

THE BRIDGE



Produced by Elmore Parish Council
November 2017, Issue FOURTEEN

From the Editor

As far as I know the Earth is not spinning faster on its axis, nor is it orbiting faster around the Sun but time does seem to be speeding up. It's hard to believe that we are now well into what my Yorkshire Godfather used to call t'back end. It seems only yesterday that we were celebrating the coming of 2017 and now in this issue of **The Bridge** we are anticipating Christmas and the next New Year. As I write this we are facing the end of British Summer Time and the beginning of the long haul through to the spring. However t'back end does provide us with lots of 'mellow fruitfulness' which is reflected in two WI recipes both using up fruits which might otherwise go to waste. If these come too late for this autumn's crop, you can keep the recipes for next back end.

We have the final installment of John Field's history of the Elmore men killed in the Great War, 'Lest We forget'. There are pieces by both our new MP, Dave Drew, and our new County Councillor, Stephen Davies. The request for information about Elmore field names has borne fruit and may well be followed up by a second piece in 2018. There are dates and times of services at the Church, news of this year's pantomime and much more.

I can't finish this editorial without mentioning a significant village milestone. Earlier in October the committee that manages Elmore Village Hall had one of its routine meetings. I should say 'apparently routine', perhaps, because this occurred exactly 40 years to the day since the first meeting which followed the adoption of the former school building as our much used and much loved Village Hall. With no pub and no Church Hall, EVH is the centre of village life and simply indispensable. Imagine having no premises for The Village Players to perform, nowhere to hold the Harvest Supper or Christmas lunch, nowhere for the Guides and Brownies to meet. Nowhere for the Bridge Club, pilates or the WI to meet..... We are lucky not only to have

the building but should be grateful for those who have served on the management committee over the years. So here's an collective THANK YOU.
Trevor Jones, 20 Oct 2017

Elmore Field Names

I am grateful to Gill Hurran, Jane Attwooll, Colin Ellis, Helen James, Jenni Hobbs and Michael and Jennifer Watts for responding to my request in **The Bridge** for information about field names in Elmore. There is a wealth of information 'out there', most of it as fascinating as I anticipated.

The main source, so far, is a map dating from 1841 which I was shown by Gill Hurran and Jane Attwooll and offered by Colin Ellis. Much of this account is based on that map. Jenni Hobbs also gave me a copy of the field names used today at Barhouse Farm. I haven't yet got round to seeing the map offered by Michael and Jennifer Watts or visited Helen James though Helen has asked me to find out something about one of her fields, of which more later

The 1841 Map shows several hundred field names and it would be impossible to list them all here, so I have tried to divide them into types and give examples of each. If your favourite field is not mentioned, I'm sorry.

First of all it's interesting to see that in 1841 several fields or groups of fields within the boundaries of Elmore were in fact part of Hardwicke (mainly S of Hockley Hill) whilst many in Elmore Back were part of Minsterworth. Similarly a couple of fields (known as *Vale House Ground*) in Hardwicke were officially part of Elmore.

Much of the low wet land between Elmore Back and the escarpment on which Elmore Court stands comprised large fields, presumably because they were reclaimed and drained later than the drier, higher land to the south with its generally smaller fields. Recurring names there have 'Meadow, or 'Mead' as part of their names, reflecting their use as water meadow for grazing cattle and sheep. Others have the word 'Moor' attached. I suspect that locally 'moor' may have had the same meaning as 'carrs' in Lincolnshire or 'moss' in Lancashire - namely low boggy

ground. Some examples are *'The Moors'*, *'Man Meadow'*, *'Carloon Meadow'*, *'Great Moor'*, *'Man Mead'*, *'Mead Bridges'* and best of all *'Bunny Pool Meadow'* (swimming rabbits?)

Some fields are named after their size - *'Five Acre Meadow'*, *'Twelve Acres'* and *'Eight Acre Meadow'* are examples. Some reflect their position - *'Upper Laines'* and *'Lower Laines'*, *'Upper Moors'*, *'Upper Piece'*, *'Great Westlands'* and *'Ground Below the House'* are examples. Still others are named after their shape *'Three Corner'd Moors'* was definitely triangular whilst, with a wild stretch of the imagination, *'Chair Meadow'* did resemble the shape of a chair.

