Christ Church Hilderstone

Parish Magazine

December 2018 / January 2019

USEFUL NUMBERS

CHURCH

Vicar Rev. Marion Reynolds Tel: 01782 397073

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	03001234455
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

EDITORIAL

Welcome to the combined December 2018 and January 2019 Parish Magazine. As you can imagine for this time of the year, there are quite a few important events and dates in the forthcoming weeks which are noted in the magazine. In addition we have some reports from recent significant village events. It just remains to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year for 2019!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 1st December 5pm Christmas Grand Draw at the Roebuck

Saturday 8th December, 10am-1pm Christmas Coffee Morning at Hilderstone Village Hall
We would welcome any volunteers to help us run this event and, as always, any donations of cakes and raffle prices would be most appreciated.

Tuesday 11th December Village Christmas Party 6.30 pm for 7pm
Have you got your name down ?
Phone Jean Jones 01782395622 or Hazel 01889505263 or Sue Stubbs 01889505203

Nativity Sets wanted!

Christ Church carol service is on 9th December at 3pm in church. It is entitled "Carols with the cribs" and we are hoping to get as many different nativity sets as we can to decorate the church.
Do you have a nativity set that you would be prepared to bring to the church before the service? If so, please contact Rev Marion on 01782 397073.

Editor Sue Stubbs tel. 01889505203 or Email:-
susanstubbs01@outlook.com
ALL COPY IN BY THE 8TH OF THE MONTH PLEASE

Hilderstone WI news
84th Birthday Celebration

Hilderstone WI Members enjoyed a very happy evening in the Village Hall on Tuesday 9th October 2018 for the Celebration of their 84th Birthday. President Pat Saul welcomed the Reverend Marion Reynolds and all members present before speaking of the death last week of a much loved member Lydia Taylor.

Lydia was remembered by every one for her kindness, her willingness to take on tasks at Meetings, her resilience during some years of illness, her dry sense of humour and quick wit; her absence at the *'table by the door'* collecting money for the evening, was particularly noticeable on this occasion.

Our usual *'singers'* were again absent but members offered an excellent example of Choral Speaking in their rendition of 'Jerusalem'. Reverend Marion offered Grace and Pat Saul offered a Toast to "absent friends".

There followed a delightful meal provided by Rachel Goodwin and her team. The wine flowed and happy conversation was much in evidence.

During coffee Marian Baldwin entertained the gathering with *'Memories of School Days'*. The tales were much enjoyed and members reminisced with. memories of their own school uniforms, gym slips and PE knickers with a pocket for ones hanky! It was generally decided that 1960s School Discipline would not be 'acceptable' for today's generation of school pupils . Marian's 'Talk' ended with the cutting of the beautiful Birthday Cake created by Margaret Mountford.

The next meeting on November 13th in the Village Hall and is open to any new members who can be guaranteed a warm welcome by Hilderstone WI.

Hilderstone WI

The November Meeting was an action packed occasion, following, a short 'Business' session, in which plans for 2019 were discussed; some of the Outings and Holidays suggested were very inviting.

Members were then treated to a presentation by fellow members ... Linda Alderson, Alison Fuller, Shirley Robson with Gina Valentine assisting. *'Tea for Two'* could be misinterpreted as an evening tea party but Hilderstone WI were in for a surprise!

The Village Hall became a small Craft Factory as members were busily employed, each creating an original *'Come to Tea'* invitation. Linda and her team had given careful thought to a design and construction activity that would 'entertain' a large group of WI ladies. The members enjoyed an instructive and industrious period. It was evident that certain members were less adept at gluing and hole-punching and it was comforting to note the occasional mystified expression on the face of our President!

Linda Alderson's explanation of folding and gluing was an exemplary example of patience and, thanks to the skills of the presentation group, Hilderstone WI members produced very attractive and well created results.

President Pat Saul thanked the talented team who had given the Members such an entertaining and creative evening.

A delicious selection of cakes awaited members following their 'work experience' and the refreshments were much appreciated.

