

THE BRIDGE

Produced by Elmore Parish Council
November 2018, Issue 18



From the Editor

Once again **The Bridge** spans an ever flowing stream of village news. Fans of 'The Who' will be pleased to know that the First Elmore Guides, though not deaf, dumb and blind, are 'Pinball Wizards'. You can read how the extremes of weather this year have affected our farmers; the on-going and sorry saga of our broadband and changes at Sellars Bridge. The panto season will soon be on us and there is notice of the Village Players' latest, 'Little Jack Horner'. When you pull your carrots, save a few for making a delicious WI carrot cake. Sadly both Rob Lee and Vera Smith have died since our last issue. In this issue there is a tribute to Rob and we hope to publish a tribute to Vera in the next issue. Also November 11th marks 100 years since the end of WW1. There is much more of interest, but I cannot let you read on before saying WELCOME to WHOLLY COW GELATO - what a summer to launch a delicious new ice cream brand and all made in Elmore at Barhouse Farm!

Elmore WI

You do not have to live in Elmore to be a member of our WI; we have members from the surrounding villages and even one from as far away as Cheltenham.

Meetings are held in Elmore Village Hall on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm

Why not pay us a visit to see if we fill your requirements and also enjoy refreshments which are always of the highest standard.

November is our AGM which includes the election of next year's committee as well as speaker and refreshments.

October saw a very interesting talk on the ins and outs of medieval doctoring and the tools that were used.

The competition for a candle stick was won by Diana Round.
December's meeting will be a seasonal one and all are welcome.

Many thanks go to the ladies who contributed toys books hats toiletries etc to help fill the shoe boxes that are sent abroad to deprived children in the eastern block at this time of year.

Val Overton

The WI Recipe

CARROT CAKE

350g Sunflower Oil

250-300g Carrots grated

120g Walnuts plus some to decorate

250g Plain Flour

2tsp Bicarbonate of Soda

1tsp Salt

2tsp Ground mixed spice

2tsp Cinnamon

4 eggs

165g Soft light brown sugar

290g Granulated sugar

135g tinned crushed pineapple drained

For the Icing

1 Lemon

190g Icing Sugar

105g Cream cheese

90g Butter softened

20cm springform round tin or square tin with a loose bottom. Oven temp 150c/gas mark 2.

Line the sides and base of the cake tin with double thickness of baking paper extending above the rim by 3cm.

Peel and grate carrots (you need 200g grated weight) Roughly chop the walnuts. Sift the flour, bicarbonate of soda, salt, mixed spice and cinnamon together in large bowl. Break eggs into a medium bowl and beat lightly with a fork. Add both sugars, oil, grated carrots, walnuts, pineapple and eggs to the dry ingredients and stir to combine. Using an electric whisk beat the mixture on a low speed for 1 minute until thoroughly mixed, but without breaking up all the pineapple and nuts. Pour the mixture into the prepared tin and bake in the oven for 1 1/2-2 hours until a skewer inserted into the centre of the cake comes out clean or with a few moist crumbs clinging to it.

Leave the cake to cool in the tin for 30 mins then remove from the tin and leave to cool completely on a wire rack before removing the baking parchment.

For Icing grate the lemon zest, sift the icing sugar and then add the cream cheese, butter and lemon zest beat together until light and fluffy. Then using a palette knife spread the icing over the cake and decorate with walnuts.

Jill Hurran

From the Parish Council

Broadband update

In late August the Parish Council had a meeting with Gigaclear and their works' contractor, at their request, as they wanted to keep us informed of progress about the installation of the Government/Fastershire funded super fast broadband into Elmore.

One might think, with the flurry of work by Gigaclear's contractors that went on in the village in July and August that the new fibre broadband connection would be just around the corner. The trenches throughout the village are now almost complete

There has also been a bit of excitement about the prospect of tunnelling under the River Severn to establish a connection from the Minsterworth - this excitement goes back to February when we were told by Fastershire that they were desperate to sort out agreements with the landowners on both sides of the River. The first plans came to nought when the landowner on the Minsterworth side refused permission, so we were told the site had to be moved to the eastern end of Elmore Back.