Advances in agriculture and the introduction of crop rotation may be reflected in *'Upper Gorse Leys'*, *'Lower Goresy Leys'* and *'Oakleys'*. My dictionary tells me that leys are 'arable lands put down to grassland or pasture'. Were the first two infested with gorse at some time? Who knows? There are several 'leazes' or 'leases' about too - *'Round Leaze'*, *'Long Leaze'* *'Grove Leaze'*, *'Ox Lease'* - maybe alternative spellings of 'leys'?

Ownership was also reflected in field names. *'Church Close Ground'* is close to the church. There are many others: *'Grandmother's Ground'*, *'Clarks Orchard'*, *'Bradleys Leasow'* and *'Bowsleys Ground'*. Is 'leasow' a contraction of 'lease hold'? I wonder. Was or is farmland held on a lease?

Fields were also named after local features: *'Madam Pool Piece'*, *'Windmill Hill'* *'The Scar'*, *'Pool Pits'*, *'Hanging Grove'* and *'Savage Pool Pits'*. Go near these last two at your peril.

There are some wonderful names; *'Mad Acre'*, *'Burnt Piece'* *'Crabby Meadow'*, *'Carloon'*, *'Dineware'* and my own favourite, which is strictly just over the border in Hardwicke, *'Rubbish Piece'*. Was this really bad ground or just somewhere people chucked their rubbish?

Barhouse Farm Today and Yesterday.

It has been interesting to see the changes since 1841. Reflecting the large scale mechanisation of agriculture and the increase in the size of machines, it's no surprise that many of the small fields of 1841 have been amalgamated. At Barhouse the romantically named modern field *'Number 7'* is made up of 6 of the 1841 fields: *'Great Moor'* (actually two fields in 1841), *'Three Corner'd Moors'*, *'Little Moor'*, *'Little*

Moors' and *'Upper Moors.* These 6 fields were not tiny in 1841 but would be small by today's standards.

But most of the casualties since the 1841 map have been the really small fields especially the tiny orchards which then dotted the map. The modern field known as *'Dower'*, itself one of the smaller fields at Barhouse today, was 8 fields in 1841. Most or all of them were orchards, presumably growing plums, apples and cider apples, *'Sands Orchard'*, *'Little Sands'*, *'Home Orchard'*, *'Rickyard Orchard'* are some of the names. Not all old orchards have disappeared; the small fields to the East of Chapel Lane are still recognisable from the 1841 map. We own a small orchard along there which we call with great imagination, *'The Orchard'* and that is how it also appears on the 1841 map.

Some 1841 fields are still with us though often with changed names; the 1841 field, *'The Leaze'* has the same boundaries but is now called *'Lagger'*. Where did that name come from? Another was *'Cow Leaze Close'* in 1841 but the same field is known as *'Step'* now.

One large 1841 field *'Burrows Close'* has today been split into two to become *'Homeground 5'* and *'Homeground 8'* . Why 5 and 8 when there are no 6 and 7? This splitting of 1841 fields today is rare.

Some names have subtly changed: *'Withy Gates'* has become *'Withyets'*, *'Pool Pits'* has become *'Pulpits'* and *'Standburrows'* has become *'Stadborough'*. Others, like *'Lagger'*, mentioned earlier and *'Macphersons'* are new names since 1841. Who was Macpherson?

The Football Ground

One of the fields at Hollow Farm is known as The Football Ground. There is no reference to this on the 1841 map. Helen James is curious to know more about this field and wonders if anyone in the village can remember it being used for football or cricket matches. The next door field is called *'Lyons'* (*'The Lions'* in 1841) and Helen wonders if this was perhaps the name of the Elmore team

Finally

I have really enjoyed looking into the field names of Elmore and suspect it will be an ongoing study. I know there are maps and memories I have yet to consult. I would love to hear about any

mistakes in the above and anything anyone can add to or subtract from what I have learnt. The Editor.

Lest We Forget - Part 4

138417 Private Reginald William Ernest MAYO

Reginald Mayo was born in The Dunney Cottages, Westbury on Severn in January 1898 and was the son of Ernest George Mayo (1872 – 1902) and Sarah Annie Ryder (1874 - 1942). Ernest, who was listed in the 1901 Census as Fruit Merchant, and his wife Sarah, who had been born in Elmore, had a large family comprising 7 sons and 4 daughters.

