

THE BRIDGE

Produced by Elmore Parish Council
November 2021, Issue Twenty-Eight



From the Editor

I have to start this edition of with an apology to the WI.

Pauline Fisher sent me the WI report for the last edition of **The Bridge** on time and I moved it into my files but then left it there so it never got published. I'm very sorry and have made sure the WI report has pride of place this time

In my last editorial I appealed for more articles from you, the readers. I'm grateful that Paula Turner and her son Samuel have stepped up to the crease by providing interesting articles on bananas and otters. Thank you.

With so few members of our community attending Parish Council Meetings it is quite possible that the changes going on within the Council could pass most people by. I am determined that that should not be the case. You will see later that John Field has written a piece explaining that he has retired as Chairman, will be leaving the Council altogether after its next meeting on December 6th and that Nick Meek has taken over as Chair. John has been Chair for 13 years and, in his piece, does run through some of the achievements of his term of office. However, he is too modest to tell the whole truth.

Despite his distinguished Army career John is not the stereotypical 'crusty old colonel' - far from it. There is no 'side' to him - what you see is what you get; someone with a great sense of humour who is very friendly, hospitable, generous and easy to work with.

During his time as Chair this publication, **The Bridge**, and the Parish Council website were both set up. There has been stringent and regular financial scrutiny which has resulted in very rare increases in the parish precept (part of your council tax) despite the generous improvements the Parish Council has made to the Village Hall, the War Memorial and to other community projects.

He has also written and then revised the Parish Council's Standing Orders and a comprehensive Emergency Plan. It was on his watch that we got our defibrillators, our home made salt bins (soon to be replaced

by new professional ones) and the new notice boards, three of which he made himself. Despite all this, I'm sure he would regard his long and tireless efforts to improve our broadband; to express our disapproval of the Environment Agency's plan to abandon its flood defences around Elmore Back and to oppose plans to automate the canal bridges, as some of his most satisfying and hopefully long last contributions to our village.

Trevor Jones (editor)

Elmore WI

After a long 18 months we held our 1st meeting in September. It was lovely to welcome back so many members and a number of visitors which included the Vicar and several ladies from Hardwicke. We hope to see them again and welcome them as members.

Our meeting started with a one minute silence to remember Diana Round, a long standing member who will be greatly missed. Pat Buckland gave us a fascinating insight into her career with the M.O.D. 9th November. Speakers are David & Virginia Adsett with memorabilia from the 'Swinging Sixties'

14th December. Christmas Celebrations

11th January. Chris Edwards- Work of the RNLi

9th February. Mike Hodge- Personal information safety and avoiding internet fraud.

Visitors are always welcome.

PF

From the Parish Council

Specific Projects

Footpaths – Could anyone who volunteered to walk one or more of the village footpaths, please send Dorie Jones

(elmore.parish@hotmail.co.uk) a note on what they found, in terms of ease of access, signage and state of repair of any stiles or gates.

Grit Bins - It has been decided that the existing road grit bins, located next to most of the road inclines in the village, need replacing. The parish council have allocated money to buy 5 new ones and will try to ensure that they are kept full of grit for use on those occasions when the

roads are particularly icy. Roads within the village are not designated for normal gritting by the Highways Department like other main roads/routes are, so it is up to us all to spread the grit at potentially hazardous locations within the village, when it is thought necessary and safe to do so. The new yellow grit bins will be located by the bend near the junction to Weir Lane, on the incline along Weir Lane, on the Pitch before Elmore Court, on the incline down from the Dower House and one on the top S bend from Farleys End to Elmore Back. Also please let us know if stocks of grit within the bins are getting low.

Litter Bin – We intend to carry out a trial at the layby at the Stonebench end of the village, to see if people will use a litter bin if provided. As you will be aware, litter is an ongoing problem within the village like everywhere else, but the laybys are particularly bad. Once the temporary bin is installed, we will see if:

People use it and the litter problem in the layby is improved

It makes no difference

The problem is made worse, as more litter is dumped in the layby/near the bin

Depending on what we find, will determine if the temporary bin is just removed or replaced by a permanent one that will be emptied by the District Council.

