



# ELHAM NEWSLETTER

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Elham Village Hall

## JUNE 2025



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Also available on the EVHA website, [www.elhamvillagehall.co.uk](http://www.elhamvillagehall.co.uk).

Events and News available to read on Facebook, Elham Village Hall, and on  
[www.visitelham.co.uk](http://www.visitelham.co.uk).



You cannot fail to have seen the number of lambs in the fields around the village. Miranda Weller sent this picture - she has captured the moment!

### ***What's On, In and Around ELHAM***

Date	Event	Time	Location	Contact	Page
Sunday 1 June	Elham Valley Line Trust Military Weekend	n/a	EVL T	See poster	12
Monday 2/9/16/23/30 June	Elham Community Shed	10.00 - 12.00	The Shed, EVH	<a href="mailto:elhamshed@gmail.com">elhamshed@gmail.com</a>	23
Tuesday 3/10/17/24	Elham Community Shed	10.00 - 12.00	The Shed, Elham Village Hall	<a href="mailto:elhamshed@gmail.com">elhamshed@gmail.com</a>	23
Wednesday 4 June	Social Snacks and Cinema	19.00 for 19.30	Elham Village Hall	Jan Stanyon 01303 840820	4

## **WHO'S WHO and WHAT'S WHERE**

### **ELHAM VILLAGE HALL PERSONNEL** (all are volunteers)

**President:** Jan Stanyon  
**Vice President:** Liz Cox  
**Treasurer:** Sue Weller  
**Secretary:** Miranda Weller

#### *Other Committee members:*

Maureen Alexander Trevor Bateman  
 Renee Bull Jim Clements  
 John Tebbs Jon Vince

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

[www.elhamvillagehall.co.uk](http://www.elhamvillagehall.co.uk)

[elham.co.uk](http://elham.co.uk)

**Editor and advertising;**  
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Renee Bull 01303 840295

**Distribution organiser:**

Janet Pain 07710595891

**Please email any newsletter copy to the editor by 9am on the 13<sup>th</sup> 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 volunteer who produces 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** 01303 840128

**ELHAM SPORTS CLUB** 07714 415651

### **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 and Canterbury, Canterbury 01227 766877  
 Royal Victoria Hospital (walk-in) 01303 850202

### **PHARMACY**

21 Station Road, Lyminge 01303 862425  
 Tesco Pharmacy (Junct 12 M20) 0345 6779273

### **SCHOOL**

Elham C of E Primary School 01303 840325

### **MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT**

Sojan Joseph (Lab)  
[sojan.joseph.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:sojan.joseph.mp@parliament.uk)

### **KENT COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

Christopher Hespe tba

### **FOLKESTONE and HYTHE DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

James Butcher (Green)  
[james.butcher@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk](mailto:james.butcher@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk)  
 David Godfrey (Con) 07584 304301  
 Stephen Scoffham (Green)  
[stephen.scoffham@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk](mailto:stephen.scoffham@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk)

### **ELHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

Chair – Kevin Lamb	01303 840215
Vice Chair – Christeen Chapman	01303 840224
Brian Swan	01303 840006
Kevin Allen	01303 862087
Stuart Peall	07956110887
Geoff Clements	01303 840255
Chris Francis	01303 840502
Clerk - 07702268475 – <a href="mailto:cgreenwood@elhampc.co.uk">cgreenwood@elhampc.co.uk</a>	

### **VETERINARY**

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

### **ELHAM CHURCHES**

[www.elhamvalleygroupofchurches.co.uk](http://www.elhamvalleygroupofchurches.co.uk)

#### **St Mary The Virgin, Church of England**

**Rector:** Rev. Carol Bates 0777 239 4855  
 Wardens tba

#### **Methodist Church, High Street**

Minister: Rev. Gill Songer 01303 240228

**SAMARITANS (freefone)** 116 123 or  
[email.jo@samaritans.org](mailto:email.jo@samaritans.org)

### **LIBRARY**

Mobile Library is fortnightly in Elham outside the Rose and Crown - Fridays at 12.35 -13.05.

### **HOW TO MAKE BACS PAYMENTS to ELHAM VILLAGE HALL?**

Elham Village Hall Association Ltd  
 Sort Code: 09- 01- 52  
 Account No. 13698706

**Elham Village Hall Association website:**  
[www.elhamvillagehall.co.uk](http://www.elhamvillagehall.co.uk)

# ***What's On, In and Around ELHAM***

Date	Event	Time	Location	Contact	Page
Thursday 5/12/19/26 June	Elham Community Shed	14.00-16.00	The Shed, EVH	elhamshed@gmail.com	23
Saturday 7 June	Jumping Downs Walk with Alfie Gay	10.30-12.00 13.00 -14.30	Entrance to S Barham Hill	07725 466003	11
Saturday 7/14/21/28 June	Elham Community Shed	10.00 -12.00	The Shed, EVH	elhamshed@gmail.com	22
Saturday June 7 / 14 / 21	South East Open Studios	n/a		See Poster	12
Sunday 8 June	Elham Summer Food and Craft Festival	11.00-14.00	Elham Square / Church	See Poster	15
Sunday 8 June	Paws for Thought (RSPCA)	10.00 -15.00	Radnor Pk Folkestone	KDC blurb	10
Tuesday 10 June	Elham Valley Walkers	10.00	CT4 7EF	Isobel Senior 07501 797017	26
Saturday 14 June	Jazz and Strawberries on the Lawn	17.00	The Old Vicarage	See Poster	9
Sunday 15 June	The Eclectics	15.00	St Mary's Church	See poster	12
Thursday 19 June	Elham Gardening Society talk; Garden Pests	19.30	Peggy Pike Room EVH	See website	14
Sunday 29 June	Elham Valley Walkers	10.00	Peene	Andrew Cornford 07761 034407	26
Monday 30 June	Ukulele A Song in Time	14.15	Peggy Pike Room EVH	See poster	14
Saturday 12 July	Sunflower memories Pilgrims Hospice			See poster	12
Saturday 27 July	Elham Gardening Society Summer Show	14.00	Elham Village Hall	See Website and poster	14
9/10 August	Ambleteuse Fete, France	n/a		See poster	9
Saturday 6 September	Hollywood Comes to Elham	n/a	Elham Village Hall	See notice	4

## ***Welcome to the Elham Newsletter - June 2025***

May was a busy month and the pictures in this edition show just what an active bunch Elham Villagers are! Thank you to all who have contributed!

VE80 celebrations feature herein, organised by Elham Historical Society and Elham Village Hall Association, paid for by Elham Parish Council.

