

ELHAM NEWSLETTER

Published by the Elham Village Hall Association, Charity No 1024757

Also available on the EVHA website, www.elhamvillagehall.co.uk.
Events and News available to read on Facebook, Elham Village Hall,
and on www.visitelham.co.uk.



JULY 2023



What's On, In and Around ELHAM

Date	Event	Time	Location	Contact	Page
Sat/Sun July 1st/2nd	Elham Valley Line Trust Summer Steam Special	10.00 - 16.00	EVLT Peene	Facebook	21
Tuesday July 4th	Elham Valley Walkers	10.00	Lower Hardres Farm Shop CT4 5NU	Ros Humphries 0776048382	29
Wednesday July 5th	EVHA Social Snacks and Cinema FREE THIS MONTH	19.00 for 19.30	Peggy Pike Room Elham Village Hall	Jan Stanyon 01303 840820	5
Friday July 7th	Elham Historical Society	19.00	Elham Village Hall	See advert	21
Saturday 8th July	Lord Whisky Boot Fayre	Opens at 8.00	Stelling Minnis CT4 6AN	01303 862622	21
Saturday 8th July	Lyminge Proms Concert	16.00	Lyminge Village Hall	Nancy 07840796383	15

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ELECSA



Welcome to the July Elham Newsletter

It is feeling like summer has come at last... take a look at 'What's On' to see all the events in your local area and plan best use of the weather!

Thank you to all who sent articles and pictures that enhance this publication.

Following the May elections we are pleased to include a contribution from the new District Councillors, and hope for a regular monthly input.

A BIG THANK YOU to all our volunteer distributors who throughout the year deliver your Newsletter whatever the weather and special thanks to Janet Pain who took over distribution in February.

Thank you to those of you who have renewed your membership of Elham Village Hall Association that produces this Newsletter. If you still need to make your donation, the details are: - Elham Village Hall Association Ltd, sort code 09-01-52, account number 13698706. Also in this month's issue, the chance to join the EVHA 130 club, details on pages 8 and 9.

There is no August Newsletter so maybe take a look at the Elham Village Hall website for information. Have a safe, relaxing summer!



Editor, Renee Bull

What's On, In and Around ELHAM

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Sunday 16th July	Elham Valley Walkers	10.00	Bishopsbourne Church CT4 6PA	www.elhamvalleywalkers.co.uk	29
Monday 17th July	Age UK Ear service	10.00 -14.00	Lyminge	07948612994	33
Thursday 20th July	Elham Gardening Society 'Pecha Kucha Evening'	19.30	Peggy Pike Room, Elham Village Hall	Gerry Newman 01303 840947	10
Saturday 22nd July	Jumping Downs Nature Walk with Alfie	10.30 and again at 13.00	Entrance to Jumping Downs on South Barham Hill	Alfie Gay 07725466003	11
Wednesday 26th July	Rhodes Minnis Circle	14.30	Rhodes Minnis Village Hall	Marion 01303 862913	17
Saturday 29th July	Elham Gardening Society Summer Show	n/a	Elham Village Hall	See advert	25
Sunday 13th August	Elham Environmental Group Herby Happening	11.00 - 13.00	King George V Playing Field	Chris Jelly	10
Saturday 2nd September	EVHA First Aid at Work Course	9.00 - 16.00	Elham Village Hall	Miranda Weller miranda1232@hotmail.com	7
Sunday 10th September	Elham Village Hall Association Table Top and Car Boot Fair	9.00 -13.00	Elham Village Hall	elhamnewsletter@gmail.com	
Saturday 23rd September	Gin Tasting Evening	19.00 for 19.30	Peggy Pike Room, Elham Village Hall	Angie Scott 07808240605	24

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WHO'S WHO and WHAT'S WHERE

ELHAM VILLAGE HALL PERSONNEL (all are volunteers)

President: Jan Stanyon
Vice President: Gerry Newman
Treasurer: Sue Weller
Secretary: Miranda Weller

Other Committee members:
 Maureen Alexander Trevor Bateman
 Renee Bull Jim Clements
 Liz Cox Gerry Newman
 John Tebbs

Registered Office: Elham Village Hall, High Street, Elham, CT4 6SX

Editor and advertising;
elhamnewsletter@gmail.com
 Renee Bull 01303 840295

Distribution:
 Janet Pain 07710595891

Please email any newsletter copy to the editor by 9am on the 13th of the month prior to publishing or by hand into the Elham Village Hall bag at Elham Valley Stores.

Whilst every care is taken in gathering and presenting the information by the volunteers who produce the Newsletter, errors can occur. No responsibility is accepted for any errors or omissions nor consequential loss or liability. Opinions expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily those of the Elham Village Hall Association. We do our best to produce an interesting, accurate and informative read.

Elham Village Hall Association website:
www.elhamvillagehall.co.uk

Elham website: www.visitelham.co.uk

DOCTORS

The Elham Surgery, Old Road 01303 840213
 The Hawkinge Health Centre 01303 232300
 74 Canterbury Road, Hawkinge

HOSPITALS

William Harvey, Ashford 01233 633331
 Kent & Canterbury, Canterbury 01227 766877

PHARMACY

21 Station Road, Lyminge 01303 862425

SCHOOL

Elham CE Primary School 01303 840325

LIBRARY

Mobile Library is fortnightly in Elham outside the Rose & Crown - Fridays at 12.35 -13.05.
 A selection of used books is available to purchase in St Mary The Virgin Church.

ELHAM VILLAGE HALL 01303 840128

ELHAM SPORTS CLUB 01303 840485

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

Damian Collins 01303 253524

KENT COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Susan Carey 01303 670561

ELHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman - Kevin Lamb	01303 840215
Vice Chair - Christeen Chapman	01303 840224
Brian Swan	01303 840006
Geoff Clements	01303 840255
Kevin Allen	01303 862087
Steve Jones	07712 893362

FOLKESTONE and HYTHE DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

James Butcher james.butcher@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk
 David Godfrey 07584 304301
 Stephen Scoffham stephen.scoffham@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk

VETERINARY

Bourne Vets, Bekesbourne 01227 832322
 Manor Vets, Folkestone 01303 273203
 Hawkinge Vets, Hawkinge 01303 764190
 Lord Whisky Low-Income Veterinary Clinic 01303 862622

ELHAM CHURCHES www.elhamchurches.com

St Mary The Virgin, Church of England

Wardens: Peter Swain and 01303 840408
 Graham Ernest-Jones 01303 840645

Methodist Church, High Street

Minister: Rev Gill Songer 01303 240228

COUNCIL COMMUNITY WARDEN

Gary Harrison 07977 982185

Royal British Legion Elham Valley Branch

Derek Smith 01303 862508
 David Whitethread 01303 840650

SAMARITANS (freefone)

116 123

ELHAM VILLAGE HALL 130 CLUB

June Winners

1st Prize (£32) Number 21 Lyn Fagg
 2nd Prize (£20) Number 6 Mrs Bateman
 3rd Prize (£13) Number 127 Sue Winter

If you would like to take part,
 please contact Martin Turner
 01303 840804 / jgt867@aol.com

Social, Snacks and Cinema
Elham Village Hall 7.30pm on the first Wednesday of the month.

Entry on the door. £5.00 for EVHA friends. Others £6.00
Pay Bar available from 7.00pm



SOCIAL, SNACKS AND CINEMA

FREE ENTRY!!

Wednesday 5th July, 7 for 7.30pm

If you have never been to one of our social film nights, then the next one is for you!

This is an ideal time to give us a try because entry is free.

Come along to **T**he cosy Peggy Pike room at **E**lham Village Hall and **E**njoy a drink at our Platinum Bar, a **S**ocial talk about the film, ice creams and, of course, the film itself. Meet friends, make ne**W** ones. Our even**I**ngs are very relaxed, the seats are padded so you can just sit back and enjoy yourself.

In keeping with tradition, we will not tell you the na**M**e of the fil**M**- you hav**E** to wo**R**k it out....

There will be no film in Augu**S**t but we will be back to normal on the first Wednesday of the month in September, which is the 6th.

The perfect venue for every occasion

ELHAM VILLAGE HALL



Situated in the beautiful Elham Valley, our modern

village hall offers convenient and flexible facilities. Ideal for small or large occasions, happy or sad, from business meetings to christenings, wakes, birthday parties and weddings.

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Take a look at our website: www.elhamvillagehall.co.uk

Contact **Maggie Tappenden** telephone 01303 862467 mobile 0774 6790 618 for further information.

bookingsecretary.ev@gmail.com

Ticket Price
£ 6.00
Must be bought in advance

FASHION SHOW



An exciting evening of fashion & fun hosted by Travelling Trends



A ladies night out with a difference!
As well as a live CATWALK SHOW,
there is ample time to try on & buy
this season's High Street & Branded fashions.
All at bargain prices!!

