Christ Church Hilderstone Parish Magazine



April 2020

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 ALL COPY IN BY THE 8TH OF THE MONTH PLEASE

EDITORIAL

We have a lot going on this month. We start with Palm Sunday and then Holy Week, in which we have services here and at Fulford leading up to Easter Day on Sunday 12th April. More details in this magazine.



Dates for Diary 2020

18th April Saturday Jumble Sale 2pm.in Village Hall.

6th May Valuation day 3 pm to 5pm at Hilderstone Hall, Hall Lane.

13th & 14th June Scarecrow week end.

27th June Hilderstone's Got Talent 7.30p.m.

25th July Summer Fair 2pm.

12th September Saturday Jumble Sale 2pm in Village Hall.

8th December, Village Christmas Party

Magazine Donations

Last year, the advertisers and readers of our magazine generously donated enough money to keep our magazine running, we still need your help to continue. We would like to have your donations in March if possible please although donations at any time of year are gratefully received. If you would like to make a donation please contact either Phil Davies on 01889 505725 or Sue Stubbs on 01889 505203 and we can arrange to collect your donation.

Hilderstone Village Hall

The Management Committee have heard that people are finding it difficult to make bookings for the hall. An arrangement has been made for messages to be transferred from the mobile phone so they can be accessed 24/7. If this is not working please email Debbie on hilderstonevhbookings@gmail.com. If you are still having problems please either email the chairman of the village hall

at crumpjennyann@hotmail.co.uk or alternatively text using the mobile phone number 017899 245777. Thank you.

Are you a member of the Hilderstone 100 Club? If not why not think about joining? It costs £60 a year or £5 a month payable by direct debit. Please contact either Sue Stubbs or Iain Britton. Sue's telephone number is 01889 505203.

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Jumble Sale

Saturday 18th April 2020

Hilderstone Village Hall, Sandon Road, Hilderstone

Donations from 10am please

Doors open 2pm admission 20p

Proceeds in aid of village Christmas Meal and Church funds

Hilderstone W.I. meeting Tuesday 10th

Keith Alldritt recently entertained our members & visitors, with his biographical talk `From Copper to Caregiver`. We were thoroughly absorbed in his story.

We heard how he joined Staffordshire Police Cadets in early 1970's & then became a Police Constable. Throughout his career, Keith was concerned to follow his particular interests rather than chasing promotion and pay rises.

Based at the former Police HQ at Weeping Cross, he worked in the Staffordshire Rural Community Division. We heard how he was involved in Rural Policing Patrols, protecting dogs, horses, sheep and birds of prey from the activity of criminals during the 1980's. Community police work was his love. Sadly cuts were being made to rural policing and so, after 30 years, he took a different direction & became involved in cover supply at a local school. Keith even became involved in helping a Cheerleaders` group to blossom!

He went on to work in the Care profession, with the elderly.

He was awarded the National Caregiver Award in 2015, & appeared on the BBC1 Breakfast red sofa!

Keith now helps to care for the village of Tittensor, and is delighted to have 3 lovely grandchildren .

We were also very grateful to be given some tips about avoiding scams at the end of his talk.

Keith received a loud ovation at the conclusion of his talk, which had been splendidly accompanied by illustrations. It was a real pleasure to have met him.

Do come along & join us on April 14 when we will be absorbed in `crafty hedgehog` production !All ladies welcome

