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SEPTEMBER 2025

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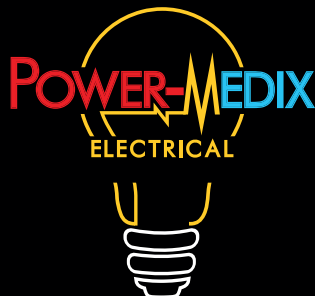
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EDITORIAL

We are saying goodbye and sincere thanks to Bob Fletcher and his wife Jeannette, for their constant support of Elmham News since the very beginning of the magazine.

He was Chairman of the committee for many years and also responsible for the delivering of the News to our many distributors. He would think nothing of popping off to the printers at King's Lynn to collect the magazine whenever it was in danger of being late.

Bob and Jeannette also put posters up in the Elmham News Noticeboards, often going round on consecutive days whenever a new poster arrived. Now nearing his 90th birthday, he has given up the use of his car and even he would find it too far to walk round the village to all the notice boards. Thank you to both of them for their service for as we know, behind every good man, is an even better woman!

We are delighted to say that we have two willing volunteers who are now in charge of the notice boards and have the keys. They are Sue and Ivan Ball who can be found at 55B Eastgate Street 01362 668221. Please take four posters of an event, to them. No larger than A4 please and preferable in portrait style. They will gladly put them up.

We were sad to hear that the VJ celebration had to be cancelled but hope that people will have remembered in their own way.

From all accounts, the Gardening Club produced an excellent Annual Show that was enjoyed by all who came and those who participated. We hope you enjoy their photos on pages 33–35.

Did you know that there is a new car park in Boar's Hill, which will be particularly useful for people visiting the school, the surgery and the Memorial Hall.

Congratulations to our school for winning a Gardening Grant. Let's hope that it will give the children hours of fun and learning opportunities. Good news that the Nursery will be opening which will be a boon for busy young families.

Sincere thanks for donations from Frank and Di, Nigel's mum, Mrs Parker and S Overy.

DISCLAIMER: The views expressed in the Elmham News are often those of individual contributors and might not necessarily be shared by the editors. Whilst the editors and committee of the Elmham News accept advertisements in good faith, the credibility of the contents is the sole responsibility of the advertiser.

NEXT DEADLINE: 14TH SEPTEMBER

We welcome contributions from everyone in the village. Please share your stories, events, club activities and heartfelt tributes to loved ones with us. Your participation is crucial in making the Elmham News a true reflection of our village. Please email your article to each of the Editors.

VOLUME 48: ISSUE 8

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DONATIONS TO

SORT CODE: 09-01-54

A/C NUMBER: 44939709

A/C NAME: Elmham News

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NORTH ELMHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 9 JULY

The following information is taken from the Draft 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 Were: Mr. P. Grainger (Chairman), Mr. M. Phillips (Vice Chairman), Miss A. Ferris, Mr. B. Gee, Mrs. A. Keeble, Mr. N. Markwell, Mr. M. Rayner and Mr. J. Sowinski, Mr. T. Fitzalan Howard, Mr. F. Gillespie, Mr. C. Smith

Also in Attendance: Mr. K. Webb (Clerk) and one parishioner (Public Participation part of the meeting) and Mr. G. Bambridge (District Councillor)

Public Participation

A parishioner raised concerns regarding work being carried out in Millennium Wood which involved the removal of secondary fencing and some trees, shrubs and bushes. Mr. Sowinski gave a full explanation of plans for the Wood and a reassurance that all action is being taken following the receipt of professional guidance and advice for the benefit of the area.

Updated Information and Matters Arising

Land Management Matters

Village Green: Mr. Gee reported that a picnic table with seats had been vandalised, and another one is badly damaged. Two new replacements would cost about £700 and it was agreed to buy one for Millennium Wood as well. The total cost for the three will be in the region of £1K. Proposed by Mr. Gee and seconded by Mr. Phillips. All in favour. The camel (former piece of play equipment) is to make a return and will need a concrete pad.

Cathedral Ruins: Mrs. Keeble said that it is time for the grass banks to be mowed again.

Cathedral Meadows: The gate near the sheep field was broken and has been repaired by Mr. Sowinski.

Broom Green: Mr. Markwell had received a communication from a resident in Broom Green who is having discussions with the owner of the land. These appear to involve certain payments by the occupants of some tenanted properties. It is also believed that the pond needs to be dug out again. In addition, the footpath between Broom Green and the nearby farm is in poor condition. It is believed that the Parish Council has no involvement with the ownership of any of the land and the residents, therefore, need to talk to the landowner.

Millennium Wood (and Jubilee Wood): Mr. Sowinski has done some excellent work, and great progress has been made. There has been some very positive feedback from residents. Two signs have been erected by a parishioner who is thanked for this generous gesture.

Allotments

Notice has been given to one allotment holder who has not paid the annual rent. In addition, an unauthorised willow plantation is being grown.

Highway Matters

The footpath in Cathedral Drive is uneven and a man in a wheelchair tipped over on it and broke his hip. The matter was reported to Mr. Bill Borrett, District Councillor, and will also be drawn to the attention of Highways.

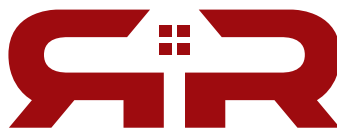
The Chairman has obtained an alternative quotation for the village gates which are being provided under the Parish Partnership scheme. This is for £6,222.67 + VAT to receive and install. The original amount envisaged was £15,668.

Rob Pratt of Norfolk County Council has confirmed that the location of the

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current temporary bus stop next to the County School Station on the B1110 is not considered safe. The stop was installed by Konectbus and NCC holds no responsibility or liability for the use. He will be writing to the operator to request the removal of any signage indicating a formal bus stop.

Pavilion and Playing Field

It has been suggested that CCTV camera coverage near the tennis courts and connected to the facility at the pavilion should be considered. Vandalism in the area has occurred recently. A solution for the Village Green is also needed and quotations are to be obtained for both. The RoSPA reports have been received digitally, and hard copies are to be requested.

North Elmham Netball Club is holding a family night on 14th July at the tennis courts and has asked for permission to park cars on the adjoining football pitch. This, unfortunately, is not possible as vehicles are not normally allowed past the gate and the request has been turned down. Proposed by Mr. Rayner and seconded by Mr. Markwell. All in favour. The question has also been asked as to whether the Parish Council could provide funding. There are currently no budgeted funds for this. The Chairman will speak to the Netball Club's representative to explain the position.

The contract with E-on Next to provide electricity for the Pavilion ends on 5th August, 2025. Doing nothing and allowing a flexible business tariff to commence will substantially increase the current costs to £1,829.69. Fixed business plans for one year, two years and three years have been offered. It was agreed by all to select a plan for three years with an annual estimated cost of £1,106.23.

Duncan Partridge of Breckland Council has offered to provide a quotation for the trade waste collection service and is confident that a significant saving can be made. He wishes to inspect the facility as

there appears to have been a significant increase in the weight of the waste received in recent times. A convenient date will be arranged.

Brookside Development Update

The legal documents have been signed so the installation of the fence and gate at school, can now proceed. The keys of the gate have been delivered to the school. It has been proposed that a nominal value of £1 be placed on the land (car park). All in favour.

Defibrillators

More volunteers are needed.

Local Plan Update

Mr. Rayner co-ordinated a response which was sent to Breckland Council with a copy being placed in Elmham News.

North Elmham Living Sustainably (NELS) Group

Mr. Fitzalan Howard is to discuss matters with the Group.

New Village Hall

A visit has been made to the Marshland Hall and Tea Room, and a similar viewing of Lyng Village Hall is to take place next week. Mr. Sowinski is to make the arrangements. Mr. Markwell is to facilitate valuations for both the Eastgate Centre and Memorial Hall.

