

Elkstone Newsletter

23rd Year: No. 9 (272)

June 2010

Editor's Bit

The gas pipeline work appears to be making good progress and the pipe sections have now been placed alongside the line of the trench. Once the trench has been dug, the lanes will be closed and the pipes will be put in. Please see the Parish Council news about the road closure orders. We will all need to note the change in rubbish collection dates when the **waste and recycling collection day changes to Friday with effect from mid June**. The mobile police station was at the Westerleigh cross roads with a speed indicator on a Friday evening and the drop in speed of passing vehicles was very noticeable, so a big thank you to our PCSO service. Is anyone else suffering with line faults on the BT Broadband service?

Next month's Newsletter will focus on the Open Gardens Day reports; the submissions deadline will be put back to give you time to send in your views and news about the event.

Reg (24-05-10)

Features	
Thank you News from the Parish Council June ERG Walk Village Hall Maintenance Day History of our Houses	Nature Notes Date for Your Diary Coberley School Fayre Open Gardens Day 2010 Summary of Collections etc for Open Day
Dates for your Diary	
Saturday 5 th June – ERG Walk – Neigh Bridge car park – 9.45am	
Saturday 12 th June – Village Hall 'tidy up' – 9.30am	
Saturday 26 th June - Coberley School Fayre – 12 noon to 4.00pm	
Sunday 27 th June 2010 – Elkstone Open Day	
Regular Dates	
Waste & recycling	Food and garden waste - Monday 7 th & probably Fridays 18 th & 26 th
Waste & recycling	All bags, bins and boxes – probably Friday 26 th
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 July Edition: Wednesday 30th June please	
<i>Reg Eyre – High Beech – 870375 – reg.eyre@tesco.net</i>	

Thank you

Please can I say a big thank you to the villagers of Elkstone for their support with the Coffee Morning for Help for Heroes on Wed 5th May - we raised £260.32.

Diana - Old Rectory

News from the Parish Council

Waste & recycling collection day may change to Friday w.e.f. mid June!!!

After years of having our 'Dustbin Day' on a Monday, CDC have decided to change Elkstone and a number of nearby villages from Round 1 to Round 5.

But N.B. – the collections are being organised by village not by parish, so it is possible that if you live in Cockleford, Combend or Highgate, your collection date may differ from below – please look out for a letter coming to you from CDC.

According to the CDC website, the collection dates for Elkstone village for the next 4 weeks are as follows:

Monday 31st May - all bags bins and boxes
Monday 7th June - food and garden waste
Monday 14th June – no collection
Friday 18th June – food and garden waste
Friday 25th June – all bags bins and boxes

Notification has been received of two road closures in the parish, to allow for the gas main pipeline laying.

These are the 40863, Highgate Lane (west of High Cross) for 4 days, notified starting date 23rd June, and on the 40864 (west of the Westerleigh crossroads) for 4 days, notified starting date 28th June.

In the preceding fortnight, there will be closures at Hilcot and Upper Coberley; and early in July, The Notch in Winstone will be closed for 4 days.

At its A.G.M. on 19th May, the Parish Council elected Mr. Hobbs as Chairman, Mr. Collins as Vice Chairman, and Mr. Cooch as Responsible Financial Officer.

Lois Eyre

**ERG Walk: N.B. Change of date – now one week earlier than previously listed!
Saturday 5th June 2010 – Neigh Bridge free car park – 9.45 a.m.**

This walk will be an easy, flat walk of just under five miles. It will cover part of The Thames Path and we will visit Clattinger Farm Nature Reserve, which is managed by the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust. Apparently, the Reserve is breathtaking in June when the wildflower meadows are at their most colourful. Waterproof footwear is recommended particularly if we have a lot of rain in the weeks prior to the walk.

Meet: Neigh Bridge Country Park free car park (grid ref. 018947) south of Somerford Keynes.

Directions: Follow the A417/419 towards Swindon and exit at the Cotswold Water Park. Take the Spine Road East and follow onto the West section. The car park is on the right and is well signposted.

Time: 9.45am for departure no later than 10.00am.

Lunch: The Bakers Arms in Somerford Keynes has an excellent reputation and is always busy. I have been advised to book well in advance. Please let me know beforehand if you intend staying for lunch so that nobody is disappointed.

Bernard - 870255 or e-mail - sbalder@tiscali.co.uk

Tidy Up the Village Hall for Open Day

Saturday 12th June 9.30 to 12 noon

Our annual Maintenance Day has been planned for Saturday June 12th.

