# Elmham News

**FEBRUARY 2022** 

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# **EDITORIAL**

HAPPY NEW YEAR to all our readers and we are hoping, like you, that the new year will bring better news on the Covid front, though the feeling is that it will be with us for the future, in one form or another, like the flu.

May we welcome the school's new Headteacher, Miss Kirsten Sutherland to our community and look forward to a long and happy relationship with her and the school. There are already ideas afoot to improve the exterior of the buildings.

Fortnum and Mason have announced the quest for a Royal Pudding to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. We were wondering if we could organise a Royal Pudding competition, perhaps culminating in an actual tasting event during the Platinum Jubilee celebrations. What do you think?

Thank you for donations go to Mrs Joan Frost, a past resident, Anon on Station Road and Friends and Neighbours. We do appreciate these donations and are pleased to receive them.

Just a reminder for the year ahead, if you contact us via email please send it to all of the Editors. If you only send it to one of us we might miss it. Thanks and we look forward to receiving your articles.

North Elmham community website www.elmham.org.uk

PLEASE NOTE: Submission deadline for articles to be included in the MARCH edition is <u>14TH FEBRUARY</u>. Please email your article to each of the editors listed below asap before the deadline.

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# NORTH ELMHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

# WEDNESDAY 1ST DECEMBER,

**Councillors Present Were:** Mrs. J. Borgnis (Chairman), Mr. M. Phillips, Mr. T. Fitzalan Howrad, Mr. B. Gee, Miss A. Ferris, Mr. P. Grainger, Mrs. A. Keeble, Mr. M. Rayner and Mr. C. Smith.

**Also in Attendance:** Mr. K. Webb (Clerk) and Mr. G. Bambridge (District Councillor).

**Apologies for absence:** Mr. J. Labouchere and Mr. N. Markwell

## **Land Management Matters**

Village Green: Mr. Grainger reported that there had been a visit from a member of the Woodland Trust who regarded our site as ideal. As a result, our application would be fast tracked. Two days later, an email was received advising that our application had been rejected as the area was too small by just under half an hectare. An invitation was given to reapply for 410 free trees, with tree guards. It is possible to have more free trees in future years. It was agreed that Mr. Grainger would make another application.

Mr. Phillips said that Highways Department is visiting tomorrow to put some material on the path.

Mr. Gee reported that the font for the notices is to be adjusted by Broadland Engraving. The new version is to be circulated.

Cathedral Meadows: As previously reported, the brash is to be burnt in November or early December although this may be delayed by the wet weather and ground conditions.

Bridleway on disused railway line and other railway linked matters: Mr. Rayner said that the Miniature Railway application has not yet been determined. The next meeting is scheduled for 20th December. Mr. Rayner is to send details to Mr.

Bambridge who understands that an adjustment to the application is awaited. There is still no information available regarding the status of the path.

#### **Highway Matters**

Mr. Grainger wished to thank Mr. Borrett (County Councillor) for his assistance in obtaining an update in this matter from Matt Lines, Highway Engineer South. Mr. Lines' response is as follows:-

I'm sorry to hear of your issues in reporting the defects through our system. Myself and my team have gone through these issues raised and have commented below.

ENQ900195201 (Job Number 209601) – My area technician has inspected the issues raised on Eastgate Street and has arranged for our contractor to jet out and clean all gullies to alleviate standing water issue. The surface water drainage system flows from east to west and there is pipe that runs into a field ditch next to Millennium Cycleway, I will also instruct my technician to inspect the ditch to make sure there is no visible blockages.

ENQ900183373 – My technician will make contact with you and arrange a site visit regarding this issue.

ENQ900176422 – I have investigated the reasoning as to why we haven't managed to resurface/fill the uneven surface of Millennium Cycleway. This was originally programmed to be completed in May 2021 however due to logistic complications Norfolk County Council have been unable to order the necessary material typically used which resulted in the job being cancelled. I have now spoken to our contractor who has confirmed they will be able to order the material in the New Year. These issues were down to covid and Brexit. We have had a number of issues in obtaining some materials over the last 18 months. My technician has reprogrammed the works

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Mr. Grainger pointed out that, unfortunately, there are still flooding issues in Eastgate Street and he will write back to Mr. Lines. The next member passing the area concerned will take pictures and forward them to Mr. Grainger.

A road closure will be needed to deal with the potholes in Holt Road. It is likely that this will take place in the New Year.

Mr. Gee said that the County Council had turned down the important safety enhancement, which would have resulted from the installation of safety rails at the Tea Post, because of concerns regarding Health and Safety issues!

# **Pavilion and Playing Field**

Mr. Smith said that new lights are required at the gable end of the pavilion and near the bus shelter to remove the darkness associated with that particular area. There has been some vandalism and the Christmas tree has been attacked. The police are to make additional patrols. The pandemic plaque has been presented by the Lord Lieutenant and its location is to be decided.

#### **Youth Club Facilities**

Mr. Fitzalan Howard reported that Biffa provides awards of up to £200K. The location, however, must be within ten miles of a Biffa site. North Elmham is actually nine and a half miles from the Attlebridge landfill. With regards to the possible play facilities to be provided, it is felt that a cycle track should be discounted. This leaves basketball (three different options), an outside gym (with shelter), a skate park and table tennis. A number of companies are in the process of advising what they can offer. Mr. Fitzalan Howard suggested that a small sub group should be set up to

consider options with a view to producing recommendations in due course.

# **Brookside Development Update**

Mr. Rayner reported that the developers will put in the electric charging points and charge us for the labour, at cost. Various options are to be considered.

#### The Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022

We have a beacon which is to be lit on Thursday, 2nd June 2022, probably at the top end of the Playing Field. A circus is coming for the week and will be situated on the Village Green.

Mr. Gee can provide a band for Sunday and the possibility of having some fireworks will be examined.

#### **Defibrillators**

A request for volunteers to be Community First Responders (CFRs) has been made in Flmham News

# Village Green Board Displaying Names of Contributors to the Fundraising

Mr Gee is having the type of fonts adjusted before commissioning the work.

# **2011 Community Plan**

Mr. Grainger said that the updated Community Plan is available on the Community website.

# Proposal for New Electricity Connection in Holt Road

The Wayleave Agreement has been signed by both parties with a copy being retained by the Parish Council.

# Annual Budget for 2022/2023

Mr. Phillips presented the final budget which shows predicted income of £58,231 (including a Precept of £39,844), expenditure of £66,665 and a deficit of £8,434. Acceptance was proposed by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Grainger. All in favour. The Clerk will forward the Precept form to the District Council.



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## **Affordable Housing**

The principle of an affordable housing project is supported and is seen as a way of getting the housing that is needed. It was agreed by all to procced with the next stage, i.e. a call for sites, and Mr. Rayner is to liaise with Mr. Mumford-Smith (Broadland Housing) with a view to putting a piece in Elmham News. Proposed by Mr. Rayner and seconded by Mrs. Keeble. All in favour.

# Petition for Changes in the Wind Farm Policy in Laying Pipes

A request had been received to support a campaign set up by Parish Councils in Norfolk to strongly oppose plans by Orsted, Vattenfall and Equinor to lay high voltage electricity cables across Norfolk from their offshore wind farms to Necton and Swardeston. It is felt that an Offshore Transmission Network is the best way to link this source of energy to the National Grid. It was agreed to take no action regarding this request.

# District and/or Council Councillors' Reports

Mr. Bambridge advised the following:-

- a) It was been a quiet month regarding Ward matters but busy with Cabinet affairs.
- b) A new Animal Welfare Licensing Officer, which also provides a dog warden service, has been appointed. Twelve illegal dog breeders have been identified.
- c) New policies regarding gambling and taxis are to be debated this month.
- d) The litter campaign is going very well and fly tipping has been reduced by 30%. Money raised from fines is used on education. Breckland supports parishes with equipment for litter picking.
- e) The new Local Plan is proceeding and will probably take 4 to 5 years to produce.
- f) Lord Dannatt's Commission is continuing to look at flooding issues in Norfolk. The first 16 villages are currently

being dealt with and another 16 are being sought. Any particular areas of concern should be advised to Mr. Bambridge.