North Elmham Football Club Facilities

The sum of £1.5K has been paid to Stalham Town Football Club for the referee's hut. The invoice is initially to be paid by the Parish Council with half of the cost (£750) being repaid by the Football Club at the rate of £75 per month. The first payment has been received. In addition, the monthly payment of £75 has also been received in respect of the ongoing hire of facilities.



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APPROVED CLEARVIEW STOCKIST

To Consider Planning Applications and Determinations

Applications

i) Granary Buildings, Eastgate Street – PL/2025/0608/VAR - removal of condition 14 (construction of a 2.0M high acoustic fence to the eastern boundary) and discharge of condition(s) 5, 12 and 13 on 3PL/2021/0050/VAR. (North Elmham Parish Council's view is that as the circumstances relating to the Mid Norfolk Railway and its land have not changed since the original planning permission for the Granary Buildings with the various planning conditions was granted, there is no reason for any change in or removal of these planning conditions at this time).

ii) Holt Road, North Elmham – PL/2025/0934/TCA – reduce the height of a leylandi tree to two metres (sent for information only).

Determinations

None

ELMHAM SURGERY

Taken from their Autumn Newsletter

Please see our website for the remaining two hour closures up to December 2025.

Our website is a good source of information, however if you do need to speak to someone we are here to help.

www.elmhamsurgery.com

Sample pots are now able to be collected and deposited from the allocated tables in the reception areas.

Wasted Appointments

We are trying to raise awareness of wasted appointments and what the impact this has on the surgery and patients. We listened to our patient's feedback about pre-bookable appointments. Sadly, this has now resulted in lots of wasted appointments.

Many people may not be aware of the consequence of that decision which include wasted clinical time and more importantly longer waiting times for patients in need.

We send text reminders before appointments which gives you the option to cancel if you are unable to attend or if you no longer require the appointment.

Thank you to those that did attend or have cancelled their appointment.

Respect For Our Staff

All our teams are highly trained professionals who work tirelessly to help and support our patients. They are vital to our healthcare system, and we cannot function without these amazing people.

Continually swearing, shouting, demanding, and using derogatory terms can affect their wellbeing. I ask all our colleagues to show empathy and consideration to our patients as we do not always know what is going on in their lives. I ask that our patients do the same. Please remember they are human, have feelings and may be going through difficult times.

We ask that you speak calmly, listen to what is being said, respect personal space and boundaries and above all, thank the individual who is trying to help you.

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We have extensively researched the software options and after much consideration we have decided to go with Anima, or 'Annie' in providing not only a new online triage but a consultation tool and document management.

Online Triage – The access will be the same via our website however the form will look different and may ask different questions. Please do not worry. The new online form will be just as easy to use, and we are always here to help anyone who may struggle to fill out the forms.

Upcoming Vaccination Campaigns

We would like to remind our patients that we are fast approaching the flu and Covid season. If you are eligible, we are in the process of sending invites for vaccinations and will be in touch.

Covid clinics will be held at Swanton Morley. Flu clinics will be held at both Swanton Morley and Elmham surgeries.

Covid and flu can be administered at the same time.

KNIT AND NATTER

We had lots to talk about concerning the Gardening Club Show which had happened a few days before our meeting. Many of the group had done well in several of the sections, with Liz winning a second and a third for her knitted cushions, one of which was dedicated to our much-missed member, Pat Long. It was a really good day and very well attended. We wish to thank the Gardening Club officials for all their hard work and the efficient way the day was organised.

So now, as I sit writing this article in the middle of our fourth heat wave, we need to think about our display at the Christmas Drop In morning on November 15th. We are very aware that the toys, Christmas decorations etc. and winter warmers needed for the children's

games will not magically appear at the given time. Whilst we are getting to knit once more and sorting out our Father Christmas patterns, please put that date in your diary and bring the family along to play our games, spend their pocket money, and win prizes. Every penny goes to charity.

Next meeting September 2nd at the Pavilion 2 til 4.

Eileen Cotterill 01362 668380

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

The branch held its meeting at the Kings Head on Tuesday the 12th, mainly to sort out the final arrangements for V J Day. However, the only response for tickets was 16, all of which came from branch members, none from any other parties. Therefore, with the deepest regret we had to cancel the event. We know of course, this will not be read until after the event would have been held, and regret if it caused any inconvenience.

The next branch meeting, which is the AGM will be held on Tuesday the 9th September, 8pm at The King's Head.

*Mike Aston
Branch Secretary*

Elmham News

PLEASE DO NOT USE MEG'S OLD EMAIL ADDRESS!

Several people are still sending emails to Meg's her old address ie megandni-gel2@btinternet.com.

Please change your records to megandnigel@gmail.com she is not using BT anymore and increasingly your article is likely to be missed. Thank you.

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Elmham Tennis Club
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Gardening Club
Guides
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NELS (North Elmham Living Sustainably)
North Elmham Netball Trailblazers
Reading Group
Royal British Legion
Sewing for Pleasure
SINE (Help)
Snooker Mon & Fri
Snooker Wed
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The May Singers
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GARDENING CLUB

Our July visit to The Black Shuck Distillery at Hindolveston will remain in our memories for some time to come. Our sincere thanks to Ray for organising this trip....hic....

Over 30 of us met outside the newly converted barns and were ushered in to a large airy space with beams, and plenty of room to be seated. We were warmly welcomed by Sarah and Patrick and their team.

Sarah gave us a history of the company from 2011 to today. When they started there were only 6 distilleries in Norfolk and today, around 600! It was a fascinating story of hard work and innovation, risk taking and success.

We were invited to test various flavoured gins, damson port, schnapps, liqueurs and cocktails!

Patrick took us into the distillery itself to meet 'Faith', his trusty still and then walked us through the process of

making spirits, flavouring and seasoning them before bottling in their distinctive square bottles with Black Shuck himself embossed on the bottle.

We returned to the main barn for one more drink, of our choice and a delicious slice of cake.

An evening to remember the hospitality and genuine friendliness of the team. We all left with an appreciation of the differences in gin and spirits and a strong determination to return for an evening of cocktails.....Ray?

Our September meeting is on Thursday 25th September when we welcome Jane Steward to tell us all about Medlars. Jane is the owner of the Eastgate Larder and a committed medlar enthusiast.

Ps Medlars are an unusual fruit and are a member of the rose family.

If you are interested, why not come along and join us?

Meg White

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NORTH ELMHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 6TH AUGUST

Councillors Present Were: Mr. P. Grainger (Chairman), Mr. M. Phillips (Vice Chairman), Miss A. Ferris, Mr. T. Fitzalan Howard, Mr. B. Gee, Mr. F. Gillespie, Mrs. A. Keeble, Mr. N. Markwell and Mr. M. Rayner.

Also in Attendance: Mr. K. Webb (Clerk) and two parishioners (one parishioner remained after the Public Participation part of the meeting).

Apologies for Absence: Mr. C. Smith, Mr. J. Sowinski and Mr. G. Bambridge (District Cllr)

Public Participation

The Chair of the local branch of the Royal British Legion asked for financial assistance with the celebrations for VJ (Victory over Japan) Day on Saturday, 23rd August in the Memorial Hall. There will be live music from 2.30 p.m. until 4.30 p.m. with sandwiches and cakes provided. The cost of the band producing the music is £100. Tickets are £5 (children no charge).

It is anticipated that approximately 35 tickets will be sold. It was agreed that negotiations would be held with the band by the RBL to establish if they would attend for free as it is a national event and the Memorial Hall is a charity. On this basis, Mrs. Keeble proposed a donation of £100, as long as the band did not pass on a charge. This was seconded by Mr. Gillespie. All in favour.

Updated Information And Matters Arising

Land Management Matters

Village Green: Mr. Gee reported that three picnic tables with seats had been received. They have to be assembled. Concrete bases are to be put down for the two to be situated on the Village Green, as well as the returning and much awaited camel. The Clerk passed hard copies of

the RoSPA reports to Mr. Phillips who is currently attempting to locate a supplier of skatelite boards.

