

Elsenham News



Sunday 25 October
Clocks go back

elsenhamnews@hotmail.co.uk

October 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 25)
Elsenham Tennis Club activities (please see page 43)
Elsenham & Stansted Hall Cricket Club training & fixtures (see website)
Kick Boxing (on Playing Field)
WI (online, please see page 13)

Parish Council meetings are being held by Zoom. The next meeting is on Monday 5 October. Contact Louise Johnson for information by email on [✉ louise.epc@gmail.com](mailto:louise.epc@gmail.com)



Stansted Library has reopened.
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: 10.50am to 12.20pm
Day: Thursday

Dates: 15 October
5 November, 26 November
17 December
7 January 2021

THE NEWS REPORT

From The Editors



Autumn is here, with shorter days, a bit of a nip in the air at times, but still (we hope) plenty of sunshine so we can enjoy the wonderful seasonal colours. But please make time to read the magazine too. There's lots to enjoy.

Ray Franklin has reflected for a little longer this month and his topic has been the growth of the village. You can read about that on p35 & p37. It's a salutary lesson to think that what seems like the "old" village today is not all that old really. It's a matter of perspective.

The school children are back for a new term and we have an update on that on p7. Still on the topic of being back, there is an update on Max the cat, who's been something of a local celebrity for the last few months, see p19.

The Parish Council is interviewing candidates for new councillors, see p5; and we have updates from St Mary's Fabric Fund on p39 and from the Cricket Club on p41. Community Speedwatch needs help, see p29.

October also brings the festival of All Hallow's Eve on Saturday 31 October. You can celebrate Halloween all month at Cammas Hall, see p29.

Finally, we need to mention our advertisers, without whose support we could not produce this printed magazine. From beauticians and interior designers, to auto services and builders and decorators, there are loads of useful local services advertising in the magazine. And if you do contact them, please tell them you found them in *Elsenham News*.

Don't forget to put your clocks back on Sunday 25 October.

Keep well and stay socially distanced. We got through the major lockdown, let's try and get through the winter with as much of our community intact as we can.

We will see you next month, whether in print or back to PDF we don't yet know.

The Editors

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ELSENHAM PARISH COUNCIL 7 SEPTEMBER 2020

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



Alana Warwick has resigned from Elsenham Parish Council. The council would like to thank Alana for all the hard work she has given to the village. Alana was the driving force behind setting up the Parish Council's website and foray into social media. Annie Gleeson has kindly agreed to look after the website and social media until December 2020.

The appeal for the outline planning permission for up to 40 new dwellings on land south of Rush Lane has been approved.

The appeal for Stansted Airport planning application is due to start on 10 January 2021, it is scheduled to last ten weeks. Any further representation would have needed to be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate by 30 September 2020. Only new information will be considered.

Residents are reminded that dogs are not allowed anywhere on the playing field or the children's play area. There is an Uttlesford District Council by-law that prohibits dogs on the playing field.

Seven people have shown an interest in joining the Parish Council. There are currently three vacancies. Councillors will meet the candidates, via Zoom, and vote on who they think would be best to fill the current positions on the Council.

District Councillor Petrina Lees, said that Uttlesford District Enforcement Team has now been given permission to go out to assess enforcement issues and Planning Officers can now visit planning application sites. Members of the office staff will not be going back for some time, as Uttlesford Council Offices in Saffron Walden are not conducive with the Government guidelines. Zoom meetings will continue for a minimum of 2-3 months.

Essex County Councillor Ray Gooding reported that schools across the county are now open and children are returning after an extended time at home. If any parent has any concerns about their child returning to school, they must speak with the head teacher.

There are two ash trees on the verge near Abbotsford Bridge on Hall Road, both trees appear to be dying with limbs overhanging the road, the Parish Clerk is to report them to Essex Highways.

The Parish Council ask that residents respect the trees around the village, recently some trees have had limbs broken off.

The next Parish Council meeting will be 5 October 2020, 8pm via Zoom.

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ELSENHAM C. OF E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

By Linda Reid, Headteacher



The new academic year was preceded by a memorial to honour “Dusty” Clark our former Crossing Patrol Attendant. Harley and Charlie from our Year 4 Class unveiled the memorial plaque, which sits on the wall alongside the community noticeboard by the zebra crossing. The occasion was attended by a significant number of Dusty’s family, and other well-wishers, who were extremely touched by the way villagers had taken Dusty to their hearts. Thanks go to Jackie Drake, who worked so hard to organise this mark of respect. The unveiling ceremony followed the very memorable funeral procession, marked by a minute’s silence on the crossing, which had taken place some weeks earlier.

Harley and Charlie looked incredibly smart as they performed this duty. It was the first official outing for our new school uniform, which received lots of compliments. It is darker green in colour and now has the addition of a new school tie.

It has been truly wonderful to have all the children back in school with us on a full time basis. They have loved being back with their friends and are quickly settling into their new classes and adapting to the new routines of school life. Our school continues to grow in size, and the enthusiasm of everyone involved for maintaining the very high standards we have become used to, is fantastic to see. Overall we have had a very good, and very busy start to the new school year.