# **Speeding Issues in Pump Street**

A message was received regarding speeding vehicles in Pump Street at the northern end of the village. The SAM2 camera has been repositioned in Pump Street and it is hoped that this will result in speeds, in general, being reduced. It is felt that residents should consider the possibility of supporting the formation of a new Community Speed Watch team if a sufficient number of people are prepared to volunteer. Village Gateways could also be considered next year once an evaluation of how successful those recently installed at the other end of the village have been.

# Improvements to the Frontage of North Elmham School

An enquiry has been received from a member of the governing body for the Flourish Federation which includes North Elmham School. It is felt that the school's frontage, directly on to Holt Road, would benefit from work to improve its appearance. Ideas being explored include updating of the signage, installation of a new notice board, refurbishment of the strip of ground between the school buildings and the railings, installation of a gate in the railings and repainting.

The views of the Parish Council are being sought together with consideration of some financial assistance with the project. There is support, in principle, but some idea of sums involved will need to be provided. Any work will have to bear in mind Conservation Area considerations.

In addition, it has been asked what systems are in place to update the notices in the display case at the school. This task is the responsibility of Elmham News who are due to have their AGM in the near future. No doubt, it will be discussed by their members at that meeting.

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# Request for an Additional Bench in Millennium Wood

A request has been received for an additional bench to be sited on the edge of the path on the southern side of Millennium Wood, overlooking the fields. This area is often sheltered and sunny, benefits from a pleasant view and would be a good place to sit. This suggestion received general approval. A recent request for a bench to be sited in the Wood was previously made, (desired position not indicated), so it may be possible to coordinate the wishes of both parties.

# Planning Applications and Determinations

## **Applications**

- (i) Mr. and Mrs. V. Leeder 3 bed bungalow and garage to rear – 3PL/2021/1471/F – Oak House, 38 Station Road – no comments.
- (ii) Mr. and Mrs. Garrod first floor side and rear extension – 3PL/2021/1511/HOU – 78 Eastgate Street – no comments.
- (iii) Ivy Properties Ltd conversion of barn 3 to residential use, revised proposals including first floor extension – Vicarage Farm (Barn 3), Church Lane – 3PL/2021/1308/F – no comments.

#### **Determinations**

(i) Mr. Richard Ravencroft – confirmation that planning permission ref. 3PL/2017/1056/F has been implemented and is extant – Oakleigh Garden Shop, 25 Station Road – 3PL/2021/0778/EU - refused.

# Correspondence

- 1) Clerks and Councils Direct magazine for November, 2021.
- 2) Advice from Biffa of a rate increase with effect from 1/1/22 (Mr. Smith is to get another quotation from Breckland Council)

3) Request from North Elmham PCC for the annual grant regarding the cost of cutting the grass in the graveyard – approved by all as this figure (£1,100.00) has previously been agreed in the annual budget.

#### **Next Meeting**

Wednesday, 5th January 2022 at 7.30 p.m.

# A GREY DAY IN FEBRUARY

It was a maths class and my friend Peter was gazing out of the window. His hand shot up to ask a question.

"Please, Sir, why is the flag at half-mast?"

"I don't know, boy, but I'll go and find out."

After a while he returned and said, "Well, boys, I am sorry to have to tell you that the King has died"

It was 6th February 1952.

Later, in a special assembly, we sang the National Anthem with a strange sound to it. "God save the Queen" sounded most odd after a lifetime of singing "God save the King."

Some days later, the whole school gathered in the marketplace in front of the Town Hall in Retford, along with other members of the public and civic dignitaries to witness the reading of the official Proclamation of the accession of Oueen Elizabeth II.

Ian McIntosh





# NORTH ELMHAM'S GOT TALENT SHOW - DECEMBER PERFORMANCE

A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR to you all! I hope you are keeping well and enjoyed the festivities as much as you could.

What a fabulous night we had for our December Show – it seems a life-time away now!The performance was virtually sold out and with special performances by THE VILLAGE SCHOOL and 'invited friends' – it was a great evening's entertainment all round.

The school children opened the show and sang two songs so perfectly, Santa Claus is Coming to Town and Away in a Manger, accompanied by their BEAUTIFUL SMILES, it was a complete joy! Thanks so much to you all for performing; parents and grandparents were so very proud of you. Thanks to Kelly Hunter for helping me to organise this. Well done!

The show consisted of various genres of live music, songs from the West End Shows, comedy, prose, poetry, (Colin Smith couldn't resist getting out his Dame Costume from the Panto and singing) and the show closed with the audience participating for the final song. With such a rotten couple of years, we all deserved to sit back, kick out and have some fun and laughter flourish the hall. Indeed it

did! The show was rounded up with an ensemble of Thank You for the Music – a very apt choice. Where would we all be without music and song?

Thanks to all you lovely performers and ALL the helpers – your support and input is much appreciated and, in turn, you have all helped to raise a staggering amount of almost  $\pm 600$  from one evening only. My extended thanks go to Sarah Felton for her exemplary help in selling the tickets and carrying out the publicity. Also, George Moore for being the BEST sound engineer ever possible. For everyone who offered their help in producing this show and donating raffle prizes – the list goes on. THANK YOU TO EVERYONE!

We had anticipated performing two more shows in January but, unfortunately due to the current situation, these have been unable to go ahead. However, all is not lost, hopefully we can resurrect the show in Springtime 2022 and enjoy another fun night out. Let's wait and see what this year holds.

Please keep well and safe – we can only hope for a brighter 2022.

Theresa Gower 668589

# Michael Cummings, HCPC Registered, D.Pod.M., M.Ch.S.,

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# NORTH ELMHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

# **WEDNESDAY 5TH JANUARY, 2022**

The following information is taken from the Draft PC minutes and may be expanded where the Editors feel more explanation is necessary.. The full official minutes can be viewed in the Post Office and on the Community website, once approved.

**Councillors Present:** Mrs. J. Borgnis (Chairman), Mr. M. Phillips, Mr. T. Fitzalan Howard, Mr. B. Gee, Miss A. Ferris, Mr. P. Grainger, Mrs. A. Keeble and Mr. N. Markwell

Also in Attendance: Mr. K. Webb (Clerk).

## **Land Management Matters**

Village Green: Mr. Grainger reported that the application process for free trees had been closed but will reopen in 2022. Highways Department have put some material on the path but when they visited it was raining hard so they left fairly quickly and haven't yet returned.

Mr. Gee has amended the notice and the cost for two signs, approved by all, will be £276 (including VAT). As previously discussed, one of the dog waste bins is to be moved to a position which is nearer to the other one.

Cathedral Ruins: Mrs. Keeble reported that a cherry tree had come down (TRE/2021/0323/TCA)

Cathedral Meadows: Mr. Fitzalan Howard said that the brash has not yet been burnt.

Millennium Wood (and Jubilee Wood): A reduced contribution towards the cost of the Jubilee Tree has been agreed by all - £450 to NEPCC (see item 484 below).

Bridleway on disused railway line and other railway linked matters: Decisions are awaited regarding the nature of the path along the railway. It is expected that

Breckland Council will pursue MNR in respect of the breach of the transfer deed in developing beyond the permitted point at County School.

Prince William Wood: A request had previously been made for some springs to be attached to the gate to the road. This is to be done.

## **Street Lights**

Mr. Markwell said that light 31, which is situated outside 29 Eastgate Street, has been reported as potentially dangerous as a tripping hazard although it was likely that the nearby steps provided more of a risk. Westcotec are to be asked to inspect when they next visit with the light to be reinstated if considered possible. Miss Ferris said that light 76 is leaning into the hedge.

## **Pavilion and Playing Field**

The Friends and Neighbours Group has closed and a final cheque has been received in settlement of the hiring fee.

