

## Elford - A Brief History

Between 30,000 and 40,000 years ago woolly Rhinoceros lived in the area, we know this as the remains of one was discovered near Alrewas. Man has lived here since at 1900BC, pottery and flints of that period being found nearby.

Our village was called Elford as for centuries it has been a crossing or ford on the River Tame for man and animals. The river was relatively shallow at this point and a place where young eels or 'elvers' were hatched, so 'Elver-ford' has over the years become Elford. A Stream that runs into the Tame here is called The Beck (a Scandinavian word for 'small river') this stream is now underground but the road above is still known as The Beck.

Christianity was brought here around 600AD after CHAD came to Lichfield and our present church, restored in Victorian times is on the site of an earlier Norman one. Elford has an entry in the Domesday Book of 1086. Some people prospered, establishing themselves as Lords and achieving influence.

Legend has it that in 1485 on the eve of the Battle of Bosworth, Sir William Stanley of Elford discussed tactics at a secret meeting here. Elford also featured at the time of the Civil War, Lichfield and Tamworth being on opposing sides gave Elford a strategic position and became the site of many a clash, Gore Hill on the Harlaston Road may be named after one of these skirmishes.

The population grew; a mill was built on the river, a forge, shops and a school house. The bridge which now spans the river was built in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century. Elford Hall, which stood between the church and the river was willed to the City of Birmingham in 1936, together with its estate cottages and land, it was heralded as Birmingham's 'New Park'.

More about Elford's history can be found at:

<http://ron.jean.tripod.com/>

# St Peter's Church

The parish of St Peter's would like to welcome you to Elford. The church is open every day so please do come and visit us. At the back of the church you will find information about the history of the building, events and services.

## Contact us

For a Baptism, Wedding or Funeral - Revd Denise Burgess 383195

Churchwarden - Mary Peacock 383478

Friends of St Peter's - Sue Robotham 383487

Bellringers - Chris Mayman 383427

## Services

### 1st Sunday in the month

B.C.P. Communion at 8.45am

Family Service at 10.15am

### 2nd Sunday in the month

Combined CW Communion with Edingale at 10.15am

### 3rd Sunday in the month

Family Communion at 10.15am

### 4th Sunday in the month

Family Worship at 10.15am

### 5th Sunday in the month

Joint Parish Service

(Information can be found on the Church Notice Board or from the Mease Valley Magazine).

# Elford Sports and Social Club

## Monday

Auction every Monday evening with viewing from 6pm and Auction starts at 7.30pm. Booked items can be bought in on the Sunday evening from 7.30pm.

To book items in ring 01785 615931 or see the Auctioneer the week before.

## Tuesday

Bingo starting at 8.30pm

## Wednesday

The Domino Team play in the Mercian League from September to May.

## Thursday

Whist Drives are alternate Thursdays starting at 7.30pm prompt.

## Friday

The night for a variety of events throughout the year, for example Race Nights, Skittle Evenings, Quiz Nights, etc, see notice board, local press, or Mease Valley Magazine.

## Saturday

Ballroom and Modern Sequence Dancing to some of the best organists in the Country. 8pm – 11pm. Admission £3.00

There is a **Dart Board** with a set of darts in the Bar for those who play, and a **Snooker Room** with a full size Snooker Table, which can be played every night of the week and Saturday and Sunday lunchtimes (As long as one player is a member he can bring along a none member for a game)

## MEMBERSHIP

£6.50	first year	O.A.P's	£4.50
£6.00	years after	O.A.P's	£4.00

For any Club information ring 01827 383461  
01827 383315

## **The Elford Walled Garden**

Elford Hall was sadly demolished in the 1960's, but the Walled Garden that served the Hall throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century remains. A team of determined villagers and volunteers have been working over the past few years on restoring the gardens to their former glory and they are now being enjoyed by all who visit. There's a rose garden, allotments providing organic produce, a walk-way leading to a picnic area besides the river and an event area where a number of very successful village events have been held. These range from a real ale and music festival to bonfire nights and even a wedding reception. The Walled Garden was given the Royal seal of approval by Sophie Countess of Wessex, when she officially opened the garden on 14 September 2011.

Much more is planned, including restoration of the melon and vine houses, orangery and boat house, development of a sensory garden alongside the east wall and repair and restoration of the Gardener's house.

So do come along and see what has already been achieved. You may wish to become a member of the 'Friends of the Walled Garden' – the annual £20.00 subscription contributes towards the upkeep of the garden and you'll receive a regular Newsletter keeping you informed of forthcoming events. You may even feel like doing some volunteering – a variety of skills are needed to complete and maintain the project and it's a great way of meeting other people in the village. We look forward to seeing you there!

### **Volunteer Days**

Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturday Mornings  
Everyone welcome!

