

ELMER SANDS NEWS

Issue Number Thirty-three September 2014

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“Elmer Sands could lose its unique community events, can you help?!”

Back in the late 40s at the beginning of Elmer Sands, when it was a holiday home estate, a few like minded people got together because they liked to fish and go out in boats. By the 50s the club was beginning to thrive. Fishing became competitive and trophies were given to the club for prizes. At this time they also took over the ramshackle Elmer Club, renaming it ‘The Cabin Club’, this became the headquarters for social events. There were parties to celebrate the start and end of the season and numerous dances. They also opened the putting green (now our sports field) which in its day was extremely popular. Eventually of course the club went into a decline, fashions

changed, and people moved or just got tired however the fishing and boating continued. Then new people arrived and different kinds of social events were held, this cycle continuing till the present day. In the last couple of decades the club took over Guy Fawkes Night, followed by the Christmas festivities. Recently the fireworks display has been replaced by a Halloween Party. We’ve had the fun of Annual Regattas with bath tub races and the Fete and Hog Roast.

This year however ESBAC has decided with great sadness and regret that they will not be hosting a fete and hog roast next year. The insurance costs for the club are such that the fete and hog roast do not make any profit for the club to fund other events, and it has become increasingly difficult to get people to assist with both the planning and on the day. Although there was a fair turnout this year, the club has decided that they

cannot continue as things are.

ESBAC feel they really can’t do things without more members and support. So, do you like fishing and boats? Have some free time on your hands or are new to the estate and would like to meet new people? Do you have young children who love the beach or just love it yourself? And you don’t even have to fish or own a boat to join; you can be a social member only. Why not consider joining ESBAC?

For any further information please contact the **Club Secretary on 01243 587550**

IMPORTANT: PLEASE CHECK THAT YOUR WATER BUTTS ARE EMPTY NOW!

As we head into autumn please ensure capacity is available to take up any sudden heavy rain.

There are a few free water butts left. Residents who would like one should contact the Secretary on 01243 584900. First come first served!

Elmer Sands Emergency Contingency Plan.

In this edition you will find a copy of the Elmer Sands Emergency Plan.

After the exceptional rainfall and subsequent flooding of the Estate in June 2012, it seemed sensible to be prepared for any emergency that might occur in the future. It was clear that as well as being able to contact the emergency services we needed a hotline to Arun District Council to ensure that all the agencies knew what was happening in Elmer Sands from the onset (unfortunately in June 2012 as we were cut off completely and all help phone lines were busy, no one knew the situation for most of the first day).

With this in mind, a small group of us decided to put in place a basic Emergency Plan so that we would have that hotline. Hopefully we will never have to use it but at least now procedures have been put in place to enable us to access appropriate help immediately.

There is also Elmer Sands Emergency Contingency Plan which you might like to read and/or download on the Elmer Sands website. This gives information about how to get weather warnings, which agencies help with what, self support, what property owners can do to be prepared for an emergency and property protection.

MIDDLETON POSTCARDS

A week or so ago a friend brought to my attention a

website which might be of interest to some of you.

David Garn and his wife Carolyn have been regular visitors to Elmer since 1972. In 1991 they decided to move to the area permanently so purchased a railway carriage house on Ancton Way, moving again in 1998 to a house in The Layne where they could be closer to the sea but still part of the community. They now live in Southdean Drive but still have a great love for Elmer Sands.

During all of this time, they were learning about the local history and discovered that old postcards were a great source of information. David says, "My collection has been built up over many years, although the advent of the Internet has helped me find suitable pictures from further afield. I am not a postcard collector, but I am collecting local history. Not surprisingly, my particular interests are the Elmer Sands Estate and the Southdean area since the days when it became an aircraft factory in 1910. *All information about these and copies of old reference material would be gratefully received!*"

David can be contacted through his website <http://middletonpostcards.webp.us.net>

Internet Connection Problems?

If you are suffering from poor or slow internet connections and are looking for fast and cheap alternatives please contact Elmer Sands resident Jamie via the email below. Jamie has advice and information that may be of interest to you jmeadams@hotmail.co.uk

Speeding

Residents are reminded that for reasons of safety the Estate observes a 15mph max speed limit throughout, reducing down to 5mph over the speed humps. There have been complaints and concerns that vehicles are far exceeding these restrictions causing danger to pedestrians, children and pets. Please note registrations and if possible addresses and report incidents to the ESL Office so they can be followed up as necessary.