That was the story at the end of June and although there has been some more trench digging from the Longney direction to the Farley's End corner, sadly, little progress seems to have been made as there is no sign of any tunnelling under the River. Indeed, we were told in at the meeting in August that Gigaclear were still conducting site surveys on the Minsterworth side. Notwithstanding this minor hiccup, the intention is to continue to lay the fibre cable throughout the village. We have heard the rumour that a tunnelling machine has been booked and work

may start soon. In due course, you may notice a blue circle appearing on the road outside your house - this would indicate the site of a connection point for the fibre for your property; regardless of whether you either need it or want it.

The most depressing news we heard at the meeting with Gigaclear was that:

- Firstly, the installation work will take until December this year to be completed.

- Secondly, the system may not be activated until the summer of 2019. However, that being said, there was a glimmer of hope in that the plan is to activate the fibre connections once they have been installed even if the whole circuit hasn't been laid but that depends on a live fibre connection from Minsterworth.

- Thirdly, there doesn't appear to be a Plan B i.e. '*what if the drilling under the River doesn't work?*' The best answer we got from Gigaclear was that they would then try to connect via Framilode - an operation which is some way down the line.

Gigaclear said they will send out a letter to residents informing them when the system is 'live' so that a connection can be requested. I would offer a word of caution, although this new fibre will produce broadband speeds of at least 30Mbps (and greater if you wish). Since our discussions with Gigaclear I have recently noticed that the company has dramatically changed the fees for 3 different packages: (i.e. 30, 300 & 900 Mbps). Although these deals only seem to apply if purchased before 28 Feb 2019!

30 Mbps – **no connection fee**, (*running a cable from the blue spot on the road to the router in your house, if your house is further than 100 metres – was previously 10 m - from the road a fee would apply.*)

30 Mbps - a 'one-off' **activation fee** of £120, (*however if you opt for 300 or 900 Mbps, this fee drops to £30*)

30 Mbps - a **monthly rental fee** of £35, (*£45 for 300Mbps & £75 for 900 Mbps*).

They also offer an Internet telephone service package for an additional fee.

What is not clear is whether householders can get a different in-service provider (ISP) to connect them to the blue spot on the road.

More information is available on the Gigaclear website:

<https://www.gigaclear.com/homebroadband>

We are endeavouring to establish closer direct links with Gigaclear so that we can glean more information and keep you informed of progress (or lack of it!). These 'closer links' were promised by Gigaclear at the meeting in August but so far there has been a deafening silence!

Sellars Bridge

There has been an ongoing debate for the last few years about the nuisance parking on our side of the canal at Sellars Bridge, adjacent to The Pilot Inn. The original plan was for restricted parking (i.e. yellow lines) to be painted on our side of the canal as part of the bridge automation project. However, as this project seems to be on hold, several ideas have emerged and have now been implemented:

- the 30 mph speed restriction sign, which was on the far side of the bridge opposite the entrance to the Pilot Inn, has been moved to our side of the canal so including the bridge itself whereas previously you could take it legally at 60mph!!

- yellow lines have been painted on both sides of the road on the approaches to Sellars Bridge on our side of the canal.

We still have concerns about the enforcement of the 'No Parking' area as well as the lack of alternative parking for canal boat residents, dog walkers, fishermen etc. We fear that parking will just extend further along the road towards Elmore. We have made our views known to both Gloucester Highways and the Canal and River Trust but have not even had an acknowledgement of our communications.

Remembrance Day – Sunday 11th November

This year is the 100th Anniversary of the end of World War 1 and Remembrance Sunday happens to coincide with '11th of 11th'.

