

Village & Community Magazine

December 2020

Keeping All Our Villages of

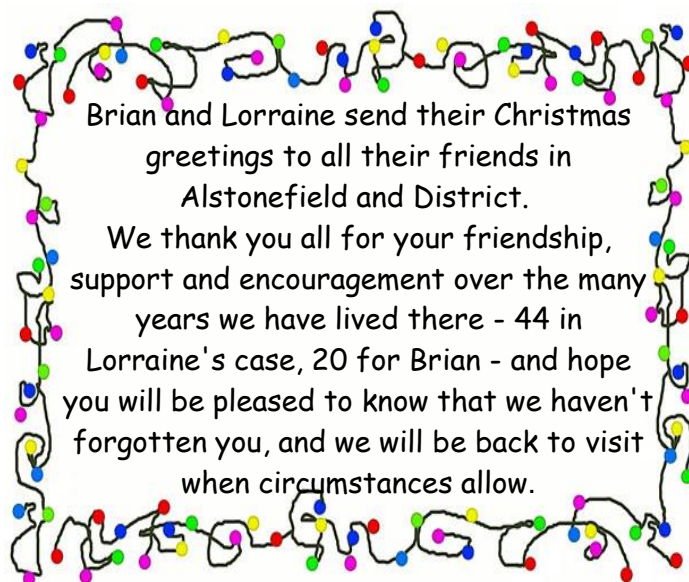
Alstonefield – Butterson – Ecton

Elkstones – Ilam – Warslow – Wetton

Connected and United at this Difficult Christmas Time



*Tricia, Peter & Melanie Wish All Our Readers a
Safe, Healthy and Peaceful Christmas*



“Life is difficult...”

so wrote the author M.Scott Peck in his book ‘The Road Less Travelled’.

This year has certainly been challenging for everyone, everywhere, without exception. The impact of the Coronavirus upon all our lives, whether directly or indirectly, has been profound - and devastating for those who have lost loved ones.

It has forced us to make changes in the way we live our lives and, generally speaking, change is not something we relish, especially when we feel that we're not in control of the outcome. It's interesting that the technological advances and solutions that have seemingly made life easier, have also perhaps fostered a sense that, no matter what happens, we can control the outcome or find a quick fix. For many, the expectation of always being able to do what we want, when we want is high, so any disruption to 'normal life' becomes an inconvenience – it makes life difficult.

As Christmas approaches, a time when families and friends would gather together, the Covid-19 regulations prevent us from doing what we would 'normally' do. Things have to be done differently – we may not be able to spend time with those we love. Life is difficult.

For many people, this is already their reality. Think of all those people, young and old, living on their own; homeless people and refugees; servicemen and women who are deployed overseas; NHS staff and care workers.

In previous world wars, when families were separated, archive material has shown us there was a weary acceptance that life was difficult, but there was also gratitude and appreciation for the little things that mattered most. Perhaps we can apply this to our current circumstances - *acceptance* of what is, and *gratitude* for what we have, may help to bring some peace in our lives.

No doubt all of us will be glad when this year ends. However it's been a year of learning to accept that we can't always have what we want, when we want it, and re-discovering what we may have lost sight of...

Rather than releasing the *pause button* to 'go back to normal', perhaps we should press the *reset button* instead and see this experience as an opportunity to recognise and value what truly matters in all our lives. In choosing the reset option, we can hopefully create a kinder, more caring and compassionate world. **M.B.**

Christmas Crafts Sale

***** 25% of proceeds to Butterson Village Swings *****

Well, there's no Village Hall Christmas Fayre this year so I've been going Quackers during lockdown 2 making these delightful duck door stops ...



They are £25 each and are made from 100% cotton fabric, filled with hollow fibre filling and sand for the base. A few other colours and fabrics available

I also have fabric cards for sale at £3.50 each
A few samples are shown below.....



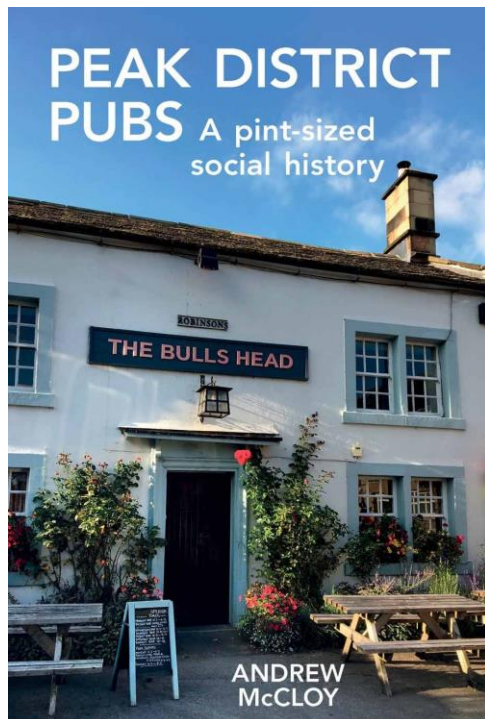
.....and a few other items too.....



Tissue holders (£2.50), gift bags (£2.50), reusable wipes (£3), various Christmas tree decorations (£1 -£2.50), face coverings (£3)

Contact me on:

07484314766 / 01538 304274 or skinneir@hotmail.com



New book explores the history of Peak District pubs

With pubs under the spotlight at the moment, a new book traces the evolution of the Peak District 'local' from traditional ale house to modern road house. Full of anecdotes, unusual facts and 160 current and archive photos, the book delves into the history of over 200 much-loved pubs, inns and taverns throughout the Peak District. There are chapters on pub names, local customs and haunted pubs; and details of over 400 hostleries that have closed. The book also looks at how today's pubs are responding to current challenges, through new community pubs, micropubs and brew pubs.

