



September 2025 Elkstonians' Village Newsletter



Margaret's Meanderings...

Well, we can't complain about the summer weather can we? We have had so much sun & heat that everything flowering is over, and Autumn seems to have come a month early. In the 3rd week of August I saw about 50 house martins flying about or sitting on the wires in the field below the school, as if they were already getting together to start flying back to Africa. The bees, butterflies & other insects have flourished, and the trees in our gardens have a bumper crop of apples. This aconite flower in Jane & Paul Prince's garden up on the tops has been covered in bees all summer. Also known as 'monkshood' or 'wolfsbane', it really attracts pollinators, but beware of planting it in your garden if you have small children as it is quite a poisonous plant. The name 'wolfsbane' is also a hint that it is toxic to pets, although Jane says her dogs have never shown any interest in it...



Happy 80th Birthday to Frank Wentworth!

Congratulations to Frank who celebrated his 80th birthday in August. Though he now lives in Leek, Frank was born at the Hole Farm, Lower Elkstone, then raised at Greenside Farm, went to Elkstone School, and is still an Elkstonian at heart - as can be seen from his photo, he is still reading his Newsletter every month... ☺

Frank is on the left of the back row of the School photo, along with Joan Tunnicliffe, Jean Ash & Bernard Poyser, with teacher Mrs. Mary Wesson standing behind.



In the middle row are Tommy Bold, Margaret Alcock, Eric Tunnicliffe, Geoff Poyser & Terry Buxton.

In the front row are Christopher Wheeldon, Maureen Poyser, Ellen Ward & Terence Deaville.

Where are they now? Jean Ash is alive & well and living in the USA. Terence Deaville is also alive & well and living south of London in Surrey, from whence he comes up to visit Elkstones regularly. Terry Buxton is still our fountain of building knowledge, and still living locally in Butterson, and Joan Tunnicliffe is still in Elkstone. Margaret Alcock sadly died many years ago, also Bernard Poyser. They would have been about 80 if alive today.

Does anyone have any news of any of the others?

Elkstonians AGM

The Annual General meeting will take place this year at 8.00pm at Bank House on Thursday 30th October. Please put this date in your diary & come along if you want the Society, Website & Newsletter to carry on. It would be a shame to see the Elkstonians disappear after so many years of activities and fun!!



Diary Dates—St John's Church

Saturday 20th September at 2.00pm Creating The Harvest Display

We will be meeting in the church to arrange the display of Harvest offerings & to decorate the church. Offerings of colourful fruit & vegetables for the alter rail display, as well as cakes, produce & other saleable food items for the table display will be very gratefully received. These can either be left in the front porch at Townhead Farm, Lower Elkstone, prior to Saturday, or brought to the church on Saturday by 2.00pm. Anyone who would like to come along at 2.00pm to help arrange the display will be most welcome—it's always good to have more helpers & more ideas, so please do come if you can.



Raffle prizes are also needed please, and can be left in the front porch at Townhead, or given to Myrtle during the week before the Festival.

Sunday 21st September at 7.00pm Harvest Festival Service

The service will be followed by the usual very tasty Pie & Pea Supper and dessert. There will also be a raffle for St John's Church funds, to be drawn on Monday evening at the Harvest Sale.



Monday 22nd September at 8.00pm Harvest Sale

This is one of our main fund raisers which help to keep our historic little church in good condition & open to all, so please come & take part and support the Sale.

Cleaning and Flowers for September—Margaret Grant