

Elkstone Newsletter

27th Year: No. 1 (301)

October 2012

Editor's Bit

We pride ourselves on being a community which looks after the people in it. It is noticeable that requests for volunteers for several aspects of our village life often result in silence. There are several requests in this edition of the Newsletter – Please consider what you might be able to add to our community.

How about starting with the Elkstone Rural Cinema Club? Jeremy needs to know what type of film might get you out of the house to attend a screening. Please let him know your ideas, even if it only to say that you are not interested in watching a film in the Village Hall.

Dr. Reg – 24th September

Features	
Church Service Times	Nature Notes
Village Hall Maintenance Report	ERG Walk for October
Elkstone Cinema film for October	Safeguarding the future of the Village Hall
Parish Council News	Elkstone Community Speed Watch
Harvest Festival Supper	Elkstone Central Heating bulk buying Group
'Send a Cow'	Beware of Scammers!
Dates for your Diary	
Thursday 11 th October – Elkstone Rural Cinema – 7.00pm – Village Hall	
Saturday 13 th October – Harvest Festival Supper – 7.00pm – Village Hall	
Saturday 20 th October – ERG Walk – Meet by 10.00am – Gardener's Arms, Alderton	
Regular Dates	
Waste & recycling	Food and garden waste - Fridays
Waste & recycling	All bags, bins and boxes – Fridays 12 th and 26 th October
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: Saturday 20th October 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>	

Services at Elkstone Church during October are as follows:

October 7 th	09.30am	Holy Communion
October 14 th	10.00am	Family Service
October 21 st	11.00am	Morning Prayer
October 27 th	(to be confirmed)	Wedding
October 28 th	10.00am	Songs of Praise

Village Hall Maintenance – September 15th – Report

We had a very successful maintenance day in mid September.

I could not help noticing that the able and willing bunch numbered at least 20. Not one person balked at being co-opted to do any task, and everyone was having fun – a true village event.

It was a particular pleasure to see several new faces and an age range of over 75 years.

A heart-felt thank you to all; such generosity ensures that our Hall is available to old and new faces and all ages.

Village Hall Committee

Thank you to those who came along and were part of The World's Biggest Coffee Morning and helped me raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support. Last year we raised £461 and this year, over £350 which will help improve the lives of those affected by cancer. Macmillan Cancer Support provides practical, medical, emotional and financial support and campaign for better cancer care.

Julia Davey - Old School House - 870038

Elkstone Cinema

"Premiere" Screening of The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel - Elkstone Village Hall

Thursday 11th October 7.00 pm – please join us for this inaugural event!

This will be the first of a series of three test screenings this autumn.

The evening will start at 7:00pm with a Fish & Chip Supper provided by The Highwayman Inn, followed by the film - an hilarious tale of a group of retirees from the UK seeking to spend their retirement in exotic India. The star cast includes Judy Dench, Bill Nighy, Celia Imrie and Maggie Smith.

Hopefully attendances at these three film evenings will have numbers / finances which enable film screenings to take place on a regular basis in the Village Hall from now on.

The cost is £6.00 each for the Fish & Chips, plus £4.00 for the movie, total £10.00. Booking requests and money in an envelope to Manor Farm Cottage by 6.00 pm on Monday 8th October please, so that we can confirm the order. Please write your contact details on the envelope.

You are welcome to bring your own drinks, though tea/coffee will be available at 50p per cup.

If you would like to come to the film showing, but without the fish and chip supper beforehand, the cost will be £4.00 if prepaid as above, or £5.00 on the door.

We anticipate the film will start about 8.00pm, though as this will be the first time we are running the evening in this format, we cannot be sure what time the screening will start!

A loop system is available to help the hard-of-hearing.

Our November film will be "The English Patient", a 1996 romantic drama, shown on the ~~15th~~ **[post print revision: 16th November]** at 7.30pm - more details in the next Newsletter

Jeremy – 870516

News from the Parish Council

Plastics recycling collection – scheduled to start Friday 12th October

Cotswold District Council is about to introduce this new scheme.

You will receive a white weighted bag (similar to the blue bag for cardboard collection) into which to put your plastics items for collection.

The first plastics collection is scheduled for the week beginning Monday 8th October – i.e. Elkstone's collection on Friday 12th.

The collection is for rigid plastic – e.g. bottles, yogurt and margarine tubs, food trays and flower pots – but not for soft plastic wrapping and cling film.

You are asked to please wash and if possible crush/squash your rigid plastic before putting it in your white sack.

Neighbourhood Watch

Following the resignation of Anne Davies, a new Elkstone NHW co-ordinator is sought. It is not very onerous, but daily access to e-mail is desirable! Please let me know if you could take on this role.

Lois 870375

Bring and Share Harvest Supper

Saturday 13th October at 7.00pm

This popular Village Evening in the Village Hall will run as last year.

There will be no admission charge, but we ask for contributions of food.

And please, also bring Donations for the Charity, 'Send a Cow', which Elkstone Church has chosen to support this Autumn.