Cathedral Ruins: Mrs. Keeble had recently had a meeting with Mr. Duffield who is keeping the walkways in good order. Hardy Landscape has been asked to visit to cut the banks. A bill has not yet been received for last year's work.

Millennium Wood (and Jubilee Wood): Mr. Sowinski and his two helpers have done some fantastic work and this was acknowledged by all. An item is to be placed in Elmham News. The hire of the chipper is required for a further period in September at a cost of £180.

Allotments

The allotment holder who was asked to leave has gone. The water leak has been fixed.

Street Lights

Notification has been received from Drax that the fixed period for the unmetered supply of electricity to the street lights ends on 22nd September, 2025. Doing nothing will result in the variable rate applying and will mean an increase in the rate from 25.460 p/kWh to 31.500 p/kWh. We have found in the recent past that providers of electricity are extremely reluctant to accept this type of business so it was agreed by all to attempt to obtain another fixed contract with Drax.

Highway Matters

The Chairman has obtained an alternative quotation for the village gates which are being provided under the Parish Partnership scheme. This is for £6,222.67 + VAT to receive and instal. The original amount envisaged was £15,668. To date, no response has been received from the County Council so the Chairman will chase Matt Lines from Highways Department.

A complaint has been made to the County Council from a parishioner regarding a badly over grown hedge in Station Road



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which is blocking the pavement and forcing pedestrians to walk in the road.

The Parish Council has been asked to draw this matter to the home owners' attention. If the matter is not resolved within 28 days, the County Council will arrange for contractors to do the necessary work and invoice the home owner for the cost involved. Mr. Gillespie has volunteered to speak to the resident responsible for the hedge.

Pavilion and Playing Field

Mr. Phillips reported that the basketball net has been cut. A replacement will be purchased. No response has been received from the person who was asked to provide quotations for additional CCTV so the company responsible for providing CCTV at Lyng Village Hall will be approached.

Active consideration is being given to transferring the management of the trade waste bin from Biffa to Breckland Council for a number of reasons which include cost and quality of the bin. The facility has recently been widely abused with a whole range of items ranging from industrial rubble to household waste being regularly deposited. Clear CCTV images of some of the offenders responsible are available and these are to be passed to Breckland Council for possible further action.

Duncan Partridge, Breckland Council, is to visit within the next few days to inspect the bin and offer any suggestions for improvement.

A children's party is to be held by the Football Club on 10th August.

Eastgate Centre

Mr. Fitzalan Howard said that a refund of £3,184 had been received from Anglian Water in respect of the overcharge which actually related to adjoining properties. There has been more vandalism. It was clear who was responsible and the CCTV evidence has been given to the police. The incident involved three children throwing

stones at a property in Spencer's Close and subsequently "celebrating" when their actions resulted in smashed windows.

Brookside Development Update

The Chairman has the keys to the meter at the electricity sub-station and suggested that it could be a good idea to purchase a cabinet in which this key and a number of others may be kept. This would be sited on a wall in the pavilion.

A letter has been received from E-on Next giving proposed supply and tariff details for the new EV charging points. The estimated annual cost is £1,693.90 based on a usage of 2,700 kWh of electricity. The Clerk will speak to the potential supplier.

Mr. Markwell is to produce information providing precise details of the exact position required for the new dog waste bin. This will then be passed to Breckland Council and Serco who will have to visit again to ensure that the location meets their requirements.

Defibrillators

Miss Ferris reported that the defibrillator at the Surgery is not working and it may well mean that a new battery is required. Mr. Fitzalan Howard offered to take Miss Ferris to the site to check. The defibrillator at the Pavilion remains in good working order.

Local Plan Update

Mr. Rayner said that Breckland Council hasn't yet decided how many new houses are to be allocated. The current three tiers system for villages is to be increased to four tiers, with North Elmham being in the top tier.

North Elmham Living Sustainably (NELS) Group

Mr. Fitzalan Howard has replied to the Group who have identified 16 locations, most of which are privately owned and the responsibility of individual landowners. There are some areas of parish and church



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land included, and it has been stressed that the Parish Council only has limited funds available. In principle, information can be given regarding schemes in which the Parish has involvement, but other details will have to be sought from appropriate private landowners.

New Village Hall

An interesting and useful visit was made to Lyng Village Hall where the Chairman of the Parish Council, Steve Davis, gave valuable information regarding the experience of creating a new village facility.

The Future of the Churchyard

A query has been received from a parishioner regarding the right to access the Churchyard via the farm track. A copy of the Caution Property Register has been obtained by Mr. Fitzalan Howard and this confirms that St. Mary's Church has exercised a right of way to and from St. Mary's Church and to the new Churchyard for over 90 years. This right of way has been exercised both with and without vehicles, at all times and for all purposes. A copy of the Land Registry entry will be passed to the enquirer.

North Elmham Football Club Facilities

As agreed, funds continue to be received. Training for the new season has commenced.

Reports from County and District Councillors

Reports have been submitted by County and District members, and these can be viewed on the website.

Parish Clerk Matters

The Clerk has suffered a number of major computer problems over the past few weeks. Excellent support has been provided by Andrew Simnor, a local I.T. specialist based in Fakenham. A recommendation has been made by him as follows:-

(i) An upgrade to Windows 11 (from Windows 10). The effective end of life for Windows 10 is mid-October, 2025 when support will no longer be available.

(ii) The present desktop computer is more than ten years old and needs to be replaced. The total cost to achieve this is £1,010, of which North Elmham P.C. has been asked to provide £600. Acceptance of the above was proposed by Mr. Gillespie and seconded by Mr. Gee. All in favour.

The Clerk advised that the annual pay settlement, due on 1st April, 2025, has now been agreed with a percentage increase of 3.20% and a recommendation for immediate implementation. Back pay from 1st April, 2025 has to be included. All in favour.

To Consider Planning Applications and Determinations

Applications

i) Proposed new dwelling – site adjacent to 25a Station Road – PL/2025/1067/FMIN – no comments.

ii) Demolition of existing garage and erection of single storey side/rear and front/side ex-tensions – PL/2025/1039/HOU – 14 Wensum Drive. (Miss Ferris declared that she owned the house next to this property). The current garage has a party wall which needs to be considered. There are concerns about what may become of the existing internal wall of the neighbouring property if and when it becomes an external wall. There also appears to be a lack of detail in the associated drawings. These comments will be made to Breckland Council.

iii) Ash Court – PL/2025/1112/TCA – removal of a large cypress tree in front of 2 Ash Court (for information only)

Next Meeting

Wednesday, 3rd September at 7.30 pm



COUNTRYSIDERS

We've had a busy and exciting end to our year! Our recent Rally was a great success, with our members proudly taking home 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place awards.

Our last meeting of the year was held at the Veteran Centre in West Raynham. Ken and his team gave us a fascinating tour, sharing the history of the building and plans for its future. We were treated to delicious cake and refreshments—thank you to all involved! West Raynham is a charity run entirely by volunteers and funded through donations. We were pleased to support their Open Day on July 20th, joining forces with North Elmham Young Farmers Club for games and activities. Despite the weather turning against us, it was a fun and memorable day.

While the summer holidays are in full swing, we're still hard at work planning our pro-gramme for the coming year. There are already some exciting events in the pipeline—keep an eye on our Facebook page for updates! One highlight will be September 21st, when we take part in the Hunstanton Soap Box Derby on the green—a fantastic day out for all.

A huge thank you to everyone who has supported us over the past 12 months!

Countrysiders is for all children aged 10–16. We meet at the Memorial Hall in North Elmham every other Monday (term time only) from 7:00–8:30pm.

We kick off the new year with our first meeting on Monday 8th September 7pm–8.30pm—featuring Tractor Wars!