Inevitably school is a little different for us as we continue to work in these uncertain times. Change has become an everyday occurrence in school as we implement the latest government guidance in relation to COVID-19. Our new systems for the beginning and end of day arrangements are working well and we really appreciate the support of everyone in ensuring that these systems work for all.

Communication with parents has also seen some changes. Parents’ Meetings have recently taken place via Zoom. These have proved popular with parents and carers, who have appreciated having the opportunity to hear first-hand about the changes taking place in school, with the opportunity to submit questions.

Zoom was also one of a number of popular platforms used by teachers during the period of closure, in addition to books and paper resources, in ensuring that children’s learning could continue in the best way possible. These were all good, but the re-introduction of face to face tuition for all children during the summer term was met with great enthusiasm by all concerned.

Unfortunately, we will be unable to conduct our annual “Open Afternoons” in the same way as visitors into school are restricted. It is likely that we will instead take prospective parents and children on a virtual tour of our school in the short term, with actual visits reintroduced as soon as these are once again allowed.



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DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2020

By Cllr Lees and Cllr LeCount

✉ Cllrlecount@uttlesford.gov.uk

✉ Cllrlees@uttlesford.gov.uk

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As all of our lives turn back to the new normal, life for us as councillors still finds us conducting all business over the internet via Zoom or other platforms with UDC officers and other members. The newly constituted Local Plan Leadership Group's will give input to Cabinet concerning how the new Local Plan will be formed during the district wide consultations which will be taking place in 2020 – 2022/3.

As you may have seen and heard through the media, planning and housebuilding are now near the top of the Government's agenda. It has just published a White Paper proposing massive reform. There is an enormous amount of detail to convey. We feel, however, that if made law, there will be less scope for community engagement in the planning process, as areas will be "zoned"; one for Growth, one for Renewal and another for Protection. What this means is yet fully to be explained, but early and thorough consultation will be needed with the community to help define the areas/limits of these "zones". In the case of the first two zone types, planning permission for development in them will be automatic or easier respectively to obtain. Consultation on the White Paper runs until 29 October 2020.

At the same time, the Government is **also** consulting (until 1 October 2020) on the housing numbers to be built in each district. The draft requirement for Uttlesford anticipates an annual number of 1,230, UP from about 700 now. This is the highest percentage increase for any district, exceeded only by the requirement for eight London Boroughs. Discussions will be taking place with the Government to challenge these numbers and formal opposition to both consultations will be submitted by Uttlesford, to which we shall both be contributing as Planning Portfolio Holder and Chair of Planning, as well as in our capacities in the Local Plan Leadership Group. Uttlesford has in **each** of the first two decades of this century experienced over 15% growth in housing numbers. The equivalent statistics for Braintree District incidentally are 12% and 4.65%.

We believe that we must lobby our MP regarding the rise in housing numbers allocated to this district, and urge all to write; the failure of the latest Local Plan, was due to the Inspectors finding it unsound and recommended withdrawal, as they could not see any form of "tinkering" saving the proposed plan.

Those that attend the Planning Committee at UDC will note that the committee is diligent, thoughtful and debate exhaustively at times, thus it is disappointing that the Planning Inspector decides to overturn their well thought out reasons for refusal. The Inspectors' decisions are final. There is not an opportunity to readdress. We must continue to respond to consultations and write.

At the recent council meeting, the Water and Rivers Resolution resolved to raise awareness of the threat to Uttlesford's rivers as regards water *Cont'd overleaf*

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supply and environmental protection to adopt measures to avoid the loss of important river habitats and its chalk streams, as well as making water supply and river health a material consideration of sustainability when assessing major applications for development within the district. Given the effect of climate change and population growth upon water resources, when developing the district Local Plan, full consideration will be given to the sustainable provision of water throughout the district and stringent policies for new buildings in respect of water conservation and recycling.

We are delighted that due to investments we have been able to cover some of the Government shortfall, and Ward Members have been allocated the Ward Members' Initiative Grant of £2,000. This funding has to be spent for the direct community benefit of the member's ward. So please do contact us if we can help.

Uttlesford Foodbank

During the lockdown this village responded to the call for donations with great gusto, and to the wonderment of the staff when we delivered. There is still a real need for people of this district to receive help. We are still delivering parcels to those in need locally. We now deliver to the Foodbank fortnightly. Things in need for October :



- Tinned Vegetables/Fruit
- Coffee
- Deodorant/Shampoo
- Long life Juice/Squash
- Condiments

All donations gratefully received, please leave on my porch at Orwell House, Station Rd, Elsenham

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ELSENHAM WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

By Moyra Jackson ☎ 647351



I am writing this on a glorious sunny day with just a hint of the approaching change of season in the air. Elsenham always looks especially beautiful in autumn.

It's been another busy month for us. We continue to produce our own in-house newsletter, Elsenham WI Matters, keeping our members up to date with WI happenings in Elsenham across the county and beyond. Our members all received a 'Meeting in a Box' to compensate a little for not being able to get together and have our usual Summer Party. The box contained a Cream Tea, bee-friendly flower seeds, a hand-made facemask courtesy of Gill Hathaway (Gill, the Sewing Bee awaits!), hand sanitiser and a raffle ticket. Our wonderful Penny Lee won the raffle and received a hamper of goodies.

