Elsenham News

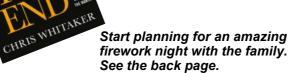


The results are in! See pages 21 and 23

Master Chef may have finished for this year but you can still be inspired! See page 45



Why not get read something new! See what the book club made of this new novel on page 43







Youth darts academy for future budding stars! See page 6

(Image courtesy of Freepiks)



THE MUST READ CRIME HOVEL OF THE YEAR

Elsenham Village Regular Monthly or Quarterly Activities

Parish Council 1st **Monday** of month 7.45pm (excl. Bank Holidays) Memorial Hall Elsenham EAGLES 4th **Monday** of month 7.30-9pm Bowls and Social Club

Henham & District Garden Soc. 1st Tuesday of month 2 for 2.30pm Memorial Hall

Community Choir 1st & 3rd Tuesday of month 7-8.30pm Village Hall

Natter Night 2nd **Tuesday** of month 7.30pm The Crown

Life Drawing 2nd and 4th **Tuesday** of month 7.30-9.30pm Village Hall

Village History Society 2nd **Wednesday** of month quarterly 7.45pm Memorial Hall

Women's Institute 3rd **Thursday** of month 7.45pm Memorial Hall

Church Lunch Club 2nd & 4th Friday of month 12.30pm Memorial Hall

October 2025 diary

Mon	6	Parish Council Meeting	Memorial Hall 7.45pm	
Tues	7	Henham & District Garden Society outing		
Tues	7	District Councillors' Surgery	Orwell House, Station Road	
			Elsenham 6.30pm	
Tues	7 & 21	Elsenham Community Choir	Village Hall 7pm	
Thurs	9 & 23	Community Supermarket	Memorial Hall o/s 1.30-3.30pm	
Fri	10 & 24	Church Lunch Club	Memorial Hall 12.30pm	
Sat	11 & 25	Bingo	Bowls & Social Club 7 for 7.30pm	
Tues	14	Natter Night	The Crown 7.30pm	
Tues	14 & 28	Life Drawing	Village Hall 7.30pm	
Thurs	16	WI	Memorial Hall 7.45pm	
Sat	25	Famers' Market	Village Hall 12.30-2.30pm	
Mon	27	Elsenham Eagles	Bowls & Social Club 7.15pm	



Mobile Library
Every third Saturday stopping at Glebe End
9.30am to 10am Next visit: 18 October

Elsenham Village Regular Weekly Activities

Day	Time	Activity	Location
	9.30-10.30am	Zumba	Memorial Hall
	10.30-11.30am	Health walk	Start at De Mandeville Green
	4-4.30pm	Rascals (3-4yrs)	Memorial Hall (term time)
Monday	4.30-5.30pm	Rascals (5-7yrs)	Memorial Hall (term time)
	5.30-7pm	Rascals (8-12yrs)	Memorial Hall (term time)
	7-7.45pm	Pilates	Elsenham Village Hall
	7.30-8.30pm	Shape to the beat	Memorial Hall (not 1st Monday)
	9.30-10.15am	Touchpoint Food Share	Bowls & Social Club
	9.30-11.30am	Village Café Coffee	Memorial Hall
	4.45-5.45pm	Rainbows	Memorial Hall (term-time)
Tuesday	4.45-5.45pm	Beavers	Ugley Village Hall (term-time)
	6-7.15pm	Cubs (Wolf Pack)	Ugley Village Hall (term-time)
	6-7.30pm	Brownies	Memorial Hall (term-time)
	7.30-10.30pm	Tennis Club night	Tennis Courts
	8pm	Fitness Yoga/Pilates	Memorial Hall
	9.45-11.30	Tots and Toddlers	Memorial Hall (term time)
	5.30-7pm	Slimming World	Memorial Hall
Wednesday	6.30-7.15pm	Women's strength and Mobility	Village Hall
	7-9pm	Scouts	Ugley Village Hall (term-time)
	7.30pm	Aerobics	Elsenham Village Hall
	9.30-11.05am	Teddy Bear Music	Memorial Hall (term-time)
	9.30-10.45am	Buffy Playbus	Crocus Drive
Thursday	6-7.15pm	Cubs (Bear Pack)	Ugley Village Hall (term-time)
	6.45-7.45pm	Jump Fit	Elsenham Village Hall
Friday	10-11am	Little Fishes	Memorial Hall (term-time)
Saturday	8.30am-noon	Tarte au Citroen	Playing Field
	8.15am-1pm	Youth boys & girls football	Playing Field
	8.45-9.30am	Little Kickers Mighty	Village Hall (term time)
	9.35-10.20am	Little Kickers Junior	Village Hall (term time)



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THE NEWS REPORT

From The Editors





Just as we reflect on a rather enjoyable summer, we find ourselves thinking about fireworks and Christmas! It's frightening how quickly time passes.

There was certainly a lot to do over the summer and this autumn and winter will be no less busy for all the organisations, associations and clubs associated with the village. In this month's edition you will find an enormous array of activities to keep you and your family members entertained in the coming months.

Everything from Halloween (pg13) to fireworks (back page), farmers market (pg44) to music night (pg39) - there is something for everyone.

If you have not attended any of these events, then why not? This is not a large community - despite all the new builds in the past decade. So please take the time to find out what is on offer for you.

A note of caution if we may please. As the nights draw in and we lose the light much earlier, please consider the safety of others and yourselves. When out walking or cycling, wear something bright or reflective so you can be seen. If you are driving, please slow down and be more aware of pedestrians and animals. Thank you.

We hope you enjoy this month's issue and any events you attend and we look forward to bringing you even more reports and updates in November!

