

An Invitation to the Women of Hail Weston from
GREAT STAUGHTON WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

to join them for the following event:

Building a Garden for Hampton Court

with speaker Mike Johnson

Tuesday 9th April 7.30pm

Monthly coffee mornings take place at the homes of members and/or lunch outings. These are open to WI members or non-members to attend. Ladies interested in going along to the above event (7.30pm) at the WI hall in Gt Staughton or those interested in the coffee mornings, please contact:

Barbara Wallis on 214582

HAIL WESTON VILLAGE HALL

is available for advance bookings

**Further information is available on the Village Hall website:
www.hailwestonvillagehall.co.uk**

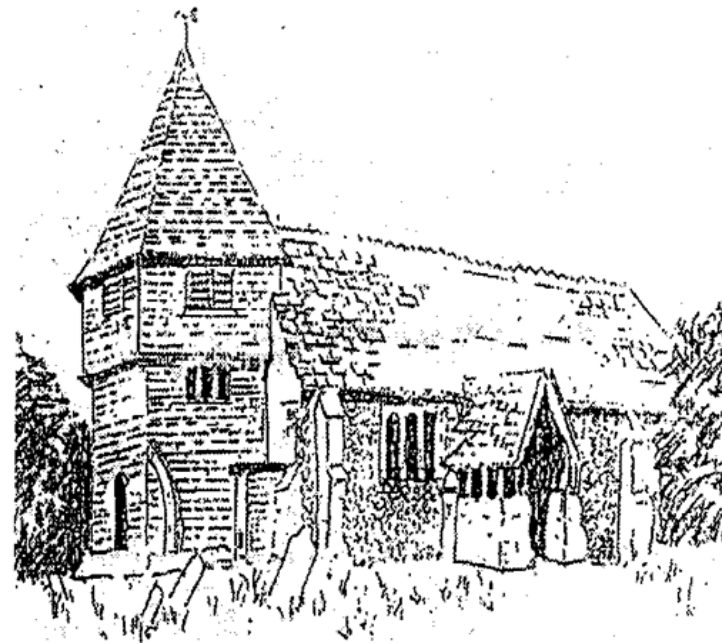
Bookings: Liz Bacon
Contact: Bookingshwvh@gmail.com
Hire Rates: £10 ph Hail Weston Residents
£12 ph Non-Village Residents
Deposit: £20

Regular weekly bookings - 1 hour minimum

Friday and Saturday evening bookings - 5 hours minimum

All other bookings - 2 hours minimum

If you have news, articles or events for inclusion in the next issue, please contact Ruth. Publication deadline is 15th of each month (7.00pm)
Editor: Ruth Easom, 6 Barker Close (01480 217034) E-mail: rutheasom@gmail.com



ST NICOLAS' CHURCH, HAIL WESTON

April 2024

VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

Rector: Rev'd Nicki Bland Tel: 01480 869485
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Churchwarden:

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Village Contact for St Nicolas' Church:

Mrs Sarah Herdman Tel: 07724 512851

A message from the Rev'd Nicki Bland

Dear Friends,

Normally when I write a newsletter for April it contains an Easter message, but of course, this year, Easter has already been celebrated and we are looking towards Ascension Day and Pentecost in May.

So, Christ is risen, the time of fasting and penitence is over, we can decorate our churches with the beautiful spring flowers and rejoice but let us put ourselves in the shoes of the apostles, puzzled, bewildered. Think of the turmoil they found themselves in.

Peter, riddled with guilt for denying his Messiah, his friend, his Saviour. Thomas unable to believe what he hoped to be true until he could see for himself.

The two friends on the road to Emmaus unable to recognise Jesus until he broke bread.

All of them watching, waiting, not knowing when, where and if they would experience Jesus' presence again.

Going back to their fishing, not knowing what else to do and once again Jesus preparing a meal for them.

Questions. Forgiveness. Not really knowing what lay ahead.

So as we now look forward to the Spring and Summer months in this less and less predictable world, we find ourselves in a similar place to the disciples, with wars waging in Russia and Ukraine, Israel and Gaza and other parts of the world, with elections inevitably on the cards and with our planet on the edge we have so many questions that need answering, we need forgiveness and understanding.

We are riddled with guilt, because of our lack of care for the planet. We long for peace but feel powerless.

We are getting on with our lives because there is not a lot we can do. But we can trust and have faith that God has the greater picture, and hold each and every situation in our prayers.

Emmaus Road by Nick Burden

We are disappointed and worn down.
Lord, walk with us.

We doubt what we believe.
Lord teach us.



HAIL WESTON WILDLIFE AND GARDENING GROUP

Tuesday 2nd April 7.30pm

Diane Jarvis will give a hanging basket demonstration

Diane is a good practical gardener and has run her own gardening business for the last 20 years.

Annual membership is £7. Entry fee per meeting is £1 for members, £3 for non-members
(with a few exceptions depending on the event)

If you require any further information about the HWWGG please email Secretary Maggie Lakey on:
tel_maggs2@225771mgl.co.uk
or telephone Chairman, Barbara Wallis on 214582

Neighbourhood Café

All are very welcome to come along to the Hail Weston Neighbourhood Cafe which is held monthly at the Village Hall.



Enjoy a piece of cake, warm drink and a friendly chat.