The 'Tea Cup and Saucer' Competition was won by Marian Baldwin whose entry was 131years old.

Hilderstone WI's last meeting of the year will be their Christmas Party on December 4th when friends from neighbouring Institutes will join them for the evening.

The first Meeting in 2019 will be Tuesday 8th January at 7.30 pm in Hilderstone Village Hall. New members are always welcomed.

Hilderstone Heritage, Part Twenty-Six

'The Staffordshire Weekly Sentinel' of 12th November 1954 featured a full spread article on Hilderstone, entitled "One of the Happiest Villages in Staffordshire – That's Hilderstone."

This is a snapshot of village life in the aftermath of a world war and in the early part of the second half of the Twentieth Century. The article begins:

"Hilderstone must surely be one of the happiest and most contented villages in Staffordshire – for in this agricultural community even the farmers have few complaints. One indeed makes the surprising claim that the weather is better than in most parts of North Staffordshire. Thunderstorms, he has noticed, 'often pass by the village' though he admits – rather reluctantly it seemed – that they do of course have a share of bad weather.

Whatever the merits of these meteorological observations, there is no doubt that the people love their village, and, quite properly, are proud of it, for it has quiet rural charm and is surrounded by rolling wooded pastures. But beauty and prosperity alone do not necessarily bring contentment and one may perhaps find the answer more in the warm-hearted friendliness of its inhabitants.

Hilderstone has little recorded history, no famed 'beauty spots', and few specimens of archaeological interest. It is just a good place in which to live – and, if one is agriculturally inclined, to work. Some of the inhabitants have found work in the towns, but few have left their homes in the village.

A short way from the village is Hilderstone Hall, which has had a profound influence on the life and development of the village. The present hall was built by Ralph Bourne at the beginning of the last century and it has remained in the Bourne family until four years ago, when the death of 94 years old Mrs Helen Bourne brought to a close a most important chapter in the village history. The Hall and the 600-acre estate, including five farms, were sold to Mr John Sadler, Joint Managing Director of James Sadler and Sons Ltd of Burslem. The old regime, which had lasted a century and a half, had ended, and a new one had begun – a matter of great significance in the life of the village.

One thing Mr Sadler and his wife have quickly acquired is a deep pride in Hilderstone and the Hall, and a sincere interest in the wellbeing of the village and its people. Since assuming ownership, Mr Sadler, who is Officer Commanding No 45 Gliding School, Meir, has been carrying out an extensive programme of modernisation and improvement of estate properties, which include five farms and seven cottages. Four of the five farms are tenanted and the fifth he is farming himself, with a bailiff, Mr F Fox. Like most farms in the area, it is ‘mixed’ farming, but an unusual feature for the district is the presence of more than 500 pigs”.

Mr Sadler goes on to explain the historical importance of the hall and how, with the aid of the North Staffordshire Field Club, he strove to find something of the hall’s obscure history (see part Twenty-One).

The article continues: “As always, the Hall today remains prominently identified with many phases of the village life and

activities. Mrs Sadler is President of the Hilderstone Women's Institute – a thriving and active body – and the Enrolling Member of the Mothers' Union. In spite of her domestic duties, work in helping to run the estate, and the service she gives to a number of organisations, she still finds time to execute some superb petit point embroidery for use on dining room chairs, and has recently taken up oil painting - a hobby to which she is bringing the same enthusiasm and imagination.

Mrs Sadler does not find living in the country at all quiet or dull, as many townspeople seem to imagine. "Town life is peaceful compared with the country" she says. "Every night there is some activity – whist drives, film shows, efforts and meetings of various organisations".

Close to the Hall is Christ Church, built in 1833 *[sic]*. It is of stone, with a tower at the west and surmounted with a 40 feet high spire. Patron of the living is Mrs G Candy, formerly of Walton House, Stone, who recently left the district to live in London. She is the daughter of the late Mrs Bourne, of Hilderstone Hall.

