

# Village & Community Magazine

DECEMBER 2023

*Keeping All Our Villages Connected and United*



In the bleak midwinter is one of my all-time favourite carols. Not a universal favourite with many because it is not easy to sing. But for me the words absolutely capture what winter is like, now, in the future and then too, at the birth of a baby who was not like any other.

The true meaning of Christmas is the birth of the child that brought light into a dark world, (and a cold frosty and windy one in that part of the middle east in winter).

The light of the world brought peace, hope and love. It is love that I think makes it so special a celebration – love, family, friends, food, presents, laughter and joy...and traditions, silly, odd or lovely.

So, at this time we share love with each other and joy too – and maybe we can share it a little with those with less love and joy in their lives too, to lessen the cold wind and the empty house, the worries and stresses of those less fortunate.

*May I wish you all a Very Blessed Christmas and a Fruitful, Hopeful and Positive New Year.*

*Rev. Jane Held.*

*Vicar Butterson, Onecote & Ipstones*

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May we thank everyone who has sent articles for inclusion, during 2023, into the 'Mag' and to all who receive & hopefully enjoy reading about our villages' news and events.

We hope you enjoy a Happy Christmas whilst looking forward to a Peaceful New Year.

Best Wishes from the 'Mag' team

Tricia, Peter & Melanie

**PLEASE NOTE** the JANUARY + HALF of FEBRUARY for the next edition.

## **DEADLINE FOR THE JANUARY & 1<sup>st</sup> HALF of FEBRUARY 2024 EDITION is 6am on THURSDAY 28<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER**

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.**



### **What's on, Christmas 2023**

**Christmas Carol Art & Decorated Trees, Ilam Church – Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> to Jan 7<sup>th</sup> 2024**

**Church & Churchyard Clean-up, Alstonefield – Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> – From 9am**

**Music Concert with Tom McConville Band, Alstonefield V Hall – Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> - 8pm**

**Christmas Fayre – Warslow Village Hall, Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> – 12 to 3pm**

**Christmas Fayre – Butterson Village Hall, Sun 3<sup>rd</sup> – 12 to 3pm**

**Friendship Club Christmas Dinner, Wed 6<sup>th</sup>**

**History Live – Warslow Village Hall, Wed 6<sup>th</sup> - 7 for 7.30pm**

**Christmas Bingo – Butterson Village Hall, Fri 8<sup>th</sup> – 6.30 for 7.30pm**

**Advent Coffee Morning – Vine Cottage, Wetton, Sat. 9<sup>th</sup> from 10.30am**

**Warslow Silver Band Concert – Warslow Village Hall, Sun 10<sup>th</sup> – 6.30pm**

**Christmas Pub Quiz – Black Lion, Butterson, Wed 13<sup>th</sup> – 8pm**

**Carol Singing Round the Houses – Elkstones, Fri 15<sup>th</sup> – 6.30pm Frm Bank Hse**

**Christmas Carvery – Warslow Village Hall, Sun 17<sup>th</sup> – 12 to 4pm**

**Christmas Bring & Share – Alstonefield Village Hall, Sun 17<sup>th</sup> – 3.30 for 4pm**

**Carol Singing – Alstonefield Village Green, Tues 19<sup>th</sup> – 6.30pm**

**Beer & Carols – Black Lion, Butterson, Wed 20<sup>th</sup> – 6pm**

**Christmas Bingo – Warslow Village Hall, Wed 20<sup>th</sup> – 7.30pm**

**Farmer Scrooge's Christmas Carol – Butterson V. Hall, Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> – 7.30pm**

**Carol Singing Round the Village – Warslow, Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> – 7.30pm**

**Carol Singing around the Village – Wetton, Sat 23<sup>rd</sup> – 6pm**

**Christmas Quiz-Supper – Warslow Village Hall, Sat 23<sup>rd</sup> – 7.30pm**





# Wetton & Alstonefield Community First Responders

*"Serving the community's emergency medical needs with pride,  
care and excellence"*

## RECRUITMENT DRIVE

We will be losing three of our most experienced and long serving members who will be standing down early in the New Year. They have all carried out exemplary work over many years (10+) for WACFR in the support of our community. They will be greatly missed and we would like to place on record our heartfelt thanks for their commitment and voluntary service over the years.

**To that we end we need some 'new blood' in WACFR and are looking for people to step forward and join us. You will receive excellent training and support from within the Group.**

**The next recruitment campaign will be in January next year** when the CFR roles will be advertised, followed by interviews in February/March and training courses being held in April, July and October.

If you are interested in becoming a CFR or wish to discuss the requirements of the role please contact:

Mike Tidmarsh (Wetton) E: [wacfr.staffs@gmail.com](mailto:wacfr.staffs@gmail.com) T: 01335 310501

## WHERE ARE OUR DEFIBRILLATORS INSTALLED:

**Alstonefield:** Village Hall

**Dovedale:** Public Convenience in Car Park

**Grindon:** Village Hall

**Hulme End:** Manifold Inn

**Milldale:** Public Convenience

**Warslow:** Public Telephone Box

**Butterton:** Black Lion Inn

**Elkstones:** Susan Cottage

**Hartington:** Post Office

**Ilam:** CofE Primary School

**Onecote:** Village Hall

**Wetton:** The Royal Oak

Wetton & Alstonefield Community First Responders

Registered Charity Number: 1121223



**Moorlands Connect is a Demand Responsive  
Door-to-Door bus service connecting villages throughout  
the Staffordshire Moorlands with Leek, Ashbourne,  
Buxton and Cheadle.**

For workers, shoppers, walkers, cyclists, visits to the area's market towns and major attractions, or simply a trip to your favourite hotel, restaurant or pub. **Leave the car (or motorhome) behind and make your journey with us!** Cycles and dogs welcome please mention when booking.

**Booking:** Booking is simple and can be made up to 2 hours before travel time. Monday - Saturday by phone or text and 24 hours in advance by email (to ensure availability). **Call: 01335 342951, Text: 07946 365256,** mail: [bookings@moorlandsconnect.co.uk](mailto:bookings@moorlandsconnect.co.uk)

*(Funding for this service is only guaranteed for a further 14 months and so if we want to see this great service continue, it's important that we use it as much as possible)*

## Funding Opportunities

**Community Climate Change Fund:** Local groups can apply for funding for a wide variety of projects, including energy efficiency measures in community buildings, tree planting, village allotments and much more. Small grants between £200 - £500 available. Want more information? Contact [jill.norman@supportstaffordshire.org.uk](mailto:jill.norman@supportstaffordshire.org.uk) or 07495 736160.

**Staffordshire Wildlife Green Spaces Project:** Village Green, roadside verge, small plot of land that you want to set aside for nature in your community? Want more information? Contact Gigi Hennessy 07939511005 or mail [g.hennessy@staffs-wildlife.org.uk](mailto:g.hennessy@staffs-wildlife.org.uk).