Cooks Tips Hot Cross Buns

Ingredients

500g quality strong bread flour, plus a little extra for dusting

7g sachet of dried yeast 2 tsp ground cinnamon

½ tsp salt 60g mixed peel

75g caster sugar 250ml milk

170g sultanas zest of two small oranges

For the cross piping

75g plain flour 1 tbsp caster sugar

For the glaze

2 tbsp caster sugar

Method

- Sift the bread flour, caster sugar and salt together in a bowl then mix in the yeast. In a jug, mix the milk with 65ml warm water (to make 315ml total). Gradually add the liquid and mix to achieve a pliable dough. Lightly flour a work surface then tip out the dough and knead for 5-6 mins until smooth and elastic.
- Carefully mix the peel, orange zest, sultanas and ground cinnamon into the dough and make sure they are evenly distributed. Then leave to rise in the bowl for an hour.
- Lightly grease a large baking sheet and then pull off 85g pieces of the dough and make them into balls. Place the balls onto the baking sheet, evenly spaced apart and allow to prove for another hour.
- Preheat the oven to gas 8, 230°C, fan 210°C.
- Make the flour piping by combining the plain flour, tablespoon of caster sugar and 80ml of water and blend until the mixture is smooth. Transfer to a piping bag and with a small plain nozzle and pipe a cross over the top of the buns when they are ready for the oven.
- Bake the buns for 15 mins at 230°C then turn the oven down to gas 6, 200°C, fan 180°C, cover with foil and bake for a further 10 mins.
- While the buns are cooking, heat 2 tbsp of water and sugar for the glaze until all the sugar is dissolved. Brush over the buns when they are just out of the oven.
- Allow to cool for 10-15 mins and serve warm. The buns can also be sliced in half, toasted and served with butter

Hilderstone Parish Council

Best Kept Village Competition

The size and scale of the Best Kept Village competition has grown over recent years and now requires a dedicated working group with the drive and enthusiasm to take it forward. The Parish Council are appealing for residents with a passion for the village to step in and run the competition.

If a working group cannot be formed, Hilderstone will not enter the competition this year, but the Parish Council will review the situation on an annual basis. Anyone interested in forming a working group should notify the Clerk no later than 3rd April 2020. The Clerk can be contacted by email on clerk@hilderstone.staffslc.gov.uk or by calling 01785 661550.

Over the past few years the competition has changed and the format for 2020 will now enable supplementary evidence such as photographs and video's to be submitted throughout the year. This will enable the judges to obtain a more comprehensive picture of the village and events that take place over the year, rather than basing decisions on two visits which may not provide a true reflection of village life. Please follow this link for further information https://staffsfoundation.org.uk/partnershipsinitiatives/bkvc/

Dog Fouling

The Parish unfortunately has a continuing problem with Dog fouling. This is not only deeply unpleasant and an eyesore, but can present a genuine risk to health. The Parish Council appreciate this is likely to be the result of a small number of irresponsible residents, and would like to take the opportunity to remind all dog owners of the need to act responsibly and clean up after dogs, especially now the evenings are darker. When dogs are not on a lead it can be

difficult to see exactly what they are doing, so please be vigilant. The penalty for dog fouling carries an on the spot fine of £100. The Stafford Borough Council Dog Warden has been informed of the concerns within Hilderstone and will be patrolling the area in the hope of catching those responsible.

Contacting Staffordshire County Council Highways

Staffordshire County Council Highways is now a fully digitised service. Therefore, all enquiries, new reports and updates must be completed online at https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Highways/Contact.aspx

There is no longer a telephone number or address for this service. If Staffordshire residents do not have access to the internet, they can visit their local library and use the free computers there.

Some libraries can put you in touch with an IT buddy - a library volunteer who can provide you with support in using computers.

Please see the link below for more information:

https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Libraries/Libraryservices/computers/IN42Surf.aspx

Grass Verges

Grass verges are easily damaged, especially in wet weather. The damage is mainly caused by drivers parking on the verges during the winter when the ground is very soft. Please ensure that you or any visitors to your property do not park on the verges or the pavements.

Christ Church Hilderstone Lent, Holy Week and Easter Services

5th Apr (Palm Sunday) 9:30am Holy Communion St Nicholas Christ 11:15am Holy Communion Christ Church 6th Apr (Monday in Holy Week) 7pm St Nicholas Holy Communion (said) 7th Apr (Tuesday in Holy Week) 7pm Christ Church Holy Communion (said) 8th Apr (Wednesday in Holy Week) 7pm St Nicholas Holy Communion (said) 9th Apr (Maundy Thursday) 7pm Christ Church Holy Communion with foot washing 10th Apr (Good Friday) 2pm St Nicholas Stations of the Cross 11th Apr (Easter Eve) 8pm Christ Church Light Service 12th Apr (Easter Day) 9:30am St Nicholas Family Communion 11:15am Christ Church Family Communion 22nd Apr 12noon

St Nicholas Lunch + Stations of the Resurrection service

Hilderstone Heritage, Part Thirty

I have a leaflet from Christ Church Hilderstone for "Lent 1953". The leaflet features a brief introduction by the then Vicar of Hilderstone, Reverend E H Fernie:

"My Dear People,

Here is the list of Lent Services. Please keep it and study it and try to make use of the Services. Lent can help you if you will make use of it. There are not so many Lents in the longest life, so use this one. It is a great thing to start it well by coming to your Communion on Ash Wednesday and by praying for grace to persevere".

