

Village & Community Magazine

APRIL 2024

Keeping All Our Villages Connected and United



DEADLINE FOR THE MAY EDITION IS 6am on Friday 26th APRIL

Input from you all would be gratefully received. At the end of the day, if you don't contribute then there is no magazine. Talking of which, a lot of you believe that you cannot send items until the deadline time and date. A deadline has to be set but you can send your information/pictures/jokes anytime and it really helps me to put things together the earlier you send your items to me. So please feel free to submit any article. It's your magazine and just so long as it is Legal, Decent and Appropriate in my eyes, it will be inserted of course.

Please remember I can only accept word documents and NO PDF's or Photocopies.

Call me on 01538 304560 if you need any help. Don't be late, the old rule still applies. Absolutely nothing will be accepted after 6am on the above date. ****Editors decision on layout and inclusion is final.**



Wild Daffodils

At this time of year, the yellow trumpets of daffodils brighten up even the dullest spring day. Most of what we see are planted garden varieties, but a real treat is to find wild daffodils (*Narcissus pseudonarcissus*).



Once widespread, the wild daffodil is now much rarer, having mysteriously declined during the 19th century. It now has a disjointed distribution – for instance it is found mainly in south Devon, pockets of the Black Mountains in Wales, stretches of the Gloucestershire-Herefordshire border country, the Sussex Weald, Farndale in Yorkshire, and the Lake District. Elsewhere, even in suitable habitat, it only occurs in small patches, many miles apart. For example, in churchyards.

The wild daffodil's status as a popular flower was particularly celebrated in the area around Newent, Dymock and Ledbury on the Gloucestershire-Herefordshire border which acquired the nickname of 'The Golden Triangle.' In the 1930s the Great Western Railway ran 'Daffodil Specials', from London for weekend tourists to walk amongst the 'golden tides' and to buy fresh bunches at garden gates. Many farmers and orchard-owners used to have them as a cash-crop, harvested on a 'Pick Your Own' basis. At the end of April, the meadows went back to their function of growing hay or fruit.

A 1930's guide to a village in the Golden Triangle wrote: *They are picked by the local women and children and were sold to an agent, who sends them to South Wales, where they find a ready sale for Mothering Sunday and also for Palm Sunday, for many places the old (Welsh) custom of 'flowering the graves' on that day still persists. The daffodils are also sent to northern industrial towns.*

Information from Flora Britannica by Richard Mabey

How to spot a wild daffodil - The wild daffodil is smaller than horticultural varieties, with paler petals and a deeper yellow trumpet-like tube. The leaves are grey/green, flattened and around 15mm wide. It is relatively short (30-35cm) and forms clumps which carpet the ground. A top tip is that unless there are several hundreds of them looking particularly small and washed out, they probably aren't wild! Please help us to map the churchyards containing wild daffodils by taking a photo on the iNaturalist app and posting it on our Beautiful Burial Grounds project within iNaturalist.

[Diocesan Churchyard Environmental Advisor, harriet@cfga.org.uk](mailto:harriet@cfga.org.uk)

Wanted

Local couple require reliable cleaner fortnightly in Milldale.
Please contact 07708 495928

KIRSTY'S DOG SITTING SERVICES

I provide home from home dog boarding in Alstonefield, 15 minutes from Ashbourne. I only board one dog at a time and offer a high level of care and enrichment.

Please call, message or email me if you need help with dog sitting whether that's for a few hours, a day/overnight or for a holiday
I also offer dog walking/drop in's.

07727 159721
kirstynorman48@yahoo.co.uk



Currently, I am booked until November but am taking bookings from December 2024 onwards.

In addition, I can offer dog walking and pop in's if you are out for the day or at work and would like your dog to have a short visit/walk.

Alstonefield Village Hall

Charity Reg: 228929

Whiskey Tasting Evening

*Six single malts
of varying styles
from across
Scotland*

Ticket price
includes food

CARVER COTTAGE
KITCHEN

Saturday 4 May 7pm

£47.50 from Jo Griffin on 07812 606790
per head (em: alstonefieldvillagehall@hotmail.co.uk)

Warslow and Elkstones Educational Charity

Do you need financial help to support your or your child's education?

**Books? Stationery?
Specialist equipment?**

The Warslow and Elkstones Educational Charity can offer funding to help towards the educational needs of children or young people under the age of 25 years who are resident or who have parents resident in the Parish of Warslow and Elkstones.

