

# Elkstone Newsletter

31<sup>st</sup> Year: No. 12 (335)

September 2015

## Editor's Bit

Vacancy – Newsletter Nature Notes writer/editor – required immediately! – Please forward your name to the Editor. Many thanks to Francis for all his contributions over the last year!

*Reg – 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2015*

Features	
Elkstone Church Services Historic Churches Ride and Stride Harvest Festival	Village & Community Agent Neighbourhood Watch Fastershire Cheltenham U3A Singers
Diary Dates	
Ride and Stride – Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup> September Parish Council Meeting - Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> September, Elkstone Village Hall at 8.00pm Broadband/Fastershire Meeting – Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> September, Elkstone Village Hall at 7.30pm Family Harvest Service – Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> October at 10.00am Harvest Supper – Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup> October, Elkstone Village Hall at 7.00pm Elkstone Film Club - Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October, Elkstone Village Hall at 8.00pm	
Regular Dates	
Waste & recycling	Food + garden waste - Fridays
Waste & recycling	All bags, bins + boxes – Fridays 11 <sup>th</sup> & 25 <sup>th</sup> September
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>Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> September</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>	

## Elkstone Church Services

September 6<sup>th</sup> – Morning Prayer at 10.00am – led by Rev Janet Williams

September 13<sup>th</sup> – Family Service at 10.00am – led by Alexandra Proctor

September 20<sup>th</sup> – Holy Communion at 11.00am – led by Rev Paul Youde

September 27<sup>th</sup> – Songs of Praise at 10.00am – led by Shirley Chester

*David Pierce*

## Ride and Stride – Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September

Elkstone Church is once again taking part in the day of sponsored activities for Gloucestershire Historic Churches Trust. Half the money raised by a Church is received back from the Trust, and the other half is used to fund maintenance and building projects on churches in the county. The principal idea is that people are sponsored to visit churches in the county, or any other activity. This year Sylvie will be in Elkstone Church from 11am until 4pm, when she will happily give mini guided tours, and explain some of the unique architectural features of our famous Norman church. For example, have you ever spotted the carving of a Green Man, or seen the Shepherd's sundial? The tours will be for anybody who turns up on the day. If you are not taking part in a sponsored activity, and then all we ask is that you make a donation for the tour to Ride and Stride.

If you are thinking of taking a walk or organising a bike/horse ride for Gloucestershire Historic Churches Trust on September 12th, please let me give you a sponsorship form, as I am the contact for Elkstone. All money raised from visiting at least one Church, will raise funds for this worthy Charity, and also for our Church. We received a very large donation from this Trust when we needed the Roof Repairs a few years ago.

As always Elkstone Church will be open, but there will also be refreshments available on this day. Knowing the Churchwardens' tastes - there will be plenty of yummy biscuits! There are sponsorship forms in the Church - or email or ring me

*Carole – 870493*

### **Harvest Festival**

As we all know the harvest around Elkstone is later than in the Severn Vale, and so our Harvest Thanksgiving will be in October as in previous years. The dates for your diaries are:

- Family Harvest Service – Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October at 10.00am – led by Rev. Canon Robbin Clark
- Harvest Supper – Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> October at 7.00pm in the village hall. This will be a bring and share meal with shepherds' pie and puddings. If you would like to come please let Carole Bury or Sylvie Pierce know in advance

*Organiser - Carole Bury - 870493*

### **Village and Community Agent**

Loan sharking is not a civil debt matter, loan sharks lend without the correct permissions required by the F.C.A.

There is a National Team, which covers England and will investigate, arrest and prosecute them. This Team can be contacted 24/7 on 0300 555 2222 (or search loan sharks on Google for details).

Best wishes, *Cynthia Laird, Community Agent*

### **Neighbourhood Watch News**

Welcome to new residents in Elkstone. I am the Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator for the village and we receive "WatchWord" messages from the Police by email, when there is suspicious or criminal activity in the local area. If you would like to go on my email distribution list, please email me. I send emails out Blind Copy to keep your email address private.

There is an on-going theme of outbuildings, sheds and garages being broken in to in the locality. Some is opportunistic and others appear more planned and determined, removing locks. High cost items have been stolen such as garden equipment and tools. Please do ensure that you check your outbuildings regularly and report immediately if an incident has occurred.