[www.elfordhallgarden.org.uk](http://www.elfordhallgarden.org.uk)

Telephone Roger 01827 383592

# **Elford Village Hall**

The original Hall was built by kind donation of the Carnegie Trust before the Second World War and actively served the village for over 70 years.

In 2006 the original hall with the backing of the Heritage Lottery Fund, was demolished and completely rebuilt incorporating extended accommodation and modern fittings ideal for 21<sup>st</sup> century usage.

The Village Hall is available to hire with accommodation comprising:

Open porch with automatic double opening doors,  
Entrance Foyer with lift/stairs to first floor.

## **Main hall**

Suitable for up to 130 people. A Stage with backstage area and access from the front and rear including disabled lift stair.

## **Jubilee Room**

Meeting room suitable for 30 people with access to terrace.

## **Shakespeare Room**

Meeting room suitable for 30 people with separate access from front and including separate sink.

## **Fitted kitchen**

With good appliances including a large dishwasher.

## **Servery/Bar**

With glass washer.

## **First Floor**

Landing with lift access;

Studio/Meeting Room, Suitable for 20 people with separate sink.  
Office.

## **Outside**

Adequate parking including disabled hard standing,  
Gardens with terrace and Gazebo.

For booking information Telephone Ann on 01827 383817

# **The Howard School**

Our Primary School houses approximately 80 children from the locality.

After school clubs include science, drama, eco and homework club which take place from 3.15-4.15pm and are organised by the teaching staff.

In addition the school are offering independently run breakfast and after school clubs organised by qualified staff each day from 8.00am-8.45am and 3.15-5.15pm respectively.

A range of activities are available including art and crafts, music, indoor and outdoor games, cookery and gardening.

Headmistress Mrs Carol Eyley  
[headteacher@howard.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@howard.staffs.sch.uk)

Telephone Number 01827 383292

Email [office@howard.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:office@howard.staffs.sch.uk)

## **Mease Valley Pre-School**

Monday to Friday (excluding Tuesday) the Mease Valley Pre-School meet at the Village Hall between 9.15 am and 2.45pm

Contact Julie Hobson on 07960 039224

## **'Mini Mease' Mother and Toddler Group**

Alternate Fridays in the Village Hall

Contact Caroline on 07968 710453

# Activities and Groups

## **Yoga**

Mondays - Village Hall – Contact Brigit 07842 140584

## **Martial Arts Development**

Tuesdays – Village Hall – 4.30 – 5.30pm

## **Luncheon Club**

Tuesdays 12.45pm for 1pm – Ring Sandra Cavanagh by midday  
Sundays at the latest to book 01827 383229

## **Slimming Support Group**

Tuesdays -6.30pm -7.30pm, anyone interest to join can contact Sue on 01827 383487 or Wenda on 01827 383293.

## **Drum Lessons**

Tuesdays - Village Hall - early to late evening. Individual drum lessons, equipment provided. Contact Paul Brooks on 01827 383477.

## **Zumba**

Wednesday – Village Hall – 7pm – 8pm contact Lisa 01827 896450.  
Mobile 07799 320004

## **Bell Ringing**

Thursday - St Peter's Church - 8pm – 9pm. Contact Chris 01827 383427

## **Art Group**

Fridays – Village Hall - 9.30am - 11.30am contact Sue on 01827 383487

## **Annual Events**

*Can include:* May Fair; Duck Race; Scarecrow Festival; Jazz in Church; Victorian Market; Bonfire Night; Folk and Real Ale Festival.

# Local Services

## Parish Council

Your local Parish Council is the first tier of local government. Details of meetings and minutes can be found on the Parish Council Notice Board outside the Village Hall and also on the Parish Website. Meetings are the second Monday of every month starting at 7pm with an open forum; to which anyone is welcome to attend and raise issues; followed by the Parish Council Meeting at 7.30pm. Clerk to the Parish Council, Margaret Jones can be contacted at 01827 50230 or email [margarettannjones@msn.com](mailto:margarettannjones@msn.com)

## District Council

Lichfield District Council call 01543 308000.

District Councillor Sue Arnold can be contacted on 01827 383886.  
[susan.arnold@lichfielddc.gov.uk](mailto:susan.arnold@lichfielddc.gov.uk)

## Refuse Collection

For information call 01543 308999.

## Library Bus

Tuesdays every other week on the Sports and Social Clubs Car park between 4.05pm and 4.45pm.

## Post Office

Every Tuesday in the Shakespeare Room of the Village Hall between 9am and 12.45pm (Entrance by the Side Door).

## Bus Service

There is a bus that runs from the Beck to Tamworth during the week. To obtain up to date timetable information please check the details at the Bus Stop or call the National Traveline on 0870 608 2608.