**7.30pm on Friday 8th
September at**

Elham Village Hall

Doors open at 7pm

Tickets from Jan Stanyon
stanyonjan@aol.com/

01303 840820. Entry includes a glass of fizz. Bar available.

Come along for an evening of laughs. Bring your friends!





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FASHION SHOW

A great night out for the ladies hosted by Travelling Trends!

Friday September 8th at 7.30pm in Elham Village Hall

Come along for a fun evening of laughs. Enjoy a welcome glass of fizz and a live catwalk show. Plenty of bargains to be found. Bring your friends! This event is in aid of Elham Village Hall.

Emergency First Aid at Work Outline

The Elham Village Hall Committee have organised an Emergency First Aid at work course to take place at the hall on Saturday 2nd, September 9am - 4pm. We hope that this might be useful to other organisations in our village so that they may have a first aider at events.

The cost is £75 per person: it is not for profit but covers the cost of the trainer, teas, coffees and a few nibbles at lunchtime.

Upon successful completion, first aiders receive certification to allow them to practise and become qualified first aiders for three years.

The spaces are limited, so first come first placed. Please use my email as point of contact miranda1232@hotmail.com

Below is the link for more details regarding the course.

<https://tutorcare.co.uk/courses/emergency-first-aid-at-work/>



Elham Village Hall



Car Boot and Table Top Sale

Sunday 10th September

9.00 — 1.00pm

Table or Boot £10.00

**Contact elhamnewsletter@gmail.com or
phone 01303 840295 to book your place,**

QUOTESMUSE.COM

**EVERYBODY IS A GENIUS.
BUT IF YOU JUDGE A FISH BY
ITS ABILITY TO CLIMB A
TREE, IT WILL LIVE ITS
WHOLE LIFE BELIEVING THAT
IT IS STUPID.**

ALBERT EINSTEIN

WATCH THIS SPACE!

'Bolly wood Blast' is coming
soon to Elham Village Hall...



130 CLUB

The 130 Club will, in July, be celebrating its 10th birthday. We have, during the last 10 years been able to raise over £7,000 for Elham Village Hall Association and given out a similar amount in prize money.

We would like to thank everyone who has supported the scheme and hope you will continue to do so in the future. It would also be appreciated, for people who have never purchased a number, if you would consider doing so.

It would be great if we could sell more numbers this year. Please encourage neighbours/friends to purchase tickets.

You will find below a copy of the rules and also an application form.

Martin Turner

Application Form

(Applicants must be over 16 years old)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Post Code: _____ Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Quantity of numbers required _____ at £1 per month - minimum period of 12 months which equals £12 per number.

Total Payment enclosed: £ _____

I have made an online payment Yes/No

Signed: _____

Please ensure you fill in all your details above or we cannot allocate you a number in the Elham Village Hall 130 Club.

By signing this form, you are declaring that you have received and accepted the rules of The Elham Village Hall 130 Club

Please make your cheque payable to: Elham Village Hall Association 100 CLUB

Please find below account details if you would prefer to make an online payment:

Account Name: Elham Village Hall Association 100 Club

Sort Code: 30-93-34

Account Number: 52257560

Please use your NAME as a reference

Please return this form, with your payment, to Martin Turner, Little Ginny, Exted Hill, Elham, Canterbury, Kent CT4 6UD or leave in the box that can be found in Elham Valley Stores. Please inform us of any changes to your details.

Elham Village Hall Association News

Elham Village Hall 130 Club

An invitation to join Elham Village Hall 130 Club



The Elham Village Hall Association raises valuable funds every year for the running of Elham Village Hall. Money raised is used to maintain and improve the hall for the benefit of all users.

During the past year we have distributed £780 in prizes and raised a similar amount for the hall.

By joining the 130 Club you can help ensure Elham Village Hall remains open as a resource for all the residents in our community; as well as having a chance to win cash prizes every month!

The Elham Village Hall 130 Club is a private lottery and is open to all residents from Elham and the surrounding area, their family and friends. As a private lottery you have to be invited to join, you will be allocated a number and your numbers are not transferable. **You have to be 16 or over to join.** Each month there is a draw for 50% of the income. This amount is divided between 3 lucky winners on the following basis:

For example, if we have 130 numbers the income for that month will be £130.

50% will be used as the prize fund e.g., £65 split into three prizes assuming that there are 130 numbers.

The 1st prize will be £32

The 2nd prize will be £20

The third prize will be £13

You may buy more than one number per month. If at any time there are fewer than 130 numbers sold then the prize fund will be proportionally reduced. If there are more than 130 numbers sold then the prize fund will be proportionally increased.

We would ask that you pay for 12 months in advance (£12 per number). The more people who buy a subscription – the higher the prize money!

Interested? If so, please read the attached rules and complete the form with your details. You will then be allocated a membership number for every £1 subscribed.

Elham Village Hall 130 Club Rules

The object of the Club is to raise funds for Elham Village Hall.

The Club will commence on a date to be advised by the Elham Village Hall Association (once sufficient numbers have been issued).

The Club will be run by the Elham Village Hall Association. A member of the Management Committee will administer the Club and allocate numbers.

The Club is open to all residents of Elham and the surrounding area, their family and friends.

Members must be 16 or over.

Members must fill in an application form (attached).

The entry fee is £1 per month per number. At least 12 months' entry fees are to be paid in advance.

Payments should be paid by cheque made payable to **Elham Village Hall Association 100 Club**. You can also **transfer the money on-line** (account details on application form)

Members may have more than one number.

The draw will take place each month by the Chair of the Elham Village Management Committee.

Cheques will be delivered to the winners and names will be posted in the Elham Newsletter. If the winnings are not claimed for 6 months, they will be placed into the Elham Village Hall Association funds.

The regular monthly prize fund will be 50% of the monthly Income.

The first prize will always be equal to 25% of the total funds raised for that month; the second prize will be 15% and the third prize 10%.

50% of all money raised from the Elham Village Hall 130 Club will go towards the running costs of Elham Village Hall.

A register will be kept recording the name and address of each member, the number(s) allocated to them and the subscriptions received.

Unless otherwise advised, a member will be deemed to have left the Club if his or her renewal of subscription remains unpaid for a period of one month.

LOCAL NEWS



I am daring to say that summer is here at last - we've been besieged by the cold wind for so many weeks - it seemed as if it would never stop and allow us to enjoy the warm sun. But at last!!

Our speaker at the meeting on 18th May was Rachel Castle who talked about bulbs. She runs a mainly bulb nursery but is particularly interested in bulbs which

produce specialist and unusual flowers - beautiful but not run-of-the-mill. She showed us pictures of her glorious favourites, many new to the audience. She was an excellent speaker and her talk was most enjoyable and informative. We were especially grateful to her for coming at very short notice - the following day she was preparing to exhibit at Chelsea!

Not long to go before the Summer Show - we do hope all our members will take part by entering at least one of the many classes in the schedule.

The meeting in July will take the form of a Pecha Kucha evening - several short talks by a selection of people. Very good fun and very enjoyable.

We were all saddened by the news of the death of Chris Grenshaw - he was one of the most remarkable members of the Society - always ready to take part in the various shows - such a keen and expert gardener and a multi-prize winner over many years. Even latterly, although very frail, he was still taking an interest in his garden. He and his expertise will be sadly missed.

Meetings are held in the Peggy Pike room of the Village Hall on the third Thursday of each month - visitors are always welcome. Frances Horton - 840550.

ELHAM ENVIRONMENT GROUP

Elham Environment Group

Invites you to a



HERBY HAPPENING



Join us on Sunday 13th August
At the King George V Playing Field from
11am to 1pm

and sample our collection of thirteen herbs for your
kitchen.

