Echo
A voice for everyone in Elton and Gratton

The Editorial Team

would like to wish all our
Readers, Contributors, Advertisers
Distributors and Printers

A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS
and a
HAPPY, HEALTHY & PROSPEROUS
NEW YEAR

Editorial Policy

We welcome your news, views and articles of interest, provided they are not anonymous, libellous or offensive. Views expressed are not necessarily those of the editorial team. Items may be condensed where necessary.

News items, for sale/wanted adverts and announcements are free to Parish residents. For business advertising rates please contact John Wellington 650857.

If you would like to join the editorial team please contact one of us.

Echo Editorial Team

John Moseley 650760
John Wellington 650857

Please send us your news, views, stories and diary events (for March, April, May and June) no later than:-

Next Copy Date
Monday - 3rd February 2014

to: John Wellington
Stride Cottage,
Main Street, Elton.
Preferably by email in MSWord to:
ellonecho@tiscali.co.uk
or on CD or handwritten

Diary Dates

December
2  Winster Village Shop meeting 8pm VH
For more details see page 13
5  Parish Council meeting 7.30pm VH
8  Christmas Lights switch-on 6pm then refreshments in VH
12  WI  7.30pm VH - Christmas Party
13  Quiz Night 7.30pm VH
22  Lessons & Carols 6pm CH
24  Crib Service 4pm CH
31  Ring in the New Year 11.45pm CH

January
2  Parish Council meeting 7.30pm VH
9  WI  7.30pm VH Resolutions Meeting
10  Quiz Night 7.30pm VH
21  ELHG 7.30pm VH

February
6  Parish Council meeting 7.30pm VH
13  WI  7.30pm VH John Warren - My Role as a Magistrate
14  Quiz Night 7.30pm VH
18  ELHG 7.30pm VH
27  Gardening Club 7.30pm VH Anthea Bent - Views of Northern Cyprus
18  ELHG 7.30pm VH

March
6  Parish Council meeting 7.30pm VH
13  WI  7.30pm VH Mick Partridge - Follow your Dream
14  Quiz Night 7.30pm VH
18  ELHG 7.30pm VH
27  Gardening Club 7.30pm VH Kevin Pratt - Poppies and Bulbs

Weekly events

Gentle Keep Fit every Wednesday at 6.30pm in Village Hall. Contact Anne Wellington 650857
Tea/Coffee & Toast in Church - every Thursday 10.30am - 12.30pm

Fortnightly events

The Eltonians (the over 60’s group) meet every other Wednesdays at 2pm in the Village Hall. Contact Mike Musgrave on 650293 for details.

Grey Bin & Food Caddy Collection
Every other Wednesday - from 4th September
Blue & Green Bin & Food Caddy Collection
Every other Wednesday - from 11th September

Mobile Library - see back page

Published on behalf of Elton Parish Council. The views expressed are those of individual contributors and are not necessarily the view or policy of the Parish Council.
Councillor's Corner - Winter 2013

Preparing for winter

With winter rapidly approaching and cold weather setting in, I am pleased to say that preparations are in place ready for the possibility of heavy snow. Grit bins have been checked and re-stocked and a supply of rock salt is due to be delivered for use by the Parish Council. This supply is for the refilling of grit bins and the clearing of footpaths throughout the winter. From this supply grit will also be provided to the church, school and village hall to help keep accesses clear and paths safe underfoot.

As in previous years, I am always pleased to hear from Elton residents who are available to help with clearing roads and footpaths in the event of heavy snow. The snow warden scheme proved to be successful last year, but more volunteers are always welcome. If you think you can help, please contact me on the details below. Shovels and grit will be supplied and nobody will be asked to do more than they are able or want to. I am pleased to say that Gratton now has a volunteer snow warden who is also to be supplied with rock salt and shovels and will do her bit to help keep Gratton's roads clear.

As always, I will do what I can to help in the event of heavy snow so please do contact me if you see a grit bin that needs restocking or a road which is in need of salting. Finally, please remember that all grit in the bins around Elton and Gratton have been paid for with public money and are to be used only on public footpaths and roads - not private driveways and footpaths.