## Village Shop

Located at the Crown Pub (tbc)

## Hairdressing

Village Hall every Tuesday morning 9 am – 1pm tel: 07891 470901

## Local Communication

### Mease Valley Parish News

The local Parish monthly magazine with lots of local information and whats on! To order copies call Ann on 01827 383288.

Magazine Editor – Mrs J C Dale telephone 01827 383446 or email [josie@josiedate.co.uk](mailto:josie@josiedate.co.uk)

### Elford Village Website

A comprehensive website with up to date information and events, photographs and contact details @ [www.elfordvillage.co.uk](http://www.elfordvillage.co.uk) to add an entry call Mary on 01827 383478.

### Elford Village Voice

Local weekly entry in the village voice section of the Lichfield Mercury and Tamworth Herald. To include information call Jane on 01827 383727 or email [elfordvillagevoice@live.co.uk](mailto:elfordvillagevoice@live.co.uk)

### Notice Boards

Located outside St Peter's Church; Village Hall; and Sports and Social Club.

### Open Forum

Parish Council Meetings, 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month. Village Hall, 7pm – 7.30pm. (Use back door of the Village Hall, located to the right of the building, for entry).

### Neighbourhood Watch

#### Watch Liaison Officer – Robert Nunn

Email: [robert.nunn@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:robert.nunn@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk)

Telephone : 01785 234576

If you would like to be notified regularly by neighbourhood watch of happenings in the area, register by contacting Robert Nunn (as above) you will be notified by your choice of email or telephone.

# **Sports/Public Open Space**

## **Elford Cricket Club**

Brick House Lane. Currently there are 3 Cricket Teams; Saturday First and Second Elevens; a Sunday Team and Junior Teams with Kwick Cricket for under 11s. Social Members are also encouraged. For more information contact John Ross on 01543 256269.

## **Football Pitch**

Home to Elford Boys FC, one of the oldest junior football clubs in the area having been founded in 1982 by then Crown publican Ken Carlton & David Wain. The football is a very friendly and family run club, which boasts teams across many age groups from pre-school to high school. For further information please contact Mark Simmonds on 07799 261071 or via email at [elfordboysfc@gmail.com](mailto:elfordboysfc@gmail.com). Alternatively please visit the clubs website at <http://www.pitchero.com/clubs/elfordboysfc>

## **Jubilee Memorial Playground**

Brick House Lane. Not just a superb playground but a focal point for villagers in general. Volunteers keep the playground in tip-top condition with work parties organised to which all are welcome.

Social events are also housed here.

Playground Contact - Steve Pountney on 01827 383844.

## **Picnic Area**

Riverside , The Shrubbery.

## **Elford Hall Gardens**

Public space behind St Peter's Church.

[www.elfordhallgarden.org.uk](http://www.elfordhallgarden.org.uk)

# **The Crown**

Originally the Court House and Jail, The Crown Public House is a traditional country local, free house, and grade 2 listed building.

Recently renovated under new ownership. A great Pub feel with the addition of a Restaurant providing good quality food at reasonable prices

Quench your thirst with a top selection of real ales and beers.

## **Opening Hours**

Monday to Friday 6pm – 11pm

Fridays 4pm – 11pm

Saturday 12 Noon to 11pm

Sunday 12 Noon – 11pm

## **Restaurant**

For information or to book a table contact

The Crown on **01827 383602**

Or visit the Elford Parish Website

[www.elfordvillage.co.uk](http://www.elfordvillage.co.uk)

find the Crown under Businesses

## **Useful Contacts**

### **Local Doctors**

The Village does not have its own health provision, for details of local practitioners here are a couple of numbers locally and there are numerous practices in Tamworth.

Alrewas	01283 790316
Whittington	01543 440811
Tamworth	0844 477 3012

### **Local Hospitals**

Sir Robert Peel Hospital, Tamworth	01827 263800
Queen's Hospital, Burton on Trent	01283 566333
Good Hope Hospital, Sutton Coldfield	0121 424 2000

### **Highways**

To report problems with the roads and streetlights  
0300 1118000 – email [highways@staffordshire.gov.uk](mailto:highways@staffordshire.gov.uk)

### **Lichfield Police**

NON EMERGENCY – Telephone - 101

### **Police Community Support Officer**

Costas Karpi – 0300 123 2345 ex 17017

### **Local Police Officer**

Richard Allsopp – 0300 123 2345 ex 04320

### **Fire/Ambulance – 999**

### **Electricity**

Emergency – 0800 056 8090

### **Water**

Supply problems (24hrs) 0800 389 1011 –Billing 0845 60 70 456

**Floodline**

To register or enquire, Telephone 0845 988 1188

**Flood Warden** – Dave Hill 01827 383645