Mint
Lavender
Feverfew
Rosemary
Lemon balm
Bay

Sage

Marjoram
Thyme
Hyssop
Catnip
Fennel
Calendula
Borage

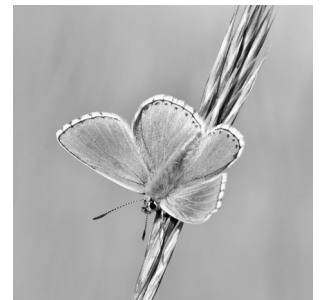
Bring your little ones along too. Smell the
difference and learn the names

Sponsored by Elham Parish Council

July Nature Notes

So far this year, the weather seems to have swung like a pendulum between prolonged spells of very dry and very wet conditions. At the time of writing, it has been over three weeks since the last drop of rain fell from the sky and many wildflowers are starting to show visible signs of drought stress. Yet both March and April brought such high amounts of rain that the chalk aquifer continued to rise into May and the Nailbourne advanced to the Black Robin at Kingston (despite having been very close to drying up at Barham at the start of March following one of the driest Februarys on record). Another feature of the spring that has been impossible not to notice, has been the persistent strong north-easterly wind blowing off the North Sea. This has led to perhaps the latest spring in south-east England since 2013, and a stark contrast to the very early spring of 2022. Oak leaf-burst at Elham

occurred approximately 15 days later than 2022, whilst the emergence of the first Adonis blue butterfly at Folkestone came on May 14th - a full 21 days later than its 2022 emergence.



.....cont/

July Nature Notes (continued)

One upside of the wet weather in March and April were the stunning displays of cowslips and buttercups on many hillsides in May.

It has also been a spectacular year for hawthorn blossom, the creamy white flowers lying thicker on their boughs than I can remember seeing in recent years. Several orchids enjoyed excellent flowering seasons including the early spider-orchid and the fragrant orchid. Unfortunately, despite the abundance of flowering plants, insect numbers during the spring were very poor. Whilst the relentless north-easterlies have undoubtedly played a part, it is also likely that last year's extended summer drought led to the starvation of a high percentage of butterfly and moth caterpillars. Butterflies such as the orange-tip, dingy skipper and speckled wood have been noticeably thin on the ground and nocturnal moth enthusiasts have reported worryingly low numbers of moths – not good news for bats and nightjars.



Few sounds are as evocative of July and August as the chirping of grasshoppers and crickets in a wildflower meadow. The process by which these insects 'sing' is known as stridulation, and its purpose is just the same as birdsong – to claim a territory and attract a mate. Grasshoppers stridulate by rubbing their wings against their legs, whilst crickets simply rub their wings together. They can also be distinguished by the length of their antennae (grasshoppers have short antennae, crickets have long antennae). Both have remarkable powers of dispersal, and if you let your lawn grow long in July there's a good chance it will be colonised by the meadow grasshopper and the Roesel's bush-cricket. A few species have also been quick to take advantage of our warming climate; in the last decade the sickle-bearing bush-cricket, the large conehead, and the tree cricket have all established footholds in East Kent, presumably after flying (or being blown) over the Channel. Our largest cricket, the great green bush-cricket, is abundant on the hills above Folkestone and Dover and has a far-reaching call that you can often hear whilst waiting in traffic on the A2 or A20. Our scarcest species, the wart-biter, survives on just four downland sites in southern England (including on the Kent Wildlife Trust reserve at Lydden) and due to its stocky build and rather heavy jump, is a little reminiscent of a small frog.

Wildlife to look for in July and August

Insects: marbled white, silver-washed fritillary, white admiral, great-green bush-cricket, glow-worm.

Wildflowers: Foxglove, heather, goldenrod, wild thyme, marjoram, harebell, nettle-leaved bellflower, field scabious.

Alfie Gay

Summer Wildlife at Jumping Downs

Saturday 22nd July

10.30am to 12pm (1st walk) and 1pm to 2.30pm (2nd walk).

**Meet at the entrance to
Jumping Downs
on South Barham Hill.**

Join naturalist Alfie Gay for a walk across Jumping Downs to look for some of the summer wildlife that occurs on this wonderful piece of Kent countryside.

Cost: Free (donations welcome).

All donations will go the upkeep of Jumping Downs.

There will be a morning walk and an afternoon walk.

If you would like to attend either walk please contact Alfie via email (alfgkg@hotmail.com) or phone (07725 466003).

Each walk will be limited to 15 people. Alfie Gay

LOCAL NEWS



ELHAM PARISH COUNCIL **cgreenwood@elhampc.co.uk** **LAST MONTH'S MINUTES**



Abbreviated minutes of the Annual meeting of the Parish Council on 15th May 2023.

Those Present: Councillors: K Lamb – (Presiding Chair), B Swan, C Chapman (presiding Vice Chair), S Peall, K Allen, G Clements, 2 members of the public and Clerk. Apologies: Cllr Allen received and accepted.

Election of Chairman - Nominations were requested for Chairman for the coming year; Cllr Lamb was proposed by Cllr Peall and seconded by Cllr Chapman. There being no further nominations it was resolved that Cllr Lamb was duly elected. The Acceptance of Office form was duly signed. Cllr Lamb took the chair.

Election of Vice-Chairman - Nominations were requested for Vice-Chairman for the coming year; Cllr Chapman was proposed by Cllr Peall and seconded by Cllr Swan. There being no further nominations it was resolved that Cllr Chapman was duly elected. The Acceptance of Office form was duly signed.

Public Contribution - No contributions.

Minutes of meeting.

Resolved: The minutes of the Annual meeting of the Parish meeting of 9th May 2022 were approved and were signed as a true record by the Chairman of meeting.

Resolved: The minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council meeting of 3rd April 2023 were approved and were signed as a true record by the Chairman of meeting.

Standing Orders - The Standing Orders were reviewed, and re-adoption agreed.

Financial Regulations -The Financial Regulations were reviewed, and re-adoption agreed.

Code of Conduct -The Code of Conduct was reviewed, and re-adoption agreed.

Finance

It was agreed that the Accounts from March 2023 were a true record and were signed by the Chairman of the meeting.

It was agreed the Bank Reconciliation from March 2023 was a true record and was signed by the Chairman of the meeting.

It was noted that all Councillors received the Accounts for April 2023.

It was noted that all Councillors received the Bank Reconciliation for April 2023.

It was agreed to renew the insurance with Zurich on a 3-year LTA at the cost of £1251.65.

The April invoices were agreed, and payments were approved.

Planning

The following applications were received, and comments agreed:

***Re-consultation - 23/0274/FH* Old Mount Barn, Mount Hill, Rhodes Minnis, Canterbury, CT4 6YD - Part Retrospective Application for the erection Single storey extension to existing house, and pergola, addition of swimming pool and pool house with the partial conversion with external works to garage. Resolved: is No Objection, subject to a condition that all outbuildings remain ancillary to the main property.**

***23/0618/FH* - Miniver House, Canterbury Road, Elham, Canterbury, CT4 6UG - Erection of an Orangery and two storey extension to rear and side and erection of a detached garage and store. Resolved: No Objection.**

***23/0589/FH* - Fir Tree Farm, Chapel Lane, Rhodes Minnis, Canterbury, CT4 6XR - Rebuilding of agricultural building including extension, to convert to a single holiday let accommodation unit. Resolved: is No Objection, subject to a condition that all outbuildings / holiday lets remain ancillary to the main property.**

The receipt of the following applications since the agenda was issued were noted and agree comments.

***23/0689/FH/TCA* - Kings Arms, The Square, Elham, Canterbury, CT4 6TJ - Works to trees in a Conservation area comprising of removal of T1 Hawthorne & T2 Holly. Resolved: No Objection.**

***23/0682/FH/TCA* - St Mary's Church, The Square, Elham, CT4 6TT - Works to trees in a Conservation area comprising of T13 Amelanchier spp remove east facing limb at 1.5 metres above ground, T15 Yew reduce length of the south facing lateral branch by a maximum of 2.5 metres, T23 Yew reduce length of all north and east facing lateral branches by a maximum of 2.5 metres. Resolved: No comment as Parish Council are the applicants.**

Decisions made by Folkestone and Hythe District Council were received:

***23/0342/FH*- The Sycamores, High Street, Elham, Canterbury, CT4 6SY- Demolition of existing garden terrace and steps and erection of two storey extension to include decking to the rear garden. – Approved with conditions.**

***23/0477/FH/TCA* - Abbots Cottage, Cullings Hill, Elham, Canterbury, CT4 6TE - Works to trees in a Conservation area comprising of T1 & T2 Western Red Cedar fell to ground. – No objections.**

Cont/.....

LOCAL NEWS



ELHAM PARISH COUNCIL
cgreenwood@elhampc.co.uk



Continuation of LAST MONTH'S MINUTES

Abbreviated minutes of the Annual meeting of the Parish Council on 15th May 2023.

Church wall - Following a site meeting with the Diocese Archeologist, the Parish Council are now waiting for the Diocese recommended Structural Engineer to make an appointment to view the wall / give their report on the section where concerns were raised.

The Community Orchard - The Clerk has received notification that many of the trees ordered are ready for delivery. Trail holes need to be dug to establish the soil conditions. The Clerk will liaise with Brogdale and KCC.

