



## October 2025 Elkstonians' Village Newsletter



### Margaret's Meanderings...

I was delighted in the middle of September, on my daily walk down the clough to the bridge at the bottom, to see a kingfisher fly from under the bridge & along the stream. There was no mistaking that flash of brilliant iridescent blue as it streaked along. It's at least 40 years since I have seen a kingfisher in Elkstones (has anyone else ever seen one?)



& that was along the stream below the wood on the other side of the road. It would be nice to think that they have been breeding there through all those years, but at least it shows that there are still fish in the stream & that the stream is clean & healthy & supporting a kingfisher.

Fallow deer have also been seen in the valley, which is unusual, as up till now we have had only red deer. The fallow deer can be identified by their spotted coats, whereas the red deer have plain coats.



### September Newsletter's School Photo-Correction

I have to apologise to Bernard Poyser for inadvertently killing him off in my comments asking about news of the children in the old school photo... To put matters straight, Bernard is alive & well and still lives locally. Sorry Bernard – wishing you well, and with many more years yet to come!

### Elkstonians' AGM—Reminder

- The Annual General meeting will take place this year at 8.00pm at Bank House on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> October.
- Please put this date in your diary & come along if you want the Society, Website & Newsletter to carry on.
- Refreshments are provided so please bring ideas for things that you would like to see in the future, while having a natter with your friends & neighbours. Everybody with an interest in Elkstones is very welcome 😊

### Staffordshire Moorlands District Council



SMDC is running a new satisfaction survey to seek the views of residents & understand how they feel the Council is performing. The last residents' survey was carried out two years ago. This one comes as SMDC & Staffordshire's other councils are responding to the Government's plans for local government reorganisation due to be implemented from April 2028. Final reorganisation proposals have to be submitted by 28 November. As such, there are some questions included about the future of local government, including the opportunity for residents to select from three options for new council areas that all involve

Staffordshire Moorlands. They include the Council's preferred option. There are also questions covering community safety, local decision making, value for money & other public services. You can complete the survey online using the link below, or in person at the council offices.

**The deadline for all responses is Sunday 12th October.**

[www.staffsmoorlands.gov.uk/article/8447/Chance-to-have-your-say-about-Council-services-and-the-Councils-future](http://www.staffsmoorlands.gov.uk/article/8447/Chance-to-have-your-say-about-Council-services-and-the-Councils-future)



## Harvest Festival

September's Harvest Festival was a very enjoyable & colourful occasion, with an interesting address given by Rev. Jane on today's highly relevant farming & climate topics. After the service we all enjoyed the fabulous pea & pie supper, and it was also great to welcome several old friends of Elkstone Church from places far afield. Everybody's loyal & continued support is very much valued. The church looked lovely, and thanks go to all who contributed so generously in providing goods, flowers & their time to make it so. Thanks are also due to those who came to the Harvest Sale on the following evening & spent well or sent donations. Over the whole weekend, including the supper, raffle and & sale, £1115.50 was raised to help pay for the church's outgoings. Without everybody's continuing generosity this would not be possible. Thank you once again.



**DON'T FORGET—CLOCKS  
GO BACK AT 2.00AM ON  
SUNDAY 26TH OCTOBER!!**



### Village Green Planter

Many thanks to Tricia Tomlinson from Butterton, and the committee of the Community Magazine Closing Down Fund for providing The Elkstonians with a grant of £100 to buy a good quality planter, plus compost & a Gaillardia plant, to put in the old water trough at the top of the village green. Thanks also to Roger Miller for doing the prep & planting. The plant is very colourful already, and by next year should fill the planter & make a lovely display.



### Diary Dates—St John's Church

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October at 3.00pm—Holy Communion

Cleaning & Flowers for October—Katy Parkinson

### Warslow & Elkstones Parish Council

The Parish Council will next meet on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30pm in Warslow Village Hall.

To see the Agenda & Minutes of the last meeting, please visit [www.warslowandelkstonespc.org](http://www.warslowandelkstonespc.org)

The Elkstonians: Chair **Jane Prince** Vice Chair **Don Sutherland** Secretary **Katy Parkinson** Treasurer **Margaret Grant**  
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