

# ELKSTONE NEWSLETTER

As we move into April, the easing of COVID-19 restrictions in the coming weeks suddenly appears less certain than it did a few weeks ago. But it's spring, everyone! The daffodils are in full bloom and the days are becoming a little warmer and sunnier. Villagers are continuing to make good use of the WhatsApp groups, with two households recently giving out some rhubarb crowns. This month's newsletter also includes a positive update on Elkstone's Open Gardens Day, a lovely event for us to start preparing for and look forward to.

Jenny, [editor@elkstonevillage.com](mailto:editor@elkstonevillage.com)

Deadline for next newsletter: 20th April

## Features

- Easter and other news from Elkstone Parish Church
- Easter egg hunt
- New website manager sought
- Restoration of walls along village lane
- Gardens open day: Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2021
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- Quiz: Easter trivia

## Waste & Recycling

Waste & Recycling	Food Waste	Every Tuesday
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Waste & Recycling	All bags, bins and boxes	6 <sup>th</sup> * and 20 <sup>th</sup> * April
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\* Cotswold District Council has not yet uploaded its waste and recycling services calendar starting April 2021.  
At the time of going to print, these dates are a guess.

## Regular Village Hall Activities (currently suspended due to lockdown)

Indoor Bowls	Every Tuesday	Ronnie – 870493
Art Club	Every Thursday from 9am	Penny – 03330 119663
Relaxation Classes	Details to follow	Alison – <a href="mailto:info@alisonfernandes.co.uk">info@alisonfernandes.co.uk</a>

## Dates for your Diary

Cuppa and Chinwag – online get-together	Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> April at 7pm	Graham – 07931 124165 for more details
Elkstone Parish Council Meeting	Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> April at 8pm	Via Zoom. Email <a href="mailto:elkstonepc@gmail.com">elkstonepc@gmail.com</a>

## **Easter and other news from Elkstone Parish Church**

Every year in late spring Christians gather to celebrate the greatest event in human history... when Jesus rose again from amongst the dead... thus proving that nothing is stronger than the power of love!

We are planning to resume worship in the parish church from Easter Sunday onwards. Careful precautions against the Covid-19 virus will of course be taken. We look forward to welcoming you!

Easter Day (4th) 11.00am Holy Communion (Revd Arthur)

Sunday 11th 10.00am Morning Worship (Revd Arthur)

Sunday 18th 11.00am Holy Communion (Revd David)

Sunday 25th NO SERVICE

*Arthur Champion (Revd) - Tel: 01242 870402 - New Rectory, Cowley*

## **Easter egg hunt**

There will be an Easter Egg Hunt in the Churchyard after the Service on Easter Sunday. Some extras will be left in the Porch in clean bags for all to enjoy. Please call for a little bagful.

*Carole Bury, 2 Hill View. Tel: 870493*

## **New website manager sought**

With the retirement of the Revd Arthur looming at the end of May, a successor is sought as Webmaster for the Churn Valley Benefice website and other online presences. If you enjoy this kind of work and have the time to help, it would be much appreciated. To find out more about what's involved, please contact the Revd Arthur via email at [championarthur@gmail.com](mailto:championarthur@gmail.com) or telephone 01242 870402.

## **Restoration of walls along village lane**

Many of us have admired the wonderful work that Robert Neal and John Allison have carried out along the village lane recently, removing the ivy and restoring the verge at the bottom of The Old Rectory's garden opposite The Mill House. Several people have been in touch to ask that this is given a mention, so from all of us a big thank you. It really is very much appreciated.

## **Gardens open day: Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2021**

Fourteen lovely Elkstone households have agreed to open their gardens on the afternoon of 6th June and planning for the day is going well. We won't know for a while what we will be able to do in terms of refreshments but, with luck, we will be able to provide teas and cakes in some way. In any event, with that number of gardens open, our visitors will get great value for money. Many villagers have also volunteered to help on the day and if you would like to do so please call me. There are many ways that you can help on or before the day even if it is just for an hour. Thank you.

*Martyn Wylie Email: [mgw123@btinternet.com](mailto:mgw123@btinternet.com) Mob: 07788 912645*

## **GCF grant extension**

Well done to Martyn Wylie for his letter to Gloucestershire Community Foundation, in which he explained that the extended lockdown of the village hall has meant that only £150 of the £500 grant award to Elkstone Good Neighbours has so far been used. GCF has kindly agreed to extend the time to use the grant. This will help towards the extra cleaning requirements insisted on by the insurers for when the village hall reopens.

## **News from Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust**

As the number of COVID hospital patients continues to fall, steps are being taken to return to some form of normality. Bed capacity is being increased by restoring beds previously removed to allow for social distancing; surgical wards have been re-established, with priority given to those patients who, whilst not requiring immediate treatment, have been assessed as in need of treatment within a month; Cheltenham A&E will reopen to pre-pandemic working no later than 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021. The production of full recovery plan however must await national COVID guidance.

The garden of Commemoration in memory of those who have died during the pandemic is due to open on April 23<sup>rd</sup>. A week of events was held to highlight the important work of health care support workers, and the trust has received funding to recruit a further 90. In recognition of the huge steps the trust has made in the use of digital technology in patient care - one of the few 'silver linings' from the pandemic - it has been accepted as a 'Digital Aspirant' on a national programme to accelerate nationally the procurement, deployment and uptake of new technology. This has resulted in an additional £6m of matched funding to expand the programme over the next three years.

The new Gloucestershire Cancer Institute Appeal board heard of the hospital's charity aim to raise £10m in the next three to five years to improve the oncology department structure. It will be finalising its approach to public fundraising later this year.

*Anne Davies (Public Elected Governor, Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust)*

## **Local elections: how to apply for a postal vote**

If you are not going to be able to vote in person at this year's local elections, which are due to be held on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021, you can still make sure your voice is heard by applying for a postal vote. Applications must be in before the deadline of 20<sup>th</sup> April 2021. For more information visit the website <http://orlo.uk/gpcG>

## Quiz: Easter trivia

Are you an egghead? Here's a fun quiz with an Easter theme. Some easy, some not so easy. No cheating (but answers at the bottom of the page).

No.	Question	Your answer
1	What does Easter celebrate?	
2	What is the traditional flower of Easter?	
3	Which headwear item is particularly associated with Easter parades?	
4	Easter Island forms part of which South American country?	
5	Which famous jewellery firm is renowned for designing jewel-encrusted eggs?	
6	If you do not want bad luck, what chore should you not do on Good Friday?	
7	Which chocolate company produced the first ever chocolate egg in the UK?	
8	Which fruit is traditionally seen in a hot cross bun?	
9	How many marzipan balls should sit on top of a Simnel cake?	
10	Nick Easter is a former professional sportsman in which sport?	
11	Which 1948 film starred Judy Garland as Hannah Brown and Fred Astaire as Don Hewes?	
12	What is a modern, digital 'easter egg'?	

**Quiz answers:** 1. The resurrection of Jesus. 2. Lily. 3. Bonnet. 4. Chile. 5. Fabergé. 6. Washing clothes. 7. J.S. Fry & Sons (Fry's). 8. Raisins. 9. 11 (representing the 12 disciples minus Judas). 10. Rugby. 11. Easter Parade. 12. A hidden message in a video game or website.