

Elmbridge review

The official newsletter of Elmbridge Borough Council

September 2018



WWI commemorations in Elmbridge in numbers

13 
War memorials in Elmbridge

27,000 
Wounded New Zealand soldiers were cared for at Mount Felix Hospital in Walton-on-Thames during WWI.

11 
Commemorative poppy bikes decorated by local community groups are on display around Elmbridge until the end of November 2018

1, 
Beacons of light will be lit at 7pm on 11 November 2018 throughout the UK and UK Overseas Territories to mark the end of WWI



Elmbridge
Borough Council
... bridging the communities ...

Elmbridge remembers

One hundred years ago, Surrey and Elmbridge played their part in the first global war between modern, industrial nations. It was a war which called for previously unthinkable sacrifices by the county's people, young and old, rich and poor.

2014 saw the centenary of the start of the First World War (WW1) and the beginning of a four-year programme to mark the national commemoration of WW1. Locally, we supported that commemoration with 'Elmbridge Remembers' – a programme of both Council-run and community events and projects. Elmbridge Remembers is now in its last year and there are numerous events, exhibitions and projects to remember those who sacrificed their lives during WW1.

What to look out for around the Borough:

- **Elmbridge Poppy Bikes:** at the end of July 2018, 11 poppy bikes decorated by local community groups were on display on roundabouts around Elmbridge.
- **WW1 Flowerbed:** a commemorative raised flowerbed was designed by visitors to Elmbridge's seven Centres for the Community and planted in Churchfields Recreation Ground, Weybridge.
- **100 Years of the Great War: commemoration of WW1 Centenary Exhibition – August 2018 to December 2018** at the Civic Centre, Esher

For further information on the Elmbridge WW1 commemorations or to register your event, please visit elmbridge.gov.uk/elmbridge-remembers.

Welcome

Contents

P3

News in brief: fly tipping, Royston Pike, local arts groups and more

P4

Shaping Elmbridge: Conservation, clean air and noise pollution

P5

Serving the community: Support for landlords, halls for hire

P6

Safer, happier, healthier: Avoiding falls, athletics for all and anti-social behaviour

P7

Supporting businesses: Retailer awards and grant funding

P8

A community for all: Supporting vulnerable families and 'your voice matters' public events

Mayor's message

Councillor Mrs Shweta Kapadia

Since being elected Mayor, it has been my privilege to visit the Borough's Community Centres, clubs, care homes and scout/guide and sports groups. My thanks to the volunteers who work so hard to run these organisations and support our residents. Their dedication is truly humbling.



It was an honour to attend the raising of the Armed Forces Flag at the Civic Centre and thank our wonderful armed forces and cadets. Our youth are inspirational as well. I gave Elmbridge Young Persons of Honour awards to some very brave young people and enjoyed the excellent dancing at the Elmbridge Youth Dance Showcase.

I am grateful to the many people raising money for my charity, Elmbridge Rentstart, which helps house homeless people in Elmbridge.

I look forward to meeting many more residents of the Borough in the coming months.

Listening out for the quieter voices

Managing, juggling and prioritising the needs of many is the role of a Chief Executive. How to prioritise when everything is important? How to ensure the urgent does not crowd out the important?

However, in the midst of all the noise, it is often the quiet voices and indeed those with no voice, who need the most help. It is also my role as a Chief Executive to ensure those people receive the help they need.

In this issue of the Elmbridge Review you will read about the things you expect a Council to talk about – waste collection,

car parks, planning, leisure activities etc – but you will also read about what we do to support the most vulnerable in our community – the people whose voices get drowned out in the noise. You will read about the Family Support Team and their work with vulnerable families, you will read about how we will approach the introduction of Universal Credit in the Borough and you will read about how you can come and speak to us about what matters to you.

In our vision for Elmbridge we promise 'a community for all' and we mean that! We

know Elmbridge as an affluent Borough and it's easy for outsiders to think we have no issues and no vulnerable people, that everyone is happy and healthy but of course we know differently and that is why you will continue to hear about our commitment to be a more compassionate Council; one that delivers quality services of course, but also one that listens out and supports the quieter voices in our community.