Vicar for the past four years has been the Rev E H Fernie, who came to Hilderstone from Yorkshire, though for 25 years previously he had been ministering in Australia. He is no stranger to the district, however, for his father was the late Dr Edward Fernie, who was in medical practice in Stone for 47 years. Mr Fernie states that the church was built by Ralph Bourne, whose nephew, Rev Bourne Baker, was the first vicar. The nephew had built the vicarage - a large and imposing building with a faintly continental look – and went to

reside there, to the apparent displeasure of his uncle who wanted him to live at the Hall.

Mr Fernie is a bachelor and has two dogs of whom he is obviously very fond. Asked if he did not find the vicarage rather large for his bachelor needs - it has some 16 rooms – he replied vigorously: “Not at all. I like plenty of room – and big rooms”. He points out that meetings are often held at the Vicarage, and that the local amateur dramatic society rehearse there before putting on their productions in the school.

The vicar is proud of his village’s dramatic society and thinks the talent is “extraordinarily good”. He ought to know as he has had half-a-century’s experience of running dramatic societies, not only in this country, but also in Australia. His verdict – “I think this society is the best I have ever had to deal with”. And this in spite of the present lack of adequate facilities.

Hilderstone is a small parish – just over 400 people. The Vicar says the parishioners attend church very well. The village school was built about the same time as the Church. Here, under a headmistress (Miss Blant) and an assistant, about 40 junior children are trained. Senior children go to school in Stone. The Vicar’s view is that ‘It is quite a good little village school. Very satisfactory of its kind’.

I do find it the Vicar’s comments rather amusing. I wonder if today’s Ofsted reports use such language?

To be continued…..

A Moving act of Remembrance

On a beautiful Autumn morning a silence fell upon the whole country, indeed much of the world, as we paused from our busy lives to pay tribute to those who fell during the First World War. Like communities throughout Britain, Hilderstone showed its collective thanks to those young men and women in a moving remembrance Service at Christ Church.

Festooned with poppies, the church was a beautiful tribute to all those who marched to war, and especially those who failed to return. Our boys from Hilderstone, whose names are engraved on the War Memorial, looked on from old photographs displayed in a thoughtful exhibition which had been placed at the entrance to the church, whilst their names were proudly displayed on poppies around the village and the church entrance.

Two silent Tommies stood sentinel in the churchyard, with hand-made poppies at their feet, a gift from the children of our Crafty Church Group, alongside crosses, bearing the names of loved ones lost through war. It set the scene for what was to be a very poignant act of remembrance.

By 10.45am, Christ Church was full, with the congregation representing our diverse community: those whose childhood had been directly affected by the loss of war, and those who are too young to fully

appreciate the pain of war but came to show their thanks. Whatever our age, experiences or beliefs, we were united in our act of remembrance.

This Remembrance Service saw the re-dedication of the War Memorial. For many years, this memorial had been tucked away at the entrance to the church, following its removal from the old school. Now, however, it has been re-sited in a more prominent location in the South Aisle, where it now stands with pride, decorated with poppies from the Tower of London and our own wreaths from the Parish Council and the Women's Institute.

There were many moving parts to this service, from Marion Baldwin's readings, Roy Clark's detailed presentation and the Reverend Marion's sermon, but perhaps worthy of special mention was the haunting sound of The Last Post. Positioned on the balcony, 10-year-old Zack Ireland's faultless rendition was truly memorable; the sound of the solo trumpeter reverberated throughout the church to mark the commencement of the Two Minute Silence. It was a strikingly poignant moment.

The releasing of a cascade of poppies, strewn from the balcony by members of the Crafty Church group, was a most fitting, and very moving, end to this special service. It was a silent salute from a generation who will ensure that we will keep the memory of the fallen alive.

At the going down of the sun and in the morning

We will remember them.

An extract from "For the Fallen"
by Laurence Binyon

Pictured above: Rev'd Marion Reynolds with Steven Bane (left) & Michael Shelley.

