Communities Newsletter

£1

Ipstones, Onecote, Butterton, and Warslow with Elkstones NOVEMBER 2026

# Stephen bows out while son Matthew joins up

**AFTER 36 years serving the community as a firefighter Stephen Emery of Ipstones has retired.**

As well as being stationed at the village station Stephen has completed 14 years as a full-time firefighter. Eleven of these years he was stationed at Burton.

But the Emery name is to carry on at the Ipstones station, as his son Matthew joined the village crew in November 2025.

Over the years Stephen has attended hundreds of calls including fires in residential properties and businesses, Moorlands fires, road traffic collisions and animal rescues.

Stephen said: "I have really enjoyed my career in the fire and rescue service. We had some good times, and we raised lots of money for charity at Ipstones over the years.

"It opens your eyes to what you see in the job. Before I joined the fire service I worked at Boltons Copper Works in Froghall.

"The company allowed us to respond to emergency calls received at Ipstones station when our pocket alerters went off.

"It was ironic that my first call was to a roof fire on one of the units at Boltons. A few days later we received a call to a dog trapped in a rabbit hole in Kingsley. We managed to dig it out and save him.




"I am really pleased that Mathew has joined the service. He has completed lots of training over the last year and is doing very well. Over the hot summer he has been very busy working long hours with the Ipstones crew."

Stephen was joined by many of his former colleagues' from Ipstones and several other Moorlands stations for a buffet, drinks night at the Sea Lion public house last month.

## Welcome to the November Communities Newsletter

This is our community newsletter, with information about the Benefice, and what is happening in and around the local community. If you have an event/group that you wish to advertise, simply email us at:

moorlandsmag@outlook.com

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Copy Deadline for the November edition is:

Tuesday, November 24th.

*All copy to be sent to:*
moorlandsmag@outlook.com

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**Ipstones Parish Council**
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**Ipstones Agricultual Society**
Andrew Stevenson: 01538 266317

**Captain of Bells**: David Jack: 01538 266317

**Village of Ipstones Common Good Trust**
Barry Shuttleworth: 01538 266633

**Friends of St. Leonard's**
Ann Jackson: 01538 266840

**Ipstones Tiny Tots Nursery:** 01538 266000

**Ipstones Creative Writing Group:** 01538 266633

**Ipstones Community Choir**
Denise Rowe: 07739 179722

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# Equipment stolen in raid on fire station




**VITAL equipment has been stolen from Ipstones Community Fire Station following a raid on the premises located in Froghall Road.**

Thieves stole tools and 'specialist equipment' during the early hour's break-in at the property.

Staffordshire Police have now launched an investigation over the raid, which occurred at approximately 1am on Thursday, October 8.

A BMW was seen 'speeding away' from the scene by a witness.

Former firefighter Stephen Emery lives close to the station.

He said: "I heard the alarm going off and then a saw lights shining across the station yard.

"Moments later I heard car speeding up the road.

"This led me to have concerns. I then got up and walked to the station and saw that the side door had been smashed. I immediately contacted a senior officer at the station informing him the property had been broken into."

Assistant Chief Fire Officer Jim Bywater has asked families to help police if they can.

He said: "In the early hours of Thursday, October 8 one of our fire stations was broken into and equipment was stolen. An investigation by Staffordshire Police is ongoing and I would ask anyone who lives near Ipstones Community Fire Station to check their CCTV or doorbell footage for anything that might help police."

Now police officers are appealing for CCTV/Dashcam footage following the burglary.

A police spokeswoman said: "We were called to Ipstones Community Fire Station, on Froghall Road, following reports of a burglary. Various items of equipment were stolen. A light-coloured BMW was seen to speed away up through the village.

"Our investigation is ongoing. We are appealing for anyone with doorbell, dashcam or CCTV footage of the area at the time to contact us."

Should you have any information in relation to the incident, CCTV or relevant Dashcam footage please make contact via telephone on 101 or online (quoting 21260167394).

# Family Group Of Churches

## Who is who in our family group of Churches in 2025/26

| Church | Name and Job | Contact Details |
|---|---|---|
| **All Churches** | Roger Cutts (reader) | roger.cutts@btinternet.com<br>01538 266862 |
| | Toby Gaddum (licensed lay minister) | toby@gaddumandgaddum.co.uk |
| **St. Leonard's and Berkhamsytch** | Rob White (churchwarden) | robwwhite@icloud.com / 01538 266891 |
| | Jacquey Millward (churchwarden) | jacquey.millward@gmail.com<br>07799 780561 |
| | Ann Jackson (deputy churchwarden & lay chair) | |
| | Pam Ramsay (treasurer) | pamela.ramsay@btinternet.com |
| | Jackie Worrall (secretary) | ipccmrsjworrall@gmail.com |
| **Onecote** | Jean Tickell (churchwarden) | jeantickell55@gmail.com / 07368 135758 |
| | Janet Stone (churchwarden) | janet@onecotegrange.co.uk / 07398 232793 |
| | Debra Tickell (secretary) | tickell.d@kevi.org.uk |
| | Vicky Buttress (treasurer) | victoriabuttress58@hotmail.com |
| | Carole Jackson (lay chair) | carole.jackson@gmx.com |
| **Butterton** | Maggie Risby (churchwarden & secretary) | maggie.risby@btopenworld.com<br>01538 304115 |
| | Rachel Hopper (churchwarden) | the.hopper.family@gmail.com<br>07709 039147 |
| | Lily Hambleton-Plumb<br>(deputy churchwarden) | heathyroodsfarm@aol.com |
| | Patrick Bailey (treasurer) | patrick.bailey@hotmail.co.uk |
| **Warslow** | Judy Prince (deputy churchwarden) | judyprince29@yahoo.co.uk |
| | Emma Gould (treasurer) | gouldemma80@gmail.com |
| | Janet McNicol (secretary) | janetmcnicol@yahoo.co.uk |
| **Elkstones** | Myrtle Alcock (church leader) | 01538 304225 |

# Warslow company plans to open new shop in Leek

**A WARSLOW business has submitted plans to open a drinking establishment in Leek's main shopping area.**

Wilsons of Warslow Brewing Co. has applied to Staffordshire Moorland District Council for the change of use of the former Staffordshire Wildlife Trust shop in Derby Street to a drinking establishment along with a replacement advertisement board.

A Design, Access and Heritage Statement by DBD Architectural Consultancy Ltd of Leek said: "The site is within the Leek Town Development Boundary, main shopping street area and forms a part of the Leek Town Conservation Area.

"The lease of the building has been taken over by Wilsons of Warslow Brewing Co. who wish to change the premises into a bar and tasting room to sell and share their locally crafted products. They currently operate "The Tap Room" in the Leek Butter and Trestle Market. But are expanding to this larger premises due to a positive customer response.

"The change of use from a charity shop to a drinking establishment is in line with other nearby premises on the high street, so there will not be any adverse impacts on the amenity of the local area. The proposal makes use of a currently empty premises, so will be contributing to a thriving high street that Leek aims to offer.

"The fascia sign would have a width spanning much of the shop frontage above the windows. The sign would be hand painted by a local artist with a neutral background colour, with the business name, logo and imagery, as detailed



below. The fascia sign will not be illuminated and will not be materially different to the previous sign approved for the use as a charity shop."

The plan states that the premises would have three full-time employees, and the opening hours would be Monday – Sunday, 09:00 – 23:00.

The statement added: "The first three hours of opening will not be for the public, but for preparations, cleaning etc by staff only. Similarly, the last hour of opening will be for staff to close up. Public serving times will therefore be from 12:00 – 22:00.

"There are minimal alterations to the layout of the premises. The two main areas at the front will be the main bar and seating area, with access out to the beer garden at the rear. There is a quieter seating area in the middle portion of the building which leads to the toilet and staff kitchen at the rear.

"The change of use will not have a material effect on the conservation area, so the only part of the proposal which will see a visible change in the building will be the new signage which has been tastefully designed to be in keeping with the area and use traditional materials/hand painted craftmanship."