The Gore - KCC PROW objected to the planning application for the Gore, subsequently a site meeting with Kent PROW East Kent Area Manager was arranged in regard to the footpath. It was confirmed that the position of the public right of way is as per drawings submitted to FHDC and that the objection would be withdrawn. We are still waiting for a response from FHDC Case Officer.

Trees - It was agreed to defer discussing the received Tree Survey to a future Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council.

Policies - The Memorial Bench Policy was reviewed, and adoption agreed.

Date of next meeting and Close - The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Monday 5th June 2023 at 7.30pm. There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.38pm.

ELHAM PARISH COUNCIL
cgreenwood@elhampc.co.uk
www.elhampc.co.uk

Abbreviated draft minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council on 5th June 2023.

Those Present: Councillors: K Lamb – (Chair), C Chapman (Vice Chair), B Swan, S Peall, K Allen, G Clements, 3 members of the public and Clerk. Apologies: None were received.

To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI), Other significant Interests (SIs) or a Voluntary interest relating to items on the agenda. None were declared.

Public Contribution: Members of the public raised questions about the planning application for the Gore.

Minutes of meeting.

1)Resolved: The minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting of 15th May 2023 were approved and were signed as a true record by the Chairman of meeting.

2)Resolved: The minutes of the C&A Committee meeting of 22nd May 2023 were approved and were signed as a true record by the Chairman of meeting.

Chairmans Report

We, along with members of the parish who are interested in twinning, had a proactive meeting with members from Ambleteuse last week. They have proposed the invitation of a return visit to Ambleteuse in August to potentially sign a twinning commitment document. In the meantime, the Clerk will be contacting the village groups, organisations, and the school to arrange an exchange of contact details.

I have been contacted by members of the parish who are dismayed with the bus situation. We have been asked if we can pursue the idea of a community bus. The SOS Save Our 17 Bus are in communications with Stagecoach with the aim to have the cancelled bus service reinstated. There will be an agenda item at a future meeting to discuss the idea of a community bus.

Finance

1)The Council reviewed the 2022-2023 Internal Auditor Report and agreed no actions.

LOCAL NEWS



ELHAM PARISH COUNCIL
cgreenwood@elhampc.co.uk
www.elhampc.co.uk



.../ cont.

Abbreviated draft minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council on 5th June 2023.

- 3)The Council reviewed and approved the effectiveness of the system of internal control, this was signed by the Chairman and the Clerk at the time of the meeting and witnessed by all present.
- 4)The Council approved the Annual Governance Statement for 2022 - 2023, Section 1 of the AGAR for the year ending 31st March 2023, this was signed by the Chairman and the Clerk at the time of the meeting and witnessed by all present.
- 5)The Council approved the Accounting Statements for 2022-2023, Section 2 of the Agar for year ending 31st March 2023. Signed prior to the meeting by the Clerk and signed by the Chairman at the time of the meeting and witnessed by all those present.
- 6)The Council approved the supporting Bank Reconciliation as of 31st March 2023, this was signed by the Chairman and the Clerk at the time of the meeting and witnessed by all present
- 7)The Council approved the explanation of the significant variations from 2021-22 to this year 2022-23, this was signed by the Chairman and the Clerk at the time of the meeting and witnessed by all present.
- 8)The dates set for the period for the exercise of public rights (19th June 2023 – 28th July 2023) were agreed.
- 9)The Accounts from April 2023 were a true record and were signed by the Chairman of the meeting.
- 10)The Bank Reconciliation from April 2023 was a true record and was signed by the Chairman of the meeting.
- 11)It was noted that all Councillors received the Accounts for May 2023.
- 12)It was noted that all Councillors received the Bank Reconciliation for May 2023.
- 13)The virement of £139.07 from ringfenced elections to election budget provision was agreed.
- 14)The virement of £2940.00 from ringfenced Churchyard to Churchyard budget provision was agreed.
- 15)The May invoices were agreed, and payments were approved.

Planning

- 1)The following applications were received and comments agreed:
23/0673/FH- Cockpit Cottage, Cock Lane, Elham, Canterbury, CT4 6TJ - Single storey pitched roof extension with dormer. Resolved: No Objection.
- 2)The following application was received since the agenda was issued were noted and agree comments.
23/0743/FH– Little Graces, Park Gate Hill, Elham, CT4 6NF - Conversion of garage, new front porch, removal of front timber balcony/pergola and changes to fenestration. Resolved: The Clerk would request an extension until 4th July 2023.
- 3)The following decisions made by Folkestone and Hythe District Council were noted:
Re-consultation - *23/0274/FH* Old Mount Barn, Mount Hill, Rhodes Minnis, Canterbury, CT4 6YD - Part Retrospective Application for the erection Single storey extension to existing house, and pergola, addition of swimming pool and pool house with the partial conversion with external works to garage. - Approved with Conditions.

Committees

- 1)It was agreed that Cllr Peall would join the Wellbeing Committee.
- 2)It was agreed to keep the aims of the below committees as is for the time being.
 - a. C&A Committee
 - b. Wellbeing Committee

Trees

The quotations received were considered and it was agreed to proceed with Spearpoint at the sum of £850.00. Clerk will correspond with the Diocese once planning permission is received.

Date of next meeting and Close

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Monday 3rd July 2023 at 7.30pm. There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.35pm

LOCAL NEWS

District Council News

The May elections brought dramatic changes to Folkestone and Hythe District Council. The Conservatives, who had run the Council for many years, lost overall control. The Green Party, supported by the Liberal Democrats, have formed the new administration. There are a total of 30 seats on the Council which are distributed as follows: Green Party 11, Labour Party 10, Conservative 5, Liberal Democrat 2, Independent 2.

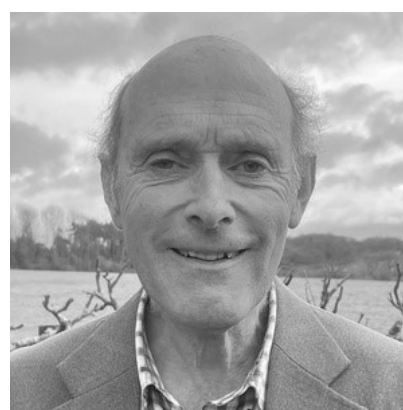
Three candidates were elected in May to represent Elham. Some of you will no doubt know David Godfrey (Deputy Leader of the Conservative group) who has served on the Council for many years. There are also two newcomers, James Butcher and Stephen Scoffham, both of whom represent the Green Party. Stephen has become the portfolio holder for climate change, environment and biodiversity and James has been appointed to various important Council committees.



James Butcher



David Godfrey



Stephen Scoffham

Elham is a part of North Downs ward which includes Hawkinge and a large area of countryside stretching from Newington to Swingfield Street. Your councillors will be working together to deal with local issues as they arise. We will also be writing regular reports in future editions of the Elham Newsletter in which we will tell you more about ourselves and the work that the Council is doing throughout the District. There are some really exciting developments coming up in the next few years including major redevelopment schemes in Folkestone, the start of work on Otterpool Garden Town and plans to enhance wildlife in the countryside. Watch this space for more news in the months ahead!

Cllr Stephen Scoffham

PROM CONCERT 2023!

Saturday 8 July at 4.00pm
at
Lyminge Village Hall

Programme to include:

Les Miserables
Simon & Garfunkel medley
Coronation pieces & the usual prom favourites

**Bring your flags, hats, voices & most
importantly - yourselves!**

Grand Raffle

Admission £10 on the door – children FREE!

For more information, please contact Nancy on 07840 796383 or check the Lyminge Newsletter





County Councillor's report Elham July 2023



You may recall that KCC made a successful bid to the Government's Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS) for £20.6m for a variety of schemes to reduce energy costs and carbon emissions ranging from replacing lights, installing double glazing, heat pumps and solar panels on the roofs of our buildings. By far the largest project on our list was the purchase of a large solar park (21 MW) followed by the building of a smaller (3MW) solar park on one of our closed landfill sites. The grants had to be spent within 7 months which was impossible but we were determined to make good use of this opportunity and when the solar park we intended to buy in Kent was cancelled we found another one that met the grant criteria in North Somerset. The site, known as Bowerhouse 2, covers 94 acres and has 39,256 solar panels built on stilts so that the land can still serve as flood alleviation.

Bowerhouse 2 has been generating carbon free electricity for around a year now and going through a commissioning process to check for defects. It's now reached its full capacity and on 09 June, KCC Leader Roger Gough and I had a tour of the site and I cut a ribbon to mark the successful completion of the project. KCC contributed £1.4m to the purchase of the site and the balance of £14.5m came from the PSDS grant. In its first year of operation it has produced £2.8m and (when energy prices fall as they are expected to) it will still make at least £1m a year for the next 40 years. This is very welcome at a time when we have to make £55m of savings this financial year and yet more thereafter.