New way of working

Over the past couple of years, there has been a noticeable increase in the number of complaints I have received about the District Council's grass cutting and weed killing service throughout the village. The number of cuts throughout the year has reduced and the quality of work is not as good as it used to be. It is a similar story for the standard of work the council have been doing on the Jubilee Field. People tell me that they want the area we live in to look tidy and presentable and to receive the level of service that they pay for.

Having spoken with officers at the council it would seem that funding cuts, less staff and fewer resources mean that things are not likely to improve in the foreseeable future. Having discussed this with the Parish Council we have come to the conclusion that complaining to the council will change nothing and that a new approach is necessary.

We have, therefore, agreed to begin discussions with the District Council about the possibility of Elton Parish Council taking on the responsibility of grass cutting, the mowing of the Jubilee Field and certain aspects of village maintenance. This would mean hiring a local person to undertake

Continued on page4
We all have our own Christmas traditions which are very much determined by what we have done in the past. In our country it may include a visit to church, the family around a dinner table, perhaps a brisk walk in the afternoon. There may even be something worth watching on the telly! It’s not the same in every place. A few years ago, while on study leave in India, I had the chance to visit Dharavi, where the film, “Slumdog Millionaire” was shot. It’s located just a few miles away from Central Mumbai (Bombay).

While I was there I was taken to meet a Christian family who lived at the heart of the slum. They greeted me as a VIP, and even sent out for a bottle of Coca Cola to drink. While I was with them I asked how they got along with those neighbours who were of different faith communities. It was interesting to hear that they got on really well—they had too otherwise life would be intolerable. Their Hindu neighbours had invited them to their Diwali celebrations just before Christmas and they, in turn, had invited their Hindu and Muslim friends to share in their Christmas meal. Life seemed to be one big party, apart from the fact that they had very little to share. What they did have, however, was offered with a generous spirit.

It struck me at the time that these people had learnt how to live alongside each other in peace. They did so because they lived “hard times” together. Having met them, at the time I felt that I had been touched by the true spirit of Christmas. Jesus, born in the poverty of a stable probably meant more to them because they understood what poverty really is. This Christmas, may we recognise the Prince of Peace, not in what we receive, but in what we are able to share.

Have a lovely Christmas

Canon David Truby (Rector, Wirksworth Team Ministry)

Christmas Dharavi style

Christmas at All Saints, Elton

1st December at 9.30am - Advent Sunday - Book of Common Prayer Communion
8th December at 6pm - Switching on the Christmas Lights, followed by refreshments in the Village Hall
22nd December at 6pm - Lessons and Carols
24th December (Tuesday) at 4pm - Live Crib Service, followed by mince pies in church
Christmas Day at 8am - Book of Common Prayer Communion
31st December (Tuesday) at 11.45pm the New Year will be rung in, and Auld Lang Syne sung in the church

The PCC and the Church Wardens would like to say thank you to Bill Glossop for all his continued hard work in the churchyard to keep it looking neat and tidy. Thank you Bill, it is very much appreciated.
Continued from page 2

the work. It is hoped that this would result in the Parish Council having more control over the service, be able to prioritise the work and ensure that the quality of work is improved.

This is quite an ambitious move and many points need to be clarified, safeguards put in place and funding arranged. I hope to discuss all of this over the coming months with council officers and have things in place ready for next spring.

Christmas wishes

With this being the last piece I will write before Christmas, I would like to wish everybody a Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year. I would also like to say thank you for the support and help I have received over the year from the community with council matters and various events. It is greatly appreciated.

Can I help you?

I am always here to help in any way I can. If you are in need of help, have an issue of concern or know of a problem that needs fixing, please contact me. My contact details are below.

Thank you

Colin Swindell
District Councillor
Winster and South Darley Ward

Address: Laburnum Cottage, Well Street, Elton, Matlock DE4 2BY
Telephone : 07816 986 956
Email : colin.swindell@derbyshiredales.gov.uk

Editorial

As we have our usual Christmas greeting on the front page, I thought I’d use this space to make a couple of comments.

