

ELKSTONE NEWSLETTER



It's the season of tulips. Or so it should be. Disappointingly for us this spring, either rabbits or squirrels (or perhaps both) have made a tasty treat of virtually all our tulip bulbs. Why it's happened this year and not in previous years is anyone's guess, but hopefully as the culprits have feasted so heavily in our garden, you may have escaped the same problem. Happily, Open Gardens Day is still a few weeks away so we have time to patch over the very many soil holes.

The Open Gardens Day and also the Platinum Jubilee Lunch are events to look forward to next month, and as always a big thank you to those involved in the preparations going on now.

Jenny, editor@elkstonevillage.com

Deadline for next newsletter: 20th May 2022

Features

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- Village Artist at Rococo Gardens
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Regular Village Hall Activities

Indoor Bowls	Every Tuesday, 7.30pm	Ronnie Bury – 870493 or Martyn Wylie – 870441
Art Club	Every Thursday, 9am-1pm	Penny Casewell – 03330 119663

Waste & Recycling

Waste & Recycling	Food Waste	Every Tuesday
	All bags, bins, and boxes	Tuesday 3 rd , 17 th and 31 st May

Elkstone Parish Church Services

Service times this month are as follows:

Sunday 1st May – 11am **Morning Worship** with Mark Venn.

Sunday 8th May – 10am **Morning Prayer** with Ruth Edy

Continues overleaf. . .

Sunday 15th May – 11am **Holy Communion** with the Revd David Minns.

Sunday 22nd May – 11 am No service in Elkstone, but all invited to join the service of **Holy Communion** at St Peter's Church, Rendcomb, with the Revd Bob Edy.

Sunday 29th May – 11am No service in Elkstone, but all invited to join the **United Benefice Service** at St Peter's Church, Stratton

Elkstone's Big Jubilee Lunch – Sunday 5th June

We hope as many villagers as possible can join us to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee on the last day of the extended bank holiday weekend on Sunday 5th June.

It is proposed to have a 'bring and share' picnic lunch from 12 noon to 3pm on the Green in Hillside (inside the village hall if wet). The event will be informal, no tickets required.

More details next month but a reminder that all are welcome, including friends and family who may be staying with you over the bank holiday.

Any suggestions, bright ideas etc would be welcomed.

David and Liz Kearney, The Hawthorns, on 506234 or email dnke58@gmail.com

Open Gardens Day – Sunday 19th June

Plans are really coming together now for this important day. We have nine lovely gardens scheduled to be open, with a couple more possibilities. We'll have ice creams and plants for sale, and coffee available at the south end of the village. Jennie Howlett is also collecting names of willing helpers to bake cakes, make jams and chutney, and to help service the food, make the teas and wash up (with the help of a great automatic dishwasher!). The village hall tea-room proved very popular last year and, with as many hands as possible, we hope will be just as successful this year.

Thanks to everyone who has already come forward to volunteer. This is much appreciated as always.

Car Parking Ronnie Bury 07500483811 ronaldbury@hotmail.co.uk

Village Hall Teas Jennie Howlett on 870462 ejenniehowlett@gmail.com

Anything Else Martyn Wylie on 870441 or 07788912645 mgw123@btinternet.com

Elkstone Theatre Group

We have now had three successful theatre visits and have one more in planning. The National Theatre production of the David Hare play *Straight Line Crazy* is being shown live in cinemas on Thursday 26th May. If anyone is interested, please let me know. We'll make more plans for the autumn.

Martyn Wylie Email: mgw123@btinternet.com

Village Artist at Painswick Rococo Garden

During the whole month of May, Carole Bury's drawings and paper textiles are hanging in the Cafe Gallery at Rococo Garden. This is a solo show of drawings and work resulting from her Residency last autumn, and a wonderful excuse to make a visit.

Currently the garden is closed on Mondays and Tuesdays, but the rest of the week it is open from 10am to 5pm. The gardens are said to be beautiful at the moment, the Exhibition is in the Cafe, and there is no admission fee to access this part of the garden.

In addition, there is a new independent nursery of plants open outside the cafe – the Exedra Nursery, also worth a browse.

For more information, contact Carole Bury on 870493

Black House Glamping in Elkstone

We have recently opened our new Shepherd's Hut for bookings at the end of our field at High Cross. The hut was made by Cowley Shepherds Huts, bought as a response to the pandemic, which wiped out our incomes during lockdown. We have named it Black House Glamping, which refers to a previous name of our house (currently High Beech). We have had a few guests already, who have given us some lovely feedback, and one or two village residents have asked if their visiting guests might be able to use it from time to time. The answer to that is yes, of course, and it would be best to contact me directly.

Please feel free to tell your friends and anyone else that might be interested.

www.blackhouseglamping.co.uk

James Hutchison – 07736 313129

Enquiry: House hunting in Elkstone and surrounding area

We are a young family currently living in Cheltenham and, with our house under offer, we are now house hunting. We seek a four-bedroom family home somewhere in Elkstone, Coberley, Cowley and the beautiful surrounding areas, as we would like to be part of a village community. Old or new in build or style. We are flexible on remaining specification with no fixed requirements. Budget £1.2-£1.4m. We are making this enquiry to see if anyone knows of a house which is about to come on the market, or if anyone is thinking of moving and would consider doing so without agent fees. If so, please make contact, Guy Jones 07754661455.

News from Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

The trust, like the rest of the NHS, is working through very difficult times. Continued inability to discharge patients in a timely way means that the emergency department (ED) can be very congested. Whilst seriously ill patients are given priority, many patients are on trolleys, or some still must wait in ambulances. This in turn affects the ability of crews to respond to urgent patients in the community. Everything possible is being done to address the issue, although much of this is outside of trust control.

Gloucestershire currently has higher numbers of community COVID cases compared to both national and Southwest figures. On 12th April we had 4 patients with COVID in Critical Care and 174 patients in other wards. Currently our staff absences are at their highest level for many months and in maternity services a combination of high COVID absences, staff sickness and maternity leave have resulted in staff absence peaking at 25% in early April. Because of this, the difficult decision was made to temporarily close some of our maternity units for labour and birth, although they continue to provide ante-natal care. The Gloucester Birth Unit and the main delivery suite remain open, and midwives were redeployed to ensure that all the services were adequately covered. The overriding priority remains to ensure a safe birthing experience for all those affected by the changes, and the situation is being kept under review.

Anne Davies (Public-Elected Governor Cotswolds, GHNHSFT) - Email: anne.davies11@nhs.net

May Quiz *(answers at the bottom of the page)*

- Published in 1995, the first novel in which trilogy begins: 'Lyra and her daemon moved through the darkening Hall, taking care to keep to one side, out of sight of the kitchen.'?
- Workers of the United Kingdom went on general strike in May of which year?
- How long is the lifespan for the adult female Mayfly: 5 minutes, 5 hours, or 5 days?
- Theresa May was born in which town?
- Victory in Europe Day, generally known as V-E Day, was celebrated on which day in May, 1945?
- Who did the Queen guitarist Brian May marry in November 2000?
- Historically, what sort of dancing has been linked to May Day celebrations?
- Roger Bannister was the first man to run the mile in under four minutes in May of which year?
- On 1st May 1851, Queen Victoria opened what in London?
- In May 1707 the Act of Union joined which two kingdoms together?



Quiz answers: 1. His Dark Materials (By Philip Pullman. The first book was called Northern Lights.); 2. 1926; 3. 5 minutes; 4. Eastbourne; 5. 8th May; 6. Anita Dobson; 7. Morris Dancing; 8. 1954; 9. The Great Exhibition; 10. England and Scotland.