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AUGUST 2020

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Editorial

As a community haven't we been lucky to have the Post Office and the village shop right on our doorsteps in recent months? In the past, Elmhamb was always self sufficient, everything that was ever wanted could be bought or obtained in the village, as was the same in all rural communities.

The Post Office has been open on a part-time basis during lockdown and Ben and his staff have produced a mouth-watering array of cakes and scones and afternoon teas to keep us all going. The Teapost is open again Monday to Friday 9.00am–2.00pm. Thank you all for that.

The village shop opposite the Pavilion has been open as normal from dawn to dusk. It has indeed been a boon and a wonderful facility for the village. Obviously, many of us do use it on a regular basis and have daily papers either for delivery or being sold in the shop. Going past at all times of

the day there has generally been a steady stream of vehicles pulling up and people going into the shop. Talking to friends who live out of Elmhamb they tell us that our local businesses have been a life saver for them. Thank you to Gopal and his wife Nagula for being there for us. Sincere thanks from us all.

We have received a letter from a parishioner regarding a proposal that he has put before the Parish Council but could not be examined further because many councillors were away. The Editors feel it would not be correct to publish this before the Parish Council have had chance to discuss the matter in detail.

North Elmhamb community website www.elmhamb.org.uk

PLEASE NOTE: Submission deadline for articles to be included in the September edition is 14TH AUGUST 2020. Please email your article to each of the editors listed below asap before the deadline.

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It is the end of an era for one Parish Councillor, Peter Wade Martins, who has served the village for around 40 years but now feels it time to retire. We thank him for his ongoing support for Elmham News and all he has done as a councillor and wish him a long and happy future.

The Tennis Club and the Cricket Club have resumed, the Play Area has also reopened and may we remind children that they must put their rubbish in the bin provided or take it home. Our two pubs have opened again under the Covid-19 rules and we hope that their businesses will soon be thriving.

Things are slowly changing but we are very much aware how lucky we are in this part of Norfolk with no huge inroads of visitors at weekends. Many of our villagers are still staying safe and not venturing far, if not at all, but hopefully things will improve gradually. As our mothers were wont to tell us, "Better safe than sorry".

North Elmham Parish Council Meeting

1st July 2020 via Zoom

This is an independent report from Caroline Payne, Editor, Elmham News. The full official minutes can be viewed in the Post Office and on the Community website, once approved at the following meeting.

Those councillors present by logging in were: - Mrs. J Borgnis (Chairman), Mr. M Phillips, Miss. A Ferris, Mr. T Fitzalan-Howard, Mr. P Grainger, Mr. J Labouchere, Mr. M Rayner and Dr. P Wade-Martins. Also, in attendance: Mr. K Webb (Clerk) and Mrs. C Payne (Elmham News).

Apologies: Mr C Smith

Land Management Matters

Village Green: Two parishioners had contacted the PC regarding a large oak

tree on the boundary of the village green and their properties with concerns over falling branches. The parishioners had agreed to contribute to the work needed to make the tree safe. It was agreed to write a specification and seek two quotes. The PC agreed to pay half the cost.

Play Area: New guidance will now allow the play area to be open from 4th July. Arrangements will be made to remove the padlocks and put the bin back in the play area.

Replacement Tree: The replacement tree is in hand.

Cathedral Meadows: Two quotes had been received for modifying the gates. It was agreed to accept the lower quote and Peter Wade Martins will give instructions.

Millennium Wood: The gate had now been re-hung and was working fine. The thistles had been sprayed. Tree guards had been removed.

A request had been received from a neighbour of the Millennium Wood for a contractor to access the wood to cut his hedge. The Chairman will liaise.

Bridleway on Disused Railway Line: There had still been no response from Mid Norfolk Railway. Agreed to send a reminder.

Allotments: The tap needs repairing, and Martin Phillips had got a quote of £250. All agreed to accept the quote.

Street Lights: The cover for street light number 17 had arrived and will be fitted.

Highways

Eastgate Street Parking Scheme: Notification had been received that NCC Highways will commence work on 3rd August and the street will be closed for one week. However, following the meeting Highways have stated that work will not commence as originally notified and have not given a new date.

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Build Out Holt Road: Ann Ferris said she had witnessed a problem with a parked van and a large vehicle near the build out which had caused congestion. Paul Grainger said Highways will not make any alterations to the build out and it will have to be managed.

Parish Partnership Scheme: The PC have received an invitation to bid for another 50/50 scheme with an upper limit of NCC funding of £25,000 per bid. The closing date is 4th December with bids announced in March 2021. Peter Wade Martins encouraged councillors to think about future projects for consideration.

Blocked Drains: Three more blocked drains have been reported recently. The most serious is on the inside of the bend at the lower end of Eastgate Street opposite the station where an enormous amount of roadside silt has built up around the corner back as far as the bus stop.

Flooding at the Railway Crossing: There is a perennial problem with silt building up on the sides of the crossing which the railway company does not attend to. The Railway Company contact has been asked to arrange for this to be cleared.

Pavilion & Playing Field

The Chairman had contacted Chris Reeve about the Junior Football Club. Chris is keen to get the Club up and running and has been in touch with the Football Association to seek advice on setting up the Club and is trying to enlist the help of parents.

Hiring Costs

It was agreed that the current rates were fair and would not be revised at the moment.

Brookside Development

Michael Rayner reported on the Section 106 agreement. The developer has proposed that the PC should be a party to the S106 agreement. This will be of benefit to the developer and the PC would have input. This will take extra time but would be

beneficial. The PC's legal costs will be paid. Michael Rayner had consulted with Breckland District Council and they would be happy for the PC to be a party to it. MR had spoken to a commercial solicitor who could act for the PC. However, the solicitor was a relative of Mr. Rayner and he therefore declared an interest. A vote was taken and all in agreement to proceed with one abstention.

