

Elsham Leader

February 2010

Parish Council

Over the last few years, the Parish Council has overseen the development of the Quarry Park, the planting of trees and provision of benches using money from Singleton Birch and Anglian Water. Before the next edition of this news letter we should have a new, larger notice board. This is to be sited at the edge of the Village Hall car park and purchased from precept money and a large contribution from Tony and Jan Steeper of Holme Farm Residential Home. Very many thanks to them because without their help we may well have had to wait another year before this could be provided.

Although the village precept adds only pennies to your bill, we try to keep it as low as possible so as not to increase your Council tax bills too much. Money is tight, but the Parish Council would like to know what other facilities residents would like to see provided. You can make your views known by attending a meeting (usually held the third Tuesday in the month at 6.45pm), or by phoning any Parish Councillor.

Parish Council Meetings 2010

Tuesday 16th March – 6.45pm
April - No meeting
Tuesday 18th May “
Tuesday 15th June “
Tuesday 20th July “
August –No meeting

Councillors

The Elsham Parish Councillors are

Lorraine Guest Chairman (680679)
Bob Andrews. Deputy Chairman (688720)
Sophie Dunn (680676)
Siobhan Hollows (681967)
David Dent (688766)
John Taylor (680438)
Paul Richardson (688467)
Parish Clerk Deb Hotson (0784 220 1877)
---available weekdays 10 am. - 2 pm.

CPRE – The Council for the Protection of Rural England (N. Lincs) have 20 sets of litter picking equipment to loan (free of charge), comprising a high visibility jacket, litter picker, strong gloves and a hoop to keep the bin liner open. Contact Cath Farrell on 01652 633924

Walks Timetable

The timetable for the walks organised by North Lincs and with a qualified leader, is displayed on the notice board and on the telegraph pole outside 4 Church Street.

Would you like to join a happy band of enthusiastic Governors of Barnetby C of E School?

You can be of any age above 18, any race or creed. The only requirements are a keen interest in school and willing to devote some time and effort in being trained, visiting the school, attending meetings and making yourself useful.

The time required is similar to the length of a piece of string but, like many things, the more you give, the more pleasure you receive. There are likely to be several vacancies in September when due to the fact that some of our noble band are finishing their four year voluntary stint at the same time. If you are interested or wish to know more, please see our Chair, Lorraine Guest, Elsham, 01652 680679 or me, Archie Eastcrabbe, Barnetby, 01652 688129, or any other governor you may know.

Police Matters

Whatever else is under this heading, it all pales into insignificance against the activity of the afternoon of Friday 12th February when Elsham saw Oscar, the police helicopter hovering over the village for some considerable time and Chapel Lane clogged with police vehicles and personnel.

The next day, Scunthorpe Telegraph reported that nine Vietnamese illegal immigrants had been arrested and large quantities of cannabis growing equipment taken away. And this in “affluent” Elsham as the Telegraph describes us.

Before Christmas, a car was stolen from the village. The thieves broke into the house and stole the keys so our local police are reminding us not to leave keys on view or by doors, but to put them somewhere safe.

Police Walkabout

A couple of police officers/ PCSO’s will be conducting a “Walkabout Surgery” in Elsham between 2 and 3pm on Sunday 21st February.

Lorraine Guest

Chairman

Elsham Parish Council

Neighbourhood Policing in Elsham

We would like to encourage members of the public to utilise the services of Crime Stoppers. If you witness a crime or have any information regarding criminal activity, Crime Stoppers is a great way to pass on this information anonymously. This service is free of charge and should someone be convicted of a crime you could be eligible for a cash reward. You can contact Crime Stoppers on the number above or log on to **www.crimestoppersuk.org** and complete the online form.

Being a rural location the area is currently suffering from a large amount of poaching/lamping. The Neighbourhood Team are working closely with local farmers to try to combat these problems. We are appealing for members of the community to report to the police if they see anything suspicious i.e.; car headlights in fields during evening and nights, vehicles parked down rural lanes, tracks and fields and registration numbers obtained where possible or description of type of vehicle, colour etc.

Any piece of information however small will be greatly appreciated.

Also, I would like to take this opportunity to draw your attention to a web page, called 'Country Watch'. This web page can be accessed on the 'Safelinks' web site **www.safelinks.info**

This is an information site, where various crime figures, trends and locations can be viewed by members of the public. This site will not only show information for you, the Rural Communities

to view, but you will be able to forward details regarding suspicious vehicles, person(s) and any other information that may warrant the attention of the Police by clicking the 'contact us' link on the Home Page. There is also a 'news flash letter' facility on the Safelinks site, where you can enter your e-mail address, select the relevant type of information you'd like to receive and the crime info is e-mailed straight to you!

