundry experts, is likely to last until the end of March.

There has been contention well in advance of the start of the Inquiry over its timing and mode. Stop Stansted Expansion made the strong claim that an Inquiry starting in the depths of winter during a pandemic is objectionable from the point of view of many of its spokesmen, who are said delicately to be 'not in the first flush of youth'. The Airport gave some support to the suggestion that a short postponement would be advisable until the fresh green shoots of spring make everyone less fearful of going outside.

But the Inspectorate, operating against a backdrop of Governmental determination to give its workings a thorough overhaul, started muttering about schedules and targets and did not yield. They said that the appeal will be held mostly through virtual means, so everyone can participate from the warmth, comfort and Covid-19-free atmosphere of their own homes. They were not impressed by claims that SSE's supporters include many for whom a virtual application is a mystery too deep to fathom.

At the same time as contesting the Appeal vigorously, SSE is keeping its legal options open through its action before the Court of Appeal which claims that the size of the application is such that it should never have been determined by a small, rural, inexpert district council. It is not exactly clear what bearing the two actions will have on each other, since it is likely that both will end up with the Secretary of State in any case. One school of thought holds that it matters not which hat he is wearing at the time - he will decide in favour of the Airport regardless of the route by which the application has got to him, and regardless also of whether the recommended decision is to approve or refuse.

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AID FOR ROMANIA

By Richard Peake ☎ 850374

The delayed spring lorry finally departed mid-July. Our autumn load (leaving mid October) could only fill a half-load as we did not have sufficient time to collect more items. We are now collecting for our (hoped for) April delivery (Brexit allowing). We have been told that there is a new law in Romania that drivers of horse and carts must wear high-viz vests/jackets. A lot of the people that we help are very poor with none having cars and only some having horse-drawn transport of their own or relying on neighbours. On the spot fines are imposed by very vigilant police. So please can you provide any **high-viz vests/jackets** (with/without logos).

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

- Summer clothes and shoes for adults and children (under 3yrs must be new).
- Single and Z beds with mattresses (sturdy iron or wooden framed beds are very desirable, no divans). Bed sheets, pillows, duvets and blankets (single and double), towels, toiletries (including loo rolls), umbrellas and rugs.
- Building and workshop tools (also some types of gardening tools and sturdy wheelbarrows).
- Surplus school tables (must be 2ft clearance underneath ie not infant) and stackable adult size chairs (please ask any contact with a local school or village hall who are/may be re-furbishing).
- Small sturdy chest of drawers (not flat pack built as these do not survive the 5 day truck journey to Romania) and bedside cabinets, folding tables. Irons and boards.
- Kitchen items (crockery, cutlery, utensils, pots/pans and especially big sizes eg preserving pans).
- Wheelchairs, crutches, walking sticks, zimmers and all sizes of bikes. Bandages dressings (absolutely NO pills, medicines or creams). Rucksacks and holdalls (must be in good condition). Costume jewellery. Suitcases - but not the old 'cardboard' types. Ear defenders for the manual workers.

If you have any of the above please bring them around to 1 Hall Close, Henham during November. Please contact me first to arrange delivery.

Uttlesford Foodbank

As I write this, I had put a call out for donations to the foodbank, for items they were in great need of: nappies size 4-5, dog food, washing up liquid, Instant Mash, crisps/savoury snacks.



Within a couple of hours a generous soul, had bought all items five times. It was the evening we received the sad news about our colleague, it helped my heavy heart. I would like to continue that call out for November. If you are able please do drop off. All donations gratefully received, please leave on my porch at Orwell House, Station Rd, Elsenham. Thanks, Petrina Lees.

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ANGLIA

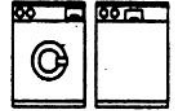

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NATURAL OUTLOOK ON WHY A NO-BIRD DAY

By Heather Salvidge 📧 814153



Looking back through my Nature Diary I found a November entry where I had recorded 16 different bird species before 9:45 am. On other days I had written “a no-bird day”. Such days can occur for a variety of reasons and one of them is the presence of sparrowhawks.



Although they are recorded occasionally over the years as 'overheads' or just passing through, the first detailed mention came in 2018 after I had seen a female make a long, low pass down New Road and Paul had seen a male make a failed snatch in the back. Paul was cleaning the car in the front when a female zoomed west to east between the house and the car and away.

Then a couple of days later the male landed on a back garden fence, dropped down to the flower bed and got back up again, waited a minute or two and flew off, observed all the while by a rook that followed him away as he left.

Of the two, females are noticeably bigger and have quieter plumage, a dull medium brown on head, backs and wing tops. They are barred across the front from chin to talons. Males are flashier, slate blue/grey upper parts, rufous cheeks and barring across breast and belly. Both sexes have long tails and very yellow talons and a fierce gaze. I dubbed these two 'Sid' and 'Sylvia'. They are larger than kestrels.