# Church & Rota Services

## CHURCH SERVICES - NOVEMBER 2026

| **Church**<br>Liturgical colours<br>G =green<br>R=red<br>P=purple<br>W=White | **1st Sunday**<br>**1st November 2026**<br>**All Saints**<br>**W** | **2nd Sunday**<br>**8th November 2026**<br>**Remembrance Sunday**<br>**R or G** | **3rd Sunday**<br>**15th November 2026**<br>**Second Sunday before Advent**<br>**R or G** | **4th Sunday**<br>**22nd November 2026**<br>**Christ the King Sunday next before Advent**<br>**R or W** | **5th Sunday**<br>**29th November 2026**<br>**First Sunday of Advent**<br>**P** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Lectionary Readings** | Rev. 7.9-end<br>Psalm 34: 1-10<br>1 John 3. 1-3<br>Matthew 5 1-12 | Wisd. 6 12-16<br>Canticle: Wisd. 6.17-20<br>1 Thess. 4 13-end<br>Matthew 25: 1-13 | Zeph. 1. 7, 12-end<br>Psalm 90. 1-8 [9-11] 12<br>(or 90. 1-8)<br>1 Thess. 5 1-11<br>Matthew 25: 14-30 | Ezek. 34. 1-16, 20-24<br>Psalm 95. 1-7<br>Eph. 1. 15-end<br>Matthew 25: 31-end | Isa. 64: 1-9<br>Psalm 80: 1-8, 18-20<br>(or 80. 1-8)<br>1 Cor. 1. 3-9<br>Mark 13. 24-end |
| Warslow | To other services | To other services | To other services | 11am Morning Worship<br>Roger Cutts | To other services |
| Elkstones | To other services | To other services | 3pm Holy Communion<br>Rev. Nicola Pepper | To other services | To other services |
| Butterton | To other services | 3pm Evening Worship<br>Clare Day | 10am Holy Communion<br>Rev. Carol Richardson | To other services | 10am Holy Communion<br>Rev. Arthur Hack |
| Onecote | 9.30am Holy Communion<br>Rev. Carol Richardson | 9.30am Remembrance Service<br>Debra Tickell | To other services | 7.30pm Christmas Tree Evening Prayer / Songs of Praise<br>Debra Tickell | To other services |
| Ipstones | 11am Morning Worship<br>Roger Cutts | 10.30am Remembrance Service (with Methodists)<br>Rev. Arthur Hack & Mrs Gill Meredith | 11am Morning Worship<br>Roger Cutts | 11am Holy Communion<br>Rev Arthur Hack<br><br>7.30pm Compline<br>John Flint | 10.30am Joint service at Methodist Chapel<br>Rev. Joyce Smith<br>3.30pm Advent Sunday Carol Service Toby Gaddum |

## CHURCH ROTA, IPSTONES - NOVEMBER 2026

| **Church**<br>Liturgical colours<br>G =green<br>R=red<br>P=purple<br>W=White | **1st Sunday**<br>1st November2026<br>All Saints<br>W | **2nd Sunday**<br>**8th November 2026**<br>**Remembrance Sunday**<br>**R or G** | **3rd Sunday**<br>15th November 2026<br>Second Sunday before Advent<br>R or G | **4th Sunday**<br>**22nd November2026**<br>**Christ the King Sunday next before Advent**<br>**R or W** | **5th Sunday**<br>**29th Novembert2026**<br>**First Sunday of Advent**<br>**P** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Morning Worship 11.am<br>Roger Cutts | Remembrance Service (with Methodists)<br>Rev. Arthur Hack & Rev. Joyce Smith | (la) Morning Worship 11am<br>Roger Cutts | Morning Worship 11am<br>Roger Cutts<br>Compline 7.30pm John Flint | Joint Service with the Methodists at the Chapel Rev. Joyce Smith<br><br>Advent Carol Service 3.30pm<br>Toby Gaddum |
| | Name | Name | Name | Name | Name |
| Welcomers | Ruth Flint /<br>John Flint | Ann Jackson | Zoe Johnson<br>Pat Nash | John Flint | Volunteers |
| Readers | Ann Jackson<br><br>Paul Holland | T B A | Jacquey Millward<br><br>Zoe Johnson | David Jack<br><br>Jacquey Millward | Ann Jackson<br><br>volunteer |
| Eucharistic Assistant | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Refreshments | Volunteers | N/A | Volunteers | Volunteers | Volunteers |

# News From The Pews

**The season of mists and mellow fruitfulness is well and truly here in the Staffordshire Moorlands. October really saw the change in weather. I am very grateful for the rain that the Autumn season has brought us, even though our lakes and reservoirs are still very low. As I travel up and down the country, I realise how blessed we are, when I still see brown parched grass in a lot of places.**

October brought us our Harvest Festivals across most of our churches. All seemed to be well supported and the churches all looked fabulous. Thank you to all who decorated our buildings and donated produce, flowers and gifts. Thank you too to all those who worked so hard at our Harvest Suppers. The pies remained of the highest quality, the auctions made some impressive money, and it was lovely to see village communities coming together. A special thanks should rightly be given to all those who served up the pies and washed up thereafter. Thank you.

At the end of October, we remembered our loved ones who have died over the years in our churches with the All Souls services. An important time for many.

November brings us Remembrance, a time of reflection and memories for those who have served and still serve in our armed forces and those who have had relatives that served and lost their lives in the world wars. As a serving member of His Majesty's Armed Forces, 11th November is a sombre time. I listen to so many stories of sacrifice, courage and inspiration that it is truly humbling to meet the people who have served on the front line.

Remembrance is important because it helps us honour those who sacrificed their lives, learn from the suffering caused by war, comfort those who grieve, and renew our commitment to peace. For Christians, remembrance also has a deeper spiritual meaning: it calls us to love one another, forgive, serve others and hope for a better world.

We remember the men and women who gave their lives in the service of their country, those who were wounded, those who returned home carrying the scars of war, and the families who lived with the pain of losing someone they loved.

We remember because every life matters, every sacrifice deserves honour, and no act of courage should ever be forgotten.

But Remembrance Sunday is about more than looking back at the past. It asks us to think about the world we are creating today.

Jesus said:

*"Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God." — Matthew 5:9*

These words remind us that peace is not simply the absence of war. Peace begins in our own hearts, in our families, in our workplaces and in our communities. It grows when we listen rather than judge, forgive rather than hold a grudge, and seek understanding rather than deepen division.

As we remember those who died in the hope of a better future, let us consider what we can do to make that hope a reality.

Let us pray for those who live with the consequences of conflict today. Let us support those who grieve. And let us never take for granted the freedom and peace that so many sacrificed their lives to protect.

In a moment of silence, we remember the fallen, give thanks for their courage, and pray for a world where future generations will no longer have to suffer the tragedy of war.

May we honour the dead not only with our words, but through the way we live.

**We remember the past with gratitude, live in the present with compassion, and look to the future with hope**.

Toby Gaddum



# Busy few weeks for St Leonard's

**October has been quite a busy month for everyone with the auctions taking place for the Frothblower's sales and our big Harvest auction at the end of the Harvest Supper.**



We had around one hundred people sitting down for pie and peas and a dessert provided by Dolly Birds catering, many thanks for a delicious meal.

Lots of funds were raised at the auction and a thank you to Graham and his team for a great job. Also, the raffle was very successful and a thank you to Julie who is always there to support us and also helps to sell the tickets.

We have had other events in church this month including a wedding blessing.

We also need to implement a few minor improvements to the music/sound system in church, hopefully some new speakers will help with this. There is always something that needs attention!

It is Pumpkin time at the moment, and the young ones will be carving faces and the parents trying to use up the discarded flesh to make some homemade soup or something else warming. It's a lovely time to settle in at home with something to take away the chill.

This month will see our Festival of Lights at St Leonard's with all the different organisations either decorating a window or tree.

This is taking place on Friday 27th November from 5pm until 8pm.

Our theme this year is a Countryside Christmas, and we will hopefully have the Salvation Army Band in church playing for us.

If anyone has any spare time to help on the night it would be greatly appreciated.

We do still have the foodbank boxes in the porch, if anyone has a couple of spare items to donate, we would be very grateful.

A future date for your diary - we are holding a children's Christmas craft morning on Monday 21st December in St Leonards, more details to come next month.



# Methodist Church to stage major event



**ON Saturday, November 14th, Ipstones Methodist Church and Schoolroom will be hosting a very special event: an Earth Peace Day Gathering.**

Taking place on the weekend following Remembrance Day, the day will commemorate those who went to war and never returned, while also focusing on the urgent issue of climate change. It is intended as a time for reflection and music, focusing on two of the most pressing concerns of our age: peace between nations and peace with our planet.

Events will run from around 1pm to 9pm and will include performances from leading folk singers, folk club sessions, and a workshop from the Leek Peace Choir encouraging audience participation.

The main act will be Reg Meuross, one of Britain's most respected folk singer-songwriters. Reg has been performing for over four decades and has released fifteen solo albums. His songs often explore themes of history, social justice, and human experience. Reg's live performances are warm and intimate, well-suited for an evening centred on peace and reflection.

