

This monthly News Letter is the product of an idea raised at a recent Discussion Group Meeting.

Non sectarian it relates to people and events within Elkstone Village. To ensure that all villagers are aware of events due to take place and their eventual fruition.

Other events taking place outside the village but of interest to us will continue to be included in the Rector's Benefice Monthly letter.

Experience shows that the notice boards at the Village Hall and in the Church Porch are not always on everyone's route, although you will find both locations a mine of useful information.

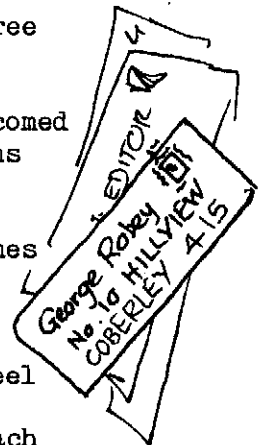
Commercial advertising is not envisaged but brief For Sale; Wanted; Employment opportunities or desires; Free to a good home; Baby Sitting; Lost and Found - we shall consider anything of that nature.

Letters to the Editor, preferably brief will be welcomed providing that they are of village interest. Suggestions for the common good or if you do not agree with any particular happening - we would appreciate your views.

Many a bleat over a fence to a neighbour, only becomes common knowledge after it has been embroidered in the retailing. Now is your chance to make your views known at first hand.

Not only Letters but any short articles that you feel qualified to offer - please do.

All material to the Editor please by the 20th of each month .



COMMENT: Great changes have taken place in the village during the last six years. Once we had a division of interests - Church/Village - Hall/Farm. We even had a Church Fete at Coombe End and a Village Fete in the Car Park behind the Council Houses!

With the sad dispersal of our magnificent Dairy Herd and consequent change of personnel, the balance of long standing residents and newcomers has changed rather dramatically. Understandably, as in any small community, little resentments have crept in. Hopefully, as time passes we shall have a Community acceptable to all.

The formation of the Parish Council has changed; meetings are held regularly to which all villagers are welcome. Living as we have done on a seemingly permanent building site for the last two or three years - the Council have been active in keeping our threatened expansion within reasonable bounds.

SUNDAY TEAS IN THE VILLAGE HALL : This venture during August was approached with some trepidity. In the event the response of the public was very satisfying. Thanks go to the small band who provided the materials and the service. They know who they were - but do you? Anyway the Hall funds were helped tremendously by their efforts. Next year it is hoped to offer teas during July as well.



The Village Hall, it is hoped, will become increasingly a focal point in the village.

Successive Village Hall Management Committees have struggled against the odds to keep the Village Hall afloat. Included in those odds must be included apathy. Now as you know the Hall is becoming better used.

A little while ago, children almost disappeared from the village but once more (among other evidence!) we hear the patter of tiny feet - bringing hopes that once again the viability of a Youth Club will bring them all together.

A village appraisal was undertaken last year and the results will soon be published.

HELP: Many of us need help from time to time. Many of us are willing to offer help but if you don't ask . . .

With this in mind a list is being prepared of people who are willing to be on call 24 hours a day - as a group, according to the needs of their daily commitments.

Meanwhile the following telephone numbers will offer you help be it for a major disaster or merely a shoulder to cry on.

230 301 415 418 479

The W.I: Owing to the indisposition of the Winstone Village Hall. Their Womens Institute will be holding their meetings in our village hall. The first one is at 7-30 on Monday Oct 5th. They welcome any ladies from Elkstone to join them.

BARN DANCE AND BARBECUE At Coombe End on Saturday 12th Sep: This event must be recorded as a great success.

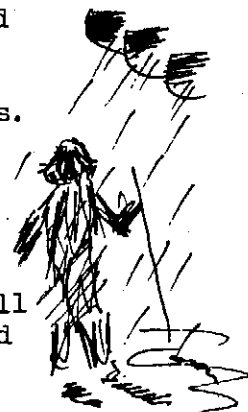
While Ken Haslam and Bryan Taylor 'slaved over a hot stove' - Derek and Monica Hall dispensed liquid refreshment. The wielding of Reg Eyre's Ice Cream scoop was only halted by a dearth of cones!

