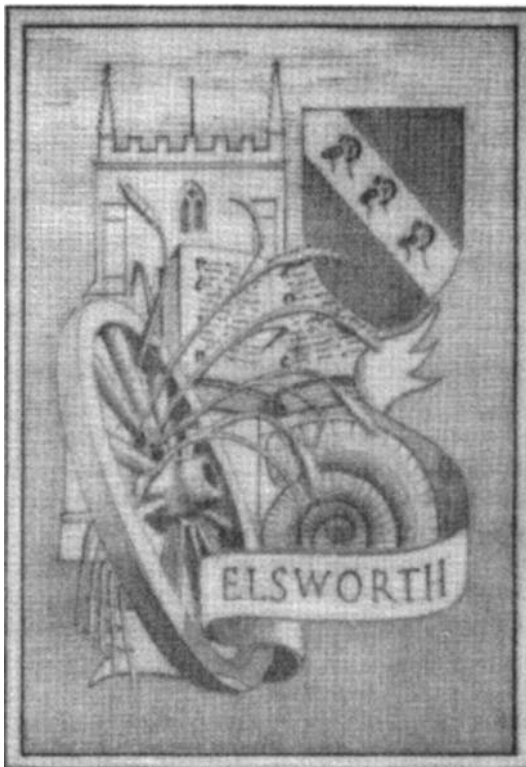


The Elsworth Chronicle



Issue No. 16

November 2002

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Contributions to the Elsworth Chronicle are always most welcome. Please send articles, letters and ideas to the editor at the address above. The magazine is held on file here and in the Cambridge Lion Yard Library and news items reflecting life in the village could well be of interest in the years to come.

George Bosworth

Sadly, as readers will know, George Bosworth died in June last. The love and respect felt for George was evident from the very large congregation at his funeral at Holy Trinity Church. For many he was the voice of Elsworth Sports Club on matters relating to the use and condition of the sports field.

George was born in Great Gransden in 1927, one of ten children, but after losing parents at a very young age was sent to Spurgens orphanage in London, along with his brothers Len and John, coming to Elsworth in 1939 when war broke out.

After National Service, George worked on the land for Eric Davison before progressing to driving articulated lorries, which were a rarity in those days. In 1949 when on holiday at Butlins at Skegness with a bunch of the lads, George met Ann the girl he subsequently married. Ann lived in Liverpool which meant they carried on a long-distance courtship, much by courtesy of the G.P.O. In 1953 George and Ann were married in Elsworth and lived in the village thereafter, being blessed with 5 children Tina, Deborah, Kathryn, Stephen and Clare.

Diabetes resulted in George retiring from work with Davison but he subsequently joined Datarack as a van driver. He made many new friends and stayed there until he semi-retired when he was sixty five, continuing to work in the factory two days a week.

George's passions in life outside his family were football and cricket, which the children say he would have continued playing had Father Time not had a word. Any

loss of running speed, though, with the passing years perhaps did not make much difference to George; he didn't believe in running too much, finding it easier to hit fours or sixes, as many in Elsworth will remember.

A strong sense of right and wrong (which he instilled in his children and others too at times!) characterised George. He enjoyed a good debate which could develop into a heated discussion especially with members of the Sports Club and Parish Council, arguing the point but willing to back down if proved wrong and never too proud to apologize. He was a good listener and gave advice when he felt it necessary many will remember his knowledge of the village.

The completion of the new pavilion was George's dream. He was there when the old building was built and demolished many years later and the whole family hoped and prayed he would be around to see its resurrection. That dream was realised. George was involved with the sports club for almost fifty years, first as a player and subsequently secretary and treasurer. The dedication of the sports field gate in his honour was a moving tribute to George and his family. He had just come home from hospital and was so delighted and very proud. His smile said it all. The family would like to thank Michael Davison and the Sports Club for giving them a permanent memorial to George.

There are fourteen grandchildren and here are some of their memories of their grandad.

- 1 Always in his garden or working on his allotment.
- 2 Watching cricket on television, dropping off but suddenly wide awake the minute anyone switched channels, protesting that he was not asleep but merely checking his eyelids for holes!
- 3 Visiting them when on holiday camping and treating them to ice creams, never spoiling them of course, but ever generous with his time.
- 4 Giving advice on the pitfalls of the road when learning to drive, helping with directions.
- 5 Always there to answer our questions.

As many readers will know, George lived fourteen months longer than anticipated; time savoured by the family. He suffered in silence and died peacefully at home. Ann nursed him uncomplainingly for which her children thank her knowing how difficult it was. He will be remembered by all for his kindness, generosity, wisdom, strength of character and not least his love.

Editors Tribute

George was one of the great personalities of Elsworth he will be sadly missed by so many. His fearlessness and willingness to speak his mind was refreshing in an age in which so many are unwilling to be involved. Courageous to the end, even the cancer cells had quite a battle. He was held in great respect in the village. Our sympathies go out to Ann and the family, to whom we are most grateful for the substance of the appreciation noted above.

