

# ELSWORTH TIMES

THE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER FOR ELSWORTH

OCT/Nov 2023

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Issue 23 - 05

## 65th Elsworth and District Show In memory of Sue Chapman

This year's Elsworth and District Show was a wonderful tribute to Sue Chapman, President and before that, committee chair for many years. Sue would have thoroughly enjoyed seeing so many people coming together on such a sunny day. She was with us in spirit, I am sure.

We were delighted and honoured that her son-in-law, and auspicious drinks judge, Gavin Cameron opened the 65th Show. We heard how much the Show meant to Sue and also to her mother, Zena.

Sue's daughter, Sarah, and Gavin decided to present a new cup, in memory of Sue, to someone who always gives so much to village life, who is kind and humble, always there for everyone and anyone. This year they chose James Witherow, and what a fine choice! The cup says it all.

Next year, the 4 villages will be asked to submit names for Sue's cup, and the winner will be drawn from the cup itself on the day.

Huge thanks to all the committee, their families and friends who helped over the weekend, to Richard for the marquee and to the WI for their delicious cakes and much welcome tea. It was great to see so many entries too - the flowers looked stunning this year - what talented people we have in our villages!

Well done to Conington men who won the tug of war, quite simply by pulling the Elsworth crew over! Luckily the women did the village proud again!



## USEFUL NUMBERS

### Elsworth Times Editor

Sue Taylor – set.taylor@btinternet.com

### Elsworth Times Adverts

janetpendrill@gmail.com

### Police Community Support Officer

Non Emergency - 101

Emergency - 999

### Community Fire Safety Officer

01223 376217 or Emergency - 999

### South Cambridgeshire District Council

08450 450500 or 01954 713000

### Parish Clerk

Liz Sim - 01954 267664

clerk@elsworthvillage.com

### Parish Council Web site address

<https://elsworth-pc.org.uk>

### Doctors' Surgery

Papworth - 01480 830888

Bourn - 01954 719313

Appointments 01954 719469

### Parish Church Contacts

Chris Westgarth - Team Administrator

01480 839933

### The Rev Nigel di Castiglione

01954 267241

### Elsworth Primary School

01954 267272

### Elsworth Show

Sonia Hegan - 01954 267743

### Elsworth Sports Club & Pavilion

Secretary - Chris Woodbury

secretary.esc@outlook.com

Bookings for the pavilion Kim Pleszko

bookings.esc@outlook.com

### Swavesey Village College

01954 230366

### Elsworth Shop

01954 267951

[www.elsworth-shop.co.uk](http://www.elsworth-shop.co.uk)

### Tree Warden

Paul Harding – 01954 267218

### Fardell's Lane Nature Reserve

Louise Hanzi - 07785 614303

### Samuel Franklin Fund

Contact Chaya Robertson

chayarobertson@gmail.com

### Community Car Scheme

07526 998 465



## Elsworth Resident Celebrates Her 100th Birthday

Congratulations to Audrey Noble who celebrated her 100th birthday this September. Audrey has lived in the village since 1991 and is seen here with her card from the King.



## Harvest Supper

We spent a lovely Saturday evening with friends and neighbours at the Harvest Supper. An impressive supply of food included beef and chicken casseroles, lasagnes and fruit crumbles all washed down with a selection of wines. As always, it was a chance to catch up with friends and an opportunity to meet new ones. The ACCESS project raised £420 which will go to improving the church and making it an accessible space for all. Many thanks to everyone who contributed their time and talents to make it a special evening.

## IMPORTANT DATES

Mobile Library – The Poacher, Second Thurs of the month 12.10pm - 12.40pm

Post Office services from the pavilion: Tues 2-4, Thurs 12-2pm

### Next Elsworth Times Deadline

Editorial Copy and Notices by Mondayday 25th November 2023

## BIN COLLECTION DATES

*Please Note Collection now Fridays*

Bin Dates	Black Bin	Blue Bin	Green Bin
Fri 13 Oct 2023		✓	✓
Fri 20 Oct 2023	✓		
Fri 27 Oct 2023		✓	✓
Fri 3 Nov 2023	✓		
Fri 10 Nov 2023		✓	✓
Fri 17 Nov 2023	✓		
Fri 24 Nov 2023		✓	✓
Fri 1 Dec 2023	✓		
Fri 8 Dec 2023		✓	✓
Fri 15 Dec 2023	✓		

# CLERK'S COLUMN

LIZ SIM PARISH CLERK

Telephone: 01954 267664

e-mail: clerk@elsworthvillage.com

## SOUTH CAMBS TRIAL OF A FOUR-DAY WORKING WEEK

At the September PC meeting members discussed the implications and the effects on parishioners of the trial four day working week. They highlighted the inability of parishioners to access the DC Council building for advice, the failure of the call answering service, the lack of response to emails and telephone messages, the considerable waste of time and resources that this four day week working system presented for Parish Clerks and the Parish Council's ability to satisfactorily undertake its duties to its parishioners.