Once again the hospitality of Noel Gibbs and family must be acknowledged. A variety of salads etc. was provided by members of the Hall Committee and others. Inevitably and for a variety of reasons, there were notable absentees - they missed a most enjoyable evening. The success of the dancing may have owed more to the patient efforts of the caller and music of the 'Tramps & Hawkers' band; to the enthusiasm of the dancers themselves rather than to their skill! That only added to the fun. From newly arrived Claire Taylor, who danced in her mother's arms to those of more discreet age, all danced the evening away.

Thanks must go to that small band who prepared the barn, obtained and served the food and drink and who even now are facing the less exciting task of clearing up. Well done the Few.



ELKSTONE RAMBLERS GROUP: This group was formed in 1986 and once a month a dedicated hand have enjoyed a steady plod of from 5 to 8 miles. Some of the walks have started from Elkstone and some from further afield. Well behaved dogs and equally well behaved children have joined in. It has given us all a chance to meet and chat with our fellow villagers - and some guests from other locations. We have enjoyed warm fine days and equally some pretty damp times. Usually we have arrived at some suitable watering hole around lunchtime! Lois Eyre has produced an interesting booklet giving details of some of these walks. A bargain at £1 - for the Hall Funds. Another interesting publication - also in aid of our Hall is a map in colour, showing the village as it was around 150 years ago and as it is today. This in A4 at £1 and a little larger at £2 is available from any Committee member or from your Editor. Next walk Oct 17th. Details later.



DISCUSSION GROUP: Formed in 1986 with the aim of getting to know each other better by meeting and talking. It needed to be more than an exchange of small talk, which many find difficult. The Rev. Adrian Slade a sort of ordained social worker in the Gloucester Diocese was helpful in putting forward several ideas. He kindly agreed to chair our first meeting and suggested having one topic for each meeting. It proved a great success and so far the monthly meetings have discussed such topics as Crime and Punishment - Charity-Advertising- and the Meaning of life. It is a relaxed atmosphere (with noone coming to blows yet!) although there is a chairman meetings seem to have a momentum of their own and conversation tends not to dry up. There is ample opportunity for everyone to contribute their own point of view. We aim to finish at around 9-30 but conversation tends to continue during coffee. We meet every 4th Wednesday of the month - usually at The Priests House and all are welcome - particularly new residents. Our October meeting is on Wed. 28th at 8 pm . The topic is undecided at the moment. If you have any ideas please ring Jane Court (418) or Marion Cooke (301) (Jane Court - Contributor)



#### THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION.

At 2-30 on Saturday the 24th October, a sale in aid of this worthy cause is taking place in the Village Hall. In due season it is hoped that everyone will contribute some article. Lindy Price is the driving force on this occasion and she will be happy to accommodate your gifts or discuss any details. As a reward for your generosity a sympathetic Government has decided to put the clocks back next day - Sleep on!

#### CHURCH NEWS (See also the Benefice news).

Sunday 4 Oct.	11 a.m. Harvest Festival.
Sunday 11th	10 a.m. Service for everyone - taken by Barbara Luck
Sunday 25th	Songs of Praise at 3-30 This is the 2nd Anniversary of our informal gathering.

HATCHED, MATCHED AND DESPATCHED : Do please let us know of anyone coming into these categories. Recent changes known to the Editor are as follows. We welcome two families recently arrived who will be working with the Dairy Farm.



Elizabeth and Paul Johnson with their three children, Alison, Rebecca and Richard.

Diane and Mike Powell with their two children Jonathan and Katie.

The Tye family have left us and David and Sue Collins have bought their house.

Nigel Salvesen and fellow students of the R.A.C have gone their various ways and the School House has been bought by Bob and Sara Priddle. To their knowledge there is no family connection between them and our friends at the Old Rectory. They have two little daughters Emma and Katie. The Priddles are hoping to move in within a few weeks together with an expected new arrival at any moment!



Mike and Carole Keen have moved away and Eric and Bethnie Groves have moved into No 5 Hillview.