A.W.F.

Obituaries for publication relating to people of Elsworth should be sent to the editor at The old Rectory.



George at the 'George Bosworth Gates'



for birds
for people
for ever

Birdlife at the RSPB's Farm

It is approaching three years since the RSPB purchased Grange Farm in Knapwell and we have been taking stock of how the birdlife has fared over those- years. We look at the numbers of birds over two periods of the year - those staying with us for the winter and the breeding birds in the spring and summer. We are looking in particular to identify how the management of the crops and potential food supplies has affected the number of birds.

Over the last two winters, the main difference for birds has been the supply of additional food. Last year we grew an area of wheat, kale and mustard that we did not harvest, leaving it for birds to feed on through last winter. We also regularly spread small quantities of wheat and rapeseed on an uncropped area through last winter - in effect creating a giant bird table. When we compared the bird numbers last winter with the preceding winter when such additional food was not supplied we found that chaffinch numbers had more than doubled in the second winter and yellowhammer numbers increased by over tenfold. Only certain birds were able to make use of this extra food - for example skylark, blackbird and linnet did not use the food and their numbers were unchanged over the two winters.

We have also been looking at the breeding birds, measuring the number of territories based on where we see birds singing regularly - proclaiming their ownership of a little bit of Grange Farm. Over the last three years, there has been an increase in the number of territories of the birds that nest in or around the arable fields but little change in the number of territories of birds that stay mainly around the neighbouring gardens, in the copses or around the farmyard. For example, skylarks have risen from 10 to 18 to 24 territories over the last three years. Yellowhammers have risen from 14 to 16 to 19 territories and linnets from 6 to 8 to 11 over the same period. The numbers of territories of birds such as wrens, blue tits, chaffinches, bullfinches, robins, song thrushes and house sparrows have stayed the same. Numbers of carrion crows and magpies have also stayed the same over the three years.

We are particularly keen to increase the number of nesting attempts that skylarks make and the number of young that they produce each year. We have been looking to do this by experimenting with the structure (height and thickness) of our wheat crops. Conventional wheat crops become too tall and thick to be attractive to skylarks later in the summer. Over the last two years we have had small unsown patches in some of the wheat fields and last year we also drilled one of the wheat fields with twice the normal spacing between the crop rows. This is all in attempt to find ways to encourage the skylarks to nest in the fields later in the season, producing an extra brood of young compared to a conventional wheat crop.

This summer the skylarks had a long and relatively successful nesting season. During April and May, both the field with unsown patches and that with the wide spaced rows held higher densities of skylark nests compared with a conventional wheat field. In June and July, the pattern was less clear-cut. The skylarks nesting in these experimental fields fledged on average one more chick per nest than those in conventionally sown wheat. It will take another year, swapping the position of the trials between fields, before we can be sure if this technique works.

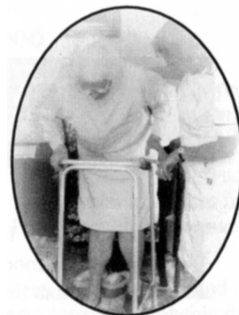
This work would not have been possible without the amazing support that the appeal for the purchase of the land produced from RSPB members - if you donated to the appeal, thank you very much.

Roger Buisson, Project Manager, Grange Farm, Knapwell. 01954 267438.

Safer Homes Project

Sponsored by
South Cambridgeshire
Primary Care Trust
Cambridge City Primary Care Trust

Supported by
Age Concern Cambridgeshire



What is the Project?

The project aims to make your home safer and more secure. This may be through providing practical help with small household jobs or through providing information.

Who can receive the service?

Vulnerable and older people who live in South Cambridgeshire District and Cambridge City Council areas.

How is the service provided

You can telephone 01223 726284 and staff will take your details and identify how the project can help you. This may lead to a visit to your home from our Project Co-ordinator by appointment. For your peace of mind you can pre-arrange a security password that only the Project Co-ordinator knows.

All discussions are confidential and referrals to other agencies may be made with your consent.

What can the project do?

We can organise through contacting other services:

installation of smoke alarms and window locks; door security chains; spy holes; upgrade locks; repair of tap washer

We CAN for example:

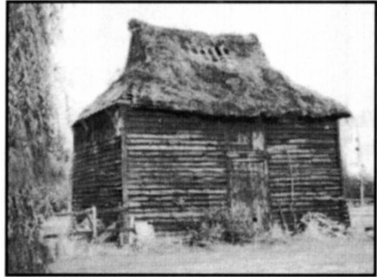
fit lightbulbs;
fit/repair battery operated doorbells; repair front access/path;
clear gutters if they are causing slip hazards; put up curtain rails;
move furniture to support hospital discharge and safer mobilising indoors;
install grab-rails; install second banister rails; install half steps;
secure mats/carpets/floor coverings; make safe trailing wires; extend telephone sockets;
test electrical appliances; provide information and advice; refer onwards for more specialist help/services.