Peak District Pubs: a pint-sized social history by Andrew McCloy is published by Gritstone Publishing at £11.99 and is available from local shops, or on-line via <https://gritstonecoop.co.uk/> where it's currently at a discount launch price of £9.99 including p&p.

Youlgrave-based author Andrew McCloy has written and edited over 20 books including subjects such as the Pennine Way, Roman Britain and the Peak District Boundary Walk. He is currently Chair of the Peak District National Park Authority.



For Sale

Christmas Wreaths,
Door Wreaths & Grave Pots

In Aid of:
Christies Cancer Hospital.
To order: 01298 687452
(Pam Nadin)

For Sale

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



Christmas Trees for Sale

Non-Drop – 4ft to 7ft
£5 per foot
Ready from 1st December
Collect from Butterton
Please Contact:
Roz or Peter on
01538 304337 or
07870625831



Pet Photography Services

Would you like to have a memorable picture of your pet, perhaps as a gift for a loved one, as a seasonal present?

Or simply to capture a wonderful shot of your pet. Then look no further.

- * Family pet photoshoots/portraits
- * Pet portraits
- * All animals (dogs, cats, horses, etc.)
- * At home photoshoots, chosen location
- * To book, or for further details, please contact Antonella on 07497 206723 or email pjen@btinternet.com
- * Website: dragonwolfphotography.com
- * Instagram: @dragonwolfphotography

TO LET

Courtyard Cottage to let at Warslow Hall

Two Bedrooms, Sitting Room, Bathroom with Shower, Kitchen with solid fuel Rayburn, Larder, Utility Room, Study/Office Room, Oil fired central heating. Good sized vegetable garden.

No Pets or Smokers

£500 PCM

Tel: 01332 862212 - Viewing will be Strictly by Appointment Only

Community Magazine

I now have someone who will print off '**A FEW**' copies of the magazine. These will be available to those who have no access to e.mail and do not have family or friends to print a copy off for them. If you know someone who fits the category and they are willing to provide stamped addressed envelopes (A3 size) can you let me know (Tricia 01538 304560)

As a result of the posters placed on village notice-boards I have taken details of several who wish to be included onto the electronic mailing list but only one person has come forward requesting a hard copy. Whilst I know a lot of people in all of our villages, I do not know everyone so please, on my behalf could you pass the word on to those who may not have been out and about to read the notice boards.

I am hopeful that this new arrangement can commence with the January 2021 edition and my grateful thanks go to my new found volunteer who has agreed to do this for our community.

Wetton & Alstonefield First Responders

Serving the Community's Emergency Medical Needs with Pride, Care & Excellence.

New responders

We are excited that West Midlands Ambulance Service are training new responders in 2021 – we have four people who have applied to train which is great news.

Thank you

WACFR would like to say thank you to Hartington Well Dressing Committee, and to all our regular individual donors. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Christmas shopping?

If you are shopping online then please have a look at easy fundraising. We are now registered on the site so can receive donations from shops when you click through from www.easyfundraising.org.uk at no cost to you.

We are also registered on Amazon Smile too so you can choose us as your charity when you buy something from www.smile.amazon.co.uk. It's just the same as the usual Amazon website but we get a donation if you make a purchase on the Smile version.

For more information about first responders contact Nicky on 01335 310296 or Sally on 01538 304116

www.wacfr.org

Charity no: 1121223

Can you help the Peak District National Park Authority to set policy for the future of the National Park?

Climate change. Nature recovery. Sustainable communities. Low carbon transport.

These are just a few of the big ticket challenges the National Park is facing. The planning process is vital in addressing such issues and works best when local authorities, local communities and developers work together creating effective partnerships to achieve positive outcomes.

Planning matters, this is why when we produce plans and policies, we ask everyone to take part in the consultation.

We are currently reviewing the Peak District National Park Local Plan. It is a plan for the future development of the local area which we write and implement in close consultation with you.

We use the planning policies we develop in the Local Plan to make decisions on the hundreds of planning applications we receive each year. To make the right decisions we need your help to decide what goes into the Local Plan, and that will guide development in the National Park over the next 20 years.

Please complete the survey at <https://www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/planning/policies-and-guides/the-local-plan> and find out more about the Local Plan review process, including timescales, background information and how to get involved.

Survey results will be published online. These will influence the next stage in the formal consultation, 'Issues and Options'.

Joanne Cooper, Policy Planning Technician, 01629 816312, Joanne.Cooper@peakdistrict.gov.uk

New & Local



**Starting a new business
or building your existing business?**

DESIGN STUDIO SEVEN...

**Brand Design, Logo & Brand Assets
Flyers, Brochures, Leaflets, Posters
Web Design
Book, Catalogue Design**

**Deborah Perry
Town Head Cottage
Warslow SK17 0JR**

debkperry@me.com 07375 566 769

White Peak Nordic Walking

If you're planning to get fit, then I've got a variety of Nordic Walking classes to help you achieve your goals, no matter your age or fitness level. The walks will cover varied terrain that will help build your stamina. There are plenty of beautiful views too, which provide the perfect motivation to head outside and get active in all kinds of weather.

On all regular walks clients have their own pair of Nordic Walking poles. We have wipes, hand sanitising gel and a face covering with us and ask clients to do the same. While walking we are social distancing with staying 'Poles Apart'.