### **Brookside Development Update**

Further details are awaited from the developer regarding the EV charging points. Mr.Borrett ,(County Councillor) has kindly agreed to donate £2K from his County Council Member Fund towards the charging points. Mr. Rayner will continue to liaise.

#### The Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022

There will be two bands on the Village Green on the Sunday in June.

#### **Defibrillators**

There had been no response from parishioners to the request for volunteers to be Community First Responders (CFRs) made in Elmham News.

#### **Affordable Housing**

Mr. Mumford-Smith's confirmation of the piece for Elmham News regarding the call for sites is awaited.

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## **Speeding Issues in Pump Street**

A reply was forwarded to the query regarding speeding vehicles in Pump Street at the northern end of the village. The SAM2 camera has been repositioned in Pump Street and it is hoped that this will result in speeds, in general, being reduced. It is felt that residents should consider the possibility of supporting the formation of a new Community Speed Watch team if a sufficient number of people are prepared to volunteer. Village Gateways could also be considered next year once an evaluation of how successful those recently installed at the other end of the village have been.

# Improvements to the Frontage of North Elmham School

A response has been sent to the school giving support, in principle, to the request for a financial contribution. Details regarding the sums likely to be involved have been requested and the importance of Conservation Area considerations was mentioned.

## Request for an Additional Bench in Millennium Wood

The Chairman is to meet the lady who made the request for a bench within the next few days.

#### **Plaque Location**

It was agreed to place the plaque on the railings outside the Memorial Hall on a smart oak board provided by Mr. Fitzalan Howard. As such, it will be easily visible to everyone in the village.

#### **Annual Parish Meeting 2022**

It was agreed to hold the Annual Parish Meeting on 27th April with the date of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council being on 18th May.

# To Consider Planning Applications and Determinations:-

## **Applications**

- (i) R. Mumford single storey side and rear extension and conversion of existing coach house into garage space with remodel of existing outbuilding to form holiday let accommodation 3PL/2021/1687/HOU and 3PL/2021/1419/F Rackham House, 39 Holt Road.
- (ii) Orchard Homes proposed pedestrian walkway to link residential development to school 3PL/2021/1675/F land to the rear of Brookside Farm, 74 Holt Road.

#### **Determinations**

- i) Mr. and Mrs. V. Leeder 3 bed bungalow and garage to rear – 3PL/2021/1471/F – Oak House, 38 Station Road – approved.
- ii) Mr. and Mrs. Garrod first floor side and rear extension – 3PL/2021/1511/HOU – 78 Eastgate Street – approved.
- iii) Mid-Norfolk Railway Preservation retrospective application for installation and operation of miniature railway 3PL/2021/0868/F County School Station, County School approved.

Janninesa Farm, North Elmham (unauthorised development) – retrospective planning application 3PL/2020/1173/EU currently being determined.

A resident has raised the issue of possible unpermitted development and change of use at 2 Mill Cottages, Billingford. Breckland Council's enforcement team will be asked to investigate.

## **Next Meeting**

Wednesday, 2nd February at 7.30 p.m.



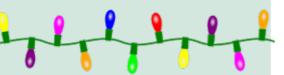
# **GARDENING CLUB**

Our last meeting in 2021 was our Christmas Social held in the Memorial Hall, on Thursday 27th November. Our speaker was Laura Eastell from All Season's Wreaths who gave a brief outline of her business and showed her skills in creating door wreaths for all seasons of the year. Members then participated in an enjoyable fun workshop surrounded by foliage and decorations creating their own personal Christmas Door Wreath and when their work was done, delightful refreshments were enjoyed by all.

Our Annual Dinner will take place on Friday 25th February. The menu and venue will be discussed at the January meeting and details circulated.

Ann Ferris





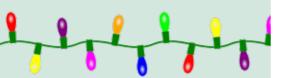
# North Flmham Christmas Lights Competition

Though they have now all gone as we hurtle into the new year, the light displays put on throughout the village over the festive period were excellent. Overall, there appeared to be more lights than the previous Christmas, possibly even the year before. So well done to all who made the effort, no matter how large or small your display. All were independently judged by two volunteers, and a tough job they had! However, the overall winner, which brought the biggest smile to the judges' faces, was No 4 Pump Street (bagging £25) and the runner-up was No 13 Brookside (£10 prize).

There were many other highly commended displays, here are a few:

Forge House on High Street 29 Cathedra.l Drive 15 Spencer Close 7 Oak Avenue Wensum Drive collectively Street Farm Loke 50 Orchard Close

Well done to you all. Perhaps you could be a winner next year?



# **DEREHAM WALKERS**

Dereham Walkers are Welcome organises guided walks throughout the year.

Please come and join us for a walk in the local area.

We started our first walk of the year by gathering in the newly created Ellenor Fenn Garden on New Year's Day. We enjoyed a lovely bright day as we walked a 5 mile circular walk round the outskirts of the town in just under 2 hours. Back in the garden at the end of the walk we enjoyed seasonal refreshments including mince pies and stollen.

Our next short walk will be on Friday 4th February.

For up to date information, please check our website: www.derehamwaw.org.uk,or email Ken Hawkins at ken-hawkins@ tiscali.co.uk or call him on 07505 426750.

# **ROYAL BRITISH LEGION**

Happy New Year to all the editors and Elmham News workers.

On behalf of the committee and members of the RBL Elmham branch, we are pleased to announce that our poppy Appeal raised £6200 and wish to thank all those that made contributions.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 3 February at the Kings Head Hotel at 8pm, if you are interested in joining please come along and have a chat.

Mike Aston Branch Secretary

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# **SCOTCH PANCAKES**

4oz (100g) self raising flour Pinch of salt 2oz (50g) caster sugar 1 egg Milk to mix

Mix flour, salt and sugar together, add beaten egg then the milk to make a thick batter. Heat a well-greased (girdle if you live in Scotland!) frying pan and drop one or two small spoonfuls of batter onto it. Cook one side for a minute or two when they will rise up and bubble a little, then turn them over and bake on the other side. Serve with syrup.

Julia Williamson

# **KNIT AND NATTER**

It was quite disappointing having to cancel our January and February meetings at the beginning of this year, but I'm sure our members understood the reasons why. The Norfolk Knitters and Stitchers head office, also cancelled all their events and meetings, bearing in mind the average age of our members, good, safe decisions had to be made. Hopefully, things will return to something like normal by the beginning of March.

However, home knitting never stops and we are always putting out a plea for more donated wool, so when you are doing your annual de-cluttering, think of us and give me a ring (knitting related things only please).

To finish on a cheerful note, I have received a most welcome letter from the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at the NNUH. This letter lets all our members and friends be aware of how their work and donations are being appreciated.

Dear Eileen Cotterill,

We are writing to you today as we would like to thank you for your

generous donation of knitted baby blankets and hats to our unit here at the NNUH. Providing the best care for the babies on the unit is something we endeavour to do at all times, and the generosity of lovely donations like the one we have received from you, is greatly appreciated. All donations are put straight into use where possible and the parents are able to take the knitted items home with their baby.

Yours sincerely,

Sammi Carroll, Ward Clerk, NICU

Hopefully our next meeting will be on Tuesday March 1st at 2.00 pm in the Pavilion.

Keep safe

Eileen Cotterill 668380

# A QUICK POTATO DISH

We had a German prisoner of war live with us for many years and this is a recipe that he taught us children to make. I make these a lot, but sorry have no idea of correct measures. I don't speak German but it sounded like Kadduflepoofers!

Grate potatoes into a bowl, when it looks as if there is enough for your family Mix in S.R. flour enough to thicken it, Add a pinch of salt then pour in a little milk to bring all together.

Mix altogether and fry spoonfu's flattened down, until one side is dried out, turn and fry the other side. These are good if you fry bacon first and use the fat to fry the potato cake. Mum used to serve them with baked beans.