To Get in Touch:

north_elmham_cs@norfolkyfc.co.uk
Wendy – 07557 388228

IT'S THE LITTLE THINGS

Climate change, plastics, chemical use, tackling food waste, fast fashion, recycling, reducing consumption, driving less... the things that could be changed to live more sustainably can seem overwhelming. The approach that I've been taking recently is

to think a bit about the sustainable things that matter most to me and looking for ways to address those rather than trying to tackle everything.

Single use plastic and climate concerns are near the top of my own priority list and one thing I've been trying this year is switching from liquid shower gels, shampoo and conditioner to body bars (the toiletry formerly known as soap) and solid hair care products. When you buy liquid shower gels and hair care products most of it is expensive water, the weight of which adds significantly to the carbon cost of transportation. The plastic containers can be recycled, but most of them aren't and there is an environmental cost to both recycling and producing the plastic in the first place.

When you change any type of toiletry it can take a while to find one you like. With the 'body bar' that was relatively easy. Soap is widely available in shops there's lots of choice, and often cheaper than the shower gel I was using. Shampoo bars were a different challenge. The supermarket we use only had one variety that I didn't like very much so I went looking on-line where there are quite a few options. The main difference I found with many of them is that they didn't lather up like the liquid shampoos – but I have found one I like. It comes wrapped in tissue paper in a cardboard box that we can reuse or recycle.

Like everything there are pros and cons of change. The shampoo I like is from an online brand (NOPE) so I do need to think ahead a bit more to get it delivered. Its good not to have bulky plastic bottles on the side of the bath but there are soap dishes instead. When I travel I won't have to worry about the liquid allowances in my luggage or shampoo leaking over everything. The initial cost of the shampoo bars is higher than the shampoo I was using but they last a really long time and the soap is much cheaper so its swings and roundabouts.



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Think ... It won't cost the EARTH!

There are lots of other ways to reduce plastic use in bathrooms like refillable hand soap containers or soap tablets you can add to water which can be cheaper – something for us to try next.

Even making this small change has taken effort but it's also interesting how quickly it's become my new normal and I can feel a bit smug when having my 3–4 minute shower that in a small way I'm doing my bit.

Vitty Danino-Appleton on behalf of North Elmham Living Sustainably (NELS)

FAKENHAM & DISTRICT FLOWER CLUB

Tuesday 2nd September at 7.30pm

"There Goes Summer" with David Wright

Hempton Memorial Hall
Hempton, Fakenham NR21 7LG

We welcome new members and guests to join our friendly club. Call Jacquie 01328 851933 or Barbara 01328 701218

A LITTLE BIT OF NORFOLK SQUIT!

"I lorst mu glasses", said the old Norfolk man, "hev ya sin em ? "Wife. "No darling", (she wanted to be posher than her husband). "Don't worry the Hyter Sprites must have hid them". Eventually the glasses reappeared. "I've found 'em, they' re on the tearble. Thank ya Hyter Sprites", he said.

What are Hyter Sprites, I hear you ask. I must admit I've not heard of them in the Elmham area but in North Norfolk is where I'm from, they played up and according to our dad, they haunted Norfolk and Lincolnshire. These were Dad's words. "Don't go near the pits. (ponds to the non Norfolk) The Hyter Sprites will push you in and you will drown"" and "Don't go out after dark the Hyter Sprites will catch you and take

you away". You see the Hyter Sprites couldn't be trusted because they could be evil at times. Did we listen? Of course not! Whether there are still Hyter Sprites about in North Norfolk, I really don't know but with so many holiday makers and incomers for them to annoy, they must be very confused.com!

Fare ye well together. Keep a troshing.
From Juliana Rockcake

CHAOS COLLECTIVE

Friday 25th July at St. Mary's

Our thanks go to Rachel, Ivan, Rebecca and Jane, The Chaos Collective, for giving us a wonderful evening of inspirational music which included the complex rhythm of Ravel's String Quartet to Adel's Skyfall and much more between. St. Mary's provided a perfect acoustic.

The newly restored Rood Screen shimmered in soft light enhanced by arrangements of sunflowers. An arrangement of bulrushes and hydrangeas greeted us as we entered the Church (thank you Tish and Heather).

Rachel (viola) summed up the evening this way "We love playing to the friendly, positive and welcoming local audience of North Elmham". Over a hundred people came to enjoy and support the concert which was the central event of St. Mary's Summer Season.

We are already making plans for 2026 - so thank you Chaos Collective for your support and ongoing encouragement.

Jenny Cunningham & Rev. Sally Kimmis

INSTITUTE BOWLS CLUB QUIZ

Sat 27th September at 7.00pm

North Elmham Memorial Hall

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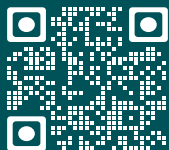
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PAVILION CAR PARK BIN

In recent weeks, the red BIFFA bin located outside the pavilion and next to the sports field, has been used by people to dump DIY and general waste.

Please note that this facility is solely provided by the Parish Council to take waste from authorised users of the Pavilion only. The current misuse is resulting in excess fees having to be paid out of parish funds collected through everyone's council tax bin.

We have CCTV in operation and have images of those responsible. The Parish Council is now in discussion with the Breckland enforcement team, to establish how best to deal with this abuse.

As a Parish Council, we have no desire to have to depend on CCTV surveillance to monitor this type of situation, but we do have to ensure parish funds are used for legitimate purposes and not to subsidise a few individuals who abuse parish facilities. Thank you

*Paul Grainger
Chair, North Elmham Parish Council*

VJ DAY

Regrettably, due to the lack of ticket sales and support for the planned event on the 23rd August the difficult decision was taken to cancel the event commemorating 80 years since VJ Day.

Andy Barrett, Chairman, on behalf of the Memorial Hall Committee"

DATES TO REMEMBER: SEPTEMBER

Tue 2nd	Knit and Natter	Pavilion	2.00 pm
Wed 3rd	Autumn term begins Sewing Group Parish Council Meeting	73a Eastgate Street Pavilion	2.00 pm 7.30 pm
Mon 8th	Countrysiders: Tractor Wars	Memorial Hall	7.00–8.30 pm
Tue 9th	Royal British Legion AGM	King's Head	8.00 pm
Wed 10th	Mobile Library visits Tea at Two	The Heath - Wensum Drive Memorial Hall	1.15- 4.40 pm 2.00 pm
Thu 11th	Wives+All: Costumes for the Stage	Memorial Hall	7.30 pm
Fri 12th	Young Farmers Drag Bingo	King's Head	7.30 pm
Sat 13th	Churches Trust Bike, Ride and Walk	St Mary's & St Margaret's (Norwich Diocese wide)	9.00 am– 5.00 pm
Sun 14th	Elmham News deadline for the October magazine		
Thu 25th	Gardening Club: Jane Steward, Medlars	Memorial Hall	7.30 pm
Sat 27th	Institute Bowls Club Quiz	Memorial Hall	7.00 pm
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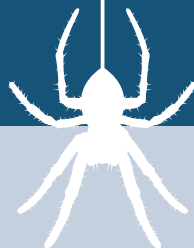
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ELMHAM WILDLIFE



Going back a few years I remember Harlequin Ladybirds being talked about. They were an Asian beetle that had been deliberately introduced to North America and Continental Europe to act as a biological control agent to manage aphid populations on crops. It was hoped that their voracious appetite for crop pests would lead to improved yields. They have indeed reduced some crop pests in America, such as Soybean Aphids which were themselves introduced from China, but they have also had a negative impact on various other native insects.

They were being talked about here because it was expected that they would soon make it over to the UK from the near Continent. Their arrival was considered inevitable, and it was feared that when they came they might wipe out our native ladybird species like the very familiar and popular 7-spot Ladybird (photo 1). Sure enough, in 2004, Harlequin Ladybirds were indeed found in the UK for the first time, in Essex.