To apply or just to find out more please contact:

warslow.elkstones.trust@gmail.com

01298 84624 / 07786961219

Your typist/compiler of The Community Magazine has been on her holidays back to 'Wonderful, Glorious India' and as is usual we based ourselves in our favourite hotel in tourist Goa. Into our second week we always take a tour of the country selecting a destination which in previous years have included The Taj, Jodhpur, Jaipur, Amritsar and all other sorts of destinations. All of these tours involve an internal plane flight from Goa to get there and this year we chose Mysore. It was two flights away (3.5 flying hours) from Goa and yet we were still in the south but middle of India. We knew we were going deep into the country when our second flight had fixed wing propellers. And back into the real India we arrived. Our first visit was in Bandipur to experience an Indian version of a Safari. This means it is not what you know the word Safari to mean. In the early evening and also the following early morning we managed to see the back end of an elephant disappearing into the undergrowth, loads of Deer, some Peacocks and Langurs (monkeys) and basically it was not our lucky two days



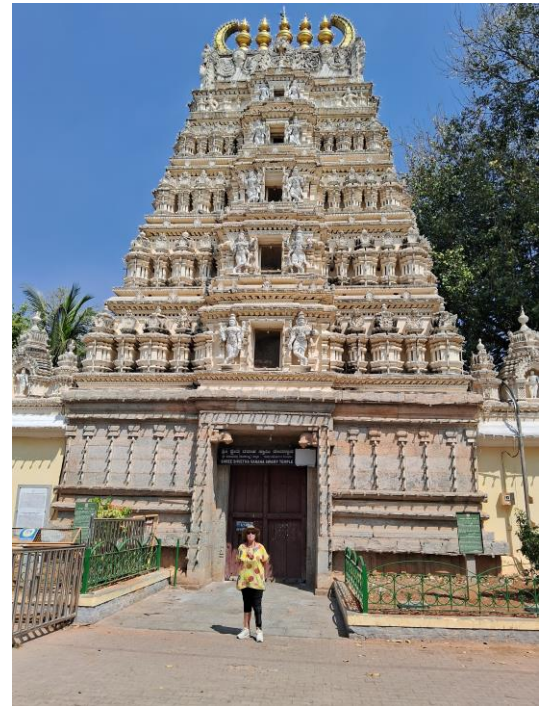
for tigers and in all totally underwhelming. However, what intrigued us most was the massive amount of what we now know to be termite mounds. Their individual shapes and sizes were amazing. And then on to Mysore where we were taken back in time to a hotel deep into the heart of the city, which was heaving with traffic, very hot and quite unkempt but our hotel was heaven. How such a quality hotel can be stuck in the middle of all that detritus I have described is unthinkable but here we were, back into Agatha Christie country. Quite wonderful.

Now followed a day discovering the city and our visit to the famous Palace. It did not disappoint and worthy of a visit. I particularly wanted to visit the Royal Elephants and Horses whose stabling within the grounds I could see in the distance. However, our personal tour guide persuaded us not to take the long journey across the grounds on foot to see them due to the

intense heat and distance involved and we both agreed. Back now in dank England I wish I had pursued this option because never again will I get the chance.

What I want to bring about in this item is the following: Our guide showed to us many landmark statues within the city, erected during the reign of Queen Victoria. A lot of famous English people were depicted at various intervals throughout the city and so we asked the question of our well-spoken English guide. "In England there is currently a movement to try to eradicate some of our history and historical statues, how do you feel about all this Englishness in Mysore?". He was horrified and explained that the country was proud of its English heritage and was aghast to know what is going on in England today. Well, Well, Well.

We returned to Goa for our final week to complete our holiday (3 weeks in total). We left behind us wall to wall sunshine and fantastic customer care to return back to **grey and miserable blighty**.



Keep dogs on leads, lambing time is upon us....

Sheep Worrying

National Sheep Association (NSA) and all its farmer-members want everyone to share in the iconic landscapes and beautiful countryside that sheep farming in the UK has played an integral role is creating and maintaining. Farmers appreciate lots of people like their dog to enjoy the countryside with them, but as much of the UK's rural landscape is maintained by grazing sheep there is always a strong chance you will encounter some while out with your dog.

This advice will help you and your pet have fun and safe days out without disrupting the important work of sheep farmers. You should also read this advice if you are a dog owner living in or near a farming area, as escaped dogs can be a real problem for farmers.

Valuable Assets

Sheep are valuable assets and any harm to them harms a farmer's livelihood.

It is every dog's instinct to chase, even if they are usually obedient and good with other animals.

Chasing by dogs can do **serious damage** to sheep, even if the dog doesn't catch them. The stress of worrying by dogs can cause sheep to die and pregnant ewes to miscarry their lambs.

Sheep fleeing from dogs are often killed or seriously injured by their panicked attempts to escape, causing untold damage to fences and field boundaries in the process.