June brings even more activities and events. Take a look at 'What's On'- there may be something there that you have always meant to go to: Jazz and Strawberries, Social Snacks and Cinema, a music performance, Elham Community Shed, the Summer Food and Craft Festival, the Sports Club, Bowls, Pickle Ball. This Elham Newsletter is about YOUR COMMUNITY, YOUR LIFE, it's about YOU! If you have a favourite picture do send it to [elhamnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:elhamnewsletter@gmail.com).  
Renee Bull Editor

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Page 44	Pictures from Elham VE80 celebrations

## ***Elham Village Hall Association News***

***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.*

**Approved by Kent County Council as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and the formation of civil partnerships.**

Take a look at our website: [www.elhamvillagehall.co.uk](http://www.elhamvillagehall.co.uk)

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

**[bookingsecretary.ev@gmail.com](mailto:bookingsecretary.ev@gmail.com)**

*All hiring at competitive rates*

**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***

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> June 7 for 7.30pm in Elham Village Hall**

This month we are showing a very topical film which has recently achieved high acclaim. We are unable to name the film because of licensing constraints but we hope very much that you will be able to work it out from the text.

Entry is just £5.00 on the door and there may be a little quiz (just for fun!) The bar will open at 7pm.

## ***VE80 - MAY 2025***

Oh my! Elham you are a wonderful bunch of people! What a way to commemorate VE80!

Anyone driving through the village would have seen that we were going to be doing something special to mark the occasion and that's just what we did.

The poppies, the spitfire, the walking tour, the bells, the church service, the war-time tea, the exhibition, the flowerpots, the flowers, the cakes, the decorations, the music, the jiving, the outfits, the Royal British Legion - we had it all and you supported us throughout.

Bryan Badham, Keith Mortimer and I are overwhelmed with the support and industry that you have given, as well as the financial support from the parish council. Thank you is too small a word for everything that 'Team Elham' has achieved.

I'm sure many of you took photographs to remember the occasion and Bryan has made sure that future generations will have a record for the EHS archive.

The Royal British Legion welcomed donations and, thanks to your generosity, they collected £283.80 for their funds.

Thank you once again.

Jan Stanyon





### ***HOLLYWOOD COMES TO ELHAM - Save the Date!***

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September 7.30pm** at Elham Village Hall we will be showing Nigel Woodley's film 'Village Life'. It was filmed last summer in and around Elham and features one or two Elham people. This will be a free entry event.



More details in the coming months but for now, just save the date.

## **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 is less 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**


1. The object of the Club is to raise funds for Elham Village Hall.
2. The Club will commence on a date to be advised by the Elham Village Hall Association (once sufficient numbers have been issued)
3. The Club will be run by the Elham Village Hall Association. A member of the Management Committee will administer the Club and allocate numbers
4. The Club is open to all residents of Elham and the surrounding area, their family and friends.
5. Members must be 16 or over.
6. Members must fill in an application form (attached).
7. 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)
8. Members may have more than one number.
9. The draw will take place each month by the Chair of the Elham Village Management Committee.
10. Prize money will be sent 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.
11. 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.
12. A register will be kept recording the name and address of each member, the number(s) allocated to them and the subscriptions received.
13. 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

## **ELHAM VILLAGE HALL NEWS**

**ELHAM VILLAGE HALL 130 CLUB**  
You've got to be in it to win it!



12 monthly draws.  
£12.00pa for each number.  
\*Three prizes each month\*.  
Contact Martin Turner for an application form.  
840804 / [jgt867@aol.com](mailto:jgt867@aol.com)



The 130 Club is run by Elham Village Hall Association Ltd, Reg Charity No: 1024757

**ELHAM VILLAGE HALL  
130 CLUB Winners  
MAY DRAW**

1<sup>st</sup> Prize (£32) Number 35 Joan Copeman  
2<sup>nd</sup> Prize (£20) Number 12 Jenny Gasson  
3<sup>rd</sup> Prize (£13) Number 2 Moira Wiltshire

please contact Martin Turner  
01303 840804 / [jgt867@aol.com](mailto:jgt867@aol.com)

### **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. You can also leave the form at Elham Village Stores (there is a box at the front of the shop).**

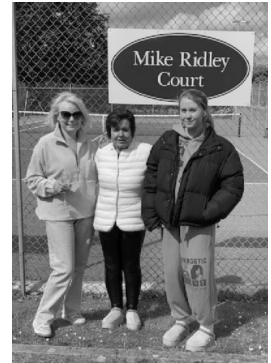
**Please inform us of any changes to your details.**



### ***MIKE RIDLEY MEMORIAL***

In recognition of all the hard work that Mike put into the development of the Elham Sports Club over a number of years, Court 1, the main tennis court, was renamed the Mike Ridley Court.

**His family and members of Elham Sports Club met on Sunday 4 May to dedicate the court to his memory.**



### ***DESSERT ISLAND DISCS with PETER MORGAN***

***April 30 2025***

Peter Morgan entertained a packed Peggy Pike room at the village hall as our latest 'castaway'. With memories of war-torn Canterbury and school experiences he described how he had to make a choice between being a musician in the pop music world or having a career in law,

The many humorous and fascinating anecdotes were thoroughly enjoyed by the audience as were his wide ranging musical choices.



Look out for details in the newsletter for our next castaway.

Jim Clements

### ***'Every Little Helps' - this opportunity finishes on 30th June!***

If you shop at Tesco in Cheriton please will you consider voting for Elham Community Shed?

Just collect the blue tokens from the checkout and pop them in our slot. Every little helps! Thanks everyone.

Jan Stanyon



## LOCAL NEWS

No minutes are available. Full minutes can be seen on the Parish Council website and on the notice board by the Rose and Crown bus stop. Editor



### ELHAM PARISH COUNCIL

***Your Parish Council and their areas of responsibility***



**Stuart  
Peall**

The Parish Council have funded the Bat Box making project, organised by Elham Environment Group together with Elham Community Shed - see details on page 21.

The Parish Council also funded the VE 80 Celebrations which were organised and created by Elham Historical Society and Elham Village Hall Association, with the 'Spitfire' produced by members of Elham Community Shed. See the pictures on pages 23, 24 and 44 of this newsletter.

### ELHAM CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

The summer term has started in fine style!

Year 3 have commenced their terms swimming coaching at Sibton Park.



Year 6 took time out from preparing for their Key Stage 2 SATs by decorating the flowerpots that have formed part of the Walking Trail around the village commemorating the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day. On VE Day itself we marked the occasion by welcoming members of the Royal British Legion to our morning worship. All the children were dressed in red, white and blue and for lunch very appropriately we had fish and chips!

Years 3,4 and 5 had the most glorious weather for their visit to the Living Land Show at Detling Showground. They were able to learn

about farming, agriculture and food production and watched displays of falconry and dancing sheep! As the photos show, they had a great time!

We are looking forward to many more summer festivities, including a wide variety of sporting activities as the terms progress.

TG





### Twinning update

Since the official signing of the charters and the initial visit to Elham of twinning representatives from Ambleteuse, a committee has been formed in Elham, and volunteers have come forward to represent various village organisation keen to participate in future twinning activities.