Ladybirds fly easily and disperse readily (often aided by humans – I'm sure we've all found them hitching a ride on us) and with Harlequins not being very fussy about their habitat, it had been predicted that once they arrived they would spread rapidly throughout the UK. This proved to be the case and in just two years they were becoming common in Norfolk. It was 2006 that I encountered my first, at my then-home in Bawdeswell.

It had been thought that climate change would aid their spread, and this also proved true as we've seen that although





they quickly reached even the north of Scotland, they didn't establish in the cooler parts of the country in nearly such large numbers. In other hotter countries they have a period of dormancy in the summer, but it was predicted that with our maritime climate it would still be cool enough here for them to produce multiple generations through the summer, and that this would help them establish here even more quickly. Again that prediction turned out to be right as well.

I still see slightly more 7-spot Ladybirds than Harlequin Ladybirds on the whole, but I think Harlequin is now comfortably one of the two commonest ladybirds here now. I'm glad to say the one prediction that hasn't come to pass yet is that they would wipe out our native 7-spot Ladybirds. They have had a negative impact on their population size though, and I'm told their impact on the diminutive 2-spot Ladybirds (photo 2) is more significant. Indeed it has been shown that most other species of ladybird have declined fastest in areas with the largest populations of Harlequins. They've also impacted aphids (both pest and non-pest species) but with some of the other aphid-eating insects in decline many aphids have still managed to have a bumper year this year. Harlequins have been recorded predating moth eggs and larvae and feeding on a range of other insects, so their presence here is certainly not helping with the general insect declines that we are experiencing. Nevertheless, they are here to stay – it is impossible to eradicate a successful insect like this.

Harlequin Ladybirds are relatively large ladybirds, and quite variable in their appearance. One common form is fairly similar to 7-spot Ladybirds except with



many more spots and a different face pattern (photo 3). Others are similar but with a paler orange background (photo 4). Sometimes they're missing most of their spots, or the spots are faint (photo 5). A totally different form can also be found – black with a pair of large red spots (photo 6). More commonly they are similar to this but with an extra pair of smaller red spots towards the rear of the wing cases (photo 7).

Harlequin Ladybird larvae are easy to spot and can be found on a wide variety of plants. They are dark greyish spiky larvae with pairs of orange spots on five consecutive body segments and a smaller pair of orange spikes in the middle of two segments (photo 8). 7-spot Ladybird larvae are similar but have less orange – just two pairs of small orange spots on these body segments.

Like many other insects, the larvae pupate once they've finished feeding. The pupae are orangey-red with black spots (photo 9). 7-spot Ladybird pupae are quite similar, more orange and with smaller black spots. Once they have developed inside their pupal cases, the adults emerge. When the adults first come out it takes a few hours for their colours to develop – if you find one just after it has emerged ("teneral") it will be paler than normal and lack its spots even if it's going to become one of the spotted types.

When there's been a particularly large emergence of Harlequins and they're trying to disperse, you can encounter swarms of them. On a couple of occasions I've found scores of them on the windows and sides of the house. You'll also find them at windows when they're trying to find somewhere to hibernate – they're looking for sheltered



nooks and crannies, but inside your property is even better!

What's your experience with ladybirds? Have you noticed changes in the species you encounter, or a reduction in numbers of our native species? Do let me know. I always appreciate hearing from you about the wildlife you've seen so please keep the reports coming. You can let me know what you see by emailing me at appleton.dave@googlemail.com or phoning me on 668431.

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GARDENING CLUB ANNUAL SHOW



Saturday 2nd August was the village's 93rd Annual Garden Show. What a great success it was. After a difficult growing season with temperatures in the high 20's followed by heavy rain in July, somehow members and villagers were able to produce an abundance of quality vegetables, fruit and flowers with preserves, baking, crafts and photos on show. Making it very difficult for the judges to choose the winners.

Congratulations to everyone who secured first, second, or third place, and a special round of applause to all our cup winners and especially Sarah Felton for winning the Memorial Challenge Cup for the most points in show. Our members-only fuchsia challenge was won by Julie Gordon, we were all amazed by what grew from a humble plug plant!

Karen, one of our members, organised our first plant stall at the show, with generously donated plants from friends and members "For Sale" on the day. The proceeds of sales and donations were £150 and gifted by Karen to the Norfolk Blood Bikes (Charity number 1148669) who support the NHS by transporting blood, blood products and human milk, out of normal working hours (www.norfolkbloodbikes.org.uk), Well done Karen a great amount was raised.

I would like to thank every member who helped to make this a successful event, there are too many to name individually, and also members of the public who attended and hopefully will continue to support the village show in the future.

Ray Norman







CUP WINNERS 2025

Kerrison Cup

Most Points in Vegetables & Fruit
Sarah Felton

Janet Sinclair Cup

Most Points in Flowers & Plants
Caroline Payne

Seamans

Challenge Cup

Most Points in Jams & Preserves
Karen Bloomfield

J.Hitchcock Vase

Most Points Classes in Baking
Dawn Norman

David

Sinclair Trophy

Most Points in Photography & Art
Dawn Norman

Cathedral Plate

Most Points in Handicrafts
Chris Allen

Countrysiders Cup

Most Points in 8-16's
Arthur Mallett

Gardeners Cup

Best Exhibit 1-13 (Sweet Peppers)
Joanne James

Hastings Cup

Best Exhibit 14-25 (Onions)
Sarah Felton

Memorial Hall Trophy

Best Exhibit Flower Arrangements (Flower Arrangement in a Cup & Saucer)
Ray Norman

Railway Tavern Cup

Best Exhibit Flowers (Single Stem Roses)
Liz Braybrook

Wensum Cup

Best Exhibit in Plants (Cactus)
Julie Gordon

Eastgate Cup

Best Exhibit Jams & Preserves (Orange Curd)
Karen Bloomfield

Delia Cup

Best Exhibit Baking (Scotch Eggs)
Dawn Norman

Marsh Cup

Best Exhibit Photography (A Windy Day)
Dawn Norman

Jessica Cup

Best Exhibit Art (Landscape Collage)
Joanne James

Gerald Cup

Best Exhibit Handicrafts (Cross-stitch Bookmark)
Chris Allen

Caley Cup

Best of Best Exhibits (Flower Arrangement in a Cup & Saucer)
Ray Norman

Special Class Cup

Heaviest Potato:
Joanne James

Memorial Challenge Cup

Most Points in Show
Sarah Felton



SINKING OF THE TITANTIC

If you are new to Elmham, you may not have heard of Watts Naval Training School. It was home for 300 boys who lived there at the end of the County School driveway. It was a Barnardo's home for destitute boys. Many of those boys went on to join the Royal Navy or the Merchant Navy. This is the story of Fred Humby.

On the evening of 9th April, 1912, an old boy from Watts Naval Training School, Fred Humby, spent the evening with his old instructor, Mr Hodge, and a fellow Old Boy, 'little Harry Woods' as they celebrated his new job. Previously, he had worked on the SS Hildebrand and got a prestigious job on this new fantastic liner, the Titanic... the most luxurious of its kind ever. The ship was to sail across the Atlantic carrying some of the world's richest and most famous people to New York on its Maiden Voyage.

Fred was to become a pantry man or steward (I suppose he was a very lowly steward in the pecking order) on this ship, the largest liner in the world, which would sink three days later when it hit an iceberg, causing one of the most notorious and memorable tragedies, in naval history. Altogether 1,600 lives were lost.

Fred Humby and his younger brother Frank both spent time at Watts Naval Training School here on the edge of Elmham. As

the annual report of the time explains, Frederick was not quite up to physical standards for the Royal Navy, so instead he became a merchant seaman. This contrasted with his brother Frank, who passed with flying colours and was the first boy at Watts to receive a £25 gratuity. This was awarded to boys who earned sufficient marks to be graded first class in schooling, seamanship and gunnery.

