

ELKSTONE NEWSLETTER

Editor's Bumbings...

Hello again,

January seemed to pass by in a flash & to my delight the promise of Spring is creeping up all around the garden at Wards Hay. There are brave little buds popping up, facing the variety of weathers which charge, with force, through Elkstone. Their appearance is warming my heart & making me feel less resentful towards the grim days, as their bravery fuels the prospect of the end of Winter at last!

Here's to a flourishing February for all of us.

Laure, editor@elkstonevillage.com Deadline For Next Newsletter, 20th February

Features

Elkstone Church February Services
 Elkstone Church News
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 News From The Trust
 Open Gardens Day 2018
 Elkstone Stories
 Snow Drop Walk
 Poem by Pauline Farman

Regular Dates

Waste & Recycling	Food & Garden Waste – Every Friday
Waste & Recycling	All Bags, Bins & Boxes – 9 th & 23 rd February
Indoor Bowls	Every Tuesday - Village Hall – Trevor - 870246

Diary Dates

Snowdrop Walk	Saturday 3 rd February
Elkstone Film Night	Thursday 15 th February
Bell Ringing	Wednesday 21 st February
Elkstone Gardens Open Day	Sunday 17 th June

SERVICES for February 2018 in St John's, Elkstone

4th 11 am Morning Prayer

Arthur Champion

11th 10 am **Toy Service**

Geoff Gait-Carr

Please bring any spare toys you have for the less fortunate

18th 6pm **Lent Teaching & Prayer**

Rachael, Bishop of Gloucester

We have been chosen by the Diocesan for 2018 launch-do come & hear our Bishop preach

25th 10 am Songs of Praise

Rev Janet Williams

3 + 's for Elkstone in 2018

Good news on the Open Day front, a young person from the village has offered to head-up/organise the Open Day for us. The Village Hall & church committees are extremely grateful to Bethan & her team as the funds from this event are essential to our well being. Date to be announced.

Also, Andrew Hodges, with friends, has offer to give us a Spring String concert on the afternoon of 29th April with fun arrangements of well known tunes from Vivaldi to The Beatles.

On 28th October afternoon we are going to have a Commemorative Concert playing suitable music to celebrate the ending of The World War 1 100 years ago.

Tea & cakes will be served at both events.

Film & Supper Evening Thursday 15th February

Our February movie is **Victoria & Abdul** featuring **Judi Dench** as Queen Victoria & **Eddie Izzard** as the Prince of Wales. The film tells the extraordinary true story of an unexpected friendship in the later years of Queen Victoria's remarkable rule. When Abdul Karim, a young clerk, travels from India to participate in the Queen's Golden Jubilee, he is surprised to find favour with the Queen herself. As the Queen questions the constrictions of her long-held position, the two forge an unlikely and devoted alliance with a loyalty to one another that her household & inner circle all attempt to destroy. As the friendship deepens, the Queen begins to see a changing world through new eyes & joyfully reclaims her humanity.

The film will be preceded by a Lamb Casserole based supper starting at 7:00pm, the film starts at 8.00pm.

Tickets are £10.00 a head for Film & Supper, payment in a marked envelope please through the door of Manor Farm Cottage, Elkstone please, by 6:00pm on Monday 12th February; film-only attendance is £5.00 each, pay at the door.

Best regards, hope to see you there.

Jeremy & Anne 870516

Peals on the bells at St John's Church

We wanted to let the village know that we have received some requests to ring full peals on the bells of Elkstone Church, so the bells will be ringing for some time on these dates. The first is on 21st February, organised by one of the county's most frequent peal ringers, & the second is on 5th April organised by a Mr Elks, who wishes to ring at his namesake tower. Both are very experienced peal ringers, so the standard of ringing should be impeccable.

There are many technical rules for ringing to count as an official peal, but each possible sequence of the bells must be rung the same number of times during about 3 hours of continuous ringing without any mistakes, which is a test of both stamina & concentration.

The first peals we know of at Elkstone are recorded by peal boards in the tower listing the ringers' names & details of the peal. The first was in 1928 when there were just 5 bells, & the second in 1978 to celebrate its 50th anniversary & the addition of the sixth bell.

Finally, we no longer have enough ringers in the local band to ring all of the bells for Sunday Services, so we would very much like to hear from anyone interested in learning to ring & keeping the tradition alive in the village.

News from the trust

With so much in the news about the NHS struggling over the Christmas period I thought I would share the positive news from our trust over this period.

Whilst we did drop slightly below our pre-improvement standards in A & E there were no twelve hour breaches & fewer ambulance handover delays than any other trust in the region. Some elective surgery had to be cancelled due to pressure on beds but we are the only trust in the region not to have escalated to Opel level 4 which is the most serious crisis level in patient care. If you look at the Glos. Hospital twitter site & A & E you can read some of the very positive patient feedback we received.