Defibrillator Box – The old telephone box outside the Village Hall, where the Elmore defibrillator is stored, will be repainted fairly soon (weather permitting).

Role of the Parish Council

I thought this might be a good time to provide a bit of a reminder on how the Parish Council operates and what our role is.

Parish councils are run by councillors, who volunteer their time to make their community a better place. Their work falls into three main categories:

Representing the local community

Helping to deliver services to meet local needs

Striving to improve the quality of life in the parish

Elmore council is made up of 5 elected members and a Clerk (to keep us on the straight and narrow). We are funded by the Parish Precept,

which is a small part of your Council Tax. We formally meet 4 times a year to discuss Parish business, but we are in constant communication to deal with ongoing issues. The sort of things we get involved in are:

Local planning issues

Local highways

Community issues/projects (eg First Aid Training/Defibrillators)

Management of assets such as the War Memorial and village ponds

If you think we can assist you in any of these type of village issues or have a question, then get in touch via the details on the back page, or come along to one of the meetings, dates published on the Elmore Parish Council website, posted on the village noticeboards and listed in

The Bridge

Finally, I would like to personally thank John Field for all his hard work over the last 13 years in chairing Elmore Parish Council. He handed this role over to me at our last meeting on 28th September.

Nick Meek (New Chair)

Queen's Platinum Jubilee – 2nd – 5th June 2022

Next year will mark the 70th year of the Queen's reign as monarch. There will be an extended Bank Holiday and many other national events to mark the occasion. When Elmore celebrated the 'Diamond Jubilee' in 2012, we held a village picnic with a bonfire, fireworks and fun events.

Nationally, the one event the Queen has asked for is 'tree planting' throughout the UK.

Some funding for the event will be provided by the Parish Council but what we are looking for is a group of volunteers from the village who will decide how Elmore will mark the occasion and plan it.

If you would like to be part of this committee, or have some suggestions for the celebrations, please contact The Clerk of the Parish Council:

elmore.parish@hotmail.co.uk

First Aid Training

Shortly after the Defibrillators were installed in the village a few 1st Aid Training sessions were organised.

We feel it is time for both a refresher training session as well as offering all new arrivals in the village chance to participate.

Therefore, there will be a training morning to be held in Elmore village Hall on Saturday 12th March – the capacity of the course will be around 20 but if there is a greater demand a second course will be organised. There will be no charge for the course

If you are interested in participating in this 1st Aid Training event then please contact Mike Hodge hodgemike7@gmail.com

A change to your Parish Council

After 16 years as a parish Councillor of which 13 have been as the Chair, I have decided to stand down and hand over to a younger person. It has been an honour to serve the community in the capacity of Councillor and Chair over the years.

My tenure as Chair has seen some major hurdles overcome by the Parish Council and two major hurdles spring to mind, which were overcome with considerable sweat and toil.

Firstly, there was the plan by the Environment Agency to flood 720 acres of the Elmore Back Meadows to create a wetland habitat for flora and fauna as a compensation for areas lost further downstream on the River Severn, caused by rising sea levels. Thankfully, this scheme has been shelved, not least because it was EU money that was the main source funding for this £50m project.

Secondly, there was the advent of super fast broadband into the village. We had been battling with BT since 2006 to improve telephone and broadband connections to the village. Our route along the way was strewn with broken promises and changed plans as well as delays in engineering works. It is hard to remember those days when we had shared party lines and ‘dial-up’ broadband!

Over the years the whole process of Parish Council work has kept pace with the advances in electronic communication and now 95% of

business is done online – a far cry from when the Minutes of meetings were painstakingly scribed with pen and ink into a ledger.

Over the years I have sent out many messages to the parishioners via e-mail concerning, among other things, security, road closures, events in the village and updates on broadband but I often wondered if anyone actually read them in this age when we get inundated with unwanted e-mails and texts.