The Editorial Team

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Session dates for 2025/2026

Saturday 4th October Saturday 18th October Saturday 1st November Saturday 15th November Saturday 22nd November Saturday 13th December Saturday 3rd January Saturday 17th January Saturday 31st January Saturday 14th February Saturday 28th February Saturday 14th March

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ELSENHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 1 SEPTEMBER

By Louise Johnson, Clerk. louise.epc@gmail.com № 07456 791727

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The Gladman planning application proposing 240 new houses north of Bedwell Road was refused by Uttlesford District Council on July 2. The application is now subject to an appeal process. While the development is located within Ugley and Henham, it is adjacent to the boundary of Elsenham.

An enforcement notice has been issued to the illegal airport parking on Elsenham Road, Stansted. This operation has been told to stop by 22nd September 2025.

The bench replacement project in the playing field is ongoing. Two more new benches will be bought to replace four decaying ones near the Bowls Club hedge.

Elsenham Parish Council has noted a rise in litter accumulation around the Tesco store. While our village litter pickers continue to maintain public spaces, a significant portion of their efforts is now focused on cleaning this specific area. The Council believes it is necessary to discuss and establish an appropriate resolution to address this matter.

The Bus Service Consultation 2025 closes on October 27. Proposals in the consultation for the 7A bus are that the 7A bus which departs from Bishop's Stortford at 13.30 is to depart at 14.00 and the later 7A journeys will each depart later by 30 minutes. Some early morning and late departures will also be removed, including the 08.49 departure from Stansted Airport.

The meeting included a discussion regarding the potential increase in the number of councillors. Committees such as Finance and Planning require additional members. Approval from Uttlesford District Council would be needed before proceeding.

Elsenham Parish Council, with support from Uttlesford District Council, is moving forward on the New Community Centre project. The tender documents have been completed and are scheduled for publication by the Procurement Officer at Chelmsford City Council Procurement Team on 10th September 2025.

The next Parish Council meeting is on October 6 at 7.45pm in The Memorial Hall.

GARDEN HINT By Sue Johnson

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Craig Pike



DEVELOPMENT DEVELOPMENTS

By Graham Mott № 812516 ⊠ motts@grahammott.plus.com

Uttlesford District Council's Planning Committee considered at its meeting on 27 August a detailed application for 40 homes on the land at the end of Robin Hood Road. It was decided neither to accept nor to refuse the application, but to defer, in order that various matters could receive proper attention.

A leading concern was the dispersal of the 'affordable' homes. These are situated too obviously along the boundary adjacent to the railway, without garages and without charging points for electric vehicles, whereas the homes available on the market all have garages and charging points. The lack of open space was another issue, together with a children's play area described by one councillor, accurately enough, as 'no more than a widened grass verge'. Cycling routes are claimed by the developers, but none could be identified, and landscape provision was regarded as inadequate.

There was much confusion over the mention of natural springs. The only water which the planning officer knew about was Stansted Brook, and so she assured members that it's too far away to be an issue. But as any local could tell her, there are in fact natural springs within the field which is due to be developed. The Planning Manager gave characteristically airy, but wholly erroneous, assurances that of course if there was an issue, it would have been dealt with at the outline application stage. He was similarly dismissive of any residual concerns of the Urban Design Officer.

The outline application was dealt with through the S62A procedure, whereby developers were able to take their applications direct to the Planning Inspectorate, as a penalty for UDC's poor performance. But UDC has now been released from the governmental naughty step, and, in effect, the Planning Committee was attempting to put right some of the oversights and omissions of the S62A Inspector, hamstrung through him having granted outline approval.

Members of the Committee expressed disappointment that the developers had not consulted Elsenham Parish Council, which had put forward, in the words of one councillor, 'a shopping list of objections'. It was pointed out that, while discussion with parish councils is recommended, it is not required by law and developers can merely and merrily go their own way if they please. But they took heed of what was said; and, what do you think? - a few days later the Parish Council received an email saying the architects would very much appreciate the opportunity to meet in order to have a friendly discussion.

Gladman have duly appealed against refusal of their application to build as many as 240 homes to the north of Bedwell Road, between the motorway on one side and the railway on the other. The issues will be noise from the motorway, and lack of evidence that the proposals would not adversely affect protected species. Uttlesford District Council have undertaken to defend refusal of the application. Gladman will no doubt be represented by the usual cohort of sharp-suited lawyers and consultants, all lacking familiarity with the area.

"God, the Bible and Everything (in 60 Minutes)"

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Brace yourself for an hilarious one-man show with BBC comedy writer James Cary (*Miranda, Bluestone 42*). In just 60 minutes, James unpacks the entire Bible—yes, the whole thing—with jokes, props, a big screen, and maybe a song.

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Come and find out!

Further details in the October edition of Elsenham News.



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ELSENHAM VILLAGE HISTORY SOCIETY

By Mike Rea, Secretary [®] 813634 ⊠ evhs12@hotmail.co.uk [®] www.elsenham-history.co.uk

Reading the Readers' Letters in my paper last weekend, a correspondent referred to Sir Walter Gilbey, citing his method of serving brandy as the best. What has this to do with Elsenham you may ask? Well, in 1877 Sir Walter moved into Elsenham Hall, leasing it from the Rush family before buying it outright in 1878 when the Rush family were made bankrupt. George A G Rush remained as Lord of the Manor until his death in 1904 when Sir Walter assumed the title, retaining it until his death in 1914.

From the start, Sir Walter became a benefactor to the village. In 1890 he established a large fruit growing area to give work to the local people, at the same time registering the name of The Elsenham Jam Factory. The first factory was built in 1893 and jam production continued on the site until the 1990s, surviving a serious fire in 1969 after which a brand new modern factory was built. The firm became Elsenham Fine Foods and its products won many awards at home and abroad. Inheritance issues meant the company had to be sold in 1979 and after several changes of ownership the business finally closed for good in the early 2000s.

In 1896 Sir Walter's wife died so he built the pumphouse at the bottom of Park Road in her memory. The shaft was initially dug some 83 feet deep by George Ingold, who had dug many wells in the area, before being bored considerably deeper around 1920. Estimates of the depth range from 120 to 150 feet but nobody knows for sure. The pump stayed in use until the late 1950s when it was deemed unsafe and the shaft was capped. Around 1900, St Mary's churchyard was running out of space for burials so Sir Walter gifted land on the High Street next to the railway for a new cemetery together with a Memorial Chapel.