After Fred's death, Watts launched a Memorial Fund to raise money for a stained glass window to be erected at the chapel in the young seaman's memory.

Sufficient money was raised, and the window was created and installed in Watts Naval School chapel with the inscription at its base 'to the glory of God and in memory of Frederick Humby, a boy hero, who perished on board the SS Titanic- 15th April 1912, aged 17 years.

Very sadly after the school closed as a Barnados home in 1954, the main building was demolished and the Memorial window went missing. Years later it was bought at auction in Texas and we know the family who have the window, researched it and know Fred Humby's story. As long as that window is around everyone will remember that young man's name.

Wonder what happened to his brother?

Janet Woodhouse



HEDGEHOGS

When did you last see a hedgehog?. We hadn't seen one for years until one turned up in the garden a few days ago. Can anyone else report seeing one recently?

Peter Wade-Martins

Ed's Note: I regularly see a hedgehog on my garden camera, it walks the same path across the garden most nights, must walk a different path back though as I usually only see it go one way! *Sarah Felton*

NORTH ELMHAM CEVA PRIMARY ACADEMY

North Elmham Primary Awarded Gardening Grant

We're thrilled to announce that we have been awarded the Jan Paulger Norfolk Plant Heritage Gardening Grant! The grant will support the purchase of tools, soil, seeds, and other materials needed to build a thriving sensory garden space. Our goal is to use the garden as a sensory living classroom—where our community can explore the natural world, learn about where food comes from, and take pride in growing something themselves.

We're incredibly grateful to the Norfolk Plant Heritage for their support of our vision. The work on the garden will begin in the Autumn term, and we can't wait to watch it grow!

If you are a keen gardener and feel you could offer some of your time to help us develop and maintain this space, please contact the school office. We would love to involve our community in bringing our vision to life!

Exciting News! Our New School-Based Nursery is Opening September 2025!

We are delighted to announce that our brand-new school-based nursery will be opening its doors in September 2025!

This exciting new provision will offer a high-quality early year's environment for children aged 2–4 years, right at the heart of our school community. Designed to give your child the very best start in their educational journey, our nursery will provide:

- A nurturing, safe and stimulating setting
- Experienced and caring early years staff
- A play-based curriculum aligned with the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)
- Strong links with the Reception class to ensure smooth transitions
- Flexible session options to suit your family's needs

Whether you are a new family to the school or already part of our community, we welcome all to come and discover what makes our nursery a special place to grow and learn. Register your interest now!

To find out more or to express your interest, please contact our school office 01362 668318 or office@northernelmham.norfolk.sch.uk www.northernelmhamschool.uk

We look forward to welcoming our first nursery children in September 2025!

BRISLEY AND NORTH ELMHAM CRICKET CLUB

Results didn't run for the Club as the season nears its conclusion. The Saturday first team after an excellent mid-season run has fallen away and third looks to be the highest position they can achieve after last season's title win. Their two-season grip on the T20 Cup was also relinquished after a semi-final defeat.

The Saturday seconds are still searching for their third league victory but with two of their final three games against teams also near the bottom hopes are high for a positive finish.

The Ladies too have slipped from their early season table topping position to look to be heading for a mid-table finish.

Saturday July 12th

1sts v Ketteringham Hall (A) League Kett Hall 69 B & NE 70-1 Won by 9 wickets

A comprehensive victory over strugglers Ketteringham Hall extended the unbeaten run to 5 games. Callum Futter took the first 5 wickets and Tom Donnelly added 3 more as the home team lasted just 30 overs. An unbeaten 33 from Josh Jex guided the visitors home in just the 15th over.

Payne Crop Nutrition MoM: Callum Futter for his 5-27.

2nds v Mundford (H) League B & NE 162 Mundford 163-2 Lost by 8 wickets

Another disappointing day for the seconds as they failed to set a really

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good target despite 5 batters getting into double figures, skipper Bend making 46 and Noah Poole 35. An unbeaten third wicket century partnership saw the visitors race to victory with 20 overs to spare.

Payne Crop Nutrition MoM: George Bridges for his 20 runs and controlled spell of bowling.

Wednesday July 16th

T20 Quarter Final Felthorpe 120-7 B & NE 121-6 B & NE won by 4 wickets

Defending champions B & NE proceeded into the semi-final where they will travel to Saham Toney. All bowlers kept things tight lead by skipper Donnelly with 3-15 and the home side were coasting to victory at 82-2 but a slight wobble saw the game extend to the final over.

Payne Crop Nutrition MoM: Tom Donnelly for his 3-15 and 17 not out to see his team home.

Saturday July 19th

1sts v Drayton (H) League B&NE 199-8 Drayton 167-6 Won by 32 runs

In a match reduced to 25 overs, Abdul Ali smashed 11 sixes in his century to set a challenging target. Both Drayton openers made 50s in a 115 stand and were well up with the required rate before the experienced arm of Sinclair (3-27) aided by wickets from Donnelly and Olly Hall swung the game back the home side's way.

Payne Crop Nutrition MoM: Abdul Ali for his 102 runs.

2nds v Denver (A) League Denver 46-5 Match abandoned

4 wickets from Skipper Bend put the visitors in a strong position before the heavens opened.

Friday July 25th

Ladies v Snettisham (H) League B&NE 75-9 Snettisham 76-0 Lost by 10 wickets

With only one batter making double figures it was left to extras to make up almost half of the home team's total, a total which was easily reached by Snettisham in the 13th over. The cup

which is also played for, thus remains yet again with the visitors. Unfortunately, B&NE had to concede the return fixture on the Sunday.

Black Schuck WoM: Hennie for her 16 runs.

Saturday July 26th

1sts v Hardingham (A) League B&NE 157 Match abandoned

B&NE moved into third place with the bonus points accrued but would have relished defending a par score on a tricky wicket. Once again Abdul Ali was the star batter with 77 runs, 72 from boundaries.

Payne Crop Nutrition MoM: Abdul Ali for his 77 runs.

2nds v Grimston (H) League Grimston 203-8 B&NE 62 Lost by 141 runs

League leaders Grimston were simply too good for the home team and set a very challenging target in this match reduced to 30 overs. Bright spots were Darren Wiseman's 3-35 while Ollie Bould nabbed 2 wickets for no runs in his 2 overs. After an opening stand of 29, no other batter made it into double figures.

Payne Crop Nutrition MoM: Darren Wiseman for his 3-35

Tues July 29th

T20 V Saham Toney (A) Tom Bartram Semi-final B&NE 97 Saham Toney 98-7

In a low scoring game B&NE relinquished their two year ownership of this trophy but only after a tremendous effort with a team missing among others skipper Tom Donnelly. A few batters made starts but holed out in the deep to a very good bowling attack. With a low total to defend, Ollie Hall did his best with 5 wickets as the home side stuttered over the line.

Payne Crop Nutrition MoM: Ollie Hall for his 21 runs and 5-29

Saturday August 2nd

1sts v Overstrand (H) League Overstrand 205-9 B&NE 139 Lost by 66 runs

A disappointing end to a six match unbeaten run but the return of Ollie Jaggard for his first game of the season

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was a cause for cheer and he managed to grab a couple of wickets with 3 apiece for Ollie Hall and Josh Jex. A run out in the first over when B&NE batted was not a promising start and only Ollie Hall made significant runs.

Payne Crop Nutrition MoM: Ollie Hall for his 50 runs and 3-36

2nds v Fakenham C (A) League Fakenham 282-4 B&NE 226-5 Lost by 56 runs

A batting paradise at Barney with over 500 runs scored and only 9 wickets falling. A youthful Fakenham side set a very challenging target to which B&NE responded with their highest total of the season. An opening century partnership dominated by Noah Poole's 76 gave some hope and George Bridges smashed 5 sixes in his unbeaten 81 but it was not enough to get home.