The work of the Parish Council is not just the work of The Chair – all the Councillors discuss issues and decide on a solutions but without the excellent work provided by our Clerk – Dorie Jones – we could easily have gone off the rails and for me she has been amazing, quietly going about producing agendas and arranging meetings, claiming back VAT, communicating with Stroud and Gloucestershire Councils, running the website and crafting the Minutes (on a PC, not a tablet of stone!) and above all, filtering the never-ending stream of e-mails that descended on us to ensure we didn't miss an important message as well as discarding the rubbish.

It has been an honour and a pleasure to be part of the Parish Council team and I step down content in the knowledge that there is an excellent team still in place and the good work will carry on.

John Field

The Defibrillators

The defibrillator in Elmore phone box was deployed in the second half of 2021 which serves as a reminder that some upkeep is required. I (Mike Hodge) am responsible for ensuring they are in working order and all necessary parts are present and correct. If anyone, at any time, notices any problems with either the Elmore phone box defibrillator or the one in Elmore Back please contact me directly. Similarly, if anyone is new to the village and doesn't have a fridge magnet with the code to the defibrillator boxes on please get in touch and I'll get one to you. A further training day in the defibrillator use is also planned for Saturday 12th March 2022, for which there are 20 places available to be allocated on a first come first served basis. If wishing to partake please send me your contact details.

Mike Hodge, 07446 842931

Village Players

Village Players are back!!

Rehearsals are well underway for this year's Pantomime, Sing a Song of Sixpence by Norman Robbins.

The performance dates are as follows:-

25th – 28th November and 2nd – 4th December. Evening performances start at 7:30pm and there are matinee performances on 27th and 28th November and 4th December at 2:30pm.

Tickets are priced at £8.00 for Adults and £4.00 for under 16s.

General ticket sales open on Monday 1st November and tickets can be booked by contacting Nick and Ivor Phillips on 01452 722245.

Due to the pandemic situation, in consideration of our audience, cast and crew, we are reducing the audience capacity, so book early to avoid disappointment.

We look forward to welcoming our audiences.

News from St John the Baptist Elmore

A Church Near You

The Church is open for public worship, 9.30am Holy Communion 1st and 3rd Sundays each month, 4pm Evensong 2nd and 4th Sundays (no service on a 5th Sunday). Do come and join us.

We are booking baptisms, and many weddings are already arranged for 2022 and beyond.

On Sunday 31 October, at 4pm, at Hardwicke Church we are holding a service of thanksgiving and remembrance. This will include a chance to light a candle in memory of anyone you love who has died. Their name will be read out if you wish. There will be some well-known hymns and a short Bible reading and talk. The aim is to enable folk who have been bereaved, especially those who could not have a full funeral service due to Covid, to gather in Church and give thanks to God for their loved ones, and to ask for his help in their grief. My Mum died in March 2021 so I will be sharing with you in this. You may like then to go somewhere to have the Wake you could not have at the time your

loved one died – or you can stay on for refreshments in Church. All are welcome and there's no charge.

Remembrance Sunday 14 November: 3.45pm Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial, followed by Evensong in Elmore Church.

Social events

Traditional Christmas Lunch on Sunday 12 December, in Elmore Village Hall, in aid of Elmore Church Tickets £25.00 There will be no bar so please bring your own drinks. Water will be provided. There will be a Raffle. Tickets are available from Mrs. Jennifer Watts tel. 720233 or Mrs. Jill Hurran tel. 720539. Places are limited to 70, so please book your place!

Christmas Fair in Longney Church on Saturday 27 November 10am-12noon.

Christmas services

St John the Baptist Church Elmore GL2 3SP

Sunday 19 December, 6.30pm Nine Lessons and Carols

Christmas Day 9.30am Holy Communion with carols

Sunday 2 January 9.30am Holy Communion and dedicating the New Year to God.

St Laurence Church Longney Chatter Street GL2 3SL

Sunday 19 December, 9.30am, Holy Communion on the last Sunday of Advent

Christmas Eve 11.15pm Midnight Mass, with carols

***Please note** - no service at either Church on Sunday 26 December. There will be an 11am service at Hardwicke that morning.*

Do be in touch if I can help you in any way. God bless you.

