

# Elkstone Newsletter

33<sup>rd</sup> Year: No. 9 (354)

June 2017

## Editor's Bit

The gardeners' prayers for rain have been answered and greenery has sprouted everywhere. A dry spell is now promised so that we can prepare for the visitor boom on the 11<sup>th</sup>.

The potholes on our local lanes are almost reaching world record sizes. A recent spam email showed an image of potholes in the USA which had been filled with cannabis plants – a week later there was a report on TV about a man in Bath warned for filling holes with small plants.

*Reg – 21<sup>st</sup> May 2017*

Features	
Elkstone Church Services	Farewell from Cynthia Laird
Solstice Walk	Newsletter Editor & Printer vacancies!
Elkstone Village Gardens Open Day	Elkstone Newsletter goes electronic...
Diary Dates	
Solstice Walk – 9 <sup>th</sup> June Minchinhampton	
Elkstone Village Gardens Open Day – June 11 <sup>th</sup> 2017	
Barn Dance - Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup> July 7.30pm - Cowley	
Regular Dates	
Waste and recycling	Food + garden waste – Every Friday
Waste and recycling	All bags, bins + boxes – Fridays 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 16 <sup>th</sup> and 30 <sup>th</sup> 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: <b>Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> June</b> please	
The Elkstone web-site has current and past copies of the Newsletter – <a href="http://www.elkstonevillage.com">www.elkstonevillage.com</a>	
<b><i>Reg Eyre – High Beech – 870375 – <a href="mailto:reg.eyre@tesco.net">reg.eyre@tesco.net</a></i></b>	

## Elkstone Church Services for June

4 <sup>th</sup> June	10.00am		Rev Joan Hobbs
18 <sup>th</sup> June	11.00am	Holy Communion	Rev Arthur Champion
25 <sup>th</sup> June	10.00am	Songs of Praise	Rev Geoffrey Cox

*David*

## Walk for Longfield 9th June

This year's Walk for Longfield (formerly Solstice Walk) will be on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June, with the option of 5km or 10km walks on Minchinhampton Common, plus music, children's entertainment, a barbecue and a bar. All money raised will support Longfield's amazing care for people in Gloucestershire with life-limiting illness and the walks start at our building in Burleigh Lane from 6.30pm. Entry fees are £10 for an adult and £5.00 per child (4–16, under 4's go free) but if you can fundraise £100 or more, you will walk for free. So register today at [www.longfield.org.uk](http://www.longfield.org.uk) or, if you need to know more, call 01453 886868 or e-mail [events@longfield.org.uk](mailto:events@longfield.org.uk)

***Vicki Hayward Fundraising Manager Longfield,***  
*Burleigh Lane, Minchinhampton, Gloucestershire GL5 2PQ*

***Email: [Vicki.Hayward@longfield.org.uk](mailto:Vicki.Hayward@longfield.org.uk)***

***Tel: 01453 886868 DDI: 01453 733701***

## Elkstone Village Gardens Open Day – June 11<sup>th</sup> 2017

### Our 25<sup>th</sup> Year

By the time you read this we shall only be a week or so from the big day. So here is a final reminder to pot up seedlings and cuttings, and divide perennials for the Plant Stall. Please deliver these and other horticultural donations ideally on Saturday afternoon the 10<sup>th</sup> June. As last year the Plant Stall is to be located just outside the gates of the Old Rectory where you can leave your plants in the shady corner adjacent to the wall of the Church. As for donations of cakes and biscuits for Village Hall, please bring them directly to Jennie Howlett at Church View any time on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> June, or after 13.00 at the Village Hall on Sunday.

Many thanks to the people who have already volunteered to help on the Car Park, Cream Teas, Village Hall Teas, the Plant Sales, Jewellery Stall, Games and Barbecue. Your support is much appreciated and highly valued. If you haven't already put your name forward to help, please do so soon, if only for an hour or so on the day. The success of this venture has always depended on as many villagers as possible being able to show a warm welcome to our visitors. Just contact one of the Committee members below if you would like to support one or other of the above activities.