In 1911 Sir Walter cut the first sod in the construction of the Elsenham – Thaxted railway which he jointly promoted with George Lees of Lees Sweets of Thaxted giving the line its nickname; The Gin n' Toffee. The line opened in 1913, serving the local area well until failing passenger numbers and freight receipts led to its closure in 1953.

Oh yes, the best way to serve brandy according to Sir Walter... swirl an ice cube in the brandy balloon to chill it then discard and add the brandy. As the spirit hits the cool surface, the bouquet will be released.

Looking ahead, our next meeting will be on Wednesday November 12. Just a few days after Halloween, what better time to learn about witches. Our speaker, Professor Alison Rowlands, is an authority on the subject and she will be speaking about "The Witch Trials of Herts and Essex". All are welcome for what promises to be a very interesting evening and visitors pay just two pounds.

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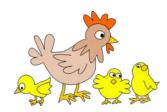
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Your coming to the Farm is vital to our survival, so please do support us in any way you can. We also ALWAYS need help running these events, so if you would like to get involved, we would LOVE to hear from you! Thanks so much.

Keep an eye on our Facebook page for all the latest farm news and updates.

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ELSENHAM WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

By Moyra Jackson 🕾 647351

We are well and truly in autumn now – a season I love. Time to get back into woolly jumpers and boots.



Our last meeting was our Summer Party. We had a fabulous evening with Meadow Oak Distillery from Stebbing coming along to talk to us and let us try some of their delights. This went down extremely well and was thoroughly enjoyed by all present.

Some of us went along to Hatfield Broad Oak WI to hear all about the occupations of the Channel Islands during WWII from the islanders' perspective. A very interesting and informative talk highlighting how hard it was for them to survive. Then in true Elsenham WI style, we won all their raffle prizes. There goes any chance of an invite back.

Our Natter Nights are back at the Crown – many thanks to them for giving us a space to do a variety of crafts. Or just sit and chat. Look out on Facebook for more details if you would like to come along.

Many of us attended the Literary Lunch at Hunters Meet organised by the Federation of Essex WIs. The speaker was Ruth Leigh, an author born in Essex and now living in Suffolk. Ruth was a very engaging speaker taking about the writings of Jane Austin and how they relate to modern day literature with Colin Firth making an appearance (almost!). A very enjoyable lunch indeed.



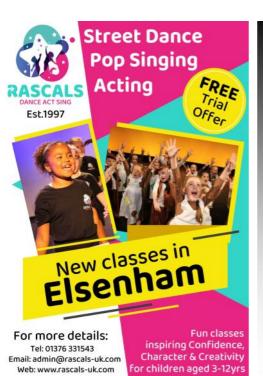
Our next meeting is "Reach For The Stars" with Paul Read who was a

dresser to many famous actors in a variety of London Theatres. The competition is 'Something Sparkling'.

Coming along to Elsenham WI is a really good way to make friends especially if you are new to the area. The 'Jam and Jerusalem' traditions of our formation in 1921 have allowed us to grow and develop into the modern and forward-looking WI that we are today. We are happy to dispel any of the stereotypes associated with the WI – but our cakes *are* delicious! Why not come along (or come back) – visitors and new members are always welcome and you can join at any time throughout the year.

Details of our programme, events and activities can be found on Facebook,
Twitter and Instagram – search for Elsenham WI. Visitors are welcome to our monthly meetings so
please come along. We meet at 7.45pm on the third Thursday in the month in the Memorial Hall.

Elsenham WI – There's a lot going on!





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New Community Safety Guide – Coming to Your Letterbox Every household in Uttlesford will receive a Community Safety Guide designed to help residents:

- Stay safe, informed, and connected
- Access emergency contacts and support services
- Protect themselves from scams and fraud
- Practice online safety
- Report anti-social behaviour

This guide is a collaborative effort by our **Communities Team**, with support from: Essex Police, Essex County Fire & Rescue, Safer Essex Roads, Essex Frontline, Friends Against Scams, Mind in West Essex, Crimestoppers.

Message in a Bottle – Lifesaving Information in Emergencies We're supporting the Lions Clubs' Message in a Bottle scheme – a simple, free initiative that could save lives in emergencies.

Each kit includes:

- A small plastic bottle
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- 1. Fill in the form with medical details and emergency contacts
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Anyone at risk of sudden illness

Learn more at: Lions Clubs British Isles - Message in a Bottle

Recycling Small Electrical Items – Weekly Collection

Did you know? You can now recycle your **small electrical items** every week, collected with your **wheeled bin**.

Continued on page 31



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THE ELSENHAM FLOWER SHOW

Since the last magazine I have been to the Elsenham Flower Show, held in the Memorial Hall, with an adjoining marquee. On entering the tented area, you are assailed with the horticultural perfume from the flower and vegetable exhibits. This is mixed with the smell of baking from the numerous cake and biscuit entries. If the many photo and craft exhibits emitted an odour, I bet that that would be good as well. I just stood there and took it all in. Smells, like music, have the ability to "take you back" to memories of yesteryear.

Over time there have been many Flower Shows within the village. I can remember with affection past years and shows that have gone before. Most of you are aware that I have been a resident for many years, but even I do not go back to the first. The earliest report that can be found appears in the Herts & Essex Observer, on Saturday August 8, 1891. A "Horticultural & Industrial Exhibition" was held in the Mission Room on Friday July 31 1891.

By 1900 the show had become, 'The Cottage Garden, Flower Show & Baby Show', being held in the Riding School Paddocks. There were 22 babies. The winners in that category were awarded a silver spoon and rosette given by Sir Walter Gilbey. Like today, awards were given for fruit and vegetables.