There was then a section to record your "Resolutions for Lent":

Through God's help this Lent, I will......

(1) Come to my Communion every	
(2) Attend the following Services	
(3) Say my prayers every	
(4) Give up	
(5) Try harder to overcome my besetting sin of	

Fill up the above resolutions as seems best to you and ask for grace to keep them."

'Besetting sin' is a term that is not used so widely today and I had to check its meaning – it is a sin to which one is particularly prone.

There were two pages detailing the services over the Lent period. Ash Wednesday was on 18th February and there were Holy Communion services at 07:00, 08:00 and 10:00; a Scholars' Service at 09:00; a Children's Service at 16:45; and Evensong and Address at 19:30. Just think, the Vicar took six services on one day!

The Reverend Fernie sent out calendars to his parishioners and these had photographs that have now become of great historical interest. Two of them showed the Vicarage before it was reduced in size.

Throughout Lent 1953 on each Wednesday there were services at 19:30 which focussed on "Great Events in the Life of Our Lord": The Baptism; The Temptation; The Transfiguration; The Last Supper; The Agony; and The Trials.

Services on a Sunday at 18:30 throughout Lent concerned "The Village and the Church" and covered "the Village and Neighbourliness; Charity; Worship; Witness; the Sacraments; and the Cross".

At that time there were Holy Communion Services every Wednesday and Friday at 10:00 and 07:00 respectively; and a Children's Service every Wednesday at 16:45. Mothering Sunday (15th March 1953) featured a "Service for Parents and Children" at 14:45.

Holy Week was a very busy time. On Palm Sunday there were five services: Holy Communion at 07:00 and 08:00; Matins and Sermon at 11:00; Children's Service at 14:45; and Evensong and Sermon at 18:30. Up to and including Maundy Thursday services were held at 10:00 (Holy Communion) and 19:30 (Evensong and Address). On Good Friday (3rd April)

there was a Litany and Ante-Communion at 08:00; Children's Service at 09:30; Three Hours' Service 12:00 – 15:00 [which Mum told me was one that you could pop in at any time]; and finally, Evensong and Address at 19:30. Easter Even (now usually referred to as Easter Saturday) had just the one service: "First Evensong of the Festival" at 19:30.

The events of Holy Week culminated in Easter Sunday (4th April) when there were another five services: Holy Communion at 07:00 and 08:00; Choral Eucharist and Sermon at 11:00; Children's Service 14:45; and Evensong and Sermon 18:30.

I found a very interesting item for sale on the AbeBooks website. It was a letter written by Ethel Bourne, of Hilderstone Hall, to Rupert Simms (1853 – 1937), bookseller and author of the 'Bibliotheca Staffordiensis' The letter is dated 18th May 1892 and is written on paper with the letterhead of "Hilderstone Hall, Stone, Staffordshire". Ethel Bourne (1853 – 1893) was the daughter of John Bourne JP, 'Lord of the Manor' of Hilderstone.

Ethel was an aspiring novelist who wrote under the pseudonym Evelyn Burne. According to the website, in the letter she explains that her only publications up to that point are 'Stormbeaten and Weary [1887]' and 'Spectre Stricken' ('a Christmas Story') [date unknown]. "I wish to remain unknown until I can write a book I consider sufficiently good to have my own name - for this reason I have called myself "Evelyn Burne".

Facsimile editions of 'Stormbeaten and Weary' are available to buy on the internet but I can find no trace of 'Spectre Stricken'. Who knew Hilderstone had a Victorian authoress?

Hilderstone's Got Talent

We're searching the village for hidden talent. Are you a secret singer? An unseen magician? A private piano player? A covert comedian? A reluctant raconteur? Well, your village needs you!

Your Village Hall Committee is staging an evening of family entertainment on Saturday 27 June 2020 starting at 7:30pm. Adult tickets are £5.00 each including a welcoming drink and a free £1 raffle ticket (Children £2 entry fee).

Tickets available from: lain Britton 07582 303344 Tim Handley 07758 242642 Dom Leech 07791 790617

Would-be performers please contact Tim Handley (07758 242642) or take the audition challenge at The Roe Buck - date and time to be confirmed!