Natter Nights remain a weekly occurrence every Tuesday evening at 7.30pm, and we have yet to run out of crafting ideas or things to talk about.

Our last meeting was a Quiz Night courtesy of our lovely Sam Briggs. Five rounds on a wide variety of subjects and greatly enjoyed by all. It was open to all WI households and with the help of my long-suffering husband Ian, I am delighted (and surprised) to say we won a fabulous voucher for the Owls Hill Tearoom in Terling. The Tearoom is run by Sam and well worth a visit.

Our next virtual meeting is on Thursday 15 October and will be Darren Tinsley: Taming the Flood – a Beaver's Tale. Darren is from the Woodland Trust and will be telling us about the return of the Essex beaver. Visitors are welcome – please contact Gill or myself for joining instructions.

Following our next meeting, the remainder of our year looks like this:

- 19 November, Melanie Gibson-Barton: The Life and Times of Edith Cavell
- 17 December, Christmas Flower Craft (TBC)

Members will be provided with the relevant joining information for all these meetings. If you are not a member and would like to come along please contact me for further details – we are always happy to welcome visitors. Our monthly meetings start at 8pm and are on the third Thursday of every month.

Love and best wishes from all at Elsenham WI.

Stay Safe



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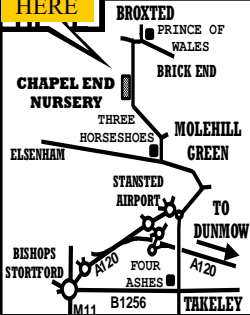
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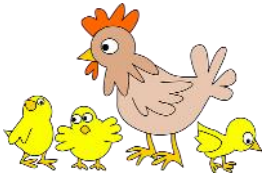
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Covid-19 has affected us very badly and we REALLY need you to support us in order to raise enough money to survive over the winter, so PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE keep visiting us whenever you can and help us to help our lovely animals. Please check our website for further details and for opening times.

To find out more ☎ 07747 787973 or ✉ www.daisymaysfarm.org or our Facebook page. *Thanks so much.*

As you can imagine, the past few months have been really tough for us, to say the least, so if you would like to help us, you can do this in a couple of ways. We have an **Amazon Wish List**. Nothing is terribly expensive, but everything is very much needed. If you would like to buy something, please follow the link https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/1B5UNRLQREZDL?ref=cm_sw_sm_r_wl_mw_jrTk174ecxfGg

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

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

Keep an eye on our website for news – www.daisymaysfarm.org.

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DEVELOPMENT DEVELOPMENTS

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



The appeal against refusal of the outline application for up to 40 homes off Rush Lane was allowed. The applicants will no doubt now sell the land on, and the purchasers will make a detailed application. There won't be new houses built yet awhile, but it will happen.

The Inspector commented that Uttlesford District Council's Local Plan is now 'painfully out of date'. Given that it was scheduled to expire in 2011, he has a point. My crystal ball was obviously in good nick last month, for I commented that the rules as to how a new Plan is produced might well have changed before UDC is ready. The government has now published proposals which amount to tearing up the planning system and starting again. District councils are expected to produce a plan according to the new provisions by the end of 2024. Uttlesford are in a tiz, and are continuing under the existing regime, knowing that the rules will probably be changed radically before a plan is agreed.

As to the changes, it could be argued that the government has pulled a fast one (gasps of incredulity) through publishing two White Papers simultaneously. The first, with the yawn-inducing title 'Planning for the Future', was published with a fair amount of publicity and a reasonably generous deadline for comments of 29 October. It outlines proposals whereby land would be allocated into one of three categories - growth areas, suitable for substantial development; renewal areas, suitable for development, including 'gentle densification' (a phrase to savour) and small sites within or on the edge of villages; protected areas, that is, Green Belt, conservation areas, and so on.

The aim is to speed up the planning process, while also claiming there will be more consultation. But it will not be through the tired old methods of yesteryear - no more posting notices on gate-posts. Instead there are pie-in-the-sky suggestions that the young will be involved through whizzy new apps on smartphones and the like. There is elaborate window-dressing with stuff about standards and beautiful places and neighbours no longer being strangers, though how this will ever be achieved, much less enforced, is a mystery. Apparently there is a need for the planning system to be based on data, not documents, whatever that means.

The document is opaque in parts, but it is crystal clarity itself compared with the second White Paper, which is concerned with housing numbers. As far as Uttlesford is concerned, this is the kicker. It draws on median wages and house prices to determine the need for more 'affordable' housing in each district, and reaches the conclusion that Uttlesford needs about 1,230 new homes per annum, compared with about 700 per annum under the rejected Local Plan. The revised figure is reckoned to be the eighth highest as a proportion of existing dwellings, exceeded only by some London boroughs. The consultation period is much shorter, and expired on 1 October.

Applications and appeals will continue to be decided according to the current legislation. All in all, though, it's good news for developers.