Village Sign

A quote had been received for re-painting the village sign. This had been accepted and was being undertaken.

Accounts - Income and Expenditure

These were circulated. Martin Phillips queried the bill from Eon. This was an estimated bill and would be rectified next time. He will get an accurate reading and submit.

New Seats – Memorial Garden

A memorial seat in memory of Jimmy Brown will be sited near the Pavilion (exact site to be agreed) and the garden renamed. The sign for the garden will be ordered and wording for the seat will be agreed once the seat is received.

The seat at the bottom of Orchard Close had been repaired and it was agreed to defer the replacement for the time being.

Planning Applications

Mrs. Richmond, Park Farm, Heath Road, conversion of agricultural building under permitted development rights.
No objection.

Dale Farm, Great Heath Road. Application for large storage building. It was agreed to consult Breckland District Council on the reason for the request for a large storage building.

Correspondence

Slimming World have requested to return to the Pavilion for their meetings. It was agreed that this can only happen in line



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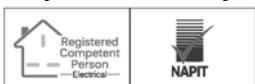


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with government guidelines and the PC will facilitate this at the appropriate time.

A request had been received for a take-away van to visit the village. It was agreed that the local food outlets in the village were adequate and the offer would be declined.

The ROSPA report had been received and work on the skate ramp required. This will be undertaken.

The extension of the skate ramp was discussed, and it was agreed that the PC needs to know exactly what it requested before any decision can be made. Martin Phillips pointed out that the original ramp was erected through grants and fundraising in 2002.

Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 5th August 2020

Knit and Natter

As many of you may already know the Teapost is now open for limited trading, but it has been decided that our regular Tuesday afternoon meetings will not be resumed until the COVID 19 outbreak is more controlled. Many of our members are in the "at risk" group or just, maybe, like me, a little long in the tooth, so it would seem sensible not to even consider meeting up again, in numbers, even if satisfactory safety measures could be put in place.

I know, by phoning around, we are all missing our regular Knit and Natter afternoons, but it is what it is. Maybe we can restart on our eighth anniversary in November, but no promises.

Thank you for your support and enthusiasm over the last few years. Carry on knitting and keep safe. Best wishes to you all.

Eileen Cotterill 668380.

North Elmham Flower Show

Taken from a scrapbook of newspaper reports in 1910.

The Twentieth Annual Show in connection with the North Elmham Horticultural Society, was held on Wednesday, by permission of Mr W.G.Fulcher in Elmham Park. (He was the Land Agent for the Sondes estate.) Although dull and at times threatening, the afternoon held beautifully fine, and thus kept the record of never a wet day for the show so far.

The exhibits were as usual divided into two classes, subscribers and cottagers, and the judges were busy all the morning. The floral entries were not up to the usual standard and less than number, due chiefly to the unkind climatic conditions during the last fortnight. The fruit and vegetables atoned for the weakness in the flowers and every class was well filled here.

The marquee presented a fine show and at one end of the tent, Mr B. Barkway, of Dereham, gave his usual exhibition of roses, plants, etc which were much admired.

The special feature of the show was the smart exhibition by the lads from the Watts Naval Training School. Under their instructor, Mr W. Chester, the boys were deservedly applauded for their manual and firing exercises, sword bayonet fighting, physical drill with and without arms, cutlass drill, gun drill, action songs, and hornpipe.

The school also supplied the best band ever heard at Elmham Park.

ED's Note: Phew, what a day it must have been wonderful. Let's do it again!

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Dr Paul Strickland RIP

Some of you may be aware that Dr Paul Strickland has been very unwell in recent years.

We are very sad to pass on the news that Paul passed away peacefully at home on Thursday 9th July 2020 in the presence of his family. He was 62.

Paul's contribution to the surgery was very significant for the many years that he was a Partner with us from 1987; he left the surgery to join UEA to continue the training of future doctors that he had started when at the surgery.

We appreciate that many patients will remember their contact with him at Elmham and Swanton Morley Surgeries and will want to mark his passing. For this reason, we are opening a Book of Remembrance at both surgeries. If you would like to make an entry, please come to either surgery where a safe area will be



set aside for this. A sanitising station will be available for you to use.

Alternatively, please leave comments on our website, we will include them in the book and pass them on to his family.

Dr Paul Strickland was a kind and generous man who cared for patients and staff alike, he was a joy to work with.

May he rest in peace.

Ed's Note: The funeral cortege drove through the village and past the surgery on Thursday 16th July at 10am, many people gathered to pay their respects.



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A Cottage Garden

A while ago someone wrote in one of the daily newspapers about an elderly friend who was a brilliant self-taught gardener.

My mother was just like the gardener in that story, always scruffy, wearing wellies and a floppy hat in the summer.

My mother was a passionate gardener, self taught, who could get anything to grow. Sadly, when she died in May, now twelve years ago she was already planning what fruit trees she was going to plant that autumn – even though she knew she was on borrowed time as she had an aortic aneurysm which would kill her at any time.

My father was a farm worker and as a child we lived in a tied cottage with no electricity or running water. Money was tight as all families similar to mine were so mother tried her hand at various jobs around the village, but it was on the land that she spent most of her working life. She helped to rear cattle and chickens, then for the last twenty years of her life, until well into her seventies she worked on a soft fruit farm where strawberries and blackberries were grown as well as potatoes.