Their visits became rather less frequent until the following spring and after that pretty much a gap until the autumn. Sparrowhawks are, of course, about in the village and one morning on our walk for the paper, a Sylvia flashed low out of Little Glebe and up and over to the Playing field. But the visits resumed, especially Sid's who would stay longer and make return visits.

One early morning at feeding time, Sid sat on the rose arch, waiting, until he gave up and flashed away down the side of the house to encounter a neighbouring cat also waiting. Both were startled and left leaving the front clear for birds to feed. A day or two later Sid returned to the back garden and landed on the grass – all birds vanished – Sid left down the side of the house, perched on the bird table spar, waited but flew off empty-taloned.

Back again early after two days when I was still topping up the feeders, he saw me, did a 180 degree turn back down the same side of the house. All birds, except one large wood pigeon which remained motionless on the rose arch, disappeared. But he was back after I was inside. He had an unsuccessful go at a small bird, perched on the bridge rail, then on a different pole and then left for about 20 minutes returning to the rose arch before finally giving up.

They do make lucky strikes in my absence; as there is sometimes a pile of feathers under a 'plucking perch' where the victim is either dealt with or carried off to the nest with youngsters. One young female landed in the front and peered under both cars, checked there was nothing and left.

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OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

By Anna Hicks

✉ office@heuchurch.co.uk



Can you help a child in need in Africa, Central Asia or Eastern Europe by filling a shoe box with goodies?

In the midst of the global pandemic, the lives of children and families have been turned upside down. While we have so much, it's great to be able to prepare a gift for children who have so little. This is the best Christmas present you will give this year!

Leaflets with all the details, plus labels to put on the boxes to indicate the age and gender of the child you have prepared it for, are available from Henham Shop and Elsenham Post Office, as well as each of the churches. Flat-pack 'shoe' boxes are available for £1; ✉ office@heuchurch.co.uk



Please leave the boxes outside Anna's house (16 Leigh Drive, Elsenham, CM22 6BY) or at Henham, Elsenham or Ugley Churches by

Sunday, 15 November.


DO INCLUDE: items such as small toys, musical instruments, stationery, toothbrush, soap, flannel, hairbrush, small sports items, gloves, scarf, sunglasses, hat, beads, hairclips, bangles, picture/colouring books (no words), soft toys etc.

DON'T INCLUDE: toothpaste, sweets, chocolate, food, war related items, items of a religious nature, marbles (except for 10-14 age box) or playing cards, nothing fragile, no liquids or sharp objects. These are not to be included.

Operation Christmas Child is an initiative of Samaritans Purse, a Christian Relief organisation which works through local churches to proclaim and demonstrate the love of God to children and families in need. ; samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child for further information.



Thank you!

If you missed the online editions of Elsenham News from April - August 2020, and would like a copy. Please email ✉ elsenhamnews@hotmail.co.uk. These are also available on the ECA website  elsenhamcommunityassociation.org.uk

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ST MARY'S CHURCH ELSENHAM

Vicar: Gary Townsend

The Vicarage, Carters Lane, Henham ☎ 850281



We will remember ...despite Covid-19.

It is with great sadness that I and the church, together with Elsenham Parish Council, cannot offer the usual acts of remembrance this year. We have concerns about safely managing an unknown and potentially large number of people at the memorial garden. We would have to maintain social distancing and in such a limited area near a busy road we feel the risks are too high. So we cannot encourage such gatherings this year. This is disappointing for us all – another thing that Covid-19 is spoiling.

However, in true war-time spirit, let's do the best with what we have and ensure that we remember those who have and are laying their lives down for our nation. So, I and the church invite you to join us for a service via Zoom (link details will be found on the HEU Church website). In this Zoom service you'll have an opportunity to come and stand on your door step to observe a two minute silence with Last Post and Reveille which we will play using screen-share. If lots of people do this and have the sound on their devices turned up we may actually hear this from one house to another which will make the occasion very special.

The service will begin at 10.30am and will include a Remembrance Sunday address from a retired army officer and prayers for our communities as well as for our service men and women past and present. I do hope you can join in with this and I trust it enables us all to pay our proper respects as well as give

us opportunity as a community to pause for thought and be still before God at a time of national crisis.

This leads me to say that we at St Mary's, Elsenham continue to remember you, the people of this village, in our prayers. With Christmas approaching I'm afraid I have to say that it is unlikely we will be able to offer all the usual services that many of you find so helpful. At the time of writing I can say we'll be thinking about what we can offer by way of services.

May you find peace and blessing even in these Covid-dominated days as you remember all that others have given for the life and freedom of our country and as we all prepare to remember the gift of God's Son.

Gary Townsend.
Vicar of St Mary's, Elsenham

Remembrance 2020 10.30am Zoom service, Sunday 8 November

led by Gary Townsend with Retired Army Brigadier, Ian Dobbie and an Act of Remembrance with the Last Post and Reveille for people to observe a **two-minute silence on their door steps**. The Zoom link will be available nearer the time from www.heuchurch.co.uk

Brigadier Ian Dobbie's talk will also be given at the usual weekly **Combined Churches YouTube service**, along with the Last Post and Reveille.