This is done by entering your e-mail address in the yellow box on the Home Page, then click 'go'. The next page asks you to enter your name and select, by ticking boxes, which areas and the type of info you would like to receive. For the rural information, tick, 'North Lincolnshire Country Watch'

If you have any further Police related questions there is a website, members of the public can logon to **www.askthepolice.co.uk**

If you have any issues or incidents you would like to bring to our attention please do not hesitate to contact a member of the Brigg Neighbourhood Team using the contact details below.

The Brigg and Wolds Ward Neighbourhood Team consists of 1 x Neighbourhood Beat Officer and 3 x Police Community Support Officers (PCSO). They are:-

PC 0736 Jane Proud -

jane.proud@humberside.pnn.police.uk

PCS 7760 Lisa Bogg -

lisa.bogg@humberside.pnn.police.uk

PCSO 7727 Lynsey Stamp -

lynsey.stamp@humberside.pnn.police.uk

PCSO 7540 Craig Tomlinson -

richard.tomlinson@humberside.pnn.police.uk

If you wish to speak with a member of the Brigg and Wolds Ward Neighbourhood Policing Team please contact us on: 0845 60 60 222 and ask the operator to put you through to Brigg Police Station or alternatively e-mail us on the above e-mail addresses.

If you are wanting to report a crime please, again use the Humberside Police non emergency number 0845 60 60 222 and pass your details to the Customer Services Crime Centre staff who are fully trained in taking these details. If your situation is deemed an emergency, please dial 999.

Finally, can I take this opportunity to tell you all about the 'night challenge' taking place on Saturday 6th March. It is a project for groups of youngsters. They will be orienteering in the area and completing challenges Krypton Factor style. Starting at tea time on the 6th till about 6am the next morning. It will begin at the paint-ball site, follow part of the Viking Way across Grange Farm through Worlaby and onto the Elsham estate. Residents are asked to avoid the area if possible to avoid interruption of the event and to be aware of possible road closures, unless of course you take pity on PC Proud who will be out in the cold all night, hot chocolate most welcome!!

For latest news and information visit
www.humberside.police.uk and
www.safelinks.info

**Thank you from the Brigg and Wolds Ward
Neighbourhood Policing Team.**

Environmental Agency notice

Check your oil tank before you fill up for the winter. Domestic heating oil can cause major problems if it leaks into the environment. It can pollute rivers, harm wildlife and contaminate the ground. Cleaning up after leaks can be very expensive and the costs are not always covered by household insurance policies.

If you own a domestic oil tank, you should follow the Environment Agency's advice:-

Regularly look for corrosion damage and signs of leaks on the tank and pipe work. If you notice a problem, get it fixed straight away.

Place your oil tank as far away from drains, streams and ponds as possible.

Secondary containment (such as a bund) will prevent oil from escaping into the environment in the event of a leak developing. This is a legal requirement for domestic tanks which store in excess of 3,500 litres.

Arrange for your boiler and tank to be serviced at least once a year by an Oil Firing Technical Association (OFTEC) technician.

Monitor your oil usage levels. If your oil usage suddenly changes this could indicate a leak.

Supervise your oil deliveries. Don't allow your tank to be overfilled and do not purchase more oil than you can safely store.

Further information can be obtained by visiting the Environment Agencies website at

www.environment-agency.gov.uk/osr

If you would like to report an oil spill or leak, please contact the Environment Agency's emergency hotline on 0800 807060.

All Saints' Church, Elsham

Thank you to everyone who helped with the decoration of our Church for the Christmas Festival. Thanks are also expressed for the splendid Christmas Tree and all who helped decorate it, and the oranges for the Christingle Service which was made more enjoyable due to the Baptisms which took place during the Service. The offertory from the Christingle Service is always sent to the Childrens' Society and on this occasion amounted to £143.48. The Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve was also well attended and many favourable comments were made on this.

Although great effort was made and much information given in our request for a Grant to help with the many repairs to our Church, sadly, this was not successful. We are trying to explore other ways of funding and will also be organising some social events. Each year we have to donate £5000 to the Diocese for pastoral care and all that this involves, in addition to all the expenses in maintaining the Church and Churchyard. Did you know that if you make a contribution to the Church and pay income tax, under the Gift Aid Scheme the Church can claim back 28p in the pound? All you have to do is request a form from our Treasurer, Mr. Sutherland Tel.01652 680705. If you complete the form with your name and address, Mr. Sutherland will do the rest. If you wish, a supply of envelopes can be given for your contributions. Some people already make a contribution under the Gift Aid Scheme and we are extremely grateful to them and send them our sincere thanks.