For details contact:

White Peak Nordic Walking: Janneke
Gorzeman 07469895267.

janneke@nwukwhitepeak.co.uk

Or book now: www.nwukwhitepeak.co.uk



Power of Poles Intro Course

Find out how to use fitness walking poles to achieve the results YOU want. This course will help you understand how to select the right kind of poles and use them for health, fitness, fun or challenges. This course will ensure you get the correct movement and techniques from the start.

Whilst we do provide poles for tuition sessions these are thoroughly cleaned before and after use. At the moment Poles used for tuition are strapless.

A progression to an optional Part 2 of the course gives you the opportunity to explore how to get more out of using Nordic style strapped poles with drills and advanced technique tuition.



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!**

We can collect or drop off at all places marked on the map - plus anywhere in-between! Cycles and dogs welcome please mention when booking.

Booking

Booking is simple and can be made up to 2 hours before travel time Mon - Fri 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**

FIELDFARES

Winter is here – and so are the **Fieldfares**. They arrive in very obvious large flocks of a hundred birds or more in the fields in October and migrate back North in March.

Most that winter in **Britain** are from Scandinavia, **Finland** or northwest **Russia**, but some might be from very much further east. The very first Fieldfares sometimes arrive in mid-August but the big arrivals begin generally around the middle of October up here in the Hills.

The **Fieldfare** has a chestnut-brown back and yellowy breast, streaked with black. It has a black tail, dark wings and pale grey rump and head. It is a little smaller than the similar-looking mistle thrush, but quite distinctive. Their typical lifespan is 3 years although the maximum recorded age is 11 years and 9 months

The best places to see them are in the countryside, along hedges and in fields. Fieldfares are omnivorous, and eat a large selection of insects and grubs, as well as berries in the winter. Hawthorn hedges with berries are a particular favourite. A rare breeder in this country, if you are lucky you may get one in your garden in severe winters when snow covers the countryside.

Food includes worms, slugs, snails and insects, though in the winter and especially when the ground is frozen or covered in snow a switch is immediately made to berries and fruit. Fieldfares do not normally take food put out in gardens, though the one exception is apples which they will readily eat. In fact, if there's snow on the ground and Fieldfares in the area, then putting out 20 half apples on the ground with the flesh side up will often result in 20 Fieldfares feeding on them – or a mix of Fieldfares and Redwings.

A lovely and unobtrusive little bird which does no harm, is interesting to watch, and is a clear indicator of approaching Winter

Philosophical Thought for you

As an aged lover of all the wonderful nature around us I sometimes wonder about the fierce arguments over preservation and conservation – just how far should we go to look after species and sites, and who decides what is important?

There are many historical examples of mammoths, dinosaurs, and even the dodo which have not survived long before man polluted the Earth and became the greatest predator – even now you can argue that not all climate change is due to Man and his behaviour. It is only 10,000 years since England was covered in ice and that melted long before the Industrial Revolution!

And whilst I agree that in all too many cases Man has caused the decline and demise of some (many ?) species, perhaps those species, like the dinosaurs, had reached their “sell by” date? Can we afford precious resources to sustain the unsustainable ????

Ed's Note: From the days that this magazine was a Church Magazine, I have come to know Rob and his wife Liz well and feel that we have become friends. This is Rob's last input into the magazine as it now is. I have learned so much about that that is around us over the last few years for which I and many of us thank you. I'm going to miss you. Happy retirement Rob, wish I was joining you!!



Alstonefield



St. Peter's, Alstonefield

Revd. John Austerberry
01335 310002.

Warden: Vacancies

A series of 4 Alstonefield Benefice Christmas Carol Services will be found on each Sundays of December Alstonefield, Ilam & Wetton Churches YouTube Channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvHhcP3tYfWRYeCGRQhFyHq>

They are a series of four Services, we are following the Journeys of Christmas. The Angel, Mary and Joseph, the Shepherds, and the Magi.

On our travels, we will hear stories from the Bible; listen to Festive Music, in carols, hymns and songs. We will share with one another our bumpy journey to Christmas 2020 along with the bumps in the roads of the first Christmas Journey.

December Sunday Services

6 th	11.00 am	Holy Communion Service at St. Peter's Church Alstonefield
13 th	6.30 pm	Blue Christmas Service at Holy Cross Church, Ilam - Benefice Service to Remember our Loved Ones
20 th	10.45 am	Holy Communion Service at St. Margaret's Church, Wetton

Christmas Services

Christmas Eve.	4.00 pm	Crib Service at Holy Cross Church, Ilam
Christmas Eve.	6.30 pm	Carol Singing starting on the Green, outside the George, Alstonefield – leading to . . .
Christmas Eve	7.30 pm	Christmas Holy Communion at St. Peter's Church Alstonefield
Christmas Day	11.00 am	Christmas Holy Communion St. Margaret's Church, Wetton
Sunday 27 th Dec	10.30 am	Christmas Holy Communion at Holy Cross Church, Ilam
Sunday 3 rd Jan	11.00 am	Epiphany Holy Communion at St. Peter's Church Alstonefield

Keep Safe, Blessings and prayers, Revd. John Austerberry

ALSTONEFIELD CAROL SUPPER – SATURDAY 19TH DECEMBER 2020

A three-course meal will be prepared and packed up ready for you to heat, to be collected or delivered from the Village Hall from 3-4pm. Boxes will contain various festive items and Carol Sheets. We can cater for whoever you have at home; please book your tickets asap and firm up on numbers nearer the time when you know how many folk will be with you. We will ensure that everything is Covid safe. Proceeds to Cancer Research UK. We would appreciate some more volunteers to help chop veg etc. and also to help make deliveries.