A meeting is planned in early June where these representatives will be able to exchange ideas and report on any progress they have made with their counterparts in Ambleteuse.

Initial thoughts are for small groups on either side to organise day exchanges, to get to know each other and share common interests, whether it's playing pétanque, visiting gardens or historical sites.

One group forging ahead with their plans is Elham School which has been talking to the school in Ambleteuse. Both sides are very keen for children to benefit from this new twinning friendship.

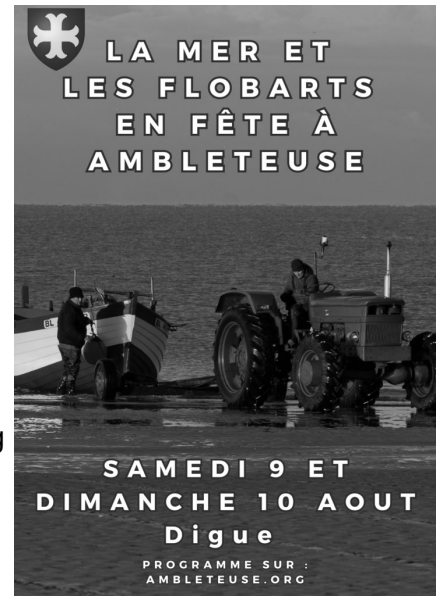
Such initiatives don't happen overnight and there is much work yet to be done. But the level of interest shown in Elham and in Ambleteuse is very encouraging.

If you belong to a group or are an individual wanting to be part of the twinning, please send an email to [twinningea@gmail.com](mailto:twinningea@gmail.com) for further information.

Ambleteuse is a very dynamic commune just 20 minutes' drive from Calais, with a beautiful stretch of coastline and lovely walks. They organise many events throughout the year so if you happen to be in the area, why not go and have a look?

One major event is La mer et les flobarts en fête à Ambleteuse, taking place this year on 9 and 10 August. This is a celebration of the sea and old fishing traditions. There will be stalls all along the sea front, a rock concert, dancing, music, moules frites! You can find out more online on [ambleteuse.org](http://ambleteuse.org) and on the Ambleteuse Facebook page.

Anne Leva



We are looking forward to our major fundraiser for 2025, "Jazz and Strawberries on the Lawn", which will be a traditional Summer Garden Party at the Old Vicarage and will take place on Saturday 14 June between 5pm and 7pm.

Tickets [£15 each] are now on sale and available from Elham Valley Stores, the Kings Arms or by ringing 07545 339912.

The Anything Goes Jazz Band will provide background music. There will be a welcome drink and strawberries provided with the ticket price, as well as a Pay Bar.

All profits will go to Friends of St Mary's funds to enable us to continue enhancing and maintaining our lovely historic Parish Church.

We are most grateful to Jean-Louis and Virginie Barrois for allowing us to use their lovely garden and to the Kings Arms who are very generously supporting the event.

Thanks are also due to Linda Stewart who designed the poster, Colebrook Sturrock who printed the posters and Jenny Gasson who designed and printed the tickets.

We look forward to seeing you there!

TG



## ***District Councillor's News for June 2025***



### **Report from District Councillor David Godfrey**

As I write this short report spring has most certainly arrived, and the sunshine is bringing out some beautiful blossoms. Garden centres are busy, and my local allotment (Hawkinge) is seeing plenty of planting activity.

It is business as usual at Folkestone District council which will retain its governance system of Leader and Cabinet until its expected merge into a new Unitary in 2028. Some major projects are underway such as:

- Regeneration of Folkestone Town centre involving turning the Bouverie Square into a vibrant new public open space and moving bus stops on to Shellon Street. There will be inevitable traffic disruption until summer 2026.

- Biannual Spring Beach Management is underway by recycling and regrading shingle between Fisherman's Beach in Hythe and Folkestone Harbour in order to protect against flood risk.

- Romney Marsh beach chalets. More than 100 individual beach chalets, a visitor hub building and upgraded car parking (including disabled bays and EV charging points) are to be built at the Coast Drive car park, Greatstone. The visitor hub will contain accessible toilets, a Changing Places facility and a café concession kiosk.

On a lighter note, dogs of the district are being invited to put their best paw forward and attend a 'Paws for Thought' community event at Radnor Park, Folkestone, on Sunday 8 June between 10am and 3pm. Folkestone & Hythe District Council has teamed up with Folkestone RSPCA to put on a 'pawfect' day out for pets and owners with stalls, a boot sale and a dog show for attendees to take part in.

I recently attended a North Downs East Forum at Lyminge at which the subject was biodiversity. The session was well attended by both Elham and Lyminge environmental groups and some interesting discussions held around water quality of the Nailbourne which is a significant chalk stream essential for maintaining the ecosystem. I would encourage all those involved in environmental activities to encourage Parish Councils along the whole length of the Nailbourne to support each other in measuring water quality and understand how to properly manage this valuable asset.

On a political note readers will be aware that on 1<sup>st</sup> of May 2025 the Reform Party overwhelmingly took control of Kent County Council. Very few of the Reform Councillors have previous local government experience and only time will tell how they adapt to managing a budget in excess of 2.5 billion providing essential public services inc. Adult Social Care, Children's services. Transport, Waste Services. Highways and more. The new Reform County Councillor for Elham Valley is Christopher Hespe - [Christopher.Hespe@kent.gov.uk](mailto:Christopher.Hespe@kent.gov.uk)

Our previous County Councillor Susan Carey decided to step down from local politics some months back in order to enjoy retirement with her husband. I would like to personally thank her for her years of dedicated service and support for me in my role as a District Councillor.

I'll close by wishing everyone a pleasant Summer.

Cllr David Godfrey

### **More District Councillor's News for June 2025**

#### **Community grants**

This year the District Council established a Green Grant programme to support the work of community groups, small businesses, and parish councils with projects focused on sustainability. Nearly 60 applications have been received and are currently being evaluated. Meanwhile, F&HDC have just been awarded some more funding from the government's Rural England Prosperity Fund – the last round saw a number of projects in the North Downs area get funding, and we hope there will be plenty of applications this time too: get in touch if you'd like to know more.



#### **Working with young people**

One of the Council's objectives is to work more closely with young people and to involve them in decision making. This spring we held a Youth Forum in the Council Chamber to consult with representatives from all the secondary schools in the district about their ideas for the future. There will be another meeting of the Forum this coming September. We have also been working in different ways with primary schools in Hythe, Cheriton and Hawkinge on environment and sustainability issues.

#### **North Downs Forum**

We set up the North Downs Forum to bring together town and parish councils, community groups, and interested individuals across the North Downs area. The idea is to share ideas and expertise, and to get a stronger voice for our rural communities at the District Council. At our May meeting we focused on biodiversity and land use: we heard about the work of the Lyminge and Elham environment groups, with some ideas for how they might collaborate – for example on an Elham Valley wildlife walk – and we discussed a project to celebrate and protect the Nailbourne. Future meetings will focus on history and heritage, waste and recycling, and transport and highways. Meetings are informal, and anyone is welcome to come along: if you're interested, get in touch and we'll add you to the mailing list.