Christmas is coming …

Hilderstone Christmas Coffee Morning & Craft Fair

Now we are officially in the Christmas season, why not come and join us for our ever-popular village coffee morning on Saturday 8th December in the Village Hall? With a lovely array of Christmas gifts on offer, a tantalising array of cakes and refreshments, and the usual Tombola and raffle, this is stress-free shopping at its best!

All proceeds from this event will go towards the 'Access for All' project at Christ Church, which aims to make the church better suited to all ages, with full disability access, indoor toilet facilities and a tea bar. All monies raised at the event will be match-funded by a sponsor, so you can help us make a very real difference on the day.

Doors are open from 10am – 1pm.

Any cakes, raffle prizes or offers of help at the Coffee Morning, would be most gratefully received! Perishable items will be accepted from 8am onwards on the 8th December at the Village Hall, Hilderstone, whilst other items can be collected. For more information, please contact Lilley on Tel: 01889 505013.

So come and join us on Saturday 8th December for a little Christmas shopping with friends.

Carols Around the Crib – an exhibition of crib scenes from around the world.

Christ Church is to be the back-drop for the first exhibition of crib scenes from around the world in Hilderstone, forming a truly international celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ, as we prepare for Christmas. Comprising of private nativity scenes of all shapes, sizes and designs, this diverse collection will be displayed in the beautiful Georgian church of Hilderstone, as a reminder of the true meaning of Christmas and a celebration of our world-wide family.

Anyone wishing to share their tableaus with us is most welcome to do so. Whether they are home-made or shop-bought, old or new, we would love to exhibit them. Please ensure they are clearly labelled with your name, address and a contact number. Items can either be deposited at the Village Hall during the Coffee Morning on Saturday 8th December, or at Christ Church between 10-10.30am on Sunday 9th December.

The Exhibition will be open from 11am – 3pm on Sunday 9th December and will culminate in a specially-prepared 'Carols Around the Crib' service at 3pm, followed by mulled wine and, of course, mince pies!

Proceeds from this event will go to Staffordshire Women's Aid, which supports women and children who have fled, or still living with, domestic or sexual violence in Staffordshire Moorlands, Stafford Borough, Cannock District and South Staffs. Last year, alone, this charity responded to nearly 6,000 helpline calls, offered accommodation to 90 women and over 150 children in it refuges, and provided specialist support to more than 600 women and 200 children/young people. This, combined with its training of over 600 professionals on Domestic and Sexual violence, has established the Women's Aid as a vital service within our community.

We hope you can join us for this special start to Christmas.

Symbols of Christ

Christians have many symbols to represent what and who they are, all with a reference to Jesus. Here are just a few you can see:

First three letters of the name Jesus. Often used to mark a Christian building or object

The words that Pilate had put over the cross that crucified Jesus. Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews. When the Jewish leaders objected and wanted it changed to “he claimed to be the king of the Jews”, Pilate refused their request.

Chi-Rho. Greek for the first 3 letters of Christ, or Christos, or Messiah, or God’s anointed one. The one who would come as the Saviour of God’s people

Icthcus – Greek for fish. Secret symbol used by the early church. Translates as “Jesus Christ, Son of God, Saviour

Crucifix or cruciform.
The crucifix shows Jesus death on the cross for our sins. The cruciform shows an empty cross as Christ has risen (as he promised!)

Christ Church Hilderstone
Parish Magazine December 2018 & January 2019

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

Churchwardens
Mrs Audrey Stringer Mistletoe House, Hilderstone 01889505638
Mrs Sue Stubbs Bearstakes, Sandon Road, Hilderstone 505203

