

# ELMER SANDS NEWS

Issue Number Seventeenth March 2007

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# HAPPY 70th BIRTHDAY!

**This spring we celebrate 70 years of Elmer Sands Limited.** The estate has gone through a lot since its inception, including hurricanes, droughts, flooding, and a World War. Many things have changed over the years, as examples houses are bigger, there are more cars and we are not a community of holiday homes anymore. We still however shape our own destiny, run as we are by volunteers from amongst the residents, of that we should be proud –thanks are due to all of them. Their work has ensured that Elmer Sands is the solvent, well run and most of all, attractive place it is today!

Last year the Council carried on with its ongoing programme of work. Maintenance work has included grass-cutting, tree surgery, updating footpath signage, re-setting bollards and various other ad-hoc jobs. A new area of shingle garden was also created at the beach access.

The Annual Road survey was carried out followed by some road surface repairs and the installation of new speed ramp in Elm Drive. Continued vigilance has been maintained with regards to monitoring and policing parking offences by introducing a new process for parking complaints and a Mobile Response Wheel Clamping Service, targeting beach access and the surrounding area.

A very important area is always the estates drains and sewage

system. The yearly program of, inspections and clearance has been carried out, as well as some general investigations. There has also been continued liaison with local Authorities re our overloaded sewage infrastructure and with Technical representatives from Southern Water to discuss a 20-week monitoring process.

Security has always been high on the list of priorities. Regular security patrols have continued throughout the year, reinforced on summer weekends by the uniformed security guard on the gate. Neighbourhood Watch continues, due to the hard work of resident Peter Appleyard, who deserves all our thanks!

Another important achievement in 2006 was the complete Registration of all ESL land with HM Land Registry.

This is just a selection of some of the work, which has taken place on your behalf. For a full list please consult the 'Council of Managements Annual Report.'

Thank you to the Council, Shirley Brown, Ollie Burrows-Patrick, Len Chappell, Jenny Clark, Brian Dean, Pat Eager, Kevin Green, Louise Hague, Louise McMurchie, Bernie Moore, Paula Puleston, Mike Richards, Colin Rogers and Malcolm Woods. Thanks should also go to Nigel Sampson of 'Greenbelt', which is very much a family run business, who continue to keep the estate in good order.

Most importantly however, I think we should thank Belinda Wells, our Treasurer and Kim Edden our Secretary, who work tirelessly to keep things running smoothly.

*Linda Smith*

## **PLANT A TREE THIS SPRING!**

Elmer Sands Conservation Volunteers would like to invite you to plant a tree for the grand price of a donation to our tree fund. We have a stock of trees from which residents can make a selection. Please ask the secretary for more information.

*Elmer Sands Conservation Group*

## **Beach Cleanup**

If you enjoy the beach why not help to clean it up for the summer! Meet at the Kiosk, Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March, 10.00 am. All volunteers welcome!

**ESL Annual General Meeting will be held on Monday 23rd April 2006 at the Jubilee Hall in Middleton-on-Sea, doors open at 5.45pm for registration, prompt start at 6.15pm. Please bring your membership card with you.**

**Take a Seat on the Committee**  
There are available spaces on the ESL Committee and now is the time to come forward if you wish to be nominated or nominate someone to join the Committee in April 2007. All ESL Members are eligible to stand. See enclosed flyer for more details or contact the Secretary on 01243 584900.



### SINCE 06 Annual General Meeting

Prior to the AGM I agreed terms of reference for the job of Elmer Sands AREA co-ordinator with the then chairman Kevin Green. Since then we have lost five co-ordinators but have gained six, making seventeen co-ordinators in all.

On the minus side it has taken ten months to get a replacement co-ordinator for Arundel Way. We are now only without a co-ordinator for Elm Drive. I sincerely hope that this will not be another ten months. I suppose **apathy** is the word for it all.

On the plus side I am pleased to welcome Lisa Corrigan as the new co-ordinator for Arundel Way. Lisa is a busy person with both family and business commitments but she was still able to offer her services. To help distribute Police information Lisa wishes to use email where possible, this is unfortunately not yet working.

I carried out a survey in Arundel Way in September and one of the statistics was that at least half of the residents have on line PC's. Email would cut down on some of the fliers and legwork. Please could those who have not yet contacted Lisa do so. **Help us to help you!** (Contact the Secretary of you have lost the address)

Problem areas are now Elm Drive, with no co-ordinator and Sussex Court who at the present are not interested.

### THE POLICE

We were introduced to our first Police Community Support Officer at the AGM. He

did a lot of good work, but made a sudden departure, since then there has been two more. Now we have CLIVE MORGE who is making his presence felt. Toby Florescu is in Felpham and he has been involved with Clive's training.

