



January 2026

Elkstonians'
Village Newsletter



Margaret's Meanderings...

We managed to reach Christmas 2025 without any snow. Sometimes I think that global warming could be quite advantageous to people like us who live in the high spots of the country, as we were able to do all our pre-Christmas activities without being hampered by anxious thoughts of difficult snowy journeys. At the time of writing, it's forecast to arrive early January, so we might be white-over by the time you receive your Newsletter ... The picture below is from January 10 years ago taken along Well Lane at the stile before Underhill Farm, looking down the valley. While digging this out of my photo collection, I also found this one dated 14/01/16, of the parrot & parakeet...



...who visited the village's garden feeders on a twice daily basis from April 2015 to November 2019, surviving four winters. I miss them. They were a really colourful comedy double-act!



Fourteen Elkstonians & friends of Elkstones enjoyed a lovely Christmas lunch & get-together at The Jervis Arms in December. And on the 19th some of us gathered again to go Carol Singing, collecting £125 to send to The Barn Owl Trust. Thank you to those who hosted us & gave so generously, even after putting up with our singing!



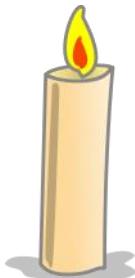
Diary Dates—St John's Church

Sunday 18th January 3.00pm Holy Communion celebrated by Rev Jane Held

Cleaning & Flowers for January – Liz Meakin

Many thanks to Rev. Jane for giving us such a lovely carol service on the 21st December. Globally we are living through dark times, with a continual barrage of sad & bad news, and the lighting of candles, passed around all the congregation, was a reminder that light always dawns & better times will shine through in the end. It was so good to gather together with friends & neighbours to celebrate the Christmas story, and to enjoy talking together afterwards, with a welcome glass of mulled wine & mince pies.

Thank you to those who supplied these goodies & served them, and to those who supplied raffle prizes – not forgetting those who bought the tickets & who gave generously to the collection, helping to add another £265 towards keeping our beautiful little church open. Thanks also go to those who cleaned the church in preparation & supplied the Christmas flowers, to those who supplied the Christmas tree & decorated the church, which looked lovely, and to the organist. Everyone's time & effort is really appreciated.



January bin collections

The blue and grey bins will be emptied on the usual days, but there will be no brown bin collection until 13th January.



Finally, congratulations to Jill Gregory (GrammaJill) who became a grandparent on the 4th December, when daughter Annie gave birth to Cai Andrew Gregory Dennis (Cai Dennis). It seems to follow on nicely from last month's archive picture of the 1995 Christmas Nativity scene, when Annie was playing the role of Mother Mary!

Love and best wishes to you all 



Wishing everyone in Elkstones, and all our friends past & present a very Happy New Year, and good Health & Prosperity in 2026.