Robert Moran
Chief Executive, Elmbridge Borough Council

News in brief

For more news sign up to our monthly email

elbridge.gov.uk/enewsletter



Help prevent fly-tipping in Surrey

This summer, Surrey residents and businesses are being urged to be vigilant when employing traders to dispose of their waste or risk fines of up to £400.

Although a rogue trader may fly-tip the waste, it could still be whoever employs them that is fined. To avoid prosecution, residents and businesses must ensure they use a registered waste carrier and ask them how and where they intend to dispose of waste, get a receipt and avoid traders who knock on doors unannounced.

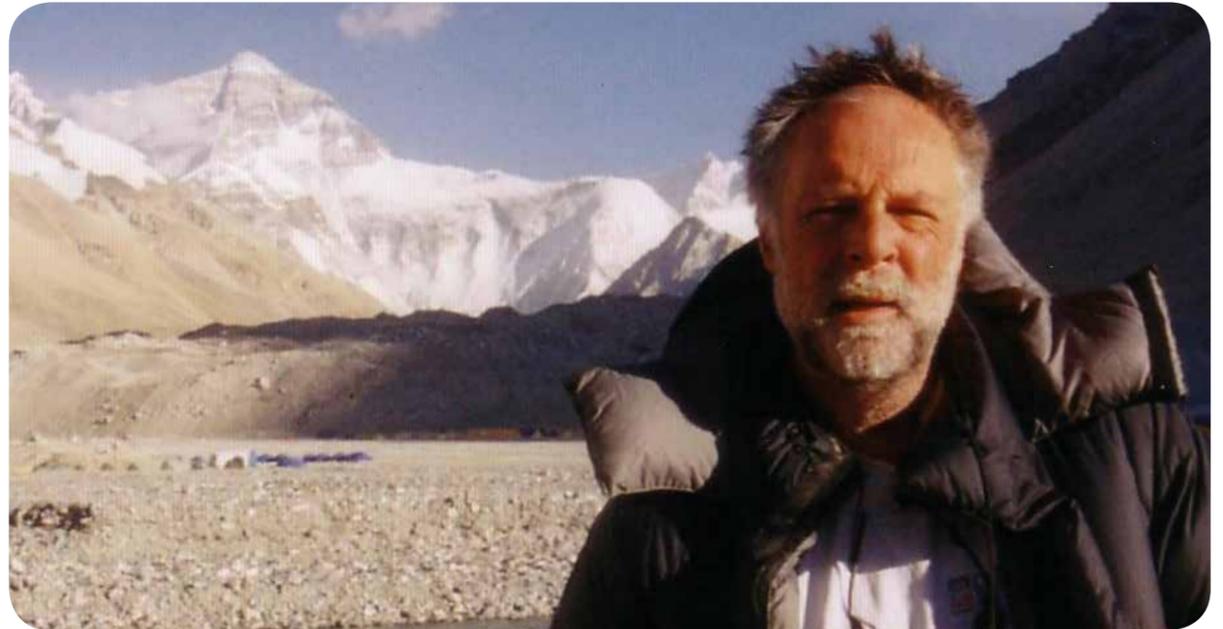
Fly-tippers can face fines of up to £50,000 and imprisonment of up to twelve months if convicted. They are also at risk of having their vehicle crushed or being sentenced to unpaid community service.

For more information on fly-tipping, to report an incident or find out how to check if a trader is licensed, visit recycleforsurrey.org.uk.



Local arts groups are now connected!

The Arts Forum Facebook page is open to residents who want to keep their finger on the pulse of what's happening on the local arts scene, including the latest shows, concerts, stage performances, exhibitions and anything relating to local arts projects and initiatives. Elbridge artists and arts organisations are invited to join in to promote themselves and invite their own friends and audience to like this page to create a wide network of people who want to play an active part in the local arts. Like the page and contribute to make the Arts Forum a vibrant community platform: facebook.com/elbridgeartsforum.