Mike Thompson has now taken over as the Crime Protection Co-ordinator for Bognor Regis and is coming up with a lot of good ideas. I expect Mike and Clive to join us for a co-ordinators get together early in March.

### PROBLEMS at ELMER SANDS

On the whole the problems have been generally anti social behaviour and vandalism. Under age drinking has also figured.

Some members of the Estate have been troubled with unauthorised callers. Trading standards are running a scheme to try to overcome this. A lot of our residents are displaying these notices and they seem to help. We are using the scheme on the Estate without formally accepting it.

### WHAT NEXT

There are seventeen co-ordinators looking after the neighbourhood watch on YOUR estate. We could all be doing other things but we all feel that neighbourhood watch is making life a little more pleasant and more difficult for burglars. We are all concerned for the vulnerable and are doing our best.

We now need more co-operation from you the residents. I am sure many of you are experiencing reduced house insurance because of being part of the scheme.

We need co-ordinators for Elm Drive and also back up for most other areas. This is your chance to become involved.

I will close with my thanks to all our co-ordinators.

Without them there would be no Neighbourhood Watch.

*Peter Appleyard-  
Area Co-ordinator-Elmer Sands  
Phone 587931  
peter@appleyardg.fsnet.co.uk*

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### **In answer to Residents concerns over sights detrimental to the neighbourhood**

In response to complaints regarding the condition of some frontages of properties on the Estate, ESL would like to clarify that these issues are for the individual neighbours affected to follow up and are not as such, Company business\*.

The Town & Country Planning Act contains a law to protect neighbours from 'eye sores' detrimental to the neighbourhood and individuals should route their concerns through either Arun District Council's Environmental Health Department tel: 01903 737686 or the West Sussex County Council tel: 01243 777100 who have a 'Street Scene' Officer. Both local authorities can offer help and advice on the law and the correct complaints procedure to follow.

The general appearance of the Estate is dictated by the way in which individuals keep the front of their properties. Thanks to all those residents who keep theirs looking smart!

*\*Please note: Where a breach of covenant and/or breach of district planning requirements are likely to significantly affect the amenities of the Estate or pose a threat to the environment of the Estate, ESL will become involved and represent the collective interests of its members.*

## Parking on Estate Roads and Verges

Please use the enclosed parking form to report non-compliant parking around the Estate. In order to take the appropriate action, ESL very much relies on its members to report persistent problems.

## FOOTPATH 829

Readers will remember the ongoing saga of trying to secure an official public footpath in the field margin between Poole Place and Climping Car Park. The Planning Inspectorate has advised us that there will be a formal enquiry on 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> September 2007. Further details to follow. Thanks to every one who has supported this application so far.

A **Coastal Defence Strategy** meeting was held on 21<sup>st</sup> Nov 2006. In attendance were Roger Spencer, Arun District Council and Andrew Gilham, Environment Agency. Louise Hague, ESL and David Eastlake represented Elmer Sands. EA and ADC were present to inspect the sea defence at Sea Lane Estate and to give a general update. Just to make clear how it works ADC are responsible for Low line areas of defence and EA are responsible for High line (i.e. Sea walls). They both agreed that the beach was not healthy and existing defences are fairly old, however patches were fair and both groins and the sea wall need attention. The main problem was funding. When asked directly about CDS in terms of shingle replenishment on Elmer, they reported that it is monitored regularly as well as after storm activity and that funding is available for the next 5 years for ESL frontage. Work is due on both sides of the River Arun, although work due in other parts of the country are currently being

## Extracts from the ESA Hon. Secretary's Report AGM 1933

"During the past year your committee have met six times. In addition to these full meetings various sub-committees have met on several occasions. The attendance at the Committee meetings has been excellent averaging over 75%".

"The Membership of the Association is 96, an increase of 29 during the year. This is not satisfactory. Every individual owner on the estate should be a member. It must be evident to everybody that the activities of the Association have very materially increased the amenities of the Estate and it is unfair that the work entailed and expense incurred should be borne by a section only when every owner benefits. I trust that every owner present here today who is not a member will come forward and join".