Questions were raised about the contractual arrangements under which the trial was being undertaken. Members were also concerned about whether staff working at home were monitored and agreed that the lack of consultation with residents/ratepayers to ascertain their opinions on the trial was deplorable. The four-day working week for bin collections started on September 18th despite Local Government Minister Lee Rowley requesting that SCDC cease the four-day working week trial and advising that government would consider financial options to stop it. SCDCllr Mark Howell advised that the four-day week proposals had never been presented to a full council meeting for a vote. Cllr Peter Sandford advised that residents need to write individually to the CEO of SCDC to express their opinions. The Parish Council is to write to the CEO of SCDC to represent parishioners' interests and to express dissatisfaction with the concept and the reality of the effect on ratepayers of the four-day working week.

## NEW CC HIGHWAYS OFFICER

A new highways officer had been appointed for this area. I met him recently and brought him up to date on all the issues that are affecting the village, many of which were reported on the CC's website months ago. He was aware that there are many issues which have had no action taken whatsoever and promised to deal with these as quickly as possible. Following the recent disaster with the dragon machine spraying tar all over the place in Fardell's Lane and The Drift, he and the County Councillor both came and did on-site visits and spoke to residents who were affected. Residents who were affected by this malfunction of the machinery are urged to contact County Highways and seek compensation.

## EXTERNAL AUDITORS

This year the External Auditors PKF Littlejohn included Elsworth Parish Council in their more detailed intermediate audit. This is done by random selection. Unfortunately, it coincided with the PC having a massive increase both in its income and expenditure owing to the very generous grant received from a parishioner and the PC using its section 106 monies and the large donation from former resident Mr John Wakelin to fund new play equipment. As a result, the PC was not able to self-certify for the past financial year 2022-2023 (this is possible if the income and expenditure for the year are both below £25K and means that the accounts only have to go to internal audit). The external Auditors required much information to be sent to them to justify the additional receipts and expenditure. The audit has now been completed and the auditors have reported that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have been met.

## VILLAGE MAINTENANCE

Contractors have been identified to undertake the jobs needed for the ongoing smaller maintenance requirements in the village. It is hoped work can commence before the winter.

## TRANSPORT, ROADS, CONCRETE IN SCHOOLS

Cambridge congestion charge. The Greater Cambridge Partnership's proposed congestion charge plan is being reconsidered. The Labour party did not support the proposed congestion charge as it stands. Debate is still ongoing on this. Bus transport is being looked at in detail. Concern was raised about the bus service from Cambourne to Cambridge which has become unsatisfactory and unreliable. Schoolchildren are, in some cases, unable to arrive in time for classes to commence.

Weed control. Cambridgeshire County Council stopped its programme of weed control on footpaths and roads in April but did not inform parishes. The increase in the weeds and the subsequent health and safety issues resulting from cracked pavements and road surfaces is becoming apparent in many areas of the village and the County Council has been asked for clarification on where liability lies, should an accident occur on the footpaths as a result of trip hazards. Whilst the Parish Council is generally not in favour of chemical spraying it will write to the County Council requesting the reinstatement of a weed control programme.

20 MPH speed limits. Elsworth PC put in a bid to the County Council for a blanket 20mph speed limit for the village. Although all requests for these restrictions are still being considered it appears that Elsworth has not been successful in its bid. Cambourne however, is going to become a blanket 20mph zone and the dual carriageway approach to Cambourne is to become a 40mph zone.

Concrete deterioration in schools. None of the buildings that the CC is responsible for have been affected by the recently highlighted issues but a full reassessment is being carried out.

Fly tipping. This has become an increasing problem in the area. Sixteen bags of rubbish were removed from the area of the Caxton Gibbet recently and concealed cameras will be installed. Fly tipping has also been found in the centre of Elsworth village recently.