Her idea of relaxation after a hard days work on the farm was to work in her garden. She had a good sized plot which went with her cottage, but mother being mother decided that the rough ground which adjoined her garden could be cultivated, so she adopted it and thankfully her landlord who had been my father's employer turned a blind eye to this state of affairs.

She loved flowers, not to pick for an indoor arrangement, but to be left outside. In the spring her greenhouse was full of seedlings for her garden, and mine. She spent winter evenings scouring seed catalogues and planning what to buy and as she was on a pension for years, always looking for best value. If a packet of seeds didn't come up to expectations as

sometimes happened, then a sharp letter was fired off to Thompson and Morgan or whoever the seed company had been.

Her garden was a treasure trove of unusual plants, vegetables and soft fruit as well as flowers. She never knew the Latin names of plants and sometimes I'm sure she made up names for plants but my goodness she knew them all intimately.

She knew instinctively which part of the garden everything should be grown and she was rarely wrong – she took it personally if something didn't thrive!

She had what I and my children called a 'nicking thumb'. When we visited garden centres her thumb could nick a leaf off a plant here, or a shoot there which she would stuff into her pocket and then nurture in a pot at home and everything grew. My children made sure they were always in front of her when she was raiding like this because they said if she got caught they would have nothing to do with her!

Two things always defeated her though. Every Christmas I was instructed (my mother never asked, she instructed) to buy a sprig of mistletoe. She tried every way she could to get mistletoe berries to grow on all sorts of trees but was never successful.

The other things that defeated her were moles! They could really agitate her but mostly when they tunnelled under the lawn.

She was buried in a willow coffin with her wellies on and her favourite handfork in her hand. The undertaker told me to take some clothes in for mother to wear in the coffin so that was easy, scruffy old trousers and an old shirt. The undertaker rang me up and said "you haven't brought any knickers with your mother's clothes". I said "who will know she's not wearing any". She said "I can't send anyone to their grave without knickers on!" So I took a pair for her to wear.

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After her funeral everyone was invited back to her garden and to help themselves to any plants they would like. For years after her death as I went around the village I would see plants that I knew had started life in my mother's hands and I was always sure she would have been saying "Now look after that and don't forget to water it".

Janet Woodhouse

Letter to the Editors

I have read with much interest the letters from Linda Webb and Dr. & Mrs Spice relating to the traffic calming installation on Holt Road.

I fully endorse the comments made concerning the build-out and although I do not spend an extraordinary amount of time looking out of my window, I am very aware of the problems that some drivers have when negotiating this structure whether travelling north or south.

It is well documented in Parish Council meeting notes that the issue of my access to my property is made difficult because of the siting of this structure. Any driver is aware that in order to turn right one needs a good road position on the left of the road and making the appropriate signal to turn right I cannot do this because the buildout is where I should be. I therefore have to signal before reaching the build out which has caused annoyance to drivers behind me and who think I am indicating that I am intending to go round the build out (many drivers do this although it is not necessary to do so). By sharp application of my brakes I hope the driver behind me is courteous enough to wait while I negotiate the turn. The lock on my car is not the best so missing the kerbs on both the build out and on the pavement is a problem.

Keeping an eye on oncoming traffic is something else. I have been at the receiving end of some earthy language and gestures

which is not nice seeing that my apparent doddery driving is not of my making.

I have been driving for 61 years with a blame free record but am annoyed by this problem which is being ignored by those to whom I have turned for help.

All I have asked (repeatedly) is that the two kerbstones either side of my drive are dropped so the access point is widened. Simple enough I would have thought but one year on my pleas for help have been ignored.

Eileen Bent, 50 Holt Road

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Bishop Graham's Pilgrimage Walk

In mid July, the Bishop of Norwich, Graham Usher, took a welcome gap in his Zoom calendar to walk the "Walsingham Way", a pilgrimage walk from Norwich to The Shrine of our Lady Walsingham.

On Wednesday 15th July, his route took him from North Elmham to Great Ryburgh and on to Stibbard, before journeying on to Walsingham.

At each 'stop' point of his journey, Bishop Graham prayed for those who have lost their lives to COVID19; for those whose lives and livelihoods have been affected by the pandemic.

It was a perfect day for walking; Norfolk looking at its very best with wildflowers along the roadside embankments and the fields glowing in the sunshine.

Photos show the beginning of our part of the route: morning prayer at North Elmham Bishop's Chapel ruins.

F O N E S

Obviously, due to restrictions our fundraising has been put on hold for what will be a while now (no sponsored walks, no Family Fun Festivals, (as per usual it did rain on the day of our planned fun day this year) and movie afternoon treats, but as a committee we are still keeping in touch.

We have been asked to help support a new school project, a setting up of a Forest School Area which teachers will be using with the pupils as part of their learning. We will source a small number of tools that will be needed along with waterproof trousers. We look forward to seeing how this turns out.

We would have normally booked a party for our leaver children but that's not able to happen. So, we feel we could not let our Year 6's go without a reminder of their time at North Elmham Primary School. Hoodies were purchased with all the children's names on and the year they left, along with the school name and logo, so hopefully this will be a good way to remember their time at Elmham. We hope they liked them!

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As for what will happen in the autumn, like many things, we just don't know at the moment. We should be holding our AGM in September - I'll keep you posted on any updates. For now, we hope everybody is safe and well

Sharon Phillips 668866

Letter to the Editors

I have decided it is time to retire from Parish Council and will do so by the end of August at the latest. This seemed a good moment to put together a list of what we have accomplished as a generation on parish council, and it might stimulate a discussion about what still needs to be done.