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ELSENHAM



Max is home

As many of you have probably seen, our cat Max is finally home, safe and sound. Max is the cat with the Bluetooth collar that pings our phone if you get near him. After seven weeks of searching and no pings, we were coming to terms with the fact that we would probably never see him again.

On that Monday we drove the long six hours down to Cornwall, only to decide to turn back home - it just didn't feel right. We got home at 3 o'clock Tuesday morning and by 7am we got a call with a sighting which we believed may have been him. Off to May Walk we went and searched around for a couple of hours. Nothing. We decided to head back home, but as we walked to the car our phones pinged 'MAX HAS BEEN FOUND'. We were in shock. We looked around and there he was - in the exact spot he had been sighted. We couldn't believe it, it felt like fate brought us back together. While he'd been missing many of our neighbours had signed up to have the same alert function as us on their apps. So when we found him and our phones pinged, it felt like everybody else's in the whole

neighbourhood did too! They all got to share the moment with us. Now Max is doing really well, the vets checked him over and just want to see him nice and big again. For all those who have ever lost a pet our message is to never give up on them, there is always hope. We want to express our sincere thanks to everyone for your support. It was truly heart-warming to hear how many of you were keeping an eye out for him for all that time. A well deserved happy ending for everyone in the village.



All our love, Luisa & Ronan Wheeler. Oh, and Max of course! xx



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various railway-related postage stamps, jigsaws and DVDs. For further details, please phone ☎ 813273 (local).

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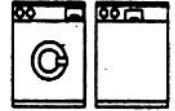


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NATURAL OUTLOOK ON WELSH WATERFOWL

By Heather Salvidge ☎ 814153



This time last year we were on holiday, based on Anglesey but had decided to spend a day on the mainland. I made some good notes on this trip so this is an account of what we did.

Waiting for a heavy ten-minute shower to cease we set off, passing on the way house martins and pied wagtails.

Our first port of call was the National Trust's Gardd Bodnant or Bodnant Garden. There we found wonderful cultivated beds and plantings and a very, very steep slope to the river Conwy valley and 150-year-old woodlands, natives and imported specimens from all parts of the world. The river was 'managed' by dams and gullies and also the side ponds. On these were a few mallard, a small group of Canada geese, coots, moorhens and a young female red breasted merganser and a mute swan. In other parts of the garden were robins, male blackbirds, wood pigeons and jackdaws.

Then on the way back, via RSPB Conwy, it was very, very windy but dry! Temperatures up to 16C dropping to 14/13C 'back home'. For starters there were male blackbirds, a magpie, sparrows, coots, moorhens, teal (drakes still in eclipse) a couple of pairs of 'tufties' (tufted ducks), one snipe, several gadwall, and a few mallards.



On a small island, there were up to 100 redshank sheltering from the wind, four grey herons, black headed gulls and one herring gull. Then on the 'drained sands' (incoming tide) a little egret, a scattering of curlews and one or two crows. On distant margins of streams, the River Conwy again, black headed gulls, greater black backed gulls, one or two herring gulls and oyster catchers, two or three more redshank and one or two cormorants.

Common redshank

Then, alerted by a disturbance of gulls, Paul saw that a sparrow hawk had landed on a sand bank with a small, unidentifiable kill. She plucked for around ten minutes. The curlews and nearby gulls seemed unconcerned until she took off with the kill. Then the nearest curlew gave chase and harried her way across the estuary till we lost sight of her.



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Worry?

My wife and I were really pleased that we had the opportunity to go recently to a holiday cottage in Norfolk with our daughter, who lives with us, and our son and his wife and three children, but this would not be possible now as we would exceed the limit of six people from two households. This pandemic seems to keep going on and on—things relax but then we get more cases and regulations get tighter again. These are not encouraging times and many people are feeling the strain.

Students are getting ready to go to university and people in university towns are concerned about the increase in social contacts. Schoolchildren are going back and having to cope with a very controlled environment after a long time not in school. My oldest grandson, Reuben, is six years old and has started y2. In his church in Fulham, one of the ministers was speaking in an all-age family service. The minister was applying the kids' talk by saying, "Now you might be worried about going back to school but...[and then was to come the application]" to which Reuben audibly replied (with some indignation), "I'm not worried! I just don't want to go!"

Nevertheless, for many, these times are worrying. Some businesses fear for their viability. Many workers fear for their jobs and people are sad and some are anxious because of isolation and the lack of personal contact.

Things are not what they were and people may fear for the future. We can get stressed or anxious when things are out of our control, when we don't know what will happen. This Covid19 pandemic has really shown us all that our lives are fragile. I've heard of 'covid-safe' environments but in reality it is extremely difficult to remove every risk.

Perhaps we just need to recognise our own frailties – worry is not unusual. The issue might be 'what do we do about our worry?' After all, Jesus taught his followers about anxiety in His Sermon on the Mount precisely because we tend to be anxious!

"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life?" (Matthew. 6:25-27)

Christians are to recognise the loving, sovereign care of God over their lives and "seek first His kingdom and His righteousness" Matthew 6:33.

Christians are not exempt from hardships and suffering but, as the apostle Peter wrote, we should look to God - "Cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you" (1 Peter 5:7).