Trevor and Lindy Price have moved into their new house. 'Springfield House' retaining their former telephone number of 246.



The A.G.M. of the ELKSTONE VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE  
Thursday 8th October at 8-00 pm.

Dont miss the next thrilling instalment in the 'Future of the Village Hall' (has it got one?) Saga. Several members will be standing down, so nominations for new members will be needed. Local Clubs, groups and branches of organizations etc., are reminded that they are each entitled to a representative on the EVHMC; names should be submitted to the Secy. as soon as possible please. The A.G.M. will be followed at 9-00pm by The results of our popular free-to-enter photographic competition.

CLASS 1. 'Action!' CLASS 2. 'Elkstone Folk.'

There is no limit to the numbers of photos (coloured or Black and white) which may be entered by each photographer. Please label the back of each photo with your name Class 1 or 2. and your caption. Delivering your entries to Lois Eyre, High Beech before 9 pm. on Wednesday 7th.

At 9-05 pm (give or take)

\*\*\*\* BUFFET SUPPER \*\*\*\* £1-50 per person.

PLEASE TO REMEMBER . . .

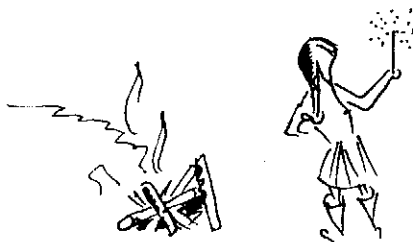
Advance information.

The EVHMC intends to celebrate Guy Fawkes night with a MONSTER BONFIRE.

Details when finalized will appear on the Village Hall notice board (and in our November edition) The collection of combustible material has already started. Please help by taking yours to the Bonfire Site . Small field adjacent to the Zeal track opposite The Hazels & Edgewood House.



Hopefully the Long hot days of Summer that we have enjoyed this year will remain long enough to well, . . . drown us!



**CAR DRIVERS' TREASURE HUNT:** On Sunday afternoon 6th Sept. eight carloads of intrepid hunters braved the lashing rain - on a day filthy beyond anything so far 'enjoyed' this summer. In the Village Hall Car park they exchanged 'silver' for final instructions and lists of clues. Although it wasn't necessary to drive any further than Caudle Green and North Cerney in the eight villages visited, considerable mental agility was needed to grapple with the anagrams, tests of local and general knowledge and other appallingly cryptic clues. For everyone except Sue and Mary from Worcester, the bogey was No 13. 'Not the whole of long crests' Answer 'Partridges'. (Include me in the everyone. I suspect the hand of Reg Eyre behind that one.Ed.) Everyone solved No. 20 'Bears the date 1871' Our village hall. Over tea and cakes in that very place, the results were given out. The Open Section was won by Pam & Brian from Worcester. Second and third place went to two Cheltenham members of our Elkstone Rambling Group. The local section produced a photo finish; the Hannaway party from Brimpsfield being beaten by only half a point by the Halls. The latter being the best Elkstone finishers won the Treasure Hunt 1988 Organisers' Badge! See you there? (Lois Eyre- Contributor)

The two dates on our Village Hall seem to figure in every Treasure Hunt from miles around. This season a new clue has been added 'What does Abbell possess?' Do I have to tell you?

**BUSES:** Although most villagers have the use of a car, buses are sometimes useful. Not everyone is familiar with the bus routes and times. For your information.

TO CIRENCESTER on Tuesdays and Fridays.

Leave the bus shelter at 10-23 am arriving in Cirencester at 10-57.

Leaving Cirencester at 1-30 arriving back here at 2-06 pm.

TO CHELTENHAM on the 1st & 3rd Tuesday in the month.

Leave the bus shelter at 10-23 arriving in Cheltenham at 10-55.

Leave Cheltenham at 1-30 arriving back here at 2-02 pm. This service is inclined to deliver you back into the village itself!

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We hope that you will find this Monthly News Letter of interest. Is there anything that you would like included? Excluded. Altered? Please let us know and in any case please try and help by contributing anything of village interest.

George Robey,  
Editor.