It is worth recalling what we have achieved as a Parish Council during my time as a councillor which goes back to the 1970s:

- Encouraging Breckland to buy the old railway line to create a footpath between the Yarrow crossing and the buffers. This is a path which the railway company is now obliged to keep open and maintain.
- Creating a public footpath down Church Lane.
- Negotiated with English Heritage a profitable contract to manage the cathedral ruins.
- Negotiating the purchase of 30 acres of bare arable which we then turned into the Cathedral Meadows with public access.
- Negotiated the Countryside Stewardship Scheme for Cathedral Meadows and achieving the wildlife benefits which followed.
- Planting the highly popular Millennium Wood.
- Planting the Jubilee Wood.
- Purchasing Church Meadow, and again providing public access.

- Initiating the discussions over Brookside Farm which should create a new community car park for the school, a second smaller village green and a footpath up into the Millennium Wood.
- Negotiating the lease and subsequent purchase of the land to create the village green and to install a new play area.
- Raising the money to build the pavilion.
- Organising a Safe Route to School
- Supporting the North Elmham Youth and Community Trust to buy the old Methodist chapel to convert it into the Eastgate Centre.
- Encouraging County Highways to install the pinchpoint and the buildout on the main street which have together significantly slowed down traffic speeds at the Post Office bend.
- Obtained NCC funding for further speed reduction schemes, still to be installed.
- Obtaining funding for the Eastgate Street parking scheme which should ease the passage of buses down the street.
- Producing the 2011 Community Plan.

The big disappointment was not building a new village hall with a decent car park, but you can't win all the time.

Peter Wade-Martins



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Village Sign & The Rose Garden

Many villages in Norfolk have village signs, some have been lovingly carved out of wood and many are metal, countless articles have been written about them and the history behind each one. When our children were little and we were driving around the county we would try and guess what each sign was alluding to and invariably we'd get it wrong!

I hope I'm not offending anyone when I say that it became fashionable for communities to have a sign within their locality depicting a story or happening from the past. We know that from the 1950's onwards many of these village signs were erected, and so were our signs. We have had three wooden ones of the same design and finally the beautiful metal one which stands near the church.

The story of our village sign began in the early 1970's. Councillor George Kerrison at a Parish Council meeting in May 1970, brought the subject up of the village having its own sign. The story rumbled on. Where could a sign be sited? The George and Dragon public house near the Ruins had recently closed its doors for the last time but in front of it was a piece of rough ground which patrons used as a car or cycle park. Who did it belong to, was it Bullards Brewery who owned the pub or did it really belong to the village? Its ownership had been lost in the mists of time.

The Parish Council Minutes are rather sparse at this time but in October 1971 it was decided that nothing should be done until the deed of ownership was obtained under the Registration Act. By June 1972 obviously it had all been sorted out –in August 1972 the question of the village sign was again raised but it was decided to leave this until the financial situation was easier. The Parish Council was hard up.

Nothing is ever easy in local politics – the Parish Council had to see if it would need permission to tidy up the ground (as a child I knew it was very rough as we village children all played on it). Presumably the Council did get permission to tidy it up.

In December 1972 Mrs Holmes wrote to the Council about the sign. She had drafted a sketch of what she thought would make an attractive sign. Still hard up, the council wrote to her and said they could not help financially but would do everything to help the project. After a great deal of discussion the Parish Council accepted her sketch for the sign. It was agreed that the Parish Council should obtain planning permission for it to be erected on the scruffy piece of land in front of the George and Dragon.

At the beginning of 1973, Mr Ballard approached the Council with a proposition that he and other people who lived in that vicinity would like to create a rose garden on that ground. They would create soil beds and plant the rose bushes. Then the village got behind the scheme. The Youth Club helped to clear the ground, Mr Don offered a tractor and trailer and dump for the rough soil and grass, driven by Mr Taylor.

Now the Parish Council minutes are even more sparse. Nowhere in the minutes does it say who could make the sign nor what did Mrs Holmes' sketch look like. However, there was a newspaper report in July 1973 when the sign was officially handed over to the village. The person who carved the sign which was a depiction of the first cathedral in Norfolk, was Harry Carter, woodwork teacher at Hammonds Grammar School in Swaffham. He carved the chapel at the top of the sign out of one piece of oak, the middle section was also oak but set on a softwood base. There was also a small statue of a Bishop standing in front of the Chapel.

He died in 1983. As Keith Skipper said in the EDP 'Harry left behind a treasured legacy of lovingly carved signs'.

Who asked Harry Carter to make the sign we have no idea.

The sign needed a base and the Council had no money so Mr Kerrison paid for the building of the base by Mr John Paske who lived in Eastgate Street. Mr Kerrison was later reimbursed with money from the Allotment Fund.

There is nothing in the Parish Council notes about the planting of the first roses.

In October 1988 the sign was taken apart and rebuilt by Mr Ernest Horstead. The ravages of time had taken their toll so with Mr Dennis Fish's help and the use of his tractor, the sign had been partially rebuilt and put back on its post.

By 1999, once more the weather had all but destroyed the sign and Mr Norman Lowe lovingly recreated the original design for the village sign once more. He went to Heigham Street Saw Mills for the wood and spent many hours shaping and painting the sign. Unfortunately, the oak was green and did not withstand the elements. Once again this had been a collaborative venture as it was not a simple thing to remove the sign from the post and then take the post down. Reg Neve, Derek Shoesmith and Colin Groom were on hand to help, with Reg painting the post in his garden.

Then it all had to go back up again!

This time the village sign lasted until 2010.