Father Christmas and his Elves in their sleigh will visit households around Alstonefield, Hope and Milldale between 5-7pm. Pauline Hambleton will be helping Santa get his sleigh ready and would appreciate some artistic assistance; please call her on 07967 273334. If anyone would like to sponsor this event in any way do let us know.

Tickets are £12 per adult £6 for children. Please tell us of any dietary requirements, allergies etc. (We can cater for meat eaters, vegetarian, vegan, gluten-free etc.) Please call Carrie O on 310453 or email carrieosborne2016@gmail.com asap. **Raffle** prizes can be dropped at Frank Lipp's barn and raffle tickets can be bought from Cathy R, Carrie O, by phone or email. We are not able to have an auction this year.

Village Carol Singing



As last year, we plan to sing carols around the Christmas Tree on the village green, with suitable social distancing, at 6pm on Monday 21 December. Everybody is welcome: please put it in your calendar. If the coronavirus rules forbid it, I will put a cancellation notice on the village notice boards. Otherwise, we hope to see you there. Donations, either there or put through my front door, will be gratefully received and sent to Crisis at Christmas. Jon Lane, Old Vicarage, tel. 310453.

Church Cleaning, St Peter's Alstonefield on Sat 5th December from 9am. All welcome and any help will be much appreciated to clean the church for Christmas and tidy up the churchyard, all at a safe distance.

Useful Telephone Numbers

St. Peter's, Alstonefield
Revd. John Austerberry 01335 310002.

Alstonefield Village Hall

Bookings: Jo Griffin
alstonefieldvillagehall@hotmail.co.uk

Parish Council

Clerk: Liz Court, tel. 07746 833910
Email barabarani@gmail.com

The George

Licensee: Graham 01335 310205

AVETS: 01335818911

"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.

Alstonefield Parent and Toddler Group

We are looking to restart a baby and toddler group at Alstonefield Village Hall for families in nearby villages. New recruits are required. If you or someone you know may be interested in attending please contact Laura on 01538 304692.

Alstonefield Parish Council

Clerk to the Council – Liz Court, tel. 07746 833910

Email barabarani@gmail.com

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

Chair - Richard Butler (tel. 01335 310620)

Vice Chairman Gordon Campbell (tel. 07919353800)

Nick Bonsall (tel. 01335 310262)

Rupert Hignett (tel. 01335 310389)

Alan Hayes (tel. 01335 310057)

Carrie Osborne (tel. 01335 310453)

Rebecca McIntyre (tel. 01335 310498)

The next Parish Council Meeting will take place on Wednesday 6th January via Zoom. Members of the Parish are welcome to join us – please follow the instructions on the Alstonefield website and contact the Clerk for the meeting ID and password to enter.

At the moment, local government advice is to meet virtually. As soon as this changes, we intend to restart our public meetings as before.

If you would like to contact the Clerk or any Councillors, please use the contact details above and we will continue to put any updates on the village website and notice boards.

Alstonefield Village Hall

Chair/Secretary: Martin Snodin 01335 310121

Treasurer: Debs Railton:

Bookings Officer: Jo Griffin

Committee members – Frank Lipp, Dave & Val Littlehales, Anne Morgan, Mandy Turley.

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

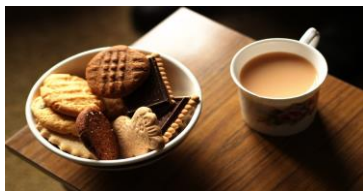
With the ongoing pandemic, it looks like being a long winter and a worryingly isolated one for many people. So provided the government rules allow it, the Village Hall is hoping to open for residents for a couple of hours on several days a week from mid-November, just to enable people to safely meet up with friends and neighbours. It will be **very** socially-distanced. Just 12 armchairs will be available, spaced at least 2 metre intervals - first come, first served. Face coverings will need to be worn on entry and exit, but if people bring their own refreshments - a flask of tea, for example - these can be removed once seated (the same rules as a pub). The History Group is supporting the initiative by showing slides, many previously unseen. Look out for posters (or social media) for details, or call Martin Snodin On 01335 310121.

Takeaway Refreshments from a new Weekend 'Pop Up' Cafe

From Saturday 28th November, until the end of the year at least, takeaway refreshments will be available at weekends between 9am and 3pm at Alstonefield Village Hall, on a 'pop -up' basis (i.e. when the Hall is available). While the COVID-19 'Tier 3' rules apply, we don't expect to see many tourists around (if any!) so it will mostly be just for locals at first. If successful, it will continue into 2021.

There will be a selection of hot and cold drinks, sweet and savoury food and snacks including freshly made soup, toasted sandwiches, sausage rolls and, of course, delicious home-made cakes and scones. Vegetarian, vegan and gluten free options will be available.

To ensure that we all remain Covid safe and in compliance with the Government guidelines, entrance will be via the door off the car park at the rear and exit via the front door. Face masks must be worn at all times whilst inside the building and social distancing guidelines followed.



CAROL SUPPER



SATURDAY 19TH DECEMBER 2020
Collection/delivery of food boxes 3-4pm
from Alstonefield Village Hall
£12 per adult £6 per child

A delicious three course meal will be prepared and packed up ready for you to heat, along with festive delights. Please book asap, final numbers can be confirmed nearer the time.

Raffle - Prizes to be left with Frank Lipp, tickets available from Carrie O, Cathy Reavy, by email or over the phone

Ideas for surprise entertainment will be in the box!

Hearty singing - the box will include a copy of the Carol Sheet for you to sing at home

TICKETS

ON SALE NOW!!

