

# ELKSTONE NEWSLETTER



Congratulations to everyone involved in this year's very successful Gardens Open Day. The weather was kind after all, and the result in terms of much-needed revenue for the church and village hall speaks for itself. For the Gardens Open Day committee, it was a tough call deciding whether the event should go ahead this year and people were guided by the social distancing guidelines at the time. Two to three weeks on and the picture is different again, with the latest upswing in COVID cases a reminder that the country is not out of the woods yet with the pandemic. Stay safe, everyone.

Jenny, [editor@elkstonevillage.com](mailto:editor@elkstonevillage.com)

Deadline for next newsletter: 20<sup>th</sup> July 2021

## Features

- Elkstone Parish Church Services
- Gardens Open Day
  - Village Hall Teas at the Gardens Open Day
  - Gardens Open Day Photos
- Relaxation Classes Resume
- News from Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
- Citizens Advice (Stroud and Cotswold District) Seek New Trustees
- Monthly Quiz

## Regular Village Hall Activities

Indoor Bowls	Every Tuesday, 7.30pm	Ronnie Bury – 870493 or Martyn Wylie – 870441
Art Club	Every Thursday, 9am-1pm	Penny Casewell – 03330 119663
Relaxation Classes	Fortnightly Friday, 6pm-7pm	Alison Fernandes – info@alisonfernandes.co.uk

## Other Dates for your Diary

Cuppa and Chinwag	Thursday 1st July, 7pm-8pm	Graham Hopkins – 07931 124165
Elkstone Parish Council Meeting	Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July, 8pm	Elkstone Village Hall

## **Waste & Recycling**

Waste & Recycling	Food Waste	Every Tuesday
Waste & Recycling	All bags, bins and boxes	Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> and 27 <sup>th</sup> July

## **Elkstone Parish Church Services**

Service times this month are as follows:

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> July – 11am Morning Worship with Mark Venn

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> July – 10am Morning Prayer

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> July – 11am Holy Communion with Revd David Minns

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> July – 11am service at Rendcomb Church with Mark Venn

## **Gardens Open Day: Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> June**

Our 28<sup>th</sup> Gardens Open Day raised a fantastic £2800 which will be split equally between the Church and the Village Hall. In all the circumstances this is quite an achievement, and the funds will be a lifeline for these two important facets of our village life. Thanks are due to so many across the village. Those who helped plan the day, those who opened their gardens and those, often unseen, who helped with the myriad of tasks both before and on the day. Without you this couldn't have happened.

Last year we had to cancel the Gardens Open Day, causing a worrying depletion of funds for the Church and the Hall. Even when it stands closed for a good part of the year, the Hall costs over £1500 per annum for insurance and utilities. There is also a responsibility to keep the hall in good order with regular maintenance and cleaning costs. During lockdown the church has been unable to run services or receive visitors, so that donations from those sources did not come. Obviously, no fund-raising events were possible either, which meant that funds for running and maintaining the beautiful Grade 1\* listed building and grounds were heavily depleted in 2020. So, when it came to deciding whether we could run a Gardens Open Day this year, we were very mindful of the financial implications if we didn't. At the same time, we also recognised that a few villagers would be nervous about participating, or even welcoming a large number of people here, and our thanks go to you for your forbearance. Enormous care was taken to comply with Covid guidelines.

Helped by a grant from the Gloucestershire Community Foundation we were able to invest in perspex screens for the hall, as well as plentiful supplies of sanitiser. In addition, we also designed a safe route for visitors through the hall, keeping the serving of refreshments, payment and seating separate and as Covid safe as possible. Last but not least, we invested in contactless payment technology for the first time which proved to be a great help on the day and will be used in the future.

Very many of our visitors expressed delight at the gardens and the welcome given by the village. It was heartening to hear people saying how good it was to get out into the fresh air in a delightful location. Every year we try to learn lessons to make the day better for everyone, and this year will be no exception. Thanks Elkstone.