## ...Smile Once in a While...

Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson went on a camping trip. After a good meal and a bottle of wine, they laid down for the night, and went to sleep. Some hours later, Holmes awoke and nudged his faithful friend.

"Watson, look up at the sky and tell me what you see." Watson replied, "I see millions and millions of stars." "What does that tell you?" Watson pondered for a minute.

"Astronomically, it tells me that there are millions of galaxies, and potentially billions of planets. Astrologically, I observe that Saturn is in Leo. Horologically, I deduce that the time is approximately a quarter past three. Theologically, I can see that God is all powerful and that we are small and insignificant. Meteorologically, I suspect that we will have a beautiful day tomorrow. What does it tell you?" Holmes was silent for a minute, then spoke. "It tells me that someone has stolen our tent."

I told my doctor that I broke my arm in two places – he told me to stop going to those places.

Before you criticize someone, walk a mile in their shoes. That way, when you do criticise them, you're a mile away, and you have their shoes.

I stayed up all night and tried to figure out where the sun was. Then it dawned on me.

And God said to John, "Come forth, and you shall receive eternal life!" But John came fifth and won a toaster.

Did you know that the urge to sing "The Lion Sleeps Tonight" is only ever a whim away? *A whim away... a whim away...*

I ordered a chicken and an egg from Amazon. I'll let you know.

Five out of six people agree that Russian Roulette is safe.

A man goes into a pet shop to buy a parrot. The shop owner points to three identical-looking parrots on a perch and says, "The parrot on the left costs £500."

Why does the parrot cost so much?" asks the man. The owner says "Well the parrot knows how to use a computer."

The man then asks about the next parrot and learns that it costs £1,000 because it can do everything the first parrot can do plus it knows how to use the UNIX operating system.

Naturally, the increasingly startled man asks about the third parrot, only to be told that it costs £2,000. Needless to say, this begs the question, "What can it do?"

To which the owner replies, "To be honest, I have never seen it do anything, but the other two call him boss!"

My 85-year-old grandfather was rushed to the hospital with a possible concussion.

The doctor asked him a series of questions:

"Do you know where you are?"

"I'm at North Staffs Hospital."

"What city are you in?"

"Stoke-on-Trent."

"Do you know who I am?"

"Dr. Hamilton."

My grandfather then turned to the nurse and said, "I hope he doesn't ask me any more questions."

"Why?" she asked. "Because all of those answers were on his badge."



**CLEAR**  
TO LAND



*Islam Church and Art Club  
proudly present;*

*Christmas Carol Art  
and  
Decorated Christmas Trees*

*at*

*Islam Church  
from  
Saturday 2nd December 2023  
to  
Sunday 7th January 2024*

*Church Open Daily*



# **BUTTERTON VILLAGE HALL CHRISTMAS FAYRE**



**SUNDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> DECEMBER**

**12pm – 3pm**

**TOMBOLA   RAFFLE   BRAN TUB  
CHINESE AUCTION   CRAZY CARD GAME  
CRAFT and GIFT STALLS**

**REFRESHMENTS TEA/COFFEE/TURKEY  
BAPS/SAUSAGE ROLLS/MINCE PIES and  
more.....**

**Contact Hilary for more details and to book a  
table for yourself/ your cause - £10 fee. Limited  
space available.....**





## **CHRISTMAS BINGO**

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December

**EYES DOWN 7.30PM**

**BUTTERTON VILLAGE HALL**

**CHRISTMAS THEMED PRIZES**

**£8 for a book of tickets for 10 games**

**FIRST GAME FREE**

**LUCKY DRAW AND RAFFLE**

**CASH FLIER**

**REFRESHMENTS AT HALF TIME**





# FARMER SCROOGE'S CHRISTMAS CAROL



by Kate Bramley  
with music by Jez Lowe



Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**

[www.badappletheatre.co.uk](http://www.badappletheatre.co.uk)

**BUTTERTON VILLAGE HALL (ST13 7ST)**

**Thursday 21 December, 7:30pm**

**£13.00 (Standard) / £8.00 (Under 8)**

BOOK NOW: [Maggie.risby@btopenworld.com](mailto:Maggie.risby@btopenworld.com) or 01538 304115

*Licensed bar open from 6:30pm. Light Refreshments.*

[liveandlocal.org.uk](http://liveandlocal.org.uk)



Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**

**LIVE  
& LOCAL**





## Holly

We tend to ignore holly trees until December, when they brighten up our churchyards, as well as our churches and homes at Christmas time, with their shiny leaves and bright berries. For the rest of the year, they are less conspicuous, with dark green leaves, dark brown bark and small white flowers in the spring. Holly is an interesting tree however. Before botanists brought tree seeds from other countries to our shores,

winter foliage was unusual, and all evergreen trees were viewed as special. Use of holly and yew branches for winter decoration is an old custom, probably a mix of a wish to make the place look festive, coupled with superstition. Holly was believed to be a fertility symbol and a charm against witches, goblins and the devil. It was thought unlucky to cut down a holly tree.

Holly has good natural defences with the leaves of a young holly extremely prickly. As the tree matures, the prickles reduce, particularly on higher branches, out of reach of most browsing animals. Holly trees are dioecious meaning that there are male and female trees with the decorative berries only found on the female of course. Holly berries are a vital food source for birds and small mammals such as wood mice and dormice. In some cases, mistle thrushes will vigorously defend a particularly choice holly tree from other birds so have a look in your local burial ground and see if you see a flurry of activity.

If you would like to start digitally recording wildlife in your local burial ground then why not use a churchyard holly tree to get going. Take a look on our website under Be Involved or click here:

[caringforgodsacre.org.uk/add-your-records](http://caringforgodsacre.org.uk/add-your-records) to find out what to do. You will need to download the iNaturalist app onto a mobile phone, tablet or laptop. It's helpful to start recording with a familiar species and something that is easy to photograph. Maybe you have children or grandchildren in need of outdoor activities in the Christmas holidays? This could be a way to start exploring the wonderful wildlife to be found in churchyards, chapel yards and cemeteries.

All the best, Harriet Carty, *Diocesan Churchyard Environmental Advisor*, [harriet@cfga.org.uk](mailto:harriet@cfga.org.uk), [www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk](http://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk) - individuals and groups in the diocese receive 20% members discount on all CfGA materials. Use the discount code diomem22

## Available & Local



### For Sale

Local Home-Produced Christmas Poultry  
Traditional Turkey, Chicken, Goose & Duck  
Please Contact Myrtle  
01538 304225

### For Sale

Holly Wreaths £7 - £8  
Decorated Door Wreaths £14  
Grave Pots £5

To order ring Pam on 01298 687452  
All proceeds to Christies Hospital





I provide home from home dog boarding in a village setting, Alstonefield, 15 minutes from Ashbourne, or I can look after your dog in your own home if you prefer.

