

# Elkstone Newsletter

22nd Year: No. 4 (256)

January 2009

## Editor's Bit

I recently had a conversation with a villager who had found out that while they had electricity, another part of the village was cut off for several hours. This can also happen with mains water. Because we pride ourselves on being a fairly close community, we ought to be offering help to those who are suffering an outage of their water or electricity supply. The problem is that we often do not know. May I suggest that if you are suffer an interruption to a utility supply, you phone a neighbour to ask for help? This might prevent the loss of food from a freezer, or help someone with young children.

I hope you all enjoyed a happy and peaceful festive season, and may I wish the world all the best for 2009!

The next issue of the Newsletter will be my last before setting out for the Land of the Long White Cloud.

Reg – 22-12-08

Features	
Welcome to Elkstone New Year's Day ERG Walk Christingle Service January Rural Cinema	Flying in the 1930s A Brace of Thanks Nature Notes Charles Chester
Dates for your Diary	
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> January – ERG Walk – Cranham Common – 10.30am	
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> January – Christingle Service – St.John's Church, Elkstone - 10.00am	
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> January – Parish Council Meeting – Village Hall – 8.00pm	
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January – Rural Cinema – Village Hall – 7.15pm for 7.30pm start	
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> February – Flying in the 1930s – Village Hall – 8.00pm	
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> February – Toy Service - St.John's Church, Elkstone - 10.00am	
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> June – Open Day – Cotswold Gardens at Elkstone - 2.00pm	
Regular Dates	
Waste & recycling	Food and garden waste – Every Monday
Waste & recycling	All bags, bins and boxes – Mondays 12 <sup>th</sup> and 26 <sup>th</sup>
Watercolour Painting	Every Tuesday - Village Hall - 10am – <i>Yvette Levick 870485</i>
Indoor Bowls	Every Tuesday - Village Hall - <i>Bernard Alder 870255</i>
Mobile Library	Tuesdays 13 <sup>th</sup> , 27 <sup>th</sup> - Hill View - 11.45am to 11.55am
Deadline for February Edition: <b>Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> January</b> Please	
<b>Reg Eyre – High Beech – 870375 – <a href="mailto:reg.eyre@tesco.net">reg.eyre@tesco.net</a></b>	

## Welcome to Elkstone

We welcome Steven Minney to Peacock Cottage.

We also welcome Alex and Edward Cain who will be living at The Mill House with their children Charlie and Mia.

We hope you will all be very happy in Elkstone.

### **ERG Walks for the Festive Season**

#### **New Year's Day: Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2009**

A 3.5 mile circuit starting at **10.30 a.m. from the Cranham Millenium Bench & Signpost**, beside the junction of lanes on Cranham Common at grid ref. 894 123.

This route is not so undulating as that of the November walk! but boots will be essential. After walking, lunch could be taken at the Royal William on the A46 near Cranham Corner (The Black Horse will be closed).

*Sharon – 528794*

**The ERG Programme for 2009** is now available, please contact me if you would like a copy; all are welcome on our sociable monthly walks, there are no membership fees or formalities.

*Lois - 870375*

### **Christingle Service**

Our annual Christingle Service is on Sunday 11th January 2009 at 10am.

A warm candlelit welcome awaits all ages. If you are a Children's Society box-holder please bring your box with you.

The Toy Service will be held on Sunday 8th February also at 10 am.

We look forward to the celebration and sharing of gifts at both services.

Please join us.

*Jenny Howlett*

### **January Rural Cinema**

Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian (Cert. PG)

One year after the incredible events of 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe' the kings and queens of Narnia find themselves back in the far away wondrous realm, only to discover that more than 1300 Narnian years have elapsed.

Date: Friday 23rd January 2009

Doors open at 7:15pm for a 7:30pm start.

Entrance: £3.50

Rural Cinema dates for diary: 12th February and 12th March

*Sue Collins*

### **Flying in the 1930's - Northwest Frontier of India**

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February – Village Hall, 8.00pm

Trevor has very kindly offered to give us another of his very interesting talks about life in the RAF. Those parishioners who came to his previous talks will know how fascinating they are – those who didn't should try not to miss this one.

Entry will be £1.50 to include tea/coffee and biscuits.

*The Events Committee*

### **Date for your Diary – Open Day**

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2009 - 2.00pm

We have received a number of requests to fix a date for Open Day 09. Please take this as a pretty firm provisional date; we will keep you posted.

We have a strong nucleus of a committee, but would certainly welcome at least 2 new members and the return of experienced hands. Just call or e-mail.

*The Gardens Committee Nic 870556 [openday@az.azteck.com](mailto:openday@az.azteck.com)*

### **A Brace of Thanks**

This year over £250 was sent to UNICEF following the Card and Gift Sale held at Church View in November. Once again thanks for your wonderful support.

The annual Coffee Morning for Rendcomb Surgery Support Group raised £374.90. This outstanding amount was due to the generous donations both of money and goods from villagers as well as their attendance on the day.

All the doctors came along - even Dr. Davies who is now in The Antarctic along with James Cracknell and Ben Fogle. Dr Jardine is returning to cover while he is away.

*Jennie Howlett*

### **Nature Notes**

Otters are a prominent feature in these days of species being encouraged to increase.

When I was in my early teens otter hunts were still common on the River Churn.

Times and opinions change. One unforgettable memory is of going round the lambing sheep in the night, when the moonlight was pale and the air completely still, and hearing the unmistakable whistle of an otter swimming in the river. It was thrilling, but could only happen on the rare nights when there was no wind to drown the sound.

The birds have been so busy this cold weather feeding from the bird feeders, even a little family of five long tailed tits came when it was very cold.

Seasonal greetings

*Jessie*

### **Inserted on behalf of Shirley Chester**

As I am sure you will all know by now, my husband Charles died suddenly on Saturday 13th December. The love and support shown by friends and neighbours has been amazing and I should like to thank everyone for their cards and messages which have been such a comfort to me and to the family.

Charles' 88year span has been varied and fulfilling and in his retirement, when we moved to Cockleford, he has enjoyed new friendships and the time to enjoy the garden and take up woodturning. We have been richly blessed, and whilst there is deep sadness there is also a sense of celebration of a long life lived to the full.

*Kim Chester*



A 1980s sketch by George Robey, who was the first editor of the Newsletter. Would someone like to sketch other houses or objects in the village for the Newsletter?

*Editor*