

ELMER SANDS NEWS

Issue Number Twenty-five Sept 2010

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25TH SILVER ANNIVERSARY EDITION

It's ten years and 25 editions since the first Elmer Sands News was delivered headed "New century - New energy!"

In the first edition we reported on the grand opening of the children's playground, the first meeting of the Neighbourhood Watch scheme, included a questionnaire as to how residents wanted to celebrate the Golden Jubilee and Geoff Matcham called on everyone to write to Southern Water over the inadequacies of the sewage infrastructure advising residents among other things to, in the event of flooding, "rescue the goldfish" and "If you are fortunate to own a dinghy, keep it tethered near the back door".

It is with great sadness that we acknowledge the loss of Geoff after a long illness. He was a good kind man, with a great sense of humour who devoted much of his time to

the local community including many years serving as a Director of Elmer Sands Ltd.

When he was not among other things working, fixing cars, fundraising for the scout hall or the new church hall he was involved from the beginning, as most of you will know, in the campaign to get something done about the problems with The Hard pumping station. Well, campaigns can take a long time but eventually chinks of light start to appear and most of those are as a direct result of Geoff's hard work.

There are a number of people who are determined to finish off what he started but at this moment our thoughts go out to his wife Cilla and family. Geoff is not only a great loss to his family and friends but also a great loss to our community.

"The chinks of light"

I know it's not much consolation to those of you who had to wade through flooding after the 2 inches of rain on the 9th November but things are starting to happen.

Southern Water commissioned a review of all its information in January 2010 while OFWAT carried out independent investigations. The result was a number of recommendations. Some have already been carried out; others are ongoing and will carry on throughout the winter and coming spring.

Also, this year a Surface Water Management Plan was formed between Elmer Sands, Southern Water, the Environment Agency, Arun District Council and West Sussex County Council to investigate the Estate's problems. So far there have been three meetings.

Couple this with the recent work, which has been carried out by your ESL Council to ensure that our surface water drainage system is up to current standards, and the Estate infrastructure is and will be in a much better condition to cope in the coming months.

Problem with flooding/drains/toilets? Red beacon flashing?

Please keep taking photos and log the event with **Southern Water on 0845 278 0845** This code can be used when reporting the beacon to help SW pinpoint the station - **100330 at post code PO22 6JS** (ask for a **CSMS No.** Customer Services Management Action Number)

Important! If you know of sewage discharging into the sea contact the **EA pollution hotline 0800 80 70 60**

If you have any time after that little lot we are compiling a Diary of Events
Email: Esag1@hotmail.co.uk
or through
www.facebook.com listed under **Elmer Sewage Action Group - Thank you**

For information on who owns the sewers the following link explains responsibility <http://www.southernwater.co.uk/DomesticCustomers/whoOwnsTheSewers/default.asp>

Do ESL Members want our Estate to be a designated 'No Cold Calling Zone'?

This question has arisen at the last two General Meetings.

Following mixed views from Members and the amount of work required to set up this type of Scheme, the ESL Council has been reluctant to take this initiative forward at the present time.

Individual Members who feel they would like to take this further at any stage are encouraged to investigate the options available to them as individuals first and then to research details of the 'No Cold Calling Zone' Scheme via the Trading Standards.

www.tradingstandards.gov.uk

Customer Advice Helpline
tel: 0845 404 0506

Estate Management Fee Reminder

Notices for the 2011 fees will be distributed to homeowners in late November/early December. If you haven't already paid your fees for this year, please arrange to make your payment as soon as possible. Members who are having difficulty making the payments should contact the Estate Office to discuss the options available to them.

It is very important to ensure that your property has continued membership to ESL to avoid incurring additional maintenance charges.



Dog Mess Threat to Children

Thoughtless Dog owners should be made aware of **Toxocariasis** which is a potentially deadly infection caused by parasitic worms found in dog mess, which can ultimately spread to the brain causing death.

A recent case was reported of a child who wiped her eye after accidentally touching dog mess left in the Park. The child could subsequently lose her eye and if the infection had been left untreated it could have killed her.

Please report dog fouling incidents immediately to the Dog Warden tel: 01903 737679.

HELP STOP ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR ON OUR ESTATE

Just recently there have been a number of reports of people being intimidated by a small group of, what can only be described as jobs, on the estate. It appears that anti-social behaviour has come to Elmer Sands.

It's clear that we need to adopt a zero tolerance for this behaviour - we don't want it on our estate - so it needs a concerted effort by residents to remove the problem. A lot of people don't bother to report incidents in the belief that

nothing will happen but they **must phone the police**. (The more reports Clive, our PCSO gets, the easier it will be for him to address the problem.

PLEASE HELP BY REPORTING INCIDENTS TO:

**Neighbourhood Policing,
Bognor Regis:**

Tel: 0845 60 70 999

**Arun Crime and Disorder
Reduction Partnership:**

Tel: 01243 843412

And hopefully we won't lose sight of the fact that the majority of young people – hoodie wearing or not – are normal good kids who work hard at school/college and are a credit to their parents!

We can all help by:

- Ensuring our children do not play ball games in the road or act in an unsafe or anti-social manner
- Make use of the purpose built facilities provided for us
- Comply with highways laws
- Respect our neighbours
- Complete incident diaries and report incidents of concern to the Police
- Take shared responsibility and work together as a community

The ESL Council is currently working in partnership with the Police Services, Neighbourhood Watch, Arun Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership and the Estate's contracted Security Services in an effort to resolve issues of concern.