However, the Census for 1911 shows that Reginald, at the age of 13, was living with his grandfather, Edwin Lacey Ryder(1836 – 1918), and his grandmother, Sarah Anne Prosser (1848 – 1918), at Hollow Farm in Elmore while attending Elmore School. Meanwhile, Reginald's own family lived on the other side of the River Severn in Hartbury.

At the outbreak of WW1 Reginald would have only been aged 16, so it is likely that he did not join the Army until late 1915. William initially joined the Northumberland Fusiliers and then transferred to The 58th Machine Gun Company of the Machine Gun Corps.

Historical Note: The Machine Gun Corps was formed in Grantham in September 1915 and equipped with British Vickers Machine Gun – because the gun and its tripod were so heavy (gun weighing 28.5lbs & the tripod 20 lbs) and with a rate of fire of 500 rounds a minute, a 'Gun Team' comprised 6 men – 2 to carry and operate the gun, 2 to carry the ammunition and the water required for cooling the gun plus 2 spare men! The Machine Gun Corps was disbanded in 1922.

The 58th Machine Gun Company joined 19th (Western) Division on the 14th of February 1916. They were in action during the Battle of the Somme, capturing La Boisselle and were involved in the attacks on High Wood, The Battles of Pozieres Ridge, the Ancre Heights and The Ancre.

In 1917 the unit was in action during The Battle of Messines and the Third Battles of Ypres. They joined with the other Machine Gun Companies of the Division to form 19th Machine Gun Battalion on the 14th of February 1918.

At some stage in the next few months Reginald came home on leave to Elmore, probably in late April of 1918 and while home he married Lucy Margaret Hinder, on 8th May in Elmore Church. Lucy was born in Berkeley in November 1895 and was the daughter of The Elmore Estate's Gamekeeper, Frank Hinder (1865 – 1943) and his wife Rose Blanche Clark (1871 – 1954).

After they were married the couple moved into Keepers Lodge with Lucy's parents.

On return to France shortly after his wedding, probably in June 1918, his new battalion was attached to the Australian 2nd Division and committed to further battles in the Somme area, including The Battle of Amiens and The Battle of St Quentin:

Historical note: At the end of August 1918 the German troops were at their last stronghold at Mont St Quentin, overlooking the Somme River and the town of Péronne. Mont St Quentin stood out in the surrounding country, making it a perfect observation point and a vital strategic area to control. This area was key to the German defence of the Somme line. As it was such an important area, Lieutenant General Sir John Monash, the Australian Commander, was keen to capture it and thus possess a valuable position.

The resulting Australian operation is sometimes regarded as the finest achievement of the Australian Forces during WW1. The 2nd Australian Division crossed the Somme River on the night of 31st August, and attacked Mont St Quentin at 5 am, from the unexpected position of northwest. It was a difficult position from which to attack as it was an uphill fight for the troops, across very open ground where they were vulnerable to attack from the German-held heights above.

Rifle grenades and trench mortars were employed to outflank the German outpost positions. The Allied battalions positioned to the right made a lot of noise to distract the Germans, while the centre and left battalions got a foothold on the hill and in Feuillaucourt.

Private Reginald Mayo was killed in action (KIA) on 16th September 1918 but it is unclear as to exactly where or in which battle. It may have been that he was killed during the Battle of St Quentin and his body only recovered once the area had been made secure. He is buried at The Péronne Communal Cemetery Extension, Somme France which is situated east of Amiens – this cemetery also contains many of the Australians who were also killed in that area.

Historical note: During WW1 some 170,500 officers and soldiers served in the Machine Gun Corps of whom 62, 049 (or 37%) became casualties of whom 12,498 (or 20% of the casualties) were killed. Thus the unit was nicknamed 'The Suicide Club'!

There is twist to this tragic tale – Lucy Mayo, (née Hinder) who married Reginald Mayo on 8th May 1918 gave birth to a son on 31st January 1919 who was then named Reginald Lieramont Ernest Mayo (1919 – 1984). In December 1921 Lucy remarried a Hubert John Jones (1892 – 1968) and had 4 more children, she died in 1949.

The extended family suffered a further WW1 casualty in that 27977 Private Cyril George Mayo (1897 – 1917), de facto Reginald's uncle as he was his grandfather's son from a second marriage even though he was the same age as Reginald. Cyril was member of 2nd/4th Battalion The Gloucestershire Regiment and died on 3rd December 1917 and his name is inscribed on the Cambrai Memorial near Lourerval in Northern France.