Also taking part will be Lester Simpson, a well-known figure in the local folk scene. Lester has long been involved in promoting folk music across the Staffordshire Moorlands, both as a performer and as an organiser of folk club events.

Supporting acts will include the Leek Peace Choir, the Unhappy Mundys and members of the local Folk Club, who will contribute to the informal sessions through the afternoon and evening.

An important aspect of the day will be that it will commence at 1pm with a showing of **The People's Emergency Briefing,** a 50-minute documentary film hosted by TV presenter and environmentalist Chris Packham. Launched nationally in April 2026, the film has already been screened nearly 2,000 times across the UK in community venues, schools, and churches.

We are expecting a lot of people will want to take part in this day – which is a ticketed event – see separate poster for details of how to book in this edition.

Ipstones Methodist Church is delighted to be able to host this event. We have a comfortable venue, a good audio-visual system, and generally acknowledged great acoustics. Our regular sing-arounds are well attended, and we are fast becoming one of the leading folk venues in the Staffordshire Moorlands.

The Methodist Church also holds regular services throughout the month, coffee mornings twice a month, and a Warm Welcome every Friday afternoon in the Schoolroom. All are warmly invited to join us – whether for worship, fellowship, or simply a friendly cup of tea.

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## Services for November all at 10.30am unless otherwise stated.

November 1st: Dr Lynne Bradbury

November 8th: Remembrance Service at St Leonard's Church.

November 15th: Mrs Beryl Stew

November 22nd: Circuit Service at Trinity Leek at 10am.

November 29th: Rev Joyce Smith – C of E members also welcome

**Coffee Toast and Chat 10am to 12 noon: Tuesdays November 10th and 24th**

# St. Bartholomew's Church, Butterton



**Well, the highlight of October was Harvest, in all its glory. Debra Tickell officiated at our Harvest Service on Sunday 11th…. her first 'real' service she said…..Didn't she do well.**

Preparations for the Harvest Pie and Pea Supper began on Saturday with the decoration of the church and then on Monday the preparation of the village hall for the supper and auction.

Seventy tickets were sold and we all feasted on Pete Lymer's pie, gravy and mushy peas followed by a wonderful array of desserts. Then followed the auction of the produce. Les had a malfunction with his microphone so had to do a lot of shouting. He tried but failed to sell six eggs for more than £8 and a loaf of homemade bread for £14!!!!

A few people were disappointed to be outbid for Barbara's lemon curd, also included in the auction was an original waterprint of the church. Alan Salt secured this with a bid of £70. The raffle was also included in the festivities and after expenses we counted a grand total of £1,231.

The PCC would like to thank everyone who made the evening such a success, from the dessert makers to the clean-up crew, the waitresses to the washer uppers. Thanks to everyone who bought a ticket and parted with their cash at the auction. Thanks to Les for auctioneering. He got his voice back by Wednesday!!

Rev Carol Richardson officiated at the Holy Communion Service on Sunday 18th October.

## Lottery Ball Draw

at Warm Welcome on Tuesday 13th October. First prize of £40 – Maggie Risby; Second prize of £20 - Pam Coates and Third prize of £10 - James Wigglesworth

**Next Warm Welcomes** are Tuesdays 27th October; 10th November and 24th November. Everyone welcome between 10.30am – 12pm.

Upcoming event for your calendars on Friday 18th December - Carol Service with the Ashbourne Band in attendance.

## Butterton Village Hall

November events include a film and talk by the National Trust on Friday 20th. Posters are displayed on the village noticeboards.

December events include Christmas Bingo on Friday 4th and the Christmas Fayre on Sunday 13th. Anyone wishing to hire the Village Hall for their Christmas event, please contact Maggie to book. The hire form is available on the village website: butterton.org.uk

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## Butterton Parish Council

The parish council met on 20th November. Next meeting is Tuesday 1st December at the village hall. The noticeboards and wooden street furniture on Church Corner have been refreshed, thanks to a grant from the Rural Regeneration Fund. Watch this space for another Rural Regeneration grant fund application success.

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## Butterton History Group

Due to 'health issues' the group hasn't shown its face this year as regards events. Next Spring there will be a display in church like those before. Watch this space.

**********

☺ **WARM WELCOME** ☺



AT ST BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH, BUTTERTON



**EVERY OTHER TUESDAY 10.30 – 12.30**

**UPCOMING DATES IN 2026**

13th October, 27th October, 10th November, 24th November, 8th December, 22nd December

**POP IN FOR A CHAT AND A COFFEE / TEA**





NO CHARGE, BUT DONATIONS TO CHURCH FUNDS GRATEFULLY RECEIVED, THANK YOU



**HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!**

# St. Luke's Onecote News



**November 2026 Create in me a clean heart, O God and renew a steadfast spirit within me Psalm. 51:10**

First of all, I must go back to our Harvest Festival. We did very well, both with the pie supper and the auction plenty of people supporting us and the children really enjoyed themselves running around helping to deliver the goods and bringing in the money, A very important job!

November begins with Holy Communion along with names to be read out to be remembered of those we have loved and lost. This year All souls' Day and All Saints Day, fall together. The service will be at 9.30am and will be led by Rev Carole Richardson. There will be paper at the back of the church on which names can be written, to be read out.

A week later on November 8th it will be Remembrance Sunday. We shall have a short service and wreath laying beginning at 9.30am. Do join us, if you can for this special and important time.

What a build-up we have to Christmas at church. It all begins on Friday November 20th with a very early visit from Santa Clause. We are hoping that he will remember to bring his piano accordion and we can all sing Carols with him beside the big Christmas tree at the church gate, as we did last year.

If we are lucky maybe there will be presents too! Mulled wine and mince pies will also be available. We will naturally have the Christmas Tree Festival on at this time. The church will be open every day for viewing and on Sunday November 22nd we have a service, led by Debra, Evening Prayer Songs of Praise. This will be held at 7-30pm.

By this time we do hope the weather will be kind to us as on November 28th at 7.30pm we have a Christmas concert with the Ashbourne Town Band. We will be serving finger foods during the interval, a bar will also be available and as well as all this, our ever popular raffle will be running too.

Advent Sunday falls on November 29th, our joint Carol service this year will be on the 20th December at 7.30pm with our friends at Onecote chapel. We are also hoping to join up with our chapel friends on December 23rd, for carol-singing around Onecote, more details later.

At our last PCC meeting we decided to make an appeal to everyone for blankets and sleeping bags. These can be dropped off at church and will be taken to the homeless charity in Stoke-on Trent "Jericho come as you are"

**********

**Here are some Fabric Fund results:**

**August:**

1. Rowland Chadwick
2. Garry Edwards
3. Anne Wain

**September:**

1. Carole Jackson
2. Peter Turner
3. Lucy



# Warslow and Elkstones News

## St. Lawrence Warslow News



### CHURCH TEAM

Deputy Church Wardens: Judy Prince and Myrtle Alcock
Treasurer: Emma Gould

### The months ahead

**We are now in vacancy**
If you have any needs such as a baptism, a marriage or a funeral service or any other ministrations your first port of call is either Judy Prince 07768 340253 or Emma Gould 07989 294809.

### Baptism

We had a lovely Baptism service on the 27th September. We welcome Leonard Bert Gilman, the son of Amy and Andrew Gilman, into our Christian family. It was joyous to see the Church full with their friends and family and so many toddlers. Thank you to Rev. Nicola Pepper for taking the service and Ged Fitzgibbon for his beautiful organ playing!

### Harvest

We celebrated Harvest with a Harvest quiz and Harvest hotpot and trifle. We thank everyone who attended and all those who helped to make the night such a success – Margaret Massey, Jenny Riley, Melanie Hodgkinson, Debra Tickell, Judy Prince and Emma Gould.

Our Harvest Festival service was taken by Roger Cutts, it was a lovely thought provoking service, where we gave thanks for all that God has provided – He has never failed us yet! Thank you, Roger, and also for your guitar accompaniment.

Manifold School came into church for their Harvest service where pupils and their parents participated. Thank you for your donations to the Foodbank.

The church is always open for prayer and reflection – don't be afraid to come and unburden your soul.

## St. John's Church, Elkstones



**Sunday 15th November, Holy Communion at 3pm celebrated by Rev. Nicola Pepper**
**Cleaning and Flowers for November – Katy Parkinson**

**Sunday 8th November, Remembrance Day.**

There is no Remembrance Day Service at Elkstones this year, but the nearest service for those who would like to attend is at **St Lawrence Church, Warslow at 11am.**

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### Harvest Festival Weekend

The Harvest Festival Service was a lovely occasion (with thanks to Toby Gaddum for officiating), bringing together current residents, former residents and people with attachments to the village and area, and the church looked really beautiful with all the flowers and colourful contributions of fruit and vegetables, not to mention all the cakes and groceries donated as well. And all enjoyed the terrific pea and pie supper afterwards!