Julia Williamson



# THE QUEEN'S GREEN CANOPY

If you have been to Church Meadow behind St Mary's recently you may have noticed a new tree. It's a copper beech which has been planted as part of The Queen's Green Canopy, a national tree planting initiative to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee this year. The tree will soon be marked with a commemorative plague as well as an image of it being uploaded to the digital Queen's Green Canopy Map. St Mary's PCC felt that it would be great for the Church to take part in this project which focuses on planting sustainably to create a legacy in honour of the Queen's leadership of the nation to benefit future generations. Initially we had in mind planting a tree in the graveyard but on reflection could see problems in the years to come because of wide-reaching roots and the graves. We

therefore approached the Parish Council who generously agreed to the tree being planted on Church Meadow and, even more generously, met 50% of the cost! St Mary's is hugely grateful to the Parish Council as, without its support, we could not have carried this project through. Particular thanks are also given to Richard Crisp, who planted the tree, to Ben Darby for the wooden railing as well as to members of the church congregation. We hope that everyone will enjoy the tree and what it represents during this Jubilee year and, of course, that it will bring pleasure to future generations.

If you would like to know more about the national initiative, please visit www. queensgreencanopy.org

# **PANCAKE DAY**

#### When is Pancake Day?

Pancake Day falls on what we call Shrove Tuesday. This year it lands on Tuesday, 1st March. Pancake Day is always 47 days prior to Easter, meaning the dates vary year on year.

## What is Pancake Day?

Shrove Tuesday is the day that precedes Ash Wednesday and therefore the feast before beginning Lent. Lent is the 40 days that lead up to Easter and is traditionally used as a time for fasting. So, it makes sense we stuff our faces with pancakes before this starts!

#### Why do we celebrate with pancakes?

Shrove Tuesday is meant to be used as the last chance to use up any eggs and fats before embarking on Lent. Clearing the kitchen cupboards of things like eggs, milk and sugar to alleviate any temptations during the fasting period. In turn, people make pancakes!

# FRIENDS AND NEIGHBOURS

I am sorry to announce the closing of the Friends and Neighbours Club. The number of members has reach a very low level and with no new members coming forward, there really was no alternative.

The Club started many years ago and for the last 13 years I have had the pleasure of running the club, organising meetings and outings. I have enjoyed doing this and will miss out get togethers, so I would like to thank all loyal members, past and present for their support.

It has been agreed that the money left in the bank account will be donated to EACH (East Anglian Children's Hospice), a charity which the Club has supported on several occasions in the past. *Ed's notes:* Ann, you will be greatly missed by all your supporters and club members. We know that you worked so hard, baking, organising Bingo Nights with never to be forgotten refreshments, and collecting members who needed transport. A true pillar of this community. We hope that the village will remember you with fondness and respect, as do we all at Elmham News.

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# CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHT UP

Did you come to the Christmas tree Light up on Friday 26th November?

A large number of people came to the Pavilion to listen to the singing and also to join in, being led by a team of 'Elmham has got Talent' singers.

As well as the villagers there was a visit by Judge Philip Curl who is the Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Norfolk, who was standing in for Lady Dannett MBE, HM Lord Lieutenant of Norfolk.

Jennie Borgnis, Chairman of the Parish Council, received a plaque on behalf of the Council from Judge Curl 'to commemorate your community's resilience in the year of the Pandemic.'

Very sadly, the Christmas tree, purchased as usual by the Parish Council, was vandalised prior to the evening. It had been dragged across the field with a number of branches being torn off. The centre of the tree had also been broken off and had to be spliced together to give the tree its proper shape. Why we asked ourselves, were the perpetrators bored, did they enjoy trying to destroy the tree... perhaps we will hear who they were!

There was free mulled wine and hot chocolate inside the pavilion and mince pies, courtesy of Elmham News.

A happy evening for families to enjoy. We enjoyed it and hope you all did too.



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# TENNIS CLUB AWARDS PRESENTATION

Congratulations to James Buddell, Chairman of the Tennis Club, for winning the LTA award for Volunteer of the year award. On Friday 26th November James received his award from Mike Walker. President of Norfolk Tennis. The tennis club committee, and all the members. would like to thank James for all the work he has done in the last couple of years, we now have a thriving tennis club, with players of all ages and abilities. Thanks also goes to Andrew Parsons, who has worked alongside James, with the maintenance of the courts and preparation for the resurfacing project next year.

The club members held a raffle on the presentation evening and raised £224 for Children In Need.

# **BLUE PLAQUE PRESENTATION**

You will see the blue plaque on the front cover and may wonder what it is all about.

The plaques were the idea of Lady Dannatt, Lord Lieutenant of Norfolk's vice-Lord Lieutenant, Peter Wilson, and deputy lieutenant Melinda Raker.

They came up with the idea of giving every community that would like one, a plaque to put wherever they like in their community centre, village hall, church, pub, or wherever they feel it would be most appropriate.

Engraved with the words "to commemorate our community's resilience in the year of the pandemic 2020-2021", they are circled by the quote from Norfolk-born social theorist Harriet Martineau: "live your best and act your best and think your best today."



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Lady Dannatt wished to recognise that during the pandemic, there was a need and communities responded to help each other. "I do feel there is a community resilience and I hope we do not lose all the things that we learned during that horrible period of lockdown," she says. "With so much loss, we did learn to come together and serve each other in an extraordinary way, and I really want to hold onto that and my feeling is that so far, we are."

"We are very proud of the scheme," continues Pippa Dannatt,, "and the feedback across the county has been absolutely fantastic. There are over 550 to be presented, so all my deputy lieutenants are having to work incredibly hard, but it does get them into the communities and meeting with local councils, church councils, and schools. That is a real benefit for the Lieutenancy because it gives us a presence, but it is also a benefit for the local communities."

While her role is to represent The Queen throughout the county, she feels it is much broader and enables her to support organisations from the magistrates through to charities, youth organisations and many more.

"I regard it as opportunity to support organisations at the grassroots level in Norfolk," she says. "I have a very full diary, I have to be quite disciplined to take time out, but I have 50 deputies and I am very keen that they get involved and particularly in areas that are of importance to them so that they can champion the causes that they feel are most important for Norfolk."

Also, I do feel that we can make a difference. It is about meeting and encouraging and thanking people from all walks of life "

*Ed's note:* The Chairman of the Council, Mrs Jennie Borgnis was presented with ours by Deputy Lord Lieutenant, Judge Philip Curl on 26th November 2021 at the Christmas Tree Lighting.

# **FEBRUARY DATES TO REMEMBER**

Wed 2nd	Sewing Group Mobile Library Parish Council Meeting	Tumbleweed, Eastgate Street The Heath to Orchard Close Pavilion	2.00 pm 2.30–5.20 pm 7.30 pm
Thu 10th	Wives +All AGM	Memorial Hall	7.00 pm
Wed 16th	Sewing Group	Tumbleweed, Eastgate Street	2.00 pm
Fri 25th	Gardening Club Dinner	Details to follow	2.00 pm
Advance Wa	nce Warning		
Tues 1st March	Pancake Day Knit and Natter	Pavillion	2.00 pm

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ROASTED PEPPER, GOATS CHEESE & RED ONION TARTLET & KALE PESTO (N) (V) (VEO)	£ 6.00	SAUTÉ WILD MUSHROOMS GARLIC BUTTER & STILTON, TOASTED CIABATTA (V) (GFO)	£7.00
SMOKED SALMON, PICKLED BEETROOT & HORSERADISH CRÈME FRAICHE (GF) (V)	£ 6.00	BREADED CHICKEN FILLET, KATSU CURRY SAUCE, PICKLED VEGETABLES	£ 7.00

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#### ♦ Mains ♦

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# **58 HOLT ROAD**

We all must have driven or walked by "Wayside" 58, Holt Road. This dwelling and the row it is in, has an interesting history. It started its life as three cottages. The end cottage had a door which opened to look up the road and also an upstairs window which remains. The two other cottages had doors onto Holt Road and also a door at the back of the building. There were dormer windows front and back in the second and third cottage. This was because there was a bedroom in the roof space of each of these cottages. The third cottage became a store for "The Stores." (Now the Tea Post)

Further on, towards "The Stores" the next property was a shop – an ironmongery. This sold things such as pots and pans, skates and weights. The ironmongery became a wool shop and paper shop in the 1970's. This shop was converted to a two-bedroom dwelling in 1993.