One of the 300+ services funded through your Council tax is Kent Scientific Services (KSS) which provides the scientific and calibration work needed to support Kent Trading Standards to check that goods sold in Kent are safe and properly measured. KSS is one of the services that's not often seen but which keeps us safe and catches crooks.

On 05 June the Kent Scientific Services laboratory in Kings Hill, West Malling was visited by Prime Minister Rishi Sunak to announce a nationwide crackdown on the marketing and sale of vapes to those under 18. It's illegal to sell vapes to children but some unscrupulous retailers have been giving free samples to children to encourage them to become future customers. With their brightly coloured packaging and sweet like flavours, vapes can be attractive to children. The free sample loophole is being closed. More generally KSS has been testing vapes on sale in Kent for dangerous ingredients such as lead and Kent Trading Standards (another KCC service) is undertaking targeted enforcement action.

KCC plans to hold a number of public consultations over the next few months and the best way to take part is to register via letstalkkent.gov.uk. We will be asking for views on the 2024/25 budget which may seem very early indeed but the intention is to have savings plans more fully developed by the time of the budget meeting in February 2024. Do please take part as this is the consultation helps us decide which services to prioritise.

Susan Carey Member for Elham Valley, Kent County Council

DON'TS FOR WIVES was a self-help book written by Blanche Ebbutt in 1913

'Don't be afraid to rough it now and again with your husband as a companion. If he feels that he would like a week's walking tour with you as a chum, don't object that it may rain or that you haven't a suitable dress or that you can't manage for a week with nothing in the way of luggage except a nightdress and toothbrush. Enter into the spirit of the thing and you'll get quite as much fun out of it as he will and be happier than if he accompanied you to some fashionable resort where you would need to dress three or four times a day. '

Editor

LOCAL NEWS

Rhodes Minnis Circle

We had a successful A.G.M. in May when Sandra Dowdall was presented with the competition cup.

We look forward to our meeting on July 26th when John and Jane Buss are giving us a talk on Folkestone Warren's unique environment.

The Competition will be an Item beginning with 'D' We meet at Rhodes Minnis Village Hall at 2-30pm and visitors are very welcome to join us. Marion 862913

St Mary's, Elham

The Knitters have been working tirelessly to produce enough cushions for the pews and chairs in church. We have funded everything so far but, as costs have risen so much, we would now like your help. If you are happy to contribute a small amount to the "Warm Bottom" fund please give the money to Janice or Val. We hope to have every seat covered in time for next winter and to have all the cushions a uniform size and shape. Janice Cooper

JULY WORDSEARCH

Find these 'cheeses' ...mmmmm



Caerphilly Camembert Cheddar Cheshire Curd Danish Blue Derby

Emmental Gorgonzola Gouda Gruyere Mascarpone Parmesan Stilton

Port Salut Ricotta Romano Roquefort Wensleydale

CHURCH PAGES

Dear Friends,

It has been an enormous privilege to serve my curacy in the Elham Valley Benefice. These few years have not been easy for any of us, and yet, here we are. Still smiling, still supporting each other, and still looking forward. We're starting the search for our next Rector, having said our sad goodbyes and fond farewells to Rev'd Jane earlier in the year, and the wardens of our beautiful churches have come together to write the profile that forms the basis of our search. From the sanctuary of my sick bed (many thanks to all who have been in touch following my car accident earlier in the year – I'm so grateful to you all and am looking forward to being back with you soon!) I thought I'd take the opportunity to share with you some of the comments I wrote as my contribution.

The Elham Valley Benefice is situated within an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty but, whilst the scenery is truly wonderful, it is the outstanding natural beauty of the people and communities the Benefice serves which is the real attraction. The eight churches which comprise the Benefice are dedicated to a wide spectrum of saints, from royalty to redeemed sinners, and everything in between, and the communities cherish the traditions passed down to them through generations. These are faithful rural communities steeped in history and ancient buildings soaked in prayer, rooted in the earliest days of English Christianity. However, these are not communities that focus on the past – they are vibrant and open to the movement of the Spirit to grow and develop, to nurture and encourage each other, seeking new ways of expressing faith (as well as cherishing well-loved traditions) that enable all to have a meaningful relationship with Christ. Embodying the qualities of their designated saints, these are communities of abundant generosity, endless compassion and unprejudiced hospitality, all the while recognizing their own need for God's grace. They respond unfailingly to local, national and international appeals for support, and – always discerning responses through prayer - relish the opportunity to serve others as Christ would. These are rural communities that are working together to overcome the difficulties they face; communities that are learning the importance of listening to each other as well as to God; communities that are yearning to be the places Christ has called them to be.

The Elham Valley Benefice – those that minister on our behalf, those that serve behind the scenes, those that attend services or support fundraising initiatives - is an extraordinary group made up of ordinary people. If you want to find out more, perhaps how the church can help you, or how you can help the church, do get in touch with one of the churchwardens, or contact me directly revdebscoble@gmail.com – I'd love to chat with you!

Whatever plans you have for this summer period, I pray that you find joy and peace within them. God bless you all

Rev'd Deb

Please visit our website for information about our churches, services and the people who make up our church family www.elhamvalleygroupofchurches.co.uk

We also produce a weekly Prayer and News sheet – please contact the Benefice Administrator* if you would like to receive this by email, or subscribe from the website 'contact us' section

*Alison Dale – 07985025381 – alison-dale@outlook.com

St. Mary's:

JULY 2023

2nd 8am – Holy Communion 9th 9.30am – Eucharist

16th 9.30am – Service of the Word 23rd 9.30am – Taizé Service

30th 10am – Benefice Service at St Martin, Acrise – outdoors

AUGUST 2023

6th 9.30am – Service of the Word 13th 9.30am – Eucharist

20th 9.30am – Service of the Word 27th 9.30am – Morning Prayer

CHURCH PAGES

Every **Wednesday 8am** – Morning Prayer by Zoom – For details see: www.elhamvalleygroupofchurches.co.uk

St Mary's – the church remains open daily from 9.00 am to 5.00 pm for private prayer and meditation.

Methodist Church: (at 9.30am unless otherwise stated)

JULY 2023

2nd Rev H Hollands HC **9th** Local arrangement

16th **1015am** EVC at Rhodes Minnis **23rd** Rev R Hollands HC

30th Local arrangement

AUGUST 2023

6th Colin Pearson **13th** Christine Slater

20th **1015am** Rev G Songer HC **27th** David Songer

Churches Together in Elham

Prayer meeting in the **Methodist Hall**, open to all persons of any denomination or none. Bi-monthly, on a **Saturday morning, at 8 am**, half an hour of prayer followed by breakfast at **8.30** (please let David Whitethread know if you are coming – 840650 or 07961053335).

The next Prayer Breakfast is **5th August**. All welcome, come and join us.

Coffee & Cake morning – Mondays, 1030 to 1200.

NOTICES

From Sharon Paine

As most of you are now aware, I am to be ordained at Canterbury Cathedral on the 1st July at 10.30am. We are given a designated small number of seats for family etc. However, it would be wonderful if as many of you from across the benefice who wished to, could come for this occasion. Although I cannot offer designated seats to anyone who is not already aware they have been named, the service is open to all. There is no need to book. Although I have been told that arriving early is recommended to avoid being stuck behind a pillar! I hope to see there if you are able.

Funeral of Ben Mills

Ben's widow Alice has asked that as many people know as possible the details of Ben's funeral.

There will be a service at Barham Crematorium on Friday 7th July at 1:20pm. This will be followed by a short Memorial Service at St. Mary the Virgin in Elham at about 2pm. Everyone welcome at both or either service.

Saturday, 5th August; Acrise Festival at St Martin's 10am to 5pm - Music, stalls, refreshments, flowers and fun. Any offers of cakes, bakes, savouries, will be gratefully received! Also, any musical performers would be made most welcome. Please contact Simon (music) 07999515551 or Sue (everything else) 01303 844640

In order to save energy, James from Acrise Electric has updated all of the lights at St Mary's Church with LEDs. A kind donation made this possible. The scaffold almost touched the roof!
Peter Swain



KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOUR

CHRIS BAILLIE-MARSH is known by all the school children as the lady who looks after them at lunchtime. She has agreed to feature as the neighbour we can get to know this month.