#### **Council house building**

Back in 2023 the Council's target was to build 20 new council homes a year, so 80 across the four-year term. The latest plan is for 99 council homes to be built over the next two years, with another 77 affordable homes being delivered by Orbit on the F&HDC site at Biggins Wood.

#### **Food waste**

The Council has been working with KCC on a campaign to reduce food waste. The simple measure of putting stickers on everyone's bins proved surprisingly effective: 14% more food waste was recycled across the district over a 15-week period. With Dover's contribution, that meant 200 tonnes of food waste was diverted from landfill. This is all part of the "Raise the Rate" campaign, aimed at raising the district's recycling rate to 50%, and the next area to be focused on will be recycling paper and card.

#### **Council changes**

May marked the beginning of a new council year and, with the KCC elections, a change to the County Council. Susan Carey stood down after twenty years of representing people in the Elham Valley, and I've heard plenty of tributes to the work that she's done in our communities over that time. Christopher Hespe is our new county councillor and can be reached via [Christopher.Hespe@kent.gov.uk](mailto:Christopher.Hespe@kent.gov.uk)

On a personal note, I've taken over the Cabinet brief for the Place Plan, Heritage, Tourism, and the District Economy – that covers a multitude of opportunities and challenges, and do get in touch if you have questions or ideas to share.

Cllr James Butcher

[james.butcher@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk](mailto:james.butcher@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk)

### **Summer wildlife at Jumping Downs**

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June, 10.30am to 12pm (1st walk) and 1pm to 2.30pm (2nd walk). Meet at the entrance to Jumping Downs on South Barham Hill (the gate will be open to allow parking in the field).

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

Cost: Free (donations welcome). Any donations will go to the upkeep of Jumping Downs.

There will be a morning walk and an afternoon walk. If you would like more information please contact Alfie via email ([alfgkg@hotmail.com](mailto:alfgkg@hotmail.com)) or phone (07725 466003).

## LOCAL NEWS



### Evangeline Thyme Fine Art

#### SOUTH EAST OPEN STUDIOS

7th, 14th, 21st JUNE 2025

11-4 pm Frid, Sat, Sun

What 3 words:  
[portfolio.lightbulb.safari](https://portfolio.lightbulb.safari)

[WWW.SEOS-ART.ORG](http://WWW.SEOS-ART.ORG)

Pilgrims Hospices

### Sunflower MEMORIES 2025

Saturday 12 July

*Who will you remember this summer?*

Dedicate a beautiful sunflower to someone you love, and join us to relive your memories with music and refreshments at the Sunflower Days.

 [www.pilgrimshospices.org/sunflowers](http://www.pilgrimshospices.org/sunflowers)  
[sunflowers@pilgrimshospices.org](mailto:sunflowers@pilgrimshospices.org) 01227 782 062

Registered charity no 203968 and as a company in England no 2000560

Names on sunflowers: Evelyn, Henry, James, Emma, Charles, Graham

## JUNE WORDSEARCH

Midsummers day is June 21st. June is a girls name. Can you find the names listed below that are have another meaning in common usage?

E M S S J I C D R G L K W L X  
 O A I V H D A X P R C M P E M  
 L F G L S L N Q N A Z A H C D  
 O A L L E P A W J C Y R L N Y  
 U K L O E S A N Q E L K I E V  
 M L K T R D X J K K G H R I M  
 X C E N M A O E V I L O P T R  
 D R K R A Y E M A S O N A A P  
 Q Z P E J R N A W O R R Y P N  
 I H B T R B F Y Y Z I F J Y M  
 M F V N P E P Z T S E N R E G  
 S J I U A P B T Y S Q J Q J G  
 J A P H O W X M R T S U O K Z  
 I U L P M W E O A F Y W K A R  
 J P E O G I X W N B E V E Q J

AMBER APRIL DALE

DAWN ERNEST EVE

FLORA FRANK GRACE

HUNTER JACK JOY

MARK MASON MILES

OLIVE PATIENCE PETER

POPPY ROWAN

Can you think of a sentence using these words twice, as a name AND with their other meaning?

eg Mark made his mark.



## KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOUR

*Peter Corkill is known for being a founder member of Elham Valley Walkers and one - time organiser of the Walking Festival Programme. He agreed to feature as the neighbour we can get to know this month.*



How long have you been part of the Elham Community?	Inge and I have lived in Elham for 14 years, having moved down from the grim North in order to be closer to family in our retirement. Now we don't have a moment to ourselves!
What do you consider your greatest achievement to date?	Apart from climbing the Eiger when I was 43 (by the easy route), helping to keep the family together happily.
When were you happiest?	It is hard to choose ... but maybe being on holiday with all three young boys on the Costa Brava in the 1990s. Of course, in case they are reading this, the birth of each of these three babies were massive highlights.
What did you want to be when you were growing up?	I wanted to be either a stand-up comedian or a schoolteacher which you could argue are the same thing.
What keeps you awake at night?	I found this the most difficult question because I know I should worry at night and I do get anxious, but apart from 'the call of nature' I sleep very well.
What is the most important lesson life has taught you?	Simply to listen more and talk less (I'm still learning).
Which village event do you most look forward to?	My favourite event is Jazz on the Lawn... I love the Temperance Seven.
Tell us three activities that keep you busy?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Reading and re-reading the Guardian including doing the crossword and sudoku</li> <li>-Trying to achieve 'home improvements', but they rarely work</li> <li>-Walking in this beautiful landscape, especially past the house at the top of Cullens Hill owned by the shepherdess and her husband .... oh yes and West Ham United and medical appointments.</li> </ul>
What one change in the village would improve your life?	If others in the village could speak a little louder and with clearer enunciation that would hugely improve my life.
Cat, dog or goldfish?	Budgerigar – it is the only pet I have ever had and it was trilingual, Afrikaans, Manx Gaelic and English.
What is the worst job you have ever done?	I've done a lot of bad jobs, like fixing pipes in a Dunlop tyre factory, but the job I hated the most was folding handtowels at a busy laundry. The BEST job I ever had was a conductor on a horse tram in Douglas Isle of Man when I was 17, I went up and down the promenade in my jeans, taking the fares. I was young and tanned and there were lots of girls there on holiday. Girl watching was a joy!
Tell us a joke.	<p>This is my favourite joke, all my pupils at school had to suffer this: 'You know what a kangaroo is, but what is a 'kangeroot'?</p> <p>Answer: A Glaswegian locked in a lavatory. Try it with a Scottish accent!</p> <p>Apparently, the barber in Lyminge is not cutting hair any longer – he is cutting it shorter.</p> <p>Don't buy outdoor walking gear that uses Velcro – it's a rip off</p>
What would the people of Elham not know about you?	A storm wave washed me into the sea when I was three and I ended up in hospital with pneumonia, in a ward with very early penicillin. I am a survivor. I was diagnosed with incurable blood cancer in 2004 and I'm still here, fit as a butcher's dog!
Last thoughts, final word.	It is too early for last thoughts. Thank you, fellow villagers, for helping me enjoy life.