Further along the row was the property known as Windfall House. This also has an interesting history. The row was owned by the Kerrison family until 1951 when it was sold to a young "Cub" Reporter for the Dereham and Fakenham Times. John Timpson and his wife Pat. John was known to his friends as "Timmy". From the D & F he moved to the BBC where he had a very successful career reading the News, presenting with Jack De Manio the "Today" Radio Programme and also Royal Correspondent for the BBC. Later in his retirement years he wrote many books about his beloved County of Norfolk. Next in the row "The Stores" - a store selling just about everything and also a dwelling.

So, the cottages, now "Wayside" were made into one property in 1971 by its owner George Kerrison working with local builder Johnnie Pask. It was made into a one storey one bedroom dwelling with a large living room, dining room,



kitchen and bathroom. The property benefited from a secret garden behind its brick garage and out house. The doors onto Holt Road were bricked up and the property was re-roofed and the dormer windows were taken out. The location plan for the conversion of the cottages, c1971, shows that the development on Cathedral Drive had not yet started. This was to follow beginning in 1972.

Bryan and Brenda Tidnam went to live in "Wayside" in January 1972, after it had been converted. They got themselves a King Charles Cavalier Spaniel and to make it safe for their dog they put a gate across the front of the property. Bryan had a three-wheeler which fitted perfectly into the small garage.

**Above:** A watercolour painting of "Wayside" by Elsa Hewitt who lived in North Elmham









# NORTH ELMHAM WILDLIFE

This winter has seen some unseasonably warm temperatures with New Year's Day coming in at its highest ever recorded temperature. Walking around that day it was easy to forget it was the middle of winter, and the wildlife was confused too. Most surprising were two Red Admiral butterflies flying around in different parts of the parish, both flying actively and basking in the sunshine. Never before have I seen a butterfly on the wing before Valentine's Day. I also saw a Buff-tailed Bumblebee nectaring on some irises (photo 1) which isn't something I ever expect to see on New Year's Day. As I walked along one of the back roads with Skylarks singing overhead, I saw hares boxing – something they're famous for doing in March, not at the beginning of January. As fascinating as these unseasonal observations are, I can't help feeling a tinge of sadness. It's not good for them to have their seasonal patterns disrupted, but it's also a sign of the crisis our planet is facing due to man-made climate change.

It seems to be a bit of a thing among many botanists to do a count of wildflower species they can find flowering on New Year's Day. My botany skills aren't great and I didn't find many, but they did include an early Lesser Celandine near the chapel ruins where there's always a fine display of them in spring. A couple of flowers that have quite long flowering seasons normally are Red and White Campions. These two closely related species differ primarily in the colour of the flower – bright pink on Red Campion and white on White Campion. The two species frequently hybridise and the campion I noticed flowering recently was such a hybrid with a pale pink flower (photo 2).

I found a couple of distinctive species of fungi along the railway recently, neither of which I have noted seeing here before (although they are both supposed to be very common, so I have probably overlooked them). Turkeytail is like a small bracket fungus, forming semi-circular discs of concentric colours, the outer rim of which is white. Small Staghorn (photo 3) is a curious little fungus that grows up from dead wood in little clusters of bright orange fingers.

When the weather changed during the first week of January, the cooler air brought with it an influx of Fieldfares, a wintervisiting thrush that had been quite thin on the ground until then (photo 4). There were quite a few flocks around the village, often mixed in with the other winter thrush, Redwing. If seen well, Fieldfares are very easy to tell apart from other thrushes as they have rusty-brown backs contrasting with plain grey rumps (especially obvious when flying away) and plain grey heads. Below they have strong dark markings on the underparts, those on the breast covering a yellowy-orange background.

Another bird with an orangey breast is the Stonechat. They're not very common in the Wensum Valley but sometimes move through in early spring or late autumn and there are often one or two pairs wintering somewhere along the valley. The brighter-coloured male shown here (photo 5) was one of a pair that was present this month just this side of Guist Bridge (so just inside the North Elmham parish).

Birds don't have to be rare or unusual to be worth watching of course – even the most familiar garden birds can provide so much entertainment. The colours on the Blue Tit (photo 6) give the most spectacular tropical birds a run for their money, the Goldfinch (photo 7) is equally striking and even Starlings (photo 8) have some striking iridescent colours when you look at them carefully.











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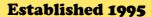
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Rooks are extremely common round here, so it might have come as a surprise if you heard the news in December that they have been added to the amber list of birds of conservation concern. More than a fifth of Europe's Rooks breed in the UK and in parts of the country (e.g. in Wales) they have shown a significant recent decline in numbers. With so many in the fields around our village it is hard to believe they are vulnerable to extinction, as is implied by their move to the amber list, but then again if you'd lived in America in the mid 1800s you probably wouldn't have believed that the abundant Passenger Pigeons would be extinct at the end of the century. I wonder if any of you have seen a Rook with a deformed bill recently? There was one in the field between Broom Green and Ryburgh Road at the start of the year, with its upper mandible abnormally turned upwards (photo 9). It seemed to be able to feed ok so may well survive despite its deformity.

Slugs aren't normally notable for their distinctive patterning but I came home one night recently to find a large slug climbing up my front door. It was a Leopard Slug (photo 10), a species I don't recall seeing locally before, covered in large black spots making it easy to see where this type of slug got its name.

There's always plenty of interesting wildlife to see around the village so do get in touch if you have anything interesting to share (email appleton. dave@googlemail.com, phone 668431 or message me via Twitter at @ ElmhamMeadows).

Dave Appleton





#### **ELMHAM MARMALADE**

The three of us have been making marmalades for a great many years, always donating all the money to a charity, ie church, or school. It probably runs into a few thousand pounds. Usually by the end of January, the spare freezer has been filled with Seville oranges and lemons, enough to last for one year.

The marmalade has been sold at Fetes, Festivals and latterly by The Teapost, to whom we owe a big THANKYOU.

However, we have decided to hang up our ladles, and jam pans and unless there is a great demand to raise money for something, we three will disappear into the sunset.

Thank you to all our customers, who have always been so appreciative of our efforts.

Heather, Jeannette and Meg



#### **ESTATE COTTAGES**

A neighbour recently drew my attention to the familiar heraldic device on various cottages in the parish. What, she asked, was the rampant lion holding in its paws? A little research produced the answer: a fer de moulin (French for mill of iron). Students of old wind and water flour mills may know the english version: gimbal rime, correct spelling uncertain), a vital piece of iron which engages the drive shaft with a runner-stone. But why was such a strange object featured on a family coat of arms? The solution lies in the common practice with heraldic designs, of making some visual reference to the family name, in this case Milles.

George John Milles, 1794-1874, 4th Baron Sondes, left his mark on the village, for example, the extension of the park opposite the church, the gate



lodge, railings and long roadside park wall. He is buried in the Sondes family plot in the churchyard and his funerary hatchment is displayed in the church, which prominently displays a gimbal rime. But he also caused many cottages and farm buildings to be constructed, some of which carry the familiar heraldry. The cast iron plaques survive well and some house-owners have kept them sharp and freshly painted. Stone versions, however, have not weathered well

The background to Georges Milles' cottages illustrates an interesting aspect of Norfolk social history. Before the 1860s, Poor Law legislation required each parish to finance the upkeep of its unemployed. Rate-payers were mainly landowners. Many of them preferred to pay their labourers by the day, rather than operate the socially responsible practice of housing them.

