

# THE BRIDGE

Produced by Elmore Parish Council  
February 2018, Issue FIFTEEN



## From the Editor

Some years ago I used to belong to a running group which met on Sunday morning in the winter and on a Monday evening in the summer. A friend who could not come on Sundays would only appear once the clocks changed and we went to the summer schedule. Every year when we met for the first time at the end of March or early April we would wish each other a Happy New Year, so I make no apologies for wishing our readers a Happy New Year as late as early February.

Once again there is the usual mix of news and notices of happenings including five charity events. There are the times of significant bores in 2018, a review of the pantomime and much more. Read on.

## More Elmore Field Names

Nothing has stirred up as much interest in the short history of **The Bridge** as our field names. I am grateful to Helen James, Chris Camm, Jim Camm and Carol Guilding for getting in touch with me giving further information.

### The Football Ground

In the November 2017 issue of **The Bridge** I passed on Helen's request for the story behind one of the fields at Hollow Farm known as *The Football Ground*. Chris Camm has filled in the details. Yes, the field was used for both cricket and football from the early 60s until 1968. 'Friendly' games of cricket were played but football was taken rather more seriously and **Elmore United** played in the Stroud League. Early on the players changed at the War Department site (now Graham Taylor's nissan huts) but later there was a club house and changing rooms. Chris has even provided the names of some of the players. The Captain was Dan Taylor, the goalkeeper, Bill Taylor. Some of the

other players were Mick Taylor, Graham Taylor, John Base, Mick Newcombe, Gary Conrad and Chris Camm (when he wasn't milking).

I wonder if there are any photographs? It would be great to see them.

At Hollow Farm there is also *The Caravan Ground*. Apparently there was a caravan there but it burnt down when drying clothes were left too close to a heater. The chassis was then converted into a hay trailer though it was then discovered to be a World War One gun carriage.

Receipt of a card from Jim Camm shed more light on Elmore's sporting heritage. Jim and Chris' father bought Hollow Farm in July 1954 and then 'let loose Stan Smith on blowing out tree stumps' (with explosives?) 'and straightening out ditches'. Jim helped to clear the debris and so the ground was prepared for football and cricket. The ground was let to the football club in return for 'bale bumping'. Jim reports that most of the helpers with the bales were 'useless'. He reports that the football club did quite well and that cricket was taken seriously, Micky Taylor helping to roll the pitch.

### **Lake Street Farm**

A present day map of Lake Street Farm was provided by Carol Guilding. When I was given a similar map of Barhouse Farm it was possible roughly to equate fields and their names with those on the 1841 map. This has proved very difficult with Lake Street Farm, so much more seems to have changed. Very few of the fields seem to have the same boundaries as they did on the 1841 map but, though the fields look different, some to the names are recognisable. Modern *Housted's* must be related to the 1841 'Hosteads' while *Wovelands* perhaps finds its origin in the 1841 field 'The Wavilands'. It needs a greater shift to get *Dinney* from the 1841 'Dineware' whilst it is easy to see that *Westlands* comes from the 1841 'Westlands Ground'.

*Waite Orchard* and *Joker's Meadow* were bought from Joker Bennett of Elmore Back in the 1960s. *Parish Ground* and *Mick's Meadow* are rented from Elmore Land Trustees but neither of these names has any equivalent on the 1841 map. My own favourite at Lake Street is *West Indies* so called because it's a long way from the farmhouse.

## **ELMORE WI**

Meets on 2nd Tuesday in the month at 7:30pm in Elmore Village Hall. We are a small but thriving group of approximately 20 folk. A variety of speakers are booked every month and are followed by social time including delicious refreshments.

January's speaker was Stephen Rowley. His subject was a fascinating look into the life of Charles Wheatstone (Gloucester born) who was a brilliant scientist and inventor. The Stereoscope, microphone and telegraph were credited to him to mention a just a few.

February sees another local grown star, Dick Shepard who retired 1993 but still enjoys entertaining groups with talks on his dare devil career. As always anyone wishing to attend just turn up on the night. (13 Feb at 7.30)

March is a talk on Reflexology

April The Wandering Cook

May ..Whisper and Shout. (Victorian leisure time)

A Note for your Diaries

**Elmore's ever popular Coffee Morning is on SATURDAY  
26th MAY look out for posters nearer the date.**

Visitors and new members are always welcome For any more information contact Barbara Fisher (President). On 01452 720596

## **1st Elmore Brownies**

We ended last term doing lots of Christmas activities which included making yule logs. This term we visited a local Library as part of Booklover badge. The girls learnt how to care for books and about the library facilities. They all took books out and discussed them with the other Brownies the following week. We also have planned to visit Waterwells Police Station for our Crime Prevention badge. The Brownies have a session at GL1 organised by our

Senior Section volunteer, Daisy, where they will be having a go at powerchair football. There will be a completion to see who is the best side.