There is a Mayo cottage in Weir Lane, Elmore and this was the family home of Reginald's great uncle William Mayo (b. 1848 – d. 1902) and his wife Sarah Ann Butler (b. 1849 – d.1911). Their son, Mark Louis Mayo and his wife Eliza Ann Hyett were living there in 1939.

36733 Private Alfred SPENCER

Alfred Spencer was born in Elmore in December 1878 and was the son of William Boughton Spencer (1848-1918) and Mary Price (1845-1906) of The Cottage, Elmore.

The 1871 Census listed Alfred's mother and father as living with their 2 children in his grandfather Daniel Spencer's (1812-1877) house in Elmore.

The 1881 Census listed the family; William and Mary plus 6 children, living in a cottage in Elmore.

In November 1886, Alfred's older brother William James Spencer (1869 – 1914) joined the Royal Artillery. He didn't serve in the Army during WW1 but is likely to have taken part in the Boer War. However, he was once again living in Elmore by 1901. In his later years he became one of the Chelsea Pensioners,

The 1901 Census showed the family living in a cottage near Elmore Farm, with his father's occupation shown as agricultural labourer. At this stage Alfred was aged 22 and his elder brother, William who was aged 31, were both listed as agricultural labourers.

By 1911 the Census listed Alfred Spencer, aged 31, living as a single man in Chapel Lane and as a boarder in the cottage of William Ruck, a retired postman. Alfred's occupation was shown as builder's labourer. His widower father, William Boughton Spencer who was aged 64 in 1911 was also a boarder in the same cottage, his wife Mary having died in 1906.

Alfred Spencer joined the Gloucestershire Regiment in the early years of the war and was assigned to 10th (Service) Battalion. This battalion was formed in Bristol in September 1914 and attached to the 26th Division. After formation the unit moved to Salisbury Plain for intensive training but by November of that year they were back in billets in Cheltenham They returned to Salisbury Plain in April of 1915 and by 8th August that year they had embarked on a troopship and landed in France.

On 17th August the Regiment was transferred to 1st Brigade of the 1st Division. The Regiment first saw action during the Battle of Loos in Belgium on 5th October 1915. This was the largest British offensive in the War to date and was aimed at breaking the stalemate of trench warfare that had prevailed so far, however the offensive failed. It was during this battle that the British first used poisonous chlorine gas. The main reason for the use of gas was that there was, at this stage, still a shortage of artillery shells so the idea was to subdue the Germans with gas instead of using a heavy and costly artillery barrage. The British attack was launched with 75,000 men but failed to meet the objective and the troops were repelled by the Germans. The fighting was so fierce in the northern part of the assault on Holhezollers Redoubt on 13th October that the British suffered 8,000 casualties in one day.

In early 1916, the battalion moved south to an area some 20 kms south of the town of Arras in France. On 14th July 1916 they were involved in the Battle of Bazentin Ridge which was a British victory. However, prior to the attack a French commander had dismissed the idea as 'an attack organised for amateurs by amateurs'.

This victory was closely followed by another major battle – the Battle of Pozieres Ridge on 23rd July 1916. Sadly little progress was made against German resistance and the German's successful use of withering machine gun fire. However, a second assault was launched on 15th August 1916 and managed to gain some ground.

The 1st Brigade, including 10th Gloucesters, made a spirited attack on High Wood to the NE of Pozieres Ridge on 3rd September and although they managed to gain their objective for a short time, they were repelled by a German counter-attack. It was during this German counter-attack on 9th September 1916 that Albert Spencer was killed in action.

Private Alfred Spencer's name is inscribed on the Thiepval Monument along with more than 72,000 officers and men of the Commonwealth who died during the battles of the Somme during WW1. This monument was erected to commemorate all those who died on The Somme before 20th March 1918 but have no known individual grave mainly because their bodies could not be individually identified - this was particularly common when the number of casualties from a single battle of attack were so great and the bodies were quickly removed and placed in mass graves.

The War Office records show that after his death, Alfred's personal effects were sent to Blanche Maud Gardner (1879 – 1945), also an Elmore resident, living at Brookfield House and who, according to the Register of Electors, was still living there as a spinster in 1938. The fact that she was, de facto, nominated as his next of kin may not be surprising as not only were they neighbours in Elmore but Blanche's brother, Private James Gardner, was also

a member of the Gloucestershire Regiment and was killed on The Somme in August 1916. There is the possibility that as she was just 2 years younger than Alfred, she may have been his intended bride had he survived the war!