The Youth Services continued to be held on the first Sunday in the month at 6-30 p.m. in Bonby Church.

There will be no Service at our Church on Good Friday, but on the evening before, (Maundy Thursday), a Service will be held in the Church at 7 p.m.

Easter Sunday is one of our most important Festivals. Do come and join the congregation on this lovely Festival at 10 a.m.

Musical Concert

The Brigg Singers and the Room 21 Swing Band will be performing in the Village Hall. Tickets include light refreshment and cost £7.50. This promises to be a most enjoyable evening, and it is advisable to purchase tickets early as seating in the Village hall is limited as accommodating both the choir and the band leaves fewer available than usual.

The Flower Rota is now available in the Church should anyone wish to donate flowers, particularly on the occasion of Weddings.

We hope to increase the membership of our Church and see everyone at our Services which are held on the second Sunday in the month at 10 a.m. and the third Sunday in the month at 9 a.m. A list of times of Services is displayed on the notice board outside the Church.

Barbara Phipps

Wildlife Journal

What a beautiful display of snowdrops decorating the churchyard, shady copses and woodland gardens in the village! Low early winter temperatures have encouraged the tiny little bulbs to grow and develop over the last few weeks, producing a diversity of single, double varieties and hybrids of delicate white and green snowdrop flowers. Aconites too are flowering amongst the snowdrops. Their deep yellow cupped petals prettily framed by a ruff of dainty green finger-shaped leaves.

Rainfall over the winter has been higher than average and as soon as temperatures increase- hopefully, quite soon!-plants will spring into growth. Look out for the pretty yellow Celandine with medium-large round flattened leaves which will follow on from the snowdrops and aconites. Later in spring, watch out for tiny, delicately scented white and lilac/purple wild violets in the hedge bottoms and verges as you walk around the village. They seem to prefer dry banks and thin chalk soils with little competing vegetation. If you can, bend down and take in their wonderful violet aroma.

Wild birds that have survived the winter by feeding on the wild bird seed, fat balls and other food put out for them on your bird tables have been practicing and refining their delightful spring songs for some weeks now. Perhaps some of you have heard them too - such a cheerful sound on a dull winter's morning. Many birds will

have perished due to lack of food and shelter in the persistent cold weather and also due to a lack of water. Lack of water - for drinking and bathing is a major cause of death in garden birds. Thick ice formed on even the most sheltered ponds this winter and fresh water put out for the birds sometimes froze within minutes! A little blue-tit could be seen having a lengthy splash in my bird-bath in sleet and snow last week!

Crows, magpies, pheasant and huge wood-pigeons are fighting for food on the lawn with black-birds, dunnock and thrushes and greater-spotted woodpeckers are 'sharing' fat balls and peanuts with tree-sparrows, blue-tits, great-tits and greenfinch.

Now is the time to put up new nesting boxes for use this spring and summer. Trees continue to be cut down in the village and our wild birds are struggling more than ever to find suitable nesting sites, shelter and food sources for their young. Thick timber boxes should be placed high up, out of the reach of cats. They should face north or east but not in an exposed south or south-west facing location where young birds can die as a result of direct sunlight causing temperatures within the box to shoot up. Metal nesting boxes should not be used, for the same reason.

Many of the insects, eggs and larvae that overwinter in our gardens and countryside and provide a much-needed food source for wild birds will have perished this winter. If you are not already feeding the birds in your garden, add a bird feeder and some seed to your next shopping list and you will soon have a garden full of chattering feathered friends!

Productive Gardening

Daffodils leaves can be seen bursting through the cold earth in preparation for flowering this spring. Those in the west-facing banks of the churchyard will soon be in flower! In spite of exceedingly low temperatures, snow and sleet, their bulbs continue to grow and develop under ground and provide a beautifully cheerful prologue to spring.

Those of you with vegetable gardens will be keen for milder temperatures so that you can tidy and cultivate your plots for spring sowing. Shallots, turnips, garlic, parsnip, Swiss chard, early peas and spinach will be going in soon. Seed potatoes should be chitting now for an early crop. Aim for one or two strong sprouts for early varieties and multiple sprouts for later sown seed. Potato seed

hardened off outside - and brought in at night if frosts are predicted - will result in more vigorous and productive plants and therefore more potatoes for your tea!

Tomatoes, brassica, leeks and perennial flowers can all be sown under glass and planted out as soon as they are large enough, giving an earlier crop.