Dogs chasing ewes and lambs can cause mis-mothering issues, with lambs dying from starvation or hypothermia when they become separated from their mother and fail to find her again.

Dog bites can cause death in sheep or necessitate them being put down at a later date, or in less severe cases considerable veterinary bills and additional welfare issues as a result of flies being attracted to the blood and leading to a nasty health problem in sheep called 'fly strike'. Injuries to sheep can also delay the normal farming routine, be it the mating season or administration of vital medicines and vaccines.

It is vital that you keep your dog on the lead around livestock, even if you can usually trust it to come to call. **If you live in or near a farming area, you must make sure that your dog cannot escape from your property**, as it may find its way onto land containing sheep. **It is vital that you keep your dog on the lead around livestock**, even if you can usually trust it to come to call. **If you live in or near a farming area, you must make sure that your dog cannot escape from your property**, as it may find its way onto land containing sheep.

ALSTONEFIELD



Vicar: In Vacancy

Church Warden(s): Position(s) Vacant

Contact & Reader: Clare Day 01538 381773

7th

11am

Services April

Holy Communion

28th

11am

All Age Worship

St Peter's Alstonefield

Community Larder Open 24hours a day in the Porch of St Peter's Church, Alstonefield

St. Peter's PCC Community Larder supports people experiencing difficulties in the current cost of living crisis.

Anyone needing food or other household items for please help yourself from the box in the church porch.

All donations of dried food and toiletries to benefit others are welcome. Please place them in the boxes in the church porch. Every two weeks or so excess items will be donated to the food banks in Leek or Ashbourne.

Electoral Roll 2024

This will be renewed prior to the forthcoming APCM on 23rd May 2024. If you are already on the Roll and wish to remain so, you don't need to do anything this year.

However, if you'd like to join, or indeed be taken off, you will need to fill in one of these forms or notify the PCC Electoral Roll Officer as soon as possible, preferably by 22 April 2024.

Forms are available in church porch or from: Angela Campbell, PCC Electoral Roll Officer on 07970 609630 / angela@angelacampbell.me

Annual Parochial Church Meeting - 23rd May 2023

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2024 for St Peters Alstonefield will take place on Thursday 23 May 2024 in Alstonefield Village Hall Meeting Room at 7pm onwards, followed by a PCC meeting.

Everyone is welcome, please come along and get involved with St Peters Church. We would especially like to welcome new PCC members to help in running this wonderful church. If you are able to join, then please get in touch.

For enquiries please contact: Angela Campbell, (PCC Secretary) on 07970 609630 / angela@angelacampbell.me

Alstonefield Parish Council

Clerk to the Council – Martin Jinks **Next Parish Council Meeting:** Contact Clerk for details.

Email: clerk@alstonefield-pc.org.uk c/o The Village Hall, Alstonefield, Ashbourne, Derbyshire. DE6 2FR

Chair: Mr R Hignett (07904 187785) **Vice Chairman:** Mr G Campbell (07919 353800)

Mr A Hayes ([Tel:01335 310057](tel:01335310057)), Mrs S Jeffery ([Tel:07465 217269](tel:07465217269)), Mr C McIlroy ([Tel:07930 001374](tel:07930001374)).

Mr M Newman (mn821268@gmail.com), Mrs R Longdon (07870 731389).

“AVETS Remember”

In an emergency you should always dial 999 first.

If you need help before the emergency services arrive, you could call the Alstonefield Village Emergency Telephone System (AVETS) on 01335818911.

AVETS aims to connect you direct to speak to a local volunteer who may be able to assist.

If you would like to know more about what we do, please call Meg on 488 or Carrie on 009



THE LEADEN BOOT CHALLENGE

This year's Leaden Boot is on Sunday May 19th. The event is already completely full with a long waiting list which is great news for our efforts to raise money for local projects.

We always need an army of volunteers to help over the weekend so if you could spare any time at all on Saturday between 9am-6pm and/or Sunday between 7am-10pm it would be greatly appreciated.

In particular we need people to help out both days in the Village Hall with food prep and catering for the masses!

All volunteers will be provided with food and drink! We would also appreciate any donations of homemade cakes for the event. Many 'thank you's' to all those who have already put their names forward but we would still appreciate more help on the Sunday',

Please contact Mandy if you can help out with any of the above: 07779899860 or mat.1960@hotmail.co.uk

Alstonefield Village Hall

Chair: Kevin Stockton Treasurer & Bookings Officer: Jo Griffin

Committee members: See Below.

