

**THE VILLAGE HALL**

**Contact:** Emma Fox (01480 215088)

Hire Rates: £8 ph Hail Weston Residents

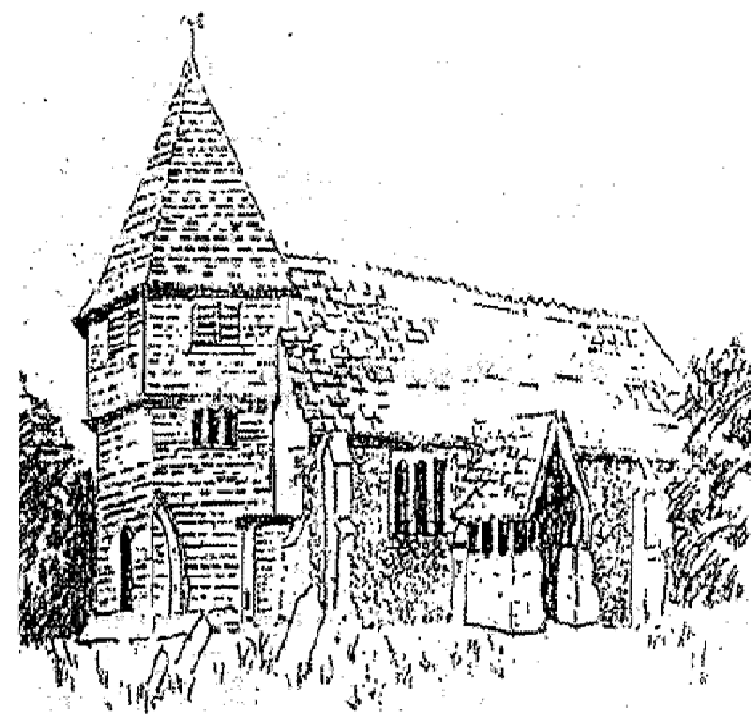
£10ph Non-Village Residents

Deposit: £20

**PRE-SCHOOL ACTIVITY GROUP**

Mon-Fri 09.30am-12noon

**Contact:** Mandy Clarke (01480 476277)



**ST NICOLAS' CHURCH HAIL WESTON  
NOVEMBER 2009  
VILLAGE NEWSLETTER**

**Rector:** Reverend Judi Clarke  
St Andrews Vicarage The Causeway Gt Staughton PE19 5BF

**Telephone:** 01480 861215

**Churchwarden**  
Mrs Mary Deacon

**Telephone:** 01480 812363

**Village contacts for St Nicolas' Church:**  
Mrs Jenny Holland (01480 475827)  
Mrs Elaine McCarthy (01480 474542)

Arrangements for baptisms, weddings and other pastoral matters should be made direct with Reverend Judi Clarke

**PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING WARNING!**

**Firework safety:**

- Keep fireworks in a closed metal box and take them out one at a time.
- Follow the manufacturers instructions on each firework. Read them by torchlight - NEVER a naked flame.
- Light fireworks at arms length using a safety firework lighter or fuse wick. Stand back after lighting.
- NEVER go back to a firework once lit - it may go off in your face.
- Keep a bucket of water handy.
- Used fireworks should be collected after the display with care. Douse with water, bury or place in a metal container.
- Keep pets indoors

For further information and advice on the use of fireworks, go to:

[http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/HomeAndCommunity/InYourHome/FireSafety/DG\\_064665?cids=Google\\_PPC&cre=Fire\\_Kills](http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/HomeAndCommunity/InYourHome/FireSafety/DG_064665?cids=Google_PPC&cre=Fire_Kills)

**If you have news, articles or events for inclusion in the next issue, please contact May**

**Publication deadline = 15<sup>th</sup> of each month (6.00pm)**  
Editor : May (Parker) 53 Orchard Close (01480 403746)  
E-mail: [may@billandmay.co.uk](mailto:may@billandmay.co.uk)

## A message from Judi, our Rector ....

Dear Friends

This year, as you all know, has been a special year for your Parish Church in that we have been able to celebrate the fact that there has been a church here in this village for some 800 years – indeed records show that services were taking place in the Church or Chapel of St Nicolas in 1209 and the building itself existed in the 13<sup>th</sup> century. The special celebration week-end back in July was a great success and enjoyed by many people, and last Sunday it was also good to have so many friends share our annual Harvest Celebration and Supper in the Village Hall.