Therefore, a small commemoration will be held at the Elmore War Memorial at 11.00 on Sunday 11th November. All welcome

Parish Council Survey

Stroud District Council are currently undertaking a review of all Parish/Town Councils in the Stroud District. This survey is intended to

collect local resident's views about how well they think their Parish/Town Council works and any information that you provide in this survey will be used for the purpose of this review and held in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018. The review is your opportunity to raise any local issues in relation to your local Parish/Town Council in relation to governance. For example, the number of Councillors, or whether you think the boundaries of your Parish/Town Council may need to change or even be combined with a neighbouring parish. More information and the electronic survey is available at: www.stroud.gov.uk/cgr

Guides, Brownies & Senior Section

Through the spring and summer term the **1st Elmore Guides** enjoyed a varied program consisting of many activities.

The guides have participated in activities such as our unit camp weekend at Cowley, our annual fishing trip, which the guides thoroughly enjoyed and the district science event where they got to learn how to make a circuit to get a marble from one end of the table to the other using nothing but blue tac and straws. A team from the 1st Elmore guides won the competition with their impressive pinball mechanism. After the half term the guides went on a nature trail along the canal at Frampton in aid of 'walk for water'. Due to the lovely weather the guides wanted to take full advantage when planning their summer activities. We played rounders, did some outdoor cooking, we went on our second camp for the annual Bubbs Hill Bash, we celebrated Wimbledon with strawberries cream and outdoor games and ended the term walking up Robinswood Hill and having a barbecue at the bottom with 1st Elmore Brownies. The guides and leaders are looking forward to our Autumn and winter term where we will be trying a varied program of fun activities.

This term started with Gloucester Day where the **1st Elmore Brownies** did some quizzes and challenges. We have had a badge evening using up all the old badges that we have accumulated in readiness to start our new programme. On 3rd October we held our very own dog show when the girls puppet sausage dogs. We celebrated National Chocolate Week baking chocolate brownies and decorating chocolate cup cakes.

Now looking forward to next term when we start our Christmas craft and have our annual Christmas Party; this year taking place at GL1's Lunar City.

This term the **Senior Section** started off with a chocolate themed evening where we made cakes and planned our term. We also started the new Girlguiding programme and worked on some of the activities. In addition we had a stall at the annual Sheep Racing contest in Frampton where we raised money to put towards our activities. We finished this half term with a trip to HobbyCraft for a fantastic craft evening where we made advent trains for Christmas. After half term we are looking forward to our meal out at Gloucester Quays and a Christmas filled evening.

If your daughter would like to join Guides, Brownies or Senior Section please call Catherine 01452 722444

Harvest Supper

This popular annual event was held in the Village Hall when 70 people gathered together to celebrate an evening of good fellowship and good food. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves and their efforts raised approx £760 for church funds. Many thanks to everyone who provided food and raffle prizes for this event.

Christmas Lunch in aid of the Church

This event will be held in the Village Hall on 9th December and tickets have sold really well.

Please ring asap if you require tickets Jennifer Watts 720233/ Jill Hurrin 720539 for the few remaining tickets.

Jill Hurrin PCC Secretary

Elmore Court Christmas Parish Party

Sarah and Anselm Guise have asked **The Bridge** to announce that they will be holding a Christmas Party for Elmore residents on Wednesday 12th December from 7pm. They will be sending out formal invitations in due course

Village Players Present
LITTLE JACK HORNER
A Pantomime by Paul Reakes



At ELMORE VILLAGE HALL
November - 22nd, 23rd, 24th*, 25th* 29th, 30th
December 1st*

7.30 pm *Matinee performance at 2.30 pm
Adults £6 and Children £4 (under 14)

Supporting Rendcombe Ward, Oncology Unit, Cheltenham
and Nicholls Spinal Injury Foundation

~~Ticket Hotline:~~ 01452 722245

An Amateur Production by kind permission of Samuel French Ltd

Yoga classes at Elmore Village Hall

Wednesday mornings at 09:30-10:45

Explore the key components of Vinyasa Yoga. Classes follow a steady start before moving into more dynamic movement with breath, closing with floor postures and relaxation. You will want to be able to get up and down from the floor but the class is suitable for beginners.