After a lot of thought about the project Mark Tasker, a parish councillor brought to the Council a model of a proposed three-sided sign. After much discussion it was unanimously agreed that the new sign should go ahead. It should be viewed from all sides and incorporate the history of the village.

Toby Winterbourne now takes up the tale, "In 2011 I was asked by Mark Tasker to design a new village sign to replace the wooden version which had been installed in 1999. As I had just started my own business after working for several Norfolk blacksmiths, I was excited to take on the challenge.

Mark had an idea for an elm tree with three sides to be seen from different directions and asked me to come up with some designs to include ideas from Elmham school children.

I made up a cardboard model which was presented to the Parish Council. It featured the church, the Bishop's Chapel and watermill. The wooden bishop carved by George Keeble from the old sign was also included in the design, so I asked James Castle, a local resident and technician at Norwich University College of Art to cast the bishop in metal.

Working from my container workshop at Parkhouse Farm, I fabricated the pieces and

frame in steel. I decided to add some wild flowers to the design to commemorate the North Elmham Flower Show.

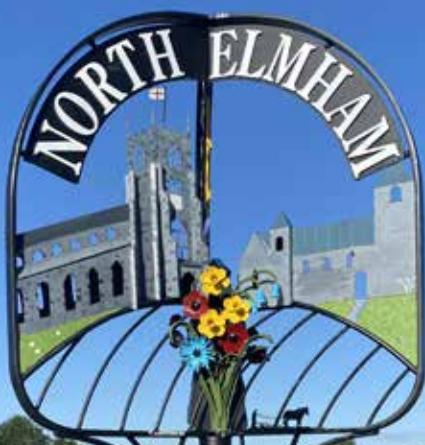
The pieces were all assembled and was then zinc galvanised. Finally I painted the details and lettering with enamel paints and attached the newly cast metal bishop."

The new sign was unveiled on Saturday 22nd October 2011, by Eva Marsh, the longest serving Parish Councillor.

By the time you read this the metal sign will have had a clean-up with a new coat of paint and be looking as good as new with a few additions, see photos below.

Janet Woodhouse

Ed's Note: We love the sign and are so proud of it and are delighted that Elmham has such dedicated and clever people living here in the village. Once again, we must thank on everyone's behalf, Terry Maidstone who lovingly tends the Rose Garden, at the moment it is beautiful.



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The Little Figure

Back in 1999, the old wooden village sign which was originally carved by Harry Carter was looking the worse for wear, so it was decided to smarten it up.

Norman Lowe said he would take on the job. But when it came to the wooden figure of the Bishop on the post it was discovered that he was in a very sorry state. He had been made out of two pieces of wood joined together and the wet had got into the join and started to decay him. Where to find someone who would carve his replacement?

I was discussing this with a friend at work who liked to do a bit of carving as a hobby. He was a highly skilled cabinet maker and also a very good carver. He offered to carve a new one as long as we paid for the wood, this was agreed and we worked on a design trying to avoid any water traps where rot could get a hold.

When he was finished, I took on the task of painting him. Most of the paint used was coach paint which has survived quite well, the edges of the book, his sash and the cross were gilded with gold leaf by another colleague at work. It was then lacquered with a number 8 lacquer that was used on pub signs.

To give him a little more protection I constructed a small roof covered in lead to mount above him. Reg Neve and I then fitted him on the post where he looked very resplendent.

The carver's name was Peter Chillingworth who lives in Dereham, who like myself, is retired. We both meet up at the Tea post occasionally and have a mardle about old times.

After the new metal sign was erected, I said I would restore the figure and mount it on a wooden plaque so that it can be mounted in the church. All I have to do is find the time!

George Keeble

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VE- Vegan

GF- Gluten Free

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Worthing Smoke Houses

Following on from Janet's article "Herring Curing in Mid Norfolk" in the July issue of the Elmham News, I have discovered in research of our village of Worthing over the years that involvement in the fish industry and smoking fish was fairly common. In the 1911 census at least three residents William Charles Millatt (Fishmonger); George Stephen Savage (Fishmonger) and Samuel Earl with his children Daisy and Thomas (Fish Merchant and Fish Hawkers) were involved.

George Stephen Savage and his wife Violet lived in The Bungalow, Church Road, Worthing built in 1923 by James Neal, a well known local builder and they had several smokehouses in the garden. They had a horse-drawn cart from which they sold fish and chips around the area. It caught fire in Station Road one day when the horse was spooked by rough weather and as it lurched forward, the

hot fat spilt and the whole van went up in flames. They also made and sold ice-cream in the summer, again from a horse drawn cart. Not sure if the ice-cream was fish flavoured! George had the nickname Steamer as he carted his fish at one time in a steam driven contraption.

Grandson of James Neal, and also local builder, Graham Smith came across two brick-built smokehouses when he, some years later, built his own house on The Bungalow site. Graham also came across a smokehouse when he restored the totally dilapidated cottage on the site between The Swan and Tannery Arms pubs where Samuel Earl and family lived for a number of years. The smokehouse can be seen on the right-hand side of the cottage in this picture taken in 1974 before renovation work started. The restored cottage is now known as Cygnet Cottage.

David Knight

Chicken, Bacon & Leek Cottage Pie

Serves 4

1 tablespoon olive oil

500g chicken thigh fillets chopped into bite size pieces. (I like chicken breast myself).

100g lardons (I use streaky bacon).

2 leeks sliced.

1 tablespoon plain flour.

250ml chicken stock.

2 tablespoons creme fraiche or double cream.

800g hot freshly mashed potato.

Handful parsley.

50g grated cheddar cheese and extra for sprinkling on top.