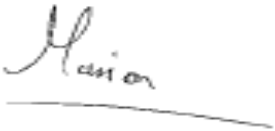
From the Vicar

As I write this on a dark and murky day, rain pouring and wind gusting, if I listen to the news on the TV or radio, I might be forgiven for asking myself: why on earth am I sending Christmas cards with peace on earth and goodwill to all written on them? What peace? What goodwill? What joy? What is there to celebrate? It all seems so dark and murky doesn't it? It was precisely the same over 2000 years ago in what we now call Israel – the people didn't think they had anything to celebrate – after all they were living under the harsh rule of their Roman conquerors weren't they? Where was God in their situation? And how often do we hear that same sentiment today. I give the same answer as I gave when I was asked a similar question after 911: God is there with you, crying with you, sharing the pain, angry and frustrated. Why? Because it is not God who is perpetrating the evil we see and hear about all around us; it is man. As a Christian, John 3:16 is my lynchpin: "God so loved the world that he sent his only Son". That is what Christmas is really all about.

At the end of November the church begins its new year, as always, with the season of Advent. Advent is one of two penitential seasons in the church (the other being Lent) when Christians particularly think about how far we fall short of what God would like us to be and we ask for His forgiveness. We look forward to celebrating Christ's first coming as a baby (at Christmas) and we also look forward to his promised second coming at some time in the future which only God knows when every tear shall be wiped from our eyes and death shall be no more as we are told in Revelation 21. At the end of Advent we have one of the two joyful seasons of the church – Christmas (just as we have Easter at the end of Lent). Christmas is the time when Christians remember, and thank God, that He loved the world so much that He was prepared to send his only son to show us a role-model for life. Christmas Day is the time when we give thanks for the birth of the divine Jesus as a human being, to a human family.

We will be celebrating Advent, Christmas Night and Christmas Day. Everyone is welcome to come and join us for any, or all, of the services. Who knows, if you do, then maybe you, too, will experience the love of God in your life this Christmas.

May God bless you and all you love at this special time of year.



Services at Christ Church

December 2018 & January 2019

2nd Dec	11:15am	Holy Communion
9th Dec	3:00pm	Carol Service
	Note: no morning service!	
16th Dec	11:15am	Holy Communion
23rd Dec	11:15am	SAID BCP Holy Communion
24th Dec	4:00pm	Crib & Christingle service
24th Dec	21:45pm	early Midnight Mass

25th Dec	10:30am	Family Communion at Fulford
30th Dec	11:15am	Benefice Communion
6th Jan 2019	11:15am	Holy Communion
13th Jan	11:15am	Holy Communion
20th Jan	11:1am	Holy Communion
27th Jan	11:15am	BCP Holy Communion
3rd Feb	11:5am	Holy Communion

Readings – December 2018 & January 2019

2nd December	1Thes 3: 9 – end
(Advent Sunday)	Luke 21: 25 - 36
9th December	Philippians 1: 3 – 11
(Advent 2)	Luke 3: 1 - 6
16th December	Philippians 4: 4 - 7
(Advent 3)	Luke 3: 7 - 18
23rd December	Heb 10: 5 - 10
(Advent 4)	Luke 1: 39 – 45 [46 – 55]
24th December	Heb 1: 1 - 4
(Christmas Eve)	John 1: 1 - 14
25th December	Titus 3: 4 – 7
(Christmas Day)	Luke 2: 1 – 20
30th December	Col 3: 12 - 17
(Christmas 1)	Luke 2: 41 - end
6th January	Eph 3: 1 – 12
(Epiphany)	Matt 2: 1- 12
13th Jan	Acts 8: 14 - 17
(Baptism of Christ)	Luke 3: 15 – 17, 21 - 22
20th Jan	1Cor 12: 1 - 11
(Epiphany 3)	John 2: 1 - 11
27th Jan	1Cor 12: 12 – 31a
(Epiphany 4)	Luke 4: 14 - 21
3rd Feb	Hebrews 2: 14 - end
(Candlemas)	Luke 2: 22 – 40

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

3rd Sunday Children's Crafty Sunday

The 11:15am service on the 3rd Sunday of the month includes special time for children to have time together to do a variety of craft based projects (recently making and maintaining a bug hotel in the churchyard for example). All children are welcome to join in. Please contact Lisa Norwood or Rev Marion for more details.