The parish rate could be reduced if the unemployed (or intermittently employed) came from other parishes. This led to the distinction between open and closed villages. In the case of the former, the squires might own all land and limit the working population by failing to provide accommodation. Thus, labourers on Elmham farms might have to walk each day from an open village (eg Foulsham; multiple ownership, rented lodging), and Foulsham parish would have been liable for their upkeep when laid-off.

In the 1860s, such selfish and localised arrangements ceased when a change in the law spread the Poor Law burden across large groups of parishes. Furthermore, this was a decade of expansion and prosperity. The claustrophobic small world of the village was exposed to a wider world beyond. Railways and steamships could carry the

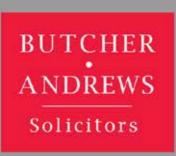
Norfolk farm labourer to new and better life. For example, many Manchester police constables were recruited in Norfolk. The practical outcome of these changes was a shortage of farm labour.

What, apart from higher wages, would induce the children of large Victorian families to stay What, apart from higher wages, would induce the children of large Victorian families to stay in the parish? A house, perhaps. The Sondes cottages were modern, with high ceilings, two storeys and large rooms: a considerable improvement on the ramshackle rented hovels in other villages.

A final thought. The countryside today is a place of apparent prosperity. However, some of us may recall the less attractive scene of leaking cottage roofs, broken windows and barefoot children, associated with rural poverty and rented property which, in some districts, survived, despite the enlightened paternalism of squires such as Baron Sondes, to the 1950's.

Ed's Note: The article above was written by Nick Moore. What a lovely surprise to read it. The article came about because Nick was concerned that the Sondes graves in the old churchyard were being overgrown with brambles and other rubbish, so he went and cleared it all away. He just got on with it and now those graves are easy to see. Because the Sondes family were the most important family in the village for nearly 200 years the graves are contained with metal railings around them, next to the road, as you go down the hill.

The heraldic lion is on a number of barns and houses around the village to symbolise who the properties belonged to.



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#### **SCHOOL NEWS**

#### New Head Teacher Miss Kirsten Sutherland

Thank you to everyone for the warm welcome that I have received from the families at North Elmham. I am really excited to have joined the federation at this time. I am looking forward to continuing developing links with the wider community and hope that we get the opportunity to take part in more local events this year.

There is a fantastic team working at our primary school in North Elmham. They are passionate about giving our children the best start in education through an engaging curriculum that maximises the use of our amazing grounds. We are so lucky to have such large grounds with wonderful trees and plants that children use as part of their learning every week. The frosty mornings this week have made our grounds even more magical.

If you have an event that you would like us to be involved with, please contact me via the school office office@northelmham. norfolk.sch.uk

#### Sheep

Happy New Year from Sheep class! The children have started their new topics this half term with enthusiasm. We are discovering all about continents and oceans in geography, and the children love singing our catchy learning songs. In history, we have been looking at the development of aviation over the centuries and finding out about the achievement of the Wright Brothers. We have even been designing and making paper aeroplanes in DT and are looking forward to testing them! In science, we have been learning about animal diets and food chains, and we have been writing about the fearsome big cat predators in English. In RE, we are learning to ask philosophical questions about how the universe came to be and we have

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heard creation stories from the Christian and Hindu faiths.

#### Whales

Whales have had a fantastic start to the new year! We have started our new learning for this half term; we have fully immersed ourselves in learning about Earth Shattering Events! We started to discover the timeline of events leading up to the destruction of Pompeii, we have learnt about natural disasters for our non-chronological reports in English and are looking forward to investigating pneumatic systems before designing our own as part of our Design Technology lessons.

#### Lions

Lions have started the year with a new teacher who is eager to get the very best from all of your children. We have concentrated on being kind and showing forgiveness which is this term's value. We have worked hard in Maths, have achieved a good understanding of our fractions and currently we are looking at area and perimeter. In English, we have completed a non chronological report and we are now working on a recount of a girl in World War 2. We will be continuing to work hard on our concentration skills and being kind and caring to one another.

#### **Relief Lunchtime Supervisor Needed**

The school would like to find a local person who is willing to be a relief lunchtime supervisor at our lovely school. Sometimes we have staff absent because of illness or training and it would be very helpful to have someone we could call upon at short notice to help us supervise our children during their lunch break. Payment would be made for the hours worked and full training provided. If you are interested or know anyone who would be interested in this position, please give us a call on 01362 668318 and we can explain what the role involves.

#### Check out our Website

Check out our website www.

There is a brilliant video where staff share all you need to know about our wonderful school. In addition to this, you can sign up for the latest updates by subscribing by email. Scroll to the bottom of the homepage and enter your email address.

#### **WINTERS PAST**

When the world stood still for a few days, and they prompted me to remember what happened to me and a bunch of schoolchildren in 1957.

Back in the 1950's and passing the 11Plus at Elmham School, I continued my education at Fakenham Grammar School. In 1955 when I was in the first year I was picked up at the Kings Head corner by Rix's bus from Foulsham. Peter Parfitt, later the Middlesex and England cricketer caught the bus at Billingford, he was in the Upper Sixth.

In 1956 the Suez Crisis had happened, and petrol was at a premium and very expensive, so the bus would no longer come this way to pick me up. So I had a choice, either I could change schools and go to Dereham High School for girls or I could cycle to Guist daily and catch Rix's bus there to get me to FGS. As well as we Grammar School youngsters there was a large contingent of Secondary Modern youngsters too who travelled to Fakenham with us.

As I had already had good friends at Grammar School, I said I would prefer to stay at Fakenham. So, I cycled to Guist every day, whatever the weather. If it was raining or a bit snowy my mother made sure I got up earlier and off I had to go. Mother was tough!



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6.00 pm and 7.30 pm on Wednesdays and 6.15 pm (beginners) and 7.30 pm on Fridays.

For further information regarding these classes or classes in Norwich, please contact Krystyna Doherty on 01362 695581. Email: info@pilatesnorfolk.com or visit www.pilatesnorfolk.com Now my memory gets a bit hazy here. I am sure sometime in the Winter of 1957 there had been some snow, not enough to close the schools, but on our way to Fakenham one morning there was a blizzard. Our bus got stuck going up Langor Bridge hill. It was exciting! We couldn't move, but without mobile phones as everyone has today, there were no means of letting anyone know.

I can't remember how long we were on the bus; I think we weren't unduly worried but eventually a group of American airmen arrived from their base at Sculthorpe.(I would dearly love to know how this worked, who managed to notify the Authorities about us and the rest of the vehicles also stranded.)

The Americans escorted us through deep snow to Pensthorpe Hall where we were taken in. All I can remember about this is of us sitting in front of a blazing fire and drinking hot chocolate.

In the afternoon we were once again trudging over fields as the roads were buried under snow, the Americans leading the way. We arrived at the Grammar School at about 4pm.Presumably the Secondary Modern lot had been dropped off at their school in Oueens Road.

Once again, I am hazy about what we did when we arrived at school. But I do remember we were told that we wouldn't get home that day because of the difficulties with the snow, I was hoping I would get home on the train, but the trains weren't running.

The Head Master, Mr Eckersley, asked us what school friends did we have in Fakenham and would their parents agree to put us up for the night. None of my friends lived in Fakenham. However, one of the older girls on the bus had an aunt and uncle who lived in town and bless their hearts they took us in. I think this was the case for several days! During the

day we had to go to school which was actually shut for the rest of the pupils, can't remember what we did all day. Presumably the canteen staff were able to come in and cooked our daytime meals.

Sadly, I have no recollection of returning home. Did I go by train or did the usual bus get through and pick us up as normal, I can't remember. Did I pick up my bike at Guist and ride my bike home to Elmham or did I have to push it all the way?

For the life of me I can't remember what my parents had been told – who told them where I was and what did my mother do to thank the kind folk who took a total stranger, wearing wellies no doubt, into their home.

What would happen today I wonder? At that time, we just accepted what had happened and got on doing as we were told. It was a bit of an adventure.

Now I guess it would be very different.