Method

Heat oil in large frying pan. Add chicken and lardons (bacon) and cook until golden then add leeks for 2–3 minutes.

Scatter over flour and stir until absorbed Gradually add stock and cook for 5 minutes or until chicken cooked and sauce thickened.

Stir the creme fraiche or cream into chicken mixture and season well and carefully the pour mixture into large baking dish.

Stir parsley and cheese into hot mashed potato and spoon evenly over chicken mixture and top with a little cheese.

Grill until topping is golden brown.

This can be frozen if using a freezer and oven proof dish. To serve, defrost overnight before re-heating.

ENJOY

Julia Williamson

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Summer Reading Challenge 2020 Silly Squad

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Jazz Postponed

It is with great regret that due to the government Covid Secure requirements we have taken the decision to postpone 'Jazz in the Garden' until further notice.

Jo Fitzalan Howard





Calling All Gardeners

In the last edition we asked for photos of your gardens to give us something interesting and lovely to print and perhaps aspire to.

So, to get the ball rolling, Sarah has sent us this photo of Ted and Gladys, who live in her garden. How fabulous are they?

And... Caroline has given us photos of the magnificent display of clematis in her garden.

Have you any little hidden gems, or something you are very pleased with, has your garden blossomed during lockdown but had no-one to share it with? Take a photo and send it to the News, include a little description and your name.

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Wildlife at the Cathedral Meadows



Kestrels (*photo 1*) are our most familiar species of falcon – the only species in Britain that routinely hovers in the air when hunting. They aren't quite as common as they used to be, but you can still see them here at the meadows and a pair has been showing particularly well recently. There is often one perched on the overhead power cable, looking down into the meadow below waiting for a vole or other tasty prey item to make the fatal mistake of moving into the Kestrel's field of view.

I always like to share photos of the larger more colourful moths, like the Buff-tip (*photo 2*) and Swallow-tailed Moth (*photo 3*) which I caught at the meadows recently, so as to counter the popular, but quite mistaken, myth that moths are the lesser and duller relatives of butterflies. But the most exciting moth identified during the last month was, even I have to admit, very dull to look at. It was tiny (half a centimetre long) and brownish-grey, a bit battered and with no real distinguishing features. I had to look at it under a microscope to work out what it was, but that was when it got interesting! It turned out to be a species that had never before been recorded in



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Norfolk, Elachista consortella, or Field Dwarf. I'll spare you the photo of this one and I don't think many readers would have got very excited by looking at it, but for me finding a first-for-Norfolk at the meadows was the highlight of the month! Most visitors are more likely to notice the butterflies than the moths and there are lots on the wing at the moment. One species you can hardly avoid seeing on sunny days in July is the Meadow Brown.

At this time of year there are lots of wildflowers in bloom and these attract insects. Have a good close look at them and see how many different insects you can see feeding on them. A good plant to check is the Hogweed, a large plant with plate-like heads of white flowers. There is lots of this growing at the meadows and you can see a remarkable variety of different beetles and hoverflies feeding on it, often supplemented by moths, butterflies, bees and all sorts of flies. During July the Common Red Soldier



Beetle is especially abundant on Hogweed seen above with a Small Copper butterfly.

Why not come along to the meadows and see what wildlife you can find? Let us know what you see: email appleton.dave@googlemail.com or phone 668431. You can also follow us on Twitter at @ElmhamMeadows or see our recent tweets on the Parish Council website www.elmham.org.uk/cathedral-meadows

Dave Appleton

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Gardening Club

It's mid summer and hopefully we are seeing the results of our labour from the flowers and vegetables. There is nothing more satisfying than the taste of fresh fruit or vegetables.

I was hoping to share some good news about us all meeting up at a open garden in August or September but the two local gardens I have contacted, said they have cancelled all their bookings for this year,

If any of you know of a garden that is prepared to open for an evening gathering (social distancing, of course) we could take our own chairs and a glass with a bottle, please contact me as it would be lovely to have a social evening outside before autumn/winter.

The plant in last month's magazine was a teasel. This month's plant is seen around Christmas.



Tips for August

- Prune any climbing shrubs such as wisteria.
- Deadhead flowering plants regularly.

- Blackspot on roses is very common at this time of year and spray will no longer be effective. Clear fallen leaves and burn them to stop further infection.
- Continue cutting out old fruit canes on raspberries.
- Cut back herbs to encourage new growth before the frost appears.

Keep safe and well.

Ray

Norfolk Rivers Trust

How can you keep your river healthy and clean?

In a series of articles Norfolk Rivers Trust will provide advice to help maintain the health of our globally rare chalk streams and lowland rivers in Norfolk. In times of drought and hot weather it is especially important because of the wildlife our rivers support. Endangered white clawed crayfish, brown trout, eels, and water voles are just a few of the iconic species at risk in Norfolk and you can do your bit to help protect them.

Vegetation: while it is tempting to "tidy" the river by pulling out the plants, you are doing more harm than good. The vegetation in the river helps in so many ways! Firstly, plants shade the channel reducing the temperature of the water and keeping the water oxygenated. Secondly, plants hold back water in exceptionally low flows allowing the invertebrates and fish to survive in the damp conditions. Thirdly, plants take up the excess nutrients and pollutants resulting in cleaner water downstream; plants act as natural filters. And lastly, by taking out the vegetation you are removing the essential food that most of the aquatic food chain relies on! If you feel the river is "choked" you can call the Environment Agency for advice but generally the vegetation dies down over winter.

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Things to Know

In the 1400's a law was set forth in England that a man was allowed to beat his wife with a stick no thicker than his thumb. Hence we have 'the rule of thumb.'

