

# Elkstone Newsletter

23rd Year: No. 1 (265)

October 2009

## Editor's Bit

Some of the evening clouds have been fantastic and well worth photographing, but guess who forgets where his camera is?

Did anyone else enjoy writing 09/09/09 on letters and cheques?

Stop press! Julia's MacMillan Coffee Morning raised £387.21 – Well done!

*Reg – 25.09.09*

Features	
Welcome	Bonfire Night
Open Gardens Report	The Wailing Wall of Olde Elkstone
October ERG Walk	Advice request
Harvest Supper Report	Nature Notes
Elkstone Rural Cinema	Parish Council News
	Tai Chi Club
Dates for your Diary	
Saturday 10 <sup>th</sup> October – Wine Tasting – Village Hall – 7.00pm	
Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup> October – ERG Walk – Wechford, Forest of Dean – Meet 09.45 (10.00am start)	
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October – Elkstone Cinema – Village Hall – 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start	
Regular Dates	
Waste & recycling	Food and garden waste – Every Monday
Waste & recycling	All bags, bins and boxes – Mondays 5 <sup>th</sup> and 19 <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>
Deadline for November Edition: <b>Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October</b> Please	
<b><i>Reg Eyre – High Beech – 870375 – <a href="mailto:reg.eyre@tesco.net">reg.eyre@tesco.net</a></i></b>	

## Welcome

We welcome Pete and Mandy Harwood and their daughter Tess to Elkstone. They have moved into Granary Barn.

## Elkstone Gardens Open Day 2009

The final profit from the Gardens Open Day in June is £2349.46. This is £27.24 up on last year. The overall number of visitors was slightly down on last year but we managed to get them to spend more money whilst they were with us. Particular success was recorded on the books and bric-a-brac stalls where profits were up by over £100 on each stall compared to last year. The Tombola also recorded a hefty increase. The profit has been divided equally between the Church and the Village Hall, each receiving £1174.73.

*Martyn Wylie*

## Change of date for November ERG walk

The November ERG walk will be on Saturday 14th November. Further details will be given in next month's newsletter.

*Bernard*

**ERG Walk and Fungi Foray**  
**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2009**  
**The Wenchford picnic site in the Forest of Dean**  
**Meet 9:45am for a 10:00am start**

Our previous visits to this woodland site, attending organised forays, have turned up a good number of Parasol Mushrooms - excellent to eat and, importantly, easy to recognise! We have also found Stinkhorns, Boletes, Orange Peel Puffballs, Earth Balls and Yellow Staining Mushrooms – all sadly inedible but each interesting in their own way.

Please bring a wicker basket (or similar) to allow you to collect the various Fungi. At the end of the two-hour meander we will try our best to identify what has been gathered. A prize will be given to the finder of the most unusual Fungi.

Directions: take the A417 / A40 around to the west of Gloucester and then follow the A48 through Minsterworth, Westbury on Severn and Newnham to Blakeney. When about to leave Blakeney (shortly after the speed limit rises to 40 mph) take the side road to the right signposted Coleford / Parkend / Scenic Route. Follow this road approximately one mile to the end of the 30 mph speed limit and after a further half mile take a right turn on to a track signposted for the Wenchford picnic site. Follow this track to the toilet block. Please allow at least 45 minutes for the 30 mile drive from Elkstone.

After the walk we will drive 5 miles to the Red Hart Inn at Awre for Lunch. Could those staying for Lunch please let us know and we will reserve places. Many thanks.

*Bryan and Lye - 01242 870481*

**Elkstone Harvest Supper 2009**

Last Friday we held our Harvest Supper in the village hall. It's been a few years since we last all sat down to a Harvest Supper and with 40 villagers in attendance, - most bringing something delicious to eat ranging from home-baked ham to trifle! and Ronnie the Barman selling wine at £1 a glass - what more could we want!

Our charity this year is Send a Cow, which provides animals and plants to help establish sustainable farming activities in Africa. We managed to raise a very healthy £250.00.

A huge thank you to everyone who supported and participated in the evening where a great time was had by all.

*Vincent Sevilla*

**Elkstone Cinema Returns!**

The feature for Friday October 23rd is “Bottle Shock” (Certificate 12)

“Based on a true story of love, victory and fermentation. “

A comedy drama starring Alan Rickman as a wine snob in 1970's California

The Village Hall doors will open at 7:15pm for 7:30 start.

Entrance is £3.50 for adults & £2.50 for under 16's.