I am friendly, professional and have previously worked for Derbyshire Police for over 20 years.

If you need help with dog sitting or home boarding, whether that's for a few hours, a day/overnight or for a holiday, please message, call or email me and we can discuss your requirements.

Competitive Rates | Fully insured



**For further information, contact Kirsty Norman**  
**07727 159721**  
**kirstynorman48@yahoo.co.uk**





Visit The Black Lion Inn for a memorable festive experience.

It's the perfect place to enjoy a cosy family meal with roaring fires and candlelight. Our beautiful function room can seat up to 22 people and for all group bookings we love working closely with the organisers to create a bespoke Christmas party catered to your needs. Our menu is also available on Christmas Day for a completely stress-free option!

We can cater for all dietary requirements.

Take a look at our upcoming events, menu and opening times...

## CHRISTMAS OPENING

Normal opening times up to and including 23<sup>rd</sup> December

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December  
Bar: 12:00-23:00

Kitchen: 12:00-15:00 and 18:00 to 21:00

25<sup>th</sup> December  
Bar: 12:00-14:00  
Kitchen: 12:00-14:00

26<sup>th</sup> December  
Bar: 12:00-17:00  
Kitchen: Closed

Normal opening from 27<sup>th</sup> December up to and including Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> December

31<sup>st</sup> December - NYE Party  
Bar: 12:00-01:00

Our kitchen will be serving our special NYE tasting menu, take a look at the menu below

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> January  
Bar: 12:00-16:00  
Kitchen: 12:00-16:00

2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> January  
Pub Closed

4<sup>th</sup> January  
Normal opening times resume

# Black Lion Inn

BUTTERTON, PEAK DISTRICT



## Christmas Pub Quiz

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December

8pm Start    £2 per person    max team size 6 ppl

Call us to book a table to eat  
before or during



## Beer and Carols

Join us for mulled wine, mince pies and singing

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December  
6pm



# Black Lion Inn

BUTTERTON, PEAK DISTRICT

## New Year's Eve *Tasting Menu*

Rosemary, olive and Peakland white focaccia, aged balsamic and cold pressed rapeseed oil

-

Wild mushrooms with homemade fettucine pasta

-

Duo of partridge, bread sauce, blackberries

-

Lamb Wellington, dauphinoise, hispi cabbage, lamb sauce

-

Hake, marinated tomato, spiced crab

-

Local Staffordshire cheese tart, apple and balsamic

-

Chocolate mousse, honeycomb, raspberry sorbet, candied orange

£59 per person

7.30 pm

Vegetarian options available

# ALSTONEFIELD



Vicar: In Vacancy  
Church Warden(s): Position(s) Vacant  
Reader: Clare Day 01538 381773

## Alstonefield Benefice December Services

Sun. 3 <sup>rd</sup>	11.00am	Holy Communion	Alstonefield
Sun. 10 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Morning Worship	Ilam
Sun. 17 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Holy Communion	Wetton
Sat. 23 <sup>rd</sup>	7.00pm	Carol Service	Alstonefield
Sun. 24 <sup>th</sup>	4.00pm	Crib Service	Ilam
Sun. 24 <sup>th</sup>	4.00pm	Carol Service	Wetton
Sun. 24 <sup>th</sup>	11.30pm	Midnight Mass (N.B. There is no Midnight Mass in the Alstonefield Benefice)	Ipstones
Mon. 25 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	All Age Worship	Alstonefield
Sun. 31 <sup>st</sup>	11.00am	Holy Communion	Wetton

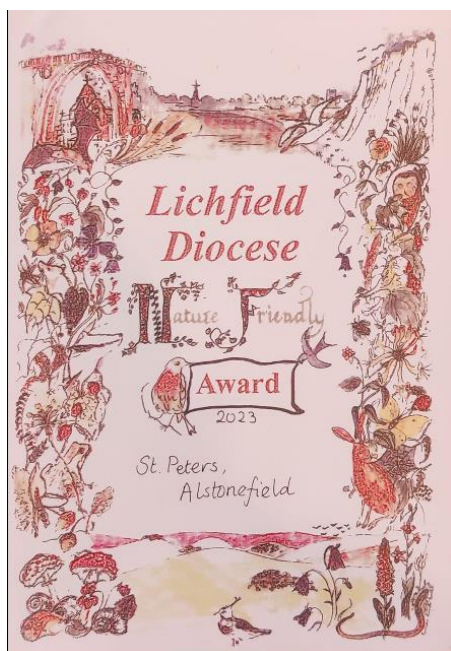
## Alstonefield St Peter's Church.

**We got an award again!**

**GOLD & NATURE FRIENDLY AWARD 2023** comments from the judges:

*"There is an excellent welcome to visitors in this delightful rural churchyard. A good level of information is provided on the noticeboard by the gate and in the porch, including information about bird and wild flower species in the churchyard. The large area of grass is well managed, with secondary grass paths and areas of different grass lengths. The stone wall boundary is a haven for wildlife and the edges around the churchyard are left long again providing further diverse habitats. The graves are neatly edged and excellent information is provided in the porch about some of the oldest graves, with links to find out more. The area for interment of ashes alongside the main path is tidy with a well-positioned bench inviting visitors to sit, rest and remember. The natural beauty and peace of this churchyard is enhanced by the explicit welcome and care shown to visitors, and by the efforts of all who work hard to manage it. Our thanks to you all."*

The judges have also made a suggestion that we consider how access to water could be provided for wildlife – if anyone has any ideas how we could improve this please contact Carrie Osborne or Paul Railton.





The next **Big Clean Up** at St Peter's church and churchyard is on **Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December** from 9am; if you can come to help us to get ready for Christmas please pop down. Refreshments available. And we would be particularly grateful to anyone who could help to weed around the French drain, in the gravel around the perimeter of the church. We have done from the North porch around the tower to beyond the south porch, so just need to do around the east end and back to the porch. If everyone in the village could do a metre or so we could soon get it done!!

**Jigsaws:** as the nights draw in Jigsaws are again for sale or swap at St Peter's, inside in the north aisle. £5 to buy, £1 to swap. There are plenty of different ones to choose from.

**Food bank:** we still have the food bank in the porch of the church. If you or your family need items please help yourselves. We do need donations please, there is a list of useful items of food and toiletries; please help by putting them in the right-hand box. It is very much appreciated.



**Carrie Osborne and Jon Lane** recently moved from the Old Vicarage, Alstonefield to Holmes Farm at Reapsmoor with our daughter and family. Visitors are very welcome. We would like to wish our friends and colleagues in and around Alstonefield a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful 2024.



**A very Happy Christmas  
from**

**St Peter's Community Larder, Alstonefield**

The community larder is there for anybody who finds themselves in need. The boxes in the church porch contain everything for a meal, personal care and laundry. You are welcome to take what you need- there is no charge.

