
ELKSTONE NEWSLETTER

Editor's Bumbings...

Hello,

I hope you all managed to find some joy in the snow that blew through. As long as you're warm, freshly fallen snow has to be one of the most beautiful visual treats of nature. I love that freshness it evokes, like the start of a new year filled with all the possibilities lying ahead, resolutions to make our worlds a bit brighter.

I'd like to wish you all a jovial January & a really happy 2018.

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

Features

Elkstone Church January Services

Elkstone Film Club News

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Rosemary Norton

News From The Trust

Note from Reg & Lois

Regular Dates

Waste & Recycling Food & Garden Waste – Every Friday

Fri 5th has move to 8th January

Waste & Recycling All Bags, Bins & Boxes – 2nd, 13th & 26th January

Indoor Bowls Every Tuesday - Village Hall – Trevor - 870246

Diary Dates

Elkstone Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday 17th January 8pm

Elkstone Film Night

Thursday 18th January

SERVICES for January 2018 in St John's, Elkstone

7 th	11 am	Christingle	Geoff Gait-Carr
14 th	10 am	Family Worship	Geoffrey Cox
21 st	11 am	Morning Prayer	Rev'd David Minns
28 th	10 am	Songs of Praise	Alexandra Dyer

Our annual Christingle service will be lead this year by Geoff Gait-Carr and assisted by Andrew Holt from the Children's Society. Warmth of giving with a glow of candles! The other special service is the Songs of Praise when Alexandra will return to lead a Songs of Praise in Prayer. Everyone is most welcome to ALL the services.

Elkstone Film & Supper Night Thursday January 18th 2018

A DVD production delay prevents us running Paddington II as advertised last month, so we are bringing forward **La La Land** which will ensure a happy start to 2018!

In this modern take on the Hollywood musical, struggling musician Sebastian (Ryan Gosling) & wannabe actress Mia (Emma Stone) are drawn together by their common desire to do what they love despite all the odds.

The film recreates the classical musical movie of the 50's & 60's, but set in a very modern era- & guaranteed to appeal to all age groups!

The film will be preceded by a Salmon based supper starting at 7:00pm, the film starts at 8:00pm.

Tickets £10/head for Film & Supper – payment in a marked envelope through the door of Manor Farm Cottage, Elkstone please, by 6:00pm on Monday 15th January.

Film-only attendance £5.00 each, pay on the door.

Jeremy & Anne 870516

Open Gardens Day 2018

As many of you will understand unlike in 2016 & 2017, it has been impossible for me to lead the co-ordination of this important occasion in village life in 2018.

So far, I understand that nobody has come forward to volunteer to undertake this role, despite an appeal from the Church & Village Hall in the last Newsletter. It would be a great pity if we did not go ahead in 2018.

The proceeds from Open Day make a valuable contribution financially to two vital community hubs in the village, namely the Church & Village Hall; & this would be badly missed in the budgets of both of them, especially at a time when their running & administrative costs keep steadily rising. More important still, is the community spirit which Open Day fosters & keeps alive in Elkstone. I am very happy to provide information, direction & support to any villagers who will undertake the 2018 event. The duties are not really onerous & the results are always rewarding.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Brian Howlett – brianhowlett21@gmail.com

A New Year – New Start!

The churchwardens, Geoff Gait-Carr & I are very aware of all the tremendous goodwill & effort that goes into the Open Day in Elkstone every year & we are truly grateful for the funds which come to the Church from the village event. Neither of us live in the village & feel unable to oversee such a thing from afar but we do so hope that someone in the village, new or older inhabitant, will come forward to manage it, as it is SO worthwhile, not just financially, but socially. Brian Howlett, who did so much to make the last few years such a success can not entertain it this year, but is more than happy to give detailed knowledge to anyone else.

Any offers – please contact Ronnie Bury 870 493 or Jeremy Davies 870 516

Tree Time

At noon, on Tuesday 19th December, Sylvie Pearce & friends planted a tree in the church yard in memory of her husband & our longterm churchwarden, David.

The chosen tree is a Metasequoia Glyptostrobooides or a Dawn Redwood. It is an interesting tree discovered in Central China, & previously only known in fossils, as was the Ginko or Maidenhair tree. The first seeds arrived in 1948 via The Arnold Arboretum in Boston, USA. It is also unusual being a deciduous conifer, having dainty bright larch like leaves in the summer & turning golden, then brown, before falling in the autumn. The lovely reddish trunk glows in sunlight, hence the name, Redwood.

Rendcomb Support Surgery Support Surgery

We raised £353 at our coffee morning in Winstone Village Hall at the beginning of December. An excellent result & thanks to all who helped.

Jennie Howlett

Rosemary Norton

Rosemary & David moved into The Byrne in 1988 when it had just been converted. We joined them next door at Church View & we were some of the first occupants of the Manor Farm Development. Later Robert, their son, & Liz joined them in Elkstone & lived almost next-door. It was to their home in France that Rosemary travelled in November. She had been in failing health over the summer & needed more support. She was sad to find driving & her love of literature & theatre diminishing, but nevertheless her independent spirit shone through. Rosemary had lived on her own, but with many visits from friends & guests for seven years. She enjoyed her trips to London, Stratford & Cheltenham Literature Festival. She always made contributions to Gardens Open Day – usually of lovely home-made fudge.

She died in France surrounded by love on Monday 11th December.

Jennie Howlett

NEWS FROM THE TRUST.

Firstly, I would like to thank all of you who voted for me in the recent elections. It is a privilege & honour to be chosen to represent you for a further three years & I promise to do all I can to ensure that your voices are heard.

Secondly it is wonderful to be able to report that the trust has recently exceeded the national target of seeing patients coming to A & E within a four-hour period. Recent attendance at A & E by some very ill adults and children tied up senior staff for some time & our figures dropped to 94.57% but we remain above 95% for the month to date & are on track to meet our trajectory for the quarter. These are the best results for the trust in seven & a half years. Not only is this better for our patients but it is also having a great effect on staff morale & staff are also contributing ideas to improve our performance further in other areas within the hospitals.

A positive way that you can help is to download an app called ASAP which will help you to decide where to turn in the event of illness or injury. Using the app you can search by condition or service to ensure that you get the best and fastest help should you need it. This will also help by reducing attendance at A & E for those cases who do not need that level of service. The app can be found at asapglos.nhs.uk.

Another area where the trust has had considerable success is in encouraging staff to have flu vaccinations. We recently hit the 70% target of patient facing staff having had their vaccination by the end of November & with two months still to go & we are now aiming for 75%. A recent study found that a 10% increase in vaccination rates resulted in a 10% fall in sickness absence which has to be good news both for patients & staff.

During the recent bad weather members of staff to incredible lengths to help ensure patients continued to receive care in our hospitals and it is this spirit of working together to meet challenges which escalates down from board & consultant level to all staff that makes being part of this team so rewarding. In the next year we will address other targets such as Referral to Treatment & cancer targets.

Finally, I would like to assure you all that the 'fake news' that keeps circulating concerning the possible closure of Cheltenham A & E is just that. IT IS NOT TRUE. Quite the contrary is in fact the case & using money recently released to us by NHS England as a result of our improvements the team is now busily working up the options to spend the capital on expanding the footprint of the A&E department at Cheltenham General Hospital which, in turn will also provide much needed enlarged space for fracture clinic which is now based at Cheltenham.

My best wishes to you all for 2018.

Anne Davies

Belated Seasons Greetings

Former Ed & Mrs Former Ed send belated Season's Greetings to all friends & neighbours.

(We know it's late, but one gets so forgetful after retirement...)

Reg & Lois