Royston Pike takes you on an adventure this autumn

The 2018/2019 lecture series will kick off in September with a fascinating programme full of travel, adventures and extraordinary feats in the face of extreme challenges. From filming TV documentaries in testing environments to Donald Campbell's world speed records on land and water, this series has all the ingredients to captivate an audience. Travel will feature highly with travel guide founder Hilary Bradt's trip to North Korea, David Edwards' study of the eruptive landscapes of Montserrat and a cycling adventure spanning over 530,000 miles, 6 continents and 48 countries. History is also on the agenda with WW1's Journey's End and Surrey County's history from 1760 to 1832. A full programme can be found at elbridge.gov.uk/culture.

Historical research room now available

The museum studies room is open on Mondays from 10am to 1pm, Tuesdays from 2pm to 5pm and Wednesdays from 10am to 1pm and 2pm to 5pm. Whether you want to have access to books, directories, maps, local newspaper cuttings, photographs or local interest journals and magazines, the Museum Team or one of our dedicated volunteers will be on hand to offer knowledge, guidance and to assist your enquiries. Visits are by appointment only. To book, please visit elbridgemuseum.org.uk, email ebcmuseum@elbridge.gov.uk or call **01372 474568**. If you can't visit personally, the museum also offers a research service.



'People of Elbridge' exhibition continues online

Over the summer, Elbridge Museum invited visitors to learn a bit more about past local celebrities' lives and achievements with an exhibition of portraits, paintings, sculptures, sketches and pastels at Riverhouse Barn Arts Centre in Walton-on-Thames. Elbridge has had some notable residents from glamorous actress Alma Taylor, to royals such as Princess Charlotte, the daughter of George IV. Some personalities have just passed through the Borough, like Queen Victoria and the current Prince of Wales. Others have made an impact on the societies they lived in, such as railway engineer Robert Gill or playwright and novelist R C Sherriff. The exhibition will be available online in the autumn at elbridgemuseum.org.uk.

Shaping Elmbridge



Conserving our crown jewels!

Our conservation areas, listed buildings, historic parks and gardens and scheduled monuments all form the Borough's crown jewels and we are keen to protect, conserve and promote them. We are currently doing a character appraisal and management plan for Cobham Conservation Area with the help of the local community. This will look at the area's history, investigate what creates its special character and appearance and identify potential actions and improvements. We would welcome your input when the document becomes available for a 6-week period of public consultation later this year.

This helps to implement the Council's Heritage Strategy and further information can be found on our website at elmbridge.gov.uk/planning/heritage-strategy.

Did you know that Elmbridge has 26 Conservation Areas which include 18th century river navigation channels, historic town and village centres, an early 20th century racetrack and a 1960s housing estate?

Fabulous fungi

Autumn is the time to get out and about in Elmbridge's fantastic countryside to look for fungi. Esher Common SSSI alone boasts well over 3,000 species. Mushrooms and toadstools can be found in every habitat, in many shapes, sizes and colours. Take a look in those damp, shady nooks, among the leaf litter, around the piles of rotting logs and the trunks of trees. You may spot the bright orange-red cap of a Fly Agaric or a Birch Polypore. Why not join one of our guided fungi walks this autumn? elmbridge.gov.uk/countryside



Clean air for all

Air pollution impacts us all. It particularly affects the most vulnerable in our society, such as children and older people and those with heart and lung conditions.

Unsurprisingly motor vehicles are a significant source of pollution. Maybe the next generation will all drive electric vehicles but for now we have cars and lorries with which to contend. Cycling more is an option and we have worked with partners to improve cycle routes in the Borough, as well as increasing the number of bicycle lock-ups at train stations.

For your part you can:

- turn off your engine at red lights or in heavy traffic
- keep your vehicle well-tuned and your tyres inflated properly to reduce exhaust emissions
- or leave your car at home and check out cycle routes instead.

Did you know?

- You can sign-up for a free alert on air pollution when levels in your area increase to a moderate level or above? Visit airalert.info for information on the airAlert app.



Call for quieter planes to help reduce noise pollution in Elmbridge

In June, representatives from the Council met with Heathrow Airport as part of our determination to address issues of noise pollution associated with Heathrow.

Heathrow has prepared a Noise Action Plan 2019-23 and the meeting was one of our opportunities to help shape how the airport manages and reduces noise over the next five years.

