Village is refreshed by return of damaged water pump

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MONKS ELEIGH: parish councillor Don Reynolds with new village pump on the village green with local residents Di Reynolds, Ralf Cook, Angela and Jacques Forrest, Arthur Grosset and Jane and Duncan Eyre with Jasmine. 'Picture Mark Westley ANL-160329-174603009

Monks Eleigh villagers are celebrating the return of their parish pump to the village green.

The 150-year-old cast iron pump, which was once the only source of water in the village, suffered damage after being hit by a car.

Six months after being sent away for repair to a Suffolk forge, the listed pump is now back on the village green.

Parish councillor Don Reynolds, who has been behind the move to get the pump fixed and back to the village, said feedback from villagers has been positive.

"They are really pleased it's finally come back to the village. The forge has done a lovely job of repairing it, and we also have a repainted village sign, so the village looks really good at the moment."

Mr Reynolds is pictured with residents Di Reynolds, Ralf Cook, Angela and Jacques Forrest, Arthur Grosset and Jane and Duncan Eyre with Jasmine.

The pump cost £600 to repair because it was broken into bits and had to be welded back together.

Mr Reynolds added: "Unfortunately, the forge in Barking had a lot of problems with the road being closed, so it took a lot longer than anticipated to be fixed.

"They have done a great job and we are glad it's back."