There is no charge for the service although donations to Age Concern Cambridgeshire are gratefully received in recognition of the charity's contribution to the Safer Homes Project.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE TELEPHONE 01223 726284

Dovecotes

Pigeons have been bred as a source of food during winter since Roman times. The practice of keeping doves in dovecotes was probably introduced by the Normans and certainly in medieval times it was the custom for the lord of the manor to have a dovecote for his own needs. None of these early dovecotes have survived in our part of Cambridgeshire. By the 17th century dovecotes must have been a familiar sight in most villages. A great increase in their numbers was seen during the early 18th and 19th centuries and it has been estimated that perhaps as many as three existed in each parish.



With improved farming, the breeding of pigeons declined in the 19th century and many dovecotes were converted into labourer's cottages to meet the pressing housing needs of the expanding population. Some dovecotes continued to be used until the Second World War, though some were converted to granaries or used as stables and stores. The dovecotes, which have survived relatively unaltered, are therefore becoming increasingly rare.

Martin's Farm dovecote - off the Boxworth Road in Elsworth - was probably built in the 17th or early 18th century, it is timber framed with wattle infill plastered with clay-lime daub and the foundations are of locally made brick and the roof is thatched. At a later period it was altered by adding a floor so that the ground floor could be used as a granary; this was lined with bricks and grain bin partitions were added. A trap door and ladder allowed access from the granary to the pigeon loft above and at the same time weather-boarding was put on some of the outside walls. The flight platform is intact but the nesting boxes have not survived.

By the 1980's the Martin's Farm dovecote was in a very dilapidated state. However, the main structure has now been restored and the building is in a reasonably good state, although there is more work needed to restore it fully.

Peter Bird

The Year of the Great Flood

The last edition of this magazine was with the printers when the village experienced a deluge unlike any in living memory. The date of October 21st 2001 must be etched on the memory of many in Elsworth, particularly those in the 20 homes so unexpectedly flooded.

It will be recalled that some 3"+ fell over 24 hours - the total amount normally received in his district for the entire month of October. The rain fell relentlessly when a weather front moving from the south east turned back on itself when near Peterborough and remained overhead over a limited area of Cambridgeshire.

Those who experienced flooding in their homes - in Brook Street, Paddock Row and one in Fardell's Lane - must have faced not only the horror of a relentless, indescribable dirty liquid intrusion but also a period of drying out and revamping interiors which must have seemed endless.

For those outside, the flood presented a possible threat to limb and even life. One car travelling towards Boxworth was swept by the force of the water over the road bridge from Smith Street down Paddock Row. Fortunately the driver managed to escape.

At such a time people normally work well together and the flood was no exception. Of course matters didn't always go according to expectations. One early peripheral surprise was an attempt to acquire sandbags as the water rose relentlessly towards dwellings normally above the seasonal flash floods. The writer of these notes telephoned emergency services and was given the flood help number. A most helpful person answered the telephone. But when I referred to delivery points and asked if he knew Elsworth, I was most surprised to hear he was in Northern Ireland! He gave a number which he thought was for this area, but it was, in fact, Peterborough. From there I was directed to a Cambridge number, but it was constantly engaged. The next morning I got through, only to be told it was a private number - it had been given in error! I then tried South Cambs District Council. The officials were most helpful. Although by that time the waters were receding, the forecast suggested more rain was likely and the bags provided were at least some comfort.

News that the downpour was a 1 in 140 years probability - later to be increased by some pundits to over 1 in 200 years - was of interest but of little comfort. Clearly action had to be taken. The Environment Agency, the County Council and South Cambs were contacted without delay, to be followed by flood control meetings and the formation of a flood liaison group initiated by Bill Law. Our brook has three distinct sections in its passage through the parish, a) the headwaters immediately south of the village, b) the course of the stream in the village with its associated culverts and ditches, and the nature of the stream downstream of the village. Each would seem to have a distinct influence on the causation of flooding following heavy rainfall. An integrated scheme would clearly be beyond the resources of the parish council. Regretfully our brook is not an awarded watercourse and no official body will accept responsibility for it. The aim of the Parish Council therefore, has been a partnership with the County and District Councils. All involved appreciate that the matter of flood protection demands urgent priority. At the same time it is clear that the scheme devised must be based on firm evidence not conjecture. An outline of progress to date will be found in the Parish Council Council News section.

Jottings From Your County Councillor

Unwanted "cold-calling" by itinerant traders is sadly on the increase in our area. Whether it be people offering to tarmac drive-ways, lop trees, or fix roof-tiles, or businesses targeting our elderly or vulnerable relatives and neighbours with high-pressure sales of security alarms, fire extinguishers and other such products that play on their fear of crime, this is a time for everyone to be on the alert.