How long have you been part of the Elham Community?	Pete and I moved here in 2009 and married in the village church in 2011. I'm a Londoner born and bred, Pete has always lived in Canterbury. We both wanted to retire to the country and we could not have picked a better place.
What do you consider your greatest achievement to date?	Co-founding the Elham Valley Ukrainian Support Group in March 2022 with my now friend Sam from Lyminge. We didn't know each other at the time but we had the same motivation to help Ukrainian refugees. We never realised how difficult, heart-breaking, but rewarding it would turn out to be although we recognise it has not been easy for some of our sponsors.
When were you happiest?	Going to New York last year with my daughter and granddaughter for my big '0' birthday and more recently when Katya and Polina, our current UA Uni students from Zaporizhzhia, received grade As in their first exam, studying here online at our home. What an outstanding achievement under the circumstances, so proud of them.
What did you want to be when you were growing up?	A policewoman, but in those days you couldn't have long hair and I didn't want to cut mine so instead I spent 30+ years working in Finance in London with my chunky mobile and Filofax - yuppy times.
What keeps you awake at night?	Worrying about my previously sponsored UA guests and their families. Some have returned home now and I worry about our current UA Uni students' families and friends, some of whom are in the occupied areas, so it's a constant.
What is the most important lesson life has taught you?	When you get knocked back, pick yourself up and learn from it. Just get on with living, we only get one chance in life and there is always someone worse off than you. If you can help them it can sometimes help you too.
Which village event do you most look forward to?	My favourite is the Elham Farmers' Market but without the power cuts like this year. I always support our local businesses where I can, we need to treasure them.
Tell us three activities that keep you busy?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working as a lunchtime supervisor out in the field at our village school. It was only ever going to be temporary, but 13 years later I'm still there - love it. Hosting all of my UA guests and running the group. It has been, and still is, so rewarding and so many kind villagers have sponsored Ukrainian people up and down the Elham Valley. We are lucky to have the Nailbourne River running through our garden so feeding all the wild ducks in Elham keeps me busy. We had 50 one evening, not so good if you like a nice lawn!
What one change in the village would improve your life?	A little outside adult gym in the playground would be great, but costly I know. Wishful thinking.
Cat, dog or goldfish?	Cats, I've had many and they all have their different characters, some really funny.
What is the worst job you have ever done?	Saturday girl in Woolworths in Brixton, London. Working on the electric light bulb counter under all the lights in summer. In those days we had to check every light bulb was working before selling them.
Tell us a joke.	A Ukrainian guy goes to the optician. The bottom line of the eye chart has the letters C Z Y N Q S T A S Z The optometrist asks, 'Can you read this?' The Ukrainian replied, Read it? I know the guy!
What would the people of Elham not know about you?	I am an indigenous cockney but I try to hide it when talking to you!
Last thoughts, final word.	Never underestimate people. Within weeks of arriving Katya (Kate) and Polina started working weekends in our village shop having never been outside Ukraine. They are a credit to their family and country. Please say 'hello' to them when you are next in there. I'd like to thank all our villagers who have made them welcome, supported them and been so kind to them. They love our village and are very happy here until they are able to return home.



Elham
Historical
Society

A Fresh Look at St Mary's

Building, Furnishings and Personalities



at the Church
Friday 7th July
7.00 for 7.30 p.m.
All welcome

Railway Museum THE ELHAM VALLEY LINE TRUST Countryside & Craft Centre

Registered Charity 295563
Open 10am to 4pm every weekend

SUMMER STEAM SPECIAL

in Miniature

1st and 2nd JULY

(weather and engines permitting)

The Frogholt & Etchinghill Railway
book available from the Museum Shop at £2.50

www.elhamvalleylinetrust.org
www.facebook.com/ElhamValleyLineTrust.Official

Pottery Workshop *with Clare*

TUESDAYS
10AM-12NOON

Age UK Lyminge,
Everist Court,
Station Road,
Lyminge
CT18 8HQ



025274, Company number 6589817.
Lyminge and Age UK © 2023.

Age UK
Lyminge

In aid of
LORD WHISKY SANCTUARY FUND
(Registered Charity 283483)
Park House Animal Sanctuary, Stelling Minnis CT4
6AN
Tel: 01303 862622 www.lordwhisky.co.uk

Boot & Summer Fayre Saturday 8th July at Park House

Boot Fair from 8am ~ cars £7.50 / vans £10
Arena Entertainment
Classic Vehicles Welcome
Hot & Cold Refreshments ~ Tombola
Admission by donation ~ Plenty of parking



Boot & Late Summer Fayre Saturday 5th August at Park House

Boot Fair from 8am ~ cars £7.50 / vans £10
Arena Entertainment
Classic Vehicles Welcome
Hot & Cold Refreshments ~ Tombola
Admission by donation ~ Plenty of parking

VILLAGE FORUM

LESSONS LEARNED

I have lived in Elham since 1961 and been invited to dip into my memories and share some of my experiences with the readers of the Elham Newsletter... to continue:

My first experience of working for a living was in Anglesey at the age of eight or so. I spent part of the summer holiday back in Anglesey with my father. I had a stalwart friend who was the nephew of Sandy, a glorious Cockney who might have been a refugee from bomb-shattered London. He ran a little kiosk in a lane close to my father's house, which increased in trade as the holiday makers returned after the war. Probably in the summer of 1948, Sandy had read about grey-hound racing as a summer cash-raising venture. He had heard of successful initiatives in mid-Wales and thought our village might copy. He did some research and found that a tractor, connected by a large fan belt to device with a long pole attached to stuffed rabbit would create a circular track. Sandy, ever cautious about spending any money, thought, for an initial test-run, he could get away with Donald on a revolving platform with a miracle of gearing, borrowed from the local fair still wintering after a wartime in Anglesey, and a fixed three geared bicycle with a tyre-less back wheel to drive the whole apparatus. Donald and I had roughly flag-marked the inner track, which seemed ridiculously small and Sandy had roped in three local farmers who turned up with a motley collection of dogs of various sizes and excitability. The dogs were held by their collars, as Sandy motioned Donald to mount the bike. It more or less worked. The rabbit gathered some speed and jerked past the waiting farmers. When it was about a quarter way round the track Sandy shouted for the farmers to release the dogs. They loped more or less round the circuit and caught the rabbit before the half way point and savaged it to destruction. Not to be put off, Sandy fixed another rabbit and a knackered Donald gave it one more go. This time, Sandy delayed the start until the rabbit was half way round before he shouted for the hounds to be released. The dogs had obviously sized up the situation and this time ignored the circuit and ran straight across the circle and between them, demolished the rabbit. Sandy had run out of rabbits, Donald was shattered and resentful and the farmers, who genuinely appreciated Sandy, also loved the fact that the new coming city-slickers still had much to learn from the rooted country folk. And that was the end of the experiment.

I don't know what was subsequently said in the pubs, but Sandy, to my knowledge, never, ever mentioned it again.

At university, for three years I had a summer vacation job with Finns at Nackington. I did the range from cherries to hops to harvest. I graduated from lettuce weeding to tractor driving, and because I had also passed my driving test, I could be trusted with a tractor on the road. Unfortunately, the normal trailers used around the farm were two-wheeled and attached to the little grey Fergie. The harvesting trailers were four wheeled and pulled by massive Fordsons. All went well until, overconfident, I overshot the stack-side unloading bay and had to reverse back. It was a nightmare in front of a jocular audience. And took ages.

As I left, angry and despondent, an old employee, that I had often worked with, motioned me to stop well out of the way, and said, "You haven't learned how to reverse a trailer like this, have you? Just keep the tension and with hand at the bottom of the steering wheel turn the wheel in the direction you want the back to go.

You've caused so much chaos here, you've plenty of time before we sort it all out!"

I did what he said and lo! It was so!

So, once again, lesson learned.

One final vivid farming memory: I was picking cherries at Hollow Lane in Canterbury. The trees were tall, the broad-based ladder was secure and the view of Canterbury out from the tops of the trees was idyllic. Tranquillity shattered by farmer's bellow: "Pigs out! Everybody down!"

Rapid descent and issued with hurdle and together with instructions to gradually pen him in a corner and lose hurdles until there were only three left. The farmer would then step in to collar the pig. It worked: three hurdles left and me the middle one.

I must have seemed the weakest link! The pig suddenly charged at me and thrust his snout under my hurdle. I felt the power from his shoulders as he heaved me over his back. My hurdle ran the nodular length of his spine and I was on the ground behind him and watched him scamper away followed by twelve or so hurdlers who eventually cornered him on the other side of the orchard. They had to collect him in the farm van, but without my assistance. I had already made enough of a pig's ear out of the day. I did my wounded hero act, and stayed well away.