Do I worry? Yes of course I do! Do I dislike uncertainty? Yes! Do I think this world is out of control? No!

I believe that God is in control and He holds my future in His hands and that if I trust or believe in His Son Jesus then my ultimate future is secure and glorious. One day I will see Jesus face to face but in the meantime God is always with me, in the ups and downs of life by His Spirit. I am His beloved child and He has come close to me through His Son Jesus. What a glorious privilege- what a glorious hope!

God bless,

Rev Gary Tubbs
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CHURCH EVENTS IN OUR VILLAGES OCTOBER 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:

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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)

Suspended until at least October. 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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ELSENHAM VILLAGE HISTORY SOCIETY

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

🌐 www.elsenham-history.co.uk



At our last committee meeting, there was an ad hoc discussion around the fact that there was an Elsenham Road in Grimsby and why this might be. This discussion had, in turn, been sparked by conversation about the mapping of tramways. Our committee meetings are nothing if not far ranging!

The conversation was noted but nothing was done about it until a book by Jane Kidd entitled 'Gilbeys, Wine and Horses' came to light that offered a detailed look at the life of Sir Walter Gilbey and the Gilbey family business. We now learn that Sir Walter put about £500,000 into property between 1888 and 1908, much of it local cottages and farms. On a larger scale however, in 1898, he bought 40 acres of land on the northern edge of Grimsby and developed it as a housing estate called Littlecoates, using street names local to this area, amongst them Stortford, Stansted, Elsenham and Clavering.

I am also aware of an Elsenham Street in Southfields, South West London but don't know how it got its name. It was one of nine streets, known as the "Southfields Grid", given planning permission in 1891 on land then owned by the Wimbledon Park Land Company, but none of the other eight street names appear to have any connection to our locality.

As an aside, this land was originally owned by absentee landlord Earl Spencer who, due to money difficulties, sold it in 1846 to John Beaumont. Mr Beaumont sold the land in 1886 just as the line of a new railway between Wimbledon and Putney Bridge (now part of the District Line) was published thus losing a significant amount of money when the land was compulsorily purchased from the new owners to build the railway. The land where the Grid stood was not required by the railway and was sold off to the developers at a discount. Nothing changes!

Some longer standing residents of the village will recall that Willis Toys used to have a factory and warehouse just off Stansted Road, Elsenham on what is now part of Saunders Close. Does anyone have any of these toys that could be photographed or any photographs of the toys or the factory? We would like to produce a feature on this subject so any material would be gratefully received. Our thanks go to Pam and Keith Merrifield who have kindly donated a Willis Jigsaw to start us off; thank you.

We are still collecting material for the "Elsenham Corona Diaries" so if you have any anecdotes, stories, or anything else please let us know

As I write, news of the new "rule of six" is breaking which probably means that we will have a hat-trick of cancelled meetings this year as it is unlikely that the November meeting will take place.

We were due to hear from Ken MacDonald, secretary of the 100 Parishes Society, who was to speak of the work done by the society in celebration of the attractive, gently-undulating area around us, but Ken will now bring this to life at a later date.

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NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

By Frances Lambert franceslambertnhw@btinternet.com



CCTV

Everyone has their views on CCTV. It is used everywhere now for security, and in towns and shops it has helped to identify shoplifters and warn other shops when known persons are in their area.

It is also a good deterrent on your house as a burglar passing your home will think twice if they see a camera. They can also be linked to your phone and trigger an alert if someone approaches your property when you are not there. This can give you peace of mind that your house and pets are being guarded whilst you are out, but please ensure if you put a camera in your back garden you are not overlooking your neighbour's property.

There are many camera models on the market to suit your budget that you can install yourself, or several companies that will install them for you. If you live on your own you can also check on the outside of your house at night, without going out there. To keep the cost right down many people put up a dummy camera on their house; this will also act as a deterrent.

When thinking of house security anything you can do to make your home more secure is a good idea, tuck those wheelie bins away from your front fence or wall as they make an easy way to climb over your boundary. Lights that come on as you approach your house will help stop a burglar as he will not want to work in the light. A tall hedge in front of your house looks lovely, but it also looks lovely to a burglar as he can hide behind it.

We know that the majority of residents enjoy using the playing fields and treat the facilities and other people with respect. It is only the minority that sometimes spoils it for others. Now that CCTV has been installed, we are able to identify these people and the Parish Council, if necessary, will take further action. The cameras cover most of the area and they have already identified several people causing damage, and fly tipping, these incidents have been reported to the relevant officials.

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. Remember if you see something urgent that Police should know about dial 999, for anything else dial 101.

We are holding a charity sale at Bardox, Stansted Road on Saturday 10 October and Sunday 11 October from 10am till 4pm. All proceeds for Addenbrooke's Hospital critical care unit who saved my son's life during lockdown following a motorcycle accident.

Please support us as there will be lots of goodies on offer.



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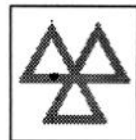
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In these strange times we have seen people unable to attend their place of work. Many have been supported by a furlough scheme. Over the years, governments have taken various steps to care for the poor and those unable to work.