Cambridgeshire County Council Trading Standards Service receives numerous reports of suspicious and fraudulent doorstep trading scams every month. Within the last few weeks at least 2 Swavesey residents have received calls from someone claiming to be working on behalf of the Council and asking whether anyone would be at home at 1 pm the following day. Checks by Trading Standards revealed that no such calls were being made by any of the local councils, leading Trading Standards and the Police to believe this was a criminal seeking a new victim. Police officers in Cambridgeshire have clear evidence that some doorstep salesmen are linked to burglaries at the homes they have visited.

In November 2001, I was privileged to launch the Cambridgeshire Doorstep & Distraction Burglary Taskforce, an alliance between Cambridgeshire County Council Trading Standards, Cambridgeshire Police, Neighbourhood Watch, local electricity and energy companies, local banks and community groups such as Age Concern and Help the Aged. The aim of the Taskforce is to raise awareness in the community of doorstep and distraction burglary crime, share information about suspicious traders and callers, and stamp down hard on those committing such crimes in Cambridgeshire.

This Taskforce has had several notable successes. Through the network of contacts now built up, Police and Trading Standards Officers have been able to respond to complaints so quickly that in many instances the doorstep criminal has been caught "red-handed". At the end of September, a call to Trading Standards by a neighbourhood watch member led to one of our officers visiting an elderly man who had been conned into paying £12,000 for some building work. The Trading Standards Officer was able to recover all the money for the gentleman concerned. In another instance, a salesman spent 3 hours in a lady's house before she was finally pressured into giving him £1300 for a vacuum cleaner she didn't want. Trading Standards were again able to help by getting all her money back and beginning court proceedings against the salesman and his company.

The advice from Cambridgeshire County Council Trading Standards is:

- Be sure who is at your door. Ask for identification before you allow anyone into your house. If in doubt, call Trading Standards on 0845 30 30 666 for help.
- Don't be pressured into buying goods or services on the doorstep or over the telephone. Shop around and don't impulse buy on your doorstep. Remember, if there are any problems, it may be difficult to trace the sellers to get a refund. Make it clear to unwanted sellers that "We're Not Buying It".

- If you do spend more than £35 on goods bought as a result of "cold-calling" by a trader on your doorstep or over the telephone, in many situations the law gives you 7 days to cancel the contract and get all your money back. If you want to get your money back, call Trading Standards on 0845 30 30 666 - we're here to help you.
- Who's calling at your mum's door today? Be the eyes and ears of Police and Trading Standards by being a good neighbour. If you see a strange car or van, or workmen or doorstep Sellers at a neighbour's house, please go and check that your neighbour is OK.
If you are worried, don't tackle them on your own. Instead, make a note of the description of workmen or any car or van (colour, make and model, registration number, and any names or telephone numbers on the sides of the vehicle) and call Trading Standards on 0845 30 30 666 with your concerns.
- Join your local Neighbourhood Watch group - it's a great way of protecting yourself, your friends, family and neighbours from unwanted doorstep sellers and distraction burglars.
- If a doorstep caller won't leave your house, or you are suspicious of an unexpected caller, or you feel in danger, call Cambridgeshire Police on 999 straight away for emergency assistance.

I am always available for consultation, either in person or by phone, letter or e-mail. I can be reached at the new address or telephone number below.

Shona Johnstone
 Highfield
 5 Lowburyholme Road
 Over, CB4 5NP
 Tel: 01954 230565
 e-mail: shona.johnstone@Cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Phil Brannigan Groundworks

10 West Delph, Whittlesey, Peterborough PE7 1RG

Marshall's Approved Contractor

Block paved driveways - Patios - Concrete

Landscaping - Fencing etc. - Free design

T: 01733 205365 F: 01733 205365 M: 07947 159113

Parish Council News

The Elsworth Flood - We are making progress

Immediately following the disastrous flood of October last year when over 20 homes were flooded, contact was made with agencies that could provide expertise and assistance - namely the Environment Agency, County Council and the District Council - so as to bring meaningful answers to questions relating to the inadequacy of our drainage system and to identify practical measures to prevent a re-occurrence.

Immediate commitments arising from these early discussions are noted below.

- a The District Council agreed to clear the brook of debris north of Fardell's Lane to the parish boundary with Conington. This was very much appreciated given that the watercourse is not the District Council's responsibility, but rests by law with the riparian owners.
- b The County Council would finance a study of the capacity of the culverts and ditches within the village to be undertaken by the consultancy firm of W.S. Atkins.
- c The Environment Agency undertook a survey of the extent of the flood and relevant topography. Questionnaires were distributed to householders who were flooded.

The commitments noted above were seen as contributing to an overall plan embracing the village itself, the watercourse to the north and the upper catchment area south of the village, where, subject to the agreement of land-owners, flash flood water might be controlled before entry to the village. Headwater considerations, though, were recognised as being of the long term rather than for immediate action.