If you would like to donate, there is a box for donations also in the porch.

Items are checked and changed regularly.

### **Alstonefield and District RVS Friendship Club**

[Secret Diner](#)

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup>  
December



**Christmas Dinner with Secret Santa and  
Bumper Hamper Raffle**  
Subsidised for members

### **Thank You**

**A big Thank You** to everyone that came to the Harvest Supper at Alstonefield Village Hall in October.

I would like also to thank all those that helped in the kitchen. Thank you to Cathy and Angelas' hampers, they were magnificent. Annes table flower arrangements were beautiful. And lastly Jon Lanes excellent auctioning skills.

The grand total was £878 split between Leek food bank and the St Peters Church renewable energy boiler fund.

Next event is Sunday 17th December 3.30pm onwards. Christmas Bring and Share in aid of Cancer Research. All welcome

# **A very Happy Christmas from Alstonefield and District RVS Friendship Club**

**A huge thank you to all members, speakers, visitors and volunteers! It is your support that keeps this club going.**

This year we have welcomed a wide range of interesting guest speakers, enjoyed meals together and been out and about, including a trip to Llandudno.

For those of you who don't know us, we are a friendly and welcoming group whose membership comes mainly from the villages covered by this newsletter. Many of us, but not all, are retired - but you don't have to be an older person to join us! At our meetings, we enjoy a light meal together and may have a guest speaker. Talks are often light-hearted. Some cover topics of local interest, other topics include history and travel.

Our aims are to offer friendship, entertainment and support to people living in rural areas. You don't have to travel into town to have a good time! If you wish to join, membership is still only £5.00. However, you don't have to be a member to attend one of our meetings. Cost per meeting is generally £6.00 which includes food.

Volunteer speakers are also very welcome. If you would like to share your hobby or interest, please contact Fiona on 01335 310200.

Watch this space for next year's programme or visit us in January for Bingo and Beetle.



## **Bingo and Beetle**

**Wednesday 3rd January, Alstonefield Village Hall, 2.00pm**

**Please bring any unwanted Christmas Gifts for a Bring and Buy sale**

**Cost of food and entertainment: £6.00**

**Everybody always very welcome! (non-members please let Fiona know (01335 310200) as it helps with catering)**

### **Alstonefield Village Hall**

**Chair:** Kevin Stockton **Treasurer & Bookings Officer:** Jo Griffin

**Committee members:** See Below.

**Liz Power**

**Duncan Scroggs**

**Mark Smith**

**Martin Snodin**

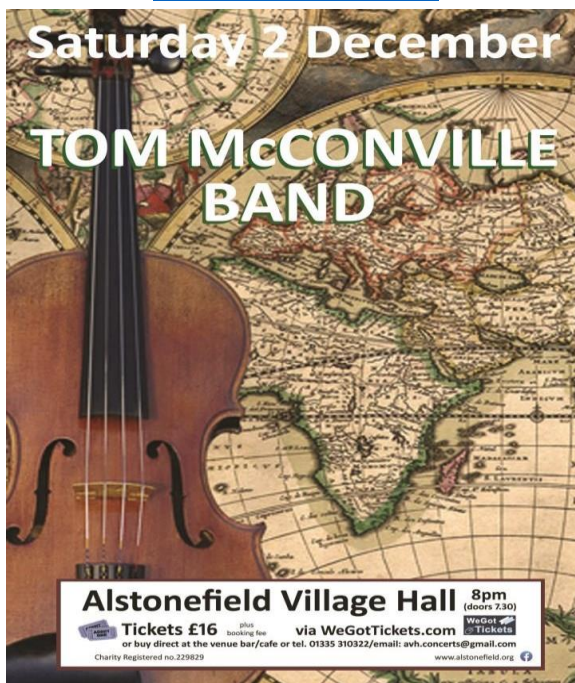
**Dave Littlehales**

**Val Littlehales**

For bookings or enquiries, please email: [alstonefieldvillagehall@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:alstonefieldvillagehall@hotmail.co.uk)

**If you would like to hire the Hall or have any queries, please email: [alstonefieldvillagehall@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:alstonefieldvillagehall@hotmail.co.uk)**

### **Village Hall Events**



**Saturday 2 December**

**TOM McCONVILLE  
BAND**

**Alstonefield Village Hall** 8pm (doors 7.30)

**Tickets £16** (all booking fee) via [WeGotTickets.com](http://WeGotTickets.com)

or buy direct at the venue bar/cafe or tel. 01335 310322/email: [avh.concerts@gmail.com](mailto:avh.concerts@gmail.com)

Charity Registered no. 229829 [www.alstonefield.org](http://www.alstonefield.org)



# CHRISTMAS BRING AND SHARE

Alstonefield Village Hall

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December 3.30 for 4pm

If you would like to reserve a table, please let Debs Railton know and advise what you would like to bring to share 07594630858

[debs.railton@gmail.com](mailto:debs.railton@gmail.com)



Bring your own drinks



Featuring the Clockwinders

Auction and the odd carol to be sung by one and all

All proceeds to Cancer Research  
Donations welcome for the auction



I would like to wish everyone in Alstonefield and nearby villages a Very Joyful Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Best wishes from Bridgette (Bumblies Barn)

## “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.





# CAROL SINGING

ALSTONEFIELD

Tuesday 19th at 6.30pm.

Meet around the Christmas tree  
on the Village Green.

All are welcome

Jo Wood 0772932626

## A Village Year

(To the tune of In the Bleak Midwinter)

By Simon Duquenoy

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) Alstonefield in Springtime<br>Daffodils shine through<br>Lambs in fields are playing<br>Birds are nesting too<br>Cows run out to fields<br>Chewing fresh new grass<br>Leaden boot for walkers<br>A challenge they must pass     | 3) Alstonefield in Autumn<br>Leaves are on the ground<br>Log stores filled are ready<br>Chimney sweeps around<br>Gutter pipes need clearing<br>Wind and rain blows through<br>Harvest grass is gathered<br>Frost and ice is due |
| 2) Alstonefield in Summer<br>Sunshine heats the air<br>Flowers bloom in gardens<br>Grass is mown with care<br>Tourists fill the campsite<br>Cyclists passing through<br>Church bells ring for weddings<br>Cricketers play and brew | 4) Alstonefield in winter<br>Snow is on the ground<br>Birds seek food and shelter<br>Cows in barns are found<br>Sheep are in the fields<br>Sheltering by the wall<br>Christmas lights are shining<br>Glad tidings to you all    |

### Alstonefield Parish Council

**Clerk to the Council** – Martin Jinks

**Email:** [clerk@alstonefield-pc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@alstonefield-pc.org.uk)

c/o The Village Hall, Alstonefield, Ashbourne, Derbyshire. DE6 2FR

**Chair** – Rupert 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](mailto:mn821268@gmail.com)), Mrs R Longdon (07870 731389).