People are encouraged to **make a poppy to display in windows/gardens**. The usual organisations may still lay **wreaths** at the memorial cross at their convenience being careful to observe the rules about social distancing.



HENHAM, ELSENHAM and UGLEY CHURCHES invite you to:

Ladies' Pudding Evening via Zoom

Thursday 3 December 2020

8 - 9.15pm

Our Christmas celebrations this year might look and feel different, but the essential truths about the birth of Jesus and why He came are unchanged.

So, join us as we unwrap Christmas to reveal the true meaning of Christ come to earth.

Christmas craft video to watch as well as festive dessert recipes to cook ahead.

For more information including the zoom link and your festive recipes, please contact office@heuchurch.co.uk



CHURCH EVENTS IN OUR VILLAGES NOVEMBER 2020

Church Services

We are meeting at St Peter's Ugley only, each Sunday at 10am ...for either Morning Prayer or Holy Communion.

Due to the need for social distancing, we need to keep tabs on numbers, so please contact us if you plan to attend.

You will be very welcome!

We are still meeting 'virtually' too! Join us for any or all of our Sunday gatherings each week:

HEU Combined Churches Service

via recorded video stream

Available via the website:

www.heuchurch.co.uk

Or search 'Henham, Elsenham and Ugley' on YouTube

Elsenham 'Zoom Services' at

8:45 and 10:15am

We use the same link at the respective times each week.

Contact Charles Willbe
(c@willbe.me.uk) for the link

HEU Coffee & Catch-up:

11:40am - 12:40pm

A chance to chat and catch up and have fellowship with the church family via Zoom: same link each week.

Meeting ID: 771 5918 0523

Password: heuZOOM

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

Church buildings are open for personal prayer:

St Mary's Elsenham

Open at all times

St Mary's Henham

8am – 8pm every day

Other regular events:

St Peter's Ugley Junior Church

It is expected that parents will be sent out material for each week's session, to be done at home, as last term, or possibly meeting via Zoom (TBC). Contact the administrator for more information.

Elsenham Sunday Club/Explorers

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

Henham Sunday Club (age 5 - Y3)

Looking at "What is God like?" from the stories of Elijah and Elisha in 1 & 2 Kings.

We will continue to send an audio file, a picture story and activities to parents by email. Contact the administrator to be added to this email list.

Henham Explorers (Y4-Y6)

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

Christian Play (Y1- Y2)

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

Henham Little Fishes pre-school group **Thursdays, 10.15am**

We aim to meet again via Zoom unless restrictions change to enable us to meet physically.

Elsenham Little Fishes pre-school group **Fridays, 10am**

We aim to meet again via Zoom unless restrictions change to enable us to meet physically.

Pathfinders (Y7-9) – Sundays, 6pm

Meeting via Zoom initially. This may well become a physical meeting, but we need to be clear on the rules before doing that. We'd love to have new members join us!

Crammin' (Y10-Y13)

Sunday evenings, 7pm

Zoom sessions for an hour including chat; games; and a short bible discussion. That's until such time as we have a solution for meeting physically again.

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Since March, getting out in the countryside has been greatly encouraged.

Successive generations have shaped this fertile land. They have planted hedges and cut wood from ancient, coppiced woodlands, tended animals, planted orchards and harvested honey from bees. Profiting from this productive land, many constructed beautiful buildings that reflected pride in their locality. Today, a significant number of these are listed buildings. Our rich architectural tapestry is brilliantly recorded in *The Hundred Parishes: An Introduction*. There are a few copies still available by mail order from the Society's website or from local bookshops and Tourist Information Centres.

Museum collections of assorted artefacts and documents add another dimension to the human history of the area. Saffron Walden Museum opened in 1835 and houses a real treasure trove of historical and other material relating to the local area. A recent grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund is enabling the development of plans to attract new visitors to the museum and adjacent castle.



Ashdon Village Museum

Smaller museums hold collections of agricultural implements, local artefacts and archive material. The Grade II building of the Forge Museum in Much Hadham houses a collection of metal tools while striking medieval wall paintings reveal details of Tudor fashion. The Ashdon Village Museum has exhibits about life in the 20th century and the curator is updating information on the family trees of seventy local residents and preparing displays in anticipation of re-opening in the future.

We look forward to the time when our museums can safely reopen. Meanwhile, we can enjoy our heritage and celebrate the past by continuing to explore outdoors. With regular additions of new walks to the society's website, we can use these descriptive routes, some as short as one mile, to explore the cultural landscapes that make up the Hundred Parishes.

Tricia Moxey, Trustee

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.