Liz Power

Duncan Scroggs

Mark Smith

Martin Snodin

Dave Littlehales

Val Littlehales

Charlotte Jordan

For bookings or enquiries, please email: alstonefieldvillagehall@hotmail.co.uk

If you would like to hire the Hall or have any queries, please email: alstonefieldvillagehall@hotmail.co.uk

After two very successful (sold out) (family-friendly) events in March, our next event in May is very much for adults - a **Whiskey Tasting Evening** (4 May). 6.45 for 7pm start. 2 hours of whisky tasting followed by supper. The tasting includes 6 single malt whiskies, from various regions of Scotland, ages, and maturation styles in order to show the vast range of flavour and style offered by Scotch whisky. Each guest has a place set and each whisky is pre-poured. The evening will be run by Adrian Murray, who has over 25 years' experience in the industry and is a Keeper of the Quaich (an exclusive and international society that recognises those that have shown outstanding commitment to the Scotch whisky industry).

Remember the village hall is available for hire, with very favourable rates for Parish residents. It's fully licensed and has good facilities to cater for most things. And if you've any ideas for community events you'd be willing to run, speak to us and we can usually help, e.g. with running a bar. Hire rates can be found on the village hall noticeboard or webpage (www.alstonefield.org/community/village-hall).

Alstonefield and District RVS Friendship Club

Members and non-members are welcome to join us for any of the upcoming talks.

Please get in touch with Fiona- 01335 310200 if you would like to come. For just £6.00 you can enjoy a talk, quiz, raffle, sandwiches and cake with a friendly and informal group. **We do hope you can join us!**

Wednesday 3rd April 3.00pm Alstonefield Village Hall Ernie Allen Memories: (Member talk)

Wednesday 1st May 3.00pm Alstonefield Village Hall Henry Rusch: White Park Cattle

Wednesday 19th June 3.00pm Alstonefield Village Hall Francis Burton: Medicinal Plants from the Garden

BUTTERTON



St. Bartholomew's Church

Revd - Jane Held:

01538 262116

Church Warden:

Maggie Risby 304115

Barbara Woodward 304324

Deputies:

Rachael Hopper

Lily Hambleton-Plumb

Services in April

7th
21st

3pm
10am

Evening Worship
Holy Communion

Altar Flowers: Easter Donations

Cleaning Rota: B. Woodward

P.C.C. Members: **Secretary:** Maggie Risby 304115 **Treasurer:** Patrick Bailey
Maurice Woodward, Dorothy Glaister, Sheila McDermott, Jackie Sumerling,

St. Bartholomew's

Churchyard Tidy takes place on Saturday 13th April between the hours of 10am – 12pm. We are not asking you to help for the duration but half an hour's assistance would be greatly appreciated. Refreshments will be served.

Lottery Ball Draw will take place at 11am.

APCM (Annual Parochial Church Meeting). Preparations are underway. We meet on Monday 13th May at 6.30pm in Church. Church Electoral Roll forms are available from the Secretary (Maggie Risby). In the light of ongoing challenges at St Bartholomew's, we would encourage as many new members as possible to join the Electoral Roll.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
Rev. Jane on 8th April from us
all in Butterton.

The Future of Butterton Church

Around 30 villagers came to the meeting on 13th March to discuss the future of Butterton Church. The key message is that the church is running at a deficit of around £3000 p.a., and is at risk of closing within the next 3 years or so unless we can either reduce costs or raise more regular income.

The mission of our village church is to support the community, alongside the provision of Christian services, and it achieves this if you:

- appreciate the church building as a historic village asset
- come into the churchyard sometimes to simply enjoy the peace or visit those at rest
- celebrate christenings and marriages in the church
- enjoy the bells ringing out
- value the church as one of the venues for village events and festivals

However, like pretty well all of the other 12,500 parishes in England, we are expected to cover the costs of running our village church. Although we pay our share of our vicar's salary to the Diocese, the Church of England doesn't receive any money from us. The annual cost of running Butterton's church can be broken down into £7000 p.a. for the running of church services (covered mainly by donations from churchgoers) and about £4,500 for maintenance of the church building and churchyard for the benefit of the community. I think it would be fair to say that everyone at the meeting wanted us to keep our church, and for it to continue to provide important support for the village community, alongside the fortnightly services. There were three main themes/ideas:

- 1) Create a group to be (provisionally) called 'The Friends of Butterton Church', to discuss ways of maintaining the church and enhancing its value to the Butterton community.
- 2) Encourage villagers to commit to giving a modest amount each month (say £5-10, although more would be gratefully received!), to go specifically into a 'church maintenance and community fund'.
- 3) Develop ideas that benefit the villagers, including exploring:
 - Ways to reduce costs for maintaining the churchyard, and maybe developing more wildlife areas
 - Installing a Memorial Garden
 - Running regular drop-in events (fortnightly?) where anyone come in for a chat and a snack
 - Developing the entrance area of the church to make local produce and crafts available

Our first step is to try to set up the 'Friends of Butterton Church' group – this would comprise any villagers who

wanted to support the church/churchyard in any way (church service attendance not required, but appreciated), through financial donations, occasional volunteering, or in any other way ... but with no specific commitment other than wanting to help, and to contribute to discussions about the future of the church. We currently have around 25 people who have said they would be interested, so please get in touch with me, or any of the other PCC members, if you would consider joining a 'Friends of Butterton Church' group; there is no commitment at this stage, but it would mean that I can email you with more information and ask your opinion as things develop. Please let me know if you have any ideas for the church or comments on the suggestions above – your views really matter.

