

Christ Church Hilderstone Parish Magazine



July and August 2019

USEFUL NUMBERS

CHURCH

Vicar Rev. Marion Reynolds Tel: 01782 397073

Church Wardens Audrey Stringer 01889505638 or Sue Stubbs
01889505203

PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting on the 4th Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm

Parish Clerk is Amanda Kingston . Contact number is

01785 661550 or email clerk@hilderstone.staffslc.gov.uk

HILDERSTONE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

President Mrs Pat Saul 01785 812580

Meeting 2nd Tuesday 7 30 pm in Village Hall

HILDERSTONE VILLAGE HALL ST15 8SF

Bookings Secretary: Debbie Britton 07810332559

email :- hilderstonevhbookings@gmail.com

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Ash Connor area Neighbourhood Watch Stone 01785 234129

Sue Stubbs Hilderstone co-ordinator 01889 505203

DOCTOR

Cumberland House, High St. Stone 01785 813538

Mansion House Surgery, Abbey St. Stone ST15 8YE 01785 815555

STAFFORD HOSPITAL

Casualty 01785 257731

POLICE

Urgent/Emergency 999

Non-Emergency number 101

Stafford County council 0300111 8000

Clarence Road (road repair and lighting) 03001118000

Street scene (fly tipping rubbish) 01785 619401

Stafford Borough Council 01785 619000

Staffordshire Crimestoppers 0800 555 111

Staffs. County Councillor: Ian Parry Telephone: 07831 510381

Email: ian.parry@staffordshire.gov.uk Stafford Borough Councillor

Cllr Andrew Harp Tel 01889 505400 Editor Sue Stubbs tel.

01889505203 or Email:- susanstubbs01@outlook.com

ALL COPY IN BY THE 8TH OF THE MONTH PLEASE



EDITORIAL

We have the summer fair on July 20th. This will be on land by the X road. If raining it will be at the Village Hall. More details in this magazine. In August we have 2 open gardens at Sharpley Heath Farm and Sharpley Heath Cottage, more on the bake page.

Dates for Diary 2019

20th July Summer Fair

10th August Open Garden

14th September Jumble sale

15th September Harvest Festival Service

17th September Harvest Supper

3rd December W.I. Christmas Party

10th December Village Christmas Party

Editor Sue Stubbs tel. 01889505203 or Email:-
susanstubbs01@outlook.com

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COUNTRYSIDE WATCHER –

JULY JOYS

Down the July lane, if you look closely at the trees, you might see fruits developing. Small green Beechnuts are now tinged with red. Look carefully underneath the Hazel leaves and see the young, cream nuts. There are pale green, young wings under the Sycamore leaves. The Ash has clusters of young, pale green keys hanging down. Growing from the Oak tree leaf joints, pointing up, are one or two embryo green acorns. What I love best are the round, spiky, green conkers. I look forward to seeing the fully-grown, brown conkers.

On one long stretch of verge, is a mass of upright, flowering Stinging Nettles. Some guard the entrance to a style. I don't think any walkers have braved the Nettles recently. The Common Nettle has tiny green flowers in loose-hanging spikes.

I've never been one for walking at night. However, I have stood in the July garden at night listening to what was going on around me. I have often watched Bats searching for food. They use high sound waves to find it. The sound waves bounce off objects that the Bats can identify. They bounce off tasty insects that the Bats love to eat. They also bounce off trees that the Bats can then avoid. It is amazing.

I often hear an Owl's 'Twit-twoo!' or a Barn Owl's screech.

Many Owls hunt at night. Finding exactly where the sound is coming from, Owls are helped by their ears, each at slightly different heights. They use their good hearing to help them find their food.

There are so many Moths flying around that they are difficult for me to identify. However, females give off smelly chemicals. The feathery antennae that males have can smell the females and help the males to find them.

I love watching Foxes at night. I usually see them coming through a hedge on a well-worn path, going down into the ditch. They go along until they reach a path going up the opposite side of the ditch. Then they are up the bank, through the hedge and gone.

I have very rarely seen Badgers. They have an amazing sense of smell and can easily find their way in the dark. Perhaps I do not see them because they first smell me.

What I miss most in July is that there is less bird song in the July Summer time lane. The Hedge and Tree Sparrows fly around in large, chattering groups. A Blackbird often whistles at me from a tree as I pass and a Robin calls from a post. Thankfully, there are still birds to make me smile.