It is a good time to get the Village Hall and Car Park looking tidy in preparation for Open Day.

Please come along between 9.30 and 12.00 and lend a helping hand to the variety of jobs that need attention – nothing too onerous or mucky. Children and adults all welcome.

There will be drinks and biscuits available, please just turn up!!

Village Hall Committee

History of our Houses: Daisy Bell at ‘Ward Hay’

Ward Hay, Ward Hay, give me your answer do
Who was it that built you, what did your owner do?
He wasn't a man of riches
More like a digger of ditches
But the house looks sweet
Where three fields meet
With a wonderful open view.

The northern end is older – the beams are adzed, not sawn;
An ‘expert’ from ‘The Echo’ said you were sixteenth century born.
The walls to the south are thinner
Architecturally quite a beginner,
But you look sweet
Where three fields meet
By a harvest of golden corn.

Ward Hay, Ward Hay, a dwelling of tears and smiles
From the upstairs windows you can see for miles and miles.
I would not sell this cottage
For the tastiest bowl of pottage
She still looks sweet
Where three fields meet,
Though an American stole the tiles!

(P.S. Actually I think he paid for them)

Con Baker

Nature Notes

It has been a good year for dandelion. One field was all gold for a week, and the following week, it was covered in silver seed heads, which looked beautiful at sunset, lit by the reflected light.

Keep a watch out for the hawthorn blossom in the valley below Uncombe Lane, it should be in flower soon, and is one of the most beautiful sights around Elkstone. Most of us have been keeping an eye on the progress of the gas pipeline across the countryside, and wondering at the power of the huge machines, and the way they are going to tunnel under the main roads and the River Churn. There was a tree right in the middle of the line, and because there were jackdaws nesting some branches were lopped off and the rest left to wait until the birds had reared their young and flown – fancy a little bird stopping a huge machine!

It is sad that we don't seem to have many swallows this year, though our neighbours have lots; but we do miss the general sweet twittering as they sit on the wires.

Jessie

Date For Your Diary: Saturday 24th July

For the fourth year in succession we will be holding the always-popular ERG evening walk followed by a barbeque supper at Julia and Steve's. Don't miss it!

Put the date in your diary now. More details will be given next month.

Bernard Alder

Coberley School Summer Fayre - Saturday 26th June
From 12.00 until 4.00pm

International Song & Dance Performances

Food from around the World

Traditional Stalls

Bouncy Castles & Face Painting

Fancy Dress

..... and much, much more....

So please come and join the FUN!

All proceeds from the event will go towards our £100,000 target for the development of a new 'eco-friendly' School and Village Hall for Coberley.

For more information or details on how you can sponsor or participate in the event, please contact

School Office - 01242 870366



“Cotswold Gardens at Elkstone”

(Open Day) June 27th

Open Day is less than 4 weeks away. Plans are moving along nicely with people getting involved. Carole and her team of helpers have had great fun making some pretty & individual calico bags for visitors to buy to carry books etc. These are very special, and should a villager wish to purchase one before open day, contact Carole on 870493; £3:00 before the day, £3.50 on the day. If there are any volunteers to help with the evening BBQ, please call Ronnie on 870493.

Calling all unwanted Bric-a-Brac!

Please drop off your items at our garage (at the rear of the house) on Saturday 19th June. The garage will be open and Steve will be around. If possible, please could your items be clean as they sell so much better and we won't have the chance to clean all the items that come in to us. If you need to drop anything off at other times, please give us a call on 01242 87038.

Many thanks for your help to make this stall a good money earner for our village once again.

Steve and Julia Davey - The Old School House

Tombola

Last year the tombola stall did very well but this year we would like to do even better so please give us your support.

We will start collecting on Sunday 20th June and during that week. If we miss you and you would like to contribute then please call us on 870255 to arrange collection.

Suggestions are:

- Bottles/Cans of Wine, Spirits, Beer
- Bottles/Cans/Cartons of soft drinks
- Boxed chocolates
- Jams, Chutneys etc
- Any presentation food item (non-perishable)
- Presentation toiletries
- Children's toys

Or any other item suitable for a tombola stall

Thanking you in anticipation!

Sue and Bernard

Village Hall Tea Room

Every year we are amazed at the quality and the quantity of homemade cakes/biscuits/preserves that arrive at our annual tearoom - and so are our customers. We're hoping for the same response this year and would also welcome anyone who would love to be a waitress/shop assistant/washer-up for the afternoon - or even just an hour.