Christ Church Hilderstone Parish Magazine April 2020



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

During Lent I've been re-reading the 14th century, female mystic woman writer, Julian of Norwich's book "Revelations of divine love" but this time in a modern translation by an American female theologian entitled "Julian of Norwich, The Showings". The most well-known and often quoted sentence from the book is: "all will be well and all will be well and every kind of thing shall be well". Such profound words, written by a 30 year old English woman who had a near death experience nearly 700 years ago. When Julian was young and in the throes of deep spiritual idealism, she prayed for 3 "graces" - to bear witness to the passion of Christ, to endure a very severe illness that would bring her to the point of death but not to death and to experience the triplewound of contrition, compassion and longing for God. Her prayers were answered and, during her illness, she experienced a series of visions which she termed "showings". When she became well enough, she became an anchorite for the next 20 years, recording her visions and her meditations on them. At the end of her writings Julian askes what the Holy One meant by all this. "Would you like to know?" was the response; "know it well: love was his meaning. Who revealed this to you? Love. What did he reveal to you? Love. Why did he reveal it to you? For love. Stay with this and you will know more of the same. You will never know anything but love, without end".

And that is what Easter is all about isn't it? Love. As the hymn says:" love so amazing, so divine". That God was prepared to let his son die so that we can, and are, saved from our sins; to raise him back to life again so that we too can share in the everlasting life he offers to each one of us. As Graham Kendrick says in one of his most moving modern hymns: "Such love, pure as the whitest snow

Such love, weeps for the shame I know Such love, paying the debt I owe O Jesus, such love

Such love, stilling my restlessness Such love, filling my emptiness Such love, showing me holiness O Jesus, such love

Such love, springs from eternity Such love, streaming through history Such love, fountain of life to me O Jesus, such love"

Make that your Easter prayer! A happy and blessed Easter to you all.



Services at Christ Church

April 2020

5th April 11:15am Holy Communion (Palm Sunday) 12th April 11:15am Family Communion for Easter Day

19th April 11:15am Holy Communion

26th April 11:15am BCP Holy Communion

3rd May 11:15am Holy Communion

Readings - April 2020

5th April Phil 2: 5 - 11

(Palm Sunday) Matt 26: 14 – 27: end

12th April Acts 10: 34 – 43 (must be used)

(Easter Day) Matt 28: 1 - 10

19th April Acts 2: 14a, 22 - 32 (must be used)

(Easter 2) John 20: 19 - end

26th April Acts 2: 14a, 36 – 41 (must be used)

(Easter 3) Luke 24: 13 – 35

3rd May Acts 2: 42 – end (must be used)

(Easter 4) John 10: 1 - 10

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

What's On? Easter 2020

Holy Monday, 6th April 7pm Holy Communion St Nicholas Holy Tuesday, 7th April 7pm Holy Communion Christ Church Holy Wednesday, 8th April 7pm Holy Communion St Nicholas Maundy Thursday, 9th April 7:00pm Holy Communion with (optional) foot washing

Good Friday, 10th April 2pm Stations of the Cross at St Nicholas

Easter Eve 11th April 8pm Service of Light Christ Church

22nd April 12noon light lunch followed by service of Stations of the Resurrection at St Nicholas

<u>Forward notice: Antiques Valuation</u> with Hanson's Auctioneers in Hilderstone Hall, 6th May 3 – 5pm. £1 per item (max 3 items); refreshments available. All proceeds to Christ Church Access for All fund to provide facilities in the church.

Forward notice: Christ Church APCM: 13th May 7:00pm Hilderstone Village Hall. All on the church electoral roll are invited to attend (and vote if required).

Forward Notice: Stone Deanery Ascension Day Service
St Michael's Stone is hosting the deanery service for
Ascension Day at 7:30pm on 21st May. All are welcome to
attend

Prayers

If you cannot get to church and would like a visit and/or Holy Communion, contact the Vicar (01782 397073)

COUNTRYSIDE WATCHER - I LOVE THIS MONTH

I love April, not just because it's my Birthday month, but because it is such a lovely countryside month. I love this time of the year. The trees along the lane are attracting the migrating birds that come to breed in our country.

The Grey Wagtails have already returned. They like nesting near a bridge. It is lovely to watch them on the stones in the flowing water. They bob and curtsey to each other. At this time I love watching the male's bright breast and its long wagging tail.

I love listening to the different songs that are added to the Dawn Chorus. I also enjoy the rising temperatures. However, I do not like bitter, cold days. I remember, as a very young child, crying when I saw snow covering everywhere on my Birthday!

Over a low hedge I saw a small pond. There were a few frogs there, though their annual breeding was over. They had produced clouds of spawn. So the next generation was promised. Suddenly, the frogs disappeared. All I saw was a mass of bubbles as they dived for cover. They must have seen my shadow.

