HAPPY NEW YEAR 2025

TO ALL READERS IN OUR VILLAGES (AND FAR AND WIDE)



Village & Community Magazine IANUARY 2025

Keeping All Our Villages Connected and United

DEADLINE for the FEBRUARY 2025 EDITION is 6am TUESDAY 28th JANUARY

Input from you all will be gratefully received. At the end of the day, if you don't contribute then there is no magazine.

Talking of which, a lot of you believe that you cannot send items until the deadline time and date. A deadline has to be set but you can send your information/pictures/jokes anytime and it really helps me to put things together the earlier you send your items to me. So please feel free to submit any article.

It's your magazine and just so long as it is Legal, Decent and Appropriate in my eyes, it will be inserted of course.

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

Call me on 01538 3045 60 if you need any help. Don't be late, the old rule still applies. Absolutely nothing will be accepted after 6am on the above date. **Editors decision on layout and inclusion is final.



A Song for Winter

January can feel like a cold and grey month so it is very cheering to see a flash of colour and hear a little birdsong. During the winter most birds do not sing. instead making simple calls, one or two syllables which are contact calls, allowing them to keep in touch with others within a flock, whilst they move around, foraging for food. Longer and more melodic songs are generally heard in spring when male birds are using song to communicate that they are present and are holding a breeding territory. These territories will contain nesting places such as trees or shrubs as well as sources of food and male birds proclaim this

by song, deterring rivals and attracting females. The Robin however has a proper winter song as it holds a territory over the winter. Robins are not in pairs during the winter so both males and females sing and hold separate territories. These territories are giving them winter shelter and food and they will defend them fiercely, flying at intruders as well as singing.

In winter many Robins migrate from further north into the UK, flying in from Scandinavia, Russia, Poland and elsewhere. This also explains why we seem to see more Robins in the winter as our own summer Robins

remain here all year round so numbers increase. The Robin's song is tuneful and a little melancholy but the reality of Robin life is harsher with an average lifespan of only 9 months. Many do not survive the winter so holding and defending a territory containing good sources food and shelter is vital. The combination of a churchyard with mature, sheltering trees, plentiful berries, seeds and insects as well as soil invertebrates such as worms make them attractive to Robins. Churchvards tend to be rich in insect and other invertebrate life as no chemicals are used within them and the soils have been developing over decades or centuries, full of life. Churchyards are also usually surrounded by gardens so natural food may well be being topped up with mealworms, bird seed and fat balls too.

Why not look for Robins in your local churchyard or cemetery and listen for their winter song, you might like to put up some open-fronted nest boxes for them too, on churchyard trees and within gardens as well. Please let us know if you see or hear a Robin in your churchyard, use the iNaturalist app and photograph it if it will stay still long enough or else record its song, a biological record can be made either way. Harriet Carty, Diocesan Churchyard Environmental Advisor, harriet@cfga.org.uk,







WARM WELCOME ©



AT ST BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH, BUTTERTON **DATES THIS MONTH:**

Tuesday: 7th January 2025 - 10.30 to 12.30pm 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!**



The magazine really does thank those who make contributions to its ongoing production and we must thank and acknowledge donations made by:

- Karen (Peak Fitness),
- Heidi, (Elite Cinema & Ashbourne Shoe Company),
- Claire, (Curtains Up)
- Graham Bagshaw, (Plumbing & Heating)
- Pam Wain (Ipstones).

during the latter part of 2024. Without you this magazine could not continue.

Once again, thank you, one and all.

Things to ponder???

I used to eat a lot of natural foods until I learned that most people die of natural causes.

Can you cry under water?

How important does a person have to be before they are considered assassinated instead of just murdered?

Why do you have to "put your two 'pennyworth' in"...but it's only a "penny for your thoughts"? Where's that extra penny going?

Once you're in heaven, do you get stuck wearing the clothes you were buried in for eternity?

What disease did cured ham actually have?