Local Highways Initiative funding. The Parish Council is considering putting in an application for LHI funding for 2024-2025 for possible improvements in road safety in the village and would welcome dialogue with residents about this.

## PLANNING APPLICATIONS CONSIDERED

23/0961/TTCA 41 Brook Street Elsworth Cambridgeshire

Tree T1: Flowering Plum. Fell to ground level as the tree was originally planted over the main drain from the property and the roots are now interfering with the discharge of sewage. Tree T2: Ash: Reduce the height by 3m and the width by 1.5m to limit growth. The tree is in proximity to the garage foundations and the crown now interferes with the overhead electric mains cable serving other houses in the street. PC recommendation: Support

23/0953/TTPO 6 The Drift Elsworth Cambridgeshire 2204 - Oak, Remove deadwood above 60mm in diameter and longer than 1.5m in length. PC recommendation: Support with comment

Applications determined/closed by SCDC

23/01760/HFUL 15 Cotterells Lane Elsworth Cambridgeshire CB23 4JR Granted Permission.

23/02025/FUL 5 Church Lane Elsworth Cambridgeshire CB23 4HU Granted Permission.

23/02633/LBC 38 Boxworth Road Elsworth Cambridgeshire CB23 4JQ Granted Permission.

21/05616/CONDD5 Church Lane Elsworth Cambridgeshire CB23 4HU Discharge Condition in Full

## DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

November 15th 2023.

## Flood Group Summer Update



There have been a number of developments over the last few months. Firstly, the village now has a flood equipment shed situated in the car park outside the community shop. The shed contains flood related tools such as shovels, buckets, warning signs and a small supply of sandbags all for use in an emergency. Keys to the shed are available in the community shop or from Peter Ward and James Witherow.

In addition, a submersible pump and a set of drain rods are stored with James.

Thanks must be given to the Environment Agency for supplying the equipment.

The Community Flood Plan should be available on the Parish website by the time this article is published. A full list of the flood equipment is contained in the document as well as helpful information on what to do in advance of and during flood conditions. Space considerations prevent further details in this article but I will return to the document in future.

A contract has been awarded for a CCTV survey of the culvert in Broad End to establish its condition pending repairs. This survey is the first of a number of similar initiatives aimed at improving the drainage infrastructure in the village and they will be carried out as funds allow.

Sensors have been installed on the brook to give early warning of rising water levels. This is part of a trial by Cambridge County Council to improve early warning of impending floods and the sensors will send information to selected groups as required. There are a number of minor issues with the manner in which the information is currently presented but we hope that once these are overcome those directly affected by flooding will be able to receive text warnings direct.

## ELSWORTH JUBILEE CLUB

The Jubilee Club meets at 2.30pm on the first Thursday of each month at the Sports Pavilion, Broad End. There is always an interesting speaker, refreshments and a good laugh!

Our September speaker, Gill Shapland, brought us tales from the Isle of Ely Quarter Sessions, from 1726 – 1775 – and what tales they were! The title of her talk was 'Bastardy, Bigamy, Brawling and Brothels' so that should give you a fair idea of what folks were getting up to back then. There's nothing new, as they say!

### What are we looking forward to in the coming months?

- October:** The 'MARY BURBAGE UKE TROUP' (Ukelele Band) from St Ives will be entertaining us.
- November:** Sophie Arnold will give a presentation about the work of the RSPB, especially Hope Farm, Knapwell. There will be merchandise for sale.
- December:** Stevie Lester will introduce us to 'Insights of a Provincial Auctioneer'

This year has seen an impressive invasion of undergrowth in our waterways and as part of our work to speed water through the village a schedule of maintenance has been drawn up. The extent of growth is probably too much for volunteers this year and we are seeking quotations from contractors to carry out the work. If possible, we wish to include Water Lane (both track and watercourse) in that work.

Lastly, we would like to extend our thanks to the Cambridge County Council Flood Group for attending the Elsworth Show. The group answered many questions from residents and gave out a number of leaflets relating to their work. A small supply of leaflets on Watercourse Management and Riparian Responsibilities was left with us and these are available at the Community Shop.

*written by Peter Ward*



## LOCAL ARTIST INTRODUCTION

### LELLIBELLE by HELEN JAY STRUTT

We are delighted to carry Lellibelle cards, coasters and tea-towels at the village shop.

Lellibelle was founded by local textile artist Helen Jay Strutt in 2018. Helen creates original textile art using fabric applique, freehand machine embroidery and hand embroidery techniques, inspired by British birds and wildlife. These designs are scanned and digitally printed as greetings cards and homewares.