The Parish Council has endeavoured to involve villagers. Two public meetings specifically related to the flood have been held, one with parish councillors and one also with representatives of the Environment Agency, the County and District councils. There has additionally been close liaison with Bill Law in his capacity as spokesman for those whose homes were flooded [If you wish to be on his mailing list, please call Bill on 267619]. In addition, those flooded were invited to submit completed questionnaires to the Environment Agency and written observations to the Parish Council were also invited from all residents in the village.

More recently, in the summer, the Atkins report was received and discussed with representatives of W.S. Atkins, the Environment Agency, County Council and District Councils and the Parish Council's Trees and Brook Working Party. The main report had highlighted the inadequacies of the capacity of the culverts in the context of the existing drainage system, while a further analysis following discussion identified the stretch of watercourse from the Fardell's Lane bridge downstream to the pumping station as an area of concern.

To turn now to the implementation of remedial work. Culverts have been cleared, the stream bed north of the Fardell's Lane bridge along its course parallel to Paddock Row has

been widened and impediments to drainage removed along the stream bed downstream of the village. The culvert from Fardell's Lane is to be re-directed slightly so that its water might enter the main watercourse in the direction of flow rather than at a right angle and surface slopes from Fardell's Lane to the brook have been created to enhance run-off from the lane. At the opposite end of the village, it will be seen the damaged banks by the footbridge where the stream enters the village in Brook Street have been repaired by the County Council. It will be noted the bridge is now framed by wings of brick. At the time of writing the removal of silt is in hand along the course of the brook through the village upstream of Fardell's Lane.

Further medium/longer term remedial measures have been identified for investigation with regard to feasibility and contribution to flood control, namely [a] diverting water entering the village from the S.W., now running along Water Lane and Fardell's Lane, to a course which would join the brook downstream of the village, and [b] the possibilities of water control measures, with the consent of landowners, in the upper catchment area of the brook.

Play Equipment

Additional play equipment has been purchased and installed in the Sports Field. The cost to the parish was off-set by a generous donation from the District Council amounting to almost half the cost, for which we are very grateful. It will be seen a large climbing frame and spring loaded rocking animals, together with the necessary safety tiles, have been added. A grant has also been made by the District Council for an improved basketball area for young people.

Anglia in Bloom

Again this year 'Anglia in Bloom' judges have made evaluations and have awarded the best hanging basket prize in Elsworth to Ann Bosworth and the best tub prize in Elsworth (a new competition) to Earnst G-Gerburtig. Congratulations to both. Vouchers to the value of £15 each were donated to the two winners on behalf of the Parish Council

Rural Bus Service

In essence the scheme discussed with the County was to supplement our inadequate bus service with additional bus links [perhaps by mini-bus] to Bar Hill where frequent services to Cambridge and elsewhere exist. However in reality the new service instead of supplementing the pre-existing direct service to Cambridge, virtually replaced it. Modifications have now been made following representations and current time-tables may be obtained from Liz Sim or from the County Council at Shire Hall. Not all services appear in one time-table and some confusion has arisen. The editor proposes to link these and hopefully provide a more meaningful document for each household. It might not be possible to include it as an inset with this magazine as it will have to be checked at Shire Hall when completed, but if it is ready, so much the better.

Jubilee

An impression of the Jubilee celebrations is contained elsewhere in the magazine. Here it should be recorded that the Parish Council organised celebrations involving virtually all age groups and all states of fitness. The support given by the people of Elsworth was very gratifying.

Parish Council Co-option

Ian Maddison was co-opted in March to fill the vacancy left following the resignation of Jo Gilbert. The Parish Council is most grateful to Jo for her hard work and wisdom while on the Council and for her stewardship of the planning working party.

Parish Council Responsibilities

At the May meeting of the Parish Council, Alan Farrow and Maureen Stevens were re-elected Chairman and Vice-Chairman respectively. Membership of Working Parties is noted below.

Trees &

Waterways

Robin Grange
Alan Farrow
David Nuttycombe
Ian Maddison

Village Liaison

Alan Farrow
Maureen Stevens
Michael Taylor

Recreation & Welfare

Maureen Stevens
Annie Howell
Terry Stevens

School Liaison

Alan Farrow

Paths,Roads Verges & Lighting

Robin Grange
Anthony Taylor
Michael Taylor

Planning

All Councillors
Convenor –
Annie Howell

Village of the Year Award

In the last edition reference was made to a £100 award made to Elsworth for its care of the elderly. The Parish Council is to put this money towards the cost of a new seat to be placed near the children's play area, where grannies and grandads (and others) might watch over their children at play.

Re-cycling Bank

Oxfam has installed a new textile bank at the Boxworth Road site to replace the one apparently stolen. The new container is larger and will be able to accept considerable quantities of good clothing. Two separate bottle banks are now in place for clear and coloured glass. The paper bank can now accept ALL paper except for large glossy catalogues. The "Can bank" is now for all cans, not only those for drinks.