Rev Richard Martin 01452 720015, vicar@hardwicke-elmore-longney.church

1st Elmore Brownies

1st Elmore Brownies are glad to be back at Elmore Village Hall for their meetings this term. So far this term we have had a board games evening to get to know each other, where each Brownie brought and played their game with other Brownies. The Brownies have been working on the Express Myself Theme Award, where we have done activities including completing our Painting badge. As part of the Theme Award we had a go at miming and created a rainbow collage using a variety of materials. We also had a challenge night where we played lots of games in our Six. We are looking forward to continue working on Express Myself Theme Award next half term.

If your daughter is interested in joining 1st Elmore Brownies please contact Jenny on 1stelmorebrownies@gmail.com.

1st Elmore Guides

This term 1st Elmore Guides have returned to Elmore Village Hall for our meetings. We started off the term welcoming new Guides to the unit and doing some games. We took part in the Frampton Country Fair which returned this year for some fundraising, the day had a fantastic turn out and the weather was good too. Following Frampton Country Fair we did a Litter Pick in the car parks, we even had a mention on Radio Gloucestershire for the work we did to help clean up the litter. The Guides enjoyed a movie night with popcorn and hot chocolate at the Hall. We have also worked on UMAs from the Take Action and Have Adventures theme. We finished this half term with a Diwali evening and two Guides taking their promise. We are looking forward to more activities next half term including cooking and sewing.

If your daughter is interested in joining 1st Elmore Guides please contact Catherine and Louise on 1stelmore@gmail.com.

Bananas in Elmore

Paula Turner

We have been growing a banana plant for several years and each year it has provided us with lovely tropical foliage throughout the summer

months. Earlier this year we spotted an unusual growth on the largest stem and closer inspection revealed it was a flower with some tiny bananas growing behind it – how exciting!

Sadly we are not likely to get edible fruit from the plants with winter coming in, but we have discovered that you can eat the flowers and so we may have to try a Banana Blossom Curry, Chutney or even a Stir Fry!

I think everyone probably has their own favourite recipe for a banana cake but here is ours:

Fruited Banana Loaf

125g/4oz Butter

250g/8oz Self Raising Flour

175g/6oz Caster Sugar

125g/4oz Sultanas or Raisins

60g/2oz Walnuts - roughly chopped

125g/4oz Glace Cherries – rinsed, dried and quartered

2 Large Eggs – beaten

500g/1lb Mashed Banana

Variations – add the grated zest of a lemon or 1tsp of mixed spice for extra flavour

1. Preheat the oven to 160°C/325°F/gas mark 3.
2. Grease and line a 1kg/2lb loaf tin
3. Rub flour and butter together to resemble fine breadcrumbs
4. Add sugar, sultanas, walnuts and cherries. Mix well.
5. Add the eggs and banana and beat the mixture until well blended.
6. Spoon mixture in to the prepared tin
7. Bake for around 1.5 hours until well risen and firm to the touch. A fine skewer inserted in to the centre should come out clean.
8. Leave to cool slightly in the tin then turn out on to a wire rack and allow to cool completely before slicing and serving.

It is lovely on its own or spread with a little butter, especially with a nice cup of tea!

Otters On The River Severn

Samuel Turner

I have recently discovered the fulfilling pastime of otter watching along the side of the River Severn. Not only is it incredibly enjoyable and interesting, but also very good for your health- just an hour of walking can burn more than 300 calories!

A few weeks ago, some friends told me that there had been otters recently released into the River Severn, and that I could visit them if I wanted to; I need only walk the public footpath. I decided that it could be worthwhile, so one morning I got up early, packed myself some breakfast and some lunch, and set off down the footpath. Even before I saw the otters, I was already thrilled. The countryside can often be utterly beautiful - the flowers, the river, they all filled me with joy. As I sat down to eat my breakfast, I saw on the opposite riverbank a funny shape. It was rather like a rock, but with a head and ears. It turned its head and seemed to look straight at me. I then finally saw that it was an otter. After taking a few pictures, I kept walking and soon enough I came upon a few more seemingly sunbathing in what little sun there was.