*If your daughter would like to join Brownies, please call Jenny on (01452) 722444.*

## **1st Elmore Guides**

Last term we took part in a national campaign for UK Parliament Week, the girls discussed local, national and global issues and had a go trying to be Prime Minister for the day. We were lucky enough to have Trevor Jones and Jenny Hobbs from the Parish Council visit us to discuss what is happening in Elmore and how a council is run. We finished off the term with a visit to the Body Shop in Gloucester where we got to try some of the products and do some Christmas shopping. We had our Christmas party with 1st Elmore Brownies at Cattle Country and all really enjoyed the evening. This term we have girls starting their Baden Powell Award, the highest a Guide can receive. We are also doing our Go For It! badges in our Patrols. We are doing Breaking Barriers, Passion For Fashion, Lights, Camera, Action and Camp Out. We will also be working on our World Issues Badge at the end of this half term.

*If your daughter would like to join Guides, please call Catherine on (01452) 722444.*

## **1st Elmore Senior Section**

Last term we celebrated Bonfire Night with sparklers and hot dogs, it was a great evening and all the girls enjoyed it. We finished off the term with an evening at Gloucester Quays ice rink. There was a few bruised bottoms but all girls managed to do a few laps of the rink. This term we have had our planning meeting and will be trying out a pilot resource from Girl Guiding headquarters. We will also be making bird boxes and bird cakes. We will then use this to take part in the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch.

*If your daughter would like to join Senior Section, please call Catherine on (01452) 722444.*

## **Graham Littleton's Memories of the 1947 Flood**

On reading the February 2017 edition of **The Bridge** I noted that Vera Smith had reached the great age of 103. I also reminded me that 70 years had passed since that momentous winter for 1947. My memories

are scant; I was only 3½ years old. However, I do remember there being lots of snow, my mother taking me to visit my Grandfather at Bridgmacote Farm and paddling in flood water in the kitchen.

Then, about ten years ago, when I was a District Councillor, I was involved in a flooding project through the University of Gloucestershire covering flood events in the Severn Vale. The University needed to talk to people who had personal experience and knowledge. I remember saying I knew just the person who would have a graphic account of what happened in Elmore Back and Elmore in 1947. I arranged for Bob Smith to bring his mother Vera to my home to meet the team from the University. They placed a microphone on the table and got her talking. That evening I learnt much myself about the 1947 flood which added to what I had also been told over the years by Paul Round of Elmore Back Farm.

It did not start snowing until January 21st 1947 but from then on there was a tremendous amount of snowfall which lasted until mid March when the thaw finally came coupled with a huge amount of rainfall falling onto frozen ground which made a flood inevitable.

The flood water reached the top of the flood defences at Elmore Back to a level thankfully never seen since. The defences were eventually overtopped as a breach formed just above Graham Lovell's Severn Bank Farm. Vera told us that the Elmore Back basin filled with water over a three week period being topped up deeper and deeper each high tide which swilled more and more water onto the land. In those days the Inland Drainage Board (IDB) did exist but had no pumps; these were only installed in 1959. So the water could not be pumped out. Instead the IDB could only open sluices by hand at low water to allow the flood to go back into the river but the sluices had to be shut again as the tide returned so getting rid of the water was a very slow process.

The farmland and houses at Elmore Back were flooded and the residents had to leave, the farmers taking their livestock with them. Elmore Farm was also flooded. Vera Smith told us that she and her family were the last to leave, with her husband Jacky taking her out in a rowing boat. When passing apple and plum trees they were able to capture rabbits from the treetops, knock them on the head for the pot. It is important to remember that this was the time of severe post war rationing and so rabbit meat helped with the meagre rations.

## **Walking for Health**

The next walk in the area will take place on **Thursday 15th. February** starting from the Red Lion Inn at Arlingham (Public car park over cross roads, 100 yards on right), Please meet at 9.45 for a 10.00 am start.

As usual, the walk can include stiles and field paths and is approximately 2 miles in length and should take a maximum of 90 Minutes.

For more information please ring Nick on 01452 740265 or email [nandanailsworth@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:nandanailsworth@yahoo.co.uk)

The later walks in the year will take place on Weds. 14th Mar. & Thurs. 12th Apr.

## **Elmore Bridge Club**

Would you like to play Bridge? Come along to Elmore Village Hall on a Monday evening and meet a friendly group of players. It is a very relaxed evening, playing the Acol System.

The young and not so young come from all parts of the county.

