

ELSWORTH TIMES

THE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER FOR ELSWORTH

DEC 23/JAN 24

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Issue 23 - 06



Elsworth School

Cambridgeshire Small Schools Cross Country Championships

On Wednesday 15th November, 34 children from Years 3,4,5 and 6 took part in a Cambridgeshire Schools Cross Country Championships held at Milton Country Park. This event was organised and run by South Cambs Sports Partnership and we were so thrilled that so many of our children took part.

All runners worked extremely hard, each completing 1 ½ laps of a specially marked out course, which totalled approximately 1 mile!

7 of our children came within the top 10 runners out of approximately 50 runners, which is an amazing achievement! A further 3 children came within the top 20 - also a superb result!

The team spirit amongst our runners was fantastic and they enjoyed cheering each other on!

Well done Elsworth!

more pictures on page 2



School Remembrance Service

The children and staff at Elsworth C of E Primary held a short Service of Remembrance outside of Holy Trinity church on Friday 10th November. The service was led by pupils in Diamond class. All the children had the opportunity to lay the poppy they had made around the war memorial and we say the song 'We will remember'. At 11 o'clock the school stood still for 2 minutes silence, after the clock tower chimes rang out, to take the time to think about all the people who have been affected by war.



more Remembrance day pictures inside

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

Tree Warden

Paul Harding – 01954 267218

Fardell's Lane Nature Reserve

Louise Hanzl - 07785 614303

Samuel Franklin Fund

Contact Chaya Robertson

chayarobertson@gmail.com

Community Car Scheme

07526 998 465

Elsworth School - Pictures from Cross Country Run



IMPORTANT DATES

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

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

Next Elsworth Times Deadline

Editorial Copy and Notices by Friday 26th January 2024

BIN COLLECTION DATES

Please Note Collection now Fridays

Bin Dates	Black Bin	Blue Bin	Green Bin
Fri 8 Dec 2023		✓	✓
Fri 15 Dec 2023	✓		
Fri 22 Dec 2023		✓	✓
Sat 30 Dec 2023	✓		
Fri 5 Jan 2024		✓	
Fri 12 Jan 2024	✓		
Fri 19 Jan 2024		✓	✓
Fri 26 Jan 2024	✓		
Fri 2 Feb 2024		✓	
Fri 9 Feb 2024	✓		

CLERK'S COLUMN

LIZ SIM PARISH CLERK

Telephone: 01954 267664

e-mail: clerk@elsworthvillage.com

A Very Merry Christmas and a Happy 2024 to all parishioners

CHRISTMAS TREE

Once again, a big thank you to the owners of the Mill who are donating the Christmas tree to the village. The tree will be put up outside the community shop and the lights will be switched on, on Friday 15th December at 6pm. It is so good that residents can now get together to enjoy this social time. There will be mulled wine and mince pies to stave off the winter chill as well as sweetie treats for children. Don't miss this occasion – bring the whole family along – bring all your friends - to celebrate the season, meet other residents and generally enjoy a great get together.

SCDC 4 DAY WEEK

Ms Liz Watts CEO of SCDC attended the November PC meeting. She explained the rationale of the 4 day week trial: that it was set up in response to a recruitment crisis, the inability of the DC to retain staff and the rising cost of employing temporary staff. Now, some eight months into the trial, she reported that data relating to these difficulties was positive; staff well-being had improved, in excess of £5k had been saved on agency staff, work patterns were more intensive and staff preferred working the 4 day week.

She acknowledged the government's intervention, that a best value notice had been issued with a request that the trial finish with immediate effect, but the DC is continuing the trial. The government has requested specific data relating to productivity and value for ratepayers.

Parish Councillors raised many points which MS Watts responded to. She informed councillors that a large-scale consultation is planned for January 2024 during which outside bodies, parish councils and ratepayers will be asked their opinions.

DEFIBRILLATOR AND CPR TRAINING SESSION.

The training/refresher session that was held in September was very well attended by residents. The Community First Response

team provided an informative and helpful session. However, the session highlighted the need for mobile phone contact for quick access to help. Several residents commented on the extremely poor mobile coverage in Elsworth and expressed concern that this might hamper their ability to access speedy assistance. Mobile phone coverage is poor in this village and it is hoped that this will soon be improved.