My first point is not aimed at residents who don’t have access to the internet, but I have to say I am somewhat disappointed with the response to my request last quarter regarding your chance to receive the Elton Echo by email or to read it online via the village website. I’m really surprised as I expected to receive a good response, but let me thank the two who did respond so promptly.

My other point is, please don’t forget there is free advertising for any village resident in the For Sale/Wanted section on the back page. It’s been a bit empty in recent issues!

Editor
EltonWI...

At the AGM in October Cath Dawe was again unanimously elected as president for a second year.

During the previous month the Quiz team performed well again taking second place in the Buxton area. Unfortunately the all-day refreshments event was affected by poor weather but we thank all those who came to support us.

Several members enjoyed the Group Social hosted by Starkholmes WI and four members represented Elton at Darley Dale’s birthday party.

All WI’s in Derbyshire are being encouraged to provide details and memories of their involvement with their communities. This is becoming a very interesting project and is revealing the significant role which this WI has played in Elton’s recent history.

We now look forward to our Christmas festivities, our party, the Group Carol Concert and the lighting of the Village Christmas tree lights when members will be providing homemade mince pies.

Winifred Woodward
Elton WI Secretary

Gentle Keep Fit

If you are one of those people who know they are not getting enough exercise why not come along to the Village Hall on Wednesdays at 6.30pm for an hour’s workout (nothing too hard). Exercise is beneficial for good health and at just £3.00 per session this is very good value.

For more details contact Anne Wellington on 650857.

Through the Echo can I say thank you to Alice Cooper for her help in selling raffle tickets in aid of the Air Ambulance and the Lifeboats at the coffee morning and sale held in Youlgrave on October 26th at which £1,332.51 was raised. One raffle prize came to Elton.

Anne Prince
Youlgrave

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Main Street, Elton

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(Some services may be subject to change)
Village News and Views

GIFT DAY CONCERT

Andrew Hubble and I put our heads together – we’d like to put on a ‘gift day’ concert in Elton. Though it sounds good to us both – there is one rather large hitch to our plan; neither of our musical groups is available for the gig. But Alistair Scrivener is super keen and the date Saturday 21st September is firmly agreed and promoted. And so, time to call in some superiorly talented friends to help: and consequently an event starring Isobel and Lydia Barber (violin duo), Richard Haslam (guitar) and William Madin (organ) graced our church one curiously warm evening in September.

The programme was varied – from highly accessible American traditional folk tunes on violin, through classic repertoire such as Mozart and Scarlatti on organ, to the contemporary – Richard Rodney Bennet on guitar. The age of the performers was also rather diverse: the violinist twins, a mere and most definitely ‘sweet’ 16; Richard, 20s, gifted guitarist, a focused university graduate; and William, 80s, a loquacious, light-hearted musical ‘lifer’.

The performers alternate so that the music is diverse and the concert fast moving:

William entertains with his quick wit, and even faster fingers racing over the organ keyboard. At home with an audience he ‘pulls out all the stops’ to delight us.

The twin violinists fascinate: as they shuffle stands and music the audience is thinking, these rather attractive lasses from Thorpe, are they identical twins? And then the girls start to play and all thoughts are chased from the audience’s heads except “wow”. Their violin mastery and musical aptitude far exceed their years. With varied and challenging repertoire they stun us to vigorous and noisy applause. No wonder the girls recently received an award for innovation at the national music for youth final at the Birmingham conservatoire.

With wit and wisdom Richard warns the audience that the music he plays may at times make one think he is ‘making it up’! He treats us to contemporary music he has perfected at university; a polished professional performance. Definitely, ‘local boy done good!’ - more musical studies and a career in music ahead of him.

Young, old, contemporary, classical: many thanks to the performers for thrilling us with their gifts. And thank you for supporting the ‘gift day’ concert; without an audience there can be no performance. And what a performance it was!