Play starts at 7pm. The cost is £2 for the evening including refreshments at half time. The evening finishes at 10pm.

We have many books and DVDs to refresh you with methods of play or you can simply come and watch for a while.

Contact Caroline Meek, Queen Ann Court, 133 Bristol Rd, Quedgeley, Gloucestershire, GL2 4NB, tel:01452 566489, email: [carolinejmeeke@virginmedia.com](mailto:carolinejmeeke@virginmedia.com)

# CHARITY NIGHT

Join us for a **Quiz and Curry**

**in aid of Alzheimer's Society**

**and other Rotary Charities**

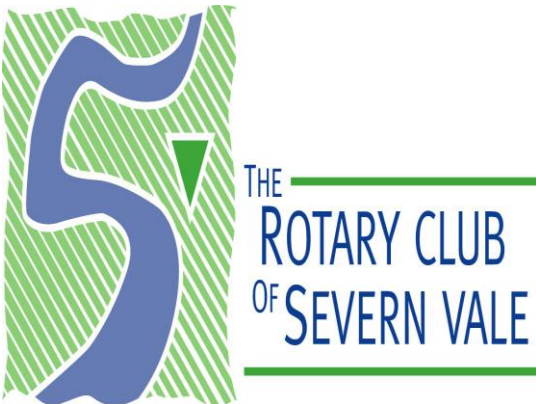
Venue – Elmore Village Hall

Time – 7.30pm on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2018

Teams of four (but singles and pairs welcome)

Cost of Evening including meal - £12

For tickets contact **Nigel 01452 740121** or **Dave 01452 740126**



## DICK WHITTINGTON AND HIS CAT

**The Village Players'** latest pantomime was dedicated to the memory of Marion Watts, a much loved founder member, whose costumes have been a feature of every production since the inception of the Players in 1981. I'm sure she would have been proud of the wonderful costumes produced by her "apprentices" which lived up to her high standards and were suitably "glitzy".

A strong cast was ably directed by Amy Parkin and the pace of the performance was kept up throughout the evening with no awkward pauses between scenes. The scenery was a delight to look at thanks to the excellent construction team and painting of the sets led by Colin Ellis. The lighting and sound controlled by Simon Banks added to the enjoyment. The make-up was very effective particularly that of Fairy Moonbeam and Queen Rat. The music was well chosen and ably directed by accompanist Pete Kirby.

The whole cast gave a strong performance and it was good to see how the younger members in particular have grown in strength and confidence over the years. Outstanding performances were given by Rachael Chamberlayne and Elizabeth Leonard as Clot and Blot, and Andy Harden and Shauna Williams as the Dame and Idle Jack. The junior chorus as the Ratlings, directed by Jo Fisher, were particularly endearing and looked as if they were having great fun.

Last but not least, two unseen members of the cast deserve a mention – John Chamberlayne as stage manager and Val Overton as prompt, both of whom I was unaware, but nevertheless played a vital part in ensuring the smooth running of the show.

Congratulations to the Players on providing a very entertaining performance and I look forward to the next production.



## **The Offstage Theatre Company**

### **Present an evening of entertainment and fun in Elmore Village Hall**

featuring an Alan Bennett 'Talking Heads', a One Act play and sketches from the pens of the two Johns:  
Bird & Fortune.

Performed by Barnaby & Kim Jones, Rachael-Ann Becket, Lloyd Morgans and Bob Roberts. All proceeds to Rotary Charities.

Bar available. Tickets £10 Contact 01452 720544  
Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 7.00 for 7.30pm

## **VILLAGE HALL NEWS**

In addition to recent improvements to the emergency lighting and fire extinguisher upgrades, the new year will see more improvements to fire safety, together with full inspection and certification of our electrics and appliances, plus a review of Hall lighting generally.

**The Christmas Lunch held in December was very well supported and raised £1911 for Hall funds. Many thanks to Clare Stewart and her team, also to all who supported this function.**

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 [orpikelett@hotmail.com](mailto:orpikelett@hotmail.com).

Many thanks to all users and supporters of the Hall.  
John (Hardisty), Chairman

# **ELMORE RACE NIGHT**

**(In aid of Village Hall Funds)**

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> March**

**Tote**

**Pay Bar**

**M.C. - Dan Lovell**

**Tickets £10**

**Horses £5**

**Contact John (721798)**

## **Defibrillator and First Aid Training**

On Saturday January 27th 17 people of a wide age range attended a free and very successful training session in Elmore Village Hall organised by Parish Councillor Paula Turner and funded by your Parish Council. During the course of this, questions were asked about how to get into the defibrillator cabinets so **The Bridge** would like to remind everyone that fridge magnets were distributed with the magazine in the past

giving the digital code which opens the cabinets. If you do not know the code please contact the Parish Clerk.