The fundraising efforts over the weekend raised an amazing £1406 which will be a great help towards paying the bills and keeping the church open. Thanks to everybody who put in so much effort over the weekend, and to all who gave produce and raffle prizes and who still came to spend so generously at the sale on Monday night.

We don't usually single out names of people to thank, as everybody's input is very much valued, but special thanks this year are due to Chris Hall who came forward and did a great job filling the role of auctioneer at the sale, now that we have lost David Swindells who did the job very ably for 40 plus years until his recent death.

### David Swindells

Grateful thanks go to David's family for giving the donations from the funeral to Elkstone Church in his memory.

### New Gate



At last, we have a lovely new gate gracing the entrance to the churchyard. The gate has been beautifully made by a local joiner and is a replica of the previous gate which the late Frank Deaville, formerly of Overdale, made many years ago.

Frank was born, and lived all his life in Elkstone, and cared a great deal about the village. I'm sure he would be thrilled to see his design replicated in hardwood, which should guarantee it lasting many more years to come. Many thanks to all the various people who contributed donations towards making the new gate become a reality

# Ipstones Historical Soceity




**The Ipstones Historical Society met on 24th September 2026 for a talk on the subject of proverbs and Idioms given by Mr Steve Williams.**



Our speaker is from the Storytellers history group which meets at Hales Hall near Cheadle. He began with outlining where our language comes from which includes the original Celtic through Roman and Anglo-Saxon to Viking and Norman French.

We have thousands of sayings and Idioms which have evolved over millennia and each injection of new cultures and ethnic groups have added to this rich tapestry to influence our oratory.

There are literally hundreds of swear words we use today derived from our past which I won't go into here for obvious reasons! Mr Williams did note however that the French are reported to be the most frequent swearers and the Japanese the least.

Modern English became prevalent after the 1500's. There are four dialects in England these being Northumbrian, Mercian, Kentish and Wessex.

Our speaker gave the society a number of examples of sayings and their origins such as 'keeping it under your hat', which comes from English longbow men keeping spare bow strings under their hat if theirs snapped. He also explained why we call a hole in the road a 'pothole'.

This derives from Roman roads which used a layer of clay in their construction being dug out by local tribes to make ceramic pots. The term to 'fill your boots', is a saying from the navy being allowed to fill leather tankards to drink from on board ship.

There are numerous and varied sayings relating to every aspect of life and death, religion and warfare and everything in between. I have given just a taster of the hundreds imparted to the Historical Society in this fascinating talk. Well, I must 'Bite the bullet' and sign off this months meeting report, (this is from the military giving soldiers a lead musket ball to bite down on when amputating a limb).

Our November meeting will be on the subject of the mines of the Peak District. All are welcome, members £1 and non-members £4 on the door.

# Linda flies high at 110mph to raise funds for charity

LAST month Ipstones councillor Linda Malyon joined civics from across Staffordshire Moorlands, Stafford, Staffordshire County Council, Newcastle, South Staffordshire, Biddulph, Cheshire East and willing volunteers to take part in a daring challenge.




The civics travelled to Zip World in North Wales as a challenge to raise money for their charities and to complete the fastest Zip Line in the World travelling at a speed of 110mph.

Linda said: "We from the Staffordshire Moorlands were taken there by Leek Link who did not charge but asked that the money for the taxi be given to the Staffordshire Moorlands charity which was a very generous and kind gesture by them.

"When we arrived we all had to be weighed in and then we were put in harnesses, we first went on a smaller zip line that travelled at 35/40 mph to get the feel of what we're were going to do.

"After that we were taken to the top of the quarry in a lorry which took us 15 minutes to get to the top, we were then asked to lie on beds where we were fastened to the cable that was to take us down, once again they ensured we knew what we could do and what we should not do.



"The safety measures at Zip World were excellent they checked not once but three times to ensure everyone was safe. The beds then go down, and you are suspended in mid-air facing down towards the quarry which is far below.

# Local Interest

"You are then released and shoot down towards the quarry and the ravine and the water, once over the water it is a surreal experience you feel as though you are not moving I thought, oh **** I've stopped, they are going to have to rescue me, then to find you are moving again.

"In reality you have not stopped moving it is the expanse of the quarry and the speed of 110mph, plus adrenaline that makes you feel that way, as you come to land there is a brake you hit then you have to catch a bar if you miss that they then catch you with a hook.

"Failing that you go back across the quarry, thankfully we all made it back. Once again, the staff were amazing a big thank you to them.

"There must also be a massive thank you to everyone who sponsored me and all those who did the Zip line for my three charities. On behalf of the other civics and to those who sponsor them for their charities thank you. Once I know the total of money raised, I will let you know."



# Eat Out Locally

**There are few things more pleasurable than having lunch in the company of an interesting friend especially someone you've not had opportunity to catch up with for a long time.**

I was fortunate to do so a few weeks ago and wondering where we should go, I reverted to what has become a bit of a favourite – Rabbit and Stitch in Ashbourne which is located discreetly behind the Sally Montaque Salon, off Shawcroft car park, it's a relative newcomer to the many eateries in Ashbourne.

With a medium priced menu where everyone should be able to find a main course dish they enjoy, plus, plenty of cakes to choose from – sadly we couldn't fit one in on this occasion!

My companion enjoyed a hearty meal featuring Fish Goujons and I chose the Goats Cheese and Beetroot salad; it all went down a treat.



Rabbit and Stitch are open every day until 4pm and are also open on the occasional evening for music events – see their website for more details at: rabbitandstitch.co.uk

# Plans are submitted to store caravans on Moorlands farm

**A PLANNING application has been submitted to store 20 caravans on land at a Staffordshire Moorlands farm.**

The area seeking approval is situated at New Street Farm, Ashbourne Road, Winkhill. The site is situated near the Ashbourne Road junction with Ellastone Road.

A planning statement said: "The proposal seeks planning permission for the use of the marked site area for the secure storage of up to 20 caravans.

"As the site benefits from a hard surfaced ménage area that is no longer being used due to another area on site currently being utilised, the client has decided to make better use of the vacant area to grow his home business.

"The proposed storage area will provide a secure and well-managed (by the client) facility for caravan owners, reducing the need for caravans to be stored on residential properties or on the highway where they are at great risk to vandalism etc. The caravans will be stored in an orderly manner within the designated area and will not be used for residential occupation or holiday accommodation.

"These would be stored on a 12-month consecutive contractual basis at a time (with option to renew) therefore, eliminating multiple trips to/from the site. The site will be appropriately managed, with access restricted to customers and authorised personnel.

"The proposal is intended to operate on a low-intensity basis, with limited vehicle movements associated with the arrival and collection of caravans. The operating hours would take into consideration other local nearby businesses/residents in order to minimise any impact upon them and therefore would be strictly operating between 8am-6pm on a weekly basis.

"Overall, the proposal would provide a practical and secure caravan storage facility while making efficient use of the site and avoiding undue impact on the character and amenity of the surrounding area.

"The storage of caravans on an organised and managed site provides a practical use of land while avoiding the need for caravans to be stored on residential properties, roads or other less suitable locations.

"In transport terms, the use is expected to generate relatively limited vehicle movements, associated principally with the drop-off and collection of single caravans. The proposal will utilise the existing site access, and the development will be operated in a manner which ensures that vehicles can enter and leave the site safely utilising the existing access.

"Overall, the proposal would provide a small-scale, secure and managed family caravan storage facility which supports an appropriate rural business use, makes efficient use of the site and can operate without unacceptable impacts on highway safety, neighbouring amenity or the character of the surrounding area."

The application was put before Ipstones Parish Council for their comments at the authority's monthly meeting.

Following a discussion the council recommended that should planning approval be given the site must be well screened and the entrance should be further down Ellastone Road away from the busy junction.

# Future events at Beaver Hall

Following the enjoyable afternoon at Canter Café, located at Beaver Hall Equestrian Centre in Bradnop during September, which was a sell-out, Afternoon Tea and bingo will take place by special request, on Thursday, November 19 th between 2pm and 5pm priced at £12.50.

Booking is essential, so please give Dawn a ring on 07801 318523.

A Christman wreath making afternoon is planned for Thursday, November 26th, as well as a pre-Christmas get together on Thursday, December 10th, with festive turkey baps and mince pies and cream with a few games of bingo.