Liz Hague
(Yes the twins are identical!)

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Partita Concert

On 18th October we were greatly privileged to hear a performance by Partita, an ‘early music’ group whose programme encompassed Renaissance and Baroque music from around the world. In recognition of the 450th anniversary of John Dowland’s birth we started in England: three of his pieces were played on instruments such as were current in the 16th Century.

The musicians moved on to the courts of Louis X1V of France and Charles 1 of England with romantic pieces that held us spellbound, before progressing to music of the Italian baroque. We were on a journey!

In the interval Sasha on recorder and viol (additionally whose wonderful voice we heard), Jill (harpsichord), Margaret (harp) and Roger (lute, theorbo, viol and baroque guitar) displayed their instruments and talked about them. Meanwhile glasses of wine were enjoyed.

The church looked warm and inviting by candlelight. With its fine acoustics, this was once again a lovely concert space.

Still crossing borders the musicians gave us four pieces from the time of Rembrandt and Vermeer – Dutch Baroque. Most of us will have been visualising pictures from the ancient masters as we listened entranced.

The last compositions came from Spain, Portugal and Bolivia. The latter two pieces were anonymous, maybe the composers’ names are now lost from memory although their music lives on.

There was a standing ovation from the audience and many requests that we would like to welcome these musicians to Elton again.

Thank you, Partita, from us all.

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Village News and Views

Winster Events

Christmas tree lights will be switched on at 6pm on Sunday **8th December**. As usual there will be music, mulled wine and apple juice, mince pies, and chocolates for the children.

**Performance of Scrooge at Christmas**

You are warmly invited to our production of ‘Scrooge’ in the church on **16th December** at 6.30. The children will be performing a variety of songs and music, including some old favourites. So please come along and support us.

Bowling Green Quiz **Boxing Day** 9.15pm

Winster Quiz Burton Institute Fri **27th December** 7.30pm

Sunday **29th December**  An evening of Derbyshire and Yorkshire carols at 7:30pm in the Bowling Green. Led by Rolling Stock Company. Come and join in.

Shaun’s Music Quiz at the Bowling Green **30th December** 9.00pm

Winster Quiz Friday **24th January**  BI 7.30m

Winster Quiz Friday **28th February**  BI 7.30pm

Tuesday **4th March**  Winter Pancake Races start 1.30pm Main Street.

Winster Entertainments Group, supported by Live and Local, presents

Richard Durrant in Concert

Brilliant concert guitarist with great laid-back stage presence, accompanied by stunning art-animations specially created to fit the music.

Friday **28 March 2014** at 8pm in the Burton Institute, Winster. Tickets £8 (£6 for children still at school) from Winster Post Office or 01629 650364 or 650090. Bar opens 7.15.

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In order to secure a place for your child for 2013/4 please contact Cathy Banks on **07799084244** (6.30 - 8pm Tues evenings only) to register.

Registered Charity No. **1035604**
Rambling and Mathematics and Winter.

When the swallows leave these shores around the middle of October, they always take a little part of the naive romantic and reflective part of my personality with them. Who wants to face the next four months, after all, subject to insufficient warmth or sunshine or even daylight, - which is what I am thinking when I see these intrepid little wanderers just slip quietly away for the warmer climes. To make matters worse, I have friends who also perform the same sensible trick, and we won't see them either until well after Christmas.

But it is nonsense to dwell on such inevitably melancholy reflections. No, John Bull was made of sterner stuff and surely I'm a British Bulldog also. Well, anyway, that's the only option open to an experienced and battle scarred life warrior that parades as the British B.... The counter then, to such soft and indulgent attitudes that belong to the warmer climes, is to steel my resolve, call on the fighting spirit and find a way to deal with the coming winter.

Not being intelligent enough to see beyond my immediate feelings however, the only solution I could produce, was the simple expedient of being an optimist rather than a pessimist. I'm not going to look at what I don't have , but what I do have. I shall pursue the goal of quality in each little thing I do, even if I have to wring it out by force. And in this way I shall conquer !!