We also collect donations for a different charity every month and welcome suggestions for charities from neighbours.



The date of the next café is

Sunday 21st April 3.30 - 5pm

If you don't receive emails about the cafe but would like to, please contact us at: hailwestonneighbourhoodcafe@gmail.com to ask to be put on to the updates list.

The HW Neighbourhood Cafe Team

Kenneth David Williams
28th January 1931 - 5th February 2024

I am the daughter of Kenneth Williams who lived in Manor Way in Hail Weston for 42 years and sadly passed away on 5th February, peacefully, in his beloved home, just a week after joyously celebrating his 93rd birthday with family.

He was a quiet but active member of the village and he and his wife, Hilda, were greatly involved in the Village Hall in the late 1980s/early 1990s and Dad had a village allotment for many, many years.

Ken leaves his much loved wife Hilda, after 68 years of happy marriage, daughters Jackie and Dawn, grandchildren Benjamin and Lara, Andrew and Richard, and his adored great-grandsons Josh and Ollie.

He enjoyed a good, long and active life and the family are grateful to have had him in their lives for so long. Ken was Ken till the end and will be greatly missed.

Dawn Butler



HAIL WESTON FETE AND FUN DOG SHOW 2024

The fete and fun family dog show will be held this year

on 6th July, 1 - 5pm

at Hail Weston playing field.

Would you, or anyone you know, like to apply to have a stall at the fete?

Pitch price £10

If so, please email: treasurerhwhv@gmail.com

We need a sign.
Lord, break the bread.

We seek your kingdom.
Lord, fill our hearts with fire.

Amen

With love and prayers, Rev'd Nicki Bland

CHURCH SERVICES - APRIL 2024

Please visit our new website on www.swhw.co.uk to find out more about the Services.

In addition to the services listed below; on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday there is Morning Prayer at 8.30am and Evening Prayer at 5.30pm via Zoom: ID 4184055563 Password 022067

Hail Weston St. Nicolas'

- Wed 3rd** 10.00am – Morning Prayer followed by 10.30am – Coffee
Sun 7th 10.30am – Morning Praise followed by APCM
Sun 14th 9.00am – Parish Communion
Sun 21st 3.00pm – Creative Communion
Sun 28th 9.00am – Parish Communion
4.00pm – BCP Evensong

Great Staughton St. Andrew's

- Sun 7th** 8.00am – BCP Holy Communion
10.30am – All Age Worship
Sun 14th 10.30am – Parish Communion followed by APCM
Sun 21st 10.30am – Parish Communion
Sun 28th 10.30am – Parish Communion

Little Staughton All Saints

- Sun 7th** 9.00am – Parish Communion
Sun 21st 9.00am – Parish Communion

**St Nicolas Church Restoration Group
Update – March 2024**



The Mondays



- Monday 25th March 7.30 - 9.30pm in Church
- Monday 1st April No Meeting BH
- Monday 8th April 7.30 - 9.30pm in Church
- Monday 15th April No Meeting
- Monday 22nd April 7.30 - 9.30pm in Church

Rehearsing for our next Concert - new members welcome

For further details ring Elaine on 474542

SAVE THE DATE

**THE MONDAYS
CONCERT & 70s SING-A-LONG
31st MAY IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

If you enjoyed our ABBA Extravaganza then this is for you!

St Nicolas' Church 100 Club 2023/24 Draw Year

The winners of the March draw are:

1st prize	Ticket no 95	Roger Cunnington	£50
2nd prize	Ticket no 124	Tony Bolton	£25
3rd prize	Ticket no 74	Sue & Peter Nobles	£10

Congratulations to all the winners!

Whilst there appears to be nothing happening on the restoration front at St Nicolas at present, in reality, a lot of work is quietly going on behind the scenes – none of it glamorous!

During Phase 2 of the Restoration, once the electrical connection to the new extension was installed, it became obvious that we needed to urgently re-wire the rest of the church as it is many years since this was last done. Unlike an ordinary home, you cannot just call in the electrician and get on with the job: plans need to be drawn up, permissions sought from various official bodies and finally, an application made to a court in London which represents the Diocese of Ely, for a Faculty (official permission) to carry out the work. It all takes time, and in the meantime, we are, once again, fund-raising frantically to complete the work quickly, in readiness for us to officially begin Phase 3 – Heating and Lighting.

The elderly fossil-fuel boiler at St Nicolas is obsolete, and it is impossible to get parts for it anymore. It has been nursed along by the PCC for several years – on each occasion with fingers crossed that it will get through another winter, but the time has finally come to say “Goodbye.” (I think that the most generous of us would have to admit that the church is not very warm on a cold winter’s day – even when the heating has been put on for several hours beforehand). As we want the church to be available for full community use as well as church services, it is imperative that we have a new system in place this year that is efficient, reliable, will provide almost instant heat, and does not use fossil fuel.

We have identified a lovely heating and lighting system which is Especially designed for ancient churches and have seen it in operation in the church at Potton, where it was installed over 7 years ago. The PCC there is still delighted with it, and we feel that it will be perfect for St Nicolas, too.

We are organizing various fund-raising events over the next few months, and applying for numerous grants, in the hope that by winter 2024, we will have the new system in place. We will keep you posted!

Anne-Marie Hamilton
Chairman
St Nicolas church Restoration Group