

Elkstone Newsletter

24th Year: No. 6 (281)

March 2011

Editor's Bit

It feels like Spring is about to come with a flourish! There are snowdrops out and buds appearing on trees, bushes and shrubs. Jessie pointed out the yellow aconites last year and I felt good that I could still recognise them this year. The mist and dampness is still unrelenting but the sun will come out for March.

Reg – 24th February

Features	
Toys, bells and times Church Services for March ERG Walk Anyone for Tea?	Dig deep and tuck in Nature Notes Advertisements Elkstone Open Day
Dates for your Diary	
Saturday 12 th March – ERG Walk – Seven Tuns, Chedworth – 9.45am	
Saturday 12 th March – Afternoon Tea – Village Hall – 3.00pm to 5.00pm	
Wednesday 16 th March – Parish Council Meeting – Village Hall – 8.00pm	
Saturday 26 th March – Garden & Countryside Quiz + Supper Night – Village Hall – 7.30 pm	
Sunday 26 th June – Elkstone Gardens Open Day	
Regular Dates	
Waste & recycling	Food and garden waste - Fridays
Waste & recycling	All bags, bins and boxes – Fridays 4 th and 18 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 April Edition: Sunday 20th March please	
The Elkstone web-site has current and past copies of the Newsletter – www.elkstonevillage.com	
Reg Eyre – High Beech – 870375 – reg.eyre@tesco.net	

Toys, Bells and Times

Many thanks to all who so generously sent or brought toys, books and games to our Toy Service which was held on 13th February. The staff at the women's refuge was thrilled as they only have a very small budget for toys.

A 'Peal of Bells' will be rung on Saturday 26th March between 2.30 pm and 5.30 pm by a visiting team from Milton. A peal is a session of bell-ringing which involves over 5000 changes.

Service Times for March -

6th 9.30 am Holy Communion
13th 10.00 am Family Service
20th 11.00 am Morning Prayer
27th 10.00 am Songs of Praise

As ever, the services are informal, friendly and all are welcome

Sylvie

ERG Walk - Saturday 12th March

Meet at the Seven Tuns Inn, Chedworth – 9.45 am for 10.00 start

Distance about 5 miles, 2.5 hours duration. Chedworth and Upper Coln Valley.

We led this walk last year but unfortunately not many could make it. Those who did enjoyed it and are happy to walk it again so we thought we would repeat it. It's five miles, a mix of hilly and level, some stiles (nothing excessive), may be some muddy bits so walking boots advisable!

We pass through a highly scenic part of the Cotswolds, including the Chedworth Roman Villa, the meandering Coln river bank, and parts of Chedworth itself, which is a classic Cotswold village from the glory days of the wool trade. For railway buffs, the route passes beneath the amazing Victorian brickwork of a bridge supporting the long-defunct Midlands & South Western Railway, which once routed key traffic from the Midlands through to the south coast ports.

Directions: the simplest way is via North Cerney, though to Calmsden; follow the road north (signposted for Chedworth) for about a mile, cross Fields Road, turn left in about 500 yards into Cheap Street, and first right into Queen Street, and the Seven Tuns is on the right; go into their car park which is adjacent. Those who wish to can lunch in the Seven Tuns afterwards. OS Grid Reference is SP 052 120

Walk Leaders - *Jeremy & Anne* – 870516

Anyone for Tea?

Please come along and enjoy a traditional Afternoon Tea, serving a selection of sandwiches (no crusts of course) followed by delicious cakes and while away a couple of hours chatting to friends, all in true vintage style.

When? Saturday 12th March, 3pm to 5pm in the Village Hall.

Tickets in advance or on the door, including full Afternoon Tea, are £5.00 from either *Sylvie Pierce - Manor Cross - 870181* or *Julia Davey - Old School House - 870038*

All funds raised in aid of the Church Tower Roof and Guttering Appeal.

Dig Deep and Tuck In

An opening event for Elkstone's Open Garden Day is a Garden and Countryside Quiz on 26th March in Elkstone Village Hall. 7.30pm

Come and **tuck in** to a lovely supper with a glass of wine and then **dig deep** into your knowledge for a fun Garden and Countryside Quiz. There will be 'experts' on hand to discuss your answers and any queries you may raise.