This is where the maths that you have been wondering about comes in. For some time now, I have not been covering half the distances when I am rambling that I used to do formerly. This is partly to do with the diminishing strength and resilience that catches up with all of us as we shuffle along this mortal coil, and partly due to experience. Because, you see, these half distances are covered at three times the enjoyment. The net result is an overall improvement in the quality of my existence, which is never a bad thing for a sybarite. Let's just say, for example that a walk of 10 miles results in 10 units of enjoyment, [however that is measured.] That is 1 unit per mile. But if I walk 5 miles at an enjoyment rate of three times that, then I will have enjoyed 15 units as opposed to 10. Or 3 units of enjoyment per mile. This is the kind of mathematics that is intended to be a consolation for the enforced confinement to winter in these shores. And it is dependent on the premise of knowing how to create this triple enjoyment for each mile covered.

Obviously that is when you hit the sturdy reality of the brick wall that awaits the unwary optimist. I might be an experienced walker and wily observer, but my dear friend Chaos has a wonderful knack of wrinkling out the flaw in my reasoning and agenda. Just to remind me of the farce of wishful thinking. In contrast, my only resource is the British fighting spirit, the resolve to soldier on. Here then, is a fine scenario for an epic struggle. Should I roll over and accept defeat, whereby I can sit indoors all winter, feel warm and watch Strictly Come Dancing, or must I venture into the Great Outdoors and be cold and wet and tired - but victorious !

I think you know the answer, [as we all do really,] but there is still the little matter of how to create that triple enjoyment in the face of adversity. You are probably waiting for my solution by now, and that would be the easy option, for you to embrace or discard as you see fit. The reason I can't oblige you with a solution however, is simply because I am not you. What works for me and my personality, may not work for you and your personality - so what is the point ?

But I relent and will tell you what works for me. Now although I have spent the whole of this article analysing and pondering, the paradox is that I am better when I don't think too much. I end up going round and round in circles and getting nowhere. I am much better doing something - when I am just

Continued on next page
striding along observing the big wide world. That is what really interests me and where I am able to create the triple enjoyment. People, Places, Landscape, Nature are all infinitely interesting. Rather than not being enough to create triple enjoyment, there is excitingly too much.

So it's easy for me. Not only Keep Dancing ! - but Keep Rambling !

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**Calling all holiday accommodation providers in Elton and Gratton**

If you would like copies of the Elton Village Guide leaflet and the Elton Village Trail booklet for your clients please contact eltonhistory@talk21.com or phone Lynn on 650015.

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**Interested in joining the 100 Club?**

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If you would like to be part of this monthly cash prize draw

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BAKEWELL CHORAL SOCIETY

A Festive Evening of
CHRISTMAS WORDS & MUSIC

Saturday 14th December 2013

Bakewell Methodist Church,
Matlock Street, Bakewell, DE45 1EL
at 7.30pm

Conducted by Alan Eost

Amanda Kornas ~ Piano
Keith Hodgson ~ organ
Daniel Nolan ~ Euphonium

We look forward to welcoming you to our popular Christmas Words & Music concert in the festively decorated Methodist Church in Bakewell. The choir will perform a selection of Christmas music and carols and the audience join in several well-known and favourite carols. This is done with great enthusiasm! The seasonal readings celebrate the glory of Christmas, some are thoughtful while others humorous and complement the joyous occasion.

A lovely way to start the festive season!

We hope that you will join us after the concert for coffee and mince pies.

TICKETS £5 Students & Accompanied Children FREE
Donation made to a charity from the proceeds of the concert

Tickets are available from Bakewell Bookshop, choir members, and on the door.

Tickets are also available by post from:
Mrs E. Butcher, The Gabled House, South Church Street, Bakewell DE45 1FD
Cheque to Bakewell Choral Society and please enclose a SAE.

*FREE TRANSPORT may be available to our concerts contact:
Elizabeth Butcher 01629 810205.
(*Subject to numbers)
Village News and Views

The Farming Life Centre

Supporting Farming & Rural Life in the Peak District

The Trustees and Staff would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thank you to all our supporters in 2013.