CCC LOCAL HIGHWAYS INITIATIVE

Councillors agreed unanimously to submit a proposal for funding for the installation of double yellow lines along stretches of Boxworth Road near junctions of Orchard Close, Roger's Close, Duncock Lane and the entrance to the George and Dragon pub. An alternative proposal to make pedestrian access to the Avenue Business Park safer by installing a pedestrian crossing over the existing traffic calming table at the junction of Broad End and a further footpath on Smith Street would be prohibitively expensive.

ELSWORTH TIMES

A publisher has been identified to take on production of the ET after the retirement of the current publishers.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- 23/1309/TTCA Oak situated in neighbouring property at 20 Brook Street, Elsworth, Cambridgeshire CB23 4HX

Reduce canopy overhang to client's garden by 2 to 2.4ms to lessen shading to thatched roof. Thin remaining crown over client's garden by 10% PC recommendation Support

- 23/1285/TTCA 24 Brook Street Elsworth Cambridgeshire
Proposal: T1 - Dawn Redwood – fell T2 - Deodar Cedar - Fell
PC recommendation: Support with comments.

APPLICATIONS DETERMINED/CLOSED BY SCDC

- 22/04519/CONDA 15 Cotterells Lane Elsworth Cambridgeshire CB23 4JR Discharge Condition in Full.
- 23/0923/TTCA Elsworth Rectory 6 The Drift Elsworth Cambridgeshire CB23 4JN Have No Objection To 23/0961/TTCA 41 Brook Street Elsworth Cambridgeshire CB23 Have No Objection To.
- 23/0953/TTPO 6 The Drift Elsworth Cambridgeshire CB23 4JN Granted Permission.
- 23/03328/PRIOR The Avenue Business Park, Unit 8 Brockley Road Elsworth Cambridgeshire CB23 4EY Prior Approval Refused.
- 23/02228/HFUL Elm Lodge Meadow Drift Elsworth Cambridgeshire Extensions and alterations to the existing bungalow and construction of a new Granted Permission on 23rd October 2023.

DATES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS IN 2024.

January 17th	Parish Council Meeting
March 20th	Parish Council Meeting
April 17th	Annual Parish Meeting
May 15th	Parish Council Meeting
July 17th	Parish Council Meeting
September 18th	Parish Council Meeting
November 20th	Parish Council Meeting



Interested in your local community?

If you want to contribute to our local community by influencing decisions that affect Elsworth on matters such as planning applications and by seeking to address the challenges that the village faces like East West Rail, then why not consider becoming a parish councillor.

The Parish Council has 6 scheduled meetings each year, while additional meetings may be called from time to time for a particular purpose. There are rules about who can be a parish councillor which most residents will have no difficulty satisfying (further details are available on request).

If you think you might like to become a parish councillor, but would like to talk about it in more detail, then I am very happy to meet you (contact details below). Alternatively, you may prefer to chat to one of our other councillors; if so, contact the Parish Clerk, Liz Sim, (clerk@elsworthvillage.com or 01954 267664) and she will pass on your request.

If you would like to contribute, but do not wish to become a councillor, we are always interested in hearing from individuals who may have specific skills or interests that might be of use. If you have something to offer, then speak to me, one of the other councillors or to our Parish Clerk, Liz Sim. At the present time Louise Hanzi, our volunteer Warden of the Fardell's Lane Nature Reserve, has indicated that she wishes to step down from this role. Louise has done a terrific job as Warden but we now need to find somebody to pick up the reins. Again, if you are interested, then do get in touch with me.

Peter Deer, Chair Elsworth Parish Council

peterdeer@btinternet.com

01954 267161

Your parish needs you!

Cambridge Carbon Footprint



Cambridge Carbon Footprint are once again delighted to offer to residents, and organizations, across Cambridge and South Cambs the opportunity to borrow and learn how to use a thermal imaging camera, for free, to help create more cozy and efficient homes. Learn how to interpret

thermal images, to discover draughts, gaps in insulation, heating problems, etc. Having this information is great for deciding on home improvements, and making fixes, both for homeowners and renters.

"really useful tool for assessing the home's heat loss and for planning improvements" - Borrower

The Project also encourages individuals or organizations to undertake training to survey multiple homes. In 2022 a Heydon Parish Councillor borrowed a camera and undertook a survey of 20% of the Village's homes and intends to do more this year.

Training Sessions:

Four free training sessions will take place online from 7:00-8:30 pm on: Thu 14 Dec, Mon 22 Jan, Thu 29 Feb

Camera Borrowing:

We only lend cameras to people already trained. Bookings for cameras will open on 1st Nov, after the training session. Free Loans of 14 cameras will start on Fri 3rd November, till early April: Each loan: Fri pm to Mon am, or Mon pm to Fri am, from 14 volunteer camera hosts around South Cambs and Cambridge City.