Dog Fouling

As always, we bring your attention to the issues with dog fouling throughout the Estate. Please do your best to report offenders to Arun's Dog Wardens tel: 01903 737679. ESL continues to try and highlight the problems, erecting signs etc but this is a community issue which needs to be collectively addressed. **REMEMBER DOG WASTE IS A SERIOUS HEALTH HAZARD.**

Parking Management

Elmer Sands is unique! We enjoy clear wide open roads with neat green verges and common spaces to play, sit and relax. We can walk freely along the roads and verges, use mobility scooters, teach our children to ride a bike. The view is great and this unique space is reflected in our

property values and people's increased desire to live here. The Elmer Sands Council continues to manage a parking control system to preserve this special environment for Members. We ask for your support and encouragement to keep the parking situation well managed. The rules may seem officious to some residents but we need to have a set of rules in place to make sure that the parking doesn't get out of hand and ruin our experience of living here. Once upon a time the properties were just for holidays, now the majority are large family homes with many additional vehicles. We need to try and accommodate these changes without clogging up the roadways causing nuisance and damage. Please read the leaflet that is being distributed with this Newsletter. If there is anything you don't understand contact the Secretary who will be happy to answer your queries. Copies of ESL Parking Policy and Questions and Answers Leaflet are available on the website www.elmersands.co.uk Please make sure you familiarise yourself with this information to avoid penalty ticketing. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.**

Elmer Road resurfacing

The poor state of the Elmer Road surface was raised at the ESL AGM and ESL followed this up by raising this concern with West Sussex County Council. Their reply said that they *"could not simply arrange to resurface the road based on a single request as we receive many thousands of similar requests from around the County"*. As a result it was thought that it would be better if we could demonstrate the strength of feeling by getting as many of you as possible to support the request by writing a letter asking that Elmer Road is resurfaced.

To make this as easy for you as possible we have enclosed a standard letter with this newsletter and if you wish to be associated with this request please complete the letter with your name, address and signature and return it to the ESL office at 23 Arundel Way. Your letter will then be bundled with all the others and presented to WSCC in support of our request.

In addition if there is a pothole or section of the Elmer Road that you consider particularly dangerous why not take a photograph and add a report via Love West Sussex, a simple quick and efficient way to report any issue on and around the roads.

<http://love.westsussex.gov.uk/reports>



Some parts of the Elmer Sands estate are covered by the

Neighbourhood Watch scheme. This operates with volunteers who receive weekly communications by email from the police of activities across Bognor Regis that may be of interest. We are fortunate in that these rarely relate to our estate, however when appropriate the volunteers pass this information on to those within their road or location perhaps every month or two unless the message is urgent.

The volunteers can also advise on security matters and be a point of contact if you have any concerns about callers at your home. We currently have several Neighbourhood Watch volunteers in Ancton Way, Farm Close, Sea Lane, Stable Fields, and The Layne, however we would like to encourage representatives in all roads so that the whole estate community is represented. This need not take much time and if you would like more information contact **Sandra tel. 07973 330276**



CHRISTMAS TREE CHIP

Anticipating the need to dispose of your Christmas trees we are offering a **FREE** service to chip your tree for easy disposal. This is an environmentally friendly process. We will retain the chip, which we can use for fuel and garden mulch.

We will set up locally at a specific location that will be confirmed nearer the time, along with the date. Be on the lookout for notices on the Estate Notice Boards.

The team hopes to see you soon. Any questions in the meantime don't hesitate to contact us by email or telephone.

roundtoptrees@gmail.com Mobile: 07788200968 Landline: 01243 583643



Garden Bonfires

ESL received some complaints about nuisance bonfires on the Estate throughout the summer. Whilst it is permitted for residents to have bonfires, they should not create a nuisance to neighbouring properties. If you have a complaint or query contact Arun District Council Environmental Health Dept by telephone on 01903 737826. "To create smoke which is a nuisance to the inhabitants of the neighbourhood may result in prosecution" (*Environmental Health Protection Act 1990*).

Beach Defences

The coast between Elmer Sands and Littlehampton is one of the few stretches of beach where farm land runs down to the beach and therefore very special. This stretch of coast, including Elmer Sands, is unfortunately at risk from erosion and sea flooding if not managed effectively.

The Environment Agency along with Elmer Sands has been working to provide a strategy to manage this risk over the next few decades.

With this in mind a bid was made for £500,000 for repairs to the Elmer Sands sea defences. It was clear from the beginning a contribution from the Estate would increase our chances of success so a number of applications have been made to try to find additional funding - these have so far proved unsuccessful, and it may be necessary to make a contribution from existing reserves.

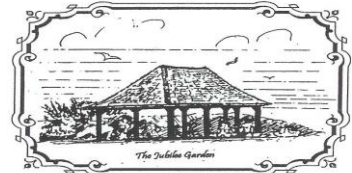
However there is some good news as the Environment Agency has agreed to start the sea defence project immediately this year, having made £50,000 available. It is hoped that the remainder will be approved to be spent next year. We will be announcing the measures that will be undertaken very shortly on the notice boards.

And finally we are pleased to announce that the Flood Defence Grant in Aid bid we prepared last year to outline the options for a surface water alleviation scheme has successfully received sufficient funding to enable

the project to move forward.

Meanwhile, in the coming months if you see anything that gives you any concern, please take photographs and send them to the Secretary.

Welcome to



Elmer Sands

**HAVE YOU RECENTLY
MOVED TO
ELMER SANDS?**

Please contact the Estate Office and register yourselves as new owner/s of the property

CONTACT DETAILS
secretary@elmersands.co.uk
www.elmersands.co.uk

Registered Office
23 Arundel Way, Elmer
Sands, PO22 6JH
Tel: 01243 584900



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