Phone 310453

Email carrieosborne2016@gmail.com

Father Christmas will tour the village from 5-7pm

All proceeds to Cancer Research UK

Butterton



St. Bartholomew's Church

St Bartholomew's PCC Members:

Church Wardens: Maggie Risby 304115,
Barbara Woodward 304324

Maurice Woodward, Brenda Mollatt,
Lily Hambleton-Plumb, Doris Wentworth
Sisa Bartley.

St Bartholomew's Church

A service of Holy Communion, taken by Rev
Arthur Hack, will be held on Sunday 20th

December at 3.30pm. We are hoping to be able to have something 'Christmassy', perhaps some open-air carol singing, but having heard we are placed in Tier 3, we will have to wait a few days to see what we are allowed to do. An update will appear on our Facebook page - Butterton – A Doubly Thankful Village.

With great sadness we heard of the passing of Sid Bagshaw. Sincere condolences to Gwen and Family.

Remembrance Sunday

A small gathering, socially distanced, masked and tracked and traced, gathered at 10.45am on Sunday 8th November to remember the Fallen. Matt Grimsey from The Black Lion kindly played the Last Post and Reveille. Wreaths were laid from Butterton WI, St Bartholomew's PCC, Butterton PC and Butterton History Group. Whilst the church was open during the afternoons of Sunday 25th October and 1st November, poppies had been for sale. **£136 was sent from Butterton to the British Legion Poppy Appeal.**



A small group assembled to Remember



Tributes



Matt plays 'The Last Post'

Sadly, due to the lack of visitors and the colder weather setting in we have decided not to open the Church for two hours each Sunday afternoon. It will be receiving a tidy in time for the service that hopefully we will be able to hold on Sunday 20th December.

As the bus shelter is used by the children who attend local schools, the Church porch has been re-purposed as a Book Swap. The Bus shelter was re-purposed during the summer as a Swap Shop for all bric-a-brac, books, plants, new and used goods etc. All donations went towards the new Defibrillator. This time all proceeds are for the Village Play Area Swings Appeal.

Butterton Church Lottery

There are 122 numbered balls in the draw and the winners of the November 2020 draw are:

1 st	Millie Atkin	(33)	£25.00
2 nd	Xander Steele	(37)	£15.00
3 rd	Sisa Bartley	(88)	£10.00

Numbers drawn by Lily Hambleton/Plumb and the next lottery draw will be on
Saturday 12th December at 11am in Church.

Halloween Event

The village was transformed on the evenings of 30th/31st October. Anyone who walked the streets was advised to have someone to accompany them! Butterson Wood was illuminated with all things ghostly. The Bus Shelter was inhabited by a witch in a rocking chair who squawked at anyone passing by. Kimberley and Darren Kirby, Tracey Perkin and Ben Jackson worked very hard to mastermind this light hearted festival of pumpkin carving. For a donation, Kimberley sourced and delivered pumpkins. There were various prizes awarded for spectacularly carved pumpkins and displays. All donations for this event went to the Swings Appeal. Everyone agreed it was just what we needed to make us smile in these challenging times and plans are already in the pipeline for a repeat event next year.



Just a selection of the Displays



Black Lion Inn

B U T T E R T O N , P E A K D I S T R I C T

With pubs and restaurants shut we can still provide a night away from the kitchen! Our takeaways are available Friday and Saturday evenings. Friday is pub classics like fish and chips, burgers and fried chicken then on a Saturday we put on specials such as pizza or Chinese. Details are sent out via our mailing list that you can join at www.blacklioninn.co.uk or you can find out what's on offer by giving us a call on 01538 304232 or emailing hannah@blacklioninn.co.uk.

We wish so much that we could be opening our doors in December and filling our beautiful pub with the Christmas cheer you all deserve. Thank you to everyone who has supported us so far.

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, Sarah Kinneir 304274, Peter Tomlinson 304560, Mike Stone (Website Manager) 304455, Roz Lees 304673, Tracey Perkin 304781.

Due to Lockdown, the Parish Council meeting scheduled for 1st December will have to be postponed. Hopefully we will be able to meet before Christmas. Watch the notice boards for the new date.

Swainsley Tunnel anti-social activity continues to dominate the Council's business. A multi - agency meeting will be held Mid-December to try to rectify this problem which has been in existence for far too many years.

Repairs to the gully on Clews Hill have taken place. Hopefully the problem of the overflow of ground water will now not flow across the road. Drains have been put in place. We await a heavy rainfall to see if the work has been carried out successfully. The Clerk is having some trouble getting the grit teams to understand where grit piles are needed in the parish. This is somewhat frustrating as I have been told by the workman who had a shovel in one hand and his iPad in the other, showing me a map and telling me 'Look, I can only dump the grit where it says on my job sheet'. X marks the spot.....Watch this space.....

The stepping stones have been repaired at the Ford at the Bottom of Town. Having checked when the damage was first reported and finding it was December 2019, that is pretty dismal.....

The Parish Council urges anyone who has spotted bad road conditions etc to Report it online on the Staffordshire Moorlands website. The more complaints there are then perhaps there is a better chance of remedial action.

For this and all the 'goings on' in the parish of Butterton, please see our **Butterton Doubly Thankful Facebook** page. Request to join us to keep up with everything.

Also information can be found on our website....buttertonmoorlands.co.uk

Butterton Village Hall

All very quiet at the Village Hall. We continue to switch the heating on now and again and run the taps.....

I say all's quiet..... two of our Team were seen (and heard!) to be working very hard on Thursday 26th November, trying to dig out the foundations of the old swings. Thanks so much Les and Phil.

Quotes for new swings are being supplied by various companies and the Parish Council has agreed some financial help towards replacement swings. We assure everyone who visits the Play Area that we are working hard to have them installed as soon as we can.