Needless to say, when I got home I was brimming with excitement, so I decided to write this, to share this incredible hobby.

Village Hall Update

Hope this finds you safe and well.

I am pleased to announce that The Hall is now fully operational although still subject to some Covid rules.

EVH Management Committee met early this month, when we deferred discussion of plans for 2022 until our January meeting. Details will be in the next issue of **The Bridge**.

Regret to announce the closure of Elmore Bridge Club due to dwindling membership. As one of our original official 'user groups', the Club has been a fixture of Monday nights for many, many years. Thanks to Caroline Meek and her members, past and present, for their valuable contribution to the Village Hall.

Demand for space in our Hall for 2022 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.

Best wishes,

John (Hardisty), Chairman

Book Reviews from The Island Reading Group

Hamnet written by **Maggie O'Farrell**

Winner of Waterstones book of the year 2020

Hamnet is a fictionalised account of a real historical figure - Shakespeare's son Hamnet. It reconstructs the life and death of Hamnet, who dies aged 11, reportedly from Bubonic Plague. The central character however, is not Hamnet but his mother Agnes Shakespeare, known to us as Anne Hathaway.

Few biographical details exist about Shakespeare, especially about his wife and lost son. The writing, although fictional, brings the characters to life. Shakespeare is never named in the book, being referred to as "lodger, brother, husband, father and player" instead.

The story is a moving account of the family's tragedy, an exploration and acknowledgement of grief and pain and of family relationships. The story focuses on the bond between Hamnet and his twin sister and a marriage pushed to the brink through grief following Hamnet's death.

I found it to be a tender and unforgettable reimagining of a boy whose life has been all but forgotten but whose name was given to one of the most celebrated plays ever written. Shakespeare wrote Hamlet 4 years after Hamnet died.

The book celebrates the strength and fortitude of women. Shakespeare's wife Agnes is depicted as a powerful woman with exceptional gifts "it is said that she is strange, touched, peculiar, perhaps mad....collecting plants to make dubious potions....she is said to be too wild for any man".

The language is sometimes powerful in its simplicity, using commas to give it strength and meaning. A clear example of this being the

description of Hamnet's death "and there by the fire, held in the arms of his mother, in the room in which he learnt to crawl, to eat, to walk, to speak, Hamnet takes his last breath. He draws it in, he lets it out. There is silence, stillness. Nothing more".

In summary it is in my opinion a wonderful expression of intimate family relationships and is packed with tangible emotion, of grief, love and loss with the benefit of closing gaps in our knowledge of life of Shakespeare through story telling.

There were mixed reviews amongst the book club members, some giving the book high scores of 9/10 and others as low as 2/10! A mixed bag! I recommend you give it a try as I loved it and the powerful imagery will stay with me I'm sure.

The House of the Spirits written by **Isabel Allende**

The House of the Spirits is the unforgettable debut novel that established Isabel Allende as one of the world's most gifted and imaginative storytellers. It brings to life the triumphs and tragedies of three generations of the Treuba family, tracing the post-colonial social and political upheavals of Chile. The country's name and the names of the figures closely paralleling historical ones are, however, never explicitly given.

The patriarch, Esteban, is a volatile, proud man whose voracious pursuit of political power is tempered only by his love for his delicate wife, a woman with a mystical connection to the spirit world. When their daughter embarks on a forbidden love affair in defiance of her implacable father, the result is an unexpected gift to Esteban: his adored granddaughter, a beautiful, strong-willed child who will lead her family and her country into a revolutionary future.

The book was published in 1982 having been rejected by several Spanish language publishers and became an instant best-seller and one of the most important novels of the 20th century. It was made into a film in 2011 starring Jeremy Irons, Meryl Streep and Glenn Close - whilst the novel received great critical acclaim, the film was less successful. Comparisons with Gabriel Garcia Marquez aside, it is hard to review this book without reference to its brilliantly written story

which traces a country's exit from the old world and its entry into the global economy and political stage.

