

CHRIST CHURCH HILDERSTONE
PARISH MAGAZINE



MAY 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

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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

EDITORIAL

It's amazing when one reads the parish magazine to realise how many events and activities happen in our village. And how much is done behind the scenes which we take for granted. Our Parish Council Chairman's Annual Report is an informative summary of those 'behind the scenes' routine tasks which help keep our village cared for and noticed.



Dates for Diary 2019

11th May Village Dinner Party

15th May Antiques Valuation Day

20th July Summer Fair

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

ALL COPY IN BY THE 8TH OF THE MONTH PLEASE

Hilderstone WI News

Hilderstone members started their Meeting in high spirits after the Village 100 Club Draw was made and four members had won prizes including the £100 first prize!

Our Business Meeting was briefly efficient and ended with an entertaining Report from Gill Slater on the County Spring Council Meeting; her account of Jenni Bond's afternoon talk on her life as a Royal Correspondent was most revealing, we particularly enjoyed her stories regarding Princess Margaret's cigarette holder and gin supply and Princess Diana's Harrod's stockings.

At the back of the Hall the Competition table was laid with a variety of curious Medical items dominated by a black velvet Hospital Sister's cloak that its owner had decorated, in retirement, with a remarkable collection of badges from a number of sources, which was much admired by members.

The Talk for the evening was to be *'The Work of the Air Ambulance'* but our President Pat Saul, realising that an unavoidable delay had resulted in the non-arrival of our Speaker, used her initiative and asked a member, who had prepared a 10minute talk on a *'Short Introduction to Narrow Boating'* for the end of evening in social time, to offer her Talk instead.

The President, in her usual persuasive style, suggested "If you can lengthen it a bit that would be helpful"!

Marian Baldwin, with her usual aplomb, followed her 'Ten minute Talk' to a thirty minute 'Impromptu development'. Hilderstone WI were entertained with a story of Marian's love of narrow boating from 1979, when her family first hired a narrow boat for a holiday, until 1991 when she was given her own 63foot boat and later became a solo boater. The improvised talk was well received and much laughter was shared. President Pat Saul thanked Marian for *'stepping in'* and after a happy tea and cake interlude Pat offered a Quiz on the *History of Hilderstone*. Many of the group realised that perhaps we need a 'Talk on the subject'!

The Quiz was won by our Minutes Secretary Christine Clark who clearly ' knows her Hilderstone!

The next Meeting is the AGM on Tuesday 14 May at 7.30pm. at Hilderstone Village Hall followed by a talk by Gill Miller on her latest holiday including a trip to the Falkland Island.

New members are always welcome.



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Minimum Donation £10 each

**Please contact Phil Davies on 01889 505725
All proceeds for the Access For All Fund**

Hilderstone Valuation Day Returns

Following the great success of last year's Valuation Day in Hilderstone, Hansons Auctioneers & Valuers are returning by popular demand to the Village Hall on **Wednesday 15th May, from 3pm – 5pm** in aid of the 'Access for All' Project at Christ Church.

Whilst many of us are familiar with 'Flog It' and 'The Antiques Roadshow', there is nothing quite like being there in person – there is a palpable buzz about the place as the hall fills with an exciting array of items from all over the world: from Zulu Spears, a dress helmet from the Great War and eye-catching advertisements to impressive ceramics, there was certainly plenty of variety on show.

For those who could not make the event last year, or who wish to bring along new items for valuation by Adrian, here is your chance. Priced at just £1 per item (with a maximum of three items per person) and a Café

serving refreshments, along with plenty of cake, the event promises to be every bit as entertaining, and informative, as last year.

All proceeds from the event will go to the 'Access for All' project to fund full disability access and facilities in Christ Church Hilderstone.



(Left): Marion & Paul Reynolds holding one of the star items from the Valuation Day in 2018. If only we could all look as good as the lady in the advert after a day of housework!

Hilderstone Parish Council

Chairman's Annual Report.

My second year as chairman of the parish council will soon be complete. The position of clerk for the parish council was filled by a very able Amanda Kingston who knows in some detail what a parish council clerk role is all about and I feel we are lucky to have someone with such knowledge and ability.

With Jean Jones deciding to leave the parish council a vacancy was created. After all proper procedure, rules and regulations were gone through, two people were interested and one by the name of Jim Davies was offered the position as a Stone town councillor and past Mayor of Stone. The councillors thought he would have a lot to offer on the parish council.

Year of Election

This year is an election year to take place in early May. Anyone living in our village or surrounding area, who is on the electoral role is eligible to stand for election for Hilderstone Parish Council. A slot is made on the monthly meeting agenda, for public participation so villagers can have their say and raise issues of concern in the village so please come along to a meeting and see what goes on.