Several helpers have mentioned that they end up being so busy on the day that they don't have chance to look at the open gardens. In response, we will be setting up direction signs to the gardens on Saturday morning, so if gardeners won't mind the interruption there will be an opportunity to take a peek during Saturday afternoon/Sunday morning. Last year, people were queuing at the car park not long after 13.00, so at any rate everything needs to be in place and ready to go well before then.

Last but by no means least, all villagers and their guests are invited to the barbecue on the Village Green from where they can enjoy some well-earned R&R after a hectic day. This year Christoph has kindly agreed to organize and will start serving food from 19.00. Paper plates and napkins will be available but bring your own cutlery, crockery together with your choice of drinks and glasses, and salads if you wish. As usual we can all help bring tables and chairs to the Village Green from 18.30 (or not if the weather is bad!) Cost per person will be £3.00 and £2.00 per child. This occasion is usually one of the highlights of our Elkstone village life, when we look forward to celebrating the 25<sup>th</sup> successful collaboration and contribution to the two pillars of the community: the Village Hall and St John's Church.

Brian – [brianhowlett21@gmail.com](mailto:brianhowlett21@gmail.com)  
Anne – [seabran@gmx.com](mailto:seabran@gmx.com)  
Christoph – [christoph@realreview.com](mailto:christoph@realreview.com)  
Eric – [e.magnuson@me.com](mailto:e.magnuson@me.com)

### Village Hall Tea Room

As in previous years we will be opening our tearoom in the Village Hall on Open Day. Those who have helped in the past have enjoyed the experience of helping with, setting up the hall, serving our visitors, acting as waiters/waitresses and working in the kitchen. If anyone would like to join the team for part of the afternoon in any of these roles please let me know. You will be made to feel very welcome.

Finally a most important request – since we cannot have a tearoom without cakes, (or biscuits or any home made produce such as jam or sweets), we have been amazed at villagers' generosity in providing a wonderful range of goods. Please will you help again this year?

We will be in the Village Hall from 1 o'clock onwards on the day, or I will collect items if required. Further information from:

*Jennie Howlett - Church View - 870462*

**Bottles:** We will be running a bottle stall tombola at the open day and would be very grateful to receive any bottles of wine, beer, ketchup, or indeed anything edible in a bottle for use as prizes. They can be dropped off at Briars Cottage or we are happy to collect. *Sue and David Collins*

**Jewellery:** I am running a preloved jewellery stall at the Open Gardens. So ladies ... please dig deep into your jewellery boxes and be kind enough to let me have any unwanted items - necklaces, ear rings, bracelets etc. All gratefully appreciated. Please drop off at Wool Barn (opp. Langdale). *Julia Haynes*

### **From the Parish Council**

A reminder please for any public footpaths to be kept as clear as possible to give a good impression for Gardens Open Day when these are used by our visitors.

*Jane Thorn*

### **Dr Sue's Retirement 'Do'**

On behalf of Rendcomb Surgery Patients' Support Group, a very big Thank You to everyone who made Dr. Sue's Retirement 'Do' such a delightful occasion. The number of people present shows the love and affection felt by friends, patients and colleagues for Dr. Sue. It was lovely to see everyone coming together to thank her for her thirty years of care and support for everyone at Rendcomb Surgery and to wish her and Dave a healthy and happy retirement. We are delighted that she is pleased with her bicycle and hope to see her peddling around Cirencester for many years to come.

*Pauline Farman and Jennie Howlett*

*RPSG*

### **Farewell**

#### **Village and Community Agent**

For the past 10 years I have been the Village and Community Agent for this part of the Cotswolds. I initially started with 5 parishes and now cover 25 over a wide area.

This role has been a large part of my daily life and the involvement with giving help and support where needed, and being told how much difference it has made to the clients well being is a very rewarding job to have had.

I have met some lovely people in the course of working in the communities in my area and have been made very welcome at the various clubs and pop in lunches.

I now feel it is time for me to retire and I shall from May 31<sup>st</sup>. I shall miss the contact with so many people but do hope to keep in touch from time to time.

I hope to be able to do some of the things that I haven't had time for in the past like gardening and watercolour painting.

It just remains for me to say goodbye and thank you to everyone for making me so welcome in your Community.

Best wishes

*Cynthia*

### **I'm (still) looking for walking/exercise companions**

As we live in such a beautiful area I was wondering if anyone would like to start a bit of a walking/maybe even running group? I need to get fitter and do some regular exercise but it's not much fun on my own.