To ensure that we don't only receive peas and custard for our Supper, so please phone/e-mail me with an offer of either a Cottage/Shepherds Pie for 6-8 servings or a Fruit Crumble/Pie for 6-8 servings.

Carole - 870493 - carolebury@hotmail.com

Send a Cow works hand in hand with poor families overseas, by teaching them the skills they need to build new lives free from poverty and hunger. By providing training, livestock, seeds and support, we restore hope and create stronger communities for the future.

In turn, these families then pass on young livestock, seeds or training to others. And so on...and so on. This 'Pass it on principle' not only builds stronger communities, it allows us to help even more people to develop skills, confidence and self-respect.

Elkstone Church

Nature Notes

On a recent visit to Dorset, it was interesting though sad to note the even greater difficulties which seemed to have been experienced in that area. The crops were late and some of the fields of maize were very short indeed. At last the harvest seems to have been gathered in due to the hard work, long hours and worry of the workers on the land for which we must all be thankful. At harvest time it is bound upon us all to be thankful not only for God's goodness but for his physical helpers who plant and spray and combine the crops and look after the animals so that the rest of us can wheel a trolley around the supermarket.

When in Dorset we visited the village of Tolpuddle and read the history of the Tolpuddle Martyrs. Such incredible persecution and hardship not really so long ago. The cottages built in their memory for retired farm workers looked so peaceful on a summery morning and the museum and Methodist chapel were so inspiring and told their story. Well worth a visit if you are in the area.

Jessie

ERG Walk – 20th October

Details of ERG Walk 20th October as follows: Alderton-Dumbleton-Alderton section of the Winchcombe Way, a 5 1/2 mile walk skirting the Dumbleton Estate through peaceful countryside with views, graded as an easy walk with no steep hills to climb. Meet 10 a.m. at the Gardeners Arms, Alderton GL20 8NL. Take the B4632, Cheltenham - Winchcombe Road on to the Toddington Roundabout. Here turn left onto the B4077 to Alderton. You will find the Gardeners Arms in the village, on the left hand side. Just follow the main road through the village. Park in the Pub car park and perhaps enjoy a good Lunch here after the walk.

Sharon and friends - 01242 528794

Safeguarding the future of the Village Hall

Most villagers will be aware that the Trustees of the Hall decided to try to raise some funds for the Hall through Gift Aid donations. Everyone should have received a form to return to me if they wish to donate. So far the response has been fantastic with around a third of villagers contributing close to £1000. The money will be put to good use ensuring that the Hall is well maintained and available for use by those who wish to use it. This fundraising replaces, in part, the money previously raised through the Open Gardens Day. We need around £1700 a year just to meet the ongoing costs of insurance, cleaning and utilities.

I will report in full to the AGM on November 29th but if there is anyone who might have lost their form or just forgotten, please let me know. It's not too late.

With grateful thanks to all who have helped so far.

Martyn – Langdale - 870441

Community Speedwatch

The grand plan for an everyday presence at the crossroads is still not possible. We have six fully trained operatives who have also done stints at the telephone crossroads but we could do more to educate drivers that observing the 40mph limit might save a villager's life.

More fully trained operatives would mean a greater presence to remind drivers to check their speeds. We have three volunteers waiting for training but more would be most welcomed.

Reg – 870375 (before 9.00pm please)

Members of the Central Heating Oil Buying Group

As Richard and I have been organising the oil run for the past 10 years we feel the time has come to pass it over to someone else. If anyone is interested, please contact either of us to discuss the very simple details.

Regards Gerry & Richard – 870521

Elkstone Cinema

Rural Cinema was popular but the film choice was very restricted, leading at times to poor audience and loss of money for Village Hall funds. With our own system in place we are free to choose what we show so please help us to get the evenings right for you. We are feeling our way with this so would welcome input from parishioners as to what you would like for these evenings. What films would you like to see? Do you like the idea of a supper, maybe 'Bring and Share' before the film. Please let me have your ideas.

Jeremy - 870516

Beware of Scammers!

A recent communication was sent to the editor with a number of experiences of 'scammers' harassing the older members of our community. They operate using a variety of methods including knocking on the door, sending letters, telephoning and sending emails.

These people are after personal details such as passwords or account details for banking.

Never - reveal any personal details to anyone, at any time, unless you are in the bank or have contacted the bank directly.

Do not – reply to emails, letters, cold callers or emails suggesting they are from your bank.

If someone asks **always** contact the bank directly and report the incident.

These scams have developed so that now they manipulate the telephone. They invite you to phone your bank to check they are real but hold onto your line after you have put the receiver down. When you pick up the handset and dial, they are still on the line and answer as if they are the Bank. The only way around this is to phone someone else first or wait half an hour.

If you feel bold enough, tell them to go away, ask questions or leave the phone 'off the hook' until they give up and hang up. In general, what they do is to establish if you are 'a catch', then sell your details to other gangs of dishonest people.

Ed