Village Maintenance

Blocked drains and potholes are reported by as many people as possible to the Highways department to give them some idea as to how dangerous they are for cycles, motor bikes and cars alike. Village maintenance is taken care of by Bill Holmes for benches, plant boxes, bus shelters and many other small jobs. Simon Down is called in for tree surgery or tree planting when necessary. Tractor mower contractor mows the Roebuck bank twice a year after the daffodils have finished and ground maintenance contractor is on hand for the verges and road side weed control and other areas when required.

Planning

On a regular occasions plans for development or alteration to village properties come before the parish council, all proposals are carefully considered and a report sent back to the planning department. As councillors we feel sometimes they take no notice of our view what so ever.

Best Kept Village

We continue to subscribe to the competition to help people to have a sense of pride and a goal to aim for in keeping the village clean and tidy, which is pleasing to the

eye and gives a sense of pride. My thanks go to those who litter pick and get involved in working parties to keep our village looking at its best.

Traffic

With many new houses being built in local areas it will undoubtedly increase the volume of traffic. There is little we can do about the amount of traffic through the village, but we continually look at ways to control the speed and safety of all those who use our village.

The Roebuck

Eighteen months has passed since the reopening of the village pub. It came as a shock to hear of the sudden death of David Westwood in November last year. Having spoken to his wife, she has made this her home and with village support will keep the Roebuck open for business for years to come.

The Church

This is kept very tidy by a small work force and is moving forward with its planned access for all and disabled toilet facilities. Our vicar Rev. Marion Reynolds has fitted in very well and is well liked.

Village Hall

This well-kept asset is a wonderful venue for many activities. Regularly used and well cared for by the caretaker Mr Wareham.

Village Events

All village events are published in the magazine and on the web site. They include village fete, Christmas party, village concert, film night, bingo, jumble sales and much more, all helping to get villagers involved and bring a community spirit to the village.

Thank You

A thank you to all parish councillors for their help and support, to our clerk Amanda Kingston for her excellent way she deals with many aspects of parish council tasks as a clerk and ability to budget and make financial statements so easy to understand. Also I would like thank Andy Harp as our borough councillor for his regular attendance to our meetings and his help and advice when asked for.

Dawn Chorus

May is the month for bird song and I like to get up early for the dawn chorus. Birds use song to attract mates and defend breeding territories; they can sing throughout the day, but dawn is the time when singing is loudest.

You can think of the different bird species as players and singers in an orchestra. Thrush and blackbirds start the chorus with a glorious fanfare, imagine soprano and tenor singers at full force! This is followed by a complicated mixture of songs and with patience, you can start to pick out individuals. Warblers such as whitethroat, blackcap and garden warbler have lyrical songs; the violin section. Great spotted woodpeckers can be heard drumming whilst finches include buzzes and chirring sounds in their song, other percussion instruments? Listen for the tit family; loud simple sounds like a trumpet. Goldcrest and tree creeper are often found in churchyards and have high-pitched songs – piccolo players in the background. Finally, green woodpecker with its loud laughing ‘yaffle’ is an unruly member of the audience!

Many people offer Dawn Chorus walks, sometimes followed by breakfast, which works well in a churchyard setting. International Dawn Chorus day is the first Sunday in May but birds sing throughout the month so any May morning will do!

Fun fact: birds develop regional accents, a nuthatch in Cornwall sounds different from one in Staffordshire.

All the best

Harriet

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.

Cooks Tips

Apple and Ginger Cake

Ingredients

8 oz Cooking apples (peeled weight)
3 oz Butter or margarine
6 oz Golden syrup
4 oz Brown sugar
5 fl oz Milk
1 large egg
8 oz Wholemeal plain flour
Pinch of salt
2 tsp Ground ginger
1 tsp Ground mixed spice
1 tsp Baking powder
1 tsp Bi-carbonate of soda

Method

Pre-heat the oven to 170 degrees, gas 5 and line a 8" round cake tin

Put apples in a pan with 1 tablespoon of water and cook until soft and mushy. Allow to cool slightly, put butter, syrup and sugar into a separate pan and warm gently over a low heat until melted and well blended, cool slightly then beat in milk and egg.

Mix dry ingredients in a bowl, add the syrup mixture and beat well, add stewed apple, beat until well mixed.

Pour mixture into a tin and bake for 1 ¼ - 1 ½ hours until firm to the touch.

Neighbourhood Watch

Detectives urge residents to be vigilant following national rise in TV licensing

Your latest Smart Alert. Detectives from Staffordshire Police are urging residents to remain vigilant following a national increase in TV licensing scams.