Shop opening hours over the festive season

Sun Christmas Eve - 9 - 12	Fri 29th 9 - 12
Mon Christmas Day - closed	Sat 30th 9 - 12
Tue Boxing Day - closed	Sun 31st 9 - 12
Wed 27th 9 - 12	Mon New Year's Day - closed
Thur 28th 9 - 12	

ELSWORTH JUBILEE CLUB

December 7th—Stevie Lester, "Insights of a Provincial Auctioneer" and Christmas Tea

January 11th—New Year Lunch at the George and Dragon (please provide menu choice to Rita no later than 7th December—£24 for non-members, £12 for members.



At our November meeting, we heard Sophie Arnold's enthusiastic talk especially relating to Hope Farm, right in our community. She told us of the new developments and plans which make Hope Farm not only ecologically sound but productive—and which can serve as an example to farmers in our area.

Her talk (with great visuals) included so much more than I was expecting. As she represents the Royal

Society for the Preservation of Birds, I anticipated a presentation about, well, birds. Although birds are central to the RSPB's mission, Hope Farm is looking to the future and endeavouring to provide homes for many forms of wild life in addition to producing practical sustainable crops.

If you would like to know more, please get in touch with the RSPB and talk to one of their representatives like Sophie.



HOLY TRINITY CHURCH ELSWORTH



Did you know?

There is always more to people in the public eye than we are aware of. The funeral of the late Sir Bobby Charlton is taking place as I write this piece. He is rightly and widely acclaimed for his achievements as perhaps the greatest footballer to have represented England and Manchester United. What is less well-known is the laudable charitable work and interests he gave himself to in later life; also, who, again in later years, had

fallen out with two members of his own family. We all have our Achilles' heel; a point of weakness that can leave us and others vulnerable, unless exceptional care is taken to guard against the impact of such frailties.

An inability or unwillingness to forgive and be reconciled can be an example of what I mean.

These same sentiments manifest themselves in the global conflicts seen in the wars between Palestinian HAMAS and Israel as well as between Ukraine and Russia. In matters we understand very little about – particularly over strained relationships between people we hardly know – reconciliation requires both parties to a dispute to come together. I am responsible for doing all I can to mend something broken I am associated with, but I can't answer for the other party. Forgiveness is something different, whether our 'issues' are small or significant.

Without forgiveness we can't be reconciled and restored in relationships that have fallen into disrepair. Forgiveness is the gift of someone who has been hurt or offended, towards the perpetrator of wrongful behaviour. It is not dependent on whether forgiveness is received and embraced. Part of the challenge can be in knowing I may forgive someone and still the breach between us is not healed – because the other person is unwilling to see the relationship restored. It may be even more daunting when both parties are perpetrators of wrongs, and the only difference may be in the degrees of forgiveness needed on either side!

Christians ought to be top notch forgivers of others. This is because we believe we are beneficiaries of God's unconditional and unmerited forgiveness to us, expressed in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. This casts a new light on Christmas and preparing for a new year.

Christmas is when we celebrate the birth of Jesus who came to secure our forgiveness by God and to model what forgiveness and reconciliation looks like among us. Let's use this season to leave no stone unturned in choosing to forgive and making sure the other party knows they have been forgiven.

We may feel very gloomy right now about the prospects for peace in Ukraine and between Israel and HAMAS; also, whether our own 'issues' will ever be sorted. God sees them differently. He has not given up on us or on what can transpire in today's global conflicts. That's why He is described in the Bible as 'the God of hope', for whom nothing is impossible. The Prince of peace invites us to be peace-makers for our times and circumstances.

Nigel di Castiglione
Team Rector

Christmas Services and Festivities

Elsworth Christmas lights switch on Dec 15th - 6pm by the shop

Village Carol Service Saturday 16th December - 6.00pm

Christmas Communion Christmas Eve - 10.30pm.

On New year's Eve there will be one service for the whole Team - accessed via our ZOOM link at www.papworthteamchurches.org

THE FESTIVAL OF CHANUKAH

Rabbi Dr Ruth I Fleischer

Hanukah means "dedication" but is also called "the feast of lights". This 8 night celebration commemorates the rededication of the Jerusalem Temple in 168 BCE. During the eight nights of Hanukah, a candle is lit on the "hanukiah" (the Hanukah menorah containing nine candles, the ninth of which is the "shamash" or "servant" by which the others are lit). Each night we meditate upon another aspect of the Hanukah story. . . .



