

# Elkstone Newsletter

25th Year: No. 6 (294)

March 2012

## Editor's Bit

BBC News has just said that we are officially declared to be in a drought zone. Out of the window I can see rivulets of water running down the glass! Last time around, the Government named a minister for drought and then it rained – food for thought?

*Reg – 22<sup>nd</sup> February*

Features	
Thank you Church Service Times ERG Walk for March	Nature Notes Neighbourhood Watch Open Gardens? Advertisements
Dates for your Diary	
Parish Council Meeting – Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> March – 8.00 pm – Elkstone Village Hall	
ERG March Walk – Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup> March – 10.00 am – Canal car park, Churchend, Eastington	
Regular Dates	
Waste & recycling	Food and garden waste - Fridays
Waste & recycling	All bags, bins and boxes – Fridays 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 16 <sup>th</sup> and 30 <sup>th</sup>
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: <b>Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> March</b> please	
The Elkstone web-site has current and past copies of the Newsletter – <a href="http://www.elkstonevillage.com">www.elkstonevillage.com</a>	
<b><i>Reg Eyre – High Beech – 870375 – <a href="mailto:reg.eyre@tesco.net">reg.eyre@tesco.net</a></i></b>	

## Thank you

Margaret Holder wishes to thank friends and neighbours for all their gifts, cards and flowers and their visits both in hospital and at home.

Thanks to the Neighbourhood Watch network the lost collie dog with a broken leg was swiftly re-united with its owner. Anne sends many thanks to all who helped.

## Services at Elkstone Church in March are as follows:

March 4 <sup>th</sup>	09.30am	Holy Communion
March 11 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Family Service
March 18 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Mothering Day Service
March 25 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Songs of Praise
April 1 <sup>st</sup>	09.30am	Palm Sunday – Joint Benefice Service at Cowley – no service at Elkstone

*David Pierce*

### **March Erg Walk**

The walk for March will be led by Sue and David and will be on March 24<sup>th</sup> (*Please note change of date.*)

We will be starting at 10 am from the canal-side car park at Churchend, Eastington. The walk is of two to two and a half hours in length and will pass various water features. Terrain is mostly undulating to flat and stiles are few in number and dog friendly. Lunch, if desired, will be a short drive away at the Fromebridge Mill which normally serves a Saturday Carvery as well as its usual menu.

Grid reference for the start is SO 784 061. From Junction 13 M5 take the A419 east to the next roundabout (the one with the Shell garage) and here turn south signposted Eastington but then **immediately** turn left into the car park. From Stroud/Stonehouse, take the A419. The roundabout is the last before the motorway. We look forward to seeing both regular walkers and newcomers.

*David and Sue - 01242 870373*

### **Nature Notes**

Last Thursday (16<sup>th</sup>) was such a beautiful day – warm, bright sunshine and no wind, and as I walked along the lane, there was even a skylark soaring and singing. Then there on the verge had sprung up a clump of aconites, I think from seed given to me some years ago by Jackie Barrington-Brown. Mary Partridge's garden is full of memories of friends who gave her plants, and it is so nice to remember them by their flowers.

My mother had a fern given to her in 1894, when she was two years old, and it is still a vigorous plant in a pot! The beech tree, near High Cross, was given by George and Mu Robey and it is thriving well. It is lovely to be able to enjoy these plants and the memories of friends they evoke.

*Jessie*

### **Neighbourhood Watch News**

Thank you to those of you who have given me your details for Neighbourhood Watch and for your patience whilst I set up the email dispatch method that keeps your email address secure.

Unfortunately it seems that some of the packs distributed did not contain a registration form for completion. If you have not received a form please email your details (email address; telephone contact number and, if you wish, an emergency number to be contacted if you are away) to

[Elkstonecoordinator@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Elkstonecoordinator@hotmail.co.uk)

Please be aware that even if I already know your email address I may not use it for Neighbourhood Watch without your express permission.

### **Community Speedwatch**

On Monday several of us completed training in using SPEEDAR, the radar speed-monitoring device. Following training we were allowed to practice our ability on a police pursuit car! We hope to 'go live' towards the end of March.

*Anne*

**'Climate Change – Advice & Support'** is a **free service** for agricultural and rural businesses within the Cotswolds AONB helping to develop and deliver a pro-active programme of climate change mitigation and adaptation activities in accordance with the Cotswolds AONB Management plan 2008-13. This project is funded for a period of two years from the National Grid. <http://www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk/?page=climate-change-advice>



## “To Open Gardens or Not to Open”

After being on the committee for many years, I have decided to give others the greater opportunity to shape Open Day.

I announced my resignation from the committee at the Village Hall AGM, nearly 3 months ago.

My understanding is that there has been no visible support for continuing; but I do wonder if the village knows that, as it stands, there will be no Open Day.

If this really is the case, then there will be a great void in both the Church and Village Hall funding. In a similar vein, there will be a massive loss in social cohesion throughout the village (and this is just a comment on the loss of Open Gardens, not the potential loss of the Hall itself).

Clearly, this will quickly develop into a disaster that cuts to the very essence of our village.

*Nic, Chair of Village Hall Committee & former Chair of Open Day Committee*

### Advertisements

Is anyone interested in taking on my two-berth fully equipped caravan housed in a quiet cider-apply orchard in Brittany? This is a freebie! For further information please contact *Shirley Chester - 01242 870281*



### SLR Film Camera & Lenses for Sale

I will soon be selling a Canon SLR camera set up. Of course, I would be delighted if it found a home in the village.

This is all Canon **film** FD-mount **manual-focus** equipment.

As a taster: 2 off T-90 bodies (the best Canon FD camera ever made)

3 off A-1 bodies (a landmark body that set the standard for 15 years).

There are over 15 pro-am lenses and 3 flash guns. Most in excellent condition. I will sell in sets or individually. Prices will be ‘ebay prices’.

I also have a new & boxed Olympus compact camera for film.

If you are into film this is an opportunity to buy at about 1/10<sup>th</sup> new cost.

To give an idea of initial cost, I bought the 17 & 300 mm lenses in Japan & saved more than the airfare.

*Nic - 01242 870556 or nw@azteck.com*

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