



November 2025
Elkstonians'
Village Newsletter



Margaret's Meanderings...

I was very taken with the beautiful sunset up by the The Mermaid recently, which was just a bit of light taking my mind off the world's awful problems, and then Tanya Fox took this lovely picture of the dawn light from her garden. Thank you for the photo, Tanya. The world is still a beautiful place in spite of wars and disasters.



Warslow & Elkstones Parish Council

The Parish Council will meet on Wednesday 26th November at 7.30 p.m. in Warslow Village Hall. To see the Agenda & Minutes of the last meeting, please visit

www.warslowandelkstonespc.org

Diary Dates—St John's Church

Sunday 16th November at 3.00pm—Holy Communion / Cleaning & Flowers for November—Katy Parkinson

Remembrance Sunday 9th November—*no service at Elkstones*

Since Fr. John died there are not enough vicars in our area to cover a Remembrance Service for every church, but there will be a Remembrance service on the 9th at Longnor Church at 10.10am & Sheen Church at 10.45am. On the 11th, there will be a Remembrance Service at Butterton at 10.45 a.m.

Church Gate

The gate into the churchyard is in urgent need of repair & attention to both the stone supports which are leaning out of true, and the woodwork, which is weathering away. The quotes obtained for the work show a cost of well over £1,000. To this end we are very grateful for a grant of £250 from the Community Magazine's closing down kitty, to start off a fund to pay for the work. We would be grateful to anyone who feels able to give a donation to take the fund forward. Please contact Myrtle on 01538 304225 if you feel that you would be able to make a contribution, whether large or small.



Elkstonian's AGM

This year's AGM took place on 30th October at Bank House, 7.30pm.

All officers were re-elected—Chair, Jane Prince; Vice-Chair & Webmaster, Don Sutherland; Treasurer, Margaret Grant; Secretary, Katy Parkinson. Notable points of discussion were subscription charges (see below); the continued cost of hosting the elkstones.org website & archives; ideas for village events; the fibre broadband rollout in 2026 (see page 4); village carol service on 21st December, & we agreed carol singing around the village for Friday 19th December. The minutes will be posted on www.elkstones.org as soon as they are compiled.

2026 Elkstonians Society subs are now due

If you want to carry on receiving the Newsletter, please give your 2025-26 sub to Margaret as soon as possible! We are keeping the basic contribution at £5 per year, but for those who want the Newsletter posted to them the cost is £15.44 (£5 plus the cost of 12 x 87p stamps). The easiest way to pay is by cash, or bank transfer, as the nearest branch of the Nat West is now in Hanley, so cheques are becoming increasingly difficult to pay in.

Account Name: The Elkstonians
Sort Code: 01-05-02
Account Number: 01027816

To use bank transfer, please use your name and the word 'subs' as a reference.

Christmas Lunch

It's time to book your Elkstonians Christmas Lunch, which this year is at The Jervis Arms, Onecote on Sunday the 14th December, 12.30 for 1.00pm. Please have a look at the menu below and send your choices to janeprince@btinternet.com by Sunday 30th November, and your payment by cash or bank transfer per the previous page, using your name and the word 'Lunch' as reference.



The Treasurer would be very grateful if you would please pay subs & Xmas Lunch bookings separately, so that she doesn't get confused when working out the accounts ... ☺

JERVIS ARMS FESTIVE DINING

Available Wednesday to Saturday from 3rd December until 24th December.
Lunchtimes and evening including Christmas Eve

2 courses £26.00/ 3 courses £31.00

To start...

Pressed ham hock and minted pea terrine with homemade piccalilli
and ciabatta toasts (can be gf)

Smoked salmon roulade on beetroot salsa with a horseradish
and chive crème fraîche (gf)

Sweet potato and red lentil pate with spiced tomato chutney
and ciabatta toasts (can be gf)(v)(vg)

Roasted cauliflower and stilton soup with apple crisps
and farmhouse breads (can be gf)(v)

Next up...