Otherwise we will be grateful to receive your donations in the Village Hall from midday on Sunday June 27th. If you think you can help, please ring

Jennie Howlett – 870462 - or Margaret Holder – 870268

Books for the Open Gardens Bookstall

This year the collection of books for the Open Gardens Bookstall on 27th June is *from your own doorstep!*

Please look out the paperbacks and hardbacks that you are never going to read again, and put them into a bin-bag on your doorstep, they will be collected on the evenings of **Tuesday 15th, and Tuesday 22nd of June**. Please don't be tempted to put them out the previous day, we don't want the council bin-men collecting them!

Old DVDs are also OK (separate bag please), but no magazines, CDs or VHS video cassettes, as they don't sell!

Please note also that there is no 'drop-off' point for books - doorstep collection is the only method. Any queries: *Jeremy - 870516 - but please, no drop-offs!*

Goods For Open Day Clothes Stall

Please put out, in bags, on the morning of Sunday 13th June, all the clothes, shoes, accessories and household linens that you have rummaged out for the clothes stall on Open Day. We will collect it during the day and will repeat this on Sunday 20th June. The sooner we get the goods, the longer we will have to sort, price, etc. Alternatively, please contact us direct and we will pick up at any other time to suit you. With your help we hope to have a big range of saleable goods to offer on the Day!

If anyone would like to help with this either before the day or on the stall on Open Day we would also love to hear from you.

Anne - Manor Farm Cottage and Loraine - The Dolls House

Plants for the Open Day Plants Stall

All forms or potted plants welcome, any size (within reason!). Please bring to Briar Cottage any time from Sunday 20th onwards, and leave on the path by the garage.

David - 870373

Entries for the Potato Growing Competition (Sun 27th June close of Open Day)

Please bring **your undisturbed** potato buckets **labeled with your name** to the Evening Barbeque (& a plastic bag for the potatoes) to the Village Green (Hill View) for observed unearthing and weigh-in during that evening .

Anne 870516

Entries for the Miniature Garden Competition

Please place your entry by 1:30 pm Sunday 27th on a trestle table by the bookstall just through the stone barn arch adjacent to Manor Barn. **Please fix a label with your name beneath the tray!**

Anne 870516

Please see next page for a summary of Collection / Delivery dates and times.

Summary of Stall Donation Arrangements for 27th June Open Day

Date	Time	Stall	Items Wanted	Collection / Delivery Details	Contact Phone
Sun 13 th June	Morning	Clothes	Clothes, Shoes, Accessories, Linen	Collection from Doorsteps	870516
Tue 15 th June	Evening	Bookstall	Books, DVD's	Collection from Doorsteps	870516
Sat 19 th June	All Day	Bric-a-Brac	All sorts!	Please deliver to Old School House Garage	870038
Sun 20 th June	Morning	Clothes	Clothes, shoes, accessories, linen	Collection from Doorsteps	870516
	During Day	Tombola	Bottles of Wines, Spirits, Soft Drinks etc	Collection: will knock or ring doorbell	870255
	During Day	Plant Stall	All kinds of potted plants	Place by garage door, Briar Cottage	870373
Mon 21 st June	During Day	Tombola	Bottles of Wines, Spirits, Soft Drinks etc	Collection: will knock or ring doorbell	870255
	During Day	Plant Stall	All kinds of potted plants	Place by garage door, Briar Cottage	870373
Tue 22 nd June	During Day	Tombola	Bottles of Wines, Spirits, Soft Drinks	Collection: will knock or ring doorbell	870255
	During Day	Plant Stall	All kinds of potted plants	Place by garage door, Briar Cottage	870373
	Evening	Bookstall	Books, DVD's	Evening Collection from Doorsteps	870516
Wed 23 rd June; Thu 24 th June; Fri 25 th June; Sat 26 th June	During Day	Tombola	Bottles of Wines, Spirits, Soft Drinks	Will knock / ring doorbell	870255
	During Day	Plant Stall	All kinds of potted plants	Place by garage door, Briar Cottage	870373
Sun 27 th June	Noon onwards	Village Hall Tearoom	Cakes	Please deliver to Village Hall	870462 or 870268
	By 1:30 pm	Miniature Garden Competition	Competition Model Gardens, label with your name beneath the tray.	Adjacent to Bookstall through Stone Barn Arch by Manor Barn	870516
	Evening BBQ Village Green	Potato Growing Competition	Competition Potatoes (Still in their bucket, which has been labelled with your name)	Judging area on Village Green, Hill View	870516

Open Day