Bare-rooted trees, shrubs and hedging plants can be planted until the end of March - so there's still time! If you are thinking of planting native species, do buy young plants that have been grown locally using seed of local origin i.e. stock of local provenance, particularly in rural locations. Imported stocks are genetically different and can hybridise with our existing old tree and hedgerow plants and cause significant damage.

If you are considering planting a tree in your garden, why not plant a fruit tree?! A fruit tree will give you wonderfully cheerful, scented blossom in spring that early wakening bees will pollinate to produce delicious fruit later in the summer. If you store the fruit, either in trays or cooked in the freezer you could enjoy delicious and healthy apple, pear or quince puree throughout winter!

Over the last few years, great efforts have been made throughout the country to carefully restore old, neglected orchards that contain aged fruit tree varieties of historical interest. These valuable old trees are restoratively pruned to increase their vigour and, in addition, young plants are propagated from the old stock in order to conserve these important heritage varieties for the future. Do look out for young trees grown from heritage varieties. When you have decided on species e.g. apple or pear, the next step is to choose a variety, based on: dessert or culinary use, fruiting time, flavour and texture and pollination group. Some varieties are self-pollinating and for others it is recommended that trees of the same pollination group are grown nearby. If your neighbours have fruit trees or an orchard, it is possible that they will have trees in the same group which will attract bees and other beneficial insects at the time of year that your tree needs pollinating! The next step is to choose a Rootstock number that will give you a tree of your preferred size at maturity. There are several rootstock numbers, each producing a tree of a different size, from miniature plants to quite

large-sized trees. After a little research, you will be able to choose your tree with confidence! Knowledgeable nurseries will be able to help and advise you.

Happy Gardening!

Jane Leach

The Royal British Legion.

The Legion would like to thank the residents of Elsham for raising the sum of £202-31 during the Poppy Appeal. This was an increase on previous years of approximately 15%.

Many thanks to Roger Frankish who did the house to house collection, and to All Saints' Church who donated £93-00 from the collection at the Remembrance Service.

Without this help, we would be unable to continue our vital welfare and benevolent work.

John Tomlinson

Elsham Open Gardens

The village will be opening its gardens to the public on the 15th. August 2010 to raise money for our Church, which we strive to keep open for the benefit of all who appreciate its beauty. We all like to think of it being there when we wish to get married, baptise our children or hold our family funerals. For that reason alone we keep raising money to ensure that the Church can survive. Open Gardens are always popular and certain people have already agreed to take part. and we thoroughly appreciate their participation. If you would like to open your gardens too, please ring 680309. More details will be given in the next Leader.

In the past, Elsham has won the Best Kept Village competition, and in order to keep up the standard, help is needed to tend the beds and planters around the village. Please call Lorraine on 680679 if you can help in any way.

Melvin Welton

The Elsham Indoor Bowls Club.

The Club is enjoying another good season with a high position in the Bishop Norton League and a win in the quarter final of the League Knock Out Cup.

The annual dinner was held at Elsham Golf Club in November with good food and wine and was followed by a light hearted quiz.

John Tomlinson



BROCKLESBY ESTATE



Hardwood Logs

A renewable energy source from our local sustainable woodland

£85.00 per 'pick-up' load
£4.00 per bag

*Delivered locally, small charge
may apply.*

*Logs cut to larger size on
request*

*Customer collections
accommodated*

Enquiries and Orders
contact:-

(01469) 560214 (weekdays)

www.brocklesby.co.uk



Looking for a Babysitter?

!Look no further!

My name is Catriona Jamieson

I am 17 years old and am very responsible.

I have had a lot of experience with looking after children of all ages.

I live in Elsham but can babysit in other local villages. My contacts details are :-

catrionajamieson@live.co.uk

Tel 07868517920 or 01652 680118

P.F. Rose (Plantech)

Architectural Joinery

Unit 6D, Harrier Road,

Humber Bridge Industrial Estate,

Barton on Humber DN18 5RP

Phone 01469 530951 Fax 01469 530639

E-mail info@pfroseplantech.co.uk

All Types of Bespoke Joinery

*Windows and Doors

*Staircases

*Furniture

*Handmade Kitchens & Bedrooms

*Conservation & Replication Work

*Specialist Wood Turning

Personal Service- All Major Cards Accepted



ELSHAM HALL and COUNTRY PARK

SNOWDROP SUNDAY

12noon - 4.00pm

Sunday 21st February

Special entry price £3.00

All proceeds to "Save the Children Fund"

RICHARD COUPLAND LTD

DECORATOR/HANDYMAN

Interior & Exterior Painting

Paper Hanging - Dado Rails - Tiling

Drains Unblocked - Gutters Cleaned

Fully Insured

Quality Service

Tel: 01652 680434 or 07971 103641