This, the fourth episode of 'Lest We Forget', is the last one in the series that recounts the lives of those eight Elmore residents who gave their lives for their country during The Great War. If any reader would like a consolidated copy of all four episodes then please contact either the Editor of this magazine or the Parish Clerk.

From Our County Councillor

This is the first time I have had the opportunity to write for **The Bridge** since I was elected to represent you at Gloucestershire County Council in May. I thought it would be useful to introduce myself and give a little insight into my work as a County Councillor.

I live locally in Saul and am also a District Councillor representing the Severn Ward at Stroud District Council. I work in Cyber Security and am married with a daughter, step son and 3 grand children.

I can break my activity at County Council into 3 areas:

- Full County Council Meetings
- Committee activity
- Helping people with specific issues

Full Council Meetings : I have now attended two of these where we have had debates on varied issues including the Javelin Park Incinerator, the Fire Service and flooding to name but a few. These vary from being heated and I am afraid not particularly informed to really good and where I have learnt a great deal about the issue being discussed. For example it is very interesting to understand the projects that have been completed in the last 10 years to protect us from flooding or to understand the arguments that led to the decision that the Fire Service stay under the control of the County Council and not join the Police as suggested.

Committee Activity : I sit on the scrutiny committees for "Children and Families" and "Economic Growth." On "Children and Families" there has been a lot of work done on scrutinizing the improvement plan following the Ofsted "inadequate" rating. This is about the detail and

continued monitoring of the plan as there is no quick fix to this issue. There is definitely an openness and commitment to change. The Economic Growth committee is looking at the long term plan to address some of the future challenges and opportunities Gloucestershire faces.

Helping People : This is probably the most interesting and time consuming part of my role and can include issues at Care Homes, Schools and highways including footpaths. Personally although sometimes the progress is slow it is the area that gives me most satisfaction when I am able to help. I am rapidly becoming very knowledgeable on planning and highways regulations.

From Our MP

It is a pleasure to be asked to write an occasional column for **The Bridge**.

Being re-elected has been a tremendous thrill but has involved a total life style change. I'm now almost fully recruited staff-wise and my office remains at 5a in Lansdown in Stroud, postcode GL5 1BB, telephone (01453) 755234 and email david.drew.mp@parliament.uk. Please feel to contact me if you have any issues you wish me to address.

Coming back to Parliament has also meant that I have a new job. I have become the Shadow Spokesperson on Farming, Food, Waste and Rural Policy. This area of responsibility was the only one I would have accepted as this is where my interests lie and where I believe that my experience is of most value.

I am thus scrutinising the Government's efforts as it rewrites these policy areas as we exit the EU. This really matters for this constituency and Elmore in particular as farming and rural remain the dominant issues. I am thus interested in your ideas on the way in which we should be pursuing the re-writing of food policy overall so important to the post-Brexit world.

Clearly there is another issue of prime concern to Elmore and Longney and that is flooding. Though not directly my responsibility I will be taking a close watch of what comes out in this area. We have been lucky of late with the River Severn behaving itself and we have not had

the colossal downpours of the last decade. However we do need to be on our guard.

Thankfully Stroud has played its part with a catchment management initiative upstream on the River Frome. The idea is that if we can hold more water in the uplands around Stroud then this will prevent flooding downstream and will help protect the River Severn from overtopping. It is still early days to see if this will work but this is an exciting project funded partly by the Environment Agency and Stroud District Council amongst others. If it does then this will be a model that can be replicated elsewhere.

David Drew

MP for the Stroud Constituency

From Elmore Parish Council

Changes to your Parish Council

Jenni Hobbs retired from her post as a Parish Councillor in September after 15 years of dedicating her time and efforts to community service. Jenni has carried out sterling work on the Parish Council over a particularly busy period alongside her many responsibilities as a mother, as a farmer and as Secretary of a national cattle association. Of note, several years of campaigning helped to prevent the Environmental Agency's plans to flood some 720 acres on the Elmore Back Meadows. Her practical and sensible advice was invaluable for Council decision-making whether on planning matters, day-to-day business, setting up the Parish website and not to mention the more mundane task of organising litter collection. Our heartfelt thanks to Jenni for all that she has done and wish her all the best for the future.

We would like to extend a warm welcome Jane Hill as the new Parish Councillor who has now taken on Jenni Hobb's role in the community.

