

Elkstone Newsletter

30th Year: No. 8 (320)

May 2014

Editor's Bit

Easter was a joy! Hardly any motor traffic passing, so that sitting in the garden allowed one to appreciate the songs of the birds, the buzzing of insects and the conversations of passing cyclists. Holidays are now over and the brief rain showers are putting us off mowing lawns!

Reg – 20th March

Features	
Services at Elkstone Church	Elkstone Film and Supper Evenings
Easter Report	Help needed for Gardens Open Day
Neighbourhood Watch	Local Events
Elkstone Community Speed Watch	Exercise Bicycle wanted
Dates for your Diary	
Parish Council Meeting – Wednesday 21 st May – Elkstone Village Hall – 8.00pm	
ERG Walk – Sat 24 th May – details will be e-mailed to ERGers	
Regular Dates	
Waste & recycling	Food + garden waste - Every Friday
Waste & recycling	All bags, bins + boxes – Fridays 9 th & 23 rd May
Watercolour Painting	Every Tuesday - Village Hall - 10am – <i>Yvette Levick 870485</i>
Indoor Bowls	Every Tuesday - Village Hall – <i>Trevor - 870246</i>
Deadline for next month's edition: Tuesday 20th May please	
The Elkstone web-site has current and past copies of the Newsletter – www.elkstonevillage.com	
<i>Reg Eyre – High Beech – 870375 – reg.eyre@tesco.net</i>	

Church Services in Elkstone for May

May 4 th	10.00am	Morning Prayer
May 11 th	10.00am	Family Service
May 18 th	11.00am	Holy Communion
May 25 th	10.00am	Songs of Praise

What a big adventure and what excitement!

Sunday April 13th dawned, and we sensed it was a day of big excitement. The previous day we had been scrubbed clean to make sure we were looking our best. On the Sunday our owner, Flo, arrived early. Some new halters were fitted over our heads, and with our new friend, Marti, also a Shetland pony but older than us, we were taken from our normal field by the Old Rectory and led along the back lane by Flo, Charlie, Jemima, Bea and their friend who was staying the weekend, to the Village Hall.

There we found a group of people already gathered, and soon others joined us. It was Palm Sunday and we, (Juniper and Chilli), and Marti were to lead the procession to the Church as a celebration of Jesus's entry into Jerusalem. We proudly led the way back along the lane and up the bank into the Churchyard. The gathered people followed us with palm crosses and willow branches, and singing "Ride on, ride on in majesty".

Marti is a bit overweight, so went back into the field, but we joined everyone in the Church for the service. Everybody loved us and we were much feted. What a special day, and a big adventure for us both, and we are not yet a year old!

The following Saturday, from our field, we saw more activity at the Church, with many ladies arriving at different times, carrying flowers. We understand they were decorating the Church ready for the Easter Day celebrations.

Easter Day arrived, and some people were at the Church early. They were hiding Easter eggs in the Churchyard, and the Church, for the egg hunt. All the preparation reminded us of the women who went to the garden tomb on the first Easter Day, to anoint Jesus's body,

as there had not been time on Good Friday. Those women found the tomb empty and that Jesus had risen, but the people who would soon be coming for the service were coming to celebrate and would find everything ready.

It was then quiet, but soon there was much activity and excitement, with many families arriving. The people just kept on coming. We understand the Church was packed, and some had to sit in the Chancel, because all the other seats were taken.

After the service the children enjoyed their egg hunt, and everyone found some. A few were missed, but found by the Churchwarden, so he was happy.

What excitement in one week!

Juniper and Chilli - Shetland ponies – typeset by David



Neighbourhood Watch

This is a message from Cirencester Rural North Police.

At approximately 22.30 hours on Thursday 17 April 2014 persons were disturbed at an isolated outbuilding on the B4070 Slad Road out of Birdlip. It is believed the offending persons may have been intending to steal a pickup and/or tipping trailer from the location and access was via the rear of the premises where the fence was cut. A silver saloon vehicle was seen in the area at the time with registration number VK02BVY. **All village residents** within the Rural North area are reminded to ensure their property is locked and secured and security marked whenever possible. It is evident that offending people are driving around the county during the early evenings and will steal if an opportunity arises. Should anyone have seen the above vehicle or anyone acting suspiciously **within any village**, please contact police using the non-emergency number 101 quoting incident-525 dated 17/4/14.

Please remember, just because a vehicle or person has been seen in one village does not mean that they had not visited your own village earlier. Please remain vigilant for suspicious activity and wherever necessary report such activity at the time. Should anyone require any information or advise on crime prevention please contact PC1530 Stinchcombe or PCSO Shutt at Cirencester Police Station. Thank you.

PC Victoria Stinchcombe – 251530

Julia Davey – julia.davey@outlook.com

Watch-Word Alert Messages

A few residents are not yet signed up to receive email alerts regarding local criminal and suspicious activity - to receive these, please email Julia.davey@outlook.com. All emails are sent out blind copy to protect your privacy. These messages not only alert residents but also help to have extra eyes and ears out for suspicious people or vehicles that are of interest to the Police and proactively help us protect our village and our belongings.