Roast breast of Norfolk turkey with an apricot and thyme stuffing, piglet in a blanket,
classic roasties, root vegetables, pan fried Brussel sprouts, cranberry and red wine sauce (gf)(df)

Barrows pork chop on champ potato, root vegetables, pan fried Brussel sprouts,
cider and grain mustard cream sauce, crackling (gf)

Pan seared breast of duck on a parsnip and potato rosti, roast carrot,
braised red cabbage, rich port and orange jus (£3.50 supplement) (gf)(df)

Chestnut and mushroom wellington with roasties, root vegetables, panfried Brussel sprouts,
cranberry and red wine sauce (v)(vg)

And finally...

Christmas pudding ice cream, brandy snap cup, Cointreau caramelised oranges, pomegranate,
ginger crumb, salted caramel (v)

Homemade sticky toffee pudding with dates, walnuts, toffee sauce
and lashings of custard (v)(NUTS)

"Black Forest Mess" - Marinated cherries in Chantilly cream, crushed meringue, chocolate soil,
chocolate shavings, cherry sauce (v)(can be gf)

"Festive Cheeseboard" - Stilton, creamy Brie, cranberry Wensleydale,
sticky date and fig chutney, wafers, grapes and caramelised walnuts (£3.00 supplement)
(can be gf)(v)(NUTS)

PROJECT GIGABIT

UK government's programme to deliver **fast, reliable broadband** to hard-to-reach places across the UK



Full Fibre Broadband News!

Connect Fibre, the company which has been given the Government grant to supply Project Gigabit, a fibre-optics Broadband connection to rural areas like ours, has just completed installations to the Longnor area. They are now covering the Onecote & Warslow areas, and Lower Elkstone will be included in that area. Upper Elkstone will be included in the area which covers the old Blackshaw Moor telephone exchange. Some of us attended an introductory evening held at Blackshaw School on the 22nd October and were told that the project covers 3 years, but that we should be furnished with a full fibre-optic broadband

connection well within the 3-year time scale. However, you have to register an interest as soon as possible so that they can plan what work is needed. The more people who register an interest now the better, as good numbers will give them an incentive to include us in the project. Registering an interest does not commit you to having the installation, but will enable you to find out if you are eligible for free funding to have the work



needed to connect your property to the network. Once connected, you would pay a monthly charge to receive the service just as we do now. When the government funding comes to an end, free connections will cease and future customers will have to pay to get connected, so it is important to register an interest to see if you are eligible for a free connection to be installed. Follow the link below to check your postcode and register an interest.

www.connectfibre.co.uk/project-gigabit

It's especially important for those living along Breech Road to register, as at the moment properties along Breech Road are not down to receive fibre broadband in any area roll-out. Please take 5 minutes to register your interest as we don't want to get left behind with current and future technology!



Rural Befriending

The Farming Life Centre's free befriending service offers friendship and support to people in farming communities. Our volunteers, who share a passion for rural life, are here for you.

THE FARMING
LIFE CENTRE



donna@thefarminglifecentre.org.uk

For More
Information
Contact Donna :
07777 168 857

Rural Befriending

Are you lonely and maybe in need of a friend?

Or would you be happy to be a friend to a lonely person in the area?

Either way, please read the leaflets which we have been asked to display in the Notice Board, or follow the link below to The Farming Life Centre website.

This seems to be a worthwhile project whether you are lonely yourself, or happy to give friendship to someone else.

www.thefarminglifecentre.org.uk



The Farming Life Centre

Supporting Farming & Rural Life in the Peak District

What is Befriending?

Befriending is an informal relationship where a volunteer connects with an individual. They give support and encouragement to reduce feelings of loneliness and isolation.



Could You Be The Person to Make a Difference?

Anyone can be a rural befriender, you just need to be reliable and caring, with a few hours to spare each month. If you can offer some company to those in need of a listening ear, we would love to have a chat with you.