

Elkstone Newsletter

25th Year: No. 5 (293)

February 2012

Editor's Bit

Mrs. Ed has just purchased a whizzy new (well, pre-loved) Apple computer and is allowing me to use it to put together the Newsletter. I hope Nic the printer will find everything compatible and readers find the new Newsletter readable.

The recent weather is capable of a few tricks with views of the Malverns constantly subject to changes of light, making the hills black one day whilst giving clear views of the town on other days.

I recently asked Jessie what 'Christingle' was about. She could not tell me the origin so this issue contains an explanation from Jenny. Thank you Jenny and Jessie.

Reg – 22nd January

Features	
Lost tabby cat Church Service Times ERG Walk for February	Nature Notes Neighbourhood Watch Advertisements
Dates for your Diary	
ERG February Walk – Saturday 18 th February – 09.45 am – Golden Heart Inn, Nettleton	
Regular Dates	
Waste & recycling	Food and garden waste - Fridays
Waste & recycling	All bags, bins and boxes – Fridays 3 rd , 17 th
Watercolour Painting	Every Tuesday - Village Hall - 10am – <i>Yvette Levick 870485</i>
Indoor Bowls	Every Tuesday - Village Hall – <i>Trevor - 870246</i>
Deadline for next month's edition: Monday 20th February please	
The Elkstone web-site has current and past copies of the Newsletter – www.elkstonevillage.com	
<i>Reg Eyre – High Beech – 870375 – reg.eyre@tesco.net</i>	

Lost

Lucy's Tabby cat with a Barber Pole tail.

Ginger went on one of his hunts on Friday 6th January and has not returned.

Any information on his location / fate would be greatly appreciated.

Contact Arnold - 07810 837599

Services at Elkstone Church in February are as follows:

Feb 5th 09.30am - Holy Communion

Feb 12th 10.00am - Toy Service

Feb 19th 11.00am - Morning Prayer

Feb 26th 10.00am - Songs of Praise

David Pierce

ERG Walk – Saturday 18th February

5.5 miles, boots essential.

Meet in time for a prompt 9:45am start at the **Golden Heart Inn**, Nettleton Bottom (on the A 417, g.r. 943 137) for a fairly flat walk.

Hopefully we'll return to the pub around 12:30 pm for lunch.

If the roads are impassable / dangerous due to snow then I will consider holding a short walk from Elkstone Village Hall instead.

Bryan - 01242 870481

Nature Notes

By the end of last December, the rainfall for the year, as measured by my rain gauge, was just under 28 inches, which is very much below average. Has anyone else measured the rainfall? I wondered if the presence of trees in my garden had somehow affected the accuracy of the gauge, and caused the reading to be lower than it really should have been.

Now – a little true story to remind us of summer:

In a certain village cottage, the back door led from the garden straight into the kitchen, and had a very low beam over the door. A particularly brave pair of swallows once built a nest on this beam, to the great delight of the family of young children who lived in the cottage. The children ran in and out of the garden, and the swallows flew on and off the beam, and sometimes round the kitchen. Eventually, the nest was full of baby swallows, and to my delight, the youngest child said to me “Look, Auntie, it’s leeding the babies lies!” - F is such a difficult letter!

Jessie

Neighbourhood Watch News

Happy New Year and thanks to all of you who have returned your neighbourhood watch forms; your early response is really appreciated and encouraging. Over the last month I have passed on several alerts that were of immediate concern to villagers and thanks to those who spread the word to others!

The form that was included in the pack that Andrea and I distributed was a copy of the one that had been used at Winstone, which was intended to cover all eventualities such as problems with your house in your absence. If any of you feel that the amount of information that is requested is too much please just fill in what you feel comfortable with to enable you to receive information.

On reflection, as the alerts are important for the here and now, and the whole purpose of Neighbourhood Watch is to address crimes as they emerge, I feel that placing them on the village notice board monthly and asking the editor to print them in the newsletter when the urgency for them has already passed would seem to be redundant. I will however put more general information that is passed to me on the notice board.

Anne

Winstone's Past

A glimpse into Winstone's past was so well received that a similar talk on "Winstone during the Second World War" will be given by John and Mary Bliss at The Highwayman Inn on Wednesday 25th January 7.00 for 7.30pm. Come early to get a seat. Peter Broome has made an excellent DVD of Mary's talk, including some maps and photographs, entitled 'A Walk round the Parish'. It is available from him or Mary, price £5.00

Any profits will be given to Winstone church.

Anne

Christingle and The Children's Society

In 1749 in a church in Germany a Bishop started a Christmas tradition that is loved by children and adults, and enjoyed in Britain today and around the world. His name was Bishop John de Watteville and he led worship among the Moravian Congregation in Marienborn, Germany. He was the creator of the Christingle service. Christingle means "Christ-Light. The simple candle service that John de Watteville introduced showed children then, as it does now, that through the gift of a lighted candle we can remember that this baby Jesus brought light into darkness and through the looped red ribbon that Jesus shed his blood and died for our salvation. The Christingle has developed over the last 250 years from a simple white candle to the Christingle that is made today. The use of the service was spread throughout the world by the Moravian church and has been celebrated in many countries including the USA. In 1968 the Christingle Service was brought to the Anglican Church of England, its use promoted by The Children's Society. This charity works in the UK with children at risk of homelessness on the streets, disabled children, children in trouble with the law, and young refugees. The Society encourages churches and community groups to have a Christingle service and the donated offering is often given to the Children's Society to support their children's work throughout the year.

In Elkstone our candlelit Christingle Service was held on Sunday 8th January. A local Children's Society representative, Serena Lancaster, gave examples of those who have received help from the charity in recent years. Our donations from the Christmas Eve midnight communion, the Christingle service, the house boxes and other supporters have resulted in well over £600. Once again, a marvellous result from our small community. Many, many thanks.

Jennie Howlett

Towards Setting up the Elkstone Cinema Club

As outlined at the recent AGM, the Elkstone Village Hall Committee will shortly be obtaining some good quality AV equipment for use at the Hall, and this of course brings with it the means to re-introduce cinema shows at the hall.

Sue and David ran excellent Cinema Nights for many years, but sadly the available films through the local Council scheme became less and less 'current' and recovering the (quite high) license costs of each film became more and more difficult.

The availability of the AV equipment, together with improvements in screening license schemes for recognised clubs in local communities would make much more recent film releases available to us at a reasonable cost - **if** we can form a Cinema Club in conformance with the stipulations of the license.

Once the possibilities have been fully researched, it is planned to have a meeting one evening this spring to present the possible forms of club and membership rules + costs that we could adopt. More details of the meeting will appear in the Newsletter shortly.

If anyone would like to comment at this stage, or to know more about the work in progress, do please call me -

Jeremy Davies - 870516

Advertisement

I have just had printed a small book called "One Man's Verse". It is a collection of my verse with illustrations by a friend in York.

It is priced at only £4.00, which includes a donation to charity, or £3.00 without.

Has any reader got experience of putting their publication on Amazon Kindle? If so, please contact me.

Thank you

Editor Reg - 870375