



August 2024 Elkstonians' Village Newsletter



Margaret's Meanderings...

At the time of writing, we're actually having a few days of proper summer weather & it's lovely to see the harvesters mowing the fields & getting the hay in while the sun is shining. In spite of wet weather earlier in the year, Jane & Paul Prince's Barn Owls have successfully bred again (see overleaf), & Don Sutherland of Hill House was able to capture these gorgeous photos of birds seen along the top road in May. Many thanks to Don for sending in the photos. Please keep them coming!



Above, Short-Eared Owl
Amber listed UK Bird of Conservation Concern
medium-sized owl, breeding on moorland, 13-16" tall, 33-43" wingspan



Far left, Snipe
UK Amber listed
long-billed medium-sized wader, 17-19" wingspan, with a habit of exploding skyward from under your feet!

Left, Curlew,
UK red listed
Europe's largest wader, 35-42" wingspan, breeds in moorland, overwinters on UK coastal farmland

Diary Dates St John's Church

Sunday 18th August Holy Communion 3.00pm

Please come along & take part in the service, and enjoy the good company afterwards with a cup of tea & a piece of home-made cake.

Cleaning & Flowers for August Margaret Grant

Harvest Festival—Diary Date

It will soon be time to give thanks for this year's harvest at our annual Harvest Festival, which will be held on Sunday 15th September at 7.00pm, so please put it in your diary.



On 14th July Staffordshire Barn Owl Action Group visited us to check, weigh & ring 3 female chicks. Due to the bad weather, they were late nesting this year & the BOAG thought they might be too young. They just about managed, with lots of fluffy down feathers flying around! It's such a pleasure to give a home to these stunning creatures 😊 Jane



LOCAL AGRICULTURAL SHOWS THIS AUGUST



[Saturday 27th July, Dunwood Fields, Longsdon, ST9 9AR, 9:00am to 5:00pm](#)

Farm animals, show jumping, shire horses, poultry, goats & fun dog show. Trade & catering stands, craft tent, flower design, WI competition, Farrier competition, horticulture.

For ticket prices & further information visit <https://leekshow.org.uk>



[44th Annual Manifold Valley Show](#)

[Saturday 10 August, Ilam, DE6 2BA, 9:00am to 5:00pm](#)

Events in the main arena include heavy horse judging, dog agility display, parade of hounds, sheep dog display, tractors & carriage driving, terrier racing & tug of war. There are trade & catering stands, a fun dog show & lots more!

Visit <https://manifoldvalleyshow.co.uk> for ticket information & Event Timetable

[72nd Annual Ipstones Agricultural Show](#)

[Saturday 31 August, Ipstones Memorial Hall & Recreation Ground, ST10 2LD, 9:00am to 6:00pm](#)

Livestock & horse showing, dog show, vintage cars, craft & trade stands, licensed bars & food outlets, bouncy castle, chain saw sculpting, pet exhibitions, Punch & Judy shows, fairground rides, horticultural exhibitions & competitions, Grand Parade of heavy horse, cattle, sheep & goats, fancy dress parade plus Main Ring attractions Dangerous Steve, and Little Nippers Racing Dogs.

For information visit <https://www.ipstones-show.co.uk>

The Elkstonians: Chair [Jane Prince](#) Vice Chair [Don Sutherland](#) Secretary [Katy Parkinson](#) Treasurer [Margaret Grant](#)
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