## **Severn Bore Times for 2018.**

3 & 4- Star Bores:		Minsterworth	Stonebench
01 Feb	(3)	08.23	08.38
01 Feb	(3)	20.51	21.06
02 Feb	(4)	09.08	09.23
02 Feb	(3)	21.35	21.50
03 Feb	(3)	09.52	10.07
02 Mar	(3)	08.10	08.25
02 Mar	(3)	20.36	20.51
03 Mar	(4)	08.53	09.08
03 Mar	(3)	21.17	21.32
04 Mar	(4)	09.33	09.48
01 Apr	(3)	09.32	09.47

May/Jun/Jul - NIL

12 Aug	(3)	21.47	22.02
13 Aug	(3)	10.14	10.29
13 Aug	(4)	22.31	22.46
14 Aug	(3)	23.14	23.29
10 Sep	(4)	21.31	21.46
11 Sep	(3)	09.56	10.11
11 Sep	(4)	22.12	22.27
12 Sep	(3)	10.36	10.51
12 Sep	(3)	22.52	23.07
09 Oct	(3)	08.53	09.08
09 Oct	(4)	21.10	21.25
10Oct	(3)	09.33	09.48
09Oct	(4)	21.50	22.05

Nov/Dec NIL

# Severn Bore Breakfast

Best of the Year?

Sun 4<sup>th</sup> March, 8.30am onwards

Bacon Rolls, Tea/Coffee

Hill Farm, Longney GL2 3SW

Follow the signs in village

All proceeds to Rotary Charities

[www.SevernValeRotary.org.uk](http://www.SevernValeRotary.org.uk)



Registered charity numbered 1100046

## Church Services for Elmore

Unless otherwise publicised the regular service pattern is:

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month – Parish Eucharist at Elmore 9.30am  
2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month – Evensong at Elmore 3.00pm

### Special Seasonal Services

#### Wednesday February 14<sup>th</sup> – Ash Wednesday

Said Eucharist with Ashing at Longney 9.30am  
Eucharist with Hymns and Ashing at Hardwicke 7.30pm

#### Sunday February 18<sup>th</sup> – Valentine's Sunday

Guest Service for Wedding Couples at Elmore 9.30am

#### Sunday March 18<sup>th</sup> – Lent 5

Short Eucharist followed by our AGM at Elmore 9.30am



#### Sunday March 25<sup>th</sup> – Palm Sunday

Holy Week begins with the entrance of Jesus into the city of Jerusalem

Palm Evensong with Hymns 3.00pm

Holy Monday March 26<sup>th</sup> – Prayers at Longney 7.30pm

Holy Tuesday March 27<sup>th</sup> – Passover at Church House Hardwicke 7.30pm

Holy Wednesday March 28<sup>th</sup> – Prayers at Hardwicke 7.30pm

Maundy Thursday March 29<sup>th</sup> – Agape Supper at Hardwicke 7.30pm

#### Friday March 30<sup>th</sup> - Good Friday

The Last Hour at Hardwicke 2.00pm

The Road to the Cross with the Longney & Elmore Church Choir at Elmore 6.30pm

#### Easter Eve Saturday March 31<sup>st</sup>

First Service of Easter at Hardwicke 8.00pm

#### Sunday April 1<sup>st</sup> - Easter Sunday

Festival Eucharist at Elmore 9.30am



*The Island Reading Group*



JAMES HOPKINS  
TRUST

# Coffee Morning

**Sat. 24th February**

*In aid of James Hopkins Trust*

**Elmore Village Hall**

**10 - 12noon**

Everyone welcome

Cakes, Raffle, Books, Bric-a-Brac

**FREE ENTRY**

Contact: Clare Stewart 01452 720359 Jenni Hobbs 01452 724633

<b>Elmore PC</b>			
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
<b>Village Hall</b>			
Chair & Bookings	John Hardisty	721798	pikelett@hotmail.com
<b>Other Village Organisations</b>			
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	
<b>Other Useful Contacts</b>			
Police - non emergency		101	
Member of Parliament, Dr David Drew		02072194106	david.drew.mp@parliament.uk
County Councillor, Stephen Davies		<b>07802595307</b>	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
<b>Village Agent</b> Christine Lingard		07810630179	
<b>Neighbourhood Warden</b> Carol Novoth		07970250343	carol.novoth@stroud.gov.uk
<b>Neighbourhood Police Officer</b> , PC Kevin Lee		101	kevin.lee@gloucestershire.pnn.police.uk

# **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 May 18th

Friday July 27th

Friday October 19th

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