The plan sets out Heathrow's proposals to manage and reduce operational noise and is required by Government as part of its compliance with EU requirements.

Following this meeting we submitted our response to the plan which included our support for quieter planes and our eagerness for aircrafts to be kept higher for longer to reduce the noise for our most affected communities.

Both the consultation and our response can be found on our website – search Heathrow expansion update. We will continue to engage with Heathrow regarding airspace changes and emissions to ensure the best interests of Elmbridge are served.



Serving the community

Are you a landlord?

Do you have a property in Elmbridge with at least 5 tenants forming more than one household? Do those tenants share a kitchen, bathroom or another room?

If so, your property needs a House in Multiple Occupation (HMO) licence from the Council.

You may think that an HMO licence applies only to those landlords with 5 or more unrelated tenants over 3 storeys, but the law is changing. From 1 October 2018, a licence is required for 5 tenants living as more than one household no matter how many or how few storeys.

This licence ensures your property meets health and safety, as well as fire safety standards. As a landlord you can be reassured that your licensed HMO is suitable for your tenants and as a tenant you have the confidence that your home is safe.

As you would expect there is paperwork to be completed and an inspection to be conducted and there is also a fee. All the information is on our website – we are trying to make this process as straightforward



as possible and we urge all relevant landlords to contact us as soon as possible to begin the process in time for October.

If you have any questions, please visit elmbridge.gov.uk/housing/hmos or call us on **01372 474645**.



Elmbridge community halls for hire

We have a selection of halls available for hire across the Borough for every occasion. Whether you are organising a wedding, party, conference or exercise class, there is a hall to accommodate your needs.

King George's Hall, off Esher High street, is a flexible facility capable of holding a variety of activities. The main hall has a large staged area ideal for dances, functions, parties, or even badminton. There is a smaller hall attached for classes or afterschool activities, with its own kitchenette, and a boardroom for meetings.

For further enquiries or to arrange an appointment to view a hall, please email elmbridgepublichalls@pfleisure.org or visit the website placesforpeople.co.uk/leisure.

Open a bank account today

With the introduction of Universal Credit for many new benefit claimants of working-age in Elmbridge from November, we are encouraging anyone who doesn't have a bank account to set up a basic bank account. Universal Credit can only be paid into accounts that can receive automated payments so it's important to have an account open in advance.



Lloyds, Santander, HSBC, Nationwide, Barclays, Natwest and Halifax all offer basic bank accounts and details of local branches are available on our website. For more information on setting up a basic bank account and Universal Credit visit: elmbridge.gov.uk/universalcredit.

Prove your identity with Verify

Did you know you can prove who you are online with GOV.UK's Verify? The service is a fast and secure way to access government services from filing your tax return to applying for Universal Credit.



When you use GOV.UK Verify, you don't need to prove your identity in person or wait for something to arrive in the post. Visit gov.uk/verify to find out more about the range of services Verify can be used for and how to sign up.

Supporting our businesses

Elmbridge Independent Retailer of the Year

And the winner is.....

Now in its sixth year, the Elmbridge Independent Retailer of the Year Awards celebrate the fantastic and diverse range of independent shops and services in Elmbridge. Voting took place during July with a record number of votes cast for shops, cafes and restaurants across the Borough.

- Best restaurant or café – Café Noir, Thames Ditton
- Best for hair and beauty – Collections Hair Club, Weybridge
- Best for fashion – Zebra Boutique, Walton-on-Thames
- Best deli or grocer – Paull's Fruit and Veg, Thames Ditton
- Best for speciality products – Cyclelink, Thames Ditton
- Best independent retailer in Elmbridge – Café Noir, Thames Ditton

For more information about the awards please visit: elmbridge.gov.uk/retailawards.

Are you ready to take the next step in your business journey?

The Elmbridge Civic Improvement Fund provides up to 90% costs for a range of projects such as shop front improvements, marketing and town centre events.

More than 250 grants have been approved, investing over £700,000 in the local economy.

An application involves three easy steps:

1. Complete application form
2. Get three quotes for each element
3. Secure relevant permissions

Not sure where to start? Get in touch via business@elmbridge.gov.uk and we can help you through the process.