#### After Thoughts

Pensthorpe today is completely different to what it was in the 1950's. Then it was farming land and belonged to Bill Makins. He designed the gravel extraction process, one million tons of gravel was extracted which formed the Reserve we see today.

Running through the Reserve is the river Wensum which also runs through Elmham and has the protection of being a Special Area of Conservation (SAC).

RAF Sculthorpe was built in 1943, firstly occupied by the RAF and from 1948 was taken over by the USAF. It was home to 10,000 personnel in its heyday.

During the Cold War B45 Tornado bombers took off on missions across Europe towards Russia. I can remember those huge dark 'beasts' flying over the Grammar School – and how I wished I could fly with themespecially in Maths lessons!

Janet Woodhouse

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#### **WIVES PLUS ALL**

Our last meeting of 2021 was a Christmas Social with a Fish/Vegetarian & Chip Supper delivered to us by our own North Elmham Chippy to the Memorial Hall, North Elmham on 2nd December and an enjoyable evening was had by all and in true Christmas spirit we sang Carols to round off the evening.

Our 2022 Programme commences with our AGM on Thursday 10th February, 7pm Memorial Hall

On behalf of Wives plus All may I wish you all a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Ann Ferris

#### ELMHAM WIVES CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

to be held in The Memorial Hall, North Elmham

on THURSDAY 10th FEBRUARY

at

 $7.00\,pm$ 

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### NORTH ELMHAM EXCEPTION HOUSING SCHEME - CALL FOR SITES

The Parish Council has selected Broadland Housing Association to deliver a 'local needs' housing scheme for North Elmham. Broadland Housing is an award-winning local housing association providing 5,000 homes across Norfolk, including the four recently developed on Eastgate Street managed from its area office in Dereham.

Broadland Housing undertook a local housing need survey in 2021 that identified a need in North Elmham for approximately 15 new homes.

#### What is proposed?

Broadland Housing is proposing three types of housing tenure:

- affordable rent (rents set at 80% of market, capped at the Local Housing Allowance).
- shared ownership (where leaseholders buy an initial equity share and pay rent on the remainder)
- market homes (unfortunately Government grants do not fully fund the affordable rent homes. So, Broadland is proposing that approximately a third of the overall development will be sold on the open market, to generate surplus funds that will cross-subsidise the affordable homes).

People in housing need who have a local connection will get first priority for the affordable rent homes. Shared ownership and market homes will initially be marketed to the local community.

Are you a local landowner? Your land could provide much-needed affordable homes in the Village.

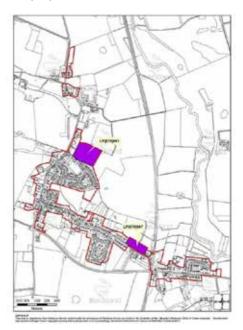
Broadland Housing would like to hear from Landowners with potential land for development, which is envisaged will involve either one large or two small sites. The affordable rent homes will need to be built on land outside but immediately adjacent to the Village settlement boundary (shown as a red line on the map), so as to be prioritised for people with a local connection. The shared ownership and market sale can be on land either within or immediately outside of the settlement boundary.

If you have suitable land that you would like the Parish Council to consider, please contact Adam Ballard at Broadland Housing:

Email: adam.ballard@broadlandgroup.org

Broadland Housing Association, NCFC, The Jarrold Stand Carrow Road, Norwich, NR1 1HU Tel: 01603 750274

**Eds Note:** Do you have any views about this proposal?



**Map:** The purple patches are already areas that have been designated for housing. The red line outlines the village boundaries.



#### **WEATHER WORDSEARCH**

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#### **ST MARY'S CHURCH**

As I write it is a most glorious day as the sun reflects on the frost and highlights nature's beauty in so many quite wonderful ways. On days such as these I am reminded of how very fortunate we are to live in such a beautiful and peaceful part of the world. Norfolk at its best!

I can't help but contrast this with the disjointedness and tension of so much of what I have read in the newspaper on this same glorious day: The plight of so many innocent people in Afghanistan and Syria, the heightening aggression being shown by between Russia towards Ukraine and, not least, the increasingly fractious attitude in our own domestic politics.

At the heart of so much of what is awry in our world is selfishness, the desire to promote oneself or one's own ideology, even if it comes at the expense of others. Of course, this view can be rightly challenged as simplistic or even naïve and in some respects it may be. But our current world situation surely recalls us to the very basic fact that we all have to occupy this earth. There is no other.

My own Christian understanding highlights for me a fundamental fact; the need for mutual respect despite differences of belief and the right of every human being to a peaceful existence in which they can flourish.

The great prophet Isaiah spoke of this when he wrote "Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore. Everyone shall sit under their own vine and their own fig tree, and no-one shall make them afraid, for the Lord Almighty has spoken. May all the nations walk in the name of their gods; we will walk in the name of the Lord our God for ever and ever" (Isaiah 4: 4-5)

Let us recognize how very blessed we are compared with so many of the world's population and do whatever we can to help our brothers and sisters who are oppressed.

With every Blessing

Fr Christopher

#### **MORE2LIFE**

Recently, I have viewed short videos from survivors of the holocaust on their experience and how it started. The videos are part of a series entitled 'It started with words'. As you listen to these first-hand experiences, it becomes clear that what ended in the assassination of so many in gas cham-bers, death marches and the like, started out with the intentional division of people against each other... using words. It started with words. Hateful words. Words to divide. Words to create fear. Words to create distrust.

Children were no longer permitted to play with their friends, and adults not allowed to go to certain shops. Over time the hate embedded and grew, dividing people... with growing hate for the other in their hearts.

Fast forward to today, and we need to check our own hearts. Those of us who have said we would never be guilty of such a thing... are we contributing to the escalating hate in our society today? As mainstream media fuels hate between those who vaccinate and those who don't, those who are black, and those who are white, those who follow one religion, and

those who choose a different faith... using high conflict terms such as 'anti-', or racist, or bigot, or phobic... which is usually used of anyone who has a different opinion to us. People using derogatory terms to denigrate one an-other, some going so far as to wish death on the person with the opposing view.

We need to remember this is how the holocaust happened. A group of people were blamed, isolat-ed from others, and told they deserved to die. It was insidious at first, you could hardly see what was happening, or imagine where it would end up.

Apartheid too, sought the separation of those who thought themselves superior to others, and today we see that rearing it's head in New York, Austria, Germany, Australia... is that really where we want to be? Separated, divided, societies? Whatever happened to "be kind"?

Whatever our view point or opinion, we need to respect each other's right to their opinion. Calling derogatory names, dividing friends, families, and loved ones, is distinctly unhealthy for each one of us. Jesus said in Matthew 5:43-45 "You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbour and hate your enemy.' But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven."

We don't have to hate. May we choose to exercise love, rather than hate, this year.

Every blessing,

Anne-Marie Fewell
Pastor & NCC Domestic Abuse Champion

#### **WORTHING NEWS**

Before we truly step into February, let's catch up with what happened to the run up to Christmas and New Year! So here we go:

Considering we all were and still are dealing with Covid and restrictions,

Worthing was very pleased to welcome parishioners and other visitors to St Margaret for what is turning out to be our annual Christmas theme event.

At the end of November, we held a successful "In the Spirit of Christmas" wine tasting & beer sampling event. Coupled with Christmas wreath and decoration demo, our Christmas Raffle and Guess the weight of the cake competition, there was, dare I say, a merry time had by all!

Christmas Carol Service on the 19th December concluded with prize giving. Christmas Cake weighing in at 907g was won by John in neighbouring Swanton Morley and with raffle prizes galore, winners from North Elmham & Worthing, were Adam & Jo, Leeders, Gary & Tracy, Katie & Tom, Liam & Karen, Elaine & Andy, and Mike. Thank you all for coming to the event on the 27th November, and for everyone who also took part in the raffle. A tremendous result which raised £182.13 Thank you.

Moving on, with Easter arriving quite late this year and also, planning for the Platinum Jubilee, remember to watch out for events happening in Worthing. We shall of course start with our Traditional Easter Sunday Duck Race on the 17th April, and we hope to return to the usual format – subject to Covid.

