



Village Newsletter

November/ December 2020

You have probably noticed that the newsletters are bi-monthly at the moment - in the present circumstances there's little to report. It's concerning to hear of the increased number of Covid cases in the Staffordshire Moorlands but better news regarding the possibility of a vaccine in the near future. Meanwhile let's all try to stay safe.



Poppies around the arch outside our own St John the Baptist Church

Remembrance Day

Sadly, Remembrance Day services in the Benefice, meaningful to many of us, didn't take place as they normally do but many of us found our own ways to remember. If you've been past the church, you will notice that the poppies made by the SEWING ladies for the First World War centenary have been put to good service braving the elements, just as the soldiers they represent did, and we're reminded that we have much to be thankful for.



More poppies made by the SEWING ladies decorating the altar rail



Ladies of SEWING making poppies for the 2018 centenary



The church in 2018 decorated for the well attended centenary Remembrance Day service led by the villagers of Elkstones

It is also a time when we think about those who are affected by Covid in any way, whether through their work, feeling isolated or unable to visit family. We particularly think of those who are unwell or have lost loved ones.

Once again... don't forget if you are in need of any help with shopping, collecting prescriptions etc or just fancy a chat, please contact one of the numbers at the bottom of this newsletter and we will try and arrange help.



Our sympathies to Amy Wardman and family on the passing of Amy's Mum, Christine Buxton, on 4th October age 91.

Church News

For the remainder of November, during lockdown, public worship has been suspended. As such there are no public services planned in churches in the benefice. Services will be posted on the village website, elkstones.org and the village and church noticeboards as soon as we have any information. During lockdown, online services will continue on Sundays and Thursdays at 10am for rest of November. Please contact Fr John or Fr David for details. Tel 01298 83411 **Email:** longnorgnorgvicarage@gmail.com The church will be open on Wednesdays from 2pm to 4pm for private worship.

<i>Chair</i> Judy Holt	<i>Secretary</i> Katy Parkinson	<i>Treasurer</i> Margaret Grant	<i>Newsletter Editor</i> Jill Gregory
300646	300753	300358	07800 808805

Elkstonians' AGM

The Elkstonians Annual General Meeting took place in October as usual, but far from normal was the fact that we had to use technology to meet up! Happily it was a highly productive meeting and still quite sociable even though we were all sitting in our own homes and using Zoom. It did, of course, mean that not everyone could join in but we hope that you will contact the newsletter team if you have anything to add.

The main points that came out of it are as follows:

- Margaret Grant gave a detailed breakdown of funds, showing that £252 is available for general village use. Subs are now due and next to this report is a note from Margaret explaining where the money goes and why we still need to keep paying up.
- There is still a trickle of sales of village books and we'll continue to have more printed if there is a further demand. People are reading about the books on the website and purchasing them—this is very encouraging to all those who worked on them.
- Unfortunately there is no money available to be gifted to local charities but any that becomes available during the Christmas period will be sent to the local food bank.
- Jill Gregory reported on website and archive progress. Both are now up and running, funding has been adequate to enable purchase of technical support and editing but on the whole, the project has relied on the dedication of a small number of volunteers. Judy Holt has been trained to update the website on a regular basis and would like to hear from anyone who wants information added or would like to contribute in any way.
- All officers were returned to their posts but should anyone else like to "have a go", their offers will be gratefully received. The Treasurer, Secretary and Chair were thanked for their hard work and Rob Faulkner was singled out for appreciation of his efficient twenty plus years as secretary and newsletter editor.

Elkstonians' Subscriptions

Hello all from your Treasurer!

It's the time of year when subs are due again! Previously the printing cost of the Newsletter was among the things that were financed by the subs, but although most people are now receiving the Newsletter by email or viewing it on the Website, subs are our only source of income now that we no longer have Sports Day. We still need to pay for the Christmas tree, servicing of strimmer and hedge cutter, funeral donations, postage and other items which keep the Elkstonians going. The new website was entirely financed by the society's own fundraising plus match funding from South West Peak, and is not included in our ordinary running costs. The subscription cost is staying at £5 per year, unless you are one of the few people who don't have internet access and still need a printed copy to be posted out, in which case it is still £11.60 to include the cost of the stamps and envelopes. In these difficult times the subs can be paid by bank transfer, cheque or cash, whichever is most convenient.

Bank Transfer

Name of Account : The Elkstonians

Sort Code: 01-05-02

Account Number: 01027816

Please add your Surname and the word 'Sub' to identify the transfer.

If you prefer to use a cheque, please make it payable to The Elkstonians and post it to me, or put it through the letterbox at Bank House, Elkstones, Buxton SK17 0LU.

If you prefer Cash, please put £5 in an envelope with your name on and the word 'Subs' through the letterbox at the top end of Bank House porch, and I will bank it as soon as I am allowed out!

Let's just hope that the latest Lockdown won't go on for too long...

Best Wishes to everybody - keep as safe as you can.

Margaret Grant

Forthcoming Events

Following the success of the Zoom meeting, we thought we might trial a coffee morning on the same basis.

Thursday, 19th November at 10.30 and the venue? Well, the comfort of your own home or any safe space where you can get wi-fi! Don't forget to bring your own refreshments! Plenty of advantages - you get to drink whatever you like, just how you like it made (possibly a bit early for a G&T?), you don't have to go out in the cold and rain and if you're not enjoying yourself, you can always switch off and pretend it's a technical hitch. If you have wifi but haven't yet tried Zoom or if you would like to attend please contact one of the team and we'll talk you through it - it's free to use. Contact details are at the bottom of the newsletter or email elkstonians@gmail.com

Weather and rules permitting, we hope to hold a **Christmas Carol Singing event** in the village. We will ensure that it follows all social-distancing protocol; it will be interesting to see what sort of a sound we can make dotted about the

green and wearing masks! Details have not yet been finalised but the emphasis will be on informality, safety and fun. Please keep an eye on the website elkstones.org "News and Events" section and on the village noticeboard for the latest information.

Quiz or Games Nights are also very popular while people can't get out. If anyone would like to organise one, there are sure to be enough takers to make it an enjoyable evening.

Sadly, we have thought it wise to cancel the **Christmas Dinner at Biggin Hall** as we assume that larger gatherings will still not be allowed by mid-December.



Elkstonians enjoying a pre Christmas lunch glass of mulled wine at Biggin Hall in 2018

Remember to get your order in early with Myrtle for **turkeys and wreaths**. Phone Myrtle on **304225**. and if anyone else would like to advertise their Christmas wares, let us know and we will put it on the website free of charge.

Editor's Closing Thoughts:

We know you'll be taking care to avoid Covid this December, but watch out for the new health risk - eating Christmas decorations can give you tinsellitis. Happy Christmas everyone!

Chair <i>Judy Holt</i>	Secretary <i>Katy Parkinson</i>	Treasurer <i>Margaret Grant</i>	Newsletter Editor <i>Jill Gregory</i>
300646	300753	300358	07800 808805

