



December 2023



Elkstonians Village Newsletter

Margaret's Meanderings...

Last month I hoped the rain would stop, but at the time of writing it hadn't. It will turn to snow soon I suppose, it's certainly getting colder. We've already had an interesting phenomenon with a halo round the moon, apparently caused by ice crystals. Earlier that day I took this photo in Upper Elkstone, the moon already clear at about 4.00pm shining large & low over Herbage & Averillside. Later that night it was looking sensational, alongside the planet Jupiter, so Herbage & Averillside were in good company!

Thanks to Emma T for her fab photo



Don't forget, if you take a good photo of the village or its surroundings, or any event in the village, please email it to Margaret at grants.elkstones@btinternet.com & we will include it in the next newsletter if there's room.

Diary Dates

St John's Church

Sunday 17th December Carol Service 3.00pm

Now being held in the afternoon, rather than the evening, come along & enjoy a good sing, followed by mince pies, mulled wine & the chance to catch up with friends & neighbours. Offers of mince pies (or other nibbles) will be very welcome – please let Myrtle know if you can contribute

☎ 01538 304255.

PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF TIME



Hazel Bailey will sell Raffle tickets round the village before the day & Myrtle would welcome prizes for the Raffle any time from now. If you could drop them off at Townhead Farm Myrtle would be very grateful, or ring her.

The funds raised will go towards the maintenance of our lovely little church.

The Christmas tree will be in the church ready for decorating at 10.00am on Sunday 10th December so volunteers will be needed to help decorate it. Please ring Sally Faulkner on 01538 303900 if you can come & give a hand.



Cleaning & Flowers for December Liz Meakin



Steak Night in November saw Margaret, Katy, Jane, Paul, Bill, Kate, Nev, Lottie & Oscar get together at The Reform for chatter and laughter. And, of course, delicious food!

**Sunday 10th December
Christmas Lunch at Biggin Hall
12.30 for 1.00pm**

We are looking forward to our Christmas Lunch at Biggin Hall. Don't forget to bring a present costing less than £5, wrapped & labelled 'Gent' if you're a man, or 'Lady' if you are a woman, for Santa to distribute afterwards.



Friday 15th December Carol Singing round the houses

If you would like the Carol Singers to come & sing at your door, please ring Margaret on 01538 300358 or email grants.elkstones@btinternet.com. There is no obligation to invite us in, we are very happy to sing at your doorstep 😊 This year we are raising funds for Myeloma UK, which is the Chair's chosen charity. Please see below for more details of the charity.



www.myeloma.org.uk

This year, my chosen charity is Myeloma UK—the only charity in the UK that focuses on the incurable blood cancer myeloma & its related conditions. Our late Queen was suffering from this “relapsing remitting” cancer when she died, and a close friend of mine has just finished a gruelling 18 months of treatment. She is clear for now ♥ Thank you in advance for your donation 😊 Jane

Dustbin Day during Christmas Week

As Boxing Day falls on a Tuesday, which is our usual collection day, our Blue Bin rubbish will be collected on Thursday 28th December instead.

Buy your Christmas turkey locally

Finally, if you haven't organized your Christmas Dinner at home yet, why not try one of Townhead Farm's turkeys, chickens or geese? You can't get more local than that! Ring 01538 304255 to put your order in.



Wishing all Elkstonians, friends & neighbours a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Peaceful & Prosperous New Year.



The Elkstonians: Chair *Jane Prince* Vice Chair *Don Sutherland* Secretary *Katy Parkinson* Treasurer *Margaret Grant*
Newsletter: Content *Margaret* Editing/Layout *Jane* Distribution *Margaret/Katy*