Classes are taught with a monthly focus and complimented by Chloe's background in Sports Therapy & Rehabilitation. Please arrive 15 minutes early for your first class. If you would like to discuss anything in advance or book a space, please contact Chloe on:

Web: www.yogawithchloewitts.com

Email: contact@yogawithchloewitts.com

Tel: 07849774462

Chloe Witts

200RYT Yoga Alliance, MSc Sports Therapy & Injury Rehabilitation

Church Services for Elmore

Unless otherwise publicised the regular service pattern is:

1st and 3rd Sunday of the month – Parish Eucharist at Elmore 9.30am

2nd and 4th Sunday of the month – Evensong at Elmore 4.00pm

5th Sunday of the month – no service at Elmore

In November there are special seasonal services ...

Sunday November 4th – All Souls Annual Requiem

This will be at Hardwicke Church at 3.00pm, during this service those whose funerals have been held in our three churches in the past 12 months will be remembered in prayer.

Sunday November 11th – Remembrance Sunday

On this 100th anniversary of the ending of the First World War we will lay our remembrance wreath at the Elmore War Memorial at 3.30pm. This will be followed by the Elmore Church bells being rung at 4.00pm followed by a special Sung Evensong with our Church Choir.

Our Christmas celebrations are as follows:

Elmore Christmas Lunch

See details elsewhere in **The Bridge**

Traditional Nine Lessons and Carols Service

At Longney Church on Sunday December 16th at 6.30pm

Longney & Elmore Church Choir Carols Evening

At Elmore Village Hall on Thursday December 20th at 7.30pm

Midnight Mass will be at Elmore Church this year

On Christmas Eve, Monday December 24th, at 11.15pm

Baptism (Christening) or Weddings: phone Fr. Andrew 01452 720015
Email: vicarage@inbox.com Our Website: www.elmorechurch.info
Facebook: @ElmoreParishChurch

A little bit of Elmore history

Henry Knight (1829 -1904)

In the Elmore Churchyard, separated from other members of his family, is a military gravestone for Lieutenant Colonel H S G S Knight (1829-1904). These initials stand for: Henry Sollers Gunning Sparks Knight, most of which were family names on the maternal side; even so, this was quite a mouthful.

Henry was born in The Cape of Good Hope, South Africa in 1828 and was the son of Thomas Sollers Knight (1798 – 1833) and Marie Annie Sparks (b. 1805). The mystery is why was he buried in the Elmore Churchyard, especially as he was born in South Africa, and didn't appear ever to live in Elmore, and his mother was born in Dublin.

His father, Thomas Sollers Knight (1799 – 1833) joined the British Army (The Cape Regiment) as an Ensign (*similar to an office cadet*) in 1814, aged 16. Eleven years later in June of 1827, Thomas married Marie Annie Sparks (1805-1850) in Albany, Cape of Good Hope, SA. By the time Henry was born in 1829, Thomas Sollers Knight was a Lieutenant in the Cape Mounted Riflemen but sadly came to an untimely end when he died in Grahamstown, SA in 1833, just 4 years after Henry was born. The circumstances of his death have not been established but this was at the time of the Frontier Wars in South Africa.

Henry Knight's Military Career

At some stage, in his early years, Henry Knight came to England from South Africa and, following in his father's footsteps, he joined the British Army in 1845 and was commissioned as an Ensign on 24th September, like his father, aged 16. It is possible that his widowed mother, Marie Annie Knight, would have accompanied Henry to England in 1845. However, we know that she didn't stay in UK as she died in SA in 1850.

Bearing in mind that, before 1870, commissions in the Army would normally have been purchased and the cost varied with the regiment and the rank required. Unless someone had plenty of family money, a

family connection in the unit or a kind benefactor, promotion could stagnate and was rarely achieved on the basis of talent or skill. The exception being if an officer was awarded a gallantry medal in a campaign.