I looked at the Daffodils on the green banks of the stream. Although they had suffered from a late frost, they nodded their approval of the warmer day. Celandines and Primroses joined the Daffodils. It looked as if the stream was surrounded by a sea of gold. At the top of the bank, some pollen-laden catkins were on the Willows.

The birds look beautiful. The males are smart, beautifully coloured, ready to attract and woo a mate. It is breeding time. One day a female Pheasant went slowly towards a beautiful coloured male pecking in the grass. She was obviously trying to get his attention. He ignored her and continued to peck. He looked up and went towards her. She turned round and began to run away. He followed her. Then both rose into the air and flew away.

I was pleased to see a Common Lizard. I do not see them often. It is a little scaled creature of bronze and fawn colours. It disappeared into the tall grasses. There was a rotting log covered with Wood Anemones. I heard the song of a Wren. It makes a ticking sound first then it sings a sweet song. I admired the lovely pink Larch flowers and soft green leaves.

Yes, it is April in the lane and Spring has begun.





Cowslip or Cow Slop?

The name cowslip is believed to be a mispronunciation of cow slop, so named because the flowers are traditionally found near cow pats in pastures! A widespread plant of grassland, not to be confused with primrose which is more of a woodland plant. Cowslip can grow in many soils but really thrives in limestone and chalk grassland. It is an important nectar source for insects including bees, beetles and butterflies as it flowers early and can carpet an area where conditions are suitable. Look out for the yellow brimstone butterfly, which is on the wing early in the year, this may be feeding on cowslip flowers.

Like many wildflowers, cowslip has been part of the herbalists' collection for centuries. It has a sedative quality so is used to treat sleep problems whilst the citrusy flavoured flowers can help with coughs. Cowslip flowers were also used to flavour wine and can be found in traditional Spanish recipes.

Also known as St Peter's Keys or Keys of Heaven, cowslips were believed to have grown where St Peter dropped the Key to Earth. You may have cowslips in your churchyard grassland, if so try and leave the areas where it occurs uncut until the flowers have finished and set seed. Cowslip does not grow high so perhaps you could set your mower blade at 10cm so that the leaves are not shredded by subsequent mows.

All the best

Harriet Carty,

Diocesan Churchyard Environmental Advisor, harriet@cfga.org.ukln
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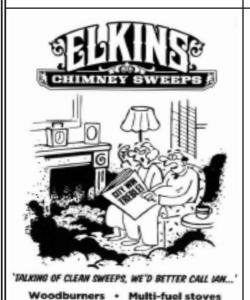
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Accounts, Tax, VAT,

Sorry to swear in the Parish Magazine. Let me take the pain away.

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Dingle Lane, Hilderstone.

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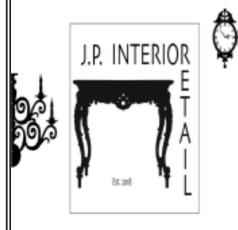
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HILDERSTONE VILLAGE HALL HIRE CHARGES

Information for Hiring Hilderstone Village Hall

Hilderstone Residents: £15.00 per hour 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

All bookings should be made through the Bookings Secretary: Debbie Britton, Tel: 07810332559 Monday to Friday or email:-hilderstonevhbookings@gmail.com Post Code ST15 8SF

Hilderstone 100's club draw March 10th 2020

Due to unforeseen circumstances the draw was unable to be held. We will have a double draw in April

1st Prize £100 No 2nd Prize £50 No

3rd Prize £25 No

4th Prize £10 No

5th Prize £10 No Editor Sue Stubbs tel. 01889505203 or Email:susanstubbs01@outlook.com

Scarecrow Fun Weekend



Save the Date

It's Scarecrow time again.....!!

Saturday & Sunday

13th & 14th JUNE 2020 1.30 - 5pm

Just an update to say things are progressing well for our forthcoming Scarecrow Weekend.

I now have a small, enthusiastic committee and, after our first meeting, we have some new ideas coming up for Scarecrow Weekend. It will be Watch This Space in the following Church Magazines and, so far, I have had promises of **SEVEN** Scarecrows so do keep on thinking about YOUR scarecrows and please drop me an email to confirm your entry.

See the back page of this magazine for some previous year's entries!

Christine Clark

Email: clark.roy2@yahoo.co.uk Tel 01889 505676

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