Parish Council Grants

Clubs and societies in Elsworth are again invited to apply for small grants towards meeting difficult or unforeseen circumstances. Applications will be considered at the January finance meeting of the Parish Council.

Bus Service Review

The County Council is responsible, as many readers will know, for co-ordinating, and in some cases financing, bus and community transport services across the County. Regretfully a trend of increasing costs is putting pressures on limited budget resources and the County is anxious to know that the most appropriate services are being provided.

As part of this review, the Parish Council has been asked to ascertain if the needs of the people of Elsworth are being met and to gather opinions as to how the service might be improved to foster increased usage. Clearly if the service is not used adequately, there is a danger it being cut. For the Parish Council to make a meaningful response, please let Liz Sim (267345) or Alan Farrow (267472) know without delay. The service linking the village to Bar Hill with more buses, from which links may be made to Cambridge and elsewhere, is still quite new. Is it proving satisfactory or has its existence not been sufficiently well advertised?

*Elsworth
Elizabeth II
Commemorative
Jubilee Medals*

*A limited number of
commemorative medals are
available from Liz Sim
(telephone 267345)*

at

Mercia Cottage, 6 Brockley Road.

Cambridgeshire County Council

Elsworth Safer Routes to School Consultation

Summary results received by the Parish Council

The postal consultation generated 66 reply slips and approximately 25 letters, faxes and e-mails.

| | | | |
|-----------------|----------------|-------------|------------|
| Speed cushions: | 67% in support | 33% oppose | 67 replies |
| New footway: | 89% in support | 11 % oppose | 66 replies |

Reasons for objections to speed cushions:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| noise | 8 |
| ineffective | 2 |
| other forms better | 5 |
| not needed, no problem | 1 |
| urbanisation/detrimental to village | 6 |
| unique geology/vibration | 3 |
| too many | 2 |

Alternatives suggested:

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| red road | 2 |
| interactive signs | 4 |

Reason for objection to footway:

urbanisation

Other relevant comments

The questionnaire did not ask for comment on the kerbed island yet 8 respondents expressed concern, and the SCDC Conservation group and the District Councillor are very unhappy about urbanising this feature.

Conclusion/Way forward

Speed cushions to be confined to either side of pedestrian crossing point (2 pairs) in positions that are away from houses if achievable. On the Boxworth Road install an interactive sign (or two). Proceed with footway and kerb works near The Poacher.

If the Working Group, County Councillor, District Councillor and Parish Council agree to this it will be necessary to advertise the proposal for humps and progress the scheme towards the Area Joint Committee in December 2002 or February 2003.

Comments to the Chairman of the Parish Council (267472), the Clerk (267345) or to other members of the Parish Council would be welcome.

Jubilee Club

Meets on the first Thursday in every month in The School Hall at 2.30pm and is open to all. We usually have a good speaker, afternoon tea, a raffle and a bring and buy stall.

We visited Mole Hall in June, and in July had a good day out at Lowestoft. Our October meeting welcomed Mrs Hipkin who gave a most interesting and amusing talk on particular parts of Cambridge.

Betty Simcock

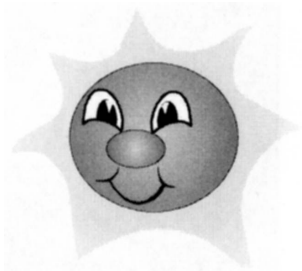
Elsworth NWR

National Women's Register is a registered charity involving a countrywide network of groups where women meet to discuss topics or join in social events. It is an ideal opportunity to meet new friends. The Elsworth Group meet very informally in each other's homes every 3/4 weeks.

Topics are usually very light-hearted and often involve eating or drinking! Over the last 6 months we have enjoyed a talk about food additives, had a very enjoyable evening wine tasting and taken part in an unusual picture gardening quiz.

New members are always very welcome, so if you would like more details, please call either Chris - 267489 or Carol - 267675.

Christine Roberts



Elsworth Knapwell and Conington W.I.

We are a friendly group of ladies who meet on the second Wednesday of each month (except August) at 7-30pm in the hall of Elsworth school. Recent meetings have included speakers on the work of the Blue Cross, a slide show depicting the Ouse Valley Way and the founding and funding of the East Anglian Air Ambulance Service. During our meeting on the 10th July Mr Bentinck gave a talk about "War Time Women". To commemorate Jubilee year our project has been to provide a bench sited outside the New Sports Pavilion. Our summer event was an evening river cruise starting from Hartford Marina and providing the refreshments at the Elsworth Show. New members or visitors to our meetings are most welcome.

Lyn Fisher

Elsworth Crusaders Football Team

Elsworth Crusaders Under 14's Football Team distinguished itself by winning the Eynesbury Under 14's Tournament last season.