Many thanks

Patrick Bailey (Treasurer of Butterton Church) patrick.bailey@hotmail.co.uk 07870-444-030

St Bartholomew's Church Lottery Winners for March

1 st	Adrian Sumerling	(4)	£40.00
2 nd	Maggie Rowland	(131)	£20.00
3 rd	Sarah Guardie	(134)	£10.00

The next draw will be held on Saturday April 13th in Church at 11.00 am.

Butterton Village Hall

Chairperson: Hilary Bassett (Chairperson) 422314, Marjorie Renshaw (Minutes Secretary), Sheila McDermott (Secretary), Maggie Risby (Treasurer and Bookings Clerk) 304115, Gwen Bagshaw and Dianne Wint.

Chocolate Bingo.....Friday 22nd March. One of the best supported Bingo sessions with fifty customers including some chocolate hungry children. Thanks to everyone who supported the event especially those who donated prizes and contributed generously in the auction of chocolate leftovers.

Besides weekly Pilates and Dog Training sessions, we have a birthday party booked and a Wedding reception on Saturday 20th April.

Spring cleaning takes place on Monday 15th April and the Village Hall AGM on Wednesday 1st May.

Butterton Parish Council

C/O Clerk: Maggie Risby, 01538 304115. Email buttertonpc@live.co.uk

Chairperson: Jenny Land 304265, **Vice Chairperson:** Mike Stone 304455

Committee Members: Karen Salt 304543, Peter Tomlinson 304560, Mike Stone (Website Manager) 304455, Tracey Perkin 304781, John Hewitt 07976266459, Darren Kirby 07779121210.

The next meeting is on Tuesday 2nd April at 7pm in the Village Hall. Councillor Jonathan Kempster will attend. All welcome.

Further Meetings for 2024 are7th May (AGM), 18th June, 30th July, 10th September, 22nd October, 3rd December.

Message From the Community Bus Shelter – Open Again



The Community Magazine went to press before the planned re-opening date for the Bus Shelter; all being well we are up and back in business. The picture above was taken last year, showing full shelves and tables; we relaunch with less stuff, so we need your surplus bric-a-brac and books. It is a perfect reason to get on with that spring clean you promised you would do. If you have something special or are not sure about something, do get in touch by email (buttertonbusshelter@gmail.com) or facebook, or just ask one of us at the Bus Shelter.

We start the year collecting for a Memorial Garden in the church. At the moment, local people who do not have a burial plot in the churchyard cannot have their ashes left there. The Memorial Garden will rectify this. As most of you will know, the church funds are very limited, and this project can only be achieved by fundraising.

However, we can confirm that all donations for this fund will be ringfenced for this purpose, and will not be passed on until full permissions to complete the necessary work have been granted.

Do let us know if there is a local cause that you would like us to collect for. We will update you in May on what we have been asked to consider and what we have in mind. In the meantime, enjoy the Bus Shelter!

Customers who do not have the ready cash to make a donation can now pay by bank transfer to the Bus Shelter bank account or by Paypal (the QR Code is in the Shelter). The bank account details are:

Account name: Butterton Community Giving

Sort Code: 82 11 07

Account No: 40308265

More details about the charity can be found on the village website (<http://buttertonmoorlands.co.uk/village-organisations/butterton-bus-shelter/>).

Please make sure items left in the Bus Shelter are CLEAN and intact. Electrical or Mechanical items should work (label them 'WORKING ORDER').

We will be obliged to remove anything which is inappropriate or potentially dangerous.

PLEASE don't leave:

Clothing, knives, paint, anything flammable or toxic. Alcohol, DVDs & CDs

Jam jars, egg boxes, out of date travel books, encyclopedias etc.

Butterton Annual Village Wakes.

The committee is happy to say, following the Annual General Meeting, that we have been able to donate £1200 to St Bartholomew's church, £1200 to Butterton Village and £250 to Buxton Mountain Rescue. Thank you again to everyone for all their support.