There is a record of Henry Knight being stationed in Gibraltar for a short period in 1851 as a Lieutenant at the age of 22, so his career seemed to be progressing quite well. At that time he was listed as a member of 67th (The South Hampshires) Regiment of Foot.

A further record shows Henry stationed at Chatham Barracks, Kent, in 1871 in the rank of Captain at the age of 42 (*rather old for a captain!*) and his role was as a musketry instructor. At that time he was listed as being in the 19th Regiment of Foot.

Although no record could be uncovered confirming that he took part in any military campaign, he was in the Army at the time of the Crimean War (1853-1856) and his regiment deployed to Sevastopol and took part in all the major battles. Henry was actually well connected and his maternal uncle was General James Pattoun Sparks CB, who had a distinguished military career, serving in the Crimean War and in India during the mutiny. Most of General Sparks' career was spent with the 38th (South Staffordshire) Regiment of Foot.

Henry was promoted to substantive Major on 24th June 1876 (*at the age of 47, which was quite old to reach this rank, even at that time*) and would appear to have been holding the rank of Acting Lieutenant Colonel as the Commanding Officer of the 19th Regiment of Foot. He retired from the Army on 29th November 1876 aged 47 and was granted the rank of Honorary Lieutenant Colonel. He was obviously very proud of his achievements because the entry on the 1881 Census, some 5 years after he retired, stated his employment as 'CO 19th Regiment of Foot'

Personal Life

In 1857 Henry Knight married a woman from Devon called Elizabeth Jane Isabella Hussey (1835-1919) and they had two daughters from this union; Elizabeth Courtenay Knight (1858-1906) who married John Jordan (1858-1939), a Devon farmer and Isabella Annie Knight (1859-1941) who married John Reginald Stone (1854-1937), also a Devon farmer and they had seven children.

In 1881 Henry's wife, Elizabeth and her two daughters were living in Whitestone, Devon and she was listed as a 'widow' even though her husband was still alive (*it was not uncommon for mistakes to be entered on Census forms at that time but this could have been an intentional entry*). However, by 1884 Isabella Jordan (née Knight), Henry Knight's second daughter, had moved to Quedgeley with her husband and all their 7 children were born in this local area.

Henry Knight seems to have lived anywhere except with his family. The Census Record for 1881 showed him living in Glamorgan, Wales with his uncle, General Sparks, and in 1891 he was in living in Winchester with his valet! It would appear that he died in 1904 in Winchester while his wife was living with their daughter, Isabella Stone, at Barhouse Farm, Elmore.

The 1891 Census clearly showed that John Stone and Isabella were living at Field Court Farm, Quedgeley but also residing with them was Elizabeth Jane Knight, Henry's wife but she was still listed as a 'widow'. However, the official records show that Henry didn't die until 1904 and that is the date inscribed on his gravestone.

The Stone Family

At some stage John Stone took over the tenancy of Barhouse Farm and the family resided there until around 1930. He died in October 1937 at the age of 83 but by then had moved, with his wife, Isabella (née Knight), to The Indian Bungalow in Hempstead. Barhouse Farm was taken over by a different tenant (*Prout and then Jim Hobbs?*) and the Stone family scattered. John Stone's eldest daughter, Annie Louise Stone (1884-1961), married Frederick Fowler in 1912, a local man, who had emigrated to USA and been naturalized. She then went to the USA with him but returned at some stage as they were both living in The Indian Bungalow at Hempstead and Frederick Fowler died at that address in 1931 and Annie continued to live there with her mother and was still there in 1939. Of the remainder of the family, comprising 6 sons and one daughter, Annie married Frederick Fowler and moved to Canada, Norman drowned aged 17 in 1911, Lionel died aged 4 in 1893, and all the others, John, George, Douglas and Walter, emigrated to either USA and Canada.

The fact that Henry Knight's wife and daughter Isabella, lived at Barhouse Farm in Elmore could account for the fact that he is now buried in Elmore churchyard.