Sheila Harvey



What a Racket!



In July the sound of birdsong has diminished but it is time to listen again, this time for grasshoppers and crickets! Like birds, each species of grasshopper has a distinctive sound and they can be identified by this, saving you going down on hands and knees to search. Churchyards can be brilliant for these and other insects which thrive in grassland, particularly when there is a combination of short, long and tussocky

grassland and many churchyards have all three. So, churchyards provide grasshoppers with lots to eat and some sites can have more than three grasshoppers per square foot.

Grasshoppers 'sing' or *stridulate* by rubbing their legs against their wings; when females are present the male sings a particular courting song. Eggs are laid, buried in the soil just below the surface or at the base of tussocky plants. The young can often be seen jumping about in early summer.

Spare a thought for these amazing insects, there are 30 species of grasshopper and cricket in the UK and you can make your churchyard a refuge for them and for other insects, by having a mixture of close mown grass, wildflower meadow and leaving a margin of tussocky grassland against a wall or hedge. This provides a refuge for insects to overwintering and lay eggs, ready for next year's racket!

All the best

Harriet Carty,

Diocesan Churchyard Environmental Advisor, harriet@cfga.org.uk

www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk - individuals and groups in the diocese receive 20% members discount on all CfGA materials. Use the discount code Lich19

Hilderstone Women's Institute June 11th 2019

Our June meeting was held in the Village Hall and the speaker, Charlotte, from the newly formed company "Penguins for Plastics", gave a very interesting talk about their efforts to reduce the amount of plastic waste produced. It was surprising to learn how many products can be substituted with more eco-friendly ingredients and packaging. After the meeting closed, members were invited to peruse their stall and many purchases were made.

We all also enjoyed the usual homemade refreshments and the competition-a recycled item-was won by Gina Valentine, 2nd Shirley Robson, 3rd Gill Slater, 4th Doreen Smith . The meeting was chaired by Alison Fuller in the absence of Pat Saul.

The next meeting on July 9th will feature a talk on the National Memorial Arboretum. The competition will be a war memento. Everyone is welcome. We are all looking forward to our August outing to the Gentleshaw wildlife centre, with afternoon tea at Fletcher's.

COUNTRYSIDE WATCHER – AUGUST SMALL TORTOISESHELL BUTTERFLY

I look from side to side as I walk down the August lane. I see, flourishing in the August overgrown hedgerow, arches of Blackberry Brambles. As they cascade over the hedges, on one branch I see green fruit buds, white flowers, green berries and black berries, the juicy ones. I like the way the Blackberry keeps a regular supply of juicy, ripe berries over the weeks. Swallows are calling ‘Chink, chink!’ as they fly around. Occasionally two of them dance together in the air, resting for a few seconds on the



telephone wires. Two Lesser Whitethroats play happily together in the branches of a Willow tree. It is only a few weeks now before they return to their winter home. A bright movement catches the corner of my eye and I turn to look down into the green roadside verge. A small orange butterfly is resting in the grass. Looking closer, I realise that it is a Small Tortoiseshell. This is a very common Butterfly in Europe and all over our country. Its name comes from the pattern on its wings. There are rows of blue spots surrounded by black on the deep scalloped, outside edges of all four orange wings. Along the top edges of the front wings are uneven black and white patches. There are also a few black and white patches on the front wings themselves. Males and females look the same. This Butterfly has

a very active life. It is a good flier going far and near in search of food. Its bright colours can be seen in hedgerows, verges, gardens and parks, especially when the sun is shining. It feeds on many different flowers. The Small Tortoiseshell has two or three continuous generations each year. It prefers to lay its eggs on Stinging Nettles. This plant is a good source of food for its caterpillars. The Butterfly can lay up to two hundred eggs in a cluster underneath one leaf. The Caterpillars are black and spiny with yellow bands. Small Tortoiseshell

Butterflies are on the wing from April to November. Adults born in the late Summer hibernate over the winter in sheds, outhouses, churches and barns and even houses. I will enjoy looking for this active, bright coloured Butterfly for the next couple of months. Sheila Harvey

HELP WANTED

Help Wanted with little dog within his own home (Local) For details please phone 07568395242- leave your name and number and I will get back to you

Hilderstone Parish Council

Parish Council Elections 2019

The 2019 Parish Council Elections were held on 2nd May. The election was uncontested and the following Councillors were duly elected.