We are pleased to announce we will be holding our traditional Village Wakes on the August Bank Holiday Sunday (25th August 2024), so please come and join us. We are in the process of finalising plans but we can guarantee entertainment, great music and great beer but most importantly an opportunity to have fun and socialise.

We would also like to take the opportunity to invite any applications for Wakes Queen or King from any child living or with connections to the village & local area.

As you know the Wakes requires volunteers, donations of prizes to make the day successful and the more the merrier so please could I ask if you would be willing to volunteer – on or before the day or donate cakes or raffle/prize draws then please let any of the committee know.

We will keep you updated with more details about the day as developments proceed. If you have any feedback, ideas, prizes or would like to volunteer then please do contact me on Kim - 07816 840486 or any of the Committee Members.

ELKSTONES



St. John the Baptist:
Vicar: Father John Baines

Services in April

21st

3.00pm

Holy Communion

Flowers & Cleaning for April: Elizabeth Buxton



It's lovely to see all the daffodils in bloom at last, long after they have been flowering everywhere else! The sight of spring flowers really is uplifting to the spirits after such a long, grey, cold and damp winter! Thank you to Simon Faulkner for this welcome picture of spring along Church Lane, Upper Elkstone.

Flower Festival coming up!

This year's Flower Festival will take place on the weekend of 14th – 16th June, with the Festival Service on the evening of Sunday 16th, our Annual Wakes Sunday.

We will be having a meeting to plan the Flower Festival on Wednesday 24th April at 7 p.m. at Townhead Farm, Lower Elkstone. Please come along with some ideas and offers of help with creating the flower displays and/or the organisation of the event over the three days – (and

I'm sure there will be a piece of cake and a cuppa to help the ideas flow...) Alan Salt is already booked for the Friday evening to give us Part Two of his illustrated talk about Cheesemaking in the Staffordshire Moorlands, followed by wine and cheese tasting afterwards.

We have news that Rev Nicola Pepper is expected to be home soon after her long spell in hospital. We wish you all the best Nicola, are remembering you in our prayers, and hope you will soon be back to full good health.

Finally, I have been asked by the Staffordshire Moorlands Branch of Riding for the Disabled if I know of anyone who would like to volunteer to help at their sessions. You do not need to ever have ridden a horse as it involves walking alongside the horse and disabled rider, and just leading them. No riding for yourself is involved and you will be given all the necessary training. If this is something that you feel you could do (and apparently it is very rewarding) please ring Jane on 07742 208500.

ILAM

Vicar: In Vacancy

Contact & Reader: Clare Day 01538 381773

Services for April

14th 10.30am Morning Worship – Lay Lead

April Flower and Brass Rota

5 th & 12 th	Mrs J Wain	Flowers & Brasses
19 th & 26 th	Mr I Smith	Flowers & Brasses
3 rd & 10 th May	Mrs D Flynn	Flowers & Brasses

Ilam Parish Council

Chairperson: Caz Sellers 01335 350368

Clerk: Lindsay Oulsnam 01335 350579 Email: clerk@ilamparishcouncil.co.uk

Website: www.ilam.org.uk

The next meeting & AGM is Tuesday 7TH May at 7pm at Ilam School. All welcome and please send any questions you may have to the Clerk, so they can be passed on to the council for discussion.

Dates for Future PC Meetings: Tuesday 9th July, Tuesday 10th September, Tuesday 12th November.

Chris & Jo Green, Dovedale House

Our thoughts and prayers are with Chris & Jo following the loss of Chris' mother.

Ilam C of E (VA) School

It may have been another short half term but here at Ilam primary School we've still managed to pack in lots of fun filled adventures!

This half term marked the launch of our new playgroup Muddy Ducklings! What a triumph! We welcomed lots of new families into our school grounds to share our love of outdoor learning. In our beautiful setting, pre-school children set about exploring our fantastic facilities whilst engaging in muddy fun! What a complete success! Thank you to Rowan from Tanglewood for supporting this initiative and for all of your amazing forest School lessons this term! We can't wait for the next Muddy Ducklings session on Friday 26th April 10.30am until 12 noon. If you'd like further information on this please do email me on headteacher@ilam.staffs.sch.uk or call the school on 01335 350316.

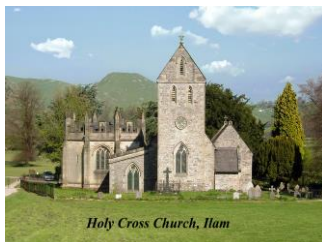
Miss Lisa, our amazing school cook, got things off to a great start after half term with a delicious pancake lunch! We followed this up with an extremely successful film night to raise valuable funds for our Ilam School Association (ISA) which generously helps us to provide our children with opportunities and experiences throughout the school year.

