
ELKSTONE NEWSLETTER

Editor's Bumbings...

Hello,

It's been a delight typing in all the warm & inviting features that are going on this month for Elkstone dwellers & neighbours. I am so sad we won't be able to see the donkeys on Christmas Eve, it's deepened my longing to get into Wards Hay Cottage, our hopes for having Christmas there were a little optimistic! I hope you all have a delightful December, a truly cracking Christmas & have fun welcoming in 2018.

Laure, editor@elkstonevillage.com Deadline For Next Newsletter, 20th December

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Regular Dates

Waste & Recycling	Food & Garden Waste – Every Friday
Fri 29 th Dec will move to Tues 2 nd Jan	
Waste & Recycling	All Bags, Bins & Boxes – Friday 1 st , 15 th & 2 nd January
Indoor Bowls	Every Tuesday - Village Hall – Trevor - 870246

Diary Dates

Rendcomb Surgery Support Group Coffee Morning	Saturday 2 nd December
Charlton Kings Choral Society	Saturday 2 nd December
Green Dragon Christmas Meal	Wednesday 13 th December

SERVICES for December 2017 in St John's, Elkstone

3 rd	11 am	Morning Praise	Rev'd David Minns
10 th	10 am	Family Service	Canon Philip Thomas
17 th	11 am	Carols	Rev'd Arthur Champion
24 th	3 pm	Christmas Eve	Rev'd Andrew Bowden & his donkey friends Puzzle & Lily for a Nativity .

Elkstone Film Nights – December & January

Due to very busy diaries all round, we will skip December for film night, we will feature Victoria & Abdul on Thursday 18th January-more on this in the next newsletter.

Seasons' Greetings to all meanwhile.

Jeremy & Anne

Elkstone Christmas Meal at The Green Dragon

The party room has been booked for Wednesday December 13th, 7 for 7.30pm. The numbers are growing but there's room for everyone-villagers guests & friends. Several 'old faces' are joining us.

The menu choices can be found on www.green-dragon-inn.co.uk & I have several paper copies.

3 courses are £23 With gratuity £25

2 courses are £18 With gratuity £20

Add coffee @£2

A warm welcome awaits!

Jennie Howlett 870462 ejenniehowlett@gmail.com

Rendcomb Surgery Support Group

Our annual Coffee Morning to raise money for the surgery, & to get together with friends & neighbours, will be held as usual in Winston Village Hall on Saturday December 2nd from 10-12. There is no entry charge but coffee/tea & mince pies are available to buy. If you would like to help this cause by baking cakes, donating goods for stalls &/or raffle prizes we would be very grateful. Last month we purchased a Hyfrecator which is used in dermatology procedures in the surgery, rather than waiting for lengthy hospital appointments. Its cost was almost £ 2000 & this came from funds built up by the Support Group.

Further Information from Jennie Howlett 870462 or ejenniehowlett@gmail.com

Thanks!

Farewell from Alan & Tess

As most of you know, Alan & I have decided to move from the village & be in walking distance of Cheltenham. We are gradually settling in to our new home but it will take some getting used to after 20 very happy years in Elkstone. We would like to thank everyone for their good wishes & especially for your friendship over the years. We will certainly keep in touch & will be returning to the village on a regular basis, as we will still play bowls on a Tuesday evening.

Alan & Tess 01242 244932

Elkstone Church News

Many thanks go to all those who came to the Harvest Supper at the end of October. It was a very happy affair & we were delighted to host the founder of Gloucestershire Farming Friends, Malcolm Whittaker & his wife Di, from Syde. He started this organisation 25 years ago to help rural folks who were suffering from financial stress related issues. It has now spread nationwide & helps a great number of people each year. We were able to send cheques off to them for £346, which we know will go to a good local cause.

On Remembrance Sunday a service was held in the church to remember those who had fallen in the 2 World Wars & all the many who have given their lives since in further conflicts. It really was a moving rural village church service at its best.

Do put in your diaries 3pm on Christmas Eve, as we are going to have a special Nativity with donkeys etc. Anyone who loved Noah will love this too.

NB This is instead of midnight service.

Roadworks on Charlton Hill A435

I thought villagers & councillors might be interested in the following that was received by Alex Chalk, MP for Cheltenham.

'What's happening on the roadworks on the A435 Charlton Hill?'

Thank you for your interest in the geotechnical scheme at Charlton Hill A435 Cirencester Road. Temporary traffic management is currently in place along the A435 to protect road users from cracking in the crawler lane associated with a geotechnical failure in the supporting land.

The whole site continues to be monitored by our geotechnical team. The findings of our monitoring suggest that there are 4 separate land slips along this section, all requiring different approaches to remedy the situation to remedy the situation. Monitoring of the whole area continues to fully understand & interpret a 3-dimensional ground model. Preliminary design has been initiated for site one, (within the crawler lane), however, remedial works to address this localised slip have been stalled as the movement has slowed & pressure has built to accommodate investigations at sites unfortunately deemed higher priority.

It is with regret that these higher priority sites are showing greater movement or higher risk & as such the budget & programme has to be adjusted accordingly. Whilst these sites are not as heavily trafficked as the A435, the use of the crawler lane to manage the slip site has had less impact on the traffic than a lane or full road closure at these alternate locations. As such the budget to address the issues within the crawler lane & return the lane to full use are not envisaged until 18/19, with full remediation of the extended site in 2020 & beyond. As the site is being continually monitored if the rate of movement increased the risk associated with the site would change & the scheduling of works would be reassessed with the geotechnical team.

Anne Davies.

From the Parish Council

At the last Parish Council meeting on 15th November the installation of a Community Defibrillator to be situated outside the Village Hall has been agreed & to go ahead & proceed with the installation as soon as possible.

Jane Thorn

Insurance Offer

“Thinking of changing your home insurance provider?”

The insurance company the St John's Church, Elkstone has used for several years is Ecclesiastical, based in Gloucester.

This company is celebrating its 130 year anniversary & to make a charitable donation to our church of £130 each time you take out a home insurance policy with Ecclesiastical during the next year up until the 30th November 2018.

If you would like to know more or obtain a quotation, simply visit

www.ecclesiastical.com/trust130 or call on 0800 783 0130 quoting TRUST 130.

More information is also available on a Poster which you'll find in the church.

Ecclesiastical current customers have ranked it first, ahead of 46 other insurers, in the independent Fairer Finance rankings & clearly this initiative would benefit church finances in these straitened times if adopted by our community.

Brian Howlett-Treasurer Elkstone PCC

Open Gardens Day 2018

Discussion at the Village Hall Agm on 24th November reveals that to date we have no expressions of interest to be events co ordinator for Open Gardens Day. This event raises vital funds in equal amounts for St John's Church & for Elkstone Village Hall, & is a wonderful opportunity for villagers to meet up & work together for very worthwhile causes.

If you are interested, please could you get in contact with
Jeremy Davies 870516 or Ronnie Bury 870493

Many Thanks



Have a Very Merry Christmas!