In the meantime, our Sunday services for the month are:

13th February 10.30am Traditional Holy Communion Service, led by The Rev'd Sally Kimmis

On the 27th February, after receiving such positive and encouraging feedback from past visitors when we trialled "Iona," our Lay Licensed Minister, Norman Johnson will take the lead for another Iona Community morning starting at 10.30am followed by refreshments.

And before someone asks "what is Iona Community type service?" Norman has kindly put a few words together to answer that question.

We have at St Margaret's Worthing recently held morning praise based on liturgies from the Iona community. These are services which are still fairly formal, and look back to the Celtic Christianity of our ancient heritage.

The Iona Community is an international, ecumenical Christian movement working for justice and peace, the rebuilding of

community and the renewal of worship. It was founded in Glasgow in 1938 by Rev'd George MacLeod who was driven by a belief that faith is grounded in action. If you would like to experience this form of service then watch for the next one in Worthing news."

We hope you are able to join us.

Celia – Church Warden 01362 668928 Email: c.daniel784@btinternet.com

#### **Heart of Norfolk Group Services in February**

#### 6th February - Accession of Queen Elizabeth II (1952)

9.30 am	Wood Norton	Morning Praise
10.30 am	Bawdeswell	Holy Communion
10.30 am	N Elmham	Holy Communion
10.30 am	Stibbard	Holy Communion
5.00 pm	Foxley	Informal Evening Prayer

#### 13th February - 3rd Sunday before Lent

10.30 am	Bawdeswell	'The 10.30'
10.30 am	Foulsham	Holy Communion
10.30 am	Stibbard	Morning Praise
10.30 am	Worthing	Holy Communion

#### 20th February - 2nd Sunday before Lent

10.30 am	Bawdeswell	All-Age Communior
10.30 am	N Elmham	Holy Communion
10.30 am	<b>Wood Norton</b>	Holy Communion
4.00 pm	Foulsham	Sung Evensong

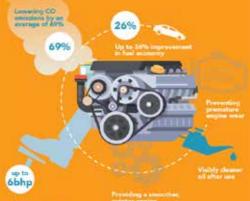
#### 27th February – Sunday next before Lent

10.30 am	Bawdeswell	Word & Praise
10.30 am	Foulsham	Holy Communion
10.30 am	Guist	Holy Communion
10.30 am	N Elmham	Morning Praise
10.30 am	Worthing	Morning Praise

#### **Ash Wednesday**

2nd March, 11.00 am - Holy Communion at Foulsham Holy Innocents

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ChildrenNorth Elmham Childminders
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Fitness, Health & Beauty         Alison Watson (Beauty & Podiatry)       4         Cameron Reid (Osteopathy)       32         Creative Chiropractic       36         Jennifer Hannant (Podiatry)       16         Joanne Medler (Hypnotherapy)       42         Lynton House Beauty       32         Michael Cummings (Podiatry)       14         Park Physiotherapy       26         Pilates Norfolk       44         Tina Barnes (Podiatry)       26
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#### This Month's Photo Contributors

Our thanks go to everyone below who submitted and gave permission for the images included this month

COVER: Sarah Felton, PAGE 12-13: Theresa Gower, PAGE 18: Sarah Felton, PAGE 22: Virginia Edgecombe, PAGE 25: Sarah Felton, PAGE 27: Sandra Henderson, PAGE 33: Elsa Hewitt PAGE 34-35 & 37: Dave Appleton, PAGE 38: Nick Moore, PAGE 41: North Elmham Primary School, PAGE 47: Ann Ferris

North Elmham Parish Council											
Chair: Jennie Borgnis Vice Chair: Martin Phillips Clerk: Kevin J Webb 01328 855046 northelmhampc@hotmail.co.uk  Group Leader  Group Member	lennie Borgnis 🕿 668 952	Ann Ferris 🕿 668 580	Tom Fitzalan Howard 🕿 668 232	Brian Gee 🕿 422 799	Paul Grainger 🕿 667 135	Ann Keeble 🕿 668 216	John Labouchere 🕿 668 306	Nick Markwell 🕿 668 557	Martin Phillips 🕿 668 409	Michael Rayner 🕿 667 859	Colin Smith 🕿 668 585
Finance & Administration	Je	₹		B		₹	2	Z		Σ	ŭ
Eastgate Centre Trustees			~		•				•		
Elmham Charities Trustees	•				•				~		
Allotments (Annie Mary Smith Charity)									~		
Village Facilities											
Broom Green, Pound, Millennium Wood	1						•				
Cathedral Meadows			1			•					
Cathedral Ruins			•			1					
Prince William Wood & Tree Warden			1					•			•
Recreation & Sporting Facilities											
Playing Field / Pavilion		•									1
Village Green				•							1
Footpath Warden	1	•									
Services & Other											
Highways				•	1						
Planning							•		•	1	
Street Lighting			1					•			•
Environment & Maintenance									1		
Railway Liaison								•		1	

Meetings are normally held on the first Wednesday of the month and take place in the 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 email the Editors (see front of magazine for contact details) and let us know, we are always on the lookout for new contributors.

#### **NORTH ELMHAM DIRECTORY**

NUKIH ELMHAI	N DIKECI	UKY				
Elmham Surgery - Holt Ro	d - 01362 66821	5				
Opening Times Mon Tue		Γhur Fri	08:30 - 18:30 (Wed 18:00)			
<b>Swanton Morley Surgery</b>	- 01362 638100					
Opening Times	Mon Tue Wed	Γhur Fri	08:30 - 18:00			
Doctors						
Dr Simon Carroll	Dr Alice Griffith	s-Jones	Dr Robert Spooner			
Dr Abigail Brun	Dr Samita Mukh	opadhyay	Dr Victoria Lawrence			
North Elmham Village Em	ergency Teleph	one System	(VETS) - 01362 788700			
NHS Direct	111					
<b>POLICE Non Emergency</b>	- 101 - EMER	<b>GENCY - 99</b> 9	9			
Breckland District Councillo	or Gordo Bill Bo	on Bambridg orrett	e	01603 880557 01362 860200		
Norfolk County Councillor	Bill Bo	orrett		01362 860200		
Member of Parliament	georg	je.freeman.m	np@parliament.uk	01953 600617		
North Elmham VC School				01362 668318		
Chairman of School Govern	ors Robe	rt Plant chai	rofgov@northelmham.norfolk.sch.uk			
Memorial Institute	Pam I	Neve		01362 668325		
Pavilion	Booki	ngs	01362 668580			
Eastgate Centre	Heath	er Caley	01362 668245			
Breckland Dog Warden	Confi	dential mess	age or texts 07771 617417	01362 858500		
London Express Tickets	Trave	l Centre		01362 694211		
Sanders	Wedr	Wednesdays to Norwich				
Konect Bus			03300 539358			
Community Website	www.	elmham.org.	uk			
Dereham Library - 01362	693184					
Opening times: Mon Wed T Mobile Library calls in Elmh			:15 - 19:00 - Sat 9:15 - 16:00			
Anglian Water				0845 7145145		
Dereham Leisure Centre				01362 693419		
UK Power Networks	Electr	icity - Emerg	ency	0800 7838838		
Samaritans				116123		
Citizens Advice Bureau				01362 697776		
Clergy - All telephone nu	mbers local cod	e (01362)				
Church of England	Reverend Sally	Kimmis	heartofnorfolkrector@gmail.com	668850		
Roman Catholic	Father Brendan	Moffatt	35 London Rd, Dereham	694066		
Methodist	Rev Betty Trind	er	31 Trinity Close, Dereham	695582		
Salvation Army	Major Palmer			696341		
More2Life	Anne-Marie Fe	vell		01328 701830		
Church Wardens						
Elmham	Michael Newey			668424		
Worthing	Celia Daniel	niel				
Worthing	Celia Daniel		668928			





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