This half term the ISA has very kindly funded the purchase of school ukuleles, Easter treats for the children, and class trips to Misco's chocolate and the QEGS performance of Addams Family. We feel very lucky to have such wonderful support in bringing our children memorable opportunities.

The Kingfisher class children absolutely loved their trip to QEGS to watch the children put their hard work into action in performing their production. What a spectacle it was! Well done to all those involved, what a display of young talent!

Our Squirrel class children had a truly delicious time embedding their learning from their chocolate topic at Misco's Chocolate. They spent the morning making their own chocolate creations and returned to school with more chocolate than you could ever imagine! Having also designed and made their own chocolate bar as part of their DT project too, the children will certainly remember this topic for many years to come! Thank you to Mrs Greenwood for a truly inspiring topic of learning.

Our Year 6 children ventured off to Beechenhill farm in February to plant trees. They set to work and enjoyed their



Holy Cross Church, Ilam

hot chocolate reward and possibly a biscuit or two as well! After a lovely walk back to school they couldn't wait to tell us all about it! What a lovely opportunity! Thank you for having us!

Like many schools across the country, we also dressed up to celebrate world book day. This will always be one of my favourite llam events! Staff bravely took on a Charlie and the Chocolate Factory theme and I must say we did look quite spectacular! Poor Miss Rouse still has orange eyebrows following her epic transformation into an umpalumpa for the day! Miss Lisa also prepared a golden ticket themed lunch for us all to enjoy. As for the children... well... They looked incredible!! Their imagination and creativity will never cease to amaze me! The school flooded with book characters and the building burst with the magic of literature! Truly wonderful!

We also held our annual science day celebrating this innovative area of learning. The children designed and made their own soap box cars and then shrieked with excitement as they raced them and we crowned our winning team. They also took on the challenge of attempting to beat Miss Rouse in creating the tallest spaghetti tower. However, she keeps her title as champion for another year and we'll come back ready to win again next Spring!

Miss Lisa continued to spoil us with her Easter Lunch and wonderful Mother's Day lunch. It's always lovely to open our doors to visitors and who could be more worthy of a school lunch than our very own school community of mums. A lovely celebration and we look forward to having the dads join us next term for our Father's Day lunch. We have also enjoyed other visitors too with Nathan and Open the Book joining us with their music and story themed collective worships. We do love these!

Our year 3 and 4 children ventured off to Parwich later in the half term for a netball tournament organised by Primary Stars. These events are always lovely and we love seeing our children compete and showcase their sportsmanship skills. Well done all! We look forward to the year 5/6 one next term! Mrs Goldstraw and Louise also finished our whole school swimming lessons with a spectacular Water Polo session for the children to enjoy. Great fun! Thank you for an amazing two whole terms of swimming lessons for our children! We're very lucky to have you!

We ended the term with our termly Rock Steady concert and our Easter Production of 'One Life'. The talent in our school is phenomenal and we're so proud of each and every one of you! We may have also had a little visit from the Easter Bunny gifting chocolate treats! I'm sure mine must be hidden here in the office somewhere...

Wow! We did pack a lot in! So much more to look forward to next term too as we continue our journey through the academic year!

Have a wonderful Easter

Miss Emily Johnson, Acting Headteacher

WARSLOW



St. Lawrence

Vicar:

Wardens:
Mrs. Rachel Moorcroft
01298 84568

Deputy Warden:

Judy Prince
01298 84351

April Services

7 th	11am	Morning Prayer
21 st	11am	Holy Communion

Do come and join us, you will be very welcome

Altar Flowers: Rachel Moorcroft

St. Lawrence

Thank you to the lady from Warslow, the two from Ecton and one from Longnor who have made the most beautiful `teddies for tragedies`. These teddies will be on their way to the Christian African Relief Trust very soon.

This month our deputy churchwarden, Judy Prince, will be having her long-awaited knee operation. We send our prayers and our very good wishes for a successful and speedy recovery.

A very big `thank you` to Melanie for kindly donating a fold up table which will be very useful and make life a lot easier at functions, etc.

Hello April

**A good day isn't always
P erfect. It challenges you to
R elease your potential and
I nspires you to appreciate the
L ittle, amazing things in life.**

**"April is a moment of joy for those
who have survived the winter"**

**"April hath put a spirit of youth in
everything"**

Warslow and Elkstone Parish Council

Clerk: Sandra Hampson email: parishclerk.warslow@gmail.com

Website: <http://warslowandelkstones-pc.org>

Chairman: Nik Searston 07790 354330 (searston.nik43@googlemail.com)

Vice Chairman: Laura Gordon 01298 84984;

Councillors: Stuart Gould 01298 687190; Phil Moakes 01298 687238; Cindi Allsop 07870199578
Mick Wardman

Date of Next Meeting: Contact Clerk/Councillor for details.