A Suggestion I am very interested to read both of these books and wonder if The Island Reading Group members would lend copies of their books to readers of **The Bridge** perhaps in exchange for a small charitable donation. THJ, editor

From the Citizens Advice Bureau

Smart Meters

Smart Meters are being talked about a great deal these days and many people are having telephone calls to encourage them to have one in place of their old meters.

If you would like to know more about smart meters and the in-home display unit and find out what assistance they might be – perhaps as a way to help monitor your use of electricity and gas and possibly save you some money – then contact Citizens Advice on Freephone 0808 800 0510/ 0808 800 0511.

As well as providing smart meter information, we can also discuss any other energy questions or concerns you may have.

Please note that eligibility of smart meters may vary and savings require consumer action.

Frampton Surgery Update

The Patient Participation Group continues to work with the surgery to improve the service and our latest update is below. We also want to take this opportunity to reassure you that there is no truth to the current rumour; there are no plans to close Frampton Surgery.

If you have any feedback or suggestions for improvement, please email myppg@framptononsevern.com.

Direct from the Surgery

Face-to-face appointments:

With the easing of restrictions nationally, we are looking at changing things again at the surgery to improve our patients' experience.

However, we must balance this with our responsibility towards our more vulnerable patients. Covid hasn't gone away and we need to be mindful that we have a duty to protect all our patients, including the most at risk. We have turned on the check-in screen again, located in the lobby in front of reception. If you have an appointment at the surgery, you can mark yourself as 'arrived' on the check-in screen and save waiting in the queue, if you are comfortable to do so. We still ask that you wear your mask to the surgery unless exempt and there is hand gel and spare masks at the front desk. We are still operating a one-way system through the surgery to minimise traffic at the front. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

We are offering some routine face to face GP appointments which can be booked up to 4 weeks in advance. They are staggered to prevent overcrowding in the waiting room. Urgent, same day appointments are being triaged first. Receptionists are trained in Information Governance and Patient Confidentiality. We ask Receptionists to get an indication of the problem as it helps the Clinicians to triage and deal with the most urgent priorities first.

Prescriptions:

The dispensary is as busy as ever and dispensed 6588 items in July and 6222 in June. Collection of prescriptions is still via front desk at present.

Practice nurse:

We have recently recruited a new Practice Nurse, Pam Klus, following the retirement of Alison Shaw. Pam has come from community nursing and has lots of experience in wound care and management.

Demand:

Whilst the waiting room may look serene, the workload has never been higher. Nationally, demand for GP appointments is up 31% since pre-pandemic. The reasons are multi-faceted and include the roll out of the Covid vaccine and delays to hospital treatment, leaving patients needing more input from us as they wait for longer periods of time for their treatment. Some demand is coming from an increase in the complexity

of patient conditions due to the pandemic and ongoing effects of the virus, including Long Covid.

Covid vaccinations:

We continue to work with our other Partners in the Severn Health Primary Care Network to deliver the Covid vaccine rollout. Over 50,000 Covid vaccines have been administered by our Network at the Beeches Green Hub since its inception, thanks to the hard work of all involved. We are still waiting to hear from the Government, JCVI and NHS England about this year's Flu programme and Covid booster roll out. We will continue to work at Beeches Green with our other Partners in this next phase and will contact all eligible patients as soon as we have more information.

Shingles vaccinations:

Shingles vaccines are available for anyone aged 70 and remains available to patients until their 80th birthday. More information on the vaccine can be found here: 1 <https://www.gponline.com/gp-appointments-31-compared-pre-pandemic-levels/article/1723523> <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/who-can-have-the-shingles-vaccine/>. If you would like to have the shingles vaccine, please phone reception on 01452 740213 to arrange an appointment.