SEAWEED REPORT

Thank you to all of you that passed on information regarding the seaweed situation. Many calls to the Environment Agency & Council were made between June & August but no solution was offered by either bodies. The EA stand is that the problem is one of greater global impact across the south & the seaweed is usually swept back out naturally with the force of the tides, obviously our tides do not have quite the same impact due to the Rock Islands. The general reply was that the height of seaweed build up would need to be in the region of 6-8ft and be in danger of falling on someone before the EA would take any action to remove!! Due to the poor weather we had in August the seaweed did actually disperse much more quickly this year but never the less I will once again be on the case next year so any further information is always welcomed.

Lucy Grout (Director ESL)

Ode to a bin liner or What a load of rubbish!

It's Wednesday morning, I want to curse
The streets are lined with wheelies
But do you know what makes it worse?
Bags leaking nappies and peelings

Putting out rubbish the night before
Thin plastic bags don't last
Scavenging foxes having a gnaw
Gulls flocking round for

breakfast
Whilst walking the dog he yanks on his lead
And shoves his nose in the muck
I pull him away and start to plead
"Rover, drop it!" - No such luck

How about putting the bags in a bin
Or leaving it all till morning
Seeing it strewn down the street is a sin
And should carry a Government warning!
Yvonne Trotter

Advertising Opportunity for local Trades and Services!

Are you living on the Estate or locally and offer a trade or service? You may wish to have your name and contact number included on the Elmer Sands Website.

ESL is planning to set up a new page on the Company Website, listing local trades and services to assist Members who are trying to find assistance close to home, such as gardeners, therapists, electricians etc.

If you are interested in having your name and service included on our listing, please contact the ESL Secretary www.secretary@elmersands.co.uk

There will be a £20 annual fee charged per contact number

The ESL Newsletter and notice boards will publicise the facility on a regular basis

Residents Letters

Please send your letters via ESL's Secretary (for details see back page).

There is a family of foxes scavenging around the estate. Please do not feed them. They are leaving large beef bones in our garden. The large birds in our garden are being killed; they are digging up our plants and knocking over dustbins. How long before the foxes start killing our cats or attack a child? The fox is a wild animal not dependant on us for food.

Name & address supplied

Plea from Residents of Kingsmead Road and Lane End Road

ESL has received a request from homeowners, asking if visitors to the Elmer Sands Estate would kindly refrain from parking outside their properties in Kingsmead and Lane End Roads, as it is making access difficult.

FASTER BROADBAND?

BT is surveying the demand to install the latest Fibre Optic internet in local exchanges but will only upgrade exchanges where demand exists.

The latest Fibre Optic technology will dramatically improve internet broadband speeds.

Make sure our local exchanges are Voted for by placing your vote on their website NOW!! Otherwise Middleton will NOT be upgraded.

Their website is at – www.racetoinfinity.bt.com



ESBAC Would like to thank every one that has helped and taken part in the events over the past year. We are very pleased that we can hold events that support our community.

We have more fun events coming up in the year ahead including Plant swap, Raft Race day and our annual Hog Roast. Please look out for posters and flyers for more information.

For further information please contact the Club Secretary,
Jude Williams on tel: 582980

Estate Security and Parking Patrols Update

Elmer Sands Limited has changed its Security provider to: Assured Facilities Ltd
The management of Parking continues to be carried out by: Ethical Group Limited

Assured Facilities Ltd and Ethical Group Ltd are partner companies and as such they are able to combine the security patrols and

cost effective service for our Members. Both services have been instructed to target specific problem areas and provide regular incident reports to ESL. A patrol vehicle visits the Estate at least twice daily throughout the year, including Bank Holidays. Patrol times are varied.

Members will be aware that a law to ban wheel clamping on privately owned land is likely to be passed in the coming months. However, residents and visitors should be aware that until the law is passed **WHEEL CLAMPING is still in effect on the Estate.**

There is a full 'questions and answers' leaflet available on-line www.elmersands.co.uk, or from the Estate Office.

It is important that all residents are aware of the rules for parking on the Estate to avoid being issued with penalties

Non-Members are not permitted to park on the common areas, roads or verges owned by ESL at any time. During routine patrols, Ethical Group Ltd has been instructed to specifically target non-members and issue penalty tickets.

THANK YOU - The ESL Council would like to thank the Members

It is greatly appreciated that Members have been taking the time to manoeuvre vehicles to keep the roadways and verges as clear as possible. We have already seen a marked improvement to the condition of the roads and verges and to the safety and access for road users.

HOW TO CONTACT ELMER SANDS LTD (ESL)

Please route all queries through the Estate Office
23 Arundel Way, Elmer Sands, PO22 6JH
tel: 01243 584900

e-mail: secretary@elmersands.co.uk

Please do not make house-calls without a prior appointment

NEW RESIDENTS, please get in touch for your 'welcome pack'

www.elmersands.co.uk



For all of your property needs including Estate Agency, Property Management, Valuations, Development Appraisals and Planning

Professional, reliable, and local staff.

133 Elmer Road, Middleton on Sea, West Sussex, PO22 6HY
Telephone 01243 582388 www.buntingestates.co.uk

parking management of the Estate to provide a thorough and for their continued support with the parking management scheme.

BUNTING + CO
Estate Agents and Chartered Surveyors