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NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

By Frances Lambert franceslambertnhw@btinternet.com



The Illusion of occupancy

As the nights draw in earlier, the police suggest that when you are out use table lamps on timers to come on as it gets dark to make it appear that you are in. There are now TV simulators such as Fake TV that produces lighting that resembles a television switched on within a room.

Consider installing external dusk till dawn lighting. Ensure your back gates are in good condition, closed and locked. Other products available to make it appear that you are at home are movement sensors that activates an appliance plugged into a plug socket, and doorbells that you can answer remotely after viewing the caller; an internet search will find these and other security products.

Please remember to close (lock if possible) all windows and doors when you are out, even if you just pop to the shop. A burglar is often an opportunist and is always looking out for the easy way in, so the safer we can make our property the harder it is for them. A house with lights on that looks occupied will be safer than the one in complete darkness, that appears empty.

If you would like further advice regarding security please look at the Essex Police website www.essex.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/ and <https://www.securedbydesign.com/> The police also ask locals to report unusual activity to police in an emergency on 999 or after the event on 101 or 'Do it online' via www.essex.police.uk/do-itonline/report-a-crime/ or to Crime stoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111. Remember if you see something urgent that Police should know about dial 999, for anything else dial 101.

If you would like to receive the Neighbourhood Watch Police reports on crimes in our area plus the police social media updates, please send your email address to franceslambertnhw@btinternet.com and I will add you to the mailing list.

ST CLARE HOSPICE ☎ 773750

Light up a Life 2020: Light up a Life is St Clare's Christmas time celebration of everything that the hospice stands for – joining together with families from across our community in honour of their loved ones. Candles are lit as we remember the life and memories of a loved one. We know how much our annual Light up a Life services mean to so many families across West Essex and East Herts and so we are doing our best to make arrangements for these events to take place safely. We hope we will still be able to hold the services that our supporters know and love – albeit in a slightly different way due to Covid-19 restrictions. More information will be released on our website in due course at: <https://stclarehospice.org.uk/light-up-a-life/>



If you would like to attend a Light up a Life event, please get in touch by phone (as above) with our Fundraising Team to register your interest or send an email to fund@stclarehospice.org.uk



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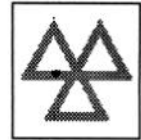
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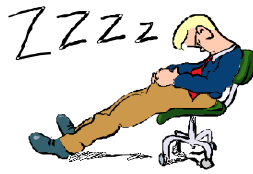
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Ray's Reflections

Ray's Reflections



Ray
Franklin

Reflections, Ruminations, Reminiscences.

I took my first breath of Elsenham air in 1947. For the first few years of my primary school life, I frequently went to Grandad's home in Robin Hood Road. One of the main highlights was the wonderful tea served by Gran. In addition to her shortbread (previously mentioned), her salads were renowned. Grandad Franklin would serve freshly picked water cress from Elsenham water cress beds. There were two beds within the village, both producing large quantities of cress. One was near the level crossing situated at the end of Robin Hood Road. The other was in Fullers End, by the two cottages (now converted into one).

That watercress bed was maintained by Mr and Mrs Morton who then lived in one of the two cottages. They were fed by spring water running through them. The springs are still running, one flowing through Gordon Barker's garden at Broom Farm Cottage, Fullers End.

What happened to that spring which was initially the source of water for all the homes in Fullers End? It just illustrated one of the problems associated with developments within the village. Towards the end of the 1950s a sign appeared attached to the outfall pipe. This sign warned people to no longer drink from the spring. Once a source of clean, clear and fresh cold water it was now considered unfit for consumption. Many felt that it was more than coincidence that a sewage treatment plant for some new homes had been constructed not far from the springs and the watercress beds.

Large numbers enjoyed walking to those beds and cutting a bundle of cress, 'for a few pence,' in pre decimal days. One is tempted to speculate just how much one of those bundles would cost today

ST CLARE HOSPICE

Care to play? The St Clare Hospice Lottery has over 15,000 regular weekly entries and last year our players contributed an incredible £450,000 to fund our care for people facing death, dying and loss - which we offer free of charge to the people of West Essex and East Herts as it makes a real difference to the people we support.



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Sign-up to our Lottery on our website <https://stclarehospice.org.uk/play-lottery/play/>
Or call our Lottery team on ☎ 01279 773730.



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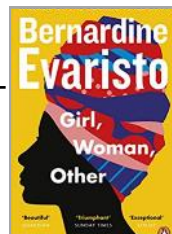
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GIRL, WOMAN, OTHER

By Bernardine Evaristo

Reviewed by Marion Giles



'This is Britain as you've never read it. This is Britain as it has never been told. From Newcastle to Cornwall, from the birth of the twentieth century to the teens of the twenty-first, Girl, Woman, Other follows a cast of twelve characters on their personal journeys through this country and the last hundred years. They're each looking for something - a shared past, an unexpected future, a place to call home, somewhere to fit in, a lover, a missed mother, a lost father, even just a touch of hope...' So says the blurb on the back of the book.