Advent frugal lunch & talk

On 5th, 12th, 19th December at 12noon we will be holding a frugal lunch (soup, bread and cheese) followed by a short talk on the theme of the Advent Wreath at Hilderstone Village Hall. All welcome

Nativity Sets wanted!

Do you have a Nativity set that you would lend to the church on Sunday, 9th December?
Our Carol Service this year on 9th December at 3pm is entitled Carols with the Cribs and the more cribs we have around us the better the church will look. Please contact Rev Marion (01782 397073) if you have a nativity set to lend

Prayers

We pray for the Church, for all who are ill, bereaved, troubled or confused. If you cannot get to church and would like a visit and/or Holy Communion, contact the Vicar (01782 397073) or Shirley Rawlings (01538 724392).

Hilderstone Hall Christmas Events in December
Everyone is welcome.

Monday 3rd- the first of our Christmas trees start to be dressed.

Wednesday 5th -1pm Memory lane lunch at Trentham Gardens. (Anyone wishing to join us please see Sharon)

Wednesday 5th- 5.15pm Yarnfield 1st division Rainbows will be coming to sing.
Thursday 6th -3.30pm Remembrance Service for those loved ones who passed in 2018, held by Reverend Marion.

Friday 7th -All day Elf dress up day, please join us for fun and best costume prize giving at 2.30pm.

Tuesday 11th – 2.30pm Memory Lane will be performing their own Christmas carols, to be held in the Spode Lounge.

Wednesday 12th – 1pm Christmas lunch and shopping trip at Bridgmere Garden centre, (anyone wishing to join us please see Sharon)

Friday 14th – Christmas jumper day- prizes will be given for the most original jumper.

Monday 17th – 6.30pm Mulled wine, mince pies and the male voice choir will be joining us for carols.

Wednesday 19th -5pm Alice in Wonderland Panto will be here to entertain us. Oh no they won't- Oh yes they will……..

Monday 24th – 7pm the staff will be singing Christmas carols in the main lounge and around the home.

Tuesday 25th – 10am Aperitifs will be served in the main lounge ready for Santas arrival at 10.15am for the giving of gifts

Monday 31st -2.30pm New year's eve party and celebration with loved ones, families, friends and staff.

Children's Christmas Wordsearch

Words to find are:

Star	**Angel**	**Mary**
Joseph	**Shepherds**	**Jesus**
Tree	**Kings**	**Presents**
Candles	**Baubles**	**Lights**

B	T	H	T	R	E	E	K	L	B	P	X
H	S	G	J	O	L	L	T	M	A	R	Y
S	T	A	R	H	T	R	E	M	U	J	L
H	H	Q	N	M	Y	T	J	G	B	A	A
E	G	A	J	E	S	U	S	H	L	U	N
P	I	O	O	Y	C	R	V	B	E	Y	G
H	L	T	S	U	A	R	W	S	S	K	E
E	P	O	E	L	N	J	U	M	P	T	L
R	H	T	P	R	D	S	I	R	E	F	L
D	T	H	H	A	L	K	I	N	G	S	K
S	H	Y	T	R	E	D	C	X	Z	J	L
P	Y	P	R	E	S	E	N	T	S	H	T

Fund Raising Events 2019

Thank you to everyone who helped with this year's events.
We need to hold more events next year and I need fresh ideas and help. If you can help please contact Phil Davies on 01889 505725. All ideas will be considered. I especially need help for the Summer Fair. I would also like to have a grand event sometime next year could anyone help with this?

Cooks Tips

Christmas Gingerbread

Here's a nice recipe to keep the children occupied.

6 oz soft light brown sugar
4 oz butter
4 tblspns golden syrup
2 tblspn black treacle
1lb plain flour
2 good tspns ground ginger
½ tspn bicarbonate of soda
1 beaten egg

Put the butter sugar and syrups into a saucepan and stir over a gentle heat until dissolved. Sieve together the flour, bicarb and ginger, into a bowl. Mix in the contents of the sauce pan and then the egg to form a smooth dough.
Turn out on to a floured surface.
Roll out to a ¼ inch thick and cut with shape cutter of your choice.

