



# Elkstonians Village Newsletter

## February 2019



### Rob's Ramble

The Beginning of the End of Winter ? Lovely picture of early morning mist from Underhill by Dominic. The weather continues to alternate between extremes of "Spring" and "Arctic" but no signs of the prolonged Beast which the weather experts keep threatening. The problem is that if they keep threatening and nothing happens, people get complacent and when the bad weather really descends on us they are all taken by surprise. Do you remember packing your sleeping bag, boots, hot flask, and biscuits when you left home in the morning ? And the famous story about the school bus getting stuck near Newtown ? Victor was driving but could not shift it and the children all sat cheering but when he told them that he would take them home if they helped, they all leapt off the bus to push !!

### Diary Dates

**Elkstonian Evening** – **Thursday 31st January** talk by Hazel Collett at Bank House at 7pm by kind invitation of Margaret and Peter

**Church Services** – **Feb 17<sup>th</sup>** Holy Communion at 1100 and **March 3<sup>rd</sup>** Lay led at 3.30 pm. There will also be an "Easter Eve" Service at 6.30 pm on **Easter Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> April**

**Next Coffee Morning** – **Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> February**, 1030 to 1200 at Mary Deaville's

**S.E.W.I.N.G.** – **Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> February**, "Wirecraft" by Suzanne at New York by kind invitation of Katy

**Steak Night** – **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> February** 7 pm at the "Red Lion" / "Reform" in Thorncliffe.

**Hunger Lunch** – Myrtle and Des have very kindly invited us to join them at Townhead on **Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> March**, between 12 and 2 pm

### S.E.W.I.N.G. from Jill

Instead of the scheduled SEWING meeting on, we are having an old-style Elkstonian evening with a talk and slides. Hazel Collett, who has had a long connection with the village, is briefly back from Africa, and will be telling us about her life and work out there. As an Elkstonian event, the evening is open to both men and women, and will take place at Bank House at 7PM by kind invitation of Margaret and Peter.

*Chair Judy Holt Secretary & Newsletter Rob Faulkner Treasurer Margaret Grant*

SEWING, as we know it, will resume on **Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> February**, with a wirecraft workshop led by Suzanne Horwell at New York Farm by kind invitation of Katy Parkinson. We have been invited to Liz Meakin's for Lambing Live in March - an exciting addition to 2019's line-up of activities. Hopefully the weather will have warmed up enough for us to return to the church for our April event.

### **The Birds and the Trees** from Dominic

Interesting, there has been a green woodpecker around - seems to fly from your house (Mount Pleasant) to our house (Underhill); we have the regular great spotted on the feeder all the time plus the nuthatches but for some reason very few goldfinch or other finches...

The Woodland Trust kindly donated 500 trees for Underhill, which we chose for the altitude, drainage and shalebed soil type. Ani and her sister, who came to visit from the Argentine summer, braved the cold and did most of the hard work. Ultimately it will create a nice corridor of woodland habitat between the village and the woods above Ryecroft. A lot of the Peak District is desperately in need of reforestation, especially on the limestone plateau, though luckily in our valley we have a good mix of cloughs, set-asides, moorland-edge, and rough pasture. So in around 20 years look out for a mixed woodland of Hazel, Crabapple, Dogwood, Hawthorn, Oak, Mountain Ash among others. Right now they're barely a foot tall....

### **Short Eared Owl** from Liz

seen in Elkstones patrolling the bank above Mount Pleasant and below Underhill

### **Church Cleaning and Flowers Rota**

Many thanks to Sally for volunteering to fill the February / March gap

### **A Bit of History – 20 years ago !**



1999 actually – but if you had asked me I would have guessed about ten years....

And it's only a couple of years since one of our visitors tried to drive through water flowing over the bridge and his car floated away ! He had to bail out and came back to borrow dry shoes and trousers



### **Thoughts for This Month**

We live in a society where the Sainsbury's delivery gets to your house before the police.

**Hospitality** is making your guests feel like they're at home, even if you wish that they were.

### **Contact Us**

If you have any stories ( rumours and gossip welcome ! ) or pictures you would like to share, email

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