Reviews:

- 'Beautifully interwoven stories of identity, race, womanhood, and the realities of modern Britain. The characters are so vivid, the writing is beautiful and it brims with humanity' **Nicola Sturgeon**
- 'Bernardine Evaristo can take any story from any time and turn it into something vibrating with life' **Ali Smith, author**

This was the choice of the book group this month. We had a good discussion of the book, which was generally well-liked. The book was the joint winner of the 2019 Booker Prize (with *The Testaments* by Margaret Atwood).

Each of the 12 narratives centres on a black woman with a lively and diverse cast of supporting characters - sometimes generations of that character's family, sometimes friends, sometimes employers or offspring. Their stories link very loosely around the first character, Amma, her daughter, Yazz and Amma's school friend, Shirley.

Each story is different and this maintains interest and avoids any blurring between them, e.g. ranging from a lesbian theatre dramatist, to a city banker, to a Northumbrian farmer, to a schoolteacher. The first two are perhaps a little long but many of these are page-turners and their stories are well-told, with humanity and humour. Naturally, some of the characters are more likeable than others and happier than others; our unanimous favourite was Hattie. Several of us made a little map/diagram of how the women inter-connected.

Taken together, the stories challenge a number of pre-conceptions. We see the complexity of the backgrounds of many black Britons, lack of opportunity and the implications of wanting something different from life.

Some of the characters come together at an event at the end, which perhaps is a little political. Also, finally, one of the characters discovers her true heritage and her reaction to it is quite lovely and beautifully written.

Finally, the lack of punctuation and capital letters was a slightly annoying distraction for some of us.

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November 2020

35

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HARE COURSING IN ELSENHAM & SURROUNDING VILLAGES

By Essex Police Press Office

Would you know what to do if you saw hare coursers?

Gangs of men with lurcher dogs and 4x4 vehicles appear on the fields around our villages after harvest, when the land is easy to move across. In the daytime you may see these coursers walking the fields, ready for a hare to bolt. Their cars will be close for a quick getaway or parked up near our homes and footpaths. When a hare makes a move to escape they release a lurcher to pursue it. Someone from the group will film the chase, and live-stream footage to gamblers who have bet money on the result. Which dog will kill the most hares? Prized dogs are bought and sold on the dark web for up to £20,000.

Illegal but common in our area, hare coursing is punishable by imprisonment and fines of up to £5,000 can be issued. The crime is hard to prevent because of the type of people who do it; often arriving in convoy with 'minders' to the front and rear. In cars with false number plates, uninsured and untaxed. Individuals have tried to confront coursers and have been abused; farmers received death threats and have seen their barns and cars burnt. These violent groups have known links to illegal gambling, firearms and drugs. Their crimes in our area involve poaching and trespassing, road traffic offences, damage to crops and property. They prey where local farmers feel isolated and inflict huge suffering on hare and deer populations. It's best to avoid engaging with coursers.

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO if you witness this kind of activity?

PC Matt Harkness, from the Rural Engagement Team, advises, "If you see coursing in progress, dogs chasing hares, or people breaking into land to course, then please call 999 immediately". Give the exact location, with descriptions and numbers of vehicles, people and dogs. It is also useful to mention you are aware of police Operation Galileo.

The most helpful location code comes from smart phone app What3Words. Download the app in advance and use it to generate the unique code for your precise location. Pinpointing a remote field is a struggle without that vital detail! If the report is second hand, or suspected, or a few hours old then, please still report to [essex.police.uk](https://www.essex.police.uk) or [101](tel:101) or anonymously to Crime Stoppers [0800 555 111](tel:0800555111).

Small pieces of information build an intelligence picture of what's happening, who is involved and where the police are needed most. Left unreported, Essex Police can't get a clear idea of crime levels around our village or be able to police it effectively.

GARDEN HINT *By Sue Johnson*

Protect containers from frost damage with bubble wrap and raise them on pot feet to help prevent waterlogging over winter.





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CM22



Surge for mental health support prompts new campaign

Uttlesford Citizens Advice is supporting a countywide campaign that aims to tackle declining mental wellbeing in the county as a result of coronavirus. Latest figures show the number of assessments by adult mental health practitioners have increased by around 50%. The [Essex Mental Health and Wellbeing Team](#) is also seeing its highest number of referrals since it was established. In response, ECC is launching *Mental Health Essex*, a targeted campaign that aims to reach those most at risk of suffering with mental health issues as a result of Covid-19, providing information and support. The campaign uses local insight to target specific groups that have been identified as being most affected by the pandemic, and who may be suffering more with their mental health. These groups are those:

- with employment issues (furloughed, unemployed, at risk of redundancy)
- with young children age 0-4 higher risk, but also for those with 0-15s
- Women (due to caring responsibilities)
- Younger adults

ECC and partners across the county offer a wide range of support to those struggling with their mental health. More details about support available throughout the county can be found on the Essex County Council web pages; www.essex.gov.uk/mental-health. Details of local health and wellbeing support can be found on Uttlesford Frontline; you can also use the site to self-refer to many of these services. www.uttlesfordfrontline.org.uk

Don't struggle alone

If you are facing challenging circumstances at the moment, you are not alone. The pandemic itself may have caused financial or other problems for you or your family or it could have made an already difficult situation even worse. But however insurmountable a problem seems, there is always a way out. A problem shared is a problem halved and this can very often be the case. Take the time to talk to friends and family who know you well; they may be able to offer valuable advice and practical support.