For further information about the Christmas Wreath event get in touch with Dawn.



# Louise brings skills from the pottery industry to Cauldon



Louise at work in her studio

**HAVING grown up in Ipstones and had a gloriously old-fashioned educational start at St Leonard's Primary School, Louise Edwards has gone on to become a professional in the world of printmaking.**

Spending 20 years as a painter at Moorcroft Pottery, a skill that has remained unchanged for over a hundred years, she developed a love for colour and heritage crafts.

Combine this with a deep connection with the local countryside and wildlife and the result was using relief printmaking to depict moments from walks, interactions with fauna and the avian populace to produce detailed and colourful original artwork which initially may not look like a linocut that you remember from school!



Louise said: "Each layer is carefully hand carved from the block, which is then inked and pressed onto cotton printmaking papers. The next layer is cut from the same block leaving no room for error or returning to a previous colour layer.

"This colour is then printed over the previous one, while ensuring that registration is kept true for all layers which can number up to 14 on a final piece. Works are therefore strictly limited in number and collectors can be disappointed if they leave it too long before finding the piece they want to purchase!"

Louise's designs are influenced by many years in the pottery industry, working with wonderfully talented designers and artists as well as the current and past printmakers that she studies with a passion.

Louise said: "I constantly try to improve, with each piece pretty much consuming my entire headspace until it is complete! Printmaking is something that once tried, is difficult to let go of, even though I have to think of every image in reverse!

"People often ask how long it takes to make one of my pieces but it's hard to say, the design can be a quick process or a long one, depending on complexity and different layers take such different times to carve, but it can be weeks to months before I get to see the final image."

Since starting Red Cottage Prints, based at Red Cottage in Cauldon, Louise has been elected to be a member of the prestigious Peak District Artisans, had images used by BMW on cars for the Manchester Art Fair, won awards for her linocuts and had pieces exhibited in The Mall Galleries in London for The Royal Society of Artists.

The print studio that Louise works from is at the end of the part brick, part stone cottage with a desk facing a window looking out over farmland. The scenery that finds its way into many of the final linocuts. At the back of the room sits a large Gunning etching press, made in Ironbridge and is the machine that is used to press the inked lino block onto the paper.

Louise added: "Red Cottage is an absolute joy to work from and live in. It informs my work greatly. I am lucky to be immersed in the seasonality of our countryside, it gives me great joy, and this is what I try to get across in my work."

You can find her work in galleries across the country and, of course, locally, including regular events throughout the year. For more information go to: http://www.redcottageprints.co.uk

# Debra licensed to become a church Reader

**An ONECOTE woman has been licensed as a Reader in the Church of England by the Bishop of Lichfield.**

Debra Tickell, who is a full-time teacher, was licensed at a ceremony held at Lichfield Cathedral after completing two years of study. She will now lead services across the area.

Attending the event was former vicar Rev Jane Held who had travelled from her retirement home in Scotland. Rev Jane had mentored Debra during her studies.

Debra said: "Becoming a Reader in the Church of England has been an absolute joy! For years, I had a nagging feeling at the back of my mind—almost a gentle push—that I wasn't serving God enough. Even joining the PCC didn't quite scratch that itch! Deciding to step into Reader ministry finally answered that call.

"My journey to being licensed actually began two years ago when I joined the Chad Course, which is open to anyone looking to deepen their knowledge of God and ministry in the diocese. Following that, we started the two-year course delivered by Queen's College in Edgbaston, Birmingham, where the diocese sends all Reader trainees.

"Over the past year, I've done lots of studying of the Old and New Testaments in detail. It's been fascinating uncovering different aspects of the books: when, how, and why they were written, while unpacking their historical context, theoretical insights, and deep, life-giving teachings.

"I've also completed modules on preaching and pastoral ministry, which has been both exciting and humbling. The goal, of course, is to bring Scripture to life—and hopefully ensure I don't bore everyone to sleep when I'm leading a service! On top of that, delving into the rich history and architecture of church buildings was an unexpected highlight, offering a wonderful glimpse into how our sacred spaces have shaped worship through the ages.



Debra pictured with Rev Jane at Lichfield Cathedral

"Being in the cathedral for our service was truly special. It was lovely to spend time with the Bishop and hear firsthand just how passionate he is about Reader ministry, which felt incredibly supportive.

"Taking part in the service itself was wonderful, if a bit nerve-wracking! I happened to go first out of our group of seven trainees, so I was acutely aware that if I got things wrong, it would make a real mess of the flow. Honestly, I was very pleased just to get through it in one piece!

"The journey isn't over yet—we still have one year of training to go, focusing on leadership and pastoral ministry. As part of my pastoral work, I've taken the opportunity to research ways we can become stronger together both as a family group of churches and across our wider deanery, and I'm really keen to share those ideas with the forum soon.

"If I'm still a bit rough around the edges this year, bear with me—I'm trusting that by this time next year, I'll be much better equipped to serve you all well. If anyone else is feeling that quiet push and might be interested in exploring this training, please come and talk to me—I'd be delighted to chat and offer plenty of encouragement! I couldn't be more thrilled for what lies ahead."

# Village Christmas market and lights festival to be staged

**IPSTONES Christmas Market is to take place on Friday, November 27th.**

The event will again be held at Ipstones Memorial Hall between 3pm and 8pm.

Many stallholders are expected to be in attendance selling a wide range of goods including Christmas crafts, unique gifts, local businesses and makers along with festive refreshments.

Stalls will be situated inside the hall and outside. For the outside stallholders, gazebos, tables and lights are provided.

**Children can visit Santa and have a FREE photo, so don't forget to bring their letters to Santa!**

To book a stall or for more information, contact Linda on 07464 244468. Spaces are limited, so book early to avoid disappointment!

Stallholders can set up from 2pm. Indoor stalls are priced at £25, outside £20.

All money raised from the event goes to charity, helping to support some very worthwhile causes.




On the same day between 5pm and 8pm St Leonard's Church will be staging a Festival of Lights event.

Organised by the Friends of St Leonard's, the church will be decorated with spectacular decorations.

The theme set for the festival is Countryside Christmas.

Several village organisations will be featuring displays all around the church.

Refreshments and mulled wine and mince pies will be available to visitors.

# Cathedral Travels - Roger Cutts

***Roger Cutts on his pilgrimage to visit all 42 cathedrals in England***

## Roger and Dora visit Ripon and Wakefield

**A few days in Yorkshire – 10–11 September 2025**

We spent a few days away in Yorkshire, staying at the Ripon Inn in the heart of the cathedral city of Ripon. It was a very pleasant break, made all the more special because it was also a celebration of Dora's birthday.

Ripon itself is a compact and attractive city, with the cathedral dominating the skyline. Our hotel was only a short walk from the cathedral, and the surrounding area is made up of quiet streets with shops and restaurants. The cathedral sits in a beautiful setting, its tower rising above green lawns and mature trees.

We had plenty of time to explore the area, also visiting the nearby Fountains Abbey, just a few miles from Ripon. The ruins there are among the most impressive in the country, set in a landscape that feels almost timeless.

In the evening, we attended Evensong in Ripon Cathedral. The service was beautifully led by the Girls Choir, whose voices filled the space with clarity and harmony. One of the more unusual features of this cathedral is the mechanical hand in the organ loft, which the organist can use to beat time for the choir. It is a fascinating device, allowing the organist to maintain the beat while remaining in the organ loft.

**Wakefield Cathedral – 11th September 2025**

The following day we travelled by car back towards home, stopping off at Wakefield en-route. Wakefield Cathedral is one of the more recent cathedrals

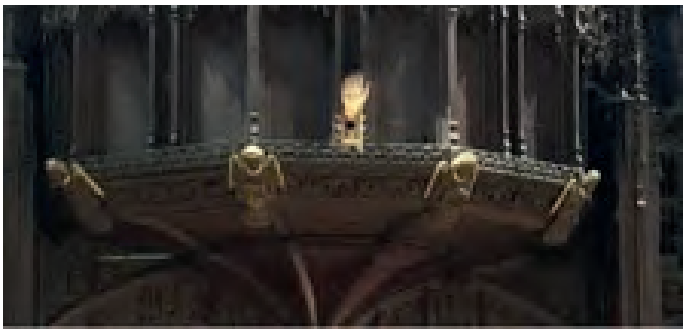


arising out of the Industrial Revolution. Wakefield was granted city status in 1888, the same year its parish church became the cathedral of the new Diocese of Wakefield.