"The principal work which engaged the attention of the Committee during the last year was the repair of the roads. I should like to say however that the work in connection with the assessments was very great indeed"

"A second addition of the Estate Magazine was published last August and thanks go to Mr Cummin. May I urge members to give more assistance to the editor in this work. Many of you could contribute articles or items of useful information and if you will only drop a line to Mr Cummin on any point which you think might interest members"

"Another highly successful Sports Meeting was held on the sands on August 28<sup>th</sup> when some 130 children completed for the handsome prizes subscribed for by generous donations. These sports were followed by tennis and golf tournaments which I am sure were enjoyed by all"

"It is with regret that I have to hand in my resignation as Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, but I find my business will not allow of my giving the time to adequately carry out the duties entailed. I have acted as Secretary since the first meeting at Sutton in November 1931 and it has been a great pleasure to work under your committee, the members of which have always given me their wholehearted support. I am not going to pretend that the job has been a light one and whilst I have done my best I may quite frankly say that it could have been done more thoroughly by a man with more time to devote to it". *ESA Hon Sec 1933*

**A bit of history from 74 years ago, which shows us that not much has changed over the years, although Elmer Sands Limited does have around 350 registered members as oppose to 96. As the Hon. Secretary said in 1933, it would of course be fairer if every single household made a contribution. The voluntary Committee members of today meet at least 10 times per year rather than 6, and all the while the sub-committees continue with tasks behind the scenes. We do have to pay for Secretarial services these days, as clearly the job was a bit too demanding for a volunteer even in 1933. The Newsletter can boast its 17<sup>th</sup> edition in 7 years, with thanks to our Editors, Linda and Shirley and the Elmer Sands Boating and Angling Club keeps the social and sporting events alive for us all to enjoy.**

bypassed due to lack of funding making CDS more reactive currently than proactive to everyone's frustration.

Defra (<http://www.defra.gov.uk>) publishes info on research and development for flood strategies as does the Environment Agency (<http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk>) so keep up to date and look at the plans and research yourself. If we make our beach a priority maybe they will too.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2007

**Beach Cleanup 24<sup>th</sup> March**  
**AGM 23<sup>rd</sup> April**  
**Barn Dance 30<sup>th</sup> June**  
**Regatta 25 August**  
**Summer Fete 26 August**  
**Hog Roast 26 August**



This year we celebrate 60 years of ESBAC, a splendid achievement considering it was started because a few like-minded characters, with a desire to fish, organised themselves into a club. It's worth getting hold of a copy of 'A short history of the first fifty years' by Reg and Joyce Came, an account of how the club started and its development through the years.

They write, "By 1948 there were still shortages; food, clothes and petrol were still rationed and the legacy of the sea defences still presented some hazard to boat crews and to bathers. On the credit side there were aircraft wrecks offshore which provided homes for interesting marine life from eels to lobsters. The main objective was to get onto the sea and fish from a boat. In those early years a good catch from a boat could almost be guaranteed as opposed to beach fishing, which was regarded as a poor substitute. The number of boats with outboard engines was on the increase and quite a number of these were "Seagull" engines that were surplus stock from the war. There were no Japanese engines

then! Nobody had lifejackets! They were for professionals and pansies!"

Such were the beginnings of ESBAC, health and safety would have had a coronary! We learn that at that time there were twenty-six members of which fifteen paid for boat berths, which were lined up by the fence above the high tide mark.

Over the years the membership grew and the club branched out into organising social events. For a while ESBAC took over the ramshackle Elmer Club, renaming it "The Cabin Club", using it as its headquarters. They organised old time dancing, club dinner dances, the putting green, Regattas, fetes, the hog roast, Guy Fawkes night, followed by the Christmas festivity. In more modern times they have held a Halloween party and this year a barn dance in celebration of its 60 years.

There are currently seventy-one families with membership taking approximately thirty boat berths. They still host a number of social events, but at the end of the day the club centres around its sailing and fishing activities. The sound of an air horn starting races regularly punctuates a Sunday afternoon. A flotilla of small boats

bobbing about between the rock islands is a regular sight of a weekend. We must be fairly unique as private estates go to be privileged to have our own boat club. Thanks for all you have given Elmer Sands, Happy Birthday ESBAC!

*Linda Smith*

The next boat club events are:

**Saturday 30 June – Barn Dance** to celebrate 60 years of ESBAC (The Kiosk)

**Saturday 25 August– Regatta '07** (Elmer Sands Beach)

**Sunday 26 August– Summer Fete** (Kiosk, Elmer Sands)

**Sunday 26 August – Hog Roast** (Kiosk, Elmer Sands)

For further information on ESBAC please contact the Club Secretary,  
Jo Hedderly on tel: 586066

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The Company Secretary  
Please route any queries through the Company Secretary, who can be contacted by phone, e-mail or in writing, at

**23 Arundel Way, Elmer Sands, PO22 6JH. Tel: 584900**

[kimедden@btopenworld.com](mailto:kimедden@btopenworld.com)

**NO house calls please.**

**NEW RESIDENTS-** If you have not received your Welcome Pack please contact the Secretary.

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