Amities, Nigel



Elham

Observations

Where is this in Elham?
Answer on page 26

LOCAL NEWS

ELHAM SUMMER FOOD & CRAFT FESTIVAL

A BIG THANK YOU



Thanks to everyone who helped, sold or shopped at our summer market – we really appreciate your support.

Special thanks to the Bell Ringers for opening the market and our trusty volunteers who hang the bunting, man the raffle stall and coordinate the parking. A big shout out to the Kings Arms for clearing the Square and providing great beers and barbecue. And not forgetting our welcome visit from the delightful donkeys, Della and Dorothy, who always raise a smile.

We are delighted to be supporting Shepway Food Bank from our raffle proceeds again and will be able to make another substantial donation.

Date for your diaries: Christmas Food & Craft Festival, 10th December.

In the meantime, if you would like a stall at Christmas, please email julie3woodgate@gmail.com

We hope to see you there!

www.kfma.org.uk/elham

[Facebook.com/elhamfarmersmarket](https://www.facebook.com/elhamfarmersmarket)
www.kfma.org.uk/elham





FRIENDSHIP LUNCH on Thursday

A delicious lunch was enjoyed by local people attending the monthly lunch held in May at St Mary's Church Hall. Janice Cooper entertained everybody with her various ukuleles and everybody sang along with the familiar songs. A good time was had by all.
Val Swain



Let the fun be Gin!

ELHAM GIN NIGHT

Sat 23rd September - 7 for 7.30pm - Elham Village Hall

Limited tickets in advance only, £30

Includes - a glass of fizz, 4 gins with paired small plates and a gin cocktail

Contact: Angie Scott 07808 240605, angiebooscott@hotmail.com

Run by Gin House Ladies - any profits go to Charity

Summer Show

Saturday 29th July

2pm

Elham Village Hall

**Enjoy an afternoon with
beautiful displays of:
Flowers, Fruit, Vegetables
Art, Crafts and Childrens Art
from Elham Primary School.**

**Afternoon Tea & Cake
Raffle**

**Bring your family and
friends.**

***We would love you to take part.
Schedules are available from:
Colebrook Sturrock Estate
Agents.***



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LOCAL NEWS



Friends of St Mary's

Jazz on a Summer Evening

Thank you to everybody who supported us on June 14.

Better weather than we dared hope for; delightful surroundings; brilliant jazz; Pimm's on tap, and house full signs!

Trevor Gasson



VILLAGE FORUM

Save Our Seventeen Elham Valley Evening Buses

You may (or may not) be aware that the No 17 evening bus service along the Elham Valley ceased from 12th February, in both directions. This will have significant impact on many sectors of our community.

It will affect young and old alike, as people will become quite isolated if they can't go out socially, also affecting those who need the buses to get to and from work, especially those on low incomes, those working as care workers or in the hospitality sector.

According to the 2021 Census, 10% of households between Etchinghill and Bridge have NO cars and a further 39% only have one car.

The decision to axe the last two buses on the 17 route was made by KCC, who we know have a financial crisis, and although they say it caused them consternation to cut the buses, we feel that it was quite simple for them to remove the subsidy that they paid Stagecoach and instantly save £46,000 p.a. We might ask the question whether KCC actually discussed the matter with Stagecoach to see if they could still run the buses without the subsidy if a campaign was run to get more people to use the bus. Ironically this all happened at the same time as central Government subsidised the fares to give us our '£2.00 per journey' deal.



A small group of us here in Elham decided that we needed to do something about this and set about creating a Facebook Page (for those who do social media), which now has almost 480 members, and additionally a **specific mailing list** for our 'Save Our Seventeen' evening buses campaign, in order to be able to easily update local people with our progress. To date this list has almost 270 members.

We discussed this matter at the Parish Council meeting in March and a working group was formed. A community bus (which could be supplied by KCC) was mentioned at the working party meeting, but this

would need volunteer drivers (who would be happy to drive a small bus in the dark along country lanes), plus back up drivers – all with associated police checks, routes and schedules being planned and maintained, and, despite putting the request for same on our Facebook page, we have not had a single reply with regard to prospective volunteers.

Through the Facebook group, we were able to get Mike Sole, the Lib Dem Member for Canterbury South involved. He was extremely helpful and has proved to be a very worthy councillor, and within a few weeks had helped us to get a meeting with Stagecoach.

We had a very positive meeting with the Commercial Director at Stagecoach.

Stagecoach is a commercial operation and it is not in their best interests to cut services as this will only reduce their income. We found out that we only need 9 MORE PEOPLE on each bus for the buses to be viable. This should not be unattainable!

We put our case to him and suggested that if he could help us and work with us, we personally would do everything we possibly could to promote the bus throughout the valley. We talked about promotions, and maybe changing the time of the last bus, to fit in with theatre productions. All in all, it was a very positive meeting.

We have to leave it in his hands, as he is trying to find some money, possibly through Government funding, to perhaps reinstate the bus for a trial period. It would then really be a case of 'USE IT OR LOSE IT'. We have no alternative at the moment than to wait and see, but if you join our mailing list and Facebook group, we can keep you posted with developments.

.....CONT/

VILLAGE FORUM

...cont/ **Save Our Seventeen Elham Valley Evening Buses**

Our Facebook group – S.O.S. – ‘Save Our Seventeen’ Elham Valley Bus has nearly 480 members - do join if you ‘do’ social media.

However, our mailing list is the most efficient way for us to reach you, and you can join that by emailing: carol@c-stevens.com, giving me your full name and permission to add you to the list. We currently have 264 people committed to our cause!

It is REALLY important to tell your friends locally too and look out for those who aren't on FB or don't have emails. People need the bus for so many different reasons, and we welcome your stories. The more support we have, the better.

Let's show that we can make a difference.

If you have any questions, please do get in touch with me at the email address above, but we do hope you will join us on our 'journey' to bring back our evening buses.

Thanks Carol Stevens 01303 840430

VILLAGE LIFE

We need a Community Bus
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To fit folk, and people like me!
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The unexpected – BIZARRE
Before earth waves TATTA
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To survive things we'd prefer not to do,
Folk need each other to live,
Share laughter and fun to GIVE
Hope, in despair
Time given to share
And a van or a car
Wherever you are
Walkie, wheelie and such
Lets share as much
AS WE CAN !

Composed by JH 5th June 2023

Friends/Family visiting?

Two bedroom cottage available from 18 AUGUST for approx. four weeks,
in central Elham. Very reasonable rates.

Please contact Ros on 07760 485382

Elham Observations

This is the finial on the planter in The Square made by Barry Flanagan.



Elham Valley Walkers Programme and News



Date	Start	Route	Leader
Tues 4 th July	Lower Hardres Farm Shop CT4 5NU 10am	Exploring the area West of Stone Street. 7.8 miles, 4 to 4.5 hours. Moderate.	Ros Humphreys 07760485382
Sun 16 th July	Bishopsbourne Church CT4 6PA 10am	Exploring the area East of Bishopsbourne. 6.4 miles, 3.5 hours Moderate.	Peter Corkill 07879351387
Tues 8 th August	Bishopsbourne Church CT4 6PA	Heading South along the Elham Valley Way to Kingston and then up through the woods toward Hearts Delight and on toward Marley with a few hills climbing toward Charlton Woods and returning North along the high ground toward the old Bishopsbourne Railway Station site. 4.6 miles, 2.5 hrs, Easy,	Michael Wilkey 0786068274
Sun 20 th August	Brockhill Country Park CT21 4HL 10am	Climb to the top of Tolsford Hill with its spectacular views. Follow the route through Peene and the beautiful village of Saltwood before returning to the country park. 7.8 miles. 4 to 4.5 hours. Moderate	Chris Jelly 07518163183



Elham Valley Walking Festival 2023: an informal report



Saturday 20th May 2023

The scene was set for our 7th Elham Valley Walking Festival. The weather in the valley was perfect for walking, 16/17C with a cooling breeze. The blossom was out and wild flowers were in abundance. Our walk

leaders and their trusted back markers were primed and ready to go. The early bird Elham Valley Way walkers were striding out from Hythe having started at 8.30am. Gradually the valley filled with participants, some walking to visit points of special interest like the Hawthorne WW1 Trenches (for mugs of tea) the Elham Vineyard (for coffee and cake) and the Stelling Minnis windmill (for tea and scones), others stepping out into our wonderful downland landscape to take in its spring aspect and enjoy the scenery, perhaps at its best. All were treated to great views from higher points like the Rim of the Downs walk near Postling. All completed their walks and returned safely. Special congratulations to all twelve striders who managed the twenty-three miles from Hythe to Canterbury: they even seem to be enjoying it.