A New Community Bus Service

A new 'Severnside Shopper' bus service is to be introduced on 14th November. This service is being run by the charity Community Connexions'.

Route: It will run from Frampton via the Severnside villages, including Elmore, to the Quedgeley shopping centre.

Frequency: The bus will run every Tuesday between 09.15 and 12.00

Cost: A bus fare will apply but OAP Pass Passes will be accepted.

Booking: The bus can be booked to pick you up in Elmore by contacting: 034 680 5029

info@communityconnexions.org.uk

www.communityconnexions.org.uk

Security

You will only be too aware of the very unwelcome criminal activity in the local area over the last 6 months.

One of the concerns has been the number of unmarked white vans touring the area on the pretext of looking for scrap metal. *“I happened to be passing and wondered if you had any scrap metal ..”*

What you may not be aware of is that ALL collectors of scrap metal require to be licenced and in our case this would be with Stroud District Council. Any vehicle collecting scrap metal must clearly display a copy of the relevant licence in the window of that vehicle. These licences are only valid for 3 years.

Furthermore, it is illegal for any scrap metal dealer to offer cash for scrap metal and if you sell items to them for cash then you could be prosecuted for being complicit in a crime! All payments must be traceable using either a cheque or bank transfer.

Solution: Always ask to see a valid copy of a trading licence. If the ‘dealer’ doesn’t have one and they may be operating illegally, record the number of the vehicle and report it to Crimestoppers by calling 0800 555111 or by giving information anonymously online via the Crimestoppers website: <https://crimestoppers-uk.org/give-information>

You are therefore strongly advise not to have any dealing with any unsolicited caller seeking to buy scrap metal or similar items such as broken machinery, tools or broken domestic appliances.

Police advice on security: During our Parish Council meeting we heard from our local policeman, PCSO Kevin Lee, who reiterated the advice

we gave in the last issue of The Bridge and strongly emphasised the following points:

To set up a Neighbourhood Watch scheme throughout the village and more closely with your immediate neighbours.

If at all possible, install CCTV as evidence on film can be successfully used in Court to prosecute offenders;

Mark your valuable items with 'Smartwater', including garden ornaments and other items that can easily be disposed of such as mowers, chainsaws, bikes and garden furniture.

Verge Cutting:

You may recall that earlier this year we announced that the Parish Council was taking on the responsibility for verge cutting throughout Elmore from Amey, who were the Gloucester Highways contractor. We signed a contract with Gloucester Highways for this trial year to see if the idea was successful and we can now report that it was.

We had the verges cut twice this year whereas Amey only cut them once for the same cost.

Therefore, during the Parish Council Meeting in September we agreed to continue the contract with Gloucester Highways for 2018.

Any feedback on this project would be welcome.

ELMORE WI

An enjoyable year is coming to a close with a final speaker Chris Witts. talking on the Severn Bore.

New meetings start on Jan 9th 2018 at VH.at 7.30pm.

Please come along and join us, visitors or new members always welcome.

The WI Recipes Two this time! Both convenient for this time of year when there is so much produce

Courgette and Cheese Loaf

If you have an abundance of courgettes and don't know what to do with them all, why not try the following recipe.

75gms. Butter (melted not set)
200gm. Grated courgette
225gm. SR Flour
125gm. Mature Cheddar (grated)
3 Large Eggs
4 tbs. Milk
1/4 tsps. Salt, Cayenne Pepper and Dry Mustard

Sift flour and spices together. Add cheese. Beat eggs, milk. And butter with a fork. Add flour and courgette and combine well. Line a 2lb Loaf tin and add mixture. Bake for 45-50mins or until springy when lightly touched. Temp, 180 /160 fan.

This is contributed by that well known WI member, Anon.

Sticky Pear or Apple Pudding

Serves 6, prep time 15 mins, cooking time 45 mins

4 large ripe English pears or apples, peeled cored and sliced
5 oz plain flour
2 tsp baking powder
5 oz caster sugar
200 ml milk
3 oz of butter, melted
6 oz light brown sugar
1 medium egg, beaten
4 tsps golden syrup

Pre heat the oven to 180°C, Gas 4. Arrange the pear or apples slices in the base of a buttered 1.5 litre ovenproof dish. Sift the flour and baking powder together into a large bowl and add the caster sugar, milk, butter and egg. Whisk together for 2-3 mins until pale in colour then pour over the fruit. To make the caramel sauce, place the brown sugar and golden syrup in a small saucepan and add 250ml of cold water. Cook over a moderate heat, stirring until the sugar has dissolved. Without stirring allow to boil then remove from heat. Carefully pour the sauce over the pudding then bake for 35 - 40 mins until the sponge is golden.