**Next Parish Council Meeting:** Contact Clerk for details.

\*\*\*\*\*

To Fill up this Space: Don't forget, Deadline for the **January/First Half of February 2024** is  
**is 6am on THURSDAY 28<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

# **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 December**

17 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Holy Communion
18 <sup>th</sup>	6.30pm	Carol Service
25 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Benefice Holy Communion

### **Altar Flowers:**

### **Cleaning Rota:**

**Doris Wentworth**

**Dorothy Glaister**

**P.C.C. Members:** **Secretary:** Maggie Risby 304115 **Treasurer:** Patrick Bailey

Maurice Woodward, Dorothy Glaister, Sheila McDermott, Maggi Rowland, Jackie Sumerling, Maggie Rowland,

## **St. Bartholomew's**

Repairs are ongoing in the Tower. The plaster is coming off the stairwell wall but work has come to a halt whilst the correct plaster is located for replacing on the wall.



**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November.** A good crowd including some horses, wearing their own purple poppies, gathered at the Poppy memorial at the church gates for the Armistice service. Rev Jane led the service. Matt, landlord at the Black Lion, played the Last Post and Reveille. Wreaths were laid by Parish Council, St Bartholomew's PCC,

Butterton History Group and Butterton Book Club. Refreshments were served in church following the service and the November Lottery Ball Draw took place.



**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December** is the Carol Service, at 6pm.

Draw tickets are on sale, £1 a book of 4 tickets. Prizes so far include a Black Lion Voucher, £25 cash prize, Wines, Spirits, Christmas hamper and assorted Christmas fare. Tickets to be drawn following the service and during Refreshments.

**Christmas Day** service at 10am, a Benefice Christmas Family Eucharist.

## **'BadApple' Theatre Group**

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December** sees the BadApple Theatre Group coming to perform a family friendly production - 'Farmer Scrooge's Christmas Carol'. Tickets are £13 adult and £8 for 8 years and under. Light refreshments will be served in the interval. There is a licensed bar open from 6.30pm until the production starts at 7.30pm, again in the interval and after the production has finished. Tickets from Maggie- 01538 304115.

## **St Bartholomew's Church Lottery Winners for November**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Mavis Barker	( 25)	£40.00
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Julie Salt	( 135)	£20.00
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Tim Mollatt	( 16)	£10.00

**The next draw will be held on Saturday December 9<sup>th</sup> in Church at 11.00 am.**

## **Thank You**

A thank you to all those who packed Shoeboxes this year. Across the Benefice we packed 33 boxes of which 13 were from Butterton. Well done everyone.

## **Butterton Parish Council**

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

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 7.00pm at the Village Hall. As always, please put any queries **in writing** to the Clerk prior to a meeting, in order that sufficient time can be given for discussion

**Meetings for 2024 are .....9th January, 20th February, 2nd April,  
7<sup>th</sup> May (AGM), 18th June, 30th July, 10th September, 22nd October,  
3rd December.**

## **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.

A hectic and worrying time recently for the committee. Despite supplying required info, Barclays bank saw fit to close our account on 31<sup>st</sup> October. To cut a long story short, two weeks later, and the bank has now admitted to a 'Bank error'. We await the account's reinstatement. The final outcome will be in the next issue.

The third and final evening (for 2023) of Pig Racing was on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November. The Pigs are now relegated to hibernation. Thank you to everyone who has supported the three Pig Racing events, to Steve for being the compere and 'Honest John' and his partner who managed the tote.

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December-** Christmas Fayre at the Village Hall, commencing 12pm – 3pm. All the usual stalls plus hopefully the Wicker Basket Man, Christmas Flowers and Plants, makers of Wooden Gifts and Bags. Turkey baps, tea and coffee and more will be served.

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December-** Christmas Bingo. Doors open 6.30pm and eyes down at 7pm. All prizes are Christmas themed as will be the refreshments. Free first game, Lucky dip prize, Cash flier.

## **Butterton History Group**

Maggie Risby (Chairperson) 304115, Marjorie Renshaw (Secretary), Dianne Wint (Treasurer), Sarah Stone, Maggi Rowland, Barbara and Maurice Woodward, Margaret Bury, Alan Salt, Diane Salt, Co-opted members....Cliff Salt and Gray Salt.

We have managed to sell all 100 2024 Butterton calendars. Proceeds to History Group funds. Sorry if you have missed out. There might be a copy as a raffle prize at the Church's Christmas Draw.

On the weekend of 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> October we filled the church with displays of everything we hold in the archives relating to St Bartholomew's Church, from its beginnings in 1254 to the present day. As always, it was a very successful event. It brings everyone together and is a chance for 'Buttertonians' who have relocated elsewhere to meet up for a chat, cake and coffee. The raffle and refreshments made just over £400 for Group funds.

## **Butterton Poppy Appeal**



"The Two Jackie's' thank everyone for their generous contributions to this year's Appeal.

The village raised £246.93p. This includes the 'Pop up Poppy Shop' in church and the collection in the Black Lion.

Thank also to Andrea, who kindly volunteered to do a house collection. The coffers were also increased by visitors to the Butterton History Group weekend.

***In all, a splendid amount, thank you".***

**To Fill up this Space: Don't forget, Deadline for the January/First Half of February 2024 is  
is 6am on THURSDAY 28<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2023**





## **Message From the Community Bus Shelter**

The Butterson Community Bus Shelter has closed for the winter. Please do not leave any books or bric-a-brac in the shelter. Weather permitting, we may be able to arrange a book swap in January or early February to enable readers to refresh their reading matter.

This year was our fourth season, having started as a book swap in Lockdown 2020. This year we formed a charity called Butterson Community Giving Charity with trustees and a bank account. We raised £3,437 in the seven months that the Shelter was open. The grand total raised since the start has now reached £12,000. After the accounts have been independently reviewed, the figures and

information about the charity will be available for viewing on the Butterson village website

(<http://buttersonmoorlands.co.uk/village-organisations/butterson-bus-shelter/>).

Most of the money has been spent on local projects for Butterson and surrounding villages. Our 'overheads' are minimal ( 0.5% of income) so you know your money goes where it is needed.

We want to thank all the people who have helped us keep the Shelter open and spic and span. Firstly our elves, Catharine Rhead and Yvonne Pope (also a trustee of the charity) who have worked hands on in the Shelter. Thank you to our fellow trustee, Mike Stone, and to the Parish Council for permission to use the Bus Shelter. Thanks to Terry Buxton for setting up bookcases and Chris Heyhow for dismantling; also Patrick & Judy who gave us two tables to use in the Shelter, Ron Edwards for carpentry assistance and Peter Gibbs for tractor transport. Also to Steve Jones for reviewing the accounts and Hannah and anyone else who rescued boxes from sudden downpours.