Cllr. Michael Shelley – Chairman
Cllr. Audrey Stringer – Vice Chairman
Cllr. Roy Clark
Cllr. Jenny Crump
Cllr. Hazel Woodward
Cllr. Jim Davies
Cllr. Philip Davies.

Contact details for the Chairman and Vice Chair are as follows:

Chairman, Cllr. Mike Shelley - Telephone: 01889 505292. Email: mikeshelley@outlook.com. Cllr. Shelley prefers to deal with village matters by telephone when possible.

Vice-Chairman, Cllr. Audrey Stringer – Telephone: 01889 505638. Email: a.stringer247@btinternet.com.

Contact details for all other councillors can be found on the Parish Council website at www.hilderstone.org.uk

Best Kept Village Competition 2019.

A reminder that the judging for the Best Kept Village Competition can take place at anytime up to the end of July (the dates are not given).

Private front gardens as well as the public areas of the village are included in the judging. Neat and well maintained front gardens reflect the level of pride and care residents take in the appearance of their village. Everyone can help by weeding/sweeping the pavements in front of your house and for the passionate gardeners among you, an abundance of floral displays often helps impress the judges.

The Best Kept Village volunteers work extremely hard to maintain many of the public areas so please support their efforts by picking up any litter that you pass when walking around the village; sadly a great deal is thrown from cars passing through the village. If you live near to one of the public flower boxes it would be very helpful if you could water it in dry periods to keep the displays in good condition. If you can spare a little more time and would like to get involved with keeping Hilderstone looking at its very best, please contact the Parish Clerk
Mrs Amanda Kingston at
clerk@hilderstone.staffslc.gov.uk

We hope that you will enjoy the fabulous children's posters on display in the bus shelters again this year, created by pupils of Green Lea School.

Dog Fouling

Several incidents of persistent dog fouling have been reported in the Barnes Croft/Brampton Croft area and along footpath 10 from Cotwalton Lane. Please remember that it is an offence to leave dog mess.

Parents should remind children that walk the family dog on their own, that they must pick up the poo.

Bagged dog mess can be placed in any public waste bin, although the bins in the infant play area should not be used.

If you have any information about the above incidents or any other owners who do not clear up their dog's mess or let their dogs roam loose on a regular basis, please report it to Stafford Borough Council on 01785 619000, email: dogs@staffordbc.gov.uk You can also report on line at <https://www.staffordbc.gov.uk/dogs> The names of people providing this information will remain confidential and you may receive a £75 reward if the information provided leads to a successful prosecution or issuing of a £75 fixed penalty notice. **The Borough and Parish Council are determined to stamp out this very anti-social problem and will take every step to identify and fine offenders.**

Where evidence of the guilty dog owners can be obtained, **a fixed penalty fine of £100** will be issued.

Persistent offenders can be prosecuted further with a maximum fine of up to **£1000**.

Highways Defects

Please continue to report potholes, damaged pavements, blocked drains on the roads, broken streetlights, damaged trees or fallen branches to Staffordshire County Council Highways Department for action via:

<https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/transport/staffshighways/Roads-and-highways.aspx> by emailing highways@staffordshire.gov.uk or by calling 0300 111 8000.

Tree Planting Memorial for WW1

The Parish Council is considering planting seven trees as a memorial to the local fallen soldiers from WW1. The trees would be planted near the children's play area and would include a plaque identifying them as a memorial to the fallen soldiers. The approximate cost would be £500. As this is a significant sum, which has not been included in the 2019/20 budget, the Parish Council wished to inform the local community of their intention and encourage feedback, whether in favour or against, to the Parish Clerk at clerk@hilderstone.staffslc.gov.uk. The final decision will be made by the Parish Council at their meeting in July.

Christ Church, Hilderstone

Summer Fair & Dog Show

Saturday 20th July

2.00pm till 4.00pm

Now at the field next to Lower Farm,
Sandon Road, Hilderstone

Attractions include Tombolla,
Cakes, Refreshments, and more

Parking at Hilderstone Village Hall

FREE ADMISSION



Summer Fair help needed

Our village summer fair is on Saturday 20th July from 2pm till 4pm and I am looking for people to help before during and after plus if you have any ideas for stalls and/or events please contact Phil Davies on 01889 505725.