If you need more specialist support, our trained staff and volunteers can help with issues relating to benefit entitlements and applications, money worries, employment rights, including issues related to redundancy, problems with housing such as landlord disputes or homelessness, discrimination issues including hate crime, domestic violence situations and other relationship challenges. Our advice is free, independent, and confidential. We can make sure that you are receiving all the benefits you are entitled to and can also check your eligibility for local support schemes that may help to cover the cost of food, heating, travel, medical supplies or support you to access education or training opportunities that could help get you back into work.

Call ☎ 01799 618840 or email help@uttlesfordca.org.uk – an adviser will call you back as soon as possible.

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ELSENHAM VILLAGE HISTORY SOCIETY

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

🌐 www.elsenhams-history.co.uk



I'm sorry to say that my thought last month that our November meeting would likely be cancelled has proved correct. I am pleased to say that the booked speakers have all agreed to return next year. The 2021 programme therefore is now as follows.

- Wednesday 10 March Nina Gaubert - The Great War Essex Escape Plan. A description of the serious, but at times, somewhat comical government plan to evacuate Essex in the event of a German invasion on the East Coast.
- Wednesday 10 June Anthea Hawdon - Raking Light; Church Graffiti. Anthea will be presenting an entertaining review of the graffiti found in local churches with an emphasis on our own St Mary's.
- Wednesday 8 September Anthony Tuck - Newport: A Great and Poor Town. Professor Tuck tells the story of Newport through the ages.
- Wednesday 10 November Ken McDonald - The Hundred Parishes Society. Presenting the work done by the Society to celebrate the attractive countryside of the 100 parishes in and around North East Essex.

Details of all the above and any changes can be found on our website that is regularly updated with new material. The Elsenham baptism, marriage and burial records have been updated and rolled forward one year in accordance with the protocol agreed with our Church Wardens and the village timeline has been updated with Covid-19 epidemic news. Look at 🌐 www.elsenhams-history.co.uk and see what you can learn about your village.

We are still collecting material for the Elsenham Corona Diaries so if you have any anecdotes or stories please let us now.

We have been appealing for information on Willis Toys who used to be based in the village. Tim Willis, the owner of Willis Toys has been in touch and we are making arrangements to interview him. If you have any personal recollections please get in touch.

Finally, we have received an enquiry from a lady in Canada asking after a Robert More, died 1599, a 'poulterer' in Henham. She writes, "I wonder if there are any records of his life there, I have his will dated August 1599. He was born in 1535 in Chickney to Robert More 1510-1562 and Agnes. Robert Sr married Joanne Schedde/Shed. A well-known Broxsted family I believe? I would appreciate any local information you may have, [is there] access to maybe more Shed families still living there?"

It's a little out of our area but if you can help please get in touch. Thank you .

Until next time.



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ELSENHAM WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

By Moyra Jackson ☎ 647351



ELSENHAM WI IS MOST DEFINITELY OPEN FOR BUSINESS

Just in case you thought we could all head back to the Memorial Hall in our droves, sadly that is not the case. We are busier than we have ever been and continuing to offer a varied programme the only way we can at the moment – by the wonder of Zoom. If you have any device that can connect to the internet then you can join our meetings. Members will be sent joining details for each meeting and non-members can contact either Gill or myself for details. Then you just click on the link – it really is as simple as that.

We have been planning a number of ways to commemorate our Centenary year in 2021. You may have noticed that on the west side of the Playing Field there is no longer a gap in the trees. Elsenham WI has planted three trees to fill the gap – one rowan flanked by two weeping silver birches. There is a wonderful view of them from the Memorial Hall so once our meetings start up again we will be able to enjoy these trees maturing for many years to come. Next spring there should also be a flurry of daffodils around the hall. Many thanks to Gloria Eatson for braving the elements on one of the wettest days last month to plant them!

Two meetings to report on last month: first an Annual Meeting with a difference – members joined by Zoom and I hosted a mini-meeting in my house observing the Rule of 6 – and it worked! Sue Waite delivered a first class Treasurer's Report; particularly impressive as it was her first one. Following this was our very excellent Secretary, Gill Hathaway, who presented a superb Committee Report. As President I had the pleasure to give the President's Address – my chance to thank every one who makes Elsenham WI so special.