Many years ago in Scotland , a new game was invented. It was ruled 'Gentlemen Only...Ladies Forbidden.'

And thus, the word GOLF entered into the English language.

The first couple to be shown in bed together on prime time TV was Fred and Wilma Flintstone.

Q. What do bulletproof vests, fire escapes, windshield wipers and laser printers have in common?

A. All were invented by women.

Q. What is the only food that doesn't spoil?

A. Honey

North Elmham Junior Football Club

Following the very successful taster session last September, Chris Reeve is now primed to take this forward. At the time of writing this piece, the Norfolk Football Association (NFA) had not clarified the plans to resuming football club matches, but training is taking place throughout the county.

Chris's aim is to set up a new club for juniors which will be fully affiliated to the NFA. The plan is for players to train on Saturday mornings at 10am on the playing field. Chris and Jamie Clark, both of whom are Level 1 qualified coaches and residents of North Elmham, will initially run the sessions. It is hoped that parents will get involved in setting up a committee to run the club and join in with the coaching.

Chris has already been in contact with families who attended last September's session and he will also set up a Facebook page – North Elmham Junior Football Club – so that everyone can keep abreast of what is happening.

The first training session for children aged up to 11 will take place at 10.00 am on Saturday 8th August. Please encourage your children to come along and have fun, as well as develop their footballing skills. We look forward to seeing you there.

Finally, if anyone can sponsor the team, or knows anyone who would be interested and able to do so, please get in touch with Chris by email: chris.allstarcnf@gmail.com

Jennie Borgnis, Chairman NEPC

Chocolate Pud

Heat 100ml whole milk and 1 heaped teaspoon instant coffee in a small saucepan until steaming, then take off the heat. Add 200g chopped dark chocolate, leave for 1 minute, then stir. Mix in 2-3 tbsp just-boiled water until the mixture is smooth and glossy. In a mixing bowl, add 350g vanilla yogurt and whisk in the chocolate mixture.

Divide between 4 glasses, then chill for at least 4 hours, ideally overnight. To serve, top with more yogurt and raspberries

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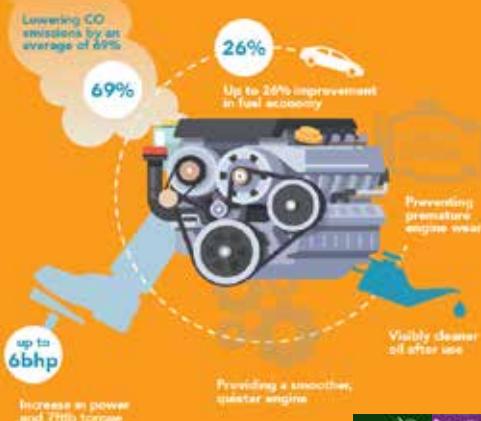
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St Mary's Church

Public Worship

'We love the place,O God'

This well-known hymn was nominated for the recent Heart of Norfolk Group's Songs of Praise Service. Many of us who were able to be at "St Zoom's" on 5th July were moved by the photos of the interiors of all of the HON church buildings – empty of people but standing as testament to the glory of God and the worship of people through many centuries.

We are planning to resume weekly public Sunday worship in church from 2nd August (10.30 am). This will be at Guestwick St Peter, where we have the facility to Zoom and record for subsequent transmission via YouTube. Our Zoom community will be invited to join us in the usual way – if you would like an invitation, please get in touch. Those of you who feel confident and able to join us in person will be very welcome. This is planned to be a service of Holy Communion (in one kind for the congregation) and the Sacrament will be reserved to administer subsequently to those who are not able to attend in person. Please be assured that stringent hygiene and safe-distancing protocols will be followed.

A more comprehensive programme of public Sunday worship is being planned for September onwards, although it will

not revert to our pre-COVID19 pattern. This is being reviewed in the light of our lock-down experience and we ask you to bear with us as we work this through.

Getting Ready to Open

Not all of the church buildings in the Heart of Norfolk Group can be opened for public access yet (some due to ongoing building work). Before they can be opened, they will need to be thoroughly cleaned. Many of those who regularly clean our churches are in at-risk groups and cannot be asked or expected to help with this. If you, or anyone in your local network, would be willing to be involved in a one-off clean please let us know. It can be quite good fun! Please email heartofnorfolkchurches@gmail.com or call 01362 668850.

With prayers and best wishes as we enter the "new normal".

Revd Sally

More 2 Life Christian Fellowship

Thankfully, some of us have started being able to meet up with friends and loved ones again. Others of us may still need to be cautious around others to protect our health. It is important for our health and emotional well-being to be in contact with others.

The Bible says: 'Let us not neglect meeting together, as some have made a habit, but let us encourage one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.' Hebrews 10:25

As the world appears in chaos, and we look to Jesus' return, it is important that we continue to meet together and encourage one another. For us, at More 2 Life, we continue to do this online for the time being. So if you are looking for fellowship, and have access to the

internet, you are most welcome to join us on Zoom on Sundays @ 10.30 am and Mondays @ 2.00 pm. Just get in touch and we'll send you the details.

If you would like to know more about the Christian hope, please contact

Pastor Anne-Marie Fewell

Revree7@gmail.com

www.more2lifenorthelmham.com

<https://www.facebook.com/more2lifeNE>

Tel. 01362 668707

In time, we hope this will increase/return to our normal seven day opening times so please look out for updates on our church noticeboard or Benefice website heartofnorfolkchurches.org.uk

In the meantime, we welcome all-comers from across the county to view and appreciate our wonderful gem of a church that has been gifted and left in our care. Some unique signs and symbols of history can be spotted about the church and amongst the wildlife so a worthwhile opportunity for keen photographers or artists to visit.