Elham Valley Walking Festival 2023: an informal report continued



Sunday 21 May

Another day of glorious walking weather saw an early start for those on the Breakfast Walk, motivated by the desire for some early morning exercise, a chance to see the spring flowers at the nature reserve, the gnarled hornbeams in Madam Wood (photo) and also perhaps by the fine breakfast that was being prepared for them at Elham's charming old Abbot's Fireside.



The day was busy with a group of strong walkers taking up the challenge of Ros Humphreys' annual twelve-mile Stride Out. Others enjoyed a fine scenic ramble from Barham in the North of the valley. Rob Baldwin gave those with an interest in history a fine tour round Lyminge and Derek Boughton gave us his unique insight into the history of Elham Village. The group visiting Old Bladbean Stud Gardens were generously hosted by Carol Bruce who has single-handedly created a little corner of blooming paradise. The festival ended in a flourish of youth with nineteen children reaching Jim Clement's special patch of woodland to be rewarded with a range of forest activities: the toasted marshmallows were delicious.

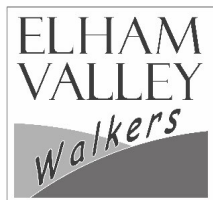
To Conclude

We had a total of 213 participants from all over Kent and the southeast. Many participants donated generously and we collected a total of £509. Our expenses for the festival totalled £1,273.25

Feedback from this who enjoyed the event included the following:

I had a great day. The weather was good the pace set was ideal, had great walking companions and the leaders looked after us all day.

Just wanted to say thank you. Everything was so well organised and I was made to feel so welcome. I thoroughly enjoyed the experience and will be signing up to become a rambler soon.



Elham Valley Walking Festival 2023: an informal report continued



This year's event was enhanced by a visit from Kate Ashbrook, General Secretary of the Open Spaces Society. (look them up at <https://www.oss.org.uk/>) who left us with this message:

It was brilliant all so well organised and such lovely walks. I have visions of fields of buttercups.

There is not enough space in this newsletter to thank everyone who supported us, we have endeavoured to offer our gratitude to each of the supportive, community-minded people and organisations who helped. A special thanks, of course, to those of you who joined us for this successful event.

Uncertain Future: an appeal

For a variety of pressing personal reasons our committee will not be able to continue to achieve the level of commitment and hard work needed to run a successful walking festival next year. We would love to be able to support any volunteers who would like to take over some of our roles. If you are interested we can negotiate with you what roles you might wish to take on. Contact us via our website or ring 01303 840269 for an informal chat.

Peter Corkill
pp Elham Walkers are Welcome Group

News from Elham Valley Cricket Club

2023 Season – Senior cricket

This year the Saturday team again play in the Kent Regional feeder league, and the Sunday team play a mixture of friendly and Sunday Kent Village league cricket. All matches are played over 40 overs.

We are a small but friendly village team with excellent facilities, and always keen to attract local players from Elham and the surrounds.

NEW PLAYERS ARE VERY WELCOME – ANY age or standard.

Practice night is on Friday Evenings 6.00 – 8.00, using the nets at the ground.

We also welcome any spectators, there is ample parking available at the ground.

Junior coaching and teams

This season the club will again be running junior coaching sessions (ages 5 – 16) at the club on Friday evenings 5.30 – 7.30pm throughout the summer from now until August.

We are also planning to run various age group teams depending upon numbers.

For more information contacts are:

Kav Risby – junior coaching / Saturday captain – evccjuniors@gmail.com

Andy Sellars – treasurer / Sunday captain – 07387 410006

Chris Laker – secretary 01303 230035



Elham Valley Petanque Club



The Elham Valley Club was formed early in 2001 and members play most Sunday mornings from 10.30 am throughout the year (weather permitting). We have a range of club competitions, which we make as social as possible, inter club matches and an Inter Elham Valley Villages Match once a year, where we compete for the Millennium Shield. We have a link with a French group (Les Amis du Kent), Montreuil-sur-Mer, and have an annual match with them, one year in Elham and the next in France.

If you have any queries, please contact:

Ian Sladden – 01303 840336 or
Maureen Alexander – 01303 862938



in

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Contact Terry: 01303 863404

if you have any questions or would like an informal chat.

ELHAM VALLEY STORES

**We are looking for more volunteers
to work, on an occasional basis, in
the Village Store.**

Full training will be given.

**Please contact Martin Turner (01303 840804 or jgt867@aol.com)
if you would be interested or have
any questions.**

Anyone for Table Tennis?

If you would like to re-discover the joys of playing table tennis or would like to give it a go, contact Jim Clements 840295 or email ajcjim1904@gmail.com.



It might be more enjoyable than you think!

Monday nights at 7.00 Elham Village Hall, upstairs. Equipment provided, we just need your enthusiasm.



ELHAM SPORTS CLUB

Welcomes New Members

Tennis members can either book and play, or join the friendly club sessions

CONTACT INFORMATION



Chairman

Mike Ridley 01303 840485
m.ridley736@btinternet.com

Membership Treasurer

Brett Clitheroe
Clive Stanyon 01303 840820
stanyonc@aol.com
Clive Stanyon 01303840820

Badminton: stanyonc@aol.com

Casual Bookings Clive Stanyon 01303 840820
stanyonc@aol.com

CLUB SESSIONS

Mondays 18.30 Clive; stanyon@aol.com

Tuesday and Thursday 9.30 (10.00 winter) Maureen Alexander 01303 862938 maurentalexander@gmail.com

Fridays 17.30 -19.30 BEGINNERS and RETURNERS FUN SESSION Steve Uttley 07984 763156 Steveuttley@gmail.com



When asked 'Do you work?', I have been known to reply: 'Yes, very well, thankyou, apart from my eyes which require optical assistance'.



As a five year old in the 1950s, what puzzled me was how to sit down and sit up at the same time.

Letters in national press. Editor



Ear Care Service

1 in 5 UK adults have a hearing problem, but did you know 30% of ear issues are caused by excess ear wax?

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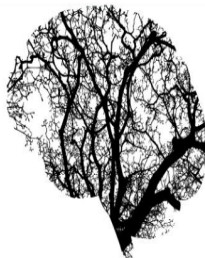
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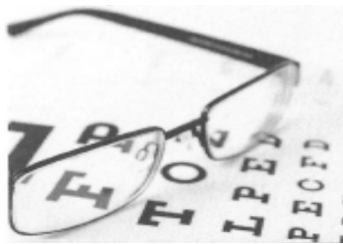
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[D]



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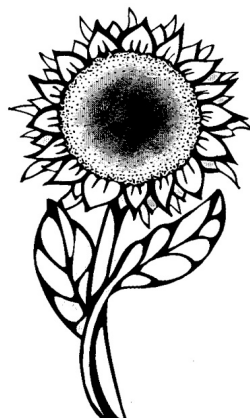
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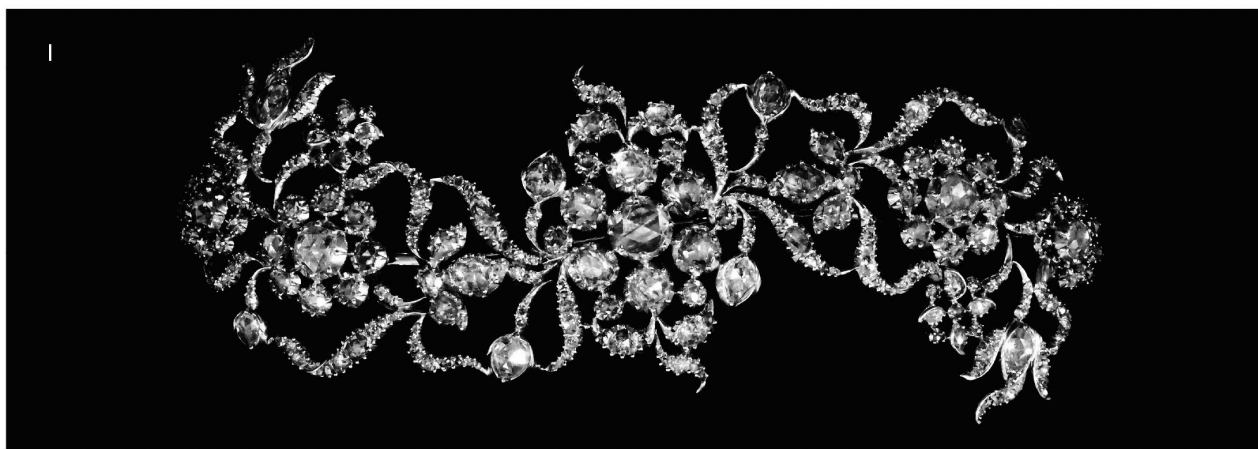
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