

# Elkstone Newsletter

22nd Year: No. 9 (261)

June 2009

## Editor's Bit

We had a visitor last month, who parked his huge articulated truck opposite the house, successfully narrowing the 3/190 to a single lane. He had a scrap of paper with our post code scribbled on. He did not respond to English, French or German and it was only after I saw his Polish registration plate that I guessed his nationality. Somehow he indicated that he had come to take away a tractor, (or was it being delivered?) and could not believe that we were not in the market for one. I telephoned the police to explain that the "cut" was blocked and drivers were still trying to do 'stoppies' because they could not see such a large obstruction at the speeds they were travelling. It took some time (several guesses) to identify the intended address, and phone the owner – who was expecting the lorry in 3 days time! - to come and sort it out. But there was no ramp to get anything so large into (or out of?) the container! The lorry stayed out side for about two hours before giving up, and the traffic had to slow down. A week later - a different articulated lorry parked outside – same errand! this time successful. Again the traffic was disturbed but much reduced in speed. We have not had another visitor from Poland but I am thinking that we could mark the lane with a parking bay for visiting lorries and see if the traffic would slow down along the lane?  
*Reg – 21.05.09 – please note delayed deadline for July so that reports can written*

<b>Features</b>	
Advert June ERG Walk Music for a Summer's Evening Nature Notes	Letter to the Editor Private Party Notice History Section Open Day Requests for Help
<b>Dates for your Diary</b>	
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> June – Village Hall Spring Cleaning Morning - 9.30 to noon	
Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup> June – ERG Walk – Guiting Power – Meet 9.30 for a 9.45 start	
Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup> June – Music for a Summer's Evening – Elkstone Church – 6.30pm	
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> June – Open Day – Cotswold Gardens at Elkstone - 2.00pm	
Saturday 22nd August - local evening walk followed by a barbeque – details next month	
<b>Regular Dates</b>	
Waste & recycling	Food and garden waste – Every Monday
Waste & recycling	All bags, bins and boxes – Mondays 1 <sup>st</sup> , 15 <sup>th</sup> and 29 <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, - Hill View - 11.45am to 11.55am
Deadline for July Edition: <b>Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June</b> Please	
<b><i>Reg Eyre – High Beech – 870375 – <a href="mailto:reg.eyre@tesco.net">reg.eyre@tesco.net</a></i></b>	

## Free to a Good Home

We have a single mattress available. It is from Ikea and was used in conjunction with a thin mattress, so it is unmarked and as good as new.

*Carole and Ronnie – 870493*

### **ERG Walk on 13<sup>th</sup> June**

A circular walk of about 5 miles starting from Guiting Power Village Hall Car Park (OS Leisure 45 - SP 094 245). Meet up at 09:30 for a prompt 09:45 start. There are approx. 10 stiles but route is fairly clear of livestock for those with hounds. Lunch at either of the two Guiting pubs - the Hollow Bottom or the Farmers Arms.  
*Rupert & Ali 870229*

### **Music for a Summer's Evening**

Elkstone Church, Saturday 13th June at 6.30 pm  
John Qualtrough (baritone) - Andrew Hodges (violin) - David Groves (piano)  
Cheese and wine will be served afterwards at the Old Rectory where you will also have the opportunity to bid for a small watercolour of Elkstone Church.  
The late Alec Brown MBE painted original watercolours of 240 different churches of the Gloucester diocese in the hope that many people could enjoy them and that they could be used to raise money for the churches.  
All proceeds from the concert and the auction will go to the church fabric fund.  
Tickets, limited to sixty, cost £10 each and are available from Lindy Price, Carole Bury, Chloe Darling and Sylvie Pierce.  
*Sylvie Pierce*

### **Nature Notes**

Recently, there have been lots of discussions in the media about bees and their importance in the natural scheme of things. This reminded me of a beekeeper who used to keep his hives at Scrubditch. They had acres of white clover to feed on, and did really well. We used to make little wooden ramps in the water troughs, so they could drink without drowning. Now for the really exciting time, trying to mow the clover with two horses and an old cutter bar mower, when the bees were swarming! They used to be hanging in big clusters in the ash trees above the mowing party. There was great relief when enough swathes had been mown to give the bees a wide berth.

The cuckoo has been calling quite a lot this year, but came quite late – perhaps the weather or something else hindered it en route.

*Jessie*

### **Dear Editor,**

Can we make a plea that next year the cow parsley that adorns the lane that leads into Elkstone be left alone and not scythed down as happened last week? Who cannot feel uplifted by the fresh green fern-like leaves and lace-like flat heads that line the lanes and roadsides in May? Why would anyone wish to remove such delicate and graceful flowers and, with them, a myriad of insects and other wild life that hides in the long grass and herbaceous vegetation? Don't we all look forward to late spring when the hedgerows froth with these delicate white flowers - not for nothing is *Anthriscus sylvestris* also known as Queen Anne's Lace.

How exquisite the cow parsley is and what a ravishing sight to lift one's spirits on warm Spring days. And what a welcome as we venture down the lane, spangled with its pretty clouds, into our village.

Please can we keep the beautiful verges of cow parsley just when it is coming into bloom? Can anything be done to stop this happening in future years?

*Stephen and Jane West*

**Private parties to be held at Elkstone Manor**

Saturday June 6th and Saturday June 27th

Wedding receptions will be held at Elkstone Manor on these days

Dance music will play until 11 pm.