In seven months, residents across Staffordshire have been duped into losing money to a total of over £20,000.

The National Fraud Intelligence Bureau have found that fraudsters are sending members of the public fake TV licensing emails to target their personal and financial information.

Since April 2018, 926 crime reports have been made to Action Fraud, with a total of loss of over £830,000.

In Staffordshire, residents across the county have been tricked into losing money totalling over £20,000.

A total of 44 reports have been received by detectives, with individual losses ranging between £1,325 and £8,000.

Action Fraud has identified that victims receive a TV licensing phishing email with links to a convincing-looking website that steals personal and financial details.

Within a week or two, victims will receive a phone call from someone claiming to be from the fraud department of the victim's bank. The offenders are then able to

convince victims they are genuine banking staff by providing some of the personal details that were received using the fake TV licensing emails and websites.

Detective Inspector Robert Harvmann, senior investigating officer in fraud and cyber crime said: “Fraudsters, will try to panic people into action. Always stop and think before sharing any personal data and don't engage with ‘cold callers’.

“Anyone who thinks they may have been a victim of fraud or cyber crime should contact Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040.

“Anyone in Staffordshire that feels vulnerable or is able to identify the person they believe is responsible can contact us on 101.”If you need to reply regarding this message, click on this email address: nw@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk

Regards,

Lydia Hooley *Neighbourhood Watch Community Engagement Officer*

Email: nw@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk

Christ Church Hilderstone
Parish Magazine May 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

How often do you say the Lord's Prayer? Whether it's several times a day or very infrequently, it is the one prayer that unites Christians worldwide today as it has for the last 2000 years. I think most of us could recite the Lord's Prayer from memory if asked to and it is still taught to the children in some schools. But, how much do we really take on board what we are praying as we recite each petition of the Lord's Prayer? It's a failing we all have, not taking the Lord's Prayer literally, believe in what we are praying and commit to acting out what we are professing.

With this in mind, the Archbishops (Justin and John) have called all Christians to pray the Lord's Prayer over the Pentecost season (Ascension to Pentecost, 5th May to 9th June this year). St Nicholas and Christ Church have embraced this call and, as last year, we are holding a Prayer Morning on Wednesday, 5th June at St Nicholas which I would encourage as many of you as can possibly attend to join. starting at 10:30am. This follows immediately after the deanery Ascension Day service on 30th May which, this year, is being held at Christ Church (see "What's On").

Some people think that you can only pray by saying words with eyes closed, possibly on your knees. There is absolutely nothing wrong with that approach to prayer but .. there can be so many other ways that we can pray, especially through music. Music is in integral way to worship and pray so Christian songs are worship, liturgy, prayer but also story and history (eg telling the gospel story) and testimony. In this regard, have you ever thought how many version of the Lord's Prayer set to music there are? For example, recently I taught the children in school the "Caribbean Lord's Prayer" and they loved it! Sometimes, it is appropriate that we sing/pray rather than say/pray.

We are so very blessed aren't we? Yet we do so take our blessings for granted. How quick we can be to blame God if things don't go the way we want or expect them to go but how slow we are to thank him for all he has, is giving and will give us. Let us then use this opportunity to rethink our praying of this so familiar prayer and just see how it will enrich our lives.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marion". Below the signature is a long, thin horizontal line.

Services at Christ Church

May 2019

5 th May	11:15am	Holy Communion
12 th May	11:15am	Holy Communion
19 th May	11:15am	Holy Communion
26 th May	11:15am	BCP Holy Communion
2 nd June	11:15am	Holy Communion

Readings – May 2019

5 th May	Acts 9: 1 - 6
(Easter 3)	John 21: 1 - 19
12 th May	Acts 9: 36 - end
(Easter 4)	John 10: 22 - 30
19 th May	Acts 11: 1 - 18
(Easter 5)	John 13: 31 - 35
26 th May	Acts 16: 9 - 15
(Easter 6)	John 5: 1 – 9
30 th May	Acts 1: 1 – 11
(Ascension Day)	Luke 24: 44 - end
2 nd June	Acts 16: 16 - 34
(Easter 7)	John 17: 20 - end

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

Thank You

Thanks to all who came to the Lent Frugal Lunches and helped to raise £72 for CMS

What's On?

Antiques Valuation with Hanson's Auctioneers in Hilderstone Village Hall, 15th 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.

Stone Deanery Ascension Day Service

Christ Church Hilderstone is hosting the deanery service for Ascension Day at 7:30pm on 30th May. All are welcome to attend (parking at village hall please).