Payne Crop Nutrition MoM: George Bridges for his 81 runs, 1 wicket and diving catch.

Saturday August 9th

Saham Toney (H) League B&NE 143 Saham Toney 145-3 Lost by 7 wickets

Shorn of several players the home side lost convincingly to Title chasing Saham Toney. After slipping to 22-4, Tom Donnelly led a fightback to set a decent target and having grabbed two early scalps there was the hint of an upset but a third wicket century partnership out that to bed.

Payne Crop Nutrition MoM: Tom Donnelly for his 64 runs and economical bowling.

2nds v Malayees (A) League Malayees 160 B&NE 108 Lost by 56 runs

Despite making a good start with both bat and ball, the seconds slipped to defeat against a hospitable opposition in a good-spirited game. The hosts recovered from 54-5 after Bend's four wickets and despite a promising start at 30-1 and Bridges' 43 the increasingly slow and low wicket proved too much for the visiting batters to master.

Payne Crop Nutrition MoM: George Bridges for his 43 runs and 2 wickets.

TOWNSEND'S ELMHAM PART TWO

The years following the First World War saw many changes in Elmham. The loss of 34 young men on the battlefields of Europe would have left a huge gap in village society. Gradually soldiers and prisoners-of-war began returning home, many of whom would never recover from the horrors of the Front. Services were held giving thanksgiving for the end of the war and in August 1919, a dinner was given at the Kings Head by the Demobilised Soldiers' and Sailors' Federation. Some of those who did return were either too traumatized to take part in village life or had seen something of a world beyond rural Norfolk, and moved on. The population of the village continued to decline. 1919 saw the sale of the Elmham estate which has been owned by the same family (the Milles, later Lord and then Earl Sondes) from the early 18th century. This was a time when the pattern of land ownership across the country changed dramatically as owners tried to take advantage of the higher land prices resulting from higher food prices during the war.

Landowners feared that the return of peace would mean food imports would increase and agriculture would enter a depression again. Many of the Elmham farms were bought by their tenants whose families had long been farming in the village. The timber was sold off the Park and the house stripped of anything that could be sold and left derelict for several years.

At a local level, meetings were held to decide the best way of commemorating the dead and the establishment of a 'Village Institute' was suggested by the Revd Townsend and decided upon. In January 1920 a brass memorial tablet to commemorate the dead was unveiled in the church. In December, as a temporary measure, an army hut was moved from Mattishall and erected on the present Institute site. In February 1920 the first meeting in the hut took place and a

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management committee set up. Eight of the twelve were ex-servicemen. The village doctor, Dr Rackham was an active member, and Townsend was the chair. The recently formed Women's Institute was involved in fundraising for the furniture and a small billiard table purchased. In 1928 the first stage of building was finished and a full-sized billiard table installed. The completed hall was opened in 1930 and in 1933 Elmham became a member of the local billiards league.

A general feeling of unease was detected in the country. The revolution in Russia and the growth of radical politics at home was a concern. In May 1921 a 'Day of Prayer for the nation' was declared 'that the widespread spirit of unrest in political, commercial and social life might be replaced by a better spirit'.

Many things, however, continued much as before the war: ploughing matches were reported on and news from the Cricket Club and the Horticultural Society continued to

be included in the Parish Magazine. 1922 was a bumper year for the Horticultural Show. 1,200 people paid for admission, while 200 came on bicycles. There were sports and country dancing and the band from Watts Naval College at County School performed. A Tennis Club was first mentioned in 1920 and a football club in 1929.

The number of lectures (many illustrated with 'lantern slides') and other activities in the village increased in the 1920s making use of both the school room and later the Institute. Work of the missionary societies extolling the 'heroism and adventures' of the work was a frequent lecture subject. The films of the Selbourne Society about bird and animal life were also popular. In 1928, Townsend gave a lecture on 'Elmham 100 years ago' and his articles on the history of Elmham in the magazine became more frequent. From 1922 the Institute was used for a 'village drama' and Christmas party. Every year the Revd. Townsend had a month's holiday, and a locum vicar took over the vicarage. When

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he Returned, he frequently gave a lecture about the places he visited such as Jersey, Wales, Gibraltar and France.

Although the Old-age Pension had been introduced before the war, the National Health Service was a long way in the future and various self-help schemes were in operation. In 1922 a 'North Elmham Hospital Contributory Fund' was set up with a small weekly contribution of two and a half pence. By 1928 the scheme had 434 contributors (about half of the total population). Seventeen patients had received hospital treatment in the previous year at the Norfolk and Norwich and 20 at the Jenny Lind. An Elmham and District Nursing Association is mentioned in 1931. In 1927 a Red Cross Ambulance was purchased by Dereham, to which the Hospital Contributory Fund had contributed. A strange request from Dereham hospital reached Elmham. The Hospital was very short of eggs and for many years eggs were provided from Elmham.

A small notice in the parish magazine in March 1924 gives an insight into a village community which came to the help of one of its number when in trouble. A notice from 'Mr T. Pierce of Spong Farm (stated that he) wishes to convey his grateful thanks to all those who generously came forward to help him meet his recent loss of both his horses'.

The County Council had been set up in 1888 and Rural Districts (RDCs) and Parish Councils in 1894. Gradually they took over responsibilities for matters such as public health and housing. Lectures, particularly of interest to those renting the increasing number of County Council smallholdings included such topics as poultry keeping and milk production. The County Library was founded in 1921 with a centre in Elmham opened in 1926 with 120 members. It was run by volunteers and was open twice a week for an hour. Every four months a new supply of books arrived by motor van. The County Library, the school circulating library and the

erection of the Institute made the Reading Room redundant. The membership fell and the Wilson family who had continued to support it, agreed that it no longer filled a need, and it finally closed at the end of December 1931.

A major development was the building of council houses by the new Mitford and Launditch Rural District Council. From 1890 local councils could apply for funding to build houses, but it was not until after 1918 that much action was taken. In June 1919 the Mitford and Launditch RDC sent out questionnaires to parishes within its area. North Elmham replied that 75% of the cottages within the parish required repair although there was no family in need of accommodation.

In 1929 five pairs of substantial three-bedroom houses were built by the RDC on the Dereham Road opposite the playing field and in 1933 four more on the Broom Green Road and were a great improvement on most of the overcrowded cottage accommodation in the village.

Susanna Wade Martins

ST MARY'S CHURCH

We are due a Harvest Moon on 6th October. It's the full moon closest to the Autumn equinox (22nd September), when the length of days and nights are the same. The Harvest Moon is so-called because the bright, fuller phases of the Moon appear at approximately the same time each evening, and the abundance of bright early-evening moon-light on consecutive days lit the fields for collecting the harvest.

It conjures up images of harvests long ago, with gangs of men working the land, supported by women and children helping out and bringing food and drink to sustain them. It's a very different story now, of course, with combines doing a lot of the heavy work, although it still means long days for our farmers and agricultural workers.