How is it that we put man on the moon before we figured out it would be a good idea to put wheels on luggage?

Why is it that people say they "slept like a baby" when babies wake up, like, every two hours?

If a deaf person has to go to court, is it still called a hearing?

Why are you IN a movie, but you're ON TV?

Why do people pay to go up tall buildings and then put money in binoculars to look at things on the ground?

Why do doctors leave the room while you change? They're going to see you naked anyway.

Why is "bra" singular and "panties" plural?

Why do toasters always have a setting that burns the toast to a horrible crisp, which no decent human being would eat?

If the professor on Gilligan's Island can make a radio out of a coconut, why can't he fix a hole in a boat?

If corn oil is made from corn, and vegetable oil is made from vegetables, what is baby oil made from?

If electricity comes from electrons, does morality come from morons?

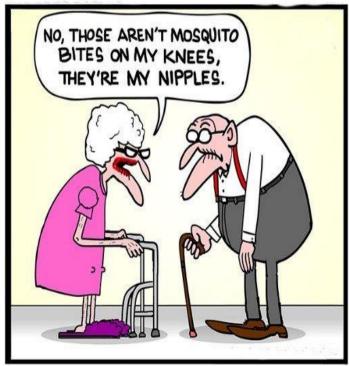
Did you ever notice that when you blow in a dog's face, he gets mad at you, but when you take him for a car ride, he sticks his head out the window?

Keeping Up with Today's Technology

Smile in a While

Now we're getting older my husband and I are much closer than we used to be. It's the only way we can hear each other.





Herb's attempt to make small talk with the new gal doesn't go so well.



ALSTONEFIELD



Sunday Services in January

5th 11.00am Morning Worship 26th 11.00am Morning Worship

Vicar: In Vacancy. Church Warden(s): Position(s) Vacant

Contact & Reader: Clare Day 07774 980647

St Peter's Alstonefield

A huge **THANK YOU** to all those who have helped and supported St Peter's Church throughout 2024; the church and churchyard have looked beautiful and it is all due to you!

If you would like to offer some time in 2025, we would be very grateful. We need help with the following rotas:

• **Opening and closing:** usually people offer a specific month or we can allocate a week or so over the year (Contact Carrie: 07891480104)

- **Cleaning:** usually people offer a month and do it when suits them but we can allocate a week, and then we have three group sessions in the year to do other bits (Contact Carrie: 07891480104)
- Flowers each week and for special occasions (Contact Sue Lovatt: 07714 041682)
- Brass polishing: occasionally (Contact Ann Colclough: 01335 310477)
- Churchyard mowing, strimming and tidying: mostly through the spring and summer (Contact Paul Railton: 07971 582553)
- Clock Winding: usually allocated a month (Contact Meg Handscombe: 01335 310488)
- Refreshments after a service and special occasions (Contact Angela Campbell: 07970 609630)
- Bell Ringing a small team ring here and at Wetton (Contact Neil Beloe: 07976 282184)

Community Larder Open 24hours a day in the porch of St Peter's Church, Alstonefield St. Peter's PCC Community Larder supports people experiencing difficulties in the current cost of living crisis. Anyone needing food or other household items for please help yourself from the box in the church porch. All donations of dried food and toiletries to benefit others are welcome. Please place them in the boxes in the church porch. Every two weeks or so excess items will be donated to the food banks in Leek or Ashbourne.

Alstonefield Village Hall

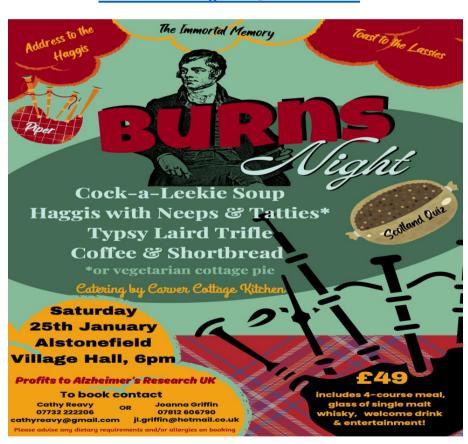
Chair: Kevin Stockton Treasurer & Bookings Officer: Jo Griffin

Committee members: See Below.