These special occasions do involve much hard work and preparation and I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helps not only with these ‘extra’ events but also with the day to day care of our beautiful church building, the churchyard, and all that is needed to keep the church open and available for regular worship as well as the ‘occasional offices’ as weddings, baptism and funerals are called.

Throughout the summer months the churchyard has undergone quite a transformation with the trees being cared for and pruned professionally, the grass kept mown and many hours of voluntary work provided by very few people to continue the major ‘spring clean’ that is continuing to take place. Much of the ironwork has had to be cleaned and painted this year too, to maintain it all in good condition for future generations.

Within the church there is the regular preparation and maintenance of cleaning, polishing, flower arranging, and much more for each individual service that takes place, all of which takes a great deal of time and effort, once again, from very few people.

St Nicolas Parish Church belongs to us all and its continued welfare and service to the community depends on the constant goodwill and presence of all members of the community. I am sure no one would wish to see it in a poor state of repair or the number of weekly services reduced but we really do need more help and support.

It is interesting that as new towns are established in Cambridgeshire, construction companies are beginning to realise that a church is a most important element in establishing a community. We have a church – we need make sure it becomes a stronger focus for our community.

With love and prayers Judi

### **CHURCH SERVICES FOR NOV 2009**

Sun Nov 1 <sup>st</sup>	4.00pm	Family Worship
Sun Nov 8 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Parish Communion beginning with an Act of Remembrance
Sun Nov 22 <sup>nd</sup>	9.00am	Parish Communion
Sun Nov 29 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	GROUP COMMUNION AT ST ANDREW’S GREAT STAUGHTON

### **TIME TRAIL 6 (FROM C. 1800 TO C. 1900) CONTD.....**

1799. There were also 2 clerks, a postmistress, 2 carriers and a letter carrier, a Baptist Minister to serve the chapel in the High Street  
Many names, some still evident in the village today, are recorded in the census: the Barnetts, the Pages, the Barkers, the Baxters, the Catlings, the Carters, the Abrahams, the Bruces, the Kings, the Nicholls, the Lees, the Hancocks, the Handcocks, the Gilberts, the Horners, the Tingveys, the Solloways, the Veals, to name a few.  
The Humbley family are worth a mention – they lived in the Manor House and were Churchwardens for number of years.

A number of thefts and robberies, mostly of livestock, hay and corn from Hail Weston farmers, are documented in the National Archives – notably Thomas Barker was convicted in 1855 of stealing 7 fowls and in 1856 he stole two lambs – he was sentenced to 15 years transportation.

Chris Dunn, in ‘Taking the Waters’ (Cambridgeshire Journal, October 2001), notes that the Hail Weston Springs had dwindled in popularity by the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century; the springs were sold to the Hail Weston Springs Company who aerated, bottled and sold the water. The site of their bottling plant was at Hail Bridge adjacent to the A1.

#### Church History

The Church underwent a major restoration in 1884, by Edward Reynolds of Paxton Hall. It cost £1,000. The South Porch was added, new timbers were incorporated into the roof and many pews and much woodwork were replaced. The tower was considerably strengthened. The encaustic floor tiles by the altar, the pulpit, the choir stalls, the lectern and the altar rail date from this time.

#### Incumbents

1796 Robert Pointer  
1838 John Standley  
1848 Joseph Moorsom  
1895 Richard Moorsom

EMcC.

#### Sources:

The National Archives, Cambridgeshire Archive Catalogue (archive.org)  
1881 Census - the Community Pages of the Parish Council Website  
‘A History of the County of Huntingdon: Volume 2’ ed. W. Page, G. Proby and S. Inskip Ladds. 1932. Victoria County History  
Chris Dunn ‘Taking the Waters’ (Cambridgeshire Journal, October 2001)

## **TIME TRAIL 6 (FROM c.1800 TO c.1900)**

More historical snippets about our village, spanning the 800 years which we are celebrating this year at St. Nicolas' Church.

### The Manors

By 1803 the manor had been sold to John Pyne and was passed to the Rev. Hele Selby Hele in 1811. In 1814 John Hyde bought the manor. A long association with the Reynolds family, started with Lawrence Reynolds in 1819, whose trustees continued to hold the manor in 1841. Edward Reynolds of Little Paxton took over in 1885 and was succeeded by his son, another Edward, who died in 1893. The Edwards family paid for the extensive refurbishment and restoration of St Nicolas Church around this time and the stained glass east window commemorates this. In 1893, after the death of his father, Captain Edward Reynolds inherited the manor.