Forward Notice: Prayer Morning "Thy Kingdom Come"

St Nicholas 10:30am 5th June

Prayers

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

From the registers:

Holy Matrimony

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Christ Church, Hilderstone

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COUNTRYSIDE WATCHER - MAY THE DAWN CHORUS

I am amazed to discover that there are around six hundred different species of birds in the British Isles. Some, of course are just passing through. However, they are all wonderful. Some are beautiful and some have unusual lives.

However, at April and May time, the springtime of the year, it is the Dawn Chorus that is so stunning. It is an unsurpassed entertainment. This bird orchestral experience moves us, softens our hearts, inspires us, relaxes us and can, on special occasions, thrill us. We have to get up early to hear this most beautiful event. It can begin soon after 3 am, but it builds up to a climax. It can be heard anywhere, in gardens, parks, hedgerows, woodland or scrub. All we have to do to rejoice in this event is to listen to it.

We are not certain at the moment why some birds have more complicated songs than others. Some birds also have more melodic songs than others. Some are so tuneful. It is wonderful to listen to the unique song of the Goldfinch. Chaffinches sing too. It is said that some Chaffinches have regional accents. When the Blackcap arrives it adds a fast-flowing bubbling song to the chorus. The Wren has a charming song. The Dunnock sounds like a whiny wheelbarrow. Starlings have their own beautiful song, but they often mimic other songs. However, the Blackbird, the Songster, sings the most superb song of all.

There is also a lovely Dusk Chorus. Then the musical Song Thrushes compete with the beautiful song of the Blackbirds. The Robin's beautiful song can also be heard at dusk. Though we may hear the Robin sing right through the year.

The question is why do birds sing? Many people have been wondering why for centuries. It is certainly not just to give pleasure to us. It is predominantly males who sing to protect their territory. They also wish to protect their babies or raise an alarm. With all the birds, they sing so very well so that they can find a mate, as the usual life of songbirds is very short.

Birds singing can be a chancy situation. Usually, the strongest males have the finest song. It is good if the singing brings a mate. However, it can also attract enemies. The singing also uses much of the bird's energy. So they have to feed often to renew it.

It is a delight to hear the lovely bird song of the Dawn Chorus. Whether it is heard while out in the garden or filtering through the open bedroom window, it is an enchanted annual experience.

Sheila Harvey

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Village Hall Key Holders & Contact Details

Mrs M.Wareham (Key Holder & Caretaker) 01889 505488
Pat Cowan 01889 505069

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Hilderstone's 100 club Draw April 9th 2019

1st Prize £100 no 81 Lyn Poole

2nd Prize £50 no 66 Doreen Smith

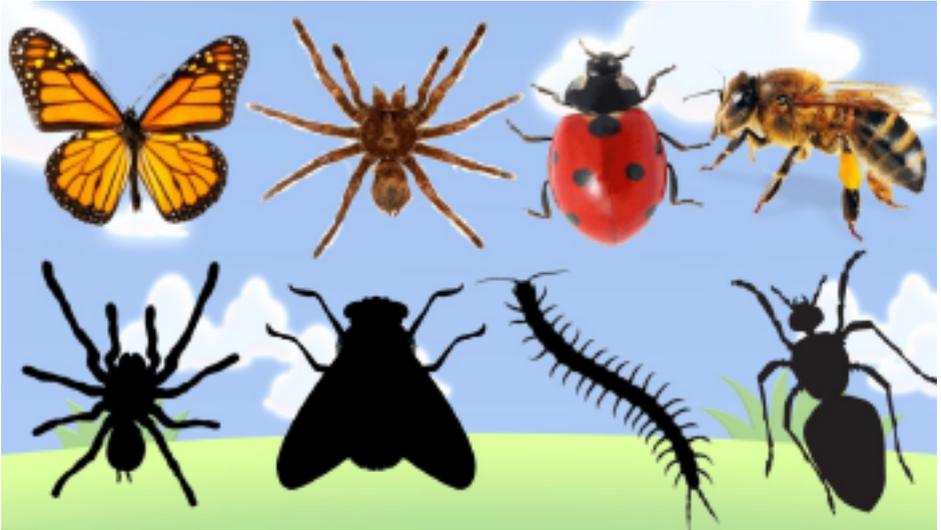
3rd Prize £25 no 10 Marian Baldwin

4th Prize £10 no 44 Pat Cowan

5th Prize £10 no 11 Phil Davies

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

ALL COPY IN BY THE 8TH OF THE MONTH PLEASE



May sees the reopening of Christ Church's very own Bug Hotel. The intrepid Crafty Sunday group will be visiting the sleepy residents on Sunday May 19th between 11.15am and 12.15pm to see how they have fared through their winter hibernation. All ages of children are welcome to the event.

Please contact Lisa Norwood lisa@norwood.me if interested in attending.