It can’t have escaped anyone’s notice that times are tough for the farming community and many are struggling both financially and emotionally. Don’t suffer in silence, the following organisations are there to help:

Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institute (RABI):
Freephone helpline 0300 303 7373
This charity helps farming families or retired farmers ‘with limited means in times of financial need’. They work with farmers in emergencies e.g. following illness, accident, family breakdown etc. Support includes one off or regular grants as well as payment for things like essential household goods, labour, living aids. They also help with home help costs and residential home fees. For more information www.rabi.org.uk

Addington Fund
Helpline 01926 620135
This fund focuses on farming families in England who have to leave the industry and by doing so will lose their home. It also offers emergency grants in times of hardship as well as provison for emergency fodder and feed funding for livestock. For more information www.addingtonfund.org.uk

The Farming Community Network
Helpline 0845 367 9990
This is a network of volunteers that provide pastoral and practical support. They help people to find a positive way through their problems. The Derbyshire contact is Graham Hinds 07833 638562. For more information www.fcn.org.uk

The Farming Life Centre
Phone 01298 85162 during office hours
We are a local farming charity and operate a confidential service. We do not provide grants but we have free support through our Health Trainer service. We can support individual clients from farming and rural areas in the Peak District with health and wellbeing as well as wider determinants of health. In addition, we have a Farm Business Support worker (Jonathan Charlesworth) who offers free advice to farmers about business and farming matters. For more information www.thefarminglifecentre.org.uk

**Wed 11th Dec : Walking for Health : Ashford in the Water, start 1pm – finishing 2pm**
Meeting at the Sheep Wash Bridge (plenty of off road parking) and taking a festive walk along the village trail. You are welcome to join us for mince pies and a hot drink at The Farming Life Centre afterwards. This is a led walk and is Free of charge. All welcome.

Blackwell Hall Farm, Blackwell, Buxton, Derbyshire SK17 9TQ
www.thefarminglifecentre.org.uk, info@thefarminglifecentre.org.uk, 01298 85162

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ATTRACTIVE COTTAGE FOR 2 IN CENTRE OF ELTON

We have a lovely cottage suitable for two people for weekly or weekend rental in centre of Elton village. No smoking and no pets please. Would suit relatives/friends of local residents visiting the area as well as holiday makers.

If you are interested please call Angela and Trevor on 01799 550994 for details.

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Winster Village Shop and Support for Elton

At the recent AGM of the Winster Village Shop (WVS), it became apparent that we, the WVS Board, should better promote the shop and its services to the residents of Elton. We hope that the shop does already provide a service to Elton - but it’s clear that this could be improved.

The first step we are taking to bring this about is to invite you to a meeting with members of the WVS board and staff in Elton Village Hall at 8 pm on Monday 2nd December. At the meeting we will share with you the status of the business, and the plans and challenges that we face for the future. Plus there will be an opportunity for you to offer your thoughts and ideas on how the shop could better meet the needs of Elton. We will also provide an update on the Village Shop’s arrangements for Christmas shopping.

We are also pleased to announce that Kate French has joined the Board. As an Elton resident, Kate will be able to bring the Elton perspective to our discussions and planning.

Volunteering at Winster Village Shop

The Shop relies on its volunteers to help with many tasks such as being on the till, putting stock out on the shelves, doing deliveries, picking up essentials in bad weather etc. Would you like to help? This could be a regular commitment or just the odd hour when there is a need. Contact Anthea on mag@winster.org or tel 650480 or just pop into the shop. Many thanks in anticipation.

WVS Board

Message from Cliff Farm

Hello everyone. Hope you are all well and prepared for the Winter with its snow.

Sadly, Serenity Coffee Shop is no longer trading. We had very few visitors, so, I thought it best to close whilst I had good memories of new friends made.

Peak Conference Centre is now...The Sanctuary @ Peak Serenity ...