Robert Scott Lee 1948 - 2018

Rob was a delight. He was an intelligent man and the 'life and soul of the party'. Also he had a way, when speaking to you, of making you feel valued, but to me his greatest gift was his sense of humour. He could make a joke out of almost any situation and with it prick pomposity or soothe tension.

His parents ran a pub in Bristol. In 1964 when he was only 16 his parents decided to emigrate to South Africa. Rob refused to go believing that by doing so he would be condoning apartheid. The idea of people being treated differently because of some dissimilarity was anathema to Rob. He went to live with his grandmother.

It was only a little later when we see the manifestation of another of his traits; he was an adventure seeker; in his late teens he took off with a friend on an extended exploration of Europe. He planned a seven month tour and budgeted £100 for the whole trip.

Rob's daughters from his first marriage, Katie and Rebecca bear witness to their Dad's buoyant disposition, his ability to entertain, enthuse, and provoke their sense of adventure. They describe their Dad as very much a 'water over the top of the boots' kind of man. When they returned home after a walk (never on the recognised paths) they were always exhausted, wet and covered in mud but to this day they testify to what fun it all was.

He found his professional niche in sales and marketing in the heating and plumbing industry, As a Regional Director at BSS it fell to Rob to organise trips and amusements for their trade consumers. The first trip he organised for 400 people was to New York, all to be transported, fed and amused for five days. It turned out to be baptism by fire for when they arrived at the hotel, there were only enough rooms for three hundred. It was a wild, frenzied and sleepless 24 hours for Rob before rooms could be found for everyone. He went on to organise numerous successful trips. It was in doing all this that Rob honed his already considerable organisational skills.

In 1993 Rob met Fiona and in 1995 they moved to Elmore Back

In 2001 Rob was made redundant and spent nine months at home. Then he was interviewed in the morning and started work the same afternoon as Clerk to the Governors of Hartpury College.

Two years into his tenure at the college, walking the dog, he was charged by a belligerent cow, thrown in the air and his back was broken. It was grim and he suffered terribly; a metal plate was inserted in his back to help, but his health was never quite the same.

This year, Rob had been at the College for 17 years and is remembered as highly proficient and adroit, always perfect gentleman and utterly dependable. When the college decided to apply for university status Rob researched all the technical and legal aspects of the application, scrutinised best practices and then advised the board accordingly. Hartpury College officially achieves University Status later this month and Rob's part in that was enormous.

Rob's passion was for travelling, despite not being at all the keen on flying, and he and Fiona enjoyed many holidays together. Rob loved red wine and a gathering with friends when he also delighted in playing silly games.

It was a great shock when we heard that Rob had died whilst on holiday in Africa but, you know, in some cultures they believe a man is not dead while his name is spoken and Rob had such a radiating character that his name will be spoken for many years to come.

Royston Waters, 4th September 2018

Fiona, Michael, Katie, Rebecca and families would like to thank everyone for their kindness and support during this time.

The Hot Summer of 2018

As was suggested in the editorial of the last issue of **The Bridge**, here are a couple of articles about how the drought has affected our farmers, both arable and dairy I am grateful to Jenni Hobbs and Michael Watts for putting 'pen to paper'.
THJ

The Arable Farmer

What a summer! More hot, dry days than most people can remember. The summer of 2018 gave us scorching days, warm or even hot evenings lasting on through the night. As I write in the middle of October we are still getting warm, dry days.

Most people would consider this summer ideal, but if you are a market gardener or grow crops in any way, drought can affect incomes very severely. As far as farm crops go, the picture is mixed; maize likes hot weather and will cope with dry conditions but, even so, some fields suffered. Autumn planted crops did better, I looked at my winter wheat on July 10th and it looked disappointing. Grain size was small, yet at harvest it was better than first thought. The advantage was dry grain of high protein content, a quality suitable for bread making and no need for drying. Spring planted crops were generally poor, all in earlier than I can remember.