And finally, most of all, thank you to all who have donated books, bric-a-brac and money.

If you would like to make a donation you can do so by paying into our bank account, or by using the PayPal QR Code. Details as follows:

**Account name: Butterson Community Giving**

**Sort Code: 82 11 07**

**Account No: 40308265**



We wish you all a fantastic Christmas, and look forward to opening the Bus Shelter for business in the spring.  
Best wishes June & Jeremy

## **ELKSTONES**



**St. John the Baptist:**  
**Vicar: Father John Baines**

### **Services in December**

**17<sup>th</sup> 3.00pm Carol Service**

**Flowers & Cleaning for December**

**Liz Meakin**

This time last month I was commenting on our heavy drenching from the seemingly continuous October downpour, and hoping that it would soon stop, but at the time of writing it is still raining. Will it never end! Well, I suppose it is better than snow!

### **St John's Church December Dates**

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 3 p.m. Carol Service.

Please note the change of time for the Carol Service, from evening to afternoon, and come along and enjoy a good sing, followed by mince pies and mulled wine and the chance to chat to your friends and neighbours. Offers of mince pies (or other nibbles) will be very welcome – please let Myrtle know if you are able to bring some (01538 304255).

Hazel Bailey will be coming around the village with Raffle tickets before the day, and Myrtle would welcome prizes for the Raffle any time from now. If you can drop them off at Townhead Farm, Myrtle would be very grateful, or ring her on 01538 304255. The funds raised will go towards the maintenance of our lovely little church.

**The Christmas tree** will be in the church ready for decorating at **10 a.m. on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December**, so volunteers are needed to help. Please ring Sally Faulkner on 01538 303900 if you can come and give a hand.

### **Carol Singing round the Houses**

This will take place on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December. If you would like to start the Festive Season with some carols at your door, (there is no obligation to invite us in), please ring Margaret on 01538 300358, or email [grants.elkstones@btinternet.com](mailto:grants.elkstones@btinternet.com). The funds raised will this year be going to Myeloma UK.

Carol singers please meet at Bank House at 6.30 for a pre-singing mince pie and a glass of mulled wine.

### **Elkstonians Christmas Lunch**

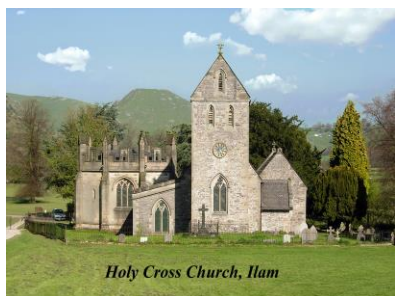
Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December, 12.30 for 1 p.m. at Biggin Hall. Don't forget to bring a present costing less than £5, wrapped and labelled 'Gent' if you are a man, or 'Lady' if you are a woman, for Santa to distribute afterwards.

If you still haven't organised your Christmas Dinner at home yet, why not try one of Townhead Farm's turkeys, chickens or geese? You can't get more local than that. Ring 01538 304255 to put your order in.



**Wishing all our friends and neighbours**  
**A Very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.**

## **Ilam**



### **Alstonefield Benefice December Services**

Sun. 3 <sup>rd</sup>	11.00am	Holy Communion	Alstonefield
Sun. 10 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Morning Worship (All Age Worship)	Ilam
Sun. 17 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Holy Communion	Wetton
Sat. 23 <sup>rd</sup>	7.00pm	Carol Service	Alstonefield
Sun. 24 <sup>th</sup>	4.00pm	Christmas Eve Crib Service	Ilam
Sun. 24 <sup>th</sup>	4.00pm	Carol Service	Wetton
Sun. 24 <sup>th</sup>	11.30pm	Midnight Mass (N.B. There is no Midnight Mass in the Alstonefield Benefice)	Ipsstones
Mon. 25 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	All Age Worship	Alstonefield
Sun. 31 <sup>st</sup>	11.00am	Holy Communion	Wetton

**(All Welcome to any Service)**

**Vicar: In Vacancy**

**Reader: Clare Day 01538 381773**

***"Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all within the parish and all readers of the magazine".***



### **Ilam Church Decorating**

We will be decorating Church ready for Christmas on Saturday 2nd December 2023 anytime from 10.30am/11am.

### **Ilam Church and Art Club proudly present**

Christmas Carol Art and Decorated Christmas Trees at Ilam Church from Saturday 2nd December 2023 to Sunday 7th January 2024. Church Open Daily. Please see poster at beginning of the magazine.

### **Mrs Anne Sutton**

Everyone within the village was very sorry to hear of the passing of Ann Sutton, long time Ilam resident, Art Club stalwart, former PCC member and friend to many. We send our condolences to her family.

**To Fill up this Space: Don't forget, Deadline for the January/First Half of February 2024 is 6am on THURSDAY 28<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

## December/January Flower and Brass Rota

1 <sup>st</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs C Rowlinson	Flowers & Brasses
15 <sup>th</sup> & 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Miss E Clewes	Flowers & Brasses
29 <sup>th</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup> Jan.	Mrs S Prince & Ms S Allen	Flowers & Brasses
12 <sup>th</sup> & 19 <sup>th</sup> Jan.	Mrs J Oxtoby & Mrs S Richardson	Flowers & Brasses

### Ilam C of E (VA) School

Another busy few weeks have passed us by at Ilam Primary School!

We embraced harvest with a beautiful service at Church with Father Arthur. The children were so proud to share their produce and gifts which were auctioned off at Dovedale House. We celebrated our wonderful work and filled the church with singing! A proud and joyous occasion!

We've also raised valuable funds for charities including Jeans for Genes and Children in Need. Our Children in Need Bake Off was truly momentous and our star bakers looked every bit the part in their star baker apron prizes! Judging it was a tough job for staff but it's certainly one of our favourite tasks!

Our ISA (Ilam School Association) have been hard at work bringing us wonderful events including Blankety Blank and our fireworks evening! We lit up the night with the children's handmade lanterns and all enjoyed delicious treats! The fireworks were phenomenal! We all had so much fun and raised valuable funds for our children to enable them to benefit from resources and opportunities.

Thank you ISA!

We've also taken part in local sporting events arranged by Primary Stars including football, rugby and cross country. We're very proud of our skills and sportsmanship. A wonderful representation of our school! We have also held our own swimming gala too and had so much fun in the pool! Thank you to our Sports Captain for this wonderful idea!

We ended last half term with a curriculum celebration week. We celebrated History, Geography, DT, PE, RE and Forest School. The children enjoyed an amazing experience immersing themselves in each subject area with a range of exciting lessons and activities. The work produced was outstanding and the buzz across the school made for a perfect end to the half term!

We've welcomed visitors into school including our grandparents for lunch, and Open the Book for story-based worship. We also paid our respects to those fallen for Remembrance.