Liz Power Duncan Scroggs Mark Smith Martin Snodin

Dave Littlehales Val Littlehales Charlotte Jordan

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



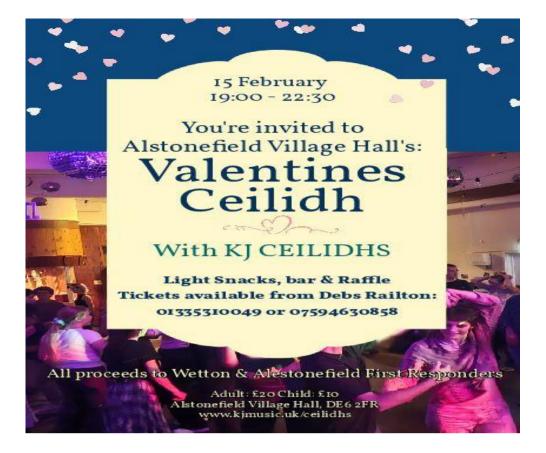
Alstonefield Bowling Group. Bowlers Wanted.

We are a small friendly group looking for more people to join us on a Friday 2 till 4 pm.

No equipment needed just turn up.

Small fee charged.

Want to know more call Carol on 07806768640.



Alstonefield Parish Council

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

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

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

Mr A Haves (Tel:01335 310057), Mrs S Jeffery (Tel:07465 217269), Mr C McIlroy (Tel:07930 001374).

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

For date of next meeting contact any of the Parish Council Members.

"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

<u>BUTTERTON</u>



Revd - Jane Held: 01538 262116 Church Warden: Maggie Risby 304115 Rachel Hopper Deputy: Lily Hambleton-Plumb

St. Bartholomew's Church

Sunday Services in January

12th 3.00pm Evening Worship 26th 10.00am Holy Communion

Altar Flowers: No Flowers for January

Cleaning Rota: Not yet Decided

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

Maurice & Barbara Woodward, Dorothy Glaister, Sheila McDermott, Jackie Sumerling, Maggi Rowland.

St Bartholomew's Church.

Sunday 15th December saw (and heard) the Warslow Silver Band in Concert in Church. Prior to the event over 60 tickets had been reserved.

As I type on the morning after the Concert, I can say it was a great success. A fabulous evening with all pews filled. The Band as always gave a great performance and Steve the Conductor's jokes weren't too bad either! Mulled wine and mince pies/stollen/shortbreads were enjoyed by all during the break and we then settled down to the second helping of music. The raffle was a great success too. Maggi and Brian Rowland will be enjoying their Black Lion voucher prize, generously donated by Hannah and Matt. Thanks to everyone who

made it possible by donating their time, refreshments/raffle prizes but especially to those who bought tickets. All proceeds to St Bartholomew's Church.

The Carol Service on Sunday 22nd was again a joyous, atmospheric occasion with lots attending, including visitors to the village. It was lovely to have some children present. Carols were sung and readings read. It was lovely to see Gwen Turnock at the organ following her recent visit to hospital. Thank you, Gwen, for playing for us at our services this year. The remaining mince pies and tea/coffee were welcomed following the service.

Warm Welcome.... A good attendance at our ever-popular event held every other Tuesday & on Tuesday 12th December. We enjoyed mulled wine and 'mice pies' (typo) and a good chat. Thinking this was the last Warm Welcome, Christmas cards were exchanged but our valiant helpers decided to go ahead with a Christmas Eve Warm Welcome. You don't have to be a Buttertonian to come along!

The next Warm Welcome is Tuesday 7th January, 2025.