If anyone's interested please send me a email or text:

Thank you,

*Linzi - Hill View - [LinziGass@icloud.com](mailto:LinziGass@icloud.com) - 07827871183*

### **Food for thought**

I met Pam Brogan from Colesbourne one Sunday and, thinking of Linzi's request, mentioned that the 'Elkstone Rambler Group' had folded after 30 years. She offered me the following:

"In the past, I had put together a booklet of walks because there are many routes one could take from the Colesbourne Inn. I could equally start them from Elkstone Village Hall. But as I live in Colesbourne, and there is plenty of parking at the inn, walkers are asked to get permission from the landlord.

Permitted footpaths seem to have changed to Byways (\*). Which are all in my walks, otherwise you'd be stuck in the middle of a field! One set goes round in a circle going west and crossing over the A435 to come back. The second lot, not yet published, are all over on my side of the road in Colesbourne, going to Elkstone, again in a circular route with none of them being too long. I used to walk for miles around here, across to Syde and Caudle Green and far beyond to

the Cranham Woods area, etc. But I never wrote them up and I'm too old to do long walks anymore since I am 81 this week! So doing a leaflet of walks further afield probably would be too difficult because of how long it takes me to actually do them now. Which is a shame. I could write them up with the maps from memory, but without actually doing the walks I wouldn't be able to give landmarks or changes that might have occurred over the years. Maybe I'll think about it, as I could take the car to the layby on the A417 to start a walk instead starting from home. I could then add it on to the local walks."

*Pam*

\* I think Pam is referring to the old category of RUPPs; all RUPPs were reclassified by statute as restricted byways w.e.f. May 2006 – *Mrs Ed.*

### **Advertisement - Newsletter situations soon to become vacant!**

Sadly, both Nic, the Printer of the Elkstone Newsletter, and Reg, the Editor, have decided to step down, and so are asking for volunteers to take over these roles.

Nic and Reg will continue up to the issue of the Newsletter which follows the Gardens Open Day (i.e. July's issue). Please contact the Reg with offers:

*Reg Eyre* – 870375 – [Reg.eyre@tesco.net](mailto:Reg.eyre@tesco.net)

### **Request for a reply**

It has been suggested that the Elkstone Newsletter be sent out as an email attachment only. If we proceed with this, there would be no need for someone to spend time and money printing, stapling, collating and distributing paper copies. For this to work I would need your email addresses. Please could you all supply these by 15<sup>th</sup> June. Please be assured that I will only use this list in such a way that no-one could see anyone else's addresses.

What worries me, as the current editor, is not knowing the number of villagers who do not have, or use, email or internet services. Please let me know if you are affected or if you know of other villagers who would be affected.

I will then contact Jeremy, and the Village Hall committee, for them to decide how to proceed.

*Reg* – High Beech – [reg.eyre@tesco.net](mailto:reg.eyre@tesco.net)

Please reply as soon as practicable.

### **Barn Dance - Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> July 7.30pm**

Enjoy a barn dance with live music and a caller at Girlguiding Gloucestershire HQ Deer Park, Cowley. Tickets, £10.00 in advance and £12.00 on the door, include one drink and either a hot dog, burger or pork roll and a bar is available. Should you wish to complete the night with free camping but please check that a pitch is available.

*Sarah - the guider in charge* - 01242 870284 - [deerparkcowley@btconnect.com](mailto:deerparkcowley@btconnect.com)

*Anne Davies - member of management committee*

### **CIREN Self Help Project Waitrose tokens**

Our project went live this month and we are very grateful to Waitrose who have offered to make us one of their charities of the month in July.

We are working in cooperation with doctors, the hospital and many other charities in Cirencester. Our first client contacted us within ten minutes of our publicity being made available which is indicative of the need for our work.

We still need funds to help us with our work it would be of great help if you felt that you could store your Waitrose tokens until July and then add them for us. Any other help that you might be able to give us would be really welcomed and you can find all our information on our website

[cirenselphelp.org.uk](http://cirenselphelp.org.uk)

*Anne Davies (Trustee and Chair)* - 01242 870516