Its tower, in particular, is an unmistakable landmark. It is apparently Yorkshire's tallest church spire at about 247 ft (75 m). The tower contains a ring of 14 bells; the tenor bell is in C and weighs about 35 cwt (around 1.8 tonnes) but normally no more than 12 bells are rung at once.

Wakefield is also known for the Barbara Hepworth Museum, dedicated to one of Britain's most important sculptors. Perhaps lesser known than the Barbara Hepworth Museum in St Ives (her former home and studio); rather, it is a purposebuilt gallery

# Cathedral Travels - Roger Cutts



with a major, permanent focus on Hepworth's work and working practice.

The displays include many of her sculptures and drawings, as well as tools and personal items that bring her work to life.

We enjoyed a pleasant lunch in the Museum Café before making our way home. The café area is a light, modern space with a pleasant, airy atmosphere and views over the river Calder - a nice way to round off the visit before heading back.



## *Thought For The Month*

It seems to be important to give everything a label! We are told that particularly young people are too readily labelled as, for example, as having ADHD, or autism etc.
Anxiety is the most common mental disorder.
Having anxiety about anything was never in God's plan for us.

Jesus said
"Come unto me all you who are burdened and I will give you rest.
Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your soul"
*Matthew chapter 11 verse 28*

When oxen work in the fields they are 'yoked' together to share the work load.
That's what Jesus wants us to do with that wonderful invitation, work in harness with him.

There is no-one better to share your load!

You can't add one more day to your life by worrying, but you can shorten it with too much anxiety and stress!
All God's creation has no cares in the world - except man!
Stop worrying!: and take advantage of every opportunity to laugh at your mistakes, laugh at yourself: shed the 'superhuman' image and have fun!!
Don't allow life's pressures and bad circumstances snuff out your sense of humour.
Laughter takes your mind off your anxiety and reflects positive vibes to all around you.

*"A merry heart does good"*
*Proverbs chapter 17 verse 22*

Loving Father,
Help me to share all my anxiety with you, to take worry out of my life, to increase my happiness.
Amen

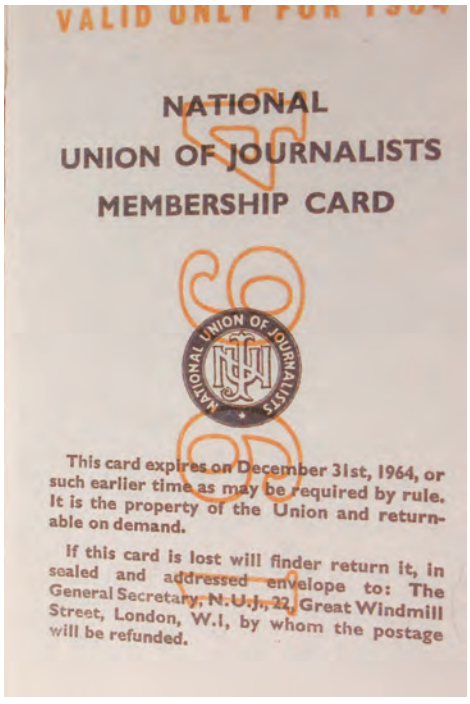
# The Post & Times Back In The Day




**Thinking about the arrival of Autumn, the smell of woodsmoke as neighbours start to light their stoves for cosy evenings at home, and maybe a fragrant candle for later, a welcoming, homely casserole in the slow cooker as you arrive home from work, the smell of freshly brewed coffee, a cake in the oven wafting tempting aromas throughout the house, but then I thought.....**

One evening way back, at a meeting of Ipstones Historical Society, the speaker was Geoff, a chap I knew of. He shared memories of his time in the newspaper industry, and though a good few years older than me, his talk took me back some 60+ years ago, and afterwards we reminisced about my time, and his before me, working on the local newspaper, the Leek Post & Times.

Back in the day, my family looked forward to the Post & Times, on sale each Thursday, containing lots of interesting stories around life in our small market town in the Staffordshire Moorlands. I remember my mum and grandma, always turned to the back page first, to see who had died, who had had a baby, and who was announcing an engagement.....affectionately known as 'hatched, matched and dispatched'.




Just listening to Geoff that night, I could actually smell the distinctive ink and hot metal as the newspaper went to press each Wednesday afternoon, in the print room at the back of the offices in Haywood Street, Leek.

Recalling the exciting atmosphere in the workshop, mixed with tension as the compositors skilfully inserted the metal words, paragraphs then pages of text into tray, which all had to go in backwards, so they would print correctly. The compositor's greatest skill was being able to read everything backwards.

The Sub Editor would help out, cigarette hanging onto his bottom lip, surrounded in smoke, hammering things into position, the enormous rolls of paper positioned ready to go to press, about 2pm.

At school when anyone asked what I wanted to do on leaving, I told them I wanted to be a newspaper reporter, as I always enjoyed writing stories in the English lesson which always came easy, but all too often sensed the 'Oh yes' with a sigh from some quarters.

After a year at secretarial college, and just eight weeks of boring office work in a lingerie factory in town, an opportunity came my way, and I found myself the youngest reporter at the Post & Times by a good few years. I was just l5.

The work was interesting and varied, and I took it all in my stride. Court reporting, evening meetings, amateur dramatic production reviews, daily visits to the police and fire stations, and the local hospital to see if anything worthy of a couple of paragraphs had come in. There were weekly visits each Tuesday afternoon to the local undertakers, and a ring round the vicars across the Moorlands, all in the name of a potential scoop.

When I went on a job, I would sometimes be met with 'Oh I was expecting someone older' so I grew my hair and took it up into a French pleat, which I thought added a few years and an air of some sophistication.

# Local Interest

I was paid four guineas a week in a little brown envelop, the equivalent of £4.20p. and had to collect this from the Editor in his oak panelled office each Friday. It seemed posher being paid in guineas, and a rise from the £3.50p I had been paid at the lingerie factory, but of course, I did a lot less hours there and was extremely bored most of the time. The work life for a l5 year old at the Post & Times, was quite a challenge, with little time to socialise with friends.

The Editor's 28-year-old son was the chief reporter, who kept an eye on things in the reporter's room, where John, Joyce and myself pounded away at our old manual typewriters, knocking out stories for our readers. He was a pleasant enough chap and easy to get on with, but he WAS the boss's son.

In the next room with the door always open, sat the formidable Sub-Editor, behind a high fronted oak desk, either with his trademark cigarette hanging on his bottom lip, or a pipe in his hand, usually surrounded by clouds of smoke. After typing your story, in double spacing, we would put it on the top of his desk, and retreat back into the reporter's room, anxiously waiting to see if it would go through, or returned with lots of required alterations.

The Sub's role was to proof read our stories, edit to ensure clarity and improve readability, approving the contents and writing the headline. He also shared out the jobs and marked in the diary as to which reporter would cover the various events.

On Christmas Eve 1963, the Rolling Stones, on the cusp of reaching the big time, appeared at Leek Town Hall, and of course, I got an access to all areas pass, along with the photographer.

It was a memorable evening chatting to the Stones and taking pictures with my own little plastic camera, and as long as I produced a few paragraphs to accompany the official pictures, the Sub was happy enough.

One day Phillip arrived in the reporter's room.....I was no longer the junior!

***Happy times. Geraldine Shuttleworth***

# Ipstones Writers

## 'It happened one morning'

**This month's writing prompt 'It happened one morning' unfortunately didn't happen for me.**

A change to the timing of a short trip away meant that I was here for our meeting but hadn't written anything, so in all we only had five contributors. As always though, they were all very different and equally entertaining.

The first was a true story about 'The Grapefruit Ladies'. A group of ladies in Ireland who went on strike from the stores where they worked in support of a ban on the sale of South African grapefruit.

This was in 1984 at the height of the anti-apartheid movement. While many at the time thought their efforts were a waste of time, they eventually met both Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Nelson Mandela himself. As our writer commented, we may feel that our individual efforts are insignificant on a global scale, (recycling, sustainability for example), but from little acorns…

Our second tale was based on the hurricane of October 1987. A woman alone in a house with a very young baby while the world was going mad outside. Power lines coming down with spectacular blue flashes, wind howling, rain lashing. No power of course but staying warm in bed together until morning.

Our next story was one of, what we now know of, as coercive control. A tale of how a woman's secret gift of premium bonds from her father eventually comes good. A huge win allows her to escape her domineering husband who has controlled her every waking moment and even the clothes she wears, for years.

Born and bred in Ipstones, our next writer regaled us with many interesting tales of Ipstones past. From the origins of Noonsun (the Celtic god Nueda) to the talented stonemasons of local families whose members helped rebuild St Leonard's church in 1789. Sadly, also family members lost in both world wars, recorded above the door of Ipstones Memorial Hall.