Back Row (left to right)

Sam Childerly, Graham Stubbington, Damon Croft, Will Reed-Wright,
Warren Goodhind, (Cambridge United), Jonathan Goodwin, Ricoh Iamar, Henry Ball, Ashley Taylor.

Front Row (left to right)

Bob Boyd, Robin Askew

Tom White, Ben Edwards.

Children in this area need your support - NOW

Children of all ages and abilities come into the care of social services for a wide variety of reasons, some for a few days, others forever.

Our fostering and adoption team is looking for people from all walks of life who could offer loving, caring and supportive homes to children in this area.

It doesn't matter if you are married, single or living with a partner, working, retired or unemployed, with or without children, white or from an ethnic minority - you just need a willingness to look after a young person who needs your support.

In return the fostering and adoption service offers financial allowances that cover the costs of caring for a child and additional payments can be made based on skills and experience. We also organise all the equipment you need, regular training sessions, professional support 24 hours a day, advice and guidance.

If you would like to find out more about becoming somebody's foster or adoptive parent, please call 0800 052 0078.

Remember . . . you could be anybody; to them you'll be somebody!



**34 High Street Longstanton
01954 780027**

and

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Monday to Friday 4.30pm - 7.00pm and Saturday 8.30am - 11.00am

All consultations by appointment

Fully equipped surgery • In-house laboratory • microchipping and pets passport

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Elsworth Sports Club Presentation of Long Service Plaques

Marked tributes to George Bosworth and Joe Braybrook were made shortly before the much regretted death of George when plaques were awarded for 70 years membership and service to Joe and for 54 years to George. The presentations were made by Mr. Michael Davison, who generously provided champagne for the occasion.

During his 70 years membership of the club, Joe Braybrook played cricket and was a prominent member of the executive committee. From 1973 he was chairman of the club but health problems over recent months made it difficult for him to continue in office and he has now retired from the position. Tributes to George - cricketer, footballer and official - will be found in a separate appreciation in this magazine.

MS.



CAMTAD



Cambridge Campaign for Tackling Acquired Deafness

8A Romsey Terrance, Cambridge CB1 3NH Tel/Fax 01223 416141

HEARING HELP SESSIONS

FOR THE YEAR 2002

CAMBOURNE

MONKFIELD MEDICAL PRACTICE

**THE FIRST TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH
FROM 2PM - 4PM
Starting November 2002**

**NO APPOINTMENT
NECESSARY**

Sessions will be held on:

Tuesday 5th November

Tuesday 3rd December

We do not do hearing tests

BATTERIES for hearing aids issued from Addenbrookes Hospital are now available at Hearing Help Sessions

Elsworth Sports Club

The New Pavilion

After four and a half years of fund raising and hard work, we now have a pavilion of which the Sports Club and the village can be very proud. This has been made possible by the fund raising and hard work of the active members of the club who were determined to see the old and dilapidated pavilion replaced with a building that would not only meet all the required standards that are now necessary for sporting activities, but would also provide a venue that is available for the benefit of the local community and others who wish to hire any of the facilities.

With the help of a £25,000 interest free loan from the Davison Group, the project was able to be completed for January this year. The main aim of the Sports Club will now be to work hard and raise funds to repay the loan. The Sports Club wish to thank Mr. Davison and his family for their continued help and support to the club over many years. The Sports Club also wishes to thank sincerely local residents who have been so supportive of fund raising efforts and have helped not only in donating prizes and coming along to events but also donating money to the fund. The club would also like to thank Elsworth Parish Council, South Cambridgeshire District Council W.R.E.N. and the Lottery Commission for generous financial support.

Special words of thanks are extended to one of the club's Vice Presidents, Mr. Ken Woodham. Ken was the architect who designed the building and did much of the work in applying for the various grants for the project. He also donated all his fees to the fund. His help and on-going support [and Diane's] is very much appreciated by the club.

Sports Club Activities

The close of the 2001 season saw the first eleven cricket team win their league competition, on which they are to be congratulated, but regretfully this last season saw their return from the higher division. The second eleven enjoyed a good season and almost won promotion. Junior cricket coaching was again a feature of the summer months. If you require further information regarding coaching, please contact Mike Lewis at 12 Paddock Row, Elsworth - telephone 01954-267-631. Potential players should contact members of the team or the officers noted at the foot of these notes.

The football team, having won promotion to Division 4A last season, have commenced 2002/3 in very good form. At the time of writing the team is undefeated after nine games of friendly, cup and league matches. Even a successful team is always looking for new players - if you are interested, please contact Stan Bannerman at 4 Cotterells Lane or David Taylor at 11 Brook Street.

Other sports are emerging. Short tennis has been set up, being organised by Ken & Diane Woodham, and indoors bowls will be starting soon, organised by Maureen Stevens.