Those relying on forage for cows and cattle have suffered the most many using a high percentage of their winter stores during the summer months.

The editor asked me to compare 1976 to 2018 but you cannot do this without including 1975 in the equation, 1975 was also very dry especially later in the season and there was very little rain through the winter of 1975-1976; ponds were dry all winter the water table was becoming very low. So the spring 1976 was already affected, just enough moisture for early grass, then dry hot weather.

In 1976 the effect on trees was much worse than this year; many large trees died. Ash suffered really badly. Many trees died or became dead topped (known as 'stag headed') Also, garden shrubs died in most gardens, if you look carefully you can still see many stag headed oaks

although new growth has covered some of the damage. Conifers in the church yard and other places still have dead tops. The other day someone said to me that tree is dying I explained the dead branches had been there since 1976, I am not sure I was believed.

On September 4th 1976 we had three and half inches of rain as that drought ended The combined effects of 1975 and 1976 was more severe in some ways, but the 2018 drought is still going on and the water table is now very low once again.

Nevertheless, we have had a wonderful summer and should be grateful.

Michael Watts, Elm Farm

The Dairy and Ice Cream Farmer

Farming a herd of dairy cows has been interesting this year! 2018 has brought us a whole ruck of weather problems. We are used to the seasons, but this year we've had it all in abundance! Firstly we had the heavy snow late in the winter (the Beast from the East), then we had the prolonged wet spring, closely followed by summer months with very little rain.

The resulting drought has affected farming across the country in a profound way. Apparently it was the driest June since 1925. Firstly, there wasn't the harvest yield; wheat and other corn crops didn't grow and finish as they should, and in some cases were so severely affected they weren't worth harvesting. Also, and for us this is a big issue, the straw prices have escalated. As for the grass growth, our free range milking herd hasn't been able to graze as it usually would. These are usually months where less feed is needed and the milking herd can be given new pastures every few days – a nice break for the farmers from indoor feeding, and nice for the herd to enjoy the great outdoors and graze fresh grass. We would usually turnout the cattle in March, but in 2018 the turnout was one of our latest for many, many years by a whole month because of the wet spring – we therefore were using any buffer stocks (or anything left in the forage clamps) for longer. Then when the sun came, it didn't seem to stop – great for holidaymakers, and barbecues, but soon cracks in the fields showed the extent of the dry summer; grass growth was limited as we waited for the rain which didn't come till late summer. For us and most farmers across the UK,

there aren't the forage stocks going into winter – resulting in high food bills to mitigate for less home-produced animal feed, which we would usually produce and store for the winter. For instance, our first cut silage would normally be fed out in the autumn, but instead it was needed a few months earlier – initially industry experts expected an average-sized milking herd would have to have £25,000 worth of extra feed/forage – this figure has probably gone up because this was published early, the drought continuing for weeks after this was printed.

Farmers are resilient, they are used to extreme weather, but it doesn't make decisions and our job easy. Let's hope 2019 brings no dramas, and UK farmers are able to go about their work of producing the nation's food without too much fuss.

Jenni Hobbs, Barhouse Farm

Walking for Health

The next walk in the Severside area will take place on Wednesday 14th November from outside The Church in Moreton Valence meeting at 9.45am for a 10.00am start. Please take care when parking on the grass.

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

Last walk in the year will take place on and Thursday 13th December. (**Note** the Dec. walk will start at 11.00am).

A new type walk is available for those **Returning to Walking**. This a shorter flat walk over firm ground with no stiles (a minimum of 2 walkers are required) For more details please contact the leaders named below.

Please Note: If you would like your name removed from our monthly emails please let us know.

For more information, please call Nick on 01452 740265 or Keith on 07811 123700 or alternatively email Nick

on nandanilsworth@yahoo.co.uk or Keith on kparry61@icloud.com.

If you find it difficult in getting to the start of a walk, have a word with a leader and we will see if we can help.