Repair Café

Following the attendance of a representative from the Staffordshire Repair Café and the previous article in the magazine, the parish council would still like to bring this service to Warslow for an event on a Saturday, in the Summer of 2024, in Warslow Village Hall. The village hall secretary is trying to secure a date, possibly in August, but this is still to be confirmed. Once confirmed, the date will be publicised.

The service involves volunteers offering their skills, free of charge, to provide a repair service on defective items. A donation towards each repair is welcome, plus the payment for any required parts is required.

Repairs on a wide variety of items may be considered, including small electrical items, bicycles, sewing machines, clothing, clocks, computers and more. In addition to the repair service being offered, the event provides an opportunity for social cohesion in the parish and also reduces the number of items potentially going into landfill. It is also hoped that some skills can be passed on.

Warslow Pre-School

Small friendly Pre-School based in Manifold C of E Academy. We offer a wide range of activities to encourage your child to learn through play. Ofsted Inspection rated good. Open 5 days a week
9am – 3.10pm for children from 18months to 4 years.

Planned activities, Think 2 funding available - Funded places for 3-year-olds, 30-hour funding available - Further information from Amy Shaw 01298 84367

History Live!

Derbyshire Dialects of the White Peak, with Poems and Piano

presented by

Philip Holland

Wednesday April 3rd at 7.30 (doors open 7pm)

Warslow Village Hall, SK17 0JL

The multi-talented Philip Holland will present our April talk. He describes himself as a one-time concert pianist studying with the legendary Fanny Waterman in Leeds; a local dairy and sheep farmer for all his working life; a piano teacher who formed and ran a children's choir; a part-time hotelier and wine importer and a partner in a local retail jewellery business. Philip retired from farming in 2002; then studied at Derby University, gaining a B.A. (Hons.) in English & Creative Writing in 2006; he has given many Poetry Workshops and Performances throughout his life, and will be publishing his 12th book later this year

Doors will open at 7pm to give you time to have a drink, a cake and a chat! No need to book – just turn up. Entrance is just £4 including refreshments.

*** Don't forget to please let Elspeth know by the weekend before the Wednesday meeting if you can provide a cake. Email her on elspethwalker@gmail.com or ring 01298 83282. Free entry to the talk if you bring a cake!!!

For more information, please contact Janet at historylivewarslow@gmail.com
01298 84624 / 07786961219 or our website historylive.co.uk

WETTON



Vicar: In Vacancy
Church Warden(s): Situation(s) Vacant
Contact & Reader: Clare Day 01538 381773

Services in April
Holy Communion

21st 11am

St Margaret's Church 50/50 Lottery Results

The lucky winners in the February & March draws were:

1 st Prize	Roger Broughton	£52.50
2 nd Prize	Linda Morris	£35.00
1 st Prize	Phillipa Stupples	£45.00
2 nd Prize	Nancy Coates	£30.00

You can join the lottery by paying £5 cash to Margaret Hodgkinson at Manifold Cottage.

The next draw will take place on Friday 19th April `2024.

Classifieds

We thank all our advertisers for supporting the "Community Mag" and we are always glad to be able to include adverts from local businesses and any donation no matter how small would be greatly appreciated.

Please note that the presence of advertisements in this magazine does not imply endorsement of what is advertised.

Kirsty's Dog Sitting Services

If you need help with dog sitting/walking, I offer boarding at my house in Alstonefield (only 1 dog at one time or 2 from the same household) for a few hours, day/overnight or for a holiday, please message or email me and we can discuss your requirements. I will look after your dog as if he or she were my own, with one-to-one attention, walks/fun and lots of doggy cuddles.

Kirsty Norman
07727159721

Kirstynorman48@yahoo.co.uk

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Warslow
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DEADLINE FOR THE MAY EDITION IS 6am on Friday 26th APRIL

Input from you all would be gratefully received. At the end of the day, if you don't contribute then there is no magazine. Talking of which, a lot of you believe that you cannot send items until the deadline time and date. A deadline has to be set but you can send your information/pictures/jokes anytime and it really helps me to put things together the earlier you send your items to me. So please feel free to submit any article. It's your magazine and just so long as it is Legal, Decent and Appropriate in my eyes, it will be inserted of course.

Please remember I can only accept word documents and NO PDF's or Photocopies.

Call me on 01538 304560 if you need any help. Don't be late, the old rule still applies. Absolutely nothing will be accepted after 6am on the above date. ****Editors decision on layout and inclusion is final.**