In March, next year, it is being opened as a sanctuary for less advantaged people, people who ‘have fallen through the net,’ and are on the margins of society. These people will be invited to come along on a regular basis to build their self-esteem and confidence, and learn a skill which will help them in their daily lives. We are working with churches, but it is an ecumenical group, for people with faith or who have no faith at all, to show them the love of God in a practical, non-judgemental way.

We are looking for volunteers to teach these skills, eg. Gardening, art therapy, Crafts, (sewing and knitting) painting and decorating, managing bills, computer skills, etc., all manner of skills are needed. So if you can give some of your time and expertise, please let me know, and a programme can be arranged. I will be organising an information time shortly (please watch the Village Notice board by the school ) We are going out in faith with this project, so please

Continued on next page

FIREWOOD FOR SALE

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Mobile: 07971 815683
Many villages have local history groups but few can be more ‘ad hoc’ than Elton’s. We were founded for the purpose of investigating every aspect of the history of Elton and Gratton and sharing the results and that’s what we continue to do. We never know where our researches are going to lead but every month something interesting seems to turn up. You can turn up too! ‘Membership’ of ELHG just involves coming along to the village hall on meeting nights.

So, what has ELHG been up to over the last 12 months? For our AGM in November last year Richard Oldfield kindly brought along part of his collection of Neolithic stone implements that he’s found on Elton Moor and gave a fascinating talk about where the different kinds of stone came from and how the tools were made and used. Looking at such artefacts in a museum case is interesting enough but holding tools actually used on Elton Moor five thousand years ago feels almost like communication with the first people to live here.

In January, Alastair Scrivener sweetened his audience with an ice cream each while he gave an illustrated talk about medieval stone carving. Roger Brooks then amazed us with his recent discovery of one of the best examples of Neolithic rock art in Derbyshire, less than 8 miles from Elton. In contrast, February bought us right up to the present when Mick Andrews showed a DVD about motorcycling, including a sequence of himself practising at Burycliff Quarry.

In March we delved into the history of Gratton and in April Peter Bell gave a talk about his zoo at Riber Castle with slides of the family cuddling such unlikely animals as a wolverine and a lynx. There were no ice creams from Alastair in May but he organised a very enjoyable practical session with us all making the Elton chap book. Chap books were little books sold for one old penny by pedlars or chapmen who walked from one village to the next, carrying their wares in a backpack. From maps we identified the route pedlars would have taken through Gratton to Middleton and on a perfect evening in July Richard Oldfield led an enthusiastic group along this almost forgotten track. On the walk we took the opportunity to look at remains of medieval open field farming, the topic of June’s meeting.

Having identified where the medieval inhabitants of Elton and Gratton would have grown their food crops, in August we thought about the all-important medieval woodland, investigating maps and photos of the area north of the playing field, known as Tweenwoods.

One of the special features of our local area is the remains of lead mining activity and in September Roger Brooks revisited this subject with an illustrated talk. Coincidentally a young American studying for a Ph.D. was walking around (and under) the Derbyshire hills getting a feel for the lead mining landscape before engaging with locals to find out what the landscape means to the people who live here. George Jaramillo happened upon tea and toast in Elton church where he heard about ELHG. He then came along to talk to the group about the research he’s doing and to meet people who can help him. I’d been wondering what we might do at the October meeting. Thanks for turning up, George!

Lynn Burnet

Continued from previous page

think of us in your prayers. Fund-raising events will also be order of the day, as will donations at our various events. (We have no money as yet)

It is planned on holding 1 or may be 2 Friendship Days a week, for 6 people per day, depending on tutors and the amount of people interested in attending. Doctors, churches, socialworkers etc. will be contacted, and perhaps, you may know of someone who is in distress. Please let me know.