The story of Hanukah properly begins with Alexander the Great whose empire extended from Greece to India. Two centuries after Alexander's conquest, Judea was ruled by the Syrian Seleucids, one of three divisions of Alexander's empire. Many Jews were attracted to Greek art and architecture, philosophy and athletics, and assimilated into the pagan scene.

In 175 BCE, after a mild revolt against the hellenisation of the Temple, quickly suppressed by King Antiochus "epiphanes" ("the exalted one", Antiochus resolved to crush Judaism and Jewish practices, demonstrating an antagonism and hatred for Judaism. Antiochus established a Greek city on the Temple mount and in 167, established a new ritual using a pig! All Jews were commanded to bow before Zeus and the other Greek gods. They were commanded to look, eat and behave like Greeks--or die!

When the new decrees of Antiochus were heard in the town of Modi'in, Mattitayu, a priest, destroyed the pagan altar. He, his wife, Chanah, and their 5 sons declared "though all Israel follow the king, we will follow God." The Jewish nation took up the battle, inspired by the cry, "who is for the Lord, come!"

When Mattityahu died his son, Yehudah became the leader. He was called "Maccabee", derived literally from "macab" which means "hammer", but also from the initial Hebrew letters of the verse: "who is like unto You among the mighty O Lord" (micha mocha b'elim Adonai).

Even when fearful Jews obeyed, they were often killed. Greek soldiers went from town to town throughout the land killing Jews and burning Torah scrolls. Death was pronounced upon any Jew who circumcised his son, kept the dietary laws, or read from the Torah.

Antiochus sent his army against the Jews on Shabbat, slaughtering men, women and children. But tragedy was turned to triumph, as a vibrant Jewish army arose, heathen altars were broken down, and Israel unitedly turned back to God. Biblical worship and practices were restored throughout the land.

Antiochus responded by amassing one of the largest armies ever to take the field in ancient times: 200,000 footmen, 12,000 horsemen, and 32 battle elephants! Yet Israel won a tremendous victory and the people rejoiced at God's deliverance.

When Jews entered the defiled Temple, their jubilation was overshadowed by the signs of hatred, pagan rites, and vandalism. The idol of Zeus was destroyed, and they began the monumental

task of cleansing the Temple. Then they searched for consecrated oil to light the golden menorah, as a sign that the Temple was renewed and rededicated to God. In their search, they found only enough oil to burn for one day.

Miraculously, the oil burned for 8 days--long enough to prepare more oil. This is the miracle of Hanukah which we celebrate, and why Hanukah lasts for eight days, beginning with the lighting of a single candle, until, on the 8th night, the glory has grown and all eight candles are ablaze at once. The verse from the Scriptures recited at Hanukah is: "Not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit, says the Lord." (Zechariah 4:1).

Remembrance Service 2023

Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.

At the going down of the sun and in the morning

We will remember them.

The Remembrance service was held at 3pm (at the going down of the sun...) on Nov 12th around the War Memorial in the churchyard.

Peter Deer read out the names of the people from the First World War who gave up their lives for us, and Capt (SCC) Victor Galpin RMR read out the names of the people from Elsworth who gave up their lives in the Second World War



Victor lives in Rogers Close and has two sons in the forces.

The cross he is holding is for his father.

Victor is keen to help any 10 - 13 year olds who would like to join or thinking of joining the Cambridge Sea Cadets and he can be contacted on:

Tel 07434 610350



School Remembrance





ELSWORTH PRE-SCHOOL



All of the children at Elsworth Pre-School are busy learning about Christmas! We are learning Christmas songs and the Makaton signs for Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer too, to make sure that our singing sessions are accessible for everyone. We are looking forward to sharing our songs with our families in Songs around the Christmas Tree before the end of term.

To help the children to understand The Christian Story of Christmas we have a roleplay stable complete with manger, gold, frankincense and myrrh so that the story can be acted out with their friends.

Autumn brings so many events, traditions and cultural events to learn about, we have had so much fun! Beginning with autumn hunts as we have looked for signs of autumn and the changing seasons, stomping in leaves, exploring their textures and sounds they make to making autumn art with what we have found in nature.



For Guy Fawkes Night we learnt the rhyme; Remember, remember the fifth of November... and cooked hotdogs on a campfire as we talked about the tradition of bonfires. It was so toasty and warm and the children developed great safety skills

around the fire! It wouldn't be complete without fireworks paintings filled with colour and sparkle!