Councillor expenses

The payments comprise Members' allowances, including Special Responsibility Allowances, Mayoral allowances, travel and subsistence expenses and payments made on behalf of Members for attendance at approved meetings, conferences and seminars. It is a legal requirement for local authorities to publish this information. Full details are available on the Council's website www.elmbridge.gov.uk/cwcouncillor or, by writing to: Head of Finance, Elmbridge Borough Council, Civic Centre, High Street, Esher, Surrey, KT10 9SD, email finance@elmbridge.gov.uk

For a more detailed breakdown of the payments please see:

www.elmbridge.gov.uk/councillors-and-decision-making/allowances

Published Councillor Name	£p
Ahmed, R Ms	4,941.96
Archer, DJ Mr	4,941.96
Axton, M Mr	4,941.96
Bennison, MJ Mr	5,031.06
Bland, Tricia W	5,760.65
Brown, LJ Mr	5,112.31

Published Councillor Name	£p
Browne, J Mr	4,941.96
Burley, AP Mr	4,941.96
Chappell, OT Mr	4,941.96
Cheyne, BJF Mr	9,754.22
Coomes, A Mr	8,641.50
Cross, CJ Mrs	4,941.96
Cross, K Mr	4,941.96
Davis, A Mr	11,747.55
Dearlove, GP Mr	5,039.16
Donaldson, I Mr	5,017.56
Eldridge, VG Mr	4,941.96
Elmer, C Mrs	5,187.12
Fairbank, B Mr	11,110.26
Foale, SJ Mr	5,510.45
Freeman, MJ Mr	4,941.96
Green, R Mr	11,474.26
Haig-Brown, N Mr	8,196.51
Harman, PM Mr	6,294.10
Heaney, PRC Mr	4,941.96
Hill-Purcell, AE Mrs	4,485.08
Houston, N Mr	4,941.96

Published Councillor Name	£p
Howard, MF Mr	4,986.96
Kapadia, SR Mrs	11,019.11
Kelly, A Mr	5,077.41
Kopitko, AH Mr	4,941.96
Lake, Rachael I	7,373.91
Lyon, RJM Mrs	11,110.26
Marshall, M Mrs	11,110.26
Mitchell, DM Mrs	6,211.96
Muddyman, AM Mr	4,941.96
Oliver, TG Mr	10,646.64
Palmer, AR Mr	5,112.31
Popham, T Mr	4,941.96
Randolph, K Mrs	11,301.96
Regan, I Mr	7,599.50
Sadler, CR Mr	11,522.66
Selleck, SJ Mr	17,277.76
Sheldon, MC Mrs	9,224.42
Shiple, T Mrs	5,461.82
Turner, JR Mrs	11,131.10
Vickers, JA Mr	5,254.04
Woolgar, GL Mr	4,941.96

Safer, happier, healthier

How to avoid falls this fall

Did you know falls are the most common type of accident in people aged 65 and over? Experiencing a fall can affect your confidence, personal independence and ability to stay active.

If you have been a bit unsteady on your feet lately, have a look at the list below to see if any of these suggestions could help you.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> I am up-to-date with my sight and hearing tests. | <input type="checkbox"/> I eat healthily, and I drink at least 8 glasses of water a day. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> There are no obvious trip hazards in my home. | <input type="checkbox"/> I am aware of Telecare and Community Alarm technology that could help me, should I want extra comfort and reassurance. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I attend regular strength and balance exercise classes (there are many options at your local Centre for the Community). | <input type="checkbox"/> I have all the equipment I need to help me stay steady on my feet when I am at home, or out-and-about. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I frequently speak with my pharmacist, GP or Community Matron for medication support and advice. | |

If you would like more information on strength and balance classes, Community Alarm and Telecare or independent living equipment, please contact the Community Support Services team on: **01372 474 552** or visit elbridge.gov.uk/css. Alternatively, if you have any concerns or you are worried about falling, please speak with your GP who can make the appropriate referral.



Free 12-week Community Alarm trial

Elbridge Community Alarm offers a free 12-week trial for patients being discharged from hospital. For more information call: **01372 474 560**.