Editor

Gardeners are hard to please. We have had the most beautiful spring for years but now most gardeners are unhappy and yearn for rain - two or three nights of solid downpour would do it!

The speaker on 17th April was Stephen Harmer who talked about the Arts and Crafts Movement - this was one of the best talks, among the many fine talks we've had this year - an excellent speaker



### Summer Show

**Saturday 26th July 2025**

**Starts at 2pm in Elham Village Hall**  
**Admission £3.00 (includes tea & coffee),**  
**children free**

**Enjoy wonderful displays of**  
**Floral Art, Fruit & Vegetables, Art & Handicraft,**  
**Photography and Children's classes**  
**Refreshments available and a prize Raffle**

Entry forms are in our summer schedule  
available at Elham Village Store, or download from our website:  
[www.elhamgardeningociety.org.uk](http://www.elhamgardeningociety.org.uk)

Follow us on: [facebook.com/people/Elham-Gardening-Society](https://facebook.com/people/Elham-Gardening-Society)



who loved his subject and injected a fair bit of humour into the facts. He described the basic Arts and Crafts Movement and showed how they were linked to the huge changes in garden design. Simplicity, practicality and beauty were the aims as a complete contrast to the rigidity of the formal gardens of the past. A lovely and well attended evening!

July is getting nearer and we hope your plans for entries to the Summer Show are well under way. The competitions are open to members and non-members so do think about joining in.

The speaker at the meeting on 19th June will be Martin Newcombe who will talk about Garden Pests, Diseases and Friends - very useful and very timely.

Meetings are held in the Peggy Pike room of the Village Hall on the third Thursday of the month at 7.30pm - friends, visitors and non-members always welcome.

Frances Horton - 840550.

### A Song in Time...



Sing your way through the

**early 60s**

with the Elham Ukulele Group

**(SMUG)**

Buddy, Elvis, Brenda, Patsy, Eddie

**Monday 30 June at 2.15**

**Peggy Pike Room**  
**Elham Village Hall**

Entry by donation -

All money going to

**The Pilgrim's Hospice**

**Please be generous**



The poster is a square collage with a central apple-shaped graphic. The background is a grid of various food and farm-related icons: an ice cream cone, a cow, a burger and beer, bottles, a strawberry, a heart, a sun, a jar, and church bells. The central apple graphic has a stem and leaf at the top. The text is arranged around and inside this central graphic.

**Elham**

**40+ STALLS**

**King's Arms BBQ & outside bar**

**Next market 14 Dec**

**Strawberries**

**Chancel Café**

**in the church**

**Supported by**

**colebrooksturrock.com**

**LOCAL PRODUCE**  
CHEESE • BREAD  
CAKES • CHUTNEYS  
FUDGE • SOFT FRUITS  
FORAGED CORDIALS  
JAMS • FRESH MEAT  
PLANTS  
& MORE...

**Handmade Crafts**

**Church Bells**

**Raffle**

**SUPERB PRIZES**  
in aid of  
Motor Neurone  
Charity

**Summer food & craft festival**

**Sunday 8 June 11am - 2pm**

**VILLAGE SQUARE & CHURCH**

For more information: Debbie Francis, Elham Farmers' Market manager,  
[elhamfarmersmarket@gmail.com](mailto:elhamfarmersmarket@gmail.com) [KFMA.org.uk/elham](http://KFMA.org.uk/elham) [facebook.com/elhamfarmersmarket](https://facebook.com/elhamfarmersmarket)

## **CHURCH PAGES**

### ***Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday.***



As part of the Palm Sunday service, members of the community and Della the donkey walked around the Square in Elham.

On Good Friday, the cross was carried to

various locations in the village, where hymns were sung and scriptures read.

On Easter Sunday, over eighty adults and ten children attended the sung communion service in the church.

Afterwards, children and adults rolled Easter eggs down Duck Street

and enjoyed fellowship, coffee, tea, juice and hot cross buns. All services were led by the Revd Carol Bates.

Pete Swain.  
Churchwarden.



### ***Elham Bellringers***

The Elham Bellringers rang the bells at 2.30pm on VE 80 Day, May 8th 2025 at the start of the village celebrations. A new Tower Captain is sought for Elham - see advert on page 19.



## CHURCH PAGES

*Dear Friends,*

In 1971, when it was decided that the Spring Bank Holiday should be fixed for the last Monday in May, the holiday lost its centuries-old link to Whitsun; as a result, even the name has been forgotten, and with it any sense of celebration beyond natural joy at the prospect of a day off at a particularly beautiful time of year. But the Church, of course, does not forget. Whitsun – Pentecost – is the 50<sup>th</sup> day after Easter and marks the time when Jesus' disciples received the gift of the Holy Spirit. This year as Easter was late, it falls on June 8<sup>th</sup>; the churches of the Elham Valley will meet in Elham church at 5.00pm for a special celebration of Prayer and Praise to which all are invited.

It is more than appropriate that this will be a service by and for all the churches across the Valley, for if anything is certain about this most mysterious Person of the Trinity it is that no single denomination has a monopoly on the Holy Spirit's presence and its gifts. Not even the whole Christian Church may claim this, for the Bible is very clear that the Spirit cannot be contained or defined, but will pop up whenever and wherever it wishes, amongst people of all faiths and none, its impact seen in lives that shine with courage and love, often in terrible circumstances.

In times that seem increasingly fragile and precarious it is this irrepressible freedom and wildness of the Spirit that keeps me hopeful. Even were the whole Church to disappear, the Spirit, along with God the Father and Jesus the Son, will never end or cease its work of love and peace. Unseen as the wind, the Spirit will always remain free to blow where it will, sometimes comforting and gentle as a cool breeze in summer, sometimes ripping like a tornado through injustice and oppression; sometimes brooding over the face of the waters, just as it did before the beginning of time.