The Act for the Relief of the Poor of 1601 made parishes legally responsible for parishioners who could not work. Most assistance was given as “outdoor relief”, meaning financial help but with people able to remain in their own homes.

The Workhouse Test Act of 1723 obliged anyone seeking relief to enter a parish workhouse. Several of these buildings have survived including those at Ashdon, Clavering, Finchingfield, Newport and Stanstead Abbots.



Under the Poor Law Amendment Act of 1834 individual parishes were grouped together in a Poor Law Union which was responsible for constructing and operating a central “Union” workhouse for the larger area. Many survive and have been re-purposed.

Great Dunmow's Union workhouse has changed very little in appearance since it was built in 1838 at a cost of £8,000 to house 350 inmates. One of the architects, George Gilbert Scott was a prolific workhouse designer who later designed the Albert Memorial and St Pancras Station.

The Union workhouse at Buntingford, built in 1836 to house 160 people from 16 surrounding parishes, closed in 1933 and converted into houses and apartments.

Linton built its workhouse in 1837 in Symonds Lane to accommodate 230 inmates. Today it is a retirement home.

Saffron Walden's workhouse, built in 1836 for 340 inmates, became a hospital and is now apartments.

Life in the workhouse was hard; families were split, husbands separated from wives and parents from their children - a stark contrast to today's benefits systems.

Ken McDonald, Secretary.



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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From small rural settlement to rural sprawl

In the 1960s I had a conversation with a farmer as he stood in a field within our village. He was proud of his farming heritage and his fields around Elsenham. It was his hope to go on for many years producing crops. I am sure he was sincere when he told me about the joy looking after the land given to him. He could be forgiven for not knowing what was around the corner.

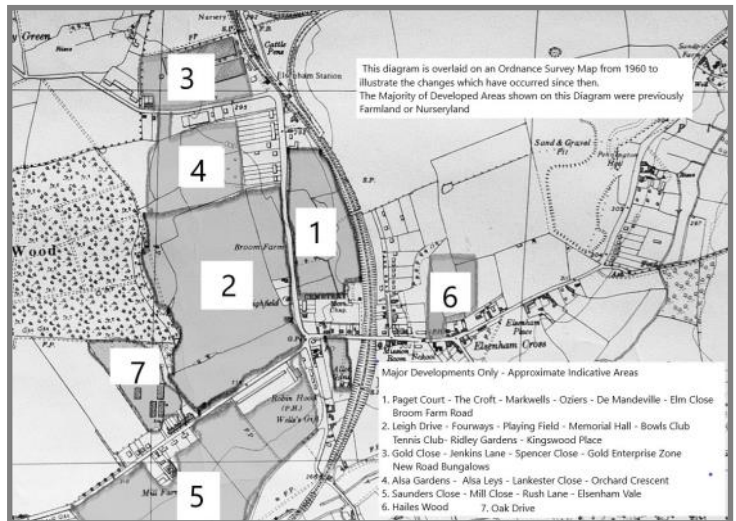
During the next four decades he or his fellow farmers were to suffer with Swine Fever, Foot and Mouth disease, CJD in his cattle and the worry of Tuberculin testing. The ever-increasing paper work, the Common Agricultural Policy and frequent communication from the Milk Marketing Board. The main thing which finally hits him is that contract from a supermarket. It seems he now produces a crop which he often sells at a loss!

As he approaches his retirement he contemplates selling his land to developers. This is something he never envisaged.

In **1951** the population of Elsenham stood at 598 people. Prior to the main sewer coming to this village, volume building was forbidden. This rule was broken by the construction of Broom Farm Estate in **1965**. This small estate of 54 houses, Elm Close, Osiers, De Mandeville and Broom Farm were built on the site of farm land and Broom Farm House which burnt down in 1965. There were erected with their own sewage disposal system.

In August **1974**, Elsenham is finally connected to the main sewer.

The late John Hurwitz, Chairman of Elsenham Parish Council thinks he hears a starting pistol being fired as the race to build more homes begins. In **1979** because of the vast numbers of planning applications being made, Elsenham Parish Council makes changes within its structure. A "Planning Sub-Committee" is created.



Cont'd overleaf

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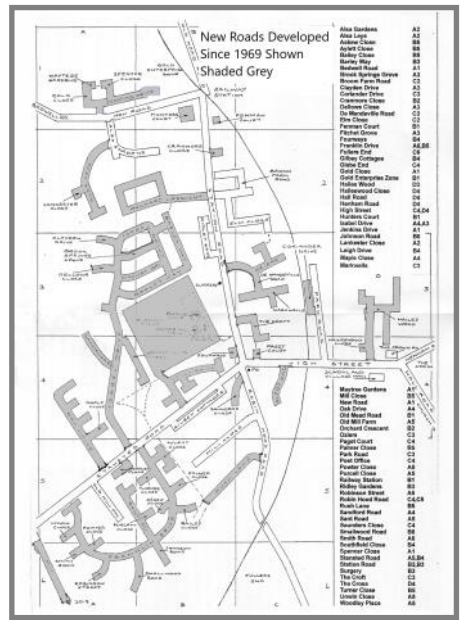
continued

Gold Close, Jenkins Drive, the enterprise centre and the bungalows in New Road were built on Golds Nursery. Alsa Gardens was Butters Nursery

Between the years of **1981** and **1991** our village grows to 1,955 as recorded in the Electoral Roll. We witness the construction of Hunters Court, Maytree Gardens, The Croft, Spencers Close and Hailes Wood. Hailes Wood was built on a field belonging to William Barker owner of the garage. There is a more recent extension behind the Crown on a field that had been a hay meadow.