We proudly displayed our poppies in church and gathered to remember with poems and prayers.

Our Kingfisher class children visited Leek fire station for the afternoon which was most exciting, and we've welcomed Tanglewood into school on a Friday afternoon for our forest school lessons.

A great addition to our learning!

We also have a fantastic new canopy outside to enable us to make further use of our uniquely beautiful outside area during all weathers.

***Wow so much!***

Finally, it is with great pride that we can finally share that we are a GOOD school following our recent Ofsted inspection. We are immensely proud of our school!

***"Pupils flourish in this nurturing, happy school." "Learning is exciting and children are succeeding."***

***"Wherever you go in school, you see acts of kindness." Ofsted 2023***

With so much more to look forward to between now and Christmas, I very much look forward to sharing our adventures in the next edition!

***Emily Johnson, Acting Head Teacher.***

\*\*\*\*\*

To Fill up this Space: Don't forget, Deadline for the **January/First Half of February 2024** is **6am on THURSDAY 28<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2023**





*A big thank you to the children and staff of Ilam School who produced this beautiful poppy display in Ilam Church. It has been admired and appreciated by the villagers and visitors to the church. Thank you.*

### Thank you from Upper Castern

Mr & Mrs Cooper stayed at Paddock House Holiday Cottage at the time the village flooded and they wished for the following message to be shared with the village.

*.....And THANK YOU very much indeed for your welcome and all your help during our stay, plus your neighbours who helped out - what a lovely friendly village Ilam is, if you see George and his wife do thank them for us, but alas we did not get the name of the other man who stopped in his van and helped us out of the car.*

### Ilam Parish Council

Chairperson: Caz Sellers 01335 350368

Clerk: Lindsay Oulsnam 01335 350579 Email: [clerk@ilamparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:clerk@ilamparishcouncil.co.uk)

Website: [www.ilam.org.uk](http://www.ilam.org.uk)

We would like to Thank a few people that have worked hard making the village look beautiful throughout the year & for supporting the Council and Community.

- Thank You to Bob Sellers, Richard Wain, and Vera Nottage for all your work in the village and beautiful flowers that have been planted throughout the year.
- Thank you to Everyone who helped to plant up and maintain the monument this summer and for maintaining the flowers and bushes by the river. It has looked lovely.
- Thank you to Caz Sellers, Richard Wain, and Nigel Taylor for installing the memorial bench, which looks beautiful by the river.
- Thank you to the Leaden Boot challenge for the kind donation of £400.00p towards the village memorial seat.
- Thank you to Joan Wain and Ellen Clewes for the lovely Remembrance Service and the beautiful poppies that the children of Ilam School made for church.
- Thank you to Cllr Edwin Wain for his continued support to the Council.
- Thank you to Paul Watson for his continued support to the Council.
- Thank you to Jo Green at Dovedale House and Kelly Whelan at YHA Ilam Hall for making us so welcome and hosting our meetings.

The next meeting is Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2024 at 7 pm 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.



We would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy & New Year

## WARSLOW

### St. Lawrence

#### Vicar:

#### Wardens:

Mrs. Rachel Moorcroft  
01298 84568

#### Deputy Warden:

Judy Prince  
01298 84351



Treasurer: Emma Gould 01298 687190 or 07989294809

### December Services

3 <sup>rd</sup>	11.00am	Holy Communion (Advent Sunday)
10 <sup>th</sup>	5.30pm	Carol Service
7 <sup>th</sup>	11.00	Holy Communion for Baptism of Christ
Jan		

**Altar Flowers: Dorothy Mellor**

### **Our Greatest Need**

If our greatest need had to be information,  
God would have sent us an educator.  
If our greatest need had been technology,  
God would have sent us a scientist.  
If our greatest need had been money  
God would have sent us an economist.  
If our greatest need had been pleasure,  
God would have sent us an entertainer.  
But our greatest need is for forgiveness,  
So, God sent us a Saviour.

At Christmas, we celebrate the coming of Jesus Christ into the world to be our Saviour. To leave him out of festivities, is to rob Christmas of all its meaning. We all need to turn to Jesus and build both our Christmas celebrations and our lives firmly on Him. If you do this today, then truly this will be the greatest Christmas you have ever known.

**Omitted from last month's magazine:** sincere apologies, to Mr. Roger Pegg for all his help and input at our latest fundraiser in October. ***Thank You Roger.***

On Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> October, we witnessed the wedding of James and Lucy Deaville at St Lawrence Church. We wish them well as they start their new married life together as Mr & Mrs Deaville.

Our All Saints/All Souls service on 5<sup>th</sup> November was very well attended and we thank Nicola Pepper for this very special poignant service, and thank Gwen who played the organ so well.

The week after, although the weather was inclement, we visited our War memorial, planted a cross, and thanked and prayed for all those people from the parish who lost their lives, and those who still serve us, at our Remembrance Day service. In church, a wreath was laid, the names of the fallen were read, and Gwen played the Last Post and Reveille so beautifully on the organ as we observed two minutes silence. Thank you to Janet for your thoughtful and respectful service. We would also like to give a massive "thank you" to Sarah Garde who, throughout the year, manages to keep the War Memorial so neat and tidy.

We thank everyone who has donated to the Food Box in church. This is very much appreciated, especially during these challenging times. It is there for anyone who needs it.

We wish Father David and his family who for four years supported and guided us during difficult times, especially during Covid, a merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and hope they have settled in their new abode and new way of life.

Thank you to Father John for all his help and support. We wish him a speedy recovery and look forward to his return to us very soon. Also, a big thank you to the Rev. Nicola Pepper and to Janet McNicol for all their ministrations and support at St Lawrence during 2023.

Not forgetting Steve Bentley and his crew who help to keep the churchyard so well maintained and in pristine condition. Also thank you to Steve for continuing to wind up our clock to keep impeccable time. Apparently quite a few people rely on this clock for their timekeeping in getting to work, etc. and missed it when it malfunctioned recently! Another thank you, to Andrew Phillips who daily unlocks the church door. This has been reflected in the visitor's book where people have commented that it is nice to visit an open church, something that some churches are sadly unable to do. Thank you to Trish Tomlinson who kindly publishes our church notes in the Community Magazine every month, and the Denise Easson, the editor of the Longnor Benefice Magazine.

***Finally, Rachel, Judith, Emma and all at St. Lawrence's would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Peaceful, Healthy and a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.***

### **Donations**

Thank you for the kind donations for St Lawrence Churchyard Warslow received recently from the families of the late Marion Bentley and the late Frances Shenton.

Donations have also been most gratefully received from the family of the late Marjorie Goodwin for St Lawrence Church.

Special thanks go also to Emma and crew who recently held a joint venture for 'Breast Cancer Now' and for St Lawrence Church and in the process raised £325.50 for our Church. Many thanks to everyone who attended this "Robbie Williams Tribute."