*Sarah Montgomery*

**Please visit our website for information about our churches, services & events**

[www.elhamvalleygroupofchurches.co.uk](http://www.elhamvalleygroupofchurches.co.uk)

**St Mary the Virgin Elham – *Spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ to all***

1<sup>st</sup> June 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

**08:00 Said Eucharist - 09.30 Sung Eucharist**

**Lectionary readings:**

Acts 16: 16-34, Psalm 97, Rev 22: 12-14, 16-17, 20-end, John 17:20-end

5<sup>th</sup> June **Prayer meeting @7.30pm** Methodist church

7<sup>th</sup> June **Prayer Breakfast @8am**

Churches Together in Elham meet on first Saturday in the month at the Methodist church for prayer and short reflection, followed by breakfast at 8.30am. Contact : David Whitethread (07961 053335)

8<sup>th</sup> June 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter / *Pentecost*

**08:00 Said Eucharist**

**FARMERS MARKET set up from 8.30am**

**17:00 Churches Together Pentecost Prayer and Praise service** St Mary's church.

**Lectionary readings:**

*Acts 2: 1-21, Psalm 104:26-36, 37b, Rom.: 8: 14-17, John 14:8-17[25-27]*

15<sup>th</sup> June 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter / *Trinity Sunday*

**09.30 Sung Eucharist**

**Lectionary readings:**

**Prov 8:1-4, 22-31, Psalm 8, Rom 5: 1-5, John 16:12-15**

22<sup>nd</sup> June 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Trinity

**09:30 Sung Eucharist**

**Lectionary readings:**

**Isaiah 65: 1-9, Psalm 22:19-28, Gal 3:23-end, Luke 8:26-39**

29<sup>th</sup> June 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Trinity

**10:00 Benefice Service at St Peter Swingfield**

**Lectionary readings :**

**1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-end, Psalm 16, Gal 5:1,13-25, Luke 9:51-end**

## CHURCH PAGES

### Daily Prayer

#### **Every Tuesday at St. Mary's.**

Traditional Morning Prayer at 8.30am in the Jesus Chapel. Download the free Church of England app or use the red book. A good way to begin the day.

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.aimermedia.dailyprayer&pli=1>



#### ***Every Monday at the Methodist Hall ...***

Coffee and cake, a warm welcome and friendship, 10.30am – 12.00pm

#### **The Farmers' Market**

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> June, 11am – 2pm in Market Square and within St Mary's church. Stalls galore and the wonderful Chancel Café serving tasty refreshments.

#### **Eclectics Community Choir**

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> June 3pm at St Mary's Church. Free entry. Donations will be shared between the Eclectics Community Choir and St Mary's Church.

#### **EXPLORERS**

Fun church for children aged 7-11yrs, with games, snacks and activities meets at St Mary's on **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> June** 3.30-4.30pm

#### **Parochial Church Council (PCC)**

Newly elected PCC meets on July 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7pm in St Mary's. Please send items for the agenda to PCC Secretary, Mary Reilly ([m.reilly777@btinternet.com](mailto:m.reilly777@btinternet.com)) by 19<sup>th</sup> June.

***NB/. Items for A.O.B must be sent to the Secretary at least 48hrs before the meeting.***

**Churches Together in Elham Valley July**  
5<sup>th</sup> July Prayer Breakfast at 8am, Methodist Church

#### **Events for the July, August & September Notice sheet**

Please send to Margaret Keeble by mid-day 6<sup>th</sup> June. [m.keeble@outlook.com](mailto:m.keeble@outlook.com)

#### **Donations**

We would greatly appreciate your help to continue our work for God in the village of Elham and surrounding areas. If you can, please consider making a donation. Above is our QR code for St Mary's Elham. To donate using this code, open up the camera on a mobile phone - point the camera at the QR code – follow the instructions. □

The offertory plate will go round in the service, during one of the hymns. There is also the opportunity to donate by card using the PAYAZ machine by the North door.

#### **Safeguarding / 'A Safe Church':**

If you ever have any concerns, contact our Parish Safeguarding Officer:  
Susannah Pallot : [susannahpallot@gmail.com](mailto:susannahpallot@gmail.com)

## EXPLORERS



Games  
Snacks  
Crafts  
Activities  
Music



A fun way for children aged 7-11  
to explore the Bible, prayer and the  
Christian faith in church.



**Where:** St Mary the Virgin

**When:** Every 3rd Tuesday  
in the month

**Time:** 3:30–4:30pm.

Please register with  
[secretary@elham.kent.sch.uk](mailto:secretary@elham.kent.sch.uk)



## The Eclectics

With soloist Emily Renshaw-Kidd

### Summer Concert

Enjoy an eclectic mix of: gospel, folk, pop classics and songs from around the world!

Sunday 15th June 3pm  
St Mary the Virgin, Elham  
Refreshments and Raffle  
Entry via donations (please bring cash!)

St. Mary the Virgin Church  
Elham Vicarage Lane  
Elham  
CT4 6TT



Information from: [susannahpelliott@gmail.com](mailto:susannahpelliott@gmail.com)  
[vanessavoung69@aol.com](mailto:vanessavoung69@aol.com)  
Mob: 07979 129074  
<http://www.eclecticscommunitychoir.com>



### The Rector's Message

June 10th marks my 1st year anniversary of being Rector of the Elham Valley Group. It's hard to believe that a whole year has

passed by already.

Each of the Annual Parochial Church Meetings in all 6 parishes revealed how much volunteers are relied upon in order for church life to flourish. It is so important for the church and village communities to work together *with* one another. Regardless of the time you've had connections to the village: 60 yrs, 6yrs or 6 months, I welcome your support for your parish church.

None of us knows for certain exactly what lies ahead, but I pray that we will journey together, trusting in God's steadfast love and faithfulness.

*"Through the LORD's mercies we are not consumed, Because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness."* **Lamentations 3: 22-23**

### Elham Methodist Church

#### Services for JUNE

(all at 9.30am unless otherwise stated)

**1<sup>st</sup>** Rev Gill Songer  
(video)

**8<sup>th</sup>** Rev M Peach HC @  
10.15am Valley United  
Service

**15<sup>th</sup>** Rev Gill Songer  
(video)

**22<sup>nd</sup>** Valley United Ser-  
vice at Rhodes Minnis

**29<sup>th</sup>** Rev Gill Songer HC

### ST MARY THE VIRGIN ELHAM

## URGENTLY NEEDED!

### TOWER CAPTAIN

#### ESSENTIAL

- Must be competent and experienced Bell Ringer, confident in teaching others to ring church bells.

contact:



[iandodd8888@outlook.com](mailto:iandodd8888@outlook.com)



**VE Day —**

***a poem written by Ian MacDuff, a member of RBL Elham Valley Branch and read at the VE80 celebration by Anne Leva.***

It's getting now to be  
quite a long time ago,  
but even so I know  
That it felt good to be alive  
on the 8<sup>th</sup> of May 1945.

No more bombing, no more longing  
for that sound – creepy but dear:  
The wailing siren -  
“All Clear”.

No more silent waiting, when overhead  
the Doodlebug's about.  
No more even worse waiting  
when its motor cut out.

Waiting, waiting, and holding your breath:  
Is this the harbinger of  
Death?  
Is that V1 thing going to fall  
and kill us all?

No more down Winchester Road to school  
and finding a pool  
of bricks, steaming dust and debris  
where houses used to be.

Last night, people there were sleeping  
And now there's only people  
weeping.