Memorial Garden. Celebrations as we received the go ahead to progress with our Memorial Garden. As I type, stone and pea shingle size are being decided and the landscape gardener booked. This means that on completion, ashes of loved ones can be interred in St Bartholomew's Churchyard. More details as we move along the process.

St Bartholomew's Lottery Ball Draw. It seems unbelievable that another year has passed and it will soon be time to renew your lottery ball numbers. The year runs from the beginning of February 2025 to the end of January 2026. Balls cost £1 each and you can have as many as you choose. You will be allocated a number for each ball. The monthly draw takes place every second Saturday in the month in Church (the next being Saturday11th January 2025). Prizes are £40 1st prize, £20 2nd prize and £10 3rd prize with a bonus £10 prize every December. For more details, please contact Barbara (304324) or Maggie (304115) If you want to join in with the fun, renew your balls or if you feel you want to withdraw, we are ready to hear from you.

St Bartholomew's Church Lottery Winners for December

1 st	Sandra Mollatt	(113)	£40.00
2 nd	Margaret Dutton	(31)	£20.00
3 rd	Joan Gibbs	(61)	£10.00

Christmas Bonus Tom Mollatt (41) £10

The next draw will be held on Saturday 11th January 2025 in Church at 11.00 am.

Next year's Lottery Subscriptions are due by the 1st February 2025. Anyone wishing to renew their subscriptions please contact Maggie 01538 304115 or Barbara 01538 304324

Butterton Village Hall

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

Just over £560 was raised at the Christmas Fayre on Sunday 1st December. We would like to thank everyone who attended and spent their cash, everyone who helped out who was not necessarily on the committee and everyone who donated prizes, cakes etc. Sadly, Father Christmas had to send his apologies as he was double booked!

Friday 13th December was Christmas Bingo at the Village Hall. 30 hopeful people gathered together to enjoy the evening. Thanks to Les for calling and generally entertaining us. Jess Fox was the lucky winner of the £50 cash flier.

We would like to thank Karen Landon and Louise Boardman for choosing us as a venue for their weekly classes. Karen is a dog trainer (Churnet Valley Dog Training) and Louise is a Pilates instructor. Both ladies would be pleased to hear from you if you need their expertise.

Butterton Parish Council

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

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

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

The next meeting date is Tuesday 14th January.

We wish you a Happy New Year. Let us hope and pray that it is a good one.....

2025 Meeting Dates are: - 25th Feb. 8th April, 6th May (AGM), 17th June, 29th July, 9th Sept, 21st Oct, 2nd Dec.

ELKSTONES



St. John the Baptist: Vicar: Father John Baines

Sunday Services in January

19th 3.00pm Carol Service

Cleaning & Flower Rota: Liz Meakin

December was a very busy month for the village, with plenty of festivity on the agenda! On the 8th, 13 Elkstonians very much enjoyed their annual Christmas lunch at Biggin Hall; on the 15th our beautifully decorated little church held its Carol Service, with a festive gathering afterward; and on Thursday 19th December on a bitterly cold night, a small but select band of singers set out on their annual round of the valley with their collecting box, to raise funds for the Elkstonians' chosen charity for 2024. Thank you, singers, and a big thank you to those who gave generously both in cash and festive food! We can now send off £100 to Guide Dogs for the Blind.

St John's Church, Elkstones,

The afternoon Carol Service on the 15th December was a very festive occasion, and a good- sized congregation enjoyed the mulled wine, mince pies and friendly get-together afterwards. Thank you to the Elkstonians for supplying the mulled wine, and to everyone else who supplied all the good things to eat, and the raffle prizes. Big thanks also to Sally Faulkner, Phoebe and Jack Vincent for doing the decorations which made the church look so lovely for Christmas. The raffle raised £331 to add to the funds which help to enable our little church to stay open.