We received a reminder from the Police that we are now entering the time of year where we see an increase in Nottingham Knocker offences. This is when people travel around the country offering to sell low quality goods at the doorstep. As always, a reminder of the importance of door chains and door viewers should be used, if they are fitted. If you do answer the door to a seller it is best to ask to see I.D in the first instance. Any genuine seller will be happy to offer you photographic I.D on request. Sellers also require a Peddlers Certificate to operate in a particular county. The Chief Constable of that county can only issue this so anyone operating in Gloucestershire will need to have a license signed by Chief Constable Suzette Davenport. At times you will find they do provide certificates signed from other counties **this does not authorise them to sell in Gloucestershire**. If you aren't satisfied with the I.D or the Peddlers Certificate then advise the seller that you are going to call the Police. A genuine seller will be happy to identify themselves to a Police Officer as they are trained to do so by their employer.

Can I also take this opportunity to remind people not to be persuaded to have trees cut or drive work done by people who knock on the door as they “are doing work in the area” and are touting for business. Please ensure that you get a number of comparable quotes before getting any work done, so that you pay a fair price, the work is done to a good standard and done safely.

If you get rogue seller coming to your door, please contact the 101 number immediately so Police can attend and speak with the people in question and deal with any offences being committed.

Cirencester Police Station has a range of crime prevention devices, all available from Cirencester Police Station Reception during Office hours. The bike locks have the highest security rating you can get and are very good – we have 2 of them and they are worth the money.

Master U-Bar Bike Lock	£19.00
Secure Door Ring (Upvc)	£17.00
Smartwater	£11.00
Motion Detector	£10.20
Shed Alarm	£ 8.10
D-Bike Lock	£ 7.80
Yale Brass Door Chain	£ 6.00
Window Alarm	£ 5.04
Bike Lights	£ 4.80
Handbag/Personal Alarm	£ 3.50
Dalmation Shaped Alarm	£ 3.00
Heinz Beans Safe Tin	£ 2.64
Panda Shaped Alarm	£ 2.82
All-Purpose Yellow Alarm	£ 2.34
Heart Shaped Alarm	£ 2.28
Slimline Personal Alarm	£ 2.22
Light Timer	£ 2.04
Minimax Key Ring Alarm	£ 2.00
Property Marking Kit	£ 1.56
Mobile Phone Cable	£ 1.00
Purse Dipper Bells	£ 0.32
Drink Spikey	£0.03

Many thanks - Julia Davey - The Old School House - [julia.davey@outlook.com](mailto:julia.davey@outlook.com) - 870038

### **Broadband in the Cotswolds / “Fastershire”**

Delivering the UK’s fastest broadband to more than 6,500 properties in some of the most isolated communities in the county, Gigaclear is delighted to announce that we will be starting our network build from October this year. Delivering a new, purely fibre, broadband connection to every property passed, we will be bringing ultrafast speeds of 50Mbps up to 1000Mbps. To help everyone understand what we are doing and how, and what difference it will make to the community, Gigaclear will be hosting a community Q&A event on the 30<sup>th</sup> September at Elkstone Village Hall at 7.30pm, where you can quiz us about what ultrafast fibre broadband will do for you.

To find out more, visit: [www.gigaclear.com/fastershire](http://www.gigaclear.com/fastershire) or [www.fastershire.com/phasetwo](http://www.fastershire.com/phasetwo)

### **Cheltenham U3A Singers**

A group of singers from Cheltenham's U3A sang in Elkstone church at the end of July. The choir enjoy singing in the church because of the special acoustics and would like to thank those who welcomed us and who came to listen and were delighted to raise over £60 for church funds. We are a varied and friendly group who sing just for the joy and wellbeing that singing brings. We sing a variety of music and once a year join with other U3A groups for a full day of rehearsal and performance of a larger piece of work. In addition we have several social events through the year and if anyone would like to join us you would be very welcome. In particular we need more men! We have no auditions and the only requirement is that you are a member of U3A. We meet on Monday afternoons during school terms at St Andrews church hall, Cheltenham from 2.15 to 3.30pm.

*Anne Davies*



### **Last Night of the Proms - Live!**

Come and join us on Saturday 12th September at 6.30pm for The Last Night of the Proms Live at South Cerney Village Hall, GL7 5TU. Cost is £20 per person, which includes a welcome drink and a cold buffet supper. There will be a bar and a raffle and all proceeds will be in aid of the Gloucestershire Deaf Association.

Tickets can be ordered by calling 01285 860753 (Anne) or from Jackie Gloyn by text only on 07970 969639 or by email from [jackie.gloyn@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:jackie.gloyn@tiscali.co.uk)

*Anne Davies - 870516*

### **Elkstone Film and Supper Evenings begin again next month!**

Our inaugural autumn film, **The Theory of Everything** - all about Professor Steven Hawking - will be at **8.00pm on Thursday 22nd October**

More details will appear in the October Newsletter.

*Jeremy - 870516*