Contact me, Christine  M.07837 725 337  email: relax@peakserenity.co.uk
**Puzzle Page**

**ROBIN’S KNOTTY CROSSWORD**

Across
1. On and off wet spot (4)
3. Handy dodge with furrows (7)
9. Join (5)
10. Rows and blows (7)
11. Wine and Miss Turner make melody (8)
12. Disparagement (4)
15. Raising agent (5)
16. Dynasty (5)
20. Harmful influence (4)
21. Believer in people (8)
23. Framework (7)
25. Rapid Western milkman (5)
26. Mental suffering (7)
27. Encourage sprouts (4)

Down
1. Put out (6)
2. Gets going (9)
4. Discontentment (6)
5. Three squared (4)
6. Tim and Andy will no doubt be members (abb) (3)
7. Frail (7)
8. Gem of the sea (5)
13. Tangle of intricacy (9)
14. Foul-mouthed recruit (7)
17. Precedes a traverse (5)
18. Rationale often misunderstood (6)
19. Could be right up your’s (6)
22. Waiting for action (4)
24. A Grecian P (3)

*Note: This crossword is published here with the kind permission of its compiler, Robin Hemmingway.*

**SOLUTION ON BACK PAGE**

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**Elton Village Quiz Nights .....**

13th December
10th January
14th February
14th March
11th April

Bring your team along for an enjoyable and social evening or come on your own and we’ll fit you into one of the teams. Don’t forget your drinks and nibbles.

And don’t forget a Raffle prize. it will be most appreciated.

Entry is £2.00 per person plus £1.00 for a raffle ticket.
The Small Ads

For Sale/Wanted

WANTED a three or four bedroomed property to buy in Elton. Genuine cash buyers. Tel: 07795 062263

Resources

Community Transport
A Dial-a-Bus service for elderly &/or disabled people operates on the 1st and 3rd Thursday each month to Buxton arriving 11.15am & departing 1.15pm. To reserve a seat, contact 641920

Jubilee Field
The pitches & pavilion are available for hire. For all bookings, contact Colin Swindell on 07816 986956

Mobile Library
Every other Tuesday - from 10th December onwards
Elton - Duke of York - 12.25 - 12.45pm
Elton - East End - 12.50 - 1.05pm
Call 812267 or 58000 ext. 6589 for details.

Post Office
Outreach Service
Every Thursday in the School House
From 1.45-3.45pm

Village Hall
Hire of hall: £5.00 per session or £15 all day for residents & village organisations. Non-residents at reasonable rates.
For bookings or more information contact Sue Lightfoot 650641

Non-business adverts in this section are free to village residents
Contact the editor if you wish to place an advert here

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

Clues Across:

Clues Down:

Village Directory

- Badminton Kate French 650273
- Bell Ringers Alastair Scrivener 650791
- Bus services Timetable 0870 6082608
- Community transport 641920
- County Council 08 456 058 058
- Cricket Club Glynn Yates 650494
- Crime Stoppers 0800 555 111
- Darts Teams Paul Carson 650359
- District Council 761100
- Doctors (Winster) 650207 Emergencies 733205 or NHS Direct 0845 4647
- Electrical emergencies 0800 0568090
- Eltonians Secretary Mike Musgrave 650293
- Energy Efficiency Grants 761304
- Fire advice 582849
- Gardening Club John Wellington 650857
- Gas leaks 0800 111999
- History Group Lynn Burnet
- Hospital The Whitworth, Darley Dale (minor injury only) 580211
- Housing advice 761311
- Jubilee Field Colin Swindell 650672
- Mobility Scooter (Tissington Trail) for more details contact 01335 343156 - seasonal only
- Pre-school Contact Cathy Banks on 07799084244 (Tuesday evenings only)
- Police For emergencies dial 999 otherwise dial the NEW number 101 (It's confidential)
- Rail services Enquiries 0845 7484950
- Refuse collection DDDC 761122
- School 650282
- School PTFA Amy Dabell 650948
- Swimming pool Bakewell - 814205
Matlock - Arc Leisure - 581322
- Tourist information Bakewell - 813227
Matlock - 583388
- Village Hall Bookings Sue Lightfoot 650641
- Water emergencies 0800 7834444
- Womens’ Institute Cath Dawe 650649