1935 saw the formation of The Elsenham & District Horticultural Society with the annual show on July 27. That appears to have been the last show before the outbreak of WW2. I note a FRANKLIN was on the Committee.

1989 saw the return of the show and in 1994 an Open Garden Day was introduced. So, we go on, we have many to thank, each show seems as good as the last. Ray Fraklis

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ELSENHAM FLOWER SHOW SOCIETY

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A very big 'Thank You' to everyone who took part in and attended the Village Flower Show this year. Below is the list of all the winners.

Individual Classes

1	Boughton Trophy	Barbara Pether
2	The Johnson Cup	Brian Royden-Hall
3	John Claydon Memorial Cup	Jean Woollvin
6	Claydon Bowl	Jean Woollvin
7	St. Mary's Church Shield	Steve Hardy
8	Elsenham Old Folks Club Rose Bowl	Heather Salvidge
10	Newland Salver	Sue Waite
11	EFSS Top Vase	Jean Woollvin
25	EFSS Heaviest Marrow Cup	Jack Cutmore
26	EFSS Heaviest Onion Cup	Jack Tickner
31	EFSS Top Tray	Emma Coates
32	Walker Cup	Liz Knight
39	George Sandford Cup	Sue Coleman
40	Freda Powell Trophy	Barbara Pether
45	Budden Trophy	Thuy Nottage
47	Hackett Shield	Denise Oliver
49	Gladys Hudson Memorial Cup	Gill Hathaway
50	Shirley Scutt Shield	Penny Lee
53	Hilda Collett Memorial Cup	Carole Butcher

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Section Trophies

Chapel End Nursery Cup	Jean Woollvin
Oldacre Landscaping Cup	Heather Salvidge
Moat Farm Perpetual Cup	Jack Tickner
George Powell Trophy	Emma Coates
EFSS Produce Cup	Barbara Pether
EFSS Cup	Barbara Pether
Super Cook Cup	Barbara Pether
Elsenham WI Centenary Trophy	Barbara Pether
Jubilee Cup	Julie Hardy and Lynda Jolly
Woollvin Cup	Anne White and Gill Hathaway
EFSS Photography Cup	Thuy Nottage
Options Trophy	Chris Waite
Richards Salver (awarded to the exhibitor who has never won a trophy at a previous EFSS show)	Emma Coates
Elsenham Parish Council Shield (awarded to the exhibitor gaining the most points overall in the Flower Show)	Barbara Pether

We look forward to next year's event!

St Mary's Church Elsenham

Office@heuchurch.co.uk

Thought For The Month by Pete Tibbott

For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven (Ecclesiastes 3:1)

By the time you read this, Autumn is well under way and you may already be thinking about Christmas! But for now, what do you like about Autumn? What opportunities does it bring?

Autumn is my favourite season. There's no extreme heat or bitter cold; the nights are drawing in but it's not miserably dark.

In his book *Faithfully Present*, Adam Ramsey uses the seasons to reflect on the 'seasons of life': the 'spring' of childhood, the 'summer' of adulthood, the 'autumn' of midlife and the 'winter' of older age.

Each of these seasons comes with its own unique opportunities and challenges, joys and hardships. We are only ever in one season at a time and we know each season not only has a beginning but also an end.

It's tempting to pine so much for another season that we miss the opportunities of the present. We get nostalgic over times past and fail to remember the challenges and pains of that era. Or we long so much for the next season to come that we don't make the most of the days God has given us *now* to enjoy and to thank him for.

The writer of Ecclesiastes, in his ancient wisdom, recognised that time does not stand still. It's an ever-flowing stream from future, to present, to past. While the meteorological seasons come around

every year, the seasons of life do not. It's scary to comprehend how short our lives are compared to the 4.5 billion years of the earth and how small we are against the seeming infinitude of space. And yet, God has chosen to put you in this time and place, with people and circumstances that bring you joy, sadness, laughter and frustration.

Which season of life are you in?

Do you find yourself sometimes wishing away the days, waiting for that next thing? Feeling that you might be happier if time could go just a little faster?

Or do you find the past dominates and defines the present? Do you wish to go back to happier times?

For those whose hope is in the Lord Jesus, Ramsey writes, "if God is with you in every season, then there is unimaginable joy and goodness and purpose and meaning and courage to be found in every season." While God does not promise an easy ride for his people in this life – or a free pass on suffering – he does promise a sure and certain hope of a future without the sorrows and struggles of the present age. Whichever season one is in.

For Christians, the fleeting seasons of life are lived within the wondrous backdrop of an eternity spent with the one who sent his Son to take our sin and guilt upon his own shoulders. That's what truly gives "unimaginable joy" amidst our trials and sorrows.

So, why not come to church and hear more? You may find it to be the highlight of the season.

Church events in our villages October 2025

Church Services

Sunday 5th October

10:30 All Together All Age Service, Elsenham Village Hall

18:00 Sunday@6, Henham Church

Sunday 12th October

08:45 Prayer Book Holy Communion, Elsenham Church

10:00 Prayer Book Holy Communion, **Ugley Church**

10:30 Morning Praise Service, Henham Church

18:00 Sunday@6 Henham Church

Sunday 19th October

08:45 Prayer Book Morning Prayer, Elsenham Church

10:00 Morning Service, Ugley Church

10:30 Morning Praise Service, Elsenham Village Hall

18:00 Sunday@6, Henham Church

Sunday 26th October

08:45 Prayer Book Morning Prayer, Elsenham Church

10:00 Morning Service, Ugley Church

10:30 Morning Praise Service with Holv Communion, Henham Church

18:00 Sundav@6 Henham Church

Other Events

"God, the Bible and Everything" Thursday 30 October 2025

(in 60 minutes) a laugh-out-loud romp through the entire Bible against the clock! By BBC sitcom writer James Cary, in Henham Church at 7pm for 7.30pm. Tickets: Adults £8 early bird £10 on the door Under 18's free. To book, contact offic@heuchurch.co.uk