Christ Church Hilderstone
Parish Magazine July & August 2019



Vicar

Revd Marion Reynolds, The Vicarage, 20 Tudor Hollow
Fulford Tel: 01782 397073

Churchwardens

Mrs Audrey Stringer

Mistletoe House, Hilderstone

01889 505638

Mrs Sue Stubbs

Bearstakes, Sandon Road, Hilderstone

01889 505203

From the Vicar

We are well into Ordinary time in our church lectionary now and, as I said last month, looking at Jesus through Luke's gospel. It is called ordinary but, for me, is anything but ordinary as we try to work out for ourselves what Luke is saying to us today. For example, take the parables; what does the parable of the prodigal son say to you? For you is it the prodigal son or his father or even his brother who speaks to you in the relationships you are in today? Take the parable of the good Samaritan; who speaks to you in this story? Is it the priest, the levi or the Samaritan? What is this parable saying to us about how we treat one another today?

And what is ordinary about this time of year for our children? Not a lot – no way! School end of year, children moving from primary to secondary schools, those leaving school anxiously waiting for GCSE or A level results to know whether their provisional place at college or university will become a reality. School holidays, family holidays, juggling work and child care. No, there is certainly nothing ordinary about summer.

However, it is so often in the ordinary that God does speak to us; in the little things that we maybe take for granted; in the conversation over a coffee or glass of chilled wine, sitting in the garden; in the walk on the seashore in the sun; in the time snoozing on a sunbed around a swimming pool; maybe even in the mundane household tasks we do almost by rote, without thinking.

Finding God in all things is a big part of Ignatian spirituality, but finding God in the boring parts of life is easier said than done. Here are five ways from Ignatian spirituality to help you find God in the ordinary.

- 1. **Micro-Awareness**—This is not just trying to be aware of the present moment, but rather letting each small action you take become your primary purpose in the moment. If you let something as simple as pushing the power button on your computer or walking up the stairs be done with intention and awareness (rather than letting routine get the best of you), you'll find a new holiness in those mundane tasks.
- 2. **Journal**—Writing down the experiences of your day as well as your thoughts and feelings, but often the act of writing uncovers unseen moments of God's presence you initially missed.
- 3. **Do something the "old fashioned way"** Technology and fast expectations can often close the door on our awareness of God. For a change, walk to someone's desk instead of calling, handwrite a letter instead of e-mailing, walk instead of driving. The change of pace may give you a more meaningful interaction or experience. And slowing down lets you acknowledge God's presence more easily.
- 4. **Listen**—When was the last time you *really* listened to someone without trying to think of what to say next? You'll be surprised what you hear if you actually listen to a friend, to the natural sounds around you or to your own conscience. God speaks when we pause long enough to listen.
- 5. **Say "God is here"** Sometimes saying "God is here" is the best way to snap into an awareness that God dwells not just within you but alongside you in every moment, mundane or grand – in the ordinary!

Services at Christ Church

July & August 2019

7 th July	11:15am	Holy Communion
14 th July	11:15am	Holy Communion
21 st July	11:15am	Holy Communion
28 th July	11:15am	BCP Holy Communion
4 th August	11:15am	Holy Communion
11 th August	11:15am	Holy Communion
18 th August	11:15am	Holy Communion
24 th August	12noon	Holy Matrimony
25 th August	11:15am	BCP Holy Communion
1 st Sept	11:15am	Holy Communion

Readings – July & August 2019

7 th July	Gal 6: 7 – 16
(Proper 9)	Luke 10: 1 – 11, 16 – 20
14 th July	Col: 1: 1 - 14
(Proper 10)	Luke 10: 25 - 37
21 st July	Col 1: 15 - 28
(Proper 11)	Luke 10: 38 - end
28 th July	Col 2: 6 – 15
(Proper 12)	Luke 11: 1 - 13
4 th August	Col 3: 1 - 11
(Proper 13)	Luke 12: 13 - 21
11 th August	Heb 11:1 – 3, 8 - 16
(Proper 14)	Luke 12: 32 - 40
18 th August	Heb 11: 29 – 12:2
(Proper 15)	Luke 12: 49 - 56
25 th August	Heb 12: 18 - end
(Proper 16)	Luke 13: 10 - 17
1 st Sept	Heb 13: 1 – 8, 15 - 16
(Proper 17)	Luke 14: 1, 7 - 14

Contacts for other Churches

The Methodist Church (Blythe Bridge):

Rev'd Ian Coates 01782 395370

The Roman Catholic Church (Meir & Cresswell)

Fr Kazimierz Stefek: 01782 313734

Rev'd Trevor Borthwick

What's On

13th July Family Fun Day at Fulford

20th July Village fete at Hilderstone

10th August 1:30 – 4pm Garden Open. By kind permission of Mrs Sue Jones and Mrs Rose Mardling, spend a delightful afternoon in the pleasant and tranquil surroundings of the gardens of Sharpley Farm and Sharpley Cottage (ST15 8SJ). Refreshments available. Car parking available. Admission £5 per person – all proceeds to Access for All fund.