As we reach the end of another year, we would like to thank all the people who helped in any way to keep the church going:- Father John for taking the Services, Janet McNichol for covering the absences caused by ill health, all the cleaning team and those who put such effort into trying to keep the graveyard tidy and accessible, and all those who supported our fundraising efforts throughout the year. You are all very much appreciated. Finally, a big welcome back to Rev Nicola Pepper after her long illness – it is great to see you back. Nicola.

To all those in Elkstones, and to all those who come from other places to support our very special little church, we wish you a Very Happy and Prosperous New Year, and a Happy and Healthy 2025.

Warslow and Elkstones Parish Council

There will be a meeting of the Parish Council at 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday, 22nd January, in Warslow Village Hall. The Agenda and the minutes of the last meeting can be viewed on the Council Website at www.warslowandelkstonespc.org

Wishing everyone a very Happy and Prosperous 2025 from Elkstones

llam



Sunday Services in January
12th 10.30am Morning Worship (Lay Led)

All are most welcome

Vicar: In Vacancy

Contact & Reader: Clare Day: 07774 980647

January Flower and Brass Rota

3rdMrs W HudsonFlowers & Brasses10th & 17thMrs S Prince & Ms S AllenFlowers & Brasses24th & 31stMrs J Oxtoby & Mrs S RichardsonFlowers & Brasses

Crib Service 2024

Many, many thanks to Joan, Ellen, Richard and Sarah together with local and visiting children all of whom played their part in the lovely Christmas Eve Crib Service it was wonderful to see the church so full and to sing some of our favourite carols.

Art and Trees in Church

Our thanks also to Ilam Art Club and local ladies who came out in force on 7th December to decorate Church for the Christmas period - the 12 days of Christmas paintings along with the decorated Christmas trees have proved to be very popular and enjoyed by those who wander into Ilam Church. Brilliant team work! Thank you to the National Trust for the donation of a tree.

Sadly, we shall be removing the decorations on Saturday 11th January 2025 from around 10.30am and as ever, any assistance will be most gratefully received.

2025

We would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone who reads the magazine a very Happy New Year and hope that all enjoyed a peaceful Christmas.

Ilam Parish Council

Chairperson: Caz Sellers 01335 350368

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

Website: www.ilam.org.uk

We would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year.

The next meeting is Tuesday 21 January 2025 at 7pm at Ilam School

All welcome and please send any questions you may have to the Clerk, so they can be passed on to the council for discussion.

Ilam School

Here at Ilam Primary School, we have been embracing this wonderful time of year and have quite simply been having the best time!

Our Reception and Nursery children kicked of our festivities with a trip to Elim Church for their Advent event. As we explored the Christmas story and met the key characters, we reminded ourselves of why this time of year is so important. We had a wonderful afternoon!

Our many visitors continue to join us in bringing our daily worship to life with music, drama and stories. We very much look forward to welcoming everyone back in the new year.

We dazzled our friends and family with our fantastic spectacle 'Search for a Star'. We really didn't have to search too far with a school full of stars and they really did shine as they executed their performances perfectly. We are so very proud of the hard work that the children put into their nativity play this year! Well done!

We've enjoyed many Miss Lisa Christmas lunches in school too! We invited the local community to join us, as well as our families. We also rounded things up with a whole school meal, including staff, during the last week of term. Huge thanks to Miss Lisa for completely spoiling us!

We were thrilled and privileged to join the Ashbourne Lantern Parade earlier in December. We lit up the night with our mesmerising bees and loved every moment of this truly joyous event!

In school, we held our annual 'llam's Got Talent' event. What a joy! From musicians to gymnasts, poets to singers, we filled our school with our remarkable talents. As the Golden Buzzer sounded, we really couldn't pick a winner! Instead, everyone was sprinkled in golden confetti! We are in awe of the talented children in our school!

With our annual Christmas Jumper Day, a surprise visit from Santa, our Governor Christmas Party and end of term Church service tucked safely under our belts too, we broke for Christmas. We sure do know how to make sure we have fun!