Other Regular Events

SUNDAYS:

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

Leave from Morning Praise Service

10.30am Sundays: 12th & 19th

Pathfinders (Y6-Y9)

Leave from service to meet in the New Church Hall, Henham Church **6.00pm** Sundays: 5th, 12th & 19th

Crammin' (Y10-Y13)

Leave from service to meet in the New Church Hall, Henham Church **6.00pm** Sundays: 5th, 12th & 19th

MID-WEEK AND SATURDAY:

Start the Week with Prayer

Old Frank's, Elsenham 9.30am Mondays: 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th

Seekers After School Bible Club (Y3-Y4) Old Frank's 3.20pm Mondays: 6th, 13th & 20th

Christian Play (Y1-Y2)

Rowan House, Elsenham 3,15pm

Tuesdays: 7th, 14th & 21st

Little Fishes Pre-School Group

Church Hall, Henham 10.30am Thursday: 2nd, 9th, 16th & 23rd

Little Fishes Pre-School Group Elsenham Memorial Hall 10.00am

Fridays: 3rd, 10th, 17th & 24th

Church Lunch Club

Elsenham Memorial Hall 12.30pm

Fridays: (2nd & 4th Friday of the month): 10th & 24th

For information on all these events. please contact office@heuchurch.co.uk



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By Julia Cook



Stansted Assets

Have you noticed the white Touchpoint vans going busily about their errands in Stansted? The estimable Paul Chambers, founder of Touchpoint, has galvanised an energetic band of 'assets' aka local volunteers to supply many different services to Stansted. At the u3a monthly meeting, he reminded, thanked, and impressed everyone with the project's truly dynamic work. Touchpoint was initiated by Paul after he carried out a number of street surveys and identified different needs in our community alongside a wealth of untapped expertise and willingness to help. With astute and creative planning Touchpoint now has 190 active volunteers, 9 Food Share points across the neighbourhood, a community radio station, kids' teatimes, Sunday afternoon movies, bereavement counselling, a memory cafe. It counters isolation and other serious issues through compassion. Unsurprisingly, the u3a audience was highly attentive, some departing the meeting intending to join in Touchpoint, all thankful such altruism is at work in our neighbourhood.

The next Monthly Meeting talk on Thursday, October 16, will be "Make Do and Mend" given by Amanda Sutherland whose experience of Costume Design and working in Theatre and TV promises to inspire creativity in the re-use of those out-of-date clothes clogging up the wardrobe!

Also, the Saturday Seminar on October 4 has a very intriguing topic in store; "Henry 1 - England's most formidable King", which will be delivered by Dr. Hugh Doherty, lecturer in Medieval History at University of East Anglia.

There are also three new Groups being added to the menu! A new Pilates class, a Musical Appreciation Group and Understanding IT.

Remember you can find out about such talks and all the classes and activities happening at u3a by visiting the website <u>www.stansted.u3asite.uk</u> or contact us on 07874 385541; please leave a message including your name and phone number if nobody is available to take your call.

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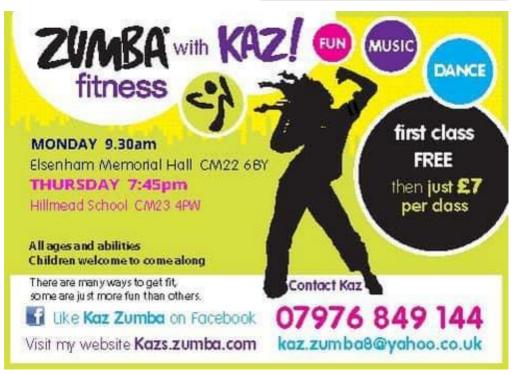
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CELEBRATIONS, FUND RAISING & VOLUNTEERS 773750

Thrill seekers, get ready - St Clare Hospice is once again challenging the public to take on their sizzling Firewalk. It will be a unique and exciting chance to experience walking barefoot across 600-degree Fahrenheit embers, all while raising vital funds for the charity.

The event will take place on Thursday 16th October, from 6:30pm to 9:00pm at St Clare Hospice. For a registration fee of £25, firewalkers will be guided by an expert trainer from Time4Change, learning techniques to overcome their fears, with everyone receiving a certificate to commemorate their achievement.

St Clare Hospice's Firewalk is an event open to everyone - whether the community's looking for a unique challenge with friends, a meaningful way to support a loved one, or a powerful team-building activity.

Rosie Brewer, Events Relationship Fundraiser said of the event, 'The St Clare Firewalk is going to be an unforgettable experience and it's a chance for friends, families and colleagues to come together, challenge themselves, and support hospice care in a truly unique way. It's not just about walking across fire; it's about igniting courage and celebrating community - all while raising money for a good cause.'

Don't wait – register today and join an adrenaline-fuelled night of fun!

Firewalkers under the age of 18 will need to be accompanied by an adult and will need a signed consent form from a guardian.



StClare

For more information or to register, visit

*\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{e}}}}}} \text{ stclarehospice.org.uk/event/st-clare-firewalk}

or contact Rosie Brewer by calling 01279 773750.

St Clare Hospice is a charity providing specialist care for people living with life-limiting illnesses in west Essex and east Herts border area. The charity cares for patients and their families, providing physical, social, psychological and spiritual support. St Clare Hospice's annual running costs total £2.8m, 70 percent of which comes from voluntary income.

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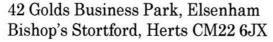
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TRANSPORT UPDATE

By Ray Franklin, Transport Representative, Elsenham Parish Council

Despite numerous warnings of possible changes to our time table the 'Bus Passenger News' of August 31 showed there were no change AS YET to our services.

However, there are proposed changes mentioned at the bottom of the 'Local Bus Consultation'. This consultation closes on October 27 and I do urge you all to enter your thoughts into that consultation document. Just "GOOGLE" Essex Bus Consultation.