Nick Peters & Keith Parry - walk leader

Severn Bore Times for 2019

(only 3,4 & 5 Star bores listed)

Times are for Stonebench – subtract 10 mins for Elmore Back

<u>January 2019</u>	<u>March (cont)</u>	<u>September (cont)</u>
Tue 22 nd 08.53 3*	Sat 23 rd 09.47 4*	Mon 2 nd 11.10 3*
Wed 23 rd 09.39 3*	Sat 23 rd 22.09 3*	Mon 2 nd 23.26 4*
Thur 24 th 10.23 3*	Sun 24 th 10.25 3*	Sat 28 th 21.00 3*
<u>February 2019</u>	<u>April 2018</u>	Sun 29 th 09.26 3*
Wed 20 th 08.41 3*	Fri 19 th 09.04 3*	Sun 29 th 23.43 5*
Wed 20 th 21.08 3*	Fri 19 th 21.28 3*	Mon 30 th 10.08 4*
Thur 21 st 09.26 4*	Sat 20 th 09.45 3*	Mon 30 th 22.25 5*
Thur 21 st 21.51 4*	Sat 20 th 22.07 3*	<u>October 2019</u>
Fri 22 nd 10.07 4*	Sun 21 st 10.25 3*	Tue 1 st 10.47 4*
Fri 22 nd 22.31 3*	<u>August 2019</u>	Tue 1 st 23.04 4*
Sat 23 rd 10.46 3*	Sat 30 th 23.03 3*	Sun 27 th 19.39 3*
<u>March 2019</u>	Fri 31 st 21.17 3*	Mon 28 th 08.03 3*
Thur 21 st 08.25 4*	Sat 31 st 22.02 3*	Mon 29 th 20.21 4*
Thur 21 st 20.50 4*	<u>September 2019</u>	Tue 30 th 08.44 4*
Fri 22 nd 09.08 5*	Sun 1 st 10.29 3*	Tue 30 th 21.02 4*
Fri 22 nd 21.31 4*	Sun 1 st 22.45 4*	Wed 31 st 09.23 3*
		Wed 31 st 21.42 3*

Household Recycling Centres

When the clocks go back the HRCs will be adopting their winter opening times. They will be open from 10am - 4pm but will each be closing for one whole day each week as follows:

On Wednesdays, Pyke Quarry (Horsley) and will be closed.

On Thursdays, Hempsted (Gloucester) will be closed.

Parish Council Meetings 2019

Monday March 4th

Tuesday May 7th - this is the Annual Parish Meeting

Monday September 23rd

Monday December 9th

All meetings are held in the Village Hall and start at 7.45pm. **All Welcome**

Copy Dates for The Bridge 2019

Friday January 18th

Friday May 10th

Friday July 26th

Friday October 18th

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

Handwritten or word processed (preferred) pieces are welcome.

Handwritten pieces should be sent to Rose Cottage, Elmore, GL2 3NS.

Word processed pieces should be sent to rosecottage1818@gmail.com.

It would save the editor a good deal of time and stomach acid if electronic contributions were written in Times New Roman, size 12 font with 'no spacing'. Thanks

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

Another great night! Swing music by Jazz Friday (thanks Trevor and Andy and the rest of the band), tasty nibbles (thanks Clare and Dorie) plus the usual well stocked bar (thanks Mike) all enjoyed by an enthusiastic audience. Many thanks to all who supported 'Jazz at EVH' raising over £200 for Hall funds. Looking forward to the next one already!

Electrics upgrade is progressing. A number of fund raising events are planned for 2019, more details to follow.

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.

Many thanks to all users and supporters of the Hall.

John (Hardisty), Chairman

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	John Hardisty	721798	pikelett@hotmail.com
Enquiries & bookings	John Hardisty	ditto	ditto
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 Louise Egginton	722444	catherine.hartell@gmail.com lmegginton@gmail.com
Brownies	Jenny Hartell	722444	jharte1276@gmail.com
Bridge Club	Caroline Meek	720383	
Toddlers			
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