At our last regular meeting many of us enjoyed listening to the wonderful Simon Gregor as he took us on a journey back in time for his talk 'London – An Illustrated History.' Simon is a very talented photographer as well as being a London tour guide so this was a real visual treat.

Our next virtual meeting is on Thursday 19 November and should be a fascinating talk. We have Melanie Gibson-Barton on The Life and Times of Edith Cavell. Melanie is a regular on the WI circuit and we are very lucky to have her. We will have a number of visitors with us from WIs from all around Essex.

The topic for our December meeting will be Christmas Flower Craft, details to follow.

Love and best wishes from all at Elsenham WI.

Stay Safe.



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Memorial Hall

The Management Committee of the Elsenham Community Association (ECA) has taken advice from the Rural County Council of Essex, which is its advisory body, regarding re-opening the hall. Following current government guidelines means that we will have to have certain measures in place before we can open parts of the hall to existing hirers. This, however, will be subject to the following:

- Groups may only hold their activities in the hall if they adhere to the ECA's risk assessment.
- Each group must provide its own risk assessment which will be checked for alignment with our own before a hiring is allowed to go ahead.
- However, it must be stated that if any of the stipulations set by the ECA's risk assessment are not followed once a hiring has been allowed, we will have the right to close the hall to the hirer with immediate effect.

Please send your risk assessment to our Secretary, Moyra Jackson, if you wish to make a hiring, or contact me if you have any questions.

Currently, Essex is in Tier 2 which restricts household mixing indoors so the hall cannot be hired at present and there is no date yet when we can reopen the hall.

STANSTED HALL & ELSENHAM CRICKET CLUB

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



The club held a successful golf day in September with 44 players attending. It was won by club member Peter Fitzpatrick by quite a margin.

Work in and around the pavilion and nets has been completed and 'put to bed'. In normal times the club would be looking forward to two fundraising quizzes and a presentation evening during the winter months. However, these look very unlikely this year unless we conjure up a Zoom quiz.

It would appear that Uttlesford has a useful amount of money to improve sporting facilities – a strategy. It will be interesting to see over the next few months where and how this money is allocated. Hopefully the district councillors will serve Elsenham and Stansted well.

The indoor cricket league is suspended at the moment which will disappoint some of our players who like to play all year. This probably means that they will be looking at the Indian Premier League on television which does not help with fitness.

Stay well and stay safe.



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ELSENHAM TENNIS CLUB

By Petra Studholme ☎ 814667



Elsenham Tennis Club is open for play! Members only, we currently don't allow non-members to hire our courts, sorry.

NEWS - Evening play – floodlights now available: We have now put a system in place to allow our members to use the courts under floodlights, so no more dodgy line calls pretending you can't see if the ball was in or out.

NEWS - Essex Small Club Leagues resumes: and we have entered our men's team. May the force be with you captain Jon and our ETC men's team.

Club nights: we currently have a booking system in place where our members can sign up to play on a Tuesday evening to limit numbers but we are pleased to say it's going well and our members are enjoying play again. As we have floodlights we are able to accommodate two sessions if there is a big demand.

Coaching: individual lessons with resident coach Steve are available but be quick to make sure that he and the courts are available when you want to play. To find out more see our website (www.elsenhamtennisclub.co.uk) where you can find his contact details.

Two group lessons (small numbers of people on the courts as per guidelines) have also resumed for our members, intermediate and advanced.

We would love to introduce some group and cardio tennis sessions – let us know if anyone is interested!

Ladies' mornings: both the Wednesdays and Fridays meetups have resumed; we have a pre-booking system in place here too.

Sunday leisurely play afternoon: again, on a pre-booking basis, we want to offer our members a chance to enjoy tennis, so register your interest via the usual channels.

To find out how to join, go to our website, look us up on Facebook or contact us [✉ mail@elsenhamtennisclub.co.uk](mailto:mail@elsenhamtennisclub.co.uk).

Weekly schedule:

- Tuesday evenings – club night
- Wednesday morning – ladies' morning
- Thursday evening – two group sessions
- Friday morning – ladies' morning
- Sunday afternoon – leisurely play (sign up now)

Keep an eye on the ETC website and follow us on Facebook for latest info.

Paddy McKeown



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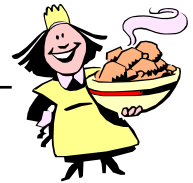
FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Funerals:

- Graveside Service and Burial at St Peter's Ugley Churchyard on 30 September 2020, Maureen Scott, aged 79 years, of North Hall Road, Ugley.
- Service of Thanksgiving and Cremation at Cam Valley Crematorium on 12 October 2020, Dennis Haslam, aged 86 years, of New Road, Elsenham.

COOKERY CORNER

By Sue Johnson ☎ 812704



Made with parsnips, this makes a moist and delicious alternative to carrot cake.