The PROPOSED CHANGES which could possibly come into force from November 1 are:

- The total withdrawing of the 8.49 early morning Bus from Stansted Airport to Stortford.
- The afternoon 3.30 Bus would now run at 4.00.
- All Buses after 4.00 would be put forward by 30 minutes. Resulting in the possible withdrawing of the last Bus.

In all cases "Stephenson's" (our Bus Operator) say these rarely used buses are uneconomic.

https://consultations.essex.gov.uk/iptu/localbus2025/

Continued from page 17

Place items out by 7am on your regular collection day. Instructions:

- Remove any batteries or lightbulbs
- Keep any plugs or cables attached
- Put items in a **standard carrier bag** (no black bin bags)
- Do not put them inside the bin place the bag on top
- If your items still work, please **donate them** instead via **Love Essex** to benefit local causes.

We will be holding our usual monthly surgery at 6.30 pm on October 7 at Orwell House, Station Rd, Elsenham. We look forward to meeting residents without making any prior appointment. As ever, of course, we would be very happy to hear from any residents by email or phone should there be anything they think we can help with or to answer any questions you may have on our report, or the District Council.



Elsenham Tots & Toddlers Group



We meet in the Memorial Hall on Elsenham Playing Field

Wednesdays at 9.45am to 11.30am (Term Time only)

All are welcome - Mums to be, babies & toddlers up to 5years - with mum or dad, grandparent or carer

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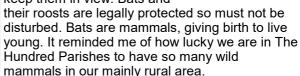
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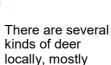
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Recently, I was privileged to watch two bats flying around my garden. They were so quick and acrobatic it was difficult to

keep them in view. Bats and





fallow, roe or muntjac. Larger herds are usually fallow deer which have "palmate" antlers, shaped like the palm of a hand. The smaller roe deer may be seen in smaller groups – they have a white rump and no visible tail. Muntjac are smaller still and tend to be solitary; they have horns and "tusks" - downward-pointing canine teeth.



Out enjoying our latest walk, number 188, my wife and I surprised two hares who disappeared at great speed when they spotted us. They can run up to 45mph over short distances.



We regularly see foxes in our garden, usually courtesy of our inexpensive night vision camera. In the spring, we enjoyed watching the young cubs playing. Foxes seem to be a more common sight now, even during daylight, and regularly venture into built up areas.

The camera occasionally spots a badger; he is usually looking for peanuts.

Anyone lucky enough to see hedgehogs in their garden should look after them as their numbers are in decline. They are nocturnal, so at dusk we should put out a shallow bowl of fresh water (not milk as it is bad for their digestion) and perhaps some dog or cat food. They may repay you by eating slugs and insects although our experience has been that they prefer commercial hedgehog food like "Spike's Dinner".

Enjoy them all.



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STANSTED HALL & ELSENHAM CRICKET CLUB

By David Brown [™] 831011 ⊠ david1.r.brown@gmail.com

It's been a very busy summer at Stansted Hall & Elsenham Cricket Club.



Having lost seven 1st XI players at the end of last summer due to retirement, moving house, and golf this was always going to be a difficult year in the Herts & Essex Border League Premier Division. However, relegation was only confirmed in the penultimate game of the season and the spirit of the team remained positive throughout.

The club gained three new players during the summer and they all performed well, as did the teenagers. The 2nd XI finished 3rd in Division 3 and had a very successful season.

The club would like to thank Andrew Mackinlay and Paul Mason–Smith for skippering both teams so well. During the summer, eight teenagers represented the 1st XI and twelve U16s represented the 2nd XI and they were all given a chance to get involved in the matches. The youth policy is working. There were also two matches for our Development XI, which is a mixture of youngsters and dads.

The junior section continues to thrive. From the ages of five to 15 the young cricketers enjoyed as much cricket as they wanted, helped by the weather of course.

The club is fortunate to have dedicated coaches, managers and parents who continue to make this section of the club really thrive. The U11s enjoyed an evening on the Essex County ground at Chelmsford, competing in the mini matchplay. The end of season 'Junior Fun Day' was attended by all age groups plus parents. After the cricket there was a barbecue and this was followed by presentations.

Although it has been a season of change, overall it has been a very enjoyable summer with a great spirit being built within the club.

Evening 'Hundred' matches with Russell Property and Nockolds, the club's sponsors, were enjoyed by all.

The club are holding a 'Music Quiz' on October 10 with a 7.30pm start. If you fancy your chances the cost is £10 a head. Please contact me as above.



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ELSENHAM BOWLS AND SOCIAL CLUB

₾ www.elsenhambc.org.uk By David Thomas

It's that time of year when Outdoor Bowlers have retreated indoors, either to bowl or to hibernate until the sun comes out again next April! However, there is still a lot going on at the club for Crib and Darts players and there are still Quizzes, Bingo, and Music evenings throughout the year (see below for more information).

We are very proud of our team who got to the final of the ECBA Group 2 - Widdop Cup. The Elsenham team heroically held their own against a strong team from Silver End with a draw on the final end forcing a sudden death extra end to conclude the competition. Just one shot separated the teams after the extra end was played and disappointingly it was the runners-up trophy for Elsenham this year. This was an amazing achievement for Elsenham to reach the final in this competition. We wish our team every success for next year.

Congratulations go to all our finalists in the Club Finals this year and our thanks goes to Steve Hardy for organising the competitions. The winners are:

Therese Clear in the Ladies' Singles
Trevor Hackett and Simon Higgs in the Men's Pairs
Pauline Martin and Dee Morris in the Ladies' Pairs
Do Hackett and Ray Jones in the Mixed Pairs
Pauline Martin and Duncan Dellow in the 2 Wood Pairs
Do Hackett, Ron Fanning and John Coleby in the Mixed Triples
Pauline Martin in the 2 Wood Singles
Adrian Jones in the Tom Wright Cup

November 8 is our next music night with Steve Brown playing a range of songs from the bands like the Rat Pack and Buddy Holly. Tickets are available now at £7.50 for members and £12.50 for non-members. Ticket availability is limited so please call Trevor on ' 07445 437437 to secure your ticket for the event.