Why not make a ginger bread house. Use the cardboard from an old cereal box to make templates for walls and roof.

When your shapes are ready put them on a non-stick baking sheets.
Cook for 20 mins gas 4 or 170 to 180 degrees centigrade. When cooked transfer to cooling wires until cool.
Decorate with water icing and sweets.

This recipe makes quite a lot of gingerbread !! So you might want to only do half quantity !

Hilderstone Parish Council

Road Signs

The Parish Council are pleased to report that both the Village Hall road sign and the road sign at the junction with the B5066 for Meir Heath have recently been replaced. It is important any highways concerns are reported swiftly, as timescales for repair or replacement can be lengthy. If you notice any highways issues or concerns please report them via the online reporting system at https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk or notify the Parish Clerk at clerk@hilderstone.staffslc.gov.uk

Overgrown Hedges

A few hedges in the village have become overgrown, with some overhanging the pavement, making passing difficult for pedestrians. If you have a hedge bordering your home, please ensure it is cut back to the boundary of your property, and any debris is removed and disposed of appropriately.

Blocked Gullies and Drains A reminder that as we head from Autumn into Winter and the volume of rainfall increases, the issue of blocked gullies and drains can lead to localised flooding. Any flooding or large areas of standing water caused by blocked drains should be photographed and either reported on line to Staffordshire County Council Highways at https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/transport/staffshighways/Roads-and-highways.aspx or emailed to the Parish Clerk at clerk@hilderstone.staffslc.gov.uk

Community Connectors

Stafford Borough Council are raising awareness of their Community Connectors scheme aimed at helping older members of the community who may feel lonely or isolated. They are looking for volunteers who can spare some time to help others access services and support groups and keep up to date with what is happening in their local community. Anyone who is interested in becoming involved should contact Richard Upton 01785 619675 cconnectors@staffordbc.gov.uk

Stafford Borough Council Litter Campaign

Stafford Borough Council are raising awareness of their litter campaign. This initiative has been running for some time and aims to raise awareness of the cost of cleaning up litter across the borough, as well as reminding people of the substantial fines that can be issued on the spot to those dropping litter including cigarette butts and chewing gum. They can provide posters free of charge to use at litter hotspots, and are happy to support community organised litter picks by providing equipment such as litter pickers and bin bags. More information can be found at https://www.staffordbc.gov.uk/keepitclean

MOUNT NURSERIES

Growers of Quality Plants

Hilderstone Road,
Spot Acre,
Near Stone,
Staffordshire.

Phone:
01889 505627

Lazy Days Cattery

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Neville Farm,
Whitesytch Lane,
Hilderstone.

Telephone: 01889 505562
between 10 - 12 or 6 - 8 pm

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'TALKING OF CLEAN SWEEPS, WE'D BETTER CALL IAN...'

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Open Fires • AGA/Rayburn

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Hilderstone Residents: £15.00 per hour
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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

100's club Draw November 13th 2018

1st Prize £100 No 85 M J. Olney-Smith

2nd Prize £50 No 11 Amy Stubbs

3rd Prize £25 No 57 David and Maria Podmore

4th Prize £10 No 52 T& L.Hammond

5th Prize £10 No 24 Neil Timmis

The craft group meet on the third Sunday of each month. Any age is welcome.

Octobers' group looked at creating realistic-looking poppies in the style of the ceramic poppies at the Tower of London for our own remembrance display.

18th November and 6th December 2018 -We will be creating Christmas decorations using techniques such as needle felting.

An example only of needle felting technique

18th January 2019 - We will be making and decorating chocolate truffles.

All are welcome to come and join us.

Caroline Stanley

15d Raleigh Hall Ind Est
Eccleshall
Stafford. ST21 6JL

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