Feedback:

We acknowledge that we do not always get things right, and as such, I would encourage anyone who has not been satisfied with the service they have received to contact us via email – frampton.surgery@nhs.net or letter, addressing it to the Practice Manager. We welcome all forms of feedback (including the positive!). Feedback is useful as it helps us to address issues that may not be working well. However, recently we have seen a lot of comments of dissatisfaction on Facebook. Whilst I can appreciate people's frustration, particularly when things haven't gone well, I would encourage you to contact us direct - or your Patient Participation Group - so we can properly deal with your concern. Posting comments on Facebook can have a demoralising effect on staff, particularly when they are personal. Following the death of Caroline Flack, the #bekind was trending on Twitter.

I can assure everyone that we are working hard to continue to provide and improve the service at Frampton. Wishing you all well for the Autumn.

Claire Farragher, Strategy Manager
Frampton & Stonehouse Practice Group

The Patient Participation Group (PPG) is a group of patients working with Frampton's GP surgery to help improve services.

Please get in touch if you have any feedback on services and we will continue to represent you. You can contact us by email

myppg@framptononsevern.com in confidence, or call Ali on 741988, or Jane on 740964.

ROTARY CLUB SEVERN VALE

Like so many community oriented organisations, recent months have presented many challenges in working with those in need and other like minded groups. However, throughout lockdown we have held regular meetings through ZOOM and honed our IT skills !

And now Severn Vale Rotary are back into their twice monthly breakfast meetings at The Whitminster Inn and have actively supported local events, including the recent Frampton Open Gardens. The Club has also arranged a Riverside Ramble at Arlingham in support of Longfield Hospice and enjoyed a social get together and picnic kindly hosted by David Merrett at Oldbury Farm.

Having recently accepted the role of Club President, Martin Greaves has set about galvanising us into post COVID action. As restrictions continue to be lifted we are now again developing and supporting various local initiatives.

Sunday 5th September saw our very successful Rotary annual motoring event "Route Seventy Severn Car Run". Despite a grey start to the day, the weather proved kind and a goodly number of veteran, vintage and interesting vehicles were enjoyed alike by drivers, passengers and spectators during their tour of Severn Vale and Cotswolds.

Plans are already in hand for this year's Christmas Carol Float and we look forward to everyone welcoming us and entering into the spirit of the season. Various competitions for the local youth are in hand, together the restoration of the kitchen garden at Lakefield School. Dates are also set for providing a much deserved day out at Frampton Sailing Club for Gloucestershire Young Carers, together with a new year collection of disused computers for refurbishment and distribution by a local charity.

Not losing sight of enjoying each other's company, our next social evening is a visit to Javelin Park Incinerator followed by supper in a local pub. Perhaps we'll see you there !

For information about events and our twice monthly breakfasts, please visit our website www.severnvalerotary.org.uk or contact keith.rog@hotmail.com

With very best wishes to all from members of Rotary Club of Severn Vale.

PS As this is being written one of our mature members will be celebrating his 80th Birthday walking Offa's Dyke raising funds for Spring Centre supporting young people with learning difficulties. Happy - *and safe* - returns Lloyd!

Copy Date for the next issue of The Bridge

Please get any copy to the editor on or before the date below.

Friday January 14th 2022

Copy is acceptable hand written or typed but is preferred by email. It is helpful if electronic contributions could be in Times New Roman font, size 12 and with no spacing between lines.

Editor: Trevor Jones

Email: rosecottage1818@gmail.com

Tel: 01452 722034

The Next Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday 7th December 2021 at 7pm in the Village Hall. All welcome.

**Parish Council Website is www.elmoreparish.co.uk
or just put Elmore Parish Council into your search engine**

Chairman: Nick Meek		mobile 07739654921	
John Field	Until 7th Dec 21	mobile 07519651547	
Jane Hill		mobile 07747767986	
Mike Hodge		mobile 07446842931	
Vince Meredith		mobile 07951199313	

Mrs D Jones, Clerk to Elmore Parish Council
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Parish Council Meetings 2022

March 2022	Tuesday 1 st March 7pm	
May 2022	Tuesday 24 th May 7pm	2 x Annual Meetings
September 2022	Tuesday 20 th September 7 pm	
December 2022	Monday 5 th December 7 pm	