Coaches will be used to reduce the number of cars

*Christine*

**A Bit of Elkstone History**

How many of these people can you name? When was the picture taken? What was the reason for taking the picture?



All will be revealed next month in the History Section of the Newsletter.

If you would like to contribute to this new section, please let me know.

*Editor*

Clue to the above ...

...and see back page.



# Open Day Requests

## **Spring Cleaning Morning**

6th June 9.30am to Noon

Got a free hour or two on the 6th June?

Samantha of 'Bewitched' is not available, please can you come instead to click your fingers and wriggle your nose and see the transformation of the Hall.

Sweeping, cleaning, painting and polishing are the necessary tasks to brighten our cherished Village Hall in time for Open Gardens Day.

Sweeties and biscuits and drinks will be available for all helpers.

Thank you

*The Village Hall Committee*

## **Books, CDs, DVDs and/or Videos**

Sylvie and David Pierce are once again doing the bookstall this year, so please look out any books, magazines, CDs, DVDs or Videos which are no longer

required. Please leave anything we can sell in our front porch from 5 June onwards.

Alternatively we will be collecting from around the village on the morning of 13 June.

If you are out on the morning or don't want to be disturbed, please leave any "offerings" by your front door.

Many thanks

*David*

## **Bric-A-Brac**

Back again and bigger and better at this year's open day we are on the hunt for your \*quality\* items that we can sell on the day. This year we will be accepting your items from Saturday 6th June. All deliveries to the School House Garage which is at the end of the village hall car park, please. Feel free to leave non-valuables by the garage (we are usually around) and we will have an "open garage" for deliveries on Saturday 13th June from 1-4.

Many thanks

*Joyce and Steve*

## **Calling all cooks, waitresses, washers-up.....**

Can you help again this year? We hope our willing band from the village, (and elsewhere) are ready to perform their miracles again this June.

We never cease to be amazed at the amount of baking that takes place during the run-up to the actual day. There is such a varied display and our visitors are always complimentary on our efforts.

If you feel you could help once again - or even for the first time - by baking your favourite cake/biscuits, or helping in our cafe in The Village Hall please give us a ring. We usually have a marvellous time on the day - and feel exhausted afterwards!

*Margaret - 870268 and Jennie - 870462*



**“Cotswold Gardens at Elkstone”  
(Open Day) June 21<sup>st</sup>**

After, it has to be said, a period of shocking minimal response, we are on track for an excellent Open Day with some really interesting new features. See [www.elkstonevillage.co.uk](http://www.elkstonevillage.co.uk)

## **Help Needed – PREPARATION & HELPERS ON THE DAY**

Please be forward in coming forward to lend a hand on the day (& with a bit of preparation). The coordinators are:

- Car Park** (it's not 'boys only') - Contact Richard 870521  
**Village Hall Teas** (it's not 'girls only') - Contact Jennie 870462  
**Cream Teas** (it's not 'girls only') - Contact Anne Davies 870516  
**Country Challenge** (traditional games) - Contact Jeremy 870516  
**Sewing** Carole 870493 would appreciate help with simple machine sewing (very soon, please).  
**'Guiding' in the Church & Church Flowers** Contact Sylvie 870181  
**Signage** (erecting road signs) **HELP PLEASE** Contact committee  
(directional signs around village) - Contact committee  
**BBQ** Help needed flipping burgers - Contact Rupert & Ali 870229  
Loan of a gas BBQ

**Litter Pick & Clean Up** everyone! (Please do **not** mow the Pound)

## **Help Needed - STALLS**

Please see individual requests in Newsletter and by leaflet through door by each stallholder for details.

**Clothes:** good quality, clean clothes, curtains, linen. Contact Tess 870480 – see leaflet

**Books:** books, CDs, Videos, computer games, magazines etc. Contact David & Sylvie – see request.

**Bric-a-Brac:** Contact Steve & Julia 870038 or Joyce Souter 01285 821186 – see request.

**Tombola:** buy one extra / set a few aside: bottles – booze, kids drinks etc.

**Plants:** plants, seedlings, and even garden related items etc. Contact Rupert & Ali 870229

Please drop off plants at Rose Cottage driveway on Saturday or Sun am.

**Cakes:** bake an extra cake etc. Contact Jennie 870462

**Tombola: HELP PLEASE to look after this 'easy to run' feature**  
Contact committee

## **Help Needed - POSTERS & FLYERS**

A couple of flyers and a poster are attached. Please send these to friends, post them at work, give to shops, pubs, garden centres, guesthouses, churches, clubs etc.

Advertising makes or breaks Open Day.

A few years ago I got guests at my Mum's funeral to come. (I was the only one who could not come.)

Thanks to everyone. (We have not included a couple of items that we know to be completely sewn up.)

*Gardens Committee: Jeremy & Anne 870516, Maggie 870333, Sylvie, Nic & Ann 870556. [openday@az.azteck.com](mailto:openday@az.azteck.com)*

### **Part answer to History Question**

The picture was taken in November 1977 and was printed in *The Ringing World* page 968.

It shows some of the Elkstone ringers – Back row, (from left to right) Vernon Perkins, Andrea Perkins, Clive Holder. Front row: Rev. Peter Newing (rector), Timothy Perkins, Graham Short, Reginald Miles (tower captain and churchwarden)

The story is about the augmentation of the bells and will be told in the next issue.

Thanks to Pauline for digging this article out of the archives.

*Editor*

### **Late News**

Colesbourne Village Fete takes place from 4.00 to 6.00pm on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June at Colesbourne Park, accessed from the A435.