Allow to stand for 5 mins before serving with cream or vanilla ice cream.

Contributed by Jennifer Watts

Village Players present...

Dick Whittington & His Cat by Keith Marsden & Geoffrey Rundle.

Join Dick and his faithful companion Tommy the cat as they travel to London to make their fortune. But beware; Queen Rat is out for revenge against her sworn enemy, the cat. With the help of their new friends Alderman Fitzwarren and his daughter Alice, can Dick and Tommy save they day? Or will Queen Rat be triumphant?

Performances run from 23rd November until 26th November and then from 29th November until 2nd December at Elmore Village Hall. Tickets are priced at £7.00 for adults and £4.00 for children. Our Gala performance on 23rd November is priced at £15.00 a ticket and includes refreshments and wine. The gala performance will also support The Four Oarsmen Atlantic Challenge. To purchase tickets, please call our Box Office 01452 722245.

Walking For Health - November Walk.

The next walk in the area will take place on Thursday 15th of November starting from the locks in Eastington.

(As you leave the shell garage roundabout on the A419 for Eastington, take the first left - opposite signs for William Morris House). Please meet at 9.45 for a 10.00am start.

As usual, the walk can include stiles and field paths and is approximately 2 miles in length and should take a maximum of 1.5 hours.

For more info, please ring Keith (and leave a message) on 01452 741377 or email kparry61@icloud.com.

Keith Parry - walk leader

It's your health

Have your say ...

The Patient Participation Group is here to help improve Frampton's GP services.

We want better to understand your needs, priorities and issues, so we can work together to deliver the highest quality of health care locally.

We also want to help you look after yourself better, through a series of educational talks on health and nutrition. We've already held sessions on Alzheimer's and stroke awareness. Watch this space for more information, or check out our noticeboard at the Surgery. If you have a particular topic you'd like us to cover, please just let us know.

If you have any suggestions or feedback for Frampton's Surgery, please contact Alison Drake, the Chair of the Patient's Participation Group – natjas@hotmail.co.uk , tel. 741988.

And if you'd like to get involved, please let us know. You'll be very welcome.

Together, we can make things even better!

Village Hall News

At the close of our Quarterly meeting on 2 October we were informed by Ann that the first ever meeting of the Village Hall Committee had been held 40 years before.

This is a significant milestone for us all, so a retrospective on the Village Hall will appear in the next copy of the Bridge.

Demand for space in our Hall is steadily increasing, consequently, early bookings (or enquiries) are advisable. I look forward to hearing from you - 01452 721798 or pikelett@hotmail.com.

John Hardisty (Chair)

If you have any stories or recollections about the Village Hall which John could use in his retrospective for the first issue of 2018, please send them to him.

Church Services in Elmore & Longney

Advent and Christmas 2017

Sunday November 12th – Remembrance Sunday

Remembrance Sunday Eucharist at Longney Church 9.30am

Remembrance at Elmore War Memorial 3.00 – 3.15pm

+

Sunday December 3rd – Advent Sunday

Parish Eucharist at Elmore 9.30am

Sunday December 10th – Advent 2

Parish Eucharist at Longney 9.30am

Sung Evensong at Longney 3.00pm

Sunday December 17th – Advent 3

Parish Eucharist at Elmore 9.30am

Nine Lessons & Carols at Elmore 6.30pm

Sunday December 24th – Christmas Eve

No morning or afternoon services today

Midnight Mass at Longney begins at 11.15pm

Sunday December 25th – Christmas Day

Festival Eucharist at Elmore 9.30am

1st Elmore Brownies

At our first meeting after the summer holidays we had a games evening and pow wow planning meeting. We have also completed our disability awareness badge which included a visit from Julie, Stuart and Veda (Guide Dog), it was lovely to see them again. Veda has since gone into retirement and we wish her a happy one! We also made clay tea light holders and decorated them to celebrate Diwali. At our last meeting this half term we enrolled two new girls into the unit and welcomed a girl who transferred from Worcestershire. We are all looking forward to our Christmas term and to complete the South West science SWEBOTS

challenge which will include a visit to the Jet Age Museum at Staverton.

