



## March 2020

### Diary Dates

#### St John the Baptist, Elkstones, Church services

**Sunday 8th March** (not 1st as in previous Newsletter ..sorry!) 11.00am Holy Communion

No service on Sunday 15th March or Sunday 22nd

**For more information about the Longnor Benefice visit : [thelongnorbenefice.org](http://thelongnorbenefice.org)**

**Monday 2nd March** 7pm Flower Festival meeting at Myrtle's, Townhead

**Tuesday 3rd March** 10.30am Coffee Morning, Hill House by kind invitation of Judy and David

**Monday 9th March** 12 noon –2pm Lent Lunch, Townhead by kind invitation of Myrtle and Des

**Friday 13th March** 7.00-8.30 Foxlowe Centre, Leek. Preview of Tyra and Ruth's felting exhibition.

**Tuesday 31st March** 7 for 7.30 in the church S.E.W.I.N.G.- Our Desert Island Discs

#### LENT LUNCH

Monday 9th March 12 noon –2pm Elkstones Hunger lunch at Townhead, Lower Elkstones. Contributions of soup will be much appreciated. Please contact Myrtle on 304225.

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



January's sewing brought out the interior designer in everyone as we created idea boards for rooms we wanted to decorate.

Sadly we had to cancel February's candle holder decorating session due to the snow. This will now probably take place in April. More details next month.

**Tuesday 31st March 7 (for refreshments and chat) 7.30 for business(!) in the church.** S.E.W.I.N.G. Desert Island Discs. Bring along your favourite piece of music on a cd or a download on your phone. Let Judy or Jill know if you aren't able to download your track or find a cd and we will try to find the technology to help! We will then play the track and talk about why it is special to us.

### Advance Notice

#### St John the Baptist, Elkstones, Church services

**Easter Saturday 11th April 7pm** Easter Evensong

**Sunday 24th April 3.30pm** Evening Prayer

**Saturday April 18th 11.00 - 4.00.** St John's Church, (by kind permission Of Father John) Elkstones Digitisation Project Open Day.

### Neighbourly News

We are very pleased that Peter Grant is now home after a brief stay in hospital. Keep well Peter and do as your good lady and the doctors tell you!

#### FEBRUARY COFFEE MORNING

Several Elkstonians enjoyed coffee and cakes at Katy's at New York in February. Spot the mystery visitor!



#### ELKSTONES 2020 FLOWER FESTIVAL

This will take place from 19th –21st June. A lot of planning and work goes into making this a successful fundraising event for the church. If you are interested in being involved please attend the planning meeting at Townhead on Monday 2nd March at 7pm.



## FELTWORKS EXHIBITION

Tyra Till, artist and former neighbour who lived at New York Farm until 2014 has joined up with expert felt-maker, Ruth Broadbent, to produce a stunning display of artwork. The exhibition runs from 14th March to 2nd May and can be seen at the Foxlowe Arts Centre in Leek. The exhibition has been two years in the planning and making the pieces has taken much longer. It really mustn't be missed. Elkstonians are invited to a preview on Friday, 13th March from 7.00 - 8.30. Some of us will be "going out on the town" afterwards. Let Jill know if you'd like to join us.



## DIGITISATION PROJECT

Scanning and editing goes on apace. A few technical issues are still to be ironed out but shortly we should be up and running effectively. So that you can see for yourself the progress we have made, there will be an open day in the church (by kind permission of Father John) on Saturday 18th April between 11 and 4. We plan to demonstrate how the website works and display some of the photographs and documents that have come to light since the books have been written. We will be asking for help with photographs we can't identify and ask you, please, to seek out anything you have tucked away somewhere that may be of interest to other villagers and local historians. We can make a copy of anything you bring along to the event there and then so that you can take the originals away with you. We should also be able to print out for you any photographs that relate to you or your family for a small donation towards printer ink and paper. Help in providing refreshments will be gratefully received and any profits will be donated to the church.



Would you buy a used car from this man? We tuned into Silk radio to hear this familiar voice advertising a local car dealer! He tells us that all he got for his trouble was a free tank of petrol.....not surprised looking like that!

## GLOBAL WARMING AFFECTS THE MOORLANDS

Just as we thought we'd escaped winter, the last couple of weeks brought a sign of what is to come. Instead of Nor'Easters hitting Elkstones we will be in for warmer but wetter winters, as low pressure is dragged across the Cheshire Plain from the Atlantic. This gradual process has been called Atlanticization, and will more or less affect everywhere north and west of a diagonal line between the Severn and Humber rivers. The other side of this imaginary line will have colder but drier winters. This northern warmth means flowers and trees will be budding early and you can expect to see birds that would normally be in Africa in the winter sticking around - for example Blackcaps can be seen and heard in the more wooded parts of Elkstones. The downside is upland flash-flooding will probably increase, with scant protection against surface run-off, especially on the steep east face of Elkstone Hill. Luckily, apart from two small landslips, we seem to have come through relatively unscathed again. Dominic



Snow across the valley from Underhill



A male reed bunting on the bird table at Bank House

## Save money: save the planet

Wrap gifts in off-cuts of fabric from old clothes, curtains or scraps from dressmaking. Tie them with ribbon which is more eco-friendly than sticky tape. Presents will look more attractive, the material can be reused and paper isn't wasted.

## Editors Closing Thoughts:

My mother used to say that the way to a man's heart was through his stomach. Lovely woman - terrible surgeon.

I love the way the Earth rotates around the sun. It really makes my day.