The Chelsea FC Foundation needs you!

Chelsea FC Foundation is running ladies walking football sessions every Friday from 9.15am to 10.15am at the Xcel Sports Hub, adjacent to the Elbridge Xcel



FOUNDATION

Leisure Complex on Waterside Drive, Walton-on-Thames KT12 2JG. Whether you have played before, want to refresh your skills, or simply take up the sport to be part of a sociable team, this course is for you. For 50+ ladies, all abilities welcome. Email soccerschoolsouth@chelseafc.com or call **01932 596193** for information.

Reports of anti-social behaviour falling in Walton

Following the introduction of a Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) in the central parts of Walton-on-Thames, in an effort to help tackle anti-social behaviour, we are pleased to report that incidents in the first quarter of 2018 (April-June) have shown a significant decrease compared to this time last year, 57 fewer incidents to be exact.

Outreach with young people, undertaken by Eikon, has also been taking place on Friday evenings since June and will continue until June 2019. This includes an interactive bus offering free wi-fi, activities and a safe space, all of which have been well attended by young people. For more information on community safety please visit elbridge.gov.uk/communitysafety.



Children learn vital life skills

In June, Elbridge school children took the opportunity to learn vital life skills thanks to a project funded by the Elbridge Community and Safety Partnership and the Police and Crime Commissioner for Surrey. Held at Walton fire station, for three weeks, Junior Citizen reached over 1,350 Year 6 pupils from over 20 schools in the Borough. Children spend two hours in a series of interactive lessons which will teach them a variety of skills, including basic first aid, water safety, railway safety, stranger danger, waste and recycling and fire safety. If your school is interested in Junior Citizen, please email communitysafety@elbridge.gov.uk.



Do you want to try athletics?

The Walton Athletic Club and Places Leisure (the company which runs our leisure centres, pools and halls) have teamed up to offer a new athletic 6-week course running every Tuesday from 11 September to 16 October at the Xcel Sports Hub, Walton-on-Thames.

- Parents and prams: 10am to 11am
- Over 50s javelin and shot puts: 11am – 12pm

All abilities welcome. To book your spaces and for further information, please email enquiries@elbridgexcelsportshub.org.

A community for all



A brighter future for vulnerable families

In 2011, the Government established the Troubled Families Programme; a programme of targeted intervention for families with multiple problems. In partnership with Spelthorne Borough Council and Surrey County Council (and then later Epsom and Ewell Borough Council), Elmbridge established the Family Support Team (FST). Its aim is to assist vulnerable families with a range of issues whether domestic abuse, mental health problems, financial issues or housing problems.

What makes the team different is the 'TAF' – the team around the family – this brings together support professionals from various sectors, (health, social services, church groups, school teachers

etc.), to assist the family in creating an action plan to get them back on track. It is this intense support that allows the families to look forward to a brighter future.

Since its creation in 2013, the team has helped over 540 families.

This is what our families say;

“...we are stronger and more positive...”

“...things are a million times better...”

“Thank you”

For more information on the work of the Family Support Team visit elmbridge.gov.uk/familysupportteam.

Your voice matters

A series of public events – have you signed up?

As part of the My Elmbridge programme we will be heading out across Elmbridge to speak to you. Your Voice Matters events are being held across Elmbridge and are a great opportunity for you to find out more about the key issues impacting the Borough and have your say.

Events will start at 7pm with an informal drop-in session where Councillors, partners and relevant Elmbridge Officers will be available for you to speak to and find out more about services available, followed by a presentation and Q&A session with the Leader of Elmbridge Borough Council, Councillor Tim Oliver at 7.30pm.

Book onto your local Your Voice Matters event through our website – elmbridge.gov.uk/council/my-elmbridge

Monday 1 October – Hershams Centre for the Community

Monday 15 October – Weybridge Centre for the Community

Tuesday 30 October – Walton Centre for the Community

Thursday 1 November – Claygate Centre for the Community

Monday 26 November - Cobham Village Hall

*Potentially more events to be added, please visit our website for details.

Sign up to an event online:
elmbridge.gov.uk/council/my-elmbridge