We wish everyone a truly wonderful Christmas period and very much look forward to sharing our adventures with you in 2025! If you know a child that would like to be a part of our beautiful school, please do get in touch. Thank you and a happy New Year to you all!

Miss Emily Johnson

Acting Headteacher, Ilam C. E. (VA) School, Ilam, Staffordshire DE6 2AZ 01335 350316/350908. www.ilam.staffs.sch.uk



WARSLOW



St. Lawrence
Vicar:
Rev'd John Bains
01298 83411
Deputy Warden:
Judy Prince
01298 84351

Sunday Services in January

These will be posted on "A church near you" website and also on the church notice board as soon as they are received.

Do come and join us, you will be very welcome

St. Lawrence

On Thursday 19th December we witnessed the wedding of Roberta Smith and Mark Hunt at St Lawrence Church. Although the weather was cold, with even a touch of snow, it remained fine with a little sunshine,

too. We wish Mr and Mrs Hunt a long, happy, healthy life as they start their new chapter together.

We are sorry to hear that Neil Woolley has been in hospital recently and hope that he is now on the road to recovery.

Benefice Magazine (Longnor Benefice Magazine – not Community Magazine).

Special thanks to Mavis and John for printing, compiling and delivering the magazines to Warslow every month, and to Denise for putting all the contributions together.

For a long time, the price of the magazine has remained the same but with increasing production costs, the price from this month will be £7.50 per year (less than 63p per month). Please pay this to any PCC member as soon as possible. The magazine is also available on-line.

From the magazine January 1912: "Our thanks are due to Mr. John Bradbury for his kind gift of the three fir trees which were placed on the grave of Mrs. Bradbury, his late wife, in Warslow Churchyard. Mr and Mrs Bradbury formerly lived at Elkstone. The trees have been removed, and planted alongside the path leading to the Church, and form a pleasing addition to the Churchyard. The vicar desires to offer to all his best wishes for a happy new year "

From the magazine January 1969: "You will see that we have planted some flowering trees and shrubs in the Churchyard. Beginning this year the Diocese and the whole of the Church in England will begin a new set up of the people of the Church and how they are to be represented locally and in the Diocese. The word is `Synod'. It is an ancient English word, and there will be Synods for the deanery, and so on, up to the Diocesan Synod. Jesse Howse - vicar "

We wish everyone a Happy New Year, from St. Lawrence Church.

Warslow and Elkstones Parish Council

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

Website: http://warslowandelkstones-pc.org
Acting Chairman: Mr P Moakes 01298 687238,

Councillors: Mrs C Allsop, Mrs J Nash, Mr S Gould, Mr Wardman, Mr B Peach, Mr N Searston

Date of Next Meeting: Contact Clerk for details.

Warslow Pre-School

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

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

WETTON



Sunday Services in January

19th 11.00am Holy Communion

Vicar: In Vacancy: Church Warden(s): Situation(s) Vacant

Contact & Reader: Clare Day 07774 980647

St Margaret's Church 50/50 Lottery Results

The lucky winners in the December draw were:

1st PrizeMike Tidmarsh£54.002nd PrizePhillipa Stupples£36.00

You can join the lottery by paying £5 cash to Margaret Hodgkinson at Manifold Cottage. The next draw will take place in church on Sunday 19th January 2025.

Classifieds

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

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



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

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Contact: Darren Barlow, Warslow 01298 84820 or 07973 468177

Kirsty's Dog Sitting Services

If you need help with dog sitting/walking, I offer boarding at my house in Alstonefield (only 1 dog at one time or 2 from the same household)

for a few hours, day/overnight or for a holiday.

Please message or email me and we can discuss your requirements.

I will look after your dog as if he or she were my own, with one-to-one attention, walks/fun and lots of doggy cuddles.

Kirsty Norman 07727159721 Kirstynorman48@yahoo.co.uk

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