Invitation to an Open-Air Afternoon Visit at St Margaret's Church

To help ease everyone back into visiting our wonderful churches, St Margaret's Church would like to invite you to an informal open-air afternoon listening to a selection of choral music, traditional hymns and readings.

Weather permitting/with social distancing this will take place on **Wednesday 5th August from 3.00–4.00pm**

If you have a particular piece of music, hymn or reading you would like to

More2Life Christian Fellowship

Formerly Victory Villages Church

(Member of Eastern Baptist Association)

Pastor Anne-Marie Fewell

Worship Sunday 10.30 am, Bible study Monday 2.00 pm

Meeting via internet ring 01362 668707 if you wish to join us

Mum's Place (a meeting place for mothers with children of 0–4 years) in abeyance for the moment

See website: www.more2lifenorthelmham.com

include, please let me know – Celia tel: 01362 668928 / email: c.daniel784@btinternet.com

For those who enjoy the Belgian Detective series created by Agatha Christie "Hercule Poirot," our much-loved David Suchet will be reading a sample of scriptures during the afternoon on CD.

Some seating and blankets will be provided however, please bring along your own refreshments. Pets welcomed.

Church Services

Currently, there is no set service pattern for August however, we hope this may change and develop in the coming months.

The Norfolk Churches Trust

Annual Event

Saturday 12th September
from 9.30pm till 4.30 pm

This is the date that we hope will be in everyone's diary whether you cycle, walk,

ride, or travel by car to visit a church, maybe St Margaret's in Worthing! Please get involved in some way, your support is so vital.

Please join us on the day and visit these unique and wonderful buildings across the county and help to sustain what we are all proud to have around us.

Details & sponsor forms from:

Celia tel: 01362 668928

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Martin Phillips: martin.s.phillips@btopenworld.com*

August Photo Contributors

Our thanks go to everyone below who submitted photos for inclusion this month.

Cover: Toby Winterbourn, Page 11: Ian McIntosh, Page 11: dr.paulstrickland.muchloved.com, Page 17: @bishopnorwich, Page 21 Ian McIntosh, Page 23: Sarah Felton, Page 25: George Keeble, Page 28: Graham Smith, Page 30 Sarah Felton, Page 31: Caroline Payne, Page 33 & 35: Dave Appleton, Page 37: Ray Norman.

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Vice Chair: Martin Phillips

Clerk: Kevin J Webb

01328 855046

northeelmhampc@hotmail.co.uk

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Group Member ●

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Meetings are normally held on the first Wednesday of the month in the Sports Pavilion, commencing at 7:30 pm. Parishioners are entitled to attend and are most welcome. Our County and District Councillor is also in attendance whenever possible. If, in between meetings, you wish to raise a specific matter for the attention of the Parish Council - please refer to the contact list above.

And finally...

Have you got something interesting you would like to say or think others might be interested in something you do - why not write to us (preferably by email) and let us know, we are always on the lookout for new contributors.

- just email the Editors, simple.

North Elmham Directory

Elmham Surgery - Holt Rd - 01362 668215

Opening Times Mon Tue Wed Thur Fri 08:30 - 18:30 (Wed 18:00)

Swanton Morley Surgery - 01362 638100

Opening Times Mon Tue Wed Thur Fri 08:30 - 18:00

Doctors

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Dr Abigail Brun Dr Samita Mukhopadhyay Dr Victoria Lawrence

North Elmham Village Emergency Telephone System (VETS) - 01362 788700

NHS Direct 111

POLICE Non Emergency - 101 - EMERGENCY - 999

Breckland District Councillor Gordon Bambridge 01603 880557
Bill Borrett 01362 860200

Norfolk County Councillor Bill Borrett 01362 860200

Member of Parliament george.freeman.mp@parliament.uk 01953 600617

North Elmham VC School Paula Jones, Executive Headteacher 01362 668318

Chairman of School Governors Robert Plant chairofgov@northeelmham.norfolk.sch.uk

Memorial Institute Pam Neve 01362 668325

Pavilion Bookings 01362 668580

Eastgate Centre Heather Caley 01362 668245

Breckland Dog Warden Confidential message or texts 07771 617417 01362 858500

London Express Tickets Travel Centre 01362 694211

Sanders Wednesdays to Norwich 01263 712800

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Community Website www.elmham.org.uk

Dereham Library - 01362 693184

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Mobile Library calls in Elmham every 4 weeks

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UK Power Networks Electricity - Emergency 0800 7838838

Samaritans 116123

Citizens Advice Bureau 01362 697776

Clergy - All telephone numbers local code (01362)

Church of England Reverend Sally Kimmis heartofnorfolkrector@gmail.com 668850

Roman Catholic Father Brendan Moffatt 35 London Rd, Dereham 694066

Methodist Rev Betty Trinder 31 Trinity Close, Dereham 695582

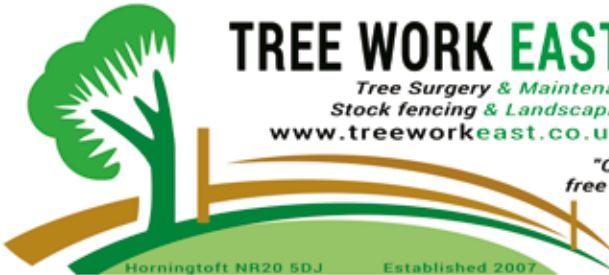
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