Indoors, a great big solid steel metal box  
called a Morrison shelter.  
(Maybe sheltering, but could be sweltering).

And the outdoor one, called Anderson  
was dank and cold, and pretty damp.  
Dark - maybe just candles  
and a hurricane lamp.

And cramp.  
So there could be some family strife.  
Apart from that, it was the road to rheumatism  
for life.

At school the value of stuff began to change  
so that sometimes you could arrange  
to get a farthing, or a conker, or a bit of apple  
in return for a bit of shrapnel.

..cont/ **VE Day**

And finally, when all was done,  
Jubilation, celebration, we must have some fun.  
Therefore, for people (especially kids?) to dance around  
At the end of Winchester Road was assembled an enormous  
Mound of stuff for a bonfire.

And so it was lit, being very well built.  
But I was in love, up to the hilt  
with a girl from school called Heather.

She didn't know this, but I was in bliss  
As I held her hand, as if it were planned,  
And contained my delight, as we danced round that fire

Chanting together songs that we knew, dainty and bright,  
full of innocence and childhood, and sweetness, and light.

Such as: “Whistle while you work  
Hitler is a twerp,  
Goering's barmy, so's his army,  
Whistle while you work”  
And several others....

Ere long now I'll be at the Gates  
and then I'll see whether Heather awaits.  
If she does, she may say with a smile  
“It's been a while.  
But I remember you – the kid on my right  
who held my hand so tight, that night”.

Maybe she'll set aside her book,  
and give me a sweet “Come Hither” look.  
And we'll drift down the aisle,  
as though floating on feathers,  
no matter the weathers.

We'll dance again and dream again:  
Those songs heart-rending, melody never ending.  
And words so sublime,  
Like “ang aht yer washin' on ther Siegfried Line”.

Through crowds of clouds  
we'll ascend along.  
Through hosts of angelic throng  
And she'll tell me: “You silly bugger,  
What took you so long?!”



## LOCAL NEWS

### Royal British Legion, Elham Valley Branch

On behalf of the Branch Chairman, his Committee and all branch members, I write to convey huge and very sincere thanks to both the Elham Village Hall Association and the Elham Historical Society for the wonderful event held on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May to commemorate VE 80. It was a real pleasure to see the village supporting our RBL aims and we are so grateful for all the support shown and expressed. In particular, we are enormously grateful for the kind and generous gesture behind the decision that all donations should come to our branch. In total there was a collection of £283.80 for the Branch and £164.54 for the Poppy Appeal; these are monies which will be wisely spent, locally, and which are very much needed.



It would be very remiss not to make a special mention of sincerely appreciative thanks to Bryan Badham who produced the self-guided walk and such a wonderful exhibition. Thank you, Bryan, for so much hard work and know that your efforts are massively appreciated and valued.

We'd love to hear from anyone who wishes to support our aims, whether by joining the RBL or by volunteering for the Poppy Appeal, so please get in touch soon!

Susan Foster, Branch Secretary, [elhamvalley.secretary@rbl.community](mailto:elhamvalley.secretary@rbl.community) or 07734 383691

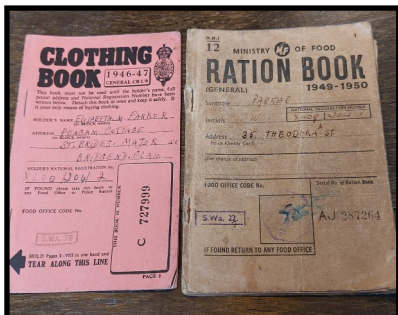


### VE80 at Elham Village Hall

VE 80 Celebration pictures show top left (clockwise) Roma (aged 90) wearing her friends land-girl hat and badge from the 1940s, tea and cakes being served at Elham Village Hall, Victoria Stanyon and Tony Trinkwon entertaining the villagers to 'Vera Lynn style songs', St Mary's Ukulele Group (SMUG) entertaining visitors, Elham Village Hall committee members serving at the Platinum Bar, Clive Stanyon demonstrating the excellent quality of sound from his 90 year old wind-up gramophone and 78s records of music from the post war years and ration books that belonged to Roma's

grandparents. More pictures on the back cover.

Editor





## CHURCH PAGES

**VE 80 Celebration** Pictures taken at St Mary's during the VE 80 service.  
The Royal British Legion took part in the service which was attended by 92 adults and 4 children.  
The service was led by Rev Carol Bates. Cake coffee and tea were enjoyed by all after the service.  
Pete Swain





## ELHAM VILLAGE HALL NEWS



### **Plumbing stuff and ECS**

How many Shed members does it take to sort out a sewage problem at the village hall?



With many thanks to Paul Wilkin and Alan Brown and the rest of the supporting team the problem was dealt with and a catastrophe avoided.

Paul also contributed by running a plumbing workshop on Saturday 17 May... our picture shows the pipework

enthusiasts learning useful skills. If you would like other such workshops please contact [elhamshed@gmail.com](mailto:elhamshed@gmail.com).



The picture above shows a chinwag session with members enjoying a relaxing cup of coffee.

### **Timetable for June:**

Mondays, Tuesdays and Saturdays, 10am to 12 noon

Thursdays, 2pm to 4pm.

### **Community Contributions**

You may have noticed a bench at the top of Duck Lane outside the church entrance – helpfully located for those of us needing a breather after walking up the hill. Steve Skinner, who lives in the Square, was seen by a passer-by repainting the seat, and learnt that it's one of two which he has made for the benefit of the community. Which brings to mind the famous line in JFK's inauguration speech – “and so, my fellow Americans: ask not what your country can do for you – ask what you can do for your country”.

Chris Burrows





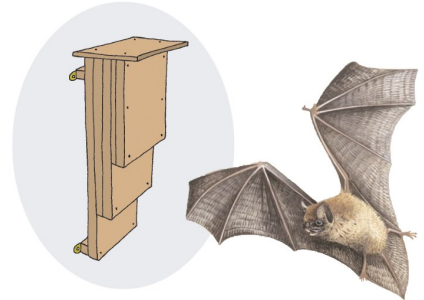
## Elham Environment Group

Our joint Elham Environment Group / Community Shed bat box project had reached its production stage. In just a couple of hours on a Tuesday morning all components were, with what can only be described as military precision, marked-up and cut ready for assembly. Along the way, experience acquired over lifetimes was applied and knowledge and skills shared. A BIG THANK-YOU to all who took part. Chris Burrows



Elham Environment Group  
Elham Community Shed

### BAT BOX PROJECT



Following our bird box project, completed in April, Elham Environment Group are collaborating with the Elham Community Shed to make and install bat roosting boxes in the village.

We will be making the boxes at the Community Shed on Tuesday 13th May 10-12 and Thursday 15th May 2-4. If you'd like to help, please register your interest by e-mailing [elhamshed@gmail.com](mailto:elhamshed@gmail.com).