Finally, a tale, introduced by its author as 'somewhat risqué'; rather unusual for our small group! A tale about a hedonistic young man, Hugo, who plans a night out with highly unsavoury and indeed criminal intentions.

He targets a very attractive young lady who turns out to be not all she appears to be. This has disastrous consequences for the hapless young Hugo, and it turns out that not even hell itself is as he had expected it to be.

This left us all laughing as we tucked into coffee and delicious cake.

# Keeping the Standards flying — We need your support

**Every year, as November approaches, communities across the country come together to remember those who gave their lives in the two World Wars and in conflicts since. We stand in silence, lay wreaths and wear our poppies as a mark of respect for the courage, sacrifice and service of our Armed Forces.**

But remembrance must mean more than gathering on one Sunday in November. It must also mean supporting those who serve today, those who have returned from conflict, our veterans and the families who stand beside them.

That is why membership of the **Royal British Legion (RBL)** is so important.

The Royal British Legion is not simply an organisation associated with Remembrance Sunday. It is there to support serving personnel, veterans and their families, including those living with the physical and psychological effects of military service. Some injuries are visible for all to see; others remain hidden, carried quietly by those who may never speak openly about their experiences.

Behind every uniform is a person, a family and a story. Our service personnel make sacrifices that many of us will never fully understand. Joining the Royal British Legion is one way we can show that their service matters, that they have not been forgotten and that our support does not end when they leave the Armed Forces.

**Keeping Our Standards Flying**

One of the most moving sights at any remembrance service is the gathering of the Standards. These proud symbols represent our branches, our veterans, our comrades and the generations who have served our country.

But traditions do not keep themselves alive. We need more people willing to become Standard Bearers, to join committees, to help organise events, to sell poppies and to support the work of our local branches. Equally, we need ordinary members who may not be able to give lots of time but want to stand alongside those who have served.

Without new members and people prepared to take on these roles, we risk losing the very traditions that connect our communities with our military history. Once a branch becomes inactive and its Standard is no longer carried, rebuilding that presence can be extremely difficult.

**We must not allow the Standards to disappear through a lack of people willing to carry them.**

You do not need to have served in the Armed Forces to join the Royal British Legion. You simply need to believe that those who serve, those who have served and those who have sacrificed deserve our continued support.

**Remembrance Belongs to Every Generation**

The World Wars shaped the lives of millions, and their legacy must never be forgotten. Yet remembrance is not only about looking back. Conflicts and military operations since those wars, including the Falklands, the Gulf and more recent deployments, remind us that service and sacrifice are not confined to history books.

Our Armed Forces continue to face demanding and sometimes dangerous responsibilities. Veterans may return home carrying experiences that affect them long after their service has ended. Their families, too, can face challenges that are not always visible to the wider community.

The Royal British Legion helps ensure that support, understanding and comradeship remain available. By becoming a member, we help sustain that commitment and show the next generation that remembrance is not an outdated tradition, but a promise that we will continue to care.

**Join Us This Remembrance Sunday**

This year, our Remembrance Service will take place on **Sunday, 8 November, at St Leonard's Church, Ipstones**

We will assemble at the **Memorial Hall at 10.15am** before coming together to pay our respects to those who made the ultimate sacrifice and to honour all who have served and continue to serve our country.

Everyone is warmly invited to attend. Whether you come to remember a family member, to pay your respects, or simply because you believe that their sacrifice should never be forgotten, your presence matters.

But I would also ask you to consider doing something more: become a member of the Royal British Legion.

We often say, ***"We will remember them."*** Those words carry a responsibility. Remembering means ensuring that the people who served our country are not forgotten when the ceremony ends, the wreaths are laid aside, and the poppies are put away.

**Let us remember the fallen, stand beside our veterans, support our Armed Forces today and keep our Standards flying for generations to come.**

Lest we forget.

**An Invitation to Our AGM — Come and Join Us"**

We would also like to invite everyone to our **Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Thursday, 19 November 2026, at 7.00pm in the Blore Suite at Ipstones Memorial Hall.**

Everyone is welcome, whether you are already a member of the Royal British Legion or simply interested in finding out more about what we do and how you could help.

This is an opportunity to learn more about our work, meet members and discover how you could play a part in supporting our Armed Forces community.

Our future depends on people being willing to get involved. You do not have to take on a major responsibility; sometimes simply becoming a member and showing your support can make a real difference.

**Please come along, meet us and help us keep the Royal British Legion strong in our community.**

Look forward to seeing you

David Chisholm, Chairman of Ipstones Royal British Legion

# Little Country Kitchen

# Three Soup Recipes

**Wondering where to go in the Little Country Kitchen this time, inspiration struck as the weather changed, sometimes bright, sunny and uplifting, though a noticeable nip in the air, the season lending itself to comforting, warming soups, always good for a lunchtime snack.**

I am not sure where a recipe for Tomato Soup for the Soul came from, as I came across it scribbled on the inside cover of one of my soup books, but recall it being quick to make with ingredients most will have in the store cupboard, and tasty and delicious.

## Ingredients

1 tablespoon oil

1 onion, chopped

3-4 cloves garlic, crushed

1 tin good quality plum tomatoes, plus any leftover tomatoes in the fridge

1 teaspoon dark brown sugar

350ml vegetable stock

Salt and pepper, and a drizzle of cream if you wish.

## To make

Heat the oil in a pan over a medium heat, adding the onion and stir briefly and cook for two minutes. Add any fresh tomatoes with the onion and cook gently for a few minutes. Crush the garlic and add to the pan, stir and cook for a further 10 minutes.

Add sugar and vegetable stock and bring to the boil. Add the tinned tomatoes, crushing with a spoon and simmer gently for 30minutes. Season to taste.

Drizzle with cream before serving - optional.

## THE NEXT RECIPE, MUM'S ONION SOUP

comes from a charity book I must have bought 25 years ago, supporting a friend of a friend who was fundraising for the Cystic Fibrosis Trust, following this diagnosis for her young son.

French Onion Soup recipes usually leave the onions intact, but this recipe blends to a smooth version but still has toasted bread and grated cheese floating on top.

## Ingredients for 8 portions

2lbs onions, thinly sliced

6oz/150g butter

2oz/50g plain flour

4 pints of vegetable stock

3 teaspoons grated nutmeg

2 small glasses of sherry

8 slices of bread from a French stick

8oz grated cheese

To make

Fry the thinly slices onions in melted butter until lightly browned.

Mix the flour and nutmeg and cook for a couple of minutes.

Add the stock and bring to the boil, cover and simmer for 30 minutes. Take off the heat and stir in the sherry.

Once the soup has cooled, puree with a hand blender.

Toast the bread with the grated cheese on top and serve floating on the soup.



## FINALLY, IT'S BRUSSELS SPROUT SOUP

an unexpectedly good soup if you don't mind 'Brussels' - one cooking buddy of mine hates them, so not a recipe for her.

## Ingredients

450g/1lb onions, sliced

30g/1oz butter

1 tablespoon caster sugar

450g/1 lb Brussels Sprouts, trimmed and halved

1 generous sprig of thyme

1.2 litres/2pints light chicken stock

Salt and freshly ground black pepper

Soured cream, crème fraiche

or Greek yoghurt, to serve along with paprika or cayenne pepper to dust.

## To make

Put the sliced onions into a pan with the butter. Cover and sweat over a gently heat for 30-40 minutes to fully extract the flavour, and onions are very soft and tender. Sprinkle over the sugar, and cook uncovered for another 10-15minutes, until lightly coloured and jammy-looking, stirring occasionally.

Add the sprouts and thyme and stir. Pour in the stock and season with salt and pepper. Bring to the boil and simmer for about 10-15 minutes until the sprouts are just tender. Cool slightly, remove the thyme and liquidize in two batches.

Reheat gently when needed, taste to adjust seasons as necessary. Serve piping hot with a spoonful of soured cream, crème fraiche or yoghurt, in each bowl with, a light dusting of paprika or cayenne.

So, when its nippy outside, have a cosy soup making day in your kitchen, and stock up the freezer.