We hope you will join us for a special evening and that you will leave wanting to take an active role in this year's Open Day on June 26th which we hope will be very special in this our 20th year.

It would help with catering if you could advise of numbers attending. The cost of the evening will be £8 if booked before the night or £10 on the day. Profits will go to the Open Day Fund, which is divided between the Church and the Village Hall.

Please contact to reserve your place:

Jenny – 870462 *Marion* – 870244 or *Anne* - 870516

... dig deep in your memories and tuck in again

Still on the food theme it has been suggested that we produce a parish cookery book to sell on the day. The idea is to base this on all the favourite recipes that have been handed down over generations. So please **dig deep** into your happy memories and records all those special meals that you have **tucked into** over the years. There is a page on the village web site where you can put recipes or please send them to the webmaster at minder33@dsl.pipex.com

Nature Notes

When I was a teenager I used to love February, the evenings gradually getting lighter, and that hour between full light and dusk when the partridges were all calling, especially if there was a moon rising. French partridges, which are around now, do not seem to call to each other in the same way.

Now the bulbs are coming up, and various plants are showing signs of life. It is so pleasant to think of friends who over the years have donated plants and shrubs to our gardens. A number of years ago a friend gave me a lot of aconite seeds. I planted them in several places and this year, there was a patch of 20 flowers in one clump. They are very particular where they flourish - sometimes they create a big area of gay yellow flowering, and sometimes they just disappear.

Jessie

Visit of Gloucestershire Historic Churches Trust

Ian Philips from GHCT joined us for the Elkstone Songs of Praise service on 23 January, when our theme for the service was “Our Church and what it means to me”. Members of the congregation were asked to choose a hymn, Bible reading, poem, or to say something in their own words about what the Church meant to them. Whilst the building can be a place of great beauty, peace and somewhere people can find God, the overriding theme was that it is the group of Christian people loved by God. During the service Ian Phillips presented the cheque from GHCT for £8,000 towards the repair of the tower roof and overhaul of the guttering and downpipes (see photograph). We heard about the work of GHCT in helping maintain the rich heritage of Churches in the county of all denominations. We were also encouraged to do more to help support their main fund raising event of the year, “Ride and Stride” which takes place in September. If you would like to know more about either this event or GHCT, please contact me or pick up one of the leaflets in Elkstone Church.

David Pierce



Children's Society Charity

Many families in Elkstone and nearby villages have house boxes in which they collect money for The Children's Society. This charity supports young runaways, is involved in mentoring vulnerable children, helps young carers, etc.

Over the last twelve months we collected £509.91.

When included with the offertories from the Christmas Eve and Christingle Services, and a further donation, the total sum was £965.28.

This magnificent sum will be used to help young people who are facing harsh challenges. Along with the donations from so many other groups, it may go some way to give these youngsters the confidence and skills needed to achieve goals and have a happier childhood.

Jennie Howlett

Advertisements

Beauty Treatments at The Castle

Cirencester College students are offering the following treatments at their commercial salon on Cecily Hill:

Manicure
Pedicure
Facial
Waxing
Eye Treatments
Make Up

Although appointments are available only on Wednesdays between 9.30 and 3.30 and cost £4, if you bring a friend their treatment will be free.

Telephone 01285 656333

Jennie Howlett

Churn Valley News

This is an electronic update of their services:

Do you have a comment to make?
Would you like to advertise in CV News?
Sign up for CVNews?
email cvnews@hotmail.co.uk

“Your opinion matters to us”

Open Gardens Day 2011 – 20th Year

Date for your Diary: Sunday 26th June 2011

We are off to a good start and have a handful of gardens.

Of course, we need gardens – especially at the north end of the village; and stall holders: books, bric-a-brac, tombola, clothes, plants etc.

In a period when the Village Hall and Church really need any penny they can get, your contributions could not be more important. Please come forward with ideas and offers of help.

Please let the committee know – even if only confirming your ‘traditional’ contribution.

OpenDay Committee - openday@az.azteck.com or Jeremy & Anne –870516, Brian – 870462, Ronnie – 870493, Nic - 870556