



Elkstonians Village Newsletter

March 2022

Rob's Rambles

Just when we thought that our World was slowly returning to normal, we now have a threat of a War enveloping Europe even possibly escalating to the use of tactical (low yield) nuclear weapons. It sounds more and more like the rise to power of Hitler day by day where one megalomaniac ruined the lives of millions of his fellow people.... Let us all hope and pray that our Western leaders are able to work together to control the situation and bring back the peace and security to us all, especially the people of Ukraine. At present it is a little difficult to look beyond the next few days but we enjoyed a lovely Service with Curate David this morning and we are looking ahead to Easter....

St. John's Church, Elkstones

Our lovely little church has been loved, cared for and cherished for over 200 years, and hopefully will be for many more years, but owing to old age, illness and villagers moving on to pastures new, we are very short of people to take a turn at cleaning the building and keeping the churchyard tidy. At present there are only 4 people left on the cleaning rota and there are 12 months in the year, so these 4 people are doing 2 months each, which still leaves a gap of 4 months to be covered.



If another 2 people willing to do 2 months came forward to help, that would be wonderful, or better still, if more people volunteered, everyone could do a shorter stint. It is not an onerous task, and can usually be done in an hour, once or at most twice, in the month, depending on when there is going to be a service.

What is involved? Dusting the pews, vacuuming the carpets and polishing the few pieces of brass and woodwork. Oh, and putting in some fresh flowers when needed. At Christmas, Easter, Harvest and Wakes, it is usually a joint effort. If you want to be rewarded, just read the Visitors' Book to see how your work is appreciated. Any offers? The current vacant months are June, July, October and November, though Myrtle would be happy to swap her turn (April and May) to a turn that is not in lambing time.

Similarly, we have lost the churchyard team due to ill health. Brain and Brenda have done a sterling job for many years but can no longer manage it, nor can Roger due to an injury. It would be a good thing if we could set up a rota of men who could keep the top end of the churchyard looking tidy between the rows of graves. You don't have to be a churchgoer, just someone who cares about our village's bit of Heritage and its future. If you are willing to give the cleaning or the churchyard a go, please contact Rob on 300 509 or Myrtle on 304 225 or Liz M on 304 295



And thank you very much to Myrtle for making the beautiful new Altar Vestments

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Diary Dates

Church Services – **Sunday, 27th March**, Mothering Sunday, Service at 11am in St.John's
Sunday, 10th April, Palm Sunday, Holy Communion at 3pm in St.John's **Saturday, 16th April**, Easter
Eve, Service at 6.30pm in St. John's **Congratulations**

to Des for his “significant” birthday on 21st March. Des has lived all his life in the Village, attended the Elkstones School, and was a member of the World Championship Sheen Tug-of-War team. We also wish him a very happy retirement leaving Townhead in the extremely capable hands of his daughter Julie.

Village Notice Board

Our current Notice Board on the Village Green is becoming waterlogged and soggy inside, and in constant need of repair. Margaret Grant would like to supply a new one as a gift to the village in memory of hubby Peter. The one that she has in mind is similar to the one in the picture. It is made of brown maintenance free material which looks like timber, but will not need any painting or varnishing, and would hopefully last much longer than the ones that we have had over the past 40 years. It would have a small memorial plaque with Peter's name on, attached to the frame. If anyone has any objection please let Margaret know (01538 300358) before she starts applying for planning permission.



Queen's Platinum Jubilee

No details yet but probably a Church Service in Elkstones followed by refreshments and a get together.

There will be a book on the Altar Table in the Church for signatures which the Vicar will send to Buckingham Palace along with similar books from the other Churches in the benefice. Don't know yet what is being planned in Warslow although Emma and Rachel are asking for ideas and volunteers (hope they have better luck than I did !!!)

Subscriptions

Hate to nag but only just over half our normal subscribers have paid so far – if you don't want it any more please let Margaret know and if your Newsletter stops coming you'll know you forgot, won't you? Our little Elkstonian Society doesn't need much money but we do spend some on memorial donations, Christmas and similar celebrations, and minor improvements around the Village on your behalf.

Thoughts for This Month

- My wife told me she'll slam my head on the keyboard if I don't get off the computer. I'm not too worried, I think she's jokinkjhfkln m,nbziyoao78yv87dfaoyuofaytdf
- I don't have a carbon footprint. I just drive everywhere.
- I'd like to have kids one day. I don't think I could stand them any longer than that, though..
- What's the difference between a golfer and a skydiver? A golfer goes *whack* “damn” and a skydiver goes “damn” *whack*

Contact Us

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

email Rob@titanic.co.uk

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