CHURCH SERVICES SEPTEMBER



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7TH SEPTEMBER – 12TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

9:00 am	Worthing	Holy Communion
9:30 am	Wood Norton	Morning Praise
10:30 am	North Elmham	Holy Communion
10:30 am	Stibbard	Holy Communion
10:30 am	Bawdeswell	Word & Praise

14TH SEPTEMBER – 13TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

10:30 am	North Elmham	Harvest Festival Communion
10:30 am	Bawdeswell	Holy Communion
10:30 am	Foulsham	Holy Communion

21ST SEPTEMBER – MATTHEW, APOSTLE & EVANGELIST

10:30 am	Wood Norton	Holy Communion
10:30 am	Worthing	Harvest Morning Praise
10:30 am	Bawdeswell	The 10:30
11:00 am	Billingford	Harvest Festival
6:00 pm	Stibbard	700th Anniversary Choral Evensong with the Trinity Choir

28TH SEPTEMBER – 15 TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

10:30 am	Guist	Holy Communion
10:30 am	North Elmham	Morning Praise
10:30 am	Stibbard	Morning Praise
10:30 am	Bawdeswell	Holy Communion
10:30 am	Foulsham	Holy Communion

Services at Bawdeswell All Saints are available on Zoom: Meeting ID: 656 174 6525;
Passcode: TwKH7n

CONTACT DETAILS

Billingford, Bintree, Guestwick, Guist, North Elmham, Stibbard, Twyford, Wood Norton, Worthing: Revd Sally Kimmis, 01362 668850, heartofnorfolkrector@gmail.com

Bawdeswell, Bylaugh, Elsing, Foulsham, Foxley, Lyng, Sparham, Thelthorpe:
Revd Richard Turk, 07721 035009, revdrichardrwv@gmail.com

There are several opportunities this month to give thanks for the Harvest, with church services at North Elmham, Billingford and Worthing. I love seeing a church 'dressed' for Harvest Festival with produce and the gorgeous autumnal colours of flowers and foliage.

It also gives us pause for thought for those who struggle to provide enough food for themselves and their families, in this country and around the world. Please do support the Mid-Norfolk Foodbank and the Church Larder at North Elmham if you can. You can check the Foodbank's current shopping list at their website <https://midnorfolk.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/> or participating local supermarkets.

A Harvest prayer from Christian Aid:

Lord God, the Earth is yours and all that is in it. We give thanks for the food we share and ask your blessing on those who grow, harvest and prepare it. Forgive us when we fail to care for your world. Inspire us to act for the good of our neighbours, especially those who do not have plentiful food. Nourish us with your Spirit, that we may be filled with energy to do your will. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Yours, in Christ,

Rev'd Sally

WORTHING NEWS

Please come out and support your local church. St Margaret's will be open on Saturday, 13th September from 9.30am to 4.30pm to meet and greet all enthusiasts taking part either on bike, walking or even travelling by car is now permitted. This annual sponsored event is in aid of Norfolk Churches Trust, and everyone is invited to visit as many churches as possible across the County. If you wish to take part, it's not too late. Details & sponsor forms from Celia.

September Sunday Services

Our services are listed opposite. We hope you will come and join us for our Harvest Praise on 21st and perhaps bring some produce, packages or tins for the Harvest Table. All donations will be delivered after the service to the Mid Norfolk Foodbank in Dereham and our offertory collection will be donated to Water Aid. Refreshments are served after each service so please stay and catch up with or make new friends.

All enquiries contact Celia Daniel:

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

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PAGE 13: Black Shuck Distillery

PAGE 21: Wendy Cotterill

PAGE 29–31: Dave Appleton

PAGE 33–35: Colin Allen, Sarah Felton

PAGE 36: Peter Wade Martins



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PARISH CLERK

Kevin J Webb, 01328 855046

northelmhampc@hotmail.co.uk

MEETINGS

Held on 1st Wednesday of the month in the Pavilion at 7.30pm. All parishioners welcome. Public participation takes place at the beginning of each meeting. County and district councillors attend meetings whenever possible.

Between meetings specific matters for the Parish Council can be notified according to the list below.

VILLAGE FACILITIES

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Broom Green & Pound	To be confirmed, contact Parish Clerk
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Cathedral Ruins.....	Ann Keeble, Tom Fitzalan Howard
Eastgate Centre.....	Martin Phillips, Paul Grainger, Tom Fitzalan Howard
Millennium & Jubilee Wood.....	Joe Sowinski
Playing Field & Pavilion.....	Colin Smith, Ann Ferris
Prince William Wood.....	Nick Markwell, Brian Gee
Village Green	Colin Smith, Brian Gee
Footpath Warden.....	Ann Ferris

SERVICES

Environment & Maintenance	Martin Phillips
Highways	Paul Grainger, Fraser Gillespie
Mid-Norfolk Railway Liaison.....	Michael Rayner, Nick Markwell
Planning.....	Michael Rayner, Martin Phillips
Street Lighting.....	Tom Fitzalan Howard, Nick Markwell, Colin Smith
Tree Warden	Tom Fitzalan Howard, Nick Markwell, Colin Smith
Website	Martin Phillips

PARISH CHARITIES

There are a number of charities that make grants to individuals resident in the parish. Please consult the community website for information elmham.org.uk/parish-council/village-charities.

NORTH ELMHAM DIRECTORY

Elmham Surgery, Holt Rd - 01362 668215

Group website: elmhamsurgery.com

Surgery Opening Times Mon, Tue, Thur, Fri 8.30 am–6.30 pm, Wed 8.30 am–6.00 pm

Swanton Morley Surgery, Dereham Road - 01362 638100

Surgery Opening Times Mon–Fri 8.30 am–6.00 pm

Elmham and Swanton Morley Dispensary

Dispensary Opening Times Mon, Tue, Thur, Fri 8.30 am–12.00 pm, 2.00 pm–6.30 pm
Weds 8.30 am–12.00 pm, 2.00 pm–6.00 pm

Other Useful Contacts

NHS Medical Help

Dial: 111

111 online: 111.nhs.uk

POLICE: Non Emergency Dial: 101 - EMERGENCY Dial: 999

Breckland District Councillors	Gordon Bambridge Bill Borrett	01603 881364 01362 860200
Norfolk County Councillor	Bill Borrett	01362 860200
Member of Parliament	george.freeman.mp@parliament.uk	01953 600617
Nth Elmham CEVA Primary Academy	Ms Victoria McConnell, Head Teacher	01362 668318
Chair of Governors	John Robson chairofgov@flourishfed.co.uk	
Memorial Institute	Bookings: Kayleigh, elmhammemorial@outlook.com	07595 637031
Pavilion	Bookings: Ann Ferris, p.ferris84@yahoo.com	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
Konect Bus		03300 539358
Community Website	www.elmham.org.uk	

Dereham Library, 59, High Street, Dereham, NR19 1DZ - 01362 693184

Opening times: Mon–Fri 09:30–19:00, Sat 9:30–16:00, Sun 10.00–16.00 (Open Library access only)

Mobile Library calls in Elmham every 4 weeks

Anglian Water		0845 7145145
Dereham Leisure Centre		01362 693419
UK Power Networks	Power Cut (24 hours)	0800 31 63 105
Samaritans		116 123
Citizens Advice Bureau	www.ncab.org.uk	0800 144 8848

Clergy - All telephone numbers local code (01362)

Church of England	Reverend Sally Kimmis Reverend Richard Turk	heartofnorfolkrector@gmail.com revdrichardnwv@gmail.com	668850 07721 035009
Roman Catholic	Father Jay T Magpuyo	35 London Rd, Dereham	694066
Methodist	Rev Betty Trinder	31 Trinity Close, Dereham	695582
Salvation Army	Major Diana Bennetts	dereham@salvationarmy.org.uk	696341

Church Wardens

Elmham	Michael Newey	668424
Worthing	Celia Daniel	668928



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SERVICE CENTRE

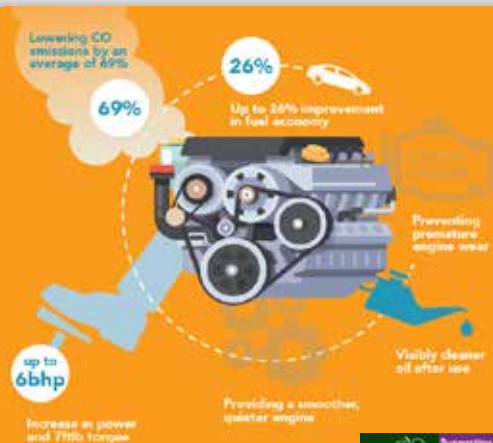
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Saturday 9:00am-12:00pm

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