We are so very grateful to all the young parents who are coming up with fundraising ideas to speed up the installation of the new swings.

Elkstones

St. John the Baptist

Vicar: Father John Baines

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At the present time we don't have any notification of future church services but as soon as we do know they will be posted on the village website [elkstones.org](http://elkstones.org).



St John's Church  
Elkstones

### At a Glance Telephone Numbers

#### St. John the Baptist

**Vicar:** Father John Baines.  
**01298 83411**

**Email:** [longnorgnorvicarage@gmail.com](mailto:longnorgnorvicarage@gmail.com)

**Warden:**  
**Mr Reg Meakin**  
**01538 304295**



**It's concerning** to hear of the increased number of Covid cases in the Staffordshire Moorlands but better news regarding the possibility of a vaccine in the near future. Meanwhile let's all try to stay safe.



Sadly, Remembrance Day services in the Benefice, meaningful to many of us, didn't take place as they normally do but many of us found our own ways to remember. If you ventured past the church, you will have noticed that the poppies made by the SEWING ladies for the First World War centenary were put to good service braving the elements, just as the soldiers they represent did, and we're reminded that we have much to be thankful for.

We are thinking about those who are affected by Covid in any way, whether through their work, feeling isolated or unable to visit family. We particularly think of those who are unwell or have lost loved ones.

Don't forget if you are in need of any help with shopping, collecting prescriptions etc. or just fancy a chat, please contact [elkstonians@gmail.com](mailto:elkstonians@gmail.com) and we will try and arrange help.

The Elkstonians AGM successfully took place via Zoom this year as did a November coffee morning. Thank goodness for technology during these challenging times! Another coffee morning (or maybe afternoon tea as we want to take advantage of the short daylight hours by being outside at this time of year... weather permitting of course!) will take place in December. We will email invitations to all those we know may be interested but please look on the village website [elkstones.org](http://elkstones.org), the Elkstones Community Facebook page or the village notice board for details.

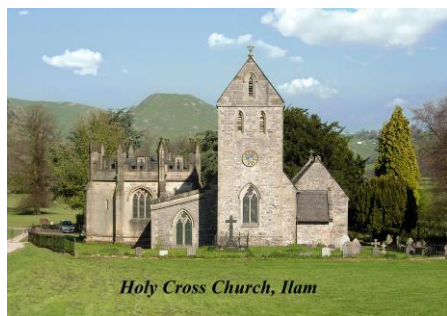
Weather and rules permitting, we hope to hold a Christmas Carol Singing event in the village. We will ensure that it follows all social-distancing protocol; it will be interesting to see what sort of a sound we can make dotted about the green and wearing masks! Details have not yet been finalised but the emphasis will be on informality, safety and fun. Please keep an eye on the website [elkstones.org](http://elkstones.org) "News and Events" section and on the village notice board for the latest information.

There will be a Christmas Service in church on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 3pm. Numbers will be limited to 11 so please phone Liz and Reg Meakin on 304295 to reserve your place. Liz will be selling raffle tickets to raise money for the church in the next few weeks. The raffle will be drawn on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> December. Please phone her if you would like some tickets and she will arrange a time to call round and deliver them. Raffle prizes will also be gratefully received.

We wish you all a happy and safe Christmas.

**"Don't forget to visit the Elkstones Village Website: [elkstones.org](http://elkstones.org) for any recent notifications and to browse the archives. Keep the photographs and items of historical interest coming in. It's always good to get feedback from people enjoying a trip down memory lane and adding more information in the comments box to help piece together the village history. Please email: [elkstonians@gmail.com](mailto:elkstonians@gmail.com) for more information or if you have any questions".**

## **Ilam**



### **Holy Cross**

**Rev. John Austerberry.**  
**01335 310002**

**Warden:**  
**Miss Ellen Clewes 01335 350437**

A series of 4 Alstonefield Benefice Christmas Carol Services will be found on each Sundays of December

Alstonefield, Ilam & Wetton Churches YouTube Channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvHhcP3tYfWRYeCGRQhFyHq>

They are a series of four Services, we are following the Journeys of Christmas.

The Angel, Mary and Joseph, the Shepherds, and the Magi. On our travels, we will hear stories from the Bible; listen to Festive Music, in carols, hymns and songs. We will share with one another our bumpy journey to Christmas 2020 along with the bumps in the roads of the first Christmas Journey.

### December Sunday Services

|                  |          |                                                                                                 |
|------------------|----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 6 <sup>th</sup>  | 11.00 am | Holy Communion Service at St. Peter's Church Alstonefield                                       |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> | 6.30 pm  | Blue Christmas Service at Holy Cross Church, Ilam - Benefice Service to Remember our Loved Ones |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> | 10.45 am | Holy Communion Service at St. Margaret's Church, Wetton                                         |

### Christmas Services

|                             |          |                                                                                          |
|-----------------------------|----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Christmas Eve.              | 4.00 pm  | Crib Service at Holy Cross Church, Ilam                                                  |
| Christmas Eve.              | 6.30 pm  | Carol Singing starting on the Green, outside the George, Alstonefield – leading to . . . |
| Christmas Eve               | 7.30 pm  | Christmas Holy Communion at St. Peter's Church Alstonefield                              |
| Christmas Day               | 11.00 am | Christmas Holy Communion St. Margaret's Church, Wetton                                   |
| Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup> Dec | 10.30 am | Christmas Holy Communion at Holy Cross Church, Ilam                                      |
| Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> Jan  | 11.00 am | Epiphany Holy Communion at St. Peter's Church Alstonefield                               |

Keep Safe, Blessings and Prayers, Revd. John Austerberry

### Ilam PCC

Further to last month's PCC information we are very sorry to announce that Vera has decided to take a step back from the PCC for a while and we thank her for all the sterling work and enthusiasm over the last few years.