Enjoyment, Co-operation, Sociability,  
Education, Consideration and Safety.

This is the ethos of ECS.





## **LOCAL SPORT and ACTIVITIES**

### **News from Elham Valley Cricket Club**

#### **History**

The official club records go back over 100 years to 1905 although it is suspected that cricket in Elham would have been played much earlier.

The club's most famous player was of course the England and Kent wicketkeeping / batsman great Les Ames who played for the village as a youngster in the early days.

The club played for many years at The Gore – now the football pitch – before moving close nearby to its present ground at Holloway Field, halfway up Park Lane hill.

The late George Palmer (much loved & missed) was the long serving president. He kindly gave Holloway to the club on a long lease, and this, together with lottery funding, enabled a new pavilion and ground to be built in 1999, first matches were played in 2000.

As any visitor will attest, it is one of the most picturesque and well-kept grounds in East Kent, set in a slight bowl with lovely views of the downs.

#### **2025 Season – Senior cricket**

The new season is planned for w/e 26th April and fixtures run to the end of September. Groundwork started in mid-March and will carry on each Saturday morning up to the first game.

This year the Saturday team will 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 with tea and coffee available.

#### **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 end of April until August.

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

#### **Any adults or youngsters for Table Tennis?**

The table tennis sessions on Monday evenings in the Anna Clayton room have been going well - long may they continue.

There is now a session from 6:15 to 7:15 for children, in school Year 5, 6, 7 or 8 ( adult accompanied ) in the Anna Clayton room. Please contact me if you intend to come at 6.15.

The adult session continues on Monday nights at 7.15 Elham Village Hall, upstairs as usual.

Equipment provided; we just need your enthusiasm.

If you would like further details please contact Jim Clements 01303 840295 or [ajcjim1904@gmail.com](mailto:ajcjim1904@gmail.com).



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Contact: Clive Stanyon - 01303 840820 or stanyonc@aol.com

***Tuesdays and Thursdays - 10 am***

***Fridays - 6 pm***

Contact: Maureen Alexander - 07714 415651 or

maureentalexander@gmail.com



#### **Pickleball - Indoor (spaces limited) and Outdoor Sessions –**

***Mondays - 3.30 pm and 6 pm*** (Indoor/Outdoor if weather allows)

***Wednesdays - 3.30 pm*** (Indoor/Outdoor if weather allows)

***Fridays - 9.30 am*** - Open Club Session (Outdoor if weather allows)

Contact: Abby Bourn - 07754 085866 or abby.bourn@hotmail.co.uk



#### **Badminton - Indoor**

***Wednesdays - 6.30 pm***

Contact: Clive Stanyon - 01303 840820 or stanyonc@aol.com

**For more information visit our website: <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/ElhamSportsClub>**

### **Elham Valley Walkers Summer Programme**

Please check <https://elhamvalleywalkers.co.uk/our-next-walk/> prior to joining a walk, for any last minute changes, or phone the walk leader if you are unable to access the internet.



**Tuesday 10 June** Meet at Crundale Church, CT4 7EF <https://w3w.co/rooster.essential.polite> 10am. Leader Isabel Senior 07501 797017. Visit our website for details to follow.

**Sunday 29 June** Meet 10am, from Peene, to reach start point and car park. From A20, turn left immediately after the old railway bridge, up a short road to parking at the top. (nearest postcode CT18 8AZ Elham Valley Line Trust Museum, situated on other side of the bridge). The walk will be towards Frogholt, Tolsford Hill and back along the course of the old railway line. About 5 miles, moderate. Andrew Cornford leads. Tel 07761 034407

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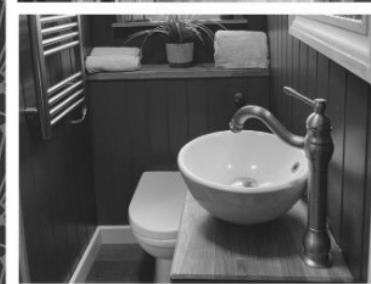


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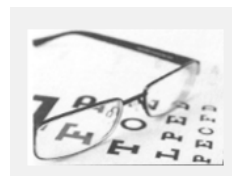
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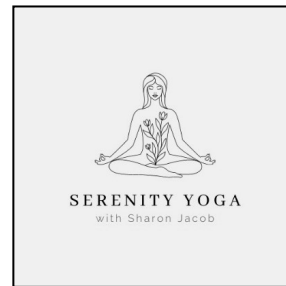
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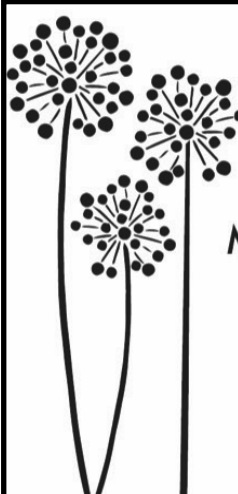


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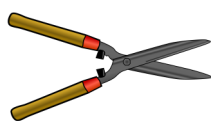
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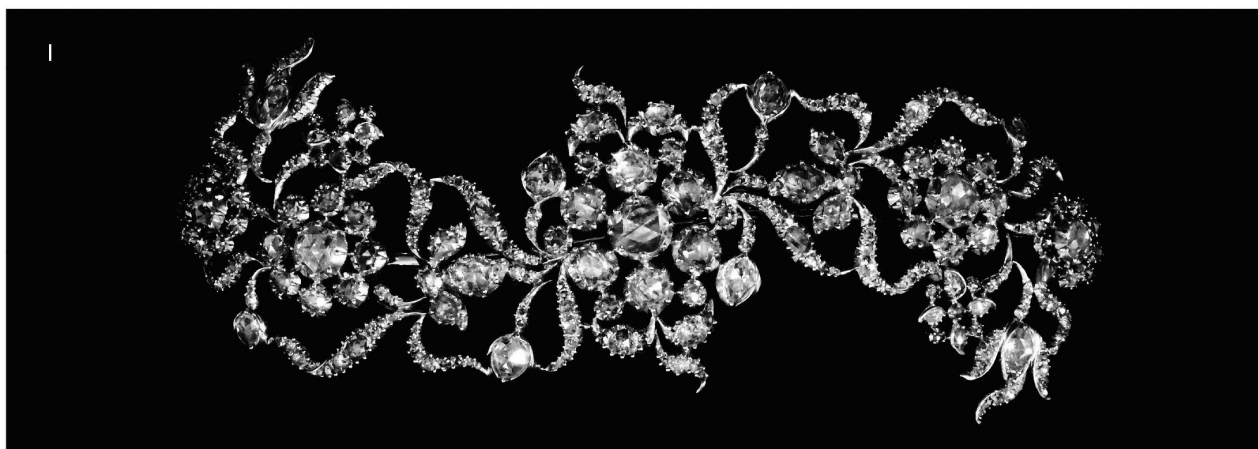
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