*Martyn Wylie. Email: [mgw123@btinternet.com](mailto:mgw123@btinternet.com) Mob: 07788 912645*

## **Village Hall Tea Room: Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> June**

So many thanks to all the willing residents who contributed to our tea-room. We raised an amazing £854 on the day. It was really only 4 hours of opening, but there was so much work beforehand in order to have such a successful afternoon.

The variety of cakes and tray bakes was greatly admired by our visitors. Thanks to the bakers. The hall had queues for most of the afternoon. Thanks to those in the kitchen serving the cakes making countless cups of tea and coffee.

The tables both inside and outside were full. Thanks to those organising the COVID notifications and taking payment.

The hall was decorated for the event. Thanks to those who loaned bunting and other items.

It was a wonderful afternoon. Well done!

*Jennie Howlett*

## **Gardens Open Day Photos**

Did you open your garden for Gardens Open day this year? Do you have photos of your garden that you are happy to share? If so, you can contact Jeremy Davies for more information on how to upload to a Google Drive folder on [elkvillehall@gmail.com](mailto:elkvillehall@gmail.com). Please note that photos must only be of your own garden and not feature any identifiable houses or people.

*Jeremy Davies Tel: 01242 870516*

## **Relaxation Classes resume at the Village Hall**

Relaxation Classes are resuming fortnightly on Fridays from 25<sup>th</sup> June at 6pm-7pm. Please wear comfortable clothing and bring a yoga/exercise mat and a cushion, as part of the session involves laying down. There will be a few spare mats and cushions available. Please contact Alison to reserve your place.

*Alison Fernandes – Email: [info@alisonfernandes.co.uk](mailto:info@alisonfernandes.co.uk)*

## **News from Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust**

I am delighted to start this news by reporting that our critical care team have won the Patient-centred Care Award at the Intensive Care Society 2021 Awards. This award, normally associated with delivering lifesaving care at the “sharp end,” was in recognition of the phenomenal rehabilitation service that the team developed to provide those who had been on critical care during the COVID pandemic. This was patient and family-centred, holistic care delivered by a team from many different professional backgrounds.

Secondly, from my earliest days as a governor, the trust has wrestled with delivering the cancer waiting times standards. These are now, however, being consistently met as a result of extraordinary team-working and determination at service level. Recently we were advised that Gloucestershire was ranked first in the country for the 62-day referral to treatment standard for lung cancer for the year April 2020 – March 2021. A factor in this has been the ability to keep Cheltenham General COVID free as far as possible, which enabled operations to continue. In addition, the changes made to A&E during the pandemic, are now, due to the lower COVID risk, also being restored to pre-pandemic working.

Thanks again are due to the volunteers whose help and support, particularly over the past year, has been fantastic. They have continued to offer their time to help others including taking on different roles, most importantly within the testing and vaccination programmes. The effort that these volunteers have put in will never be forgotten. Thank you!

*Anne Davies (Public Elected Governor for Cotswolds, Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust)*  
Email: [anne.davies11@nhs.net](mailto:anne.davies11@nhs.net)

## **Citizens Advice (Stroud and Cotswold) Seek New Trustees**

Do you want to help the community where you live, work or study, and gain valuable skills? Do you want to make sure your family and neighbours get the advice they need now and in the future?

Citizens Advice (Stroud and Cotswold Districts) is seeking new Trustees to join its Board and are specifically looking for people with a background in marketing, communications and IT.

Time commitment – 6 x Board meetings a year, and approximately one other meeting a month with associated paperwork.

Deadline: 31<sup>st</sup> July 2021.

*For more information, please contact Diane Elsdon, Business Manager, by email at [diane.elsdon@ca-scd.org.uk](mailto:diane.elsdon@ca-scd.org.uk)*

## **The Month of July Quiz**

Can you solve these anagrams? All answers are names of plants or flowers.

1. Steal mic
2. Drainage
3. I must run at
4. A bid duel
5. O mad girl

*Quiz answers: 1. Clematis; 2. Gardenia; 3. Nasturtium; 4. Buddleia; 5. Marigold.*