### Flower Rota

The 2020/2021 flower rota will hopefully have arrived on everyone's door step over the last few days. As ever our thanks go to all the ladies and gentlemen on the rota for the wonderful job they do. Church has been closed quite a lot this year due to the Covid-19 virus however if anyone would like to access church to clean the brasses when it is their turn please contact Ellen for access details.

All being well next year there will be several weddings and we will keep in touch with everyone in relation to the dates as they may be subject to change depending on the pandemic.

### Churchyard Mowing/Church Opening/Clock Winding

A massive thank you to everyone from the Church and PCC who has, over the past year, mown the churchyard, opened and closed church, wound the clock, cleaned the church, cleaned the brasses, organised events, replaced doors etc - it is much appreciated and we could not function without everyone's help.

### Ilam Parish Council

**Chairwoman: Caroline Sellers 01335 350368**

**Clerk: Paul Watson 01335 310321 [paul@prwatson.co.uk](mailto:paul@prwatson.co.uk)**

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

Once again, no news from the Parish Council this month. The meeting scheduled for 10th November was cancelled due to coronavirus restrictions. The Council will decide whether to hold the next one, due on 12th January, nearer the time depending on the circumstances then.

## Warslow



### St. Lawrence

#### Vicar:

**Father John Baines 01298 83411**

#### Wardens:

**Mrs. Rachel Moorcroft 01298 84568,  
Reg Meakin 01538 304295**

**Treasurer: Emma Gould 01298 687190.**

We find ourselves in a second lockdown, this will be more difficult than the first one, with the dark nights and shorter days, not to mention the anxiety and uncertainty of the impending Christmas period. However, we need to remain strong, sensible and vigilant, we will get through this!

Zoom Church Services are back at the regular time of 10am each Sunday mornings, please contact the Vicar to obtain the log on details or see the Longnor Benefice Website for more details.

### At a Glance Telephone Numbers

#### St. Lawrence

**Vicar: Father John Baines  
01298 83411**

#### Wardens:

**Mrs. Rachel Moorcroft 01298 84568  
Reg Meakin 01538 304295**

#### Village Hall

#### Enquiries:

**Laura Gordon 01298 84984**

#### Parish Council

**Clerk: Steve Mansfield  
01298 83308 [swmde52@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:swmde52@yahoo.co.uk)**

#### The Greyhound:

**01298 84782**



Well this year has certainly been a trial for many of us, things have been very different, very worrying and we have, sadly seen the loss of a large amount of our older generation of villagers, who we miss keenly. We think of those left behind who grieve their loved ones and wish them peace, at this particularly difficult Christmas time.

Despite the uncertain and anxious times, we have managed to maintain worship, albeit on a digital platform, however in our adversity we have learned a new coping method and a new way forward! We thank Father John and Father David for their ministrations through the year.

**Our Christmas Church Services** will take place in Church, however – please note the Vicar had stated that you need to 'book' to attend – please contact him on 01298 83411 – The Christmas Service will be on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2020 at 3.30 p.m.- please see the website for December's services.

**We thank Steve Bentley and his Church Yard Team** for their great efforts, especially with the risk of Covid 19, in keeping the church yard in such a superb condition – it is a credit to you all!! Thank You.

**We thank Sarah Garde** for her dedication in tending to the War Memorial – a very important job, done with great effort and enthusiasm. Thank you.

**Thanks to John Moorcroft** for winding the beloved clock and getting it going following lockdown – it is a big part of the village and to Andrew Philips for unlocking the church – when he was allowed to!

**Thank you to Tricia** and her team for producing the Community Magazine – a vital link for our community.

We wish one and all, the blessings of the season and hope that despite the current darkness, the true light of hope, that Christmas brings, will shine through into your lives, just as each new day dawns, and we hope and pray, now more than ever, that the New Year brings us health, hope and contentment.

**We had our delayed Annual Parochial Church Meeting** in Church recently, the Vicar thanked all the Church Officers and members of the PCC for their efforts towards, and support of the Church during the last 18 months.

Judy Prince has resigned from the P.C.C., *for the time being*, we thank her for her sterling efforts and enthusiasm for, and dedication to, the Church. Myrtle Alcock resigned from the position of Deanery Synod representative for the P.C.C. a role she has performed for a good many years – we thank her for her dedication and effort in this role and are glad that she will be staying on our P.C.C.

We saw some new additions to our P.C.C., we welcome and thank John Cooper and John Moorcroft for joining us and look forward to working together with them to the glory of God. John Cooper volunteered to be the P.C.C. Deanery Synod representative.

We confirm the officers of Warslow and Elkstones P.C.C.

Reg Meakin - Church Warden  
Rachel Moorcroft - Church Warden

Liz Meakin – Secretary

John Cooper – Deanery Synod Representative

Reg Meakin - Treasurer – Elkstones

Emma Gould – Treasurer – Warslow

Myrtle Alcock

Judy Holt

John Moorcroft

Thank you to John Gilman for auditing Elkstones' Accounts and Sarah Garde for auditing Warslow's Accounts.

**On Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> November** we held a Remembrance Service at the War Memorial, we thank Father Green for taking the simple but poignant service, it was very important to mark the sacrifice of the brave. Lest we forget.

**We gratefully acknowledge** the kind donations from Margaret Gregory and Miriam Kirkham – donations in memory of the late Pat Probert, for the Remembrance and to the Church.