Prayers

If you cannot get to church and would like a visit and/or Holy Communion, contact the Vicar (39073)

Apple & Blueberry Loaf

Ingredients

125g Unsalted butter
225g Self raising flour
pinch of salt
175g golden caster sugar
2 large eggs
2 apples peeled, cored and thinly sliced
125g blueberries
2 tbsp apricot jam

Method

Sift the flour into a bowl & add the salt and butter and mix until it has the texture of breadcrumbs. Add the sugar and eggs and mix again until smooth.

Grease a 900g loaf tin and line with baking paper or a loaf tin liner, carefully spoon half the mixture into the tin and scatter with half the blueberries and half the apples. Add the remaining mixture then arrange the leftover blueberries and apple on top.

Bake in the centre of a preheated oven at 190°C or gas mark 5 for about 1 hour until risen and quite firm to the touch. When the loaf is cooked a skewer inserted into the centre of the cake should come out clean. Heat the jam in a small pan to soften it and brush the warm jam over the loaf as soon as it comes out of the oven.

Allow to cool slightly in the tin for 10 minutes before transferring the loaf from the tin to a wire rack.

This cake is delicious warm or cold.

Neighbourhood Watch

How to Report Rural Crime

When reporting rural/wildlife crime consider these points.

Are the suspect/s alone or in a group?

- Are they trespassing?
- Do they have equipment with them?
- Do they have dogs or firearms with them?
- Where are they going?
- Where have they been?
- What do they look like?
- Have they any vehicles?
- What are the number plates and vehicle models?
- Can you safely get a photograph?

When should I report?

Call the police if you see something suspicious - call us on 101, or call 999 in an emergency. Alternatively you can contact the independent crime-fighting charity

Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 or through their Anonymous Online Form.

No personal details are taken, information cannot be traced or recorded and you will not go to court.

Preventing Rural Crime

On our Preventing Rural Crime section you can find information and advice on arson, commercial diesel theft, equestrian, farmhouses/buildings, fertiliser security, Horse Watch, livestock, metal theft and plant/equipment theft.

You will find links on the Staffordshire Police link :-
<https://www.staffordshire.police.uk/article/2050/Rural-and-Wildlife-Engagement-officer>
Email: nw@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk



Anyone for Badminton!!

If you find yourself at a loose end on a Monday evening, and you enjoy a game of badminton, why not join us at Fulford Village Hall between 8 and 10pm. We are quite a social group who enjoy a good evenings badminton playing and a drink at the local pub to finish the evening off!
Further information from Audrey Stringer
07973790655



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Non Residents: £19.00 per hour

We can also offer special rates for Parties, and regular users of the village hall. Please feel free to discuss with the booking secretary what your requirements are.

Village Hall Key Holders & Contact Details

Mrs M.Wareham (Key Holder & Caretaker) 01889 505488

Pat Cowan 01889 505069

**To advertise on the Village Hall Notice Board email
hvhnoticeboard@gmail.com**

Hilderstone's 100 club Draw June 11th 2019

1st Prize £100 No 44 Pat Cowan

2nd Prize £50 No 56 Pat Saul

3rd Prize £25 No 66 Doreen Smith

4th Prize £10 No 68 Janet Hubbart

5th Prize £10 No 17 Iain Britten

Editor Sue Stubbs tel. 01889505203 or Email:-

susanstubbs01@outlook.com

ALL COPY IN BY THE 8TH OF THE MONTH PLEASE



Saturday August 10th
from 1.30pm until 4pm



Sue Jones and Rose Mardling and their families invite you to join them in their gardens at Sharpley Farm and Sharpley Cottage (ST15 8SJ). Refreshments and a sit down(!) will be available.

Car parking facilities will be provided.

Admission £5 per person

Money raised to be donated to Christ Church,
Hilderstone **afa** (Access for All) fund.



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