Julia Davey – julia.davey@outlook.com

Elkstone Community Speed Watch, 2nd to 15th June

Volunteers will be operating the speed detection equipment at the Westerleigh crossroads. This site has been deemed to be the only one where motorists can see us clearly (and this is a condition imposed on Speedwatch) and we are relatively safe to take readings. Our main focus is to indicate to motorists that we are operating a speed device and hope that they will keep to the 40mph indicated speed limit. We cannot wave you out from the village but our presence might slow the cars sufficiently to allow you time to join the traffic on the 3/190.

If you would like to join us and see if you could help in future, please contact me and I will provide a hi-viz vest and you can stand with us. We can only have one observer at a time and you would be expected to take training before you join the team of volunteers. We normally operate Monday to Friday in the mornings from 8.00am to 9.00am and in the afternoons from 5.00pm to 6.00pm. We will be operating outside these times this session.

Reg Eyre – ECSW coordinator

Supper and Film Evenings

Thursday 10th April saw our last film evening of this season. We would like to thank everyone who has attended for their support and encouragement. We love the way the suppers have become such social events as the chatter accompanying them testifies!

Not only have we received support from Elkstone villagers but we have also been delighted to welcome residents from neighbouring villages and friends of villagers. We were also thrilled to have been joined by members of the Gloucester Hard of Hearing Club who are able to enjoy these evenings as we show subtitles.

Given all of the above we are delighted to say that we will continue with film nights in the autumn and our first will be in September. In response to requests, we will start with a showing of **Philomena**, a poignant story of a young single mother in 1950's Ireland placed in a 'Magdalen Laundry' and whose son was placed in adoption without her knowledge and consent. 50 years later she and a journalist set about trying to locate him....

We will continue the format of supper starting at 7:00pm followed by the film at 8:00 pm; we hope to see as many of you there as possible!

Again, thank you to all who have supported us and given us such positive feedback and we look forward to seeing you again in October; one of the trickiest parts in organising a film night is choosing the film, so if you know of any that you think might be good to show, please tell us...

Jeremy and Anne - 870516

Gardens Open Day, Sunday 8th June 2014

You may have a flyer with this newsletter re gardens open day, so the evening of Friday if you have a notice board at work could you please put it up so that we can get as many people as possible to come on the day. Alternatively if you know anywhere else that people might see it please put it up.

All bric a brac can be delivered to our garage anytime after 8th May and that I will be doing the plant stall so look forward to receiving cuttings, plants or any produce you have.

Thankyou to everyone who is opening their garden, and let's hope we have some good weather both before and on the day.

Tess - 01242 870480 - teresa.dick@btinternet.com

Advertisements

Churn Valley Benefice Flower Festival

St. Peter's, Rendcomb, 3rd to 30th May 2014, 10.00am – 4.00pm daily

Rendcomb Church welcomes visitors to come and view the flowers arranged by all the Churn Valley Churches (Rendcomb, together with students from Rendcomb College, Coberley, Cowley, Colesbourne, Elkstone, North Cerney, Bagendon, Baunton and Stratton). (Refreshments available)

Songs of Praise Service

St. Peter's, Rendcomb

Sunday, 25th May 2014, 5.00pm – 6.00pm

(The Revd. Warwick Heathcote)

Everyone Welcome - Favourite Hymns of the Churn Valley Benefice

Coberley School Summer Fayre – Saturday 14th June

Please note the change of date of the Summer Fayre, to **Saturday 14th June**, to avoid a clash with Cowley's Fete.

Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers

Please can you help my school – Coberley School, by collecting Sainsbury's vouchers for us again. We are aiming to collect 3887 vouchers so that we can have 2 new netball posts. Please pop the vouchers through the letterbox of the Old School House for Hannah.

Thank You!

Hannah Davey – The Old School House

Cowley Fete takes place on Saturday 17th May, 2.00 – 4.30pm

Open Farm Sunday this year is on Sunday 8th June, which unfortunately, clashes with our Gardens Open. **Scrubditch Care Farm** in North Cerney is participating and would welcome your visit. Check out the website for further information, or to find out how you can help this valuable local project in other ways.

<http://www.scrubditchcarefarm.org.uk/>

<http://www.farmsunday.org/ofs12b/home.eb>

Do you have an **exercise bike** hiding in a dark place, unloved and unused, that could be revitalised for the next few months for rehabilitation purposes? If so, please email cvnews@hotmail.co.uk

The Colesbourne Inn now has a recycling bin for clothes and shoes.

Summer Solstice Walk

This year's Summer Solstice Walk (5 or 10 kms, raising funds for Cotswold Care Hospice) will be taking place on the evening of Friday 20th June. It is a really important event for the Hospice and it would be great if you take part.

Please see our website, or contact Vicki Hayward if you would like any more information - vicki.hayward@cotswoldcare.org.uk

Thank you so much for any support you are able to offer

Kirsty Bassett, Fundraising Volunteer, Cotswold Care Hospice, Burleigh Lane, Minchinhampton, Glos. GL5 2PQ, Tel: 01453 886868