Bingo sessions are at 7:00 for 7:30pm on October 11 and 25 plus November 15 and 29. As I am writing this, the Bingo Bonus is still to be won so it is definitely worth joining us for the chance to win an additional cash prize.

All members are reminded of the club presentation evening Dinner and Dance on October 18 with music from the duo, Me and Him. Also, sorry to mention this in October but you need to save the date, the Club Christmas Dinner and Dance is on December 13 with music from Around Midnight (back by popular demand). Please make sure you book your place and your selection from the menu for the evening.

Friday evening's social nights continue throughout the year and are an important part of the bowls club activities. Please pop along any time from 7pm.

For full details about Elsenham Bowls Club, including membership and our opening times, please see our website <u>hwww.elsenhambc.org.uk</u>

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Autumn is now upon us but we were blessed with beautiful summer weather for our August Afternoon Cream Tea.

Visitors were welcomed with a glass of fizz and Lorraine Gagen created some gorgeous floral designs which included beautiful blooms she had grown herself. The arrangements were raffled and scones, cream, jam and cups of tea were enjoyed by everyone after Lorraine's demonstration!

October 15 will be our next meeting and this time we will be offering a workshop creating an autumn topiary design.

We would love to welcome visitors so if this is an evening for you please let us know in advance by contacting Shirley Wilcock at shirley.wilcock@hotmail.co.uk and to check the venue for this month.

7pm for 7.30pm start – Visitors always welcome £10. Future club venue to be confirmed but will continue to be the 3rd Wednesday of every month

From the Parish Registers

Funeral:

A Funeral Service at Henham Church on 18 September 2025, Ronald Anthony Brett, aged 88 years, formerly of Mill Road, Henham.

Burial of Ashes:

On 24 September 2025 in Elsenham Churchyard, David Edward Nunn.

Enquiries about thanksgivings, baptisms, weddings and funerals should be made in the first instance to Anna Hicks at the Church Office.

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

Vicar	01279 850480 louis.wilson@heuchurch.co.uk	Rev. Louis Wilson
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WE BEGIN AT THE END BY CHRIS WHITAKER

Reviewed by Marion Giles for Elsenham Book Group

"Thirty years ago, Vincent King became a killer. Now, he's been released from prison and is back in his hometown of Cape Haven, California. Not everyone is pleased to see him. Like Star Radley, his ex-girlfriend, and sister of the girl he killed. Duchess Radley, Star's thirteen-year-old daughter, is part-carer, part-protector to her younger brother, Robin - and to her deeply troubled mother. But in trying to protect Star, Duchess inadvertently sets off a chain of



events that will have tragic consequences not only for her family, but also the whole town. Murder, revenge, retribution. How far can we run from the past, when the past seems doomed to repeat itself?" So says the blurb on the back of the book.

This was the choice of the book group this month.

The Amazon Al summarises: Customers find the book's characters richly developed and its storyline compelling, with many different narratives linked together. The writing conveys intense emotion, and customers describe it as an addictively readable novel that makes them cry in places. The pacing is deep and moving, with suspense that never lets up, making it a must-read thriller with heart. Customers appreciate its thought-provoking nature, with one review noting its tremendous insight into the human condition.

Small town America. Duchess is being raised by her single mother, Star, who can't get her act together. Star is a mess but we realise there are reasons. . Duchess steps up to protect and care for her five year old brother Robin. She is forced into responsibility and to mature faster than she should need to.

Vincent King was convicted of the murder of Sissy (Star's sister) partially by testimony of his best friend, Walker, who is now Chief of Police. Walker has tried to be there for Star and the children. There are two interfering male neighbours and a man, Darke, with a violent reputation that Star is sometimes seeing. She also sings in a nightclub where she attracts, often unwanted, male attention.

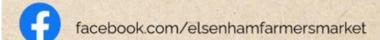
Duchess is full of anger and hatred. She makes an impulsive decision that has a massive impact on everyone. After Star is murdered, the children are sent to their maternal grandfather and confused as to why he has not been a feature of their lives. Robin is desperate to be loved and warms to the old man but Duchess styles herself as an 'outlaw' and so their relationship is difficult. She does make two friends, a boy Thomas and an older woman friend of her grandfather, Dolly.

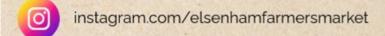
Vincent is accused of Star's murder and goes back into custody. From this point on, the backstories of people begin to be dripped into the novel so that we start to understand some of the anger and situations that contributed. This is a good plot device but inevitably means that all situations are 'neatly' tied up at the end.



Elsenham Village Hall
On the High Street, CM22 6DD

12:30 - 2:30PM LAST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH









COOKERY CORNER

By Sue Johnson 2 812704

This recipe is deliciously hot and spicy and is so easy to make.

Preparation time will take no more than ten minutes and cooking is only twenty minutes. It will be on the table in a little over half an hour!



CHILLI-CHEESE MEATBALLS (serves 2)

8 oz (225g) lean minced pork

4 salad onions, finely chopped

2 garlic cloves, finely chopped

1 red chilli, de-seeded and finely chopped

2 tablespoons freshly grated Parmesan, plus extra to serve

2 teaspoons fresh thyme leaves

1 tablespoon olive oil

31/2 fl oz (100 ml) red wine

5 oz (150g) spaghetti or tagliatelle

14 oz (400g) can chopped tomatoes

1 dried bay leaf

pinch sugar

salt and pepper

Mix together the mince, salad onions, garlic, chilli, Parmesan, thyme and plenty of salt and pepper. Shape into 12 small, firm balls. Heat the oil in a large pan and cook the meatballs for 3-4 minutes, shaking the pan frequently, until well browned. Pour in the red wine and bubble vigorously for 1-2 minutes.