From the outset of her business, Helen has desired to be as environmentally friendly as possible, and to support local suppliers. All of her cards are printed on recycled card, in Cambridgeshire, have recycled envelopes, and are protected by fully biodegradable and compostable display bags.



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# HOLY TRINITY CHURCH ELSWORTH



## What are we working for?

There is a creativity and measure of giftedness in all of us that remains hidden or unnoticed unless we are attentive and go looking for it. I saw this again recently when someone asked to share a piece of poetry in a funeral; subsequently, I discovered this person has written scores of poems and similar written pieces.

This experience set me thinking about a remark my wife made around the same time – to the effect a lot of the time we handle

many relationships in a largely transactional manner. It goes like this: you have something I want so I deal with you to the point where we agree on what basis you share this with me. It works for the most part but may prove to be very functional or utilitarian; moreover, it fails to see value or release so much that is good and often creative in all of us.

We see this at its worst in political matters all too often – where the goal of any new proposals appears more to do with what one side can get away with rather than a genuine investment in doing the right thing.

## WHAT ARE THE “JEWISH HIGH HOLY DAYS”?

With the arrival of the month of Elul (this year, the 19th of August), Jews throughout the world prepare for the High Holy Days. Approaching Rosh Hashana (literally “head of the year”), considered the day upon which God created the world, Jews seek forgiveness from God and from others for wrong- doing, striving for reconciliation and harmony.

Rosh Hashana, Jewish New Year—is 15th-17th September (the Jewish month of Tishri) always calculated from sundown to sundown. Apples are dipped in honey and everyone is wished a “sweet” year, with the greeting, L'Shana Tovah tikatevu—May you be inscribed for a good year!

Rosh Hashana ushers in the Yomim Noraim—the Ten Days of Awe—continuing the theme of repentance, forgiveness, reconciliation and harmony. This period concludes with Yom Kippur (the Day of Atonement—September 24-25) which begins with Kol Nidre (“all vows”), a prayer sung by the Chazzan after sundown. On the day itself, a series of prayer services are held, including a remembrance service for dear ones who have passed from this life. The final service is Neilah, which means “closing”.

Yom Kippur does not end the autumn Holy Days. Sukkot—or the Feast of Tabernacles—begins on the 29th of September. Families and congregations build small, temporary dwellings and some live in these for a week (until 6 October), celebrating the exodus from Egypt and God's provision in the wilderness.

Finally, on the 7th of October, 2023—Simchat Torah is celebrated with danc-ing and singing—in remembrance of the giving of the Torah (Five Books of Moses or Pentateuch) at Mt Sinai.

Although each of these holidays has its own character, all are celebrated or observed as a reminder of Jewish life and experience, biblical history and the covenant with God, and

Christians are meant to be different because we should be motivated by love summed up by the exhortation ‘You shall love your neighbour as yourself.’ Here we have an example of where our English translation is not clear enough: the word for LOVE is the one used elsewhere to describe God's living actions towards us – a sacrificial love, the sort that steps in to rescue a person in dire trouble irrespective of the cost and not for any return or gain that will follow. (To be a professional politician and a practicing Christian is surely one of the hardest vocations for someone to embrace!)

One of the things that makes me sad is when I meet people who had gone into service vocations such as education and medicine but who now feel ground down and fed up, to the point they are focussed on getting out or reaching retirement. For the most part this seems to be a systemic or cultural failure that has hurt and damaged great servant-hearted people.

Here is my question (in the early weeks of a new ‘academic’ year): what are we ambitious for and what do we want to see happen in the next few months? There is nothing wrong, per se, with ambition, except it can easily become distorted or orientated solely to one's personal benefit and at someone else's expense. At that point ambition can become destructive or unpleasant. As we listen to the political debates coming from the main party conferences we could do worse than to ask ourselves ‘Do I want, am I working for and will I vote for ..... because it will do this and that for me and my family; or because it is striving for these things about the common good, the betterment of society and the capacity of the country to serve well at home and in our dealings abroad, both now and for generations to come?’

I believe we need, in many sectors of society and around the world, the recovery of the sort of LOVE that is at the core of our heritage and Christian tradition.