***Bon Appetit from the Little Country Kitchen***

# Ipstones Memorial Hall & Grounds

## What's On: Special Events Open To All

***Anyone is welcome to join these events. We'll be adding community events throughout the year, so check back each month to see the list grow.***

| | ACTIVITY | FOR MORE INFO: |
|---|---|---|
| Sun. 1st Nov.<br>2pm – 4pm | St Leonard's First School PFA<br>Children's Halloween Party | Grace Eastwood<br>07970 053312 |
| Fri. 27th Nov.<br>3pm – 8pm | Ipstones Christmas Market | Linda Malyon<br>07464 244468 |
| Sat. 12th Dec.<br>2pm – 4pm | Ipstones Memorial Hall<br>Village Cuppa and a Chat | Geraldine Shuttleworth<br>01538 266633 |
| Mon. 15th Mar.<br>7.30pm | SOS Fashion Show and Clothes Sale | **Save the date!** Tickets available from January 2027 |

To book the hall for a regular or one-off event, please contact **Jane Fleet** on **01538 260074**

## IPSTONES MEMORIAL HALL - 300 CLUB OCTOBER DRAW

**300 CLUB**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| £20 | No. 79 | Sue Minchal |
| £15 | No. 178 | Jimmy Edwards |
| £10 | No.154 | Sarah Burgess Parker |






# Gardening jobs for November

Raise planted containers onto pot feet, bricks or similar to prevent them sitting in water and the compost from becoming waterlogged during the winter, which can kill your plants.

Sow broad bean seeds for the earliest crop next year. For best results plant in well-drained soil in warm, sheltered spot. In colder areas, cover the soil and developing plants with cloches.

Dig up or bring in pots of cannas and dahlias, once their leaves are blackened by frost. Cut back the stems to 2/3cms from the base and overwinter in a frost-free place.

Take hardwood cuttings of shrubs, such as roses, dogwoods (Cornus), mock orange (Philadelphus), flowering currant (Ribes) and forsythia. They're the easiest cuttings to root.

Don't slip up this winter! Make patios, paths and steps safer by cleaning them and removing moss and algae with a pressure washer or a chemical cleaner.

Get the mower serviced soon, before the rush starts after Christmas. If the weather's mild, the grass will still grow, so you might need it back sooner than you think.

This is the perfect month to move deciduous small trees, shrubs and climbers that are growing in the wrong place. Dig up a large rootball, re-plant with lots of compost and keep well-watered.

Rake up fallen leaves from flower borders and lawns. If left, they'll look a mess, damage or kill plants underneath them and provide shelter for overwintering slugs and snails.

But don't waste those leaves, put them in a thick black bag, mix in some grass clippings and make a few holes in the bottom. In 12 months, you'll have a wonderful compost to enrich your soil.

This is one of the best months to plant garlic. Make sure to buy Autumn planting/overwintering varieties from a reputable supplier. Garlic bought in supermarkets is not suitable for our climate.

# PLACES TO VISIT

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Warrington. WA3 5NT

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Email: heretohelp@bents.co.uk

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Christmas Day: CLOSED
Boxing Day: CLOSED
New Years Eve: 8:30am – 4:00pm
New Years Day: CLOSED



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# The Amalfi Coast, Italy



**With the holiday period behind us, winter approaching, some start to plan their next adventure ploughing through coloured brochures or checking things out on-line, my thoughts turn to one of the best trips we have ever had with some of the most spectacular scenery I have ever seen, on the Amalfi Coast in southern Italy.**

I don't mean going to Sorrento, but further south to Amalfi, Ravello, Maiori and the lesser-known village of Minori, just round the headland from Maiori, which became a firm favourite. Smaller, with an older, more relaxed and friendlier charm, locals eager to chat, it has the convenience of the wharf right in the centre of things.



One-and-a-half-hour flight to Naples from doable airports from Ipstones - we travelled from Liverpool for a 10 day 'package' in Maiori, with an hour or so coach transfer to this ok sort of resort, staying in an ok medium size hotel, on the promenade overlooking the sea, though disappointingly our room allocation was gloomy overlooking a tatty apartment block on the side of the hotel.

We packed lots into the trip and felt 10 days was about right for this area, with easy access to Pompeii, Mount Vesuvius, Capri, upmarket Positano, and Amalfi Town - a place to visit not stay as it is extremely busy.

Regular ferry boats run up and down the coast between April and the end of September, so getting about is very easy. There is also a regular bus service, both modes of transport are very reasonably priced, and a much cheaper option than going on organised excursions.

A favourite boat trip to Positano, half the village on the Amalfi Coast and half on the Sorrento Peninsular, where houses cascade down the hillside to the sea, and upmarket shops selling beautiful shoes and clothes, and not just the usual tourist 'tatt', took just over an hour.

One day we booked an Italian cookery course and were picked up by Elena in Maiori, who took us to her mother-in-law Rita's home, where along with sister Pina, we cooked various dishes then sat down with all the family enjoying lunch, with a glass or two of father-in-law Salvador's wine.

So, if you fancy an interesting breakaway with lots to do, or if you want to relax at the hotel on a sun lounger, this area comes strongly recommended.




# SOME TASTY TREATS QUIZ

1. What is the name of the Japanese rice wine?
2. Name the Italian flat bread topped with herbs and olive oil?
3. What fizzy drink was originally created as a medicinal tonic?
4. What is the main ingredient of pesto?
5. Name the sauce made from egg yolks, lemon juice and butter?
6. What is the main ingredient of tabbouleh?
7. What type of pasta has a name meaning ‘little ears’?
8. What is the name of the thin pancakes popular in France?
9. What sauce is traditionally served with roast beef?
10. Which country is famous for Wiener Schnitzel?
11. What rice is used in risotto?
12. Which country is famous for the dessert Baklava?
13. Name the spicy Korean dish made from fermented vegetables?
14. Which country is famous for paella?
15. What is the term for a drink mixed with soda water?
16. Which traditional alcoholic drink is made from honey?
17. Which coffee has steamed milk and foam on top?
18. What type of drink is Guinness?
19. Which dessert has a name meaning ‘pull me up’ in Italian?
20. What is the dessert Croquembouch made from?

**ANSWERS -** AN AUTUMN KIND OF QUIZ FOR OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

1. Maple tree.
2. Abscission.
3. Cucurbits.
4. Oktoberfest.
5. Wake me up when SEPTEMBER ends.
6. Autumn in NEW YORK.
7. Festival of Light.
8. 30th November.
9. Grapes.
10. Scorpio.
11. John Keates.
12. Vincent van Gough.
13. St. Frances of Assissi.
14. Christopher Columbus.
15. The Kinks.
16. Nottingham.
17. Harvest Moon.
18. Türkey and Pumpkin Pie.
19. Bonfire Night.
20. Migration.

# A message to our readers and advertisers

**Everyone involved with the magazine is delighted that publication has continued successfully under our new editor, Leslie Jackson.**

Leslie brings a lifetime of experience in the newspaper industry, and we are also very grateful for the support and services of Identity Print.

Indeed, it appears that the magazine's circulation is continuing to grow.

We have now standardised our advertising space to a quarter-page format, although half-page advertisements are also available. We are keen to welcome new advertisers.

Our subscription year runs from April to March. From April 2027, the annual rate for a quarter-page advertisement will be just £45.

New advertisements booked in November or December this year will cost only £20, covering set-up and publication for the remainder of the current subscription year.

If you would like to advertise in the magazine, please contact: Geraldine Shuttleworth: geraldineshuttleworth @yahoo.co.uk
Roger Cutts: roger.cutts @btinternet.com

Or Leslie Jackson: moorlandsmag@outlook.com

We can help you with set up and layout and will only invoice you when your advert has been successfully produced in the magazine.

**Roger Cutts**

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**Saturday 28th & Sunday 29th November 2026**
12 noon to 4pm

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For more information about '**Warm Welcome**' please contact:
**Rev'd Julie Hassall** on **01538 751907**

**Ipstones** *online*
The community Facebook page for Ipstones and the surrounding area

## Organising an event?

Advertise it **FREE** on the Ipstonesonline Facebook page
Visit Facebook and search for **Ipstonesonline**
*Or write the details down and post to:* **26 Froghall Road, Ipstones. ST10 2NA**

Peace through Folk with Ipstones Folk Club presents an -

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For more information, programme and tickets please email:
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or buy on line via
**https://wegottickets.com/f/24750** **(£15 + WGT booking fee)**

Peace through Folk is a not for profit trust working for Peace, Friendship, Reconciliation and the preservation of a kinder, more sustainable world.

Details correct as at 28/08/2026 *)Changes may happen

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***For further information*** *please contact:*

Sally Bentley
*(Chief Officer)* on
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or email:
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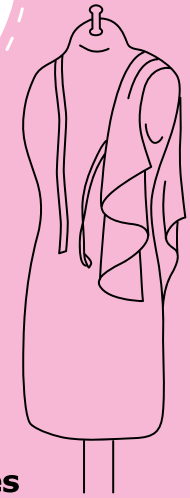
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