In **1993**, Rush Lane and Leigh Drive are built. The Playing Field, Bowls Club and Leigh Drive were built on a farmer's field. In **1993** the village exceeds 2,000 adults (Electoral Roll numbers exclude under 18s.)

From **1996** to date the following houses have been built and this does not include minor 'infilling:' Orchard Crescent, Isabel Drive, and its many roads built off it. Franklin Drive and Oak Drive and the many roads built off that. Oak Drive was Behren's Nursery. Kingswood Place and Elsenham Vale were farmland.



At a Parish Council meeting, someone remarked that we had enjoyed a good month and NOT received any planning applications for houses. I had a wry smile; we had almost reached saturation point. There were fewer than around half a dozen fields left to build on. Planning applications received in the last two years have been on those few fields. In August **2020**, Central Government announced the relaxation of planning laws. So, the 'green light' has been given for even more homes.

A further appeal has been heard (September **2020**) and 40 more houses are to be built opposite Rush Lane.

Some blame the UDC for lack of a District Plan. Others attribute blame on Central Government for their continuing Mantra of "Build, Build." I understand why people are attracted to Elsenham. The village has grown from in population from 589 in **1951 to 2,400** in December 2019. These are the latest figures on the Electoral Roll (now out of date), a rise in excess of 400% **with NO ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS.**



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CM22



Well, Covid-19 is still with us and forcing us to think seriously about our Christmas Tree Festival. With the amount of preparation this needs we must get our act together and let you know our plans. We think it is unlikely that the usual Church-based festival will be possible. Our small Church does not allow for social distancing, nor a well defined one-way system. So, onto plans B and C.

Encouraged by the scarecrows that sprang up a short while ago, we are proposing, in effect, to move the Christmas Tree Festival out into the village and into your own gardens. We think that it is important to maintain that sense of Christmas community spirit that has been so obvious with our festival in the past. We will be asking you to celebrate the Fabric Fund by displaying a Christmas Tree in your garden over the weekend of 5-6 of December. Decorate the tree – any type of tree, stick or twigs – as you wish, and then let us all walk around the village and admire the imagination and wit that you all have put into the festival in the past. We are not proposing this as a fund-raiser, but just to try and replicate the fun and joy that we have seen with the festival in the past. We would advise that the trees are not left out overnight.

Our second proposal, to run through December, is an 'Advent Window' plan. We will be asking people to choose a day in Advent and decorate a window, again in any style they like to display on that day. We can then publish a plan of whose window will be there to admire on which day, so again we can walk around the village admiring the artistic talent in the village.

There are our plans and we would love to hear your reactions to them. Please contact me or Elizabeth (☎ 813543) or Jill (☎ 812397). More details will be available on the Henham and Elsenham website and, of course, through the pages of *Elsenham News*.

Stay safe, all of you.

GARDEN HINT *By Sue Johnson*

Plant hardy spring bedding plants such as wallflowers, primulas and forget-me-nots now into prepared beds or pots.



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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ELSENHAM BOWLS AND SOCIAL CLUB

By Sue Waite ☎ 07956 899326 ✉ suewaite2003@yahoo.co.uk



The bowls green has now closed with lots of work having been done to bed it down until next season. Volunteers worked hard at scarifying, solid tining and applying top dressing, grass seed, fertiliser, etc. so that the green will be in prime condition when it is opened again next April. Hopefully we will be able to play as normal next season with county competitions, internal competitions and friendly matches taking place.

Although we were unable to play official games, the captains, Sue and Chris Waite, organised a pairs league – The Waite and See league, and a singles competition. These games were played purely for fun and to get members onto the bowls green. A big thank you to the members who turned up rain or shine to play and also to the faithful few who came to watch and support us.

The bar continues to be open on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 7 – 11pm. No need to book any more just turn up and you will be shown to your seat. Table service provided and card payments are now being taken – we have arrived into the 21st Century. As you know we have a limit of 30 people being in the club and social distancing and hand sanitising are still a requirement in order to keep everyone safe. New members are always welcome.

There is still uncertainty with regard to pool, darts and bingo starting again but watch this space and we will keep you informed. Stay safe everyone.

STANSTED HALL & ELSENHAM CRICKET CLUB

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



The club has managed to play half a season in the Herts & Essex Border League. The first matches were played on 18 July for both 1st XI and 2nd XI and will continue until mid September.

Going back to early July, most clubs thought that no cricket would be played this year and indeed some leagues told member clubs that they would not be operating at all. So to get some cricket in has been a relief and availability has been good.