If your daughter is interested in joining Brownies please call Jenny on 01452 7224444

1st Elmore Guides

Before the summer holidays the Guides finished the term with a walk up Haresfield Beacon where we tested our map and compass skills. We also enjoyed an evening of rounders. At the end of the last term we held our Guide Dog fundraiser with 1st Elmore Brownies and Senior Section where we raised just under £200, this is fantastic amount - thank you to everyone who came and supported this great charity. Also well done to Trevor for guessing the correct weight of the cake! This term the Guides have been taking part in the Frampton Country Fair and helped with the litter picking after the event. We also held our annual fishing competition this term as we had to postpone the event planned for the summer term due to bad weather. The Guides all took part in a craft night where we decorated notepads and made felt hearts. We finished this half term with a Diwali evening and enrolled three girls into the unit. After half term we will be starting our Science badge and looking forward to our Christmas activities and party!

If your daughter is interested in joining Guides or the Senior Section please call Catherine on 01452 7224444

1st Elmore Senior Section

Last term 1st Elmore Senior Section completed the South West regional cupboard technology badge by making ice cream and planting their own sunflowers. We also went fishing and got to try out using different types of rods; it was a very wet evening but it didn't stop us from catching lots of fish! This term the girls have ran an evening about Diwali making their own tea lights and quiz. We also complete the Me in Mind badge specially for Senior Section girls; this is to look at mental health and raise awareness. We have planned our Christmas activities and look forward to these evenings.

Elmore PC			
Chair	John Field	720357	fernhay@btinternet.com
Vice Chair	Nick Meek	750769	nick@archies.me.uk
	Trevor Jones	722034	rosecottage1818@gmail.com
	Paula Turner	729903	paula@mtfx.com
	Jane Hill	728722	enajekim@live.co.uk
Clerk	Dorie Jones	722034	elmore.parish@hotmail.com
Village Hall			
Chair & Bookings	John Hardisty	721798	pikelett@hotmail.com
Other Village Organisations			
The Vicar	Fr Andrew James	720015	vicarage@inbox.com
Players	Amy Parkin	0755779011	villageplayers@outlook.com
WI	Val Overton	750591	vj.overton@tiscali.co.uk
Guides	Catherine Hartell	722444	catherine.hartell@gmail.com
Brownies	Jenny Hartell	722444	jharte1276@gmail.com
Bridge Club	Caroline Meek	720383	
Other Useful Contacts			
Police - non emergency		101	
Member of Parliament, Dr David Drew		02072194106	david.drew.mp@parliament.uk
County Councillor, Stephen Davies		07802595307	stephen.davies2@gloucestershire.gov.uk
District Councillor, Gill Oxley			cllr.gilloxley@stroud.gov.uk
To report Fly Tipping		01453754424	publicspace@stroud.gov.uk
Report abandoned vehicles		01453754379	Abandoned.vehicle@stroud.gov.uk
Gloucs Highways (report potholes etc)			08000 514514
Village Agent Christine Lingard		07810630179	
Neighbourhood Warden Carol Novoth		07970250343	carol.novoth@stroud.gov.uk
Neighbourhood Police Officer , PC Kevin Lee		101	kevin.lee@gloucestershire.pnn.police.uk

Village Hall Dates for your Diary

Sunday 10 December - Christmas lunch (sold out)

Saturday 10 March - Race Night (more information next issue)

Dates For 2018

Parish Council Meetings

Monday March 5th (committee room)

Tuesday May 15th (main hall)

Monday September 24th (committee room)

Monday December 10th (committee room)

All take place in the Village Hall starting at 7.45pm

Copy Dates for The Bridge

Friday January 19th

Friday May 18th

Friday July 27th

Friday October 19th

Please send any copy to the editor on or before these dates.

Defibrillator & First Aid Training

Your Parish Council has organised a follow up training session for those who missed the first ones in 2015 or who feel they need a refresher (highly recommended).

The training is **Free of Charge** and has been arranged for **Saturday January 27th** beginning at **2pm in Elmore Village Hall**. It is open to all residents of Elmore and Elmore Back.

If you would like to attend this session please register your interest with The Parish Clerk or any of the Parish Councillors before Saturday January 13th. This is likely to be a popular course so secure your place as soon as possible

Our instructor will be a qualified First Aid Instructor who is also a serving Fire Fighter