**Nigel di Castiglione -Team Rector**

continuity with the past. Different foods, songs, and customs are part of these holy days and holidays depending upon whether one is Ashkenazi (northern European), Sephardi (Spanish and Portuguese, or Mizrahi (north African, oriental, middle eastern). To all our friends and neighbours in Elsworth—L'Shana Tovah tikatevu! - RF



## Do you enjoy flower arranging?



The church flower arrangers are hoping to recruit some more helpers to join our team. No experience required, just a love of flowers. We decorate the church for Harvest, Christmas and Easter and put two vases in the church for other services on a rota basis. Perhaps you might not want to arrange but could donate flowers and greenery from your gardens instead?

Any contribution would be so gratefully received!

If you felt that this is something you might enjoy, please contact Harriet on [harrieterhodes@gmail.com](mailto:harrieterhodes@gmail.com) for more information.



## Elsworth School

### Learning at Elsworth C of E Primary School

It has been lovely to welcome the children back to school. Our new Reception children are settling in well and getting used to new class routines and expectations.

Some classes have been engaged in Scientific enquiry and knowledge this term. In Ruby class they have been investigating how things move. The children used force meters to pull bricks across a range of surfaces to discover which surface required the most force to be applied to move the brick. The children concluded surfaces like the playground created more friction.

In Diamond Class, the children have been learning more about shadows and how they are formed. They looked at what important key words they would need to include in a written explanation e.g. light source, natural, opaque, transparent, translucent, object, etc.

The class then got into groups of three and made some interesting shapes.

Can you spot our two-headed, six-armed monster in the photographs? You might also be able to see a monster with three heads and five arms!





It has been a delight to welcome so many children to Pre-School this September! Everyone has settled in so well showing confidence to play and explore as they make new friendships. As the seasons change we have been foraging for blackberries, learning about what we can eat and what we must not eat from nature, we have been talking about our own experiences of picking apples, pears, strawberries, tomatoes and so much more from our own gardens at home. There are lots of green fingered children who love to nurture crops at Pre-School!

We couldn't pick blackberries without doing some baking with them so the children have been making blackberry tarts as a scrumptious treat thinking about ingredients, quantities as well as considering which foods are healthy and which are unhealthy so need to be a treat.

As Autumn arrives we will be noticing the changes that are happening in the world around us, looking at the different shapes in leaves and learning about deciduous and coniferous trees and how to spot the difference. Forest School is back and the children are oozing with enthusiasm for nature, they have been especially keen to explore micro-habitats and even found a newt whilst exploring!

At Pre-School we are keen to embrace the village community to enhance the experiences of the children whilst supporting anyone who may be experiencing loneliness or who simply would like that warm fuzzy feeling of volunteering and helping others. If you have a little time to spare to help the children to bake, do some gardening, read a story, play an instrument or share an interest or talent you may have please get in touch with us.

We are always happy to give parents and young children a tour of Pre-School. If you would like to see what we can offer your child please don't hesitate to contact us on 01954 268050 or [elsworthpreschool@outlook.com](mailto:elsworthpreschool@outlook.com)

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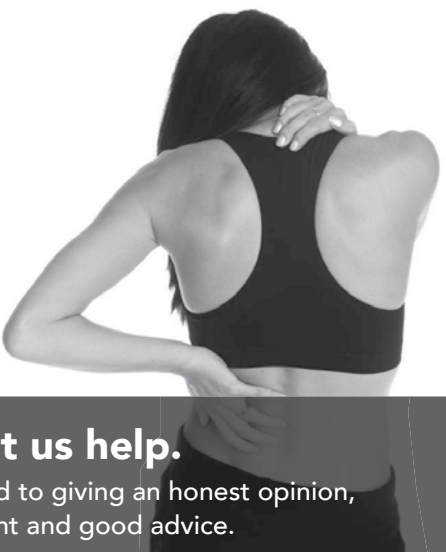
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- Composite and Timber decking supplied and fitted
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## Carpets and Vinyl Supplied and Fitted

We have been in the carpet  
trade for 50 years!

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Home sample selection service  
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located in Swavesey

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Bespoke Dressmaking  
& Fashion Alterations

*For free consultation contact Jane*

*Mobile: 0751115915*

*Website: [bdressandalterations.com](http://bdressandalterations.com)*

## Papworth Surgery

### Flu and Covid Vaccination Update

Our flu vaccination clinics have begun and we are happy to advise that we are also offering the Covid booster until the end of October as these can be administered at the same time.