**We thank the family of Pat Probert** for their donation, to the church, in his memory.

**We welcome Tim Robinson** to the Village, we wish him much happiness in his new home at Clough Head Farm.

**We are sorry to lose two families** from the Village, Andi and Harry from Hope Terrace View and Noelle, Martina and Danni from The Old Nick. Thank you to Andi and Noelle for their support of the Church in the past – it is much appreciated – you will be missed! We wish you all much happiness in your new homes – we wish Andi and Harry a safe journey to Ireland to live with their family.

**We are sorry that Lee Wilson** has not been well, in hospital, we hope he will soon be restored to peak fitness.

If anyone wants to talk to somebody in confidence or just for a chat, because they are lonely or anxious, please contact a member of the church team. We all need each other, never more than now in these uncertain and challenging times.

I pray that through patience and obedience, we work together to get through this crippling situation and we learn that it is the basic things that are important and necessary in life – love and compassion for our fellow man. God bless all of you



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Sarah Thomas on 01298 84367 Manifold Pre-School, at Manifold C of E Academy, Leek Road, Warslow.

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

Manifold Preschool Facebook page

Registered Charity No. 1038689

## **Wetton**



### **St. Margaret's**

Rev. John Austerberry. 01335 310002

**Service Times:** Please check Church notice board  
 regularly for updates.

### **Warden:**

Claire Day 01538 381773

A series of 4 Alstonefield Benefice Christmas Carol Services  
 will be found on each Sundays of December  
 Alstonefield, Ilam & Wetton Churches YouTube

Channel <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvHhcP3tYfWRYeCGRQhFyHq>

They are a series of four Services, we are following the Journeys of Christmas.  
 The Angel, Mary and Joseph, the Shepherds, and the Magi

On our travels, we will hear stories from the Bible; listen to Festive Music, in carols,  
 hymns and songs.

We will share with one another our bumpy journey to Christmas 2020 along with the  
 bumps in the roads of the first Christmas Journey.

### **At a Glance Telephone Numbers St. Margaret's**

Vicar: Rev. John Austerberry.  
 01335 310002

### **Wetton Parish Council**

Clerk: Steve Mansfield 01298  
 83308 or email:  
[swmde52@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:swmde52@yahoo.co.uk)

### **Wetton Village Hall**

Bookings: Sally Smith: 01335  
 310077 (Evening) Or email:  
[wettonvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:wettonvillagehall@gmail.com)

### **Wetton Tea Rooms**

**Ian & Julie** 07801 683546

### **Royal Oak**

**Rich & Di** 01335 310287

### **December Sunday Services**

|                  |          |                                                                                                 |
|------------------|----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 6 <sup>th</sup>  | 11.00 am | Holy Communion Service at St. Peter's Church Alstonefield                                       |
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### Christmas Services

Christmas Eve. 4.00 pm  
Christmas Eve. 6.30 pm

Christmas Eve 7.30 pm  
Christmas Day 11.00 am  
Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> Dec 10.30 am  
Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan 11.00 am

Crib Service at Holy Cross Church, Ilam  
Carol Singing starting on the Green, outside the George,  
Alstonefield – leading to...  
Christmas Holy Communion at St. Peter's Church Alstonefield  
Christmas Holy Communion St. Margaret's Church, Wetton  
Christmas Holy Communion at Holy Cross Church, Ilam  
Epiphany Holy Communion at St. Peter's Church Alstonefield

Keep Safe, Blessings and Prayers, Revd. John Austerberry

### St Margaret's Church

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

The lucky winners in the November draw were:

**Nancy Coates 1st Prize £52.50**  
**Diana Higton 2nd Prize £35.00**

You can join the lottery by paying £5 cash at the Tea Rooms or to Margaret Hodgkinson at Manifold Cottage. You can of course pay by monthly standing order and never miss a draw. Ask Margaret (310244) for the bank details.

**The closing date to join in the December draw is Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December** and this will be held in the Village Tea Rooms at 11.30am on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 11.30am. Do come along for a morning coffee and watch the draw.

***Thank you to all the people who support the lottery.***

#### St Margaret's Church – Treasurer

**Our Treasurer is retiring after many years of service.**

**If anyone is interested in becoming Treasurer for St. Margaret's,**

**Please contact Clare on 01538 381773.**



We would like to thank everyone who has helped with the Clearing and the Maintenance of the Church, wound the Clock and cut the grass in the Churchyard.

### Deadline date for the next issue will be 6am on MONDAY 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.

**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 that date.**

## Tea Rooms

### Wetton



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Georgina  
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| WEDNESDAY | CLOSED       | CLOSED      |
| THURSDAY  | 11.30 – 1.30 | 6.00 – 9.00 |
| FRIDAY    | 11.30 – 1.30 | 6.00 – 9.00 |
| SATURDAY  | 11.30 – 1.30 | 6.00 – 9.00 |
| SUNDAY    | CLOSED       | CLOSED      |



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## 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. Previously we did ask for a donation but at this time all adverts are inserted free of charge.*

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

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**Tel: (01335) 344065**

**Email: [info@theashbourneshoecompany.co.uk](mailto:info@theashbourneshoecompany.co.uk)**

**Website: [www.theashbourneshoecompany.co.uk](http://www.theashbourneshoecompany.co.uk)**

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[hartdalemotors@live.co.uk](mailto:hartdalemotors@live.co.uk)

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Robert James Mellor 07816985291

[rjmellorelectricalcontractors@hotmail.com](mailto:rjmellorelectricalcontractors@hotmail.com)