Cook the pasta in a large pan of boiling, salted water according to the packet instructions. Stir the chopped tomatoes, bay leaf, sugar and salt and pepper into the meatballs; bring to the boil and simmer for 8-10 minutes until the meatballs are cooked through.

Drain the pasta and return to the pan; spoon in some of the tomato sauce and toss well together. Transfer to large serving bowls and spoon over the chill-cheese meatballs with the sauce; sprinkle liberally with Parmesan and serve.

CHEF'S RECOMMENDATIONS: These meatballs are made with pork but lean mince beef or turkey will do just as well. You could also serve the meatballs with other types of pasta, such as linguine or fettucine. Double the quantities for a family of four

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 hand written articles which 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: elsenhamnews@hotmail.co.uk

General Notes

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

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

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

The editors' decision is final.

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

Subscriptions

Elsenham News is available online on the ECA Website. Contact elsenhamnews@hotmail.co.uk

Advertising

The costs are as follows:

	Single Insertion	Annual Cost (11 issues)
Quarter Page	£3.00	£25.00
Half Page	£7.00	£45.00
Inside Page	£12.00	£100.00
Back Page	Contact us	

Village organisations attract reduced rates for adverts depending on number of insertions required. Please contact us to discuss.

To place an advertisement:

If you have any queries, please email us. Please send your advert as Word or Publisher via email to: elsenhamnews@hotmail.co.uk

Advertising Editor: TBA

Business Advertising

Cheques should be made payable to "Elsenham Community Association".

Editorial Team: Gary Williams

Emma Bailey Marion Giles Patricia Davis Anne White Angie Wenlock

Previous issues of Elsenham News are available on the ECA Website

www.ElsenhamCommunityAssociation.org.uk

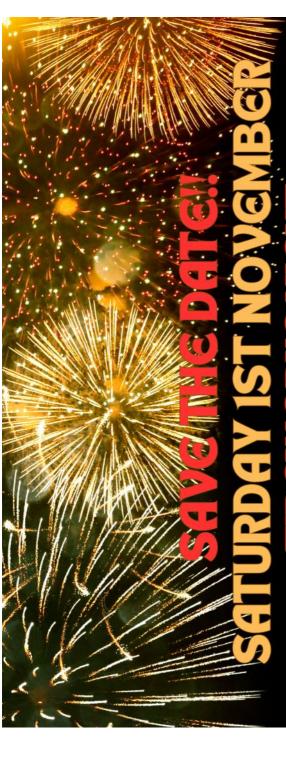
UPCOMING EVENTS

Act of Remembrance 8 November
Bowls and Social Club Music Night 8 November
Tennis Club quiz Bowls and Social Club 22 November
Christmas Tree Festival St Mary's Church 10.30-5pm Sat 6 & Sun 7 December
Christmas Wreath Workshop Memorial Hall Sunday 7 December

VILLAGE CONTACTS

V ILLAG	E CONTACTS	
Airport Roadside Parking		0800 731 2385
Beavers	1sthenhamandelsenham@gma	ail.com
Bowls Club	Therese Clear	07759 158859
Brownies	elsenhambrownies@gmail.com	n
Church Office (Old Frank's, High St, Elsenham) Anna Hicks	814285
County Councillor (Stansted)	Ray Gooding	813103
Cricket Club	David Brown	831011
Cub Scouts	1sthenhamandelsenham@gma	ail.com
ECA (Chair)	Sue Waite	07956 899326
ECA (Secretary)	Chris Richardson	07940 465627
ECA Website	www.ElsenhamCommunityAss	ociation.org.uk
Elsenham Eagles	elsenham.action@btinternet.co	om
Elsenham Farmers Market	elsenhamfarmersmarket@gma	ail.com
Elsenham Surgery	www.elsenhamsurgery.nhs.uk	814730
Elsenham C of E Primary School	Linda Todd Headteacher	813198
Elsenham Church PCC Secretary	David Hill	812397
Elsenham Rights of Way website	www.e-voice.org.uk/erowos/	
Friends of Elsenham School (FOES)	Louise Judd foespta@hotmail.com	
Henham & District Garden Society	Moyra Jackson	647351
History Society	Mike Rea evhs12@hotmail.co	.uk 813634
Member of Parliament	Kemi Badenoch	0207 219 5214
Memorial Hall Bookings		
www.elsenhamcommunityassociation.org.u	k/hiring-elsenham-memorial-hal	l
Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator	Frances Lambert	07771 728332
	franceslambertnhw@btinternet	t.com
Parish Clerk - Louise Johnson	louise.epc@gmail.com	07456 791727
Elsenham Parish Council Website	www.elsenham-pc.gov.uk	
Police		101
Post Office		812175
Rainbows	elsenhamrainbows@gmail.com	n
Scouts	1sthenhamandelsenham@gmail.com	
St Mary's Fabric Fund	Elizabeth Barker	813543
Tennis Club	Petra Studholme	814667
Tots & Toddlers	Dawn Temple	07944 841358
Uttlesford District Councillors	Petrina Lees	07713 074656
(for Elsenham & Henham)	Bianca Donald	07941 880279
Village Hall Bookings	elsenhamvillagehall@gmail.co	
Womens Institute Secretary	Gill Hathaway	813385
Youth Football Club (Chairman)	Ricky Lambourne info@els	enhamyfc.co.uk

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



FIREWORKS NIGHT

FROM 5.00 P.M TILL LAT BAR/BBQ & CNTCRTAINMENT **MORE INFORMATION COMING SOON!**

TO BOOK email: accounts@golfworldstansted.co.uk or call 01279 812 865 Golf World Stansted, Hall Road, Nr Stansted Airport, Essex, CM22 6FL **BOOKING ESSENTIAL AS IT WILL BE A TICKETED EVENT DUE TO NU