The club has also played midweek and Sunday matches to get as many fixtures in as possible. The juniors have had only a few matches but coaching on Friday evenings has been very enjoyable. The club also arranged a 2 day 'Junior Cricket Camp' which was attended by 24 junior members. The pavilion and ground improvements at Molehill Green are now complete and matches will be played at that ground in 2021.

Financially it has been a difficult year for the club as we did not qualify for the £10,000 Uttlesford District Council Covid -19 Grant. However, members, parents, and friends of the club gave generously to a 'Just Giving' page that was set up by the committee. Going forward our main income stream during the winter months of two quizzes looks very doubtful, therefore 2021 could be another challenging year. These are difficult times for all of us – the most important thing is to stay healthy. Let us hope that this Coronavirus can be contained or eliminated in the near future.

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ELSENHAM TENNIS CLUB

By Petra Studholme ☎ 01279 814667



Elsenham Tennis Club is open for play!

Members only, we currently don't allow non-members to hire our courts, sorry.

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 playing again. As we have floodlights we are able to accommodate two sessions if there is a big demand.

Coaching update

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.

Ladies' mornings

Both the Wednesdays and Fridays meetups have resumed; we have a pre-booking system in place here too.

Sunday leisurely play afternoon (coming shortly)

We are also currently exploring the idea of re-introducing our Sunday afternoon play, two hours to just have a little hit, again on a pre-booking basis.

To find out more and how to join go to our website, look us up on Facebook or contact us via 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 (to come soon)

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

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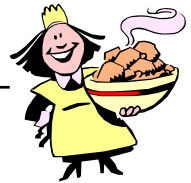
FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Wedding:

- On 11 September 2020 at Henham Church, Samuel James Pimblett and Kayleigh Sarah Mackness

COOKERY CORNER

By Sue Johnson ☎ 812704



Colourful mixed peppercorns give a modern twist to this classic French recipe. Serve with the red wine sauce, potato wedges, French fries or new potatoes and a leafy salad. This recipe is just so quick and easy both to prepare and cook. It makes a lovely weekend special treat, accompanied by the remainder of the bottle of red wine!

STEAK AU POIVRE (serves 4)

- 3 tablespoons mixed peppercorns
- 4 thick fillet steaks, about 5½ oz (160g) each
- 2 tablespoon olive oil
- 14 fl oz (400ml) red wine
- Salt

Crush the peppercorns with a pestle and mortar or the end of a rolling pin. Brush the steaks with 1 tablespoon of the oil, then press the peppercorns around the edge of each steak with your fingers.

Heat the remaining oil in a large heavy-based frying pan over a medium to high heat. Add the steaks and cook for 5-6 minutes, turning once, until cooked.

Transfer the steaks to serving plates and keep warm. Lower the heat and slowly pour the wine into the pan, then add 4fl oz (100ml) of water. Bring to the boil, then cook for 4 minutes or until reduced by half, stirring constantly. Add the salt to taste, spoon the sauce over the steaks and serve.

CHEF'S SUGGESTIONS:

The cooking time will vary depending on the thickness of the steaks, so check that they are cooked to your liking before removing from the pan.

This recipe can easily be halved if there are two of you. Indeed you can make it just for one, if you are eating on your own.

Mushrooms also make a nice accompaniment to these steaks.

Red wine keeps very well in the fridge as long as you remember to take it out of the cold a couple of hours before you plan on drinking!

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 - TO BE CONFIRMED

Santa visits the village 5 December
Christmas Tree village festival 5-6 December

VILLAGE CONTACTS

Airport Roadside Parking		0800 731 2385
Beavers	Jackie Weston	816282
Bowls Club	Jean Platt	816151
Brownies	Jennifer Jarvis	814434
Church Office (Old Frank's, High St, Elsenham)	Anna Hicks	814285
County Councillor (Stansted)	Ray Gooding	813103
Cricket Club	David Brown	831011
The Crown pub	info@thecrown.info	814444
Cub Scouts	Linda Gleeson	850504
Cycling Club (Victoria CC)	Doug Yareham	07884 040892
Elsenham Community Association (ECA)	www.ElsenhamCommunityAssociation.org.uk	
ECA (Chairman)	Allan Hathaway	813385
ECA (Secretary)	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
	franceslambertnhw@btinternet.com	
Parish Clerk - Louise Johnson	louise.epc@gmail.com	07456 791727
Elsenham Parish Council Website	https://elsenham-pc.gov.uk/	
Police		101
Post Office		812175
Rainbows	Petrina Lees	816675
St Mary's Fabric Fund	Elizabeth Barker	813543
Tennis Club	Petra Studholme	814667
Tots & Toddlers	Trudi Marsh	899864
Uttlesford District Councillors	Petrina Lees	816675
(for Elsenham & Henham)	Garry LeCount	07836 346717
Village Hall Bookings	Annie Gleeson	07809 490731
Village Hall email address	elsenhamvillagehall@gmail.com	
Women's Institute	Gill Hathaway	813385
WI website	www.elsenhamwi.co.uk	
Youth Football Club (Chairman)	Paul Jarvis	814434

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



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