We have two walk-in clinics on 16th and 23rd October starting at 6pm and finishing at 8pm. Please get here as early as possible during this period as we don't want to end up turning anyone away if there is still a queue at 8pm!

Depending on the success of the walk in clinics we will either add more walk in clinics or more clinics with appointment times.

### A reminder of the cohorts eligible for Flu and Covid vaccine

- All adults aged 65 years and over
- Persons aged 6 months to 64 years in a clinical risk group, as laid out in the Immunisation Green Book, COVID-19 Chapter (Green Book)
- Frontline health and social care workers
- Persons aged 12 to 64 years who are household contacts (as defined in the Green Book) of people with immunosuppression
- Persons aged 16 to 64 years who are carers (as defined in the Green Book) and staff working in care homes for older adults.

### In other news...

Pressure on our services remains at an all-time high. Our online Triage system is working well and helping with this. Patients who believe they need to be seen urgently should go onto our website [papworthsurgery.nhs.uk](http://papworthsurgery.nhs.uk) and complete the Triage request form. If you are unable to complete yourself please telephone reception first thing in the morning and they will complete the form for you. The Triage Dr then looks at all the requests and decides what action needs to be taken and how urgently patients need to be seen. Once we are at capacity the online Triage is switched off. It opens at 7am so it is best to get your request on as early in the morning as possible.

**If you want a routine appointment or a Nurse  
appt please phone reception on 01480 830888**

ELSWORTH PTA PRESENTS:  
WITH POP UP BLOOMS

## FESTIVE WREATH WORKSHOP

**4TH DECEMBER 2023  
AND  
5TH DECEMBER 2023**

**ELSWORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL 19:00**

**£45.00 PER PERSON  
INCLUDING NIBBLES/DRINK**

**PLEASE EMAIL TO BOOK  
[ELSWORTH.PTA@GMAIL.COM](mailto:ELSWORTH.PTA@GMAIL.COM)**

# 65th Elsworth and District Show Results

Elsworth, Knapwell and Conington  
WI Challenge Cup: Cookery,  
preserves and drinks (Sections A,  
B, C)

Position and Name	Pts
1 Pete Gladders	16
2 Jane Green	15
3 Geoff & Sue Clarke	13

Elizabeth Heath Memorial Cup:  
Preserves (B)

Position and Name	Pts
1 Pete Gladders	13
2 Jane Green	10
3 Martin Mace	5

Arnold Hodson Memorial Trophy:  
Fruit (E)

Position and Name	Pts
1 Ingham family	8
2 Geoff & Sue Clarke	7
3 Three way tie	3

Elsworth and District Show cup  
flowers and plants (F)

Position and Name	Pts
1 Pete Gladders	13
2 Cilla Parish	12
3 Sue Taylor	10

Elsworth branch Royal British  
Legion Cup: - Vegetables (G)

Position and Name	Pts
1 Pete Gladders	34
2 2 Geoff & Sue Clarke	19
3 Huw Gaskill	15

Elsworth, Knapwell and Conington  
Womens Institute Vase: Floral art  
(H)

Position and Name	Pts
1 Sue Taylor	6
2 Sarah Cook	3
3 Geoff & Sue Clarke, Janet King	2

Boxworth Women's Institute  
Challenge Cup: Needlework (I)

Position and Name	Pts
1 Marion Sherwood, Jane Green	4
2 Three way tie	3

Girl's Cup for most points in the  
children's section (M)

Position and Name	Pts
1 Alais Faucherand	15
2 Abi Crisp	6
3 Iris Askham	4

Boy's Cup for most points in the  
children's section (M)

Position and Name	Pts
1 Andrew Bicknell	14
2 Oscar Seifert	11
3 Ethan Siefert	10

J Mitham Cup: Children's  
handicrafts

Position and Name	Pts
1 Andrew Bicknell	7
2 Alais Faucherand, Ethan Seifert	6
3 Oscar Seifert	5

Pharmonix Isolation Perpetual  
Challenge Cup, Best original  
painting in art

Helen Hale – 'Bees & Lavender'

Elsworth and District Show  
Challenge Cup highest points  
overall in the show

Position and Name	Pts
1 Pete Gladders	65
2 Geoff & Sue Clarke	49
3 Jane Green	23

Sue Chapman Memorial Trophy

Winner: James Witherow . . . shown below



Childrens Tug-of-War



Sec G - Vegetables



Childrens Handicrafts



Sec A1



Sec F - Flowers & Plants