

January 2023



**Elkstonians Village Newsletter** 

## Margaret's Meanderings...

Our church was beautifully decorated for Christmas & all ready for the Carol Service on the 18<sup>th</sup> December. Many thanks to all who made a big effort to make the church look lovely & prepare for the refreshments afterwards, BUT once again the service had to be cancelled - last year it was due to the resurgence of Covid & this year it was the sudden freezing rain, causing lethal conditions both underfoot & on the roads. It was impossible to stand upright. Next day the ice went as quickly as it had come & Liz Meakin was able to sell raffle tickets around the area, raising just over £100 for the Church. Many thanks to those who generously donated prizes.

The winning ticket for 1st prize of the Christmas Hamper went to Tracy Wentworth. Winners of the other prizes will be notified.



Diary Dates St John's Church & Village Events

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> January

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January See details overleaf... Holy Communion 11am Coffee morning 10.30am

Church cleaning & flowers for January – Liz Meakin

## Elkstonians' Christmas Lunch

On Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December, eighteen members of the Elkstonians gathered together for a lovely Christmas Lunch at Biggin Hall. The first since 2019, so it felt really special to be able to sit down & eat together, give Secret Santa gifts & enjoy each others company again.



On Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December seven Carol Singers set off to make Christmas music around Elkstones. This year's fund raiser (which is always chosen by the current year's Chairman) was for Shelter, the charity for homeless people.

Thanks to some very generous donors, we have been able to send a cheque for £165 to Shelter.



On Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January, there will be a Coffee Morning starting at 10.30am at Bank House. We can chat about The Coronation & gather ideas for our celebrations, plus plan some village activities for the year. Why not come along & enjoy a seat by the fireside, a warming tea or coffee, tasty nibbles & a natter with your neighbours. Everyone is welcome!



Just by chance, it happens to be **Burns Night** on that date, but don't worry, there won't be a Scottish theme so no need to get dressed up! It did bring back some memories of a past Burns Night in 2004 though, when the late Peter Grindey & his wife Julie hosted a Burns Night for the Elkstonians at their then home Treetops, including neeps & tatties, and several different sorts of whisky. A good time was had by all!











Good wishes to all our friends & neighbours for 2023 Happy New Year!



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