Information on any of the above activities may be obtained from Terry Stevens [267392] or Maureen Stevens [267318].

Maureen Stevens

The Jubilee Celebrations

Although perhaps following too soon on the Millennium celebrations for the comfort of the organisers, it was gratifying to see how well the village supported the Elsworth Jubilee festivities.

Each of us will have our own particular memories. Highlights for the writer were the enthusiasm and competitive spirit shown on the sports field over two days, the most interesting variation of a game of rounders so successfully devised by Helen Askew to overcome an initial reluctance to play, the energy of the young cyclists in the 'devil-take-the-hindmost' race, and the competitive edge of villagers of all shapes and sizes in a somewhat unorthodox tug-of-war competition. And then we were treated to a magnificent fireworks display on the Saturday evening during an interlude in the entertainment spearheaded so successfully and energetically by Derek James.

Celebrations extended over three days and were planned to cover a broad range of age groups and interests. On Friday the focus was on the youngsters, the marquee on the sports field providing the base for their enjoyment. Saturday and Sunday saw inter-street competitions involving adults and children, the former in the guise of a sports afternoon (linked with the official opening of the pavilion) and the latter with inter-street team contests. Fitness and agility, though, were not demanded throughout - the Saturday evening brought a most enjoyable non-competitive, convivial evening in the marquee.

Several noteworthy innovations were recorded. On the Sunday morning the Church moved to the Sports Field - the congregation not the building. The acoustics were perhaps not up to what some have become accustomed, but volume through marked effort made up for that. Secondly Elsworth now has its very own conker champion - Clare Taylor. Hopefully next year she will have an opportunity to defend her crown. Finally, the celebrations were brought to a close by the first public performance of The Buzz, featuring Elsworth's own Oran Sim on the drums. They well deserved the applause and support they received.

The organisers remained on their feet to the end; exhausted but pleased. Our thanks are due to all who worked and helped so willingly, in particular to Maureen Stevens.

A.W.F.

Medal Winner at the Chelsea Flower Show 2002

It all began with a phone call from the RHS in March inviting Brampton Flower Club to exhibit as another club had had to withdraw. The invitation was accepted and we were galvanised into action. However our initial planning was interrupted as dashed to Bristol to help following the arrival of my daughter's fourth baby.

Finally at the beginning of April my friend Ann Moore and I set to in earnest to develop the set theme of 'All that Jazz'. After some research we drew inspiration from the jazz world of the 1920's using the title 'Josephine Baker' - The Jazz Age'. After several mock-ups in Ann's draughty garage there followed decisions on the final design, mechanics and the flowers themselves, in white, lime green with a splash of vivid pink, to contrast with the black of the stand and the curved wood.

We set off for Chelsea at 6.30 pm on Wednesday 22 May with the very mixed emotions of excitement, panic, apprehension, stress (lots of stress!) and above all hopes that we would not let our club down.

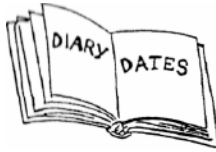
We worked through the night and completed our design at 5.45 am. As we stepped out into the early morning sunshine we couldn't resist the opportunity to view the large gardens before the crowds arrived. What a wonderful treat -just us and one or two photographers!

We returned to the marquee later in the morning and were thrilled beyond belief to find a Silver Medal awaited us. We were so excited. Yet another treat was in store for all participants of the flower arranging competitions - a reception was held at Osborne House on Thursday evening where the Chairman and Vice Chairman of NAFAS made us so welcome.

We felt very proud and privileged to have been given the opportunity to represent Brampton Flower Club at Chelsea. Our thanks go to all who supported us, and made possible a very memorable two days.

Pam Phillips

Our Congratulations to Pam on a most prestigious award



Dates for your Diary

- 23.11.02 **Football - Elsworth V. Bayer [home]**
- 05.12.02 **Jubilee Club - Helen West of Radio Cambridgeshire and a Christmas afternoon tea.**
- 07.12.02 **Football - Elsworth V. Saffron Rng Res. [home].**
- 11.12.02 **W.I. Christmas Party**
- 13.12.02 **N.W.R. Christmas Party.**
- 21.12.02 **Football - Elsworth V. Sawston Unt. 'A' [home].**
- 02.01.03 **Jubilee Club - New Year Lunch at the 'George and Dragon'**
- 07.01.03 **N.W.R. Planning meeting.**
- 08.01.03 **W.I. - One Woman Show - Jane Austen.**
- 29.01.03 **N.W.R. - Italian Evening [food and quiz].**
- 12.02.03 **W.I. - Behind the scenes of a BUPA hospital.**
- 22.02.03 **Football - FJsworth V. Camden Unt. [home].**
- 12.03.03 **W.I. - Annual General Meeting.**
- 15.03.03 **Football - Elsworth V. Eaton Socon 'A' [home].**
- 22.03.03 **Football - Elsworth V. Melbourn Res. [home].**