There are monuments to the Reynolds family in the church yard, which are situated over in the north-west corner and are surrounded by iron railings – a folk rumour exists that the Reynolds family had a falling out with Little Paxton and reburied some of their relative's remains in those plots. I have not been able to verify this, and would welcome further information.

There is a wealth of information from this period – May Parker has written a fascinating article on the history of Hail Weston for County Life and this can be accessed from the Hail Weston Parish Council website. Her article includes information from this period, which is based on data from the 1881 Census. The Census information is also available on the Community Pages of the Parish Council Website (many thanks to Martin Baughan).

Details from the census show that in 1881 there were 3 Public Houses, The Royal Oak, The Crown and another unknown one ( any details, please let us know). Most people were agricultural labourers (68) – as might be expected. There were 6 farmers, a shepherd, a stock keeper, 4 horsekeepers, a bailiff, a gamekeeper, a cook, 10 servants and 4 gardeners.

A large number of children (109) meant that 2 school mistresses and a pupil teacher were required. The village had 5 sawyers, 4 brickmakers, a builder, 6 carpenters, a butcher and his assistant, a baker, a milkman, 4 shopkeepers, a milliner, 3 dressmakers, a tailor, a charwoman and a shoemaker – it must have been a bustling self-sufficient community in those days of limited travel.

Ten women worked as lacemakers (from home?) and another 11 worked as paper makers, probably at the local paper mills - St Neots Paper Mill had been in existence in

## **LITTLE FISHES**

**TUESDAY NOV 10<sup>th</sup> 2pm - 3pm**

**St Andrew's Church Great Staughton**

Come and join us and have fun listening to stories, making music, singing songs and much more

We welcome all ages from birth to Primary School with a grown-up

## **ANDREW'S CREW**

**Welcomes all 10 – 13 year olds**

**Next meeting**

**TUESDAY NOV 10<sup>th</sup> 6.30pm at**

**St Andrew's Vicarage Great Staughton**

## **VILLAGE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP**

Date: Thursday 19th November  
Venue: 17 Orchard Close Hail Weston  
Time: 7.30pm

## St Nicolas Church

### **'THE TRAVELLING CRIB'**

***Would you like to offer hospitality to the Travelling Crib?***



This will be the seventh year that our 'Travelling Crib' will be journeying around the village during Advent.

This celebration called POSADA will leave St Andrew's Church in Great Staughton following the service at 10.30am on Sunday November 29<sup>th</sup> and will return to St Nicolas Church for the Christingle Service at 5pm on Christmas Eve.

The crib will stay with families for two nights, to enable you to have time to enjoy the visit! If you would like to know more about this or would like to offer hospitality to the crib figures for a night, as a symbol of making room for Jesus in our hearts, homes and communities, do contact:

**Rev Judi Clarke 01480 861215**

A BIG THANKYOU to all who helped make the Macmillan coffee morning a success. Your support through donation and sales raised **£184.75** on the day.

Several people asked if I would hold it again next year and the answer is 'Yes'. So, if you feel you missed out this time, don't worry—I'll be more organised next year!

Winner of the draw was **Liz Owen**

Again, a very big THANK YOU.

**WE ARE  
MACMILLAN.  
CANCER SUPPORT**

Kathy McGuire

### **Annual Hail Weston Christmas Quiz Night @ Hail Weston Village Hall Friday 4th December @ 7.30pm**

Come and get into the Christmas spirit at this fun seasonal quiz. Teams of up to six will compete for great prizes – but, win or lose, a fantastic night is guaranteed!

**Last year was a sell out so make sure you book early!**

**Tickets £6**

(including mince pies, mulled wine and a cheese, pâté and bread platter)

**BYO drink and snacks**

All proceeds to:

**Hail Weston Pre-School Activity Group**  
(Reg'd Charity No: 1066057)

We are a community pre-school with a family atmosphere taking up to 26 children per session

(9.30am-midday, lunch club midday-1pm).

We offer a very high standard in early years schooling as our excellent OFSTED reports show but, as a charity, we need the help of these fundraising events to keep the pre-school running.

**Tickets available from Dawn and Reuben Milne  
(109 High Street) – Tel: 477003 or email dawn@designing-gardens.co.uk**