Just before Christmas Jeremy Hunt, Secretary of State for health & Social care visited the trust & met with the management & staff. He subsequently wrote to us & in parliament said the situation he found was extraordinarily impressive & a great inspiration to many parts of the NHS. Our trust & much to be proud of!

Moving forward I am going to be very involved in discussions about how we treat people who present with mental illness in A & E & in their further care. If you have any concerns or information that you would like to share with me please do get in touch so that I can ensure that your views are taken into account.

Anne Davies

01242 870516 anne.davies11@nhs.net

Elkstone Village Gardens Open Day, 17th June 2018

Save the date for 2018 Gardens Open Day!

Plans are well under way for Gardens Open Day this year-

We are hoping for a wonderful day to celebrate our beautiful gardens & all come together as a village in some summer sunshine!

The vital party of gardens open day is of course the gardens! Thank you to those who have already offered to open their gardens- it would be wonderful if anyone else would like to open their gardens for our visitors to enjoy.

The wildflower meadow will look beautiful this year now that it has settled in, Sylvie Pierce will be intriguing visitors with the delights of the church & the whole village should be looking radiant- this can be enjoyed on wheels as Nic Williamson will be running the much loved tractor rides. We've got Ann Williamson & Ronnie Bury planning & recruiting for the car park. Anne Davies will be getting the word out all over the county. The Collins' will be running the very popular tombola & Carole Bury will be opening her artist's studio & allotment- so plenty to explore & enjoy!

We will need plenty of volunteers on the day in the village hall serving tea & cakes, & especially in the car park. Do get involved in any way you can- the more the merrier!

As Linzi & I are organizing this gardens open day (along with the wonderful committee) & are very new to this, we could really use as much help as we can get & would love to involve new people who would perhaps like to open their garden or volunteer for the first time, donate homemade cakes, or offer something a bit different!

It's a lovely day for us to come together as a village as well as raise vital funds for our village hall & church. So if you'd like to open your garden, volunteer, have an idea or would like to be involved in any other way do please get in touch!

2018 Committee:

Bethan- bethan.marriott@btinternet.com

Linzi- linzigass@icloud.com

Anne- seabran@gmx.com

Eric- e.magnuson@me.com



Elkstone Stories

In the planning!

Having grown up in Elkstone & I have really come to value & be very proud of the spirit of community in the village & grown an appreciation of it as a beautiful place to live. (As a result of this I now make artworks exploring personal narratives about place & community). Whenever I have the opportunity to chat with anyone in the village there are always different stories told & memories shared & its really wonderful to hear- both first impressions & memories of how the village has changed over the years. In celebration of this I'd like to offer a chance for us to share our own personal experiences & values of living in Elkstone, fond memories, hopes for its future & see how they differ & in what ways we feel the same. I think it would be lovely to then collect all these in the form of words & stories, pictures, drawings & poems to display at gardens open day- offering an insight into our personal stories of what it means to be a villager of Elkstone.

I am planning to organize a few meetings in the village hall between now & gardens open day where we can drink tea, eat cake & share some of these stories & then work on turning these into either something that could be displayed in a kind of exhibition or perhaps as small publications. I have not yet decided or finalized any plans on this but first it would be nice to share some stories & see what would fit!

So this is the idea & I'll share more details once I have planned a little more but if this sounds of interest do look out for more information when it comes or contact me with any ideas or thoughts!

Bethan Marriott

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www.bethanmarriott.com

Rendcomb Patients' Support Group

Invite you to a

SNOWDROP WALK

at

Covertside, Perrott's Brook, Cirencester, GL7 7BW
(*by kind permission of John & Lyn Sales*)

Saturday, 3rd February, 2018

10:30 - 12:30pm

By ticket only
(£10 to include tea/coffee & cake)

Available from Rendcomb Surgery

01285 831619

Elkstone Nativity 2017

Christmas Eve in Elkstone was a truly magical,
The Church adorned with evergreen; the excitement tangible.
The Nativity participants in costumes neatly pressed,
The shepherds & the angels could really not have guessed
That some real animals would share their chancel stage,
A wonderful reminder of that far-off bygone age.

Three Shetland sheep; a donkey & two bantams helped to tell,
The wondrous story of that night - which we all know so well,
How shepherds in their frosty fields heard the Angels sing,
Announcing wide the glorious news of a new-born King.
And how the shepherds ran with haste to that stable bare,
The first disciples of His name; Good News they were to share.

And we in Elkstone's lovely Church helped celebrate Christ's birth,
Echoing the Angels' song: Goodwill, & Peace on Earth.

Pauline Farman
December, 2017

Pauline has published a fun booklet of her poems about local events & that can be purchased from me, Chloe Darling. Darlingensis@icloud.com