PARSNIP AND ORANGE SPICED CAKE (Serves 10-12)

8oz (230g) self-raising flour

1 teaspoon baking powder

1 teaspoon ground cinnamon

½ teaspoon ground nutmeg

2 teaspoons ground mixed spice

7oz (200g) caster sugar

3½oz (100g) walnuts, chopped

3 medium eggs, beaten

5 fl oz (150ml) sunflower oil

1lb 2oz (500g) parsnips, peeled, ends trimmed and coarsely grated

2 oranges, zested

Frosting:

2oz (50g) unsalted butter, softened

7oz (200g) full fat cream cheese

5oz (150g) icing sugar

1 orange, zested and some extra walnut pieces
for decoration (optional)

Heat the oven to 180°C/160°C fan/Gas Mark 4. Grease and line two 8 inch (20.5cm) sandwich cake tins with baking paper.

Sift the flour into a large mixing bowl with the baking powder, cinnamon, nutmeg and mixed spice. Add the caster sugar and chopped walnuts. Mix together and set aside.

In a separate bowl, put the eggs and sunflower oil. Beat for a few minutes. Then mix all the dry ingredients into the egg and oil mixture, adding the grated parsnips and orange zest. Mix everything together thoroughly for about 2 minutes.

Divide the mixture between the two cake tins, levelling off with a spatula. Bake for 25-30 minutes until the cakes are golden and a skewer inserted into the middle comes out clean. Leave to cool in the tins for about 10 minutes. Then turn out onto a wire rack to cool down completely.

Meanwhile, in a medium bowl, beat the softened butter. Mix in the cream cheese and icing sugar until just combined. Do not overbeat. Leave in fridge until you are ready to use. Sandwich cakes together with the frosting, then use the remainder to spread all over. Sprinkle with walnuts and orange zest.

CHEF'S RECOMMENDATIONS: These cakes freeze well without frosting. If you have one, use a food processor to grate the parsnips.

Editorial Information

Articles

The **last day** for editors to receive articles, advertising and letters, which must contain the author's name and address (which may be withheld), is **the 12th of each month**.

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

Copy submitted after the 12th may not be accepted but will, if deemed appropriate, be held over to the next month. We are happy to receive handwritten articles that ideally should reach us earlier than the 12th to allow for scanning etc.

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

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

General Notes

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

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

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

The editors' decision is final.

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

Subscriptions

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

Advertising

The costs are as follows:

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

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

To place an advertisement:

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

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

Flyers

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

Editorial Team

Sarah Alder	817660
Marion Giles-Donovan	812763
Heather Baxter	812924

ECA Website

www.ElsenhamCommunityAssociation.org.uk

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



UPCOMING EVENTS

Christmas Tree village festival
5-6 December (See page 5)

VILLAGE CONTACTS

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Beavers	Jackie Weston	816282
Bowls Club	Jean Platt	816151
Brownies	Jennifer Jarvis	814434
Church Office (Old Frank's, High St, Elsenham)	Anna Hicks	814285
County Councillor (Stansted)	Ray Gooding	813103
Cricket Club	David Brown	831011
The Crown pub	info@thecrown.info	814444
Cub Scouts	Linda Gleeson	850504
Cycling Club (Victoria CC)	Doug Yareham	07884 040892
Elsenham Community Association (ECA)	www.ElsenhamCommunityAssociation.org.uk	
ECA (Chairman)	Allan Hathaway	813385
ECA (Secretary)	Moyra Jackson	647351
Elsenham Surgery	www.elsenhamsurgery.nhs.uk	814730
Elsenham C of E Primary School	Linda Reid, Headteacher	813198
Elsenham Church PCC Secretary	David Hill	812397
Elsenham Rights of Way website	www.e-voice.org.uk/erowos/	
Friends of Elsenham School (FOES)	Gemma Mills	07745 036066
Guides elsenhamguides@gmail.com	Gemma Lewis	07792 572423
Henham & District Garden Society	Moyra Jackson	647351
History Society	Mike Rea evhs12@hotmail.co.uk	813634
Member of Parliament	Kemi Badenoch	0207 219 1943
Memorial Hall Bookings	Cheryl Rae	817834
Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator	Frances Lambert	07771 728332
Parish Clerk - Louise Johnson	franceslambertnhw@btinternet.com	
Elsenham Parish Council Website	louise.epc@gmail.com	07456 791727
Police	https://elsenham-pc.gov.uk/	
Post Office		101
Rainbows		812175
St Mary's Fabric Fund	Petrina Lees	816675
Tennis Club	Elizabeth Barker	813543
Tots & Toddlers	Petra Studholme	814667
Uttlesford District Councillors	Trudi Marsh	899864
(for Elsenham & Henham)	Petrina Lees	816675
Village Hall Bookings	Garry LeCount	07836 346717
Village Hall email address	Annie Gleeson	07809 490731
Women's Institute	elsenhamvillagehall@gmail.com	
WI website	Gill Hathaway	813385
Youth Football Club (Chairman)	www.elsenhamwi.co.uk	
	Paul Jarvis	814434

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



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