Diwali has seen the children exploring rangoli patterns with different colours in playdough and also outside with giant paintworks! We also had a go at making Mendhi patterns using mud instead of henna whilst learning about Ariana's and Rafi's celebrations in 'The Best Diwali Ever.'

Where The Poppies Now Grow is a story that helped our children to understand Remembrance Day and why we wear our poppies, the children were very thoughtful and learnt about the different coloured poppies too showing great empathy for the animals of war.

We are looking forward to making our Christmas cards and crafts with the children in the coming weeks as we learn about giving to others during the festive season. Most of all we can't wait for the children to help prepare the Christmas dinner, pull our Christmas crackers together and celebrate at our Pre-School Christmas party at the end of term as we celebrate together as our Pre-School community.



If you have a little time to spare and would like to be a part of our Pre-School community we would love to welcome volunteers to share their experiences, to read or to garden with the children. We would also value your support as a committee member. If you feel you have a little time to give please get in touch with us at elsworthpreschool@outlook.com or on 01954268050.

We have a few spaces left for children this academic year and are enrolling now for September 2024. If you would like to book a visit to see our Outstanding Pre-School and to meet the team please don't hesitate to get in touch.

ance Service 2023



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Elsworth Village Cricket Team - Season Review 2023

The 2023 cricket season was one of highs and lows as Elsworth adjusted to life in J4. With Jamie, James, Rob and Pete no longer available due to work and life commitments, the team was in desperate need of new bodies from the get go. Thankfully, the arrival of youngsters Mitch, Finn and Mia, as well as the more senior players Simon and Andy helped ensure we always had XI players out on the field. Sadly, the weather got the better of us on numerous occasions this year, with almost a third of the games being called off! That being said, we did manage to achieve some really strong results, defeating Cam

Kerala home and away, Comberton away, Bar Hill away, Camden at home and Milton away. Very narrow defeats to Northstowe and Cambridge NCI, both of whom were promoted, shows the potential promise of the team. Elsworth finished 6th in the league, meaning we remain in J4 next season. Champagne moments for the season included a maiden century for our wicketkeeper John Farnell, a fantastic flowing 86* for Orin Gore, first senior wickets for Mitchell and Finn and finally Dan McClure almost causing a riot by running out a confused member of the opposition who despite his batting partner, his team, all of us and the umpires telling him the ball was still in play, insisted a boundary had been scored! At the close of the season, Stephen Logue was a double winner of the Batsmen and Fielder of the year, scoring 475 runs and claiming 11 catches. Stephens father Brett took the Bowler of the Year award with 16 wickets. We ended the season with our traditional Pairs Game, which this year was won by Dan McClure and Angus Rea (pictured right). It was a fantastic day of cricket and friendship, really showing off all that is so great about the village team. We are



always very keen to recruit more players to the team. We play 15 over mid-week friendly games from May to August, and have 40 over league games on a Saturday. Some players play in both, some play in one, or just see what best fits their plans each week! The team will emerge from hibernation for indoor nets in February, with outdoor nets starting in April. If you, or someone you know, may be interested in playing in 2024, please get in touch by emailing secretary.esc@outlook.com



Elsworth Sports Club AGM 2022 Summary

Thank you to all members who attended the Elsworth Sports Club AGM on Tuesday November 21st. The AGM was an opportunity for the new committee to update members on the financial and logistical developments that occurred in 2022. In short, the Sports Club has stabilised remarkably in the past 12 months, allowing us to drive towards significantly more work, improvements and growth going forward. Our ambition is to make the Pavilion a central hub for the village and a welcoming space for all clubs and societies. Chairman Rob Hector wishes to thank all members and volunteers for the support they have shown since taking on the role, with particular mention to our longstanding treasurer Roger, our tireless bookings manger Kim and finally Chris, our ever-reliable Secretary. The 2022 AGM was held late this year due to a range of circumstances, but the AGM to discuss the progress we have made in 2023 will return to its usual late spring slot, occurring on Tuesday April 9th 2024 at 19:00. For further details, please contact chairman.esc@outlook.com or secretary.esc@outlook.com. To book the pavilion, please contact bookings.esc@outlook.com

ELSWORTH SPORTS CLUB
EMAIL: SECRETARY.ESC@OUTLOOK.COM

ELSWORTH QUIZ NIGHT

February 3rd

£20 A TABLE (4-6 PEOPLE)

DOORS OPENS AT 6, EYES DOWN AT 7
DONATION BAR, BRING SNACKS

ELSWORTH PAVILION