Everybody welcome!

*Sue Collins*

### **Bonfire Night**

Coberley School, Friday 6th November

After many years of organising our Elkstone bonfire night Jennie and Brian are taking a well-earned rest this year, plus our field is not available due to the proximity to our recovering ex-battery hens. We would, however, ask as many villagers as possible to support the local Coberley School, where many of the village children go, or have gone, to school, on their Bonfire Night celebrations on Friday 6th November. More information will be up on the Village Hall notice board shortly or please give me a call.

*Julia Davey – 870038 - [jrdavey@btconnect.com](mailto:jrdavey@btconnect.com)*

### **Has anyone seen our stones?**

Elkstone Village Hall  
Has a nice stone wall  
But it isn't as tall  
As it used to be

Stones can't "go" unaided  
So someone must have raided  
To leave the wall abraded  
For everyone to see

If any of us know  
Just where the stones did go  
We hope you'll take a mo  
To chat with he or she

Let's hope the stones return  
And the "borrower" will learn  
That taking from a neighbour  
Isn't neighbourly

So, go on, be a little gem  
Please put them back again.

*Village Hall Trustees*

### **Telephone Advice Please**

We would welcome advice and recommendations on alternative (to BT) providers of telephone lines. We already get broadband and make calls through other providers but as our phone line rental is one of our largest regular bills (and BT's customer service is awful) we would like to consider alternatives. Are there any alternatives for Elkstone?

Thank you

*Nic & Ann Williamson - 870556 - [nw@azteck.com](mailto:nw@azteck.com)*

## **Nature Notes**

It is the time of Harvest and Harvest Thanksgiving.

At the beginning of the Second World War, a young clergyman preached a sermon that I have never forgotten. His basic theme was that producing food and working on the land was the closest you could come to a link with God. This was one of his last sermons I heard, as early in the war he joined the Air Force as a padre, and he died as a prisoner of war in Japanese hands, along with his fellow prisoners.

Although political pressure and financial gain still influence farmers and growers, basically they produce food to enable people to live, and most of them have a closeness to the earth and a love of the land.

Worldwide there is so much hunger and hardship that the charity benefiting from our Harvest Supper in the village this year is Send a Cow, and African charity started by farmers for farmers many years ago.

*Jessie*

## **From the Parish Council - Illegal Motor Vehicle Use in the Countryside**

Our Police Community Support Officers and Public Rights of Way Officers intend to run a joint project this autumn, aimed at dealing with a growing problem, illegal and inappropriate motor vehicle use on unsealed roads, byways and bridleways.

Elkstone has 4 unsealed roads, these are the Zeal track and the three 'green lanes' which are north of Uncombe Lane and lead to Cockleford and Colesbourne. Motor vehicles are permitted to use unsealed roads, but must be road-legal and obey the Highway Code, which includes giving way to other users – walkers, riders and cyclists. Other than the Zeal Track, the tracks to the south of Uncombe Lane, going down into the Valley, are restricted byways on which motor vehicles (other than those of the Landowner and his 'agents' – tractors, gamekeepers and shoot vehicles) are not permitted. If you spot any motor vehicles here – most likely on autumn or winter Sundays – please do not accost them, but note the registration number(s) and report them to our PCSOs - contact details from me if you don't have them

*Lois Eyre 870375*

An item from Con Baker about a course her daughter June is teaching

### **The Chinese Centre Tai Chi Club**

Autumn Term will start on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2009

From 2:30pm to 3:30pm, At the Oasis Centre,

Hesters Way Community Resource Centre, Cassin Drive, GL51 7SU

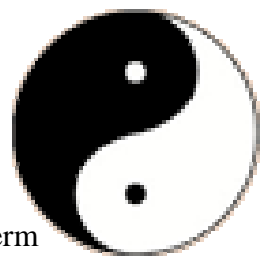
### **Open to ccpa and friends**

£3.00 per session per adult    £1.00 per session per child

This course is continuing from the introductory lessons at the end of last term and we will recap everything we have done so far from the beginning again to welcome new friends to the club.

The tai chi form we will be doing is known as the international simplified Yang form (otherwise known as the 24) as well as some simple qi gong exercises for health and wellbeing.

Please wear comfortable clothing to take part in the tai chi training such as baggy trousers and top with soft flat shoes such as gym shoes or similar.



The Oasis Centre is a large building located near to Gloucestershire College, off Princess Elizabeth Way (near to The Chinese Centre) and easily seen from the road.