

**EERiac 2026 – Programme & booking form  
Elmswell, Suffolk**

**Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> June 2026**

**The Olympic Room,  
Blackbourne Community Centre,  
Blackbourne Road, Elmswell, Suffolk IP30 9UH**

**Programme**

- 09:30 Set up of displays  
10:00 Registration, tea and coffee  
10:20 Welcome by Steven Worsley, SIAS Chairman. Notices/programme  
10:30 Talk 1: Looking for the Zeppelin Hunters – A First World War Archaeological Exploration. Speaker: Peter McGee  
11:15 Break: Tea, coffee and biscuits. View displays  
11:45 Talk 2: The Most Secret Place on Earth – Elveden and the Birth of the Tank. Speaker: Roger Pugh  
12:30 EERiac AGM  
12:45 Clear away displays  
13:00 Vacate room; Lunch  
14:00 Drive to The Great War Huts, Hawstead, IP29 5NW (11 miles)  
16:00 Close

**Booking form for EERiac 2026 – Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> June 2024**

Please book ..... places at £15.00 per person. Total £.....

Name(s) .....

Email..... Mobile.....

Address .....

I agree to my personal information being used only for the purposes of the organisation of this event and advising me of future events (please tick)

Please indicate if you are a member of:

Cambridge IAS  : Essex IAG  : Suffolk IAS  : Norfolk IAS

Preferred payment method:

Copy form and email to [Suffolkiasoc@gmail.com](mailto:Suffolkiasoc@gmail.com)

Pay by bank transfer to:

**Sort code:** 30-96-17;

**Account No.** 40789168

**Title:** East of England Region Industrial Archaeology Conference; **Ref:** Your surname

Alternatively, detach and send this form with cheque to:

EERiac, Hines Farm, Earl Stonham, Stowmarket, Suffolk, IP14 5HQ

### Getting there

- Rail:** The railway station is 0.4 miles from the Community Centre, walk along Station Road to the north and turn right into Blackbourne Road.
- Bus:** Infrequent DB1 service (Dan's Coach Travel) from Stowmarket and Bury St. Edmunds.
- Car Parking:** Ample parking will be found at the venue.

### Lunch eating options in Elmswell:

Elmswell Tavern, School Road, IP30 9EE. Community venture due to open April 2026. "Home made meals served daily".

Wesley Coffee Shop, 11 School Road, IP30 9E. Community venture next door to the Elmswell Tavern. Snacks - Cakes, sausage rolls etc. Open 0930 - 1600

Fox, Station Road, IP30 9DH. Thai and English food. Open from 1230.

### On the Programme

Great War Huts is a unique heritage project dedicated to restoring and preserving original First World War prefabricated wooden buildings and artefacts. Several original 1914-1918 structures have been dismantled, transported to the site and re-erected, and a further example is presently undergoing restoration. Some have been brought from other parts of the country, others being found within a few miles of the site. All are different, and show differing forms of construction. A replica trench system has been formed, and has been used in several film and tv re-creations of the war.

Peter McGee, a member of Elmswell History Group, was intrigued by references to a First World War airfield in the village, and set about discovering its history. This formed the subject of his book "Silent Sentinel".

Roger Pugh is the author of "The Most Secret Place on Earth", the story of the training of the very first tank crews on the Elveden Estate in Suffolk.

**Note:** Personal information is stored in password-protected form held only by the EERIAC treasurer and is used purely for purposes connected with the organisation of the event and for informing attendees about future conferences.