***Sincere thanks to you all.***

## **Warslow Village Hall**

Now taking bookings for 2024!

Licensed bar.

*Birthdays-Christenings-Meetings-Funerals*

**Call:** 01298 84984

**Email:** Warslowvillagehall@hotmail.co.uk

**Visit our website:** www.warslowvillagehall@weebly.com

### **BAR OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Friday 7-11.30pm

Saturday 7-11.30pm

Sunday 1-4pm

### **Christmas Fayre**

Warslow Village Hall

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 12-3pm

Tombola, Guess the name of the teddy, Bran tub and much more...

Refreshments available

Bar & raffle

To book a stall, please contact Laura on 01298 84984

Stalls will be in the hall/on the car park.

### **Warslow Silver Band Concert**

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December

£10 per person, includes supper

Doors open 6.30pm, 7pm start

Licensed bar and raffle

Tickets now on sale, call Laura on 01298 84984

### **Traditional Christmas Carvery**

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Served 12-4pm

£10 per head

Children under 12 £6

Homemade sweets available £3.50

To book contact Pam on 01298 687452

### **Christmas Bingo**

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December

7.30pm, All welcome

### **Christmas Quiz-Supper**

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> December

Teams of 4/5

Starts 7.30pm, £5 each player

To book your team in, ring Pam on 01298 687452 or Laura on 01298 84984

***Carol singing around the village on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December***





## History Live!

Warslow Village Hall, Wednesday December 6th 2023 at 7.30pm

(doors open 7.00 for refreshments)

### Art of the Christmas Card

with Danny Wells



The History Live Christmas meeting will be held on Wednesday December 6th at 7.30pm in Warslow Village Hall. Doors will be open at 7 so do come early to enjoy refreshments (including mince pies of course), pull a cracker and give yourself time to buy raffle tickets in aid of the Air Ambulance. The raffle will be drawn at the end of the evening.

Our speaker is Danny Wells. You may remember his visit to us last year when he told us how the Victorians 'invented' many of the Christmas traditions that we now enjoy, including cards. The first Christmas card appeared in Britain in the 1840s. By the 1880s, following the invention of the chromolithographic process and developments within the postal system, millions were being exchanged each year.

Danny's illustrated talk will trace the history of the Christmas card in Britain from its Victorian origins through the Edwardian era, World War 1 and the inter-war years exploring their art and changes in style.

Danny is a former history teacher, community worker and also has an MA in Architectural History. He particularly enjoys 'unlocking the past' of social and cultural history.



We would like to thank everyone who has donated prizes for the raffle, we have an amazing selection! A particularly big **THANK YOU** to **High Peak Bookstore and Cafe; Altrad Belle Engineering; The Greyhound, Warslow; Gerald Harrison, Greengrocer, Leek; The Curiosity Shop, Leek; Moorlands Cook Shop, Leek; Breckles Wholefoods, Leek; Cottage Delight, Leek....as well as lots more.** It would be nice if we could support these businesses in return. Please everyone, support these local businesses, who have been so generous to History Live and lets



us raise lots of money for the Air Ambulance!

To find out more contact Janet on 01298 84624, email: [historylivewarslow@gmail.com](mailto:historylivewarslow@gmail.com) or our website: [www.historylive.co.uk](http://www.historylive.co.uk).

## 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**

## WETTON

### St Margaret's Church 50/50 Lottery Results

The lucky winners in the November draw were:

- |                         |               |        |
|-------------------------|---------------|--------|
| • 1 <sup>st</sup> Prize | Hannah Durose | £52.50 |
| • 2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize | Denise Noble  | £35.00 |

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

The next draw will take place on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2023.



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

			<u>Alstonefield Benefice</u>	
			<u>December Services</u>	
Sun.	3 <sup>rd</sup>	11.00am	Holy Communion	Alstonefield
Sun.	10 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Morning Worship	Ilam
Sun.	17 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Holy Communion	Wetton
Sat.	23 <sup>rd</sup>	7.00pm	Carol Service	Alstonefield
Sun.	24 <sup>th</sup>	4.00pm	Crib Service	Ilam
Sun.	24 <sup>th</sup>	4.00pm	Carol Service	Wetton
Sun.	24 <sup>th</sup>	11.30pm	Midnight Mass (N.B. There is no Midnight Mass in the Alstonefield Benefice)	Ipstones
Mon.	25 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	All Age Worship	Alstonefield
Sun.	31 <sup>st</sup>	11.00am	Holy Communion	Wetton

On behalf of St. Margaret's Church, Parochial Parish Council, I would wish to record our sincere thanks to all who have contributed in helping keep the church, clean and cared for over the past Year. To those who have opened and locked the Church, done the cleaning, wound the clock, mowed the grass in the Church yard and put flowers on the Altar for our Services and supported and helped organise our several fund-raising events and lottery, re oiling the church door and bell ringers. In fact, anyone who has contributed in anyway, please be assured that your support is very much appreciated.



## ***A WARM WETTON WELCOME TO CHRISTMASTIDE***



### **Our Advent Coffee Morning.**

Following last year's well attended gathering, Tina Lucas has generously offered to host again this year, from 10-30am on Saturday the 9th. December at Vine Cottage, Wetton. Coffee, Tea and/or Sherry, if you'd prefer, will be offered alongside mince pies, shortbreads and associated festive treats. Please come and add to our company and festive cheer. A mini raffle will be drawn at the close, and any donations will benefit St. Margaret's Church, however there is no charge, so please feel welcome to join our gentle celebration of Christmastide.

### **Wetton Warm Space.**

Julie and Ian at the Wetton Tea Rooms have agreed, again, to retain, an area for locals to meet in the warm comfort of their establishment on winter Friday mornings between 10am – 12 midday. Wetton PCC are utilising "warm space" specific funding, to enable the resuming of this weekly winter opportunity, with an initial beverage included, per person attending. A lovely, warm, opportune time to spend socially with neighbours old and new, please join us to enrich the company.



### **Wetton Carol Singing, December 23<sup>rd</sup>.**

This year we are meeting, as usual, at the home of Barbara Thompson, at 6pm., and we are hoping for the usual warm welcome and generosity of spirit that this seasonal celebration affords, as we carolle around the village with enthusiasm bolstering our choral abilities. Please be kind and generous, even better, please join us !!

## Wetton & Back of Ecton Parish Council

The Parish Council will be working towards making the Football Pavilion in Wetton available for community use again next year. The clear up and refurbishment will start in the New Year. If you have anything that belongs to you or know of any village treasures stored, could you make contact with the Parish Council via [wettonpc@gmail.com](mailto:wettonpc@gmail.com) by the end of December. We can then make sure things are preserved and stored safely.

## 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.*

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***Don't forget, Deadline for the *January & 1<sup>st</sup> Half of February* issue is***

**6am on THURSDAY 28<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER**