



Neighbourhood Café

18th October 3.30pm—5pm

in the Village Hall



The HW Neighbourhood Cafe Team

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

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: Bookingshwh@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 Lawrence. Publication deadline is 15th of each month (7.00pm)

Editor: Lawrence Barratt, 3 Green Lane (Tel: 07801 033066)
E-mail: lawrencebarratt2@gmail.com



ST NICOLAS' CHURCH, HAIL WESTON

October 2026

VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

Rector: In Vacancy

Churchwardens:

Christine Bresitz - thebresitz@icloud.com
and
Mary Deacon - 01480 812363

Authorised Lay Minister:

Elaine McCarthy - 01480 474542

Village Contact for St Nicolas' Church Access:

Sarah Herdman 07724 512851

A letter from Mary Deacon, Churchwarden:

The season of Fetes and Garden Parties are now pleasant memories and our thoughts turn to celebrating God's wonderful bounty to us as *all is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin*. Indeed some of our Harvest Services and meals have already been enjoyed. Autumn – 'the year's last loveliest smile' - bringing us colourful leaves against the blue of October skies before cascading to the ground. These shifting colours show that change is natural, beautiful and a part of life's continuous cycle.

In truly magical news, our church was recently transformed into Hogwarts for a Harry Potter marketing shoot. For a brief time, our historic building became part of the Wizarding World, providing the perfect backdrop for a collection of enchanting new Harry Potter products developed via Warner Bros. and celebrating the forthcoming television series and previous theatrical productions. It was a wonderful experience to see our church sprinkled with a little Hogwarts magic!

The cycle of the church services continue, (for times see elsewhere in this Newsletter), though temporarily interrupted by contractors who are rewiring the church, adding new lighting and new electric heating, which will add to the friendly warm welcome awaiting you as we worship and sing praises, thanks to the unstinting work of the Restoration Group. It is hoped that this month all our services return to 'normal'. The Rev Dr Ashley Wilson, (uncle to Veronica Bolton) will be leading three of our services, please come to one or all of these services to show him a St Nicolas' welcome.

The annual Memorial Service, at St Andrew's Church, Great Staughton will be held at 4.00pm on Saturday 31st October, I recommend it to anyone who has lost a loved one be it in this last year, recently or indeed many years ago. It is a very moving service where loved ones names are read out, (if you wish them to be), candles are lit and then afterwards enjoy a chat over tea, coffee and cake with others who are also missing their loved ones.

"The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the Word of our God endures forever." (Isaiah 40:8)

With best wishes
Mary

HAIL WESTON WILDLIFE AND GARDENING GROUP



in the Village Hall

Tuesday 6th October 7.30pm

Planting a Winter Container

Di Jarvis will demonstrate how to plant a winter container and bring some plants which will be available to purchase.

This meeting will include our Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 3rd November 7.30pm

The People, Places and Plants of Paradise

A fully illustrated talk by Neil Callan
about the Caribbean Island of Antigua

Members £1.00 per meeting (annual membership £7.00/year), non-members £3.00 per meeting (certain meetings/events may cost more), light refreshments will be available for a donation and there will be a Raffle (4-6 prizes) including a garden centre voucher (£25)

Visitors always welcome

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 07849 272915



The Mondays: Your Community Choir

We are preparing for our CHRISTMAS CONCERT and COMMUNITY CAROL SING

New members welcome - there is no audition

Call Elaine on 474542

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

to join them for the following events:

Tuesday 13th October

A Sea Shanty Workshop

with Stu Green, a member of 'Isle 'ave a Shanty'
Learn about the history and traditions and join
in some rousing choruses

Tuesday 10th November

Mission in Puppetry

with Glenn Coiley and Puppeteers

Ladies interested in going along to the above events (7.30pm)
at the Village Hall in Great Staughton or those interested in
the coffee mornings and lunches please contact:

Barbara Wallis on 07849 272915

Services in the Benefice for October 2026

Please visit our website at www.swhw.co.uk to find out more about
services and other activities.

All 10.30am services can be accessed via Zoom

ID: 380 915 8110

Passcode: 90Mn1s

Hail Weston - St. Nicolas'

Sun 4th	10.30am	Morning Praise
Sun 11th	9.00am	Parish Communion
Sun 18th	3.00pm	Creative Communion
Sun 25th	9.00am	Parish Communion

Great Staughton - St. Andrew's

Sun 4th	10.30am	All Age Worship
Sun 11th	10.30am	Harvest Festival
Sun 18th	10.30am	Parish Communion
Sun 25th	10.30am	Parish Communion
Sat 31st	4.00pm	Memorial Service

Little Staughton - All Saints

Sun 4th	9.00am	Harvest Festival
Sun 18th	9.00am	Parish Communion
Sun 25th	4.00pm	Evensong

St Nicolas' Church 100 Club 2026/27 Draw Year

The winners of the September draw are:

1 st prize	Ticket no 63	Sally Scarr	£50
2 nd prize	Ticket no 86	Mark Berry	£25
3 rd prize	Ticket no 99	Nick Farnden	£10

Congratulations to all the winners!

St Nicolas' Church Restoration Group Update

It was lovely to see so many of you at Hail Weston Village Fete and Dog Show and thank you very much to all of you who came on our stand to 'Guess the Weight of the Cake'. We greatly appreciated your support.

The exciting news is that, at long last, Phase 3 of the restoration of St Nicolas Church is finally underway. When it is complete, we will have a lovely, new, bespoke heating system, updated lighting, the main body of the church completely rewired and a new audio system, a new hearing induction loop and a 'Bluetooth' system for those with the latest modern hearing aids. It has taken us a long time to reach this stage, involving lots of planning, various permissions to seek, bid writing, fund-raising and very generous support from many of you locally, so this is a heartfelt 'Thank You' to you all.

In an idle moment, I added up just how much money the Restoration Group has raised since we began 10 years ago and was astonished to find that it came to £267,617.24. We will still have a bit more to do to complete the restoration, but when Phase 3 is complete, will have made significant inroads into the overall project, which is very encouraging.

Sadly, the ongoing dry weather has caused the cancellation of one of our major fund-raisers this year as we reluctantly took the decision with the event organizer that ground conditions would not permit our annual Vintage Tractor Working Weekend to go ahead on 17th and 18th October. It was a difficult decision to make, but even with the recent rains, the soil underneath is still rock hard and could damage the vintage ploughs for whom, getting spare parts these days is well-nigh impossible. Hopefully, the event will return again next year, weather permitting!

One final date for your diary. On Thursday, 12th November at 7.30 p.m. in the church, we are delighted to welcome back Alison Dickens who was the archaeologist for Phases 1 and 2 of the restoration. She is coming to tell us about the fascinating discoveries that she made during the dig in the churchyard, which throws new light on the history of our village. It is an evening not to be missed! Tickets will be on sale shortly and we very much look forward to seeing you.

Anne-Marie Hamilton
Chairman
St Nicolas Church Restoration Group

Future editions of St Nicolas Church Village Newsletter

This is my final copy as editor of this newsletter. However, I am pleased to report that I have a successor! Lawrence Barratt, who lives in the village, at 3 Green Lane, has agreed to take on this role.

Please contact Lawrence on lawrencebarratt2@gmail.com with any articles for inclusion in the newsletter. The deadline is 15th of the month prior to the publication month.

Unfortunately, the issue of the printing of the paper copies has, to date, not been resolved. (We are very grateful to Judith Clements for generously providing this service for over 30 years!) The obvious answer to this is digital copies.

These are already available via the Hail Weston Parish website <https://www.hailwestonparish.gov.uk/community/hail-weston-parish-council-20799/church/>

There is now, also, an opportunity to register on an email distribution list. If you would like to receive a monthly copy of the newsletter via email please contact lawrencebarratt2@gmail.com

However, we are aware that there are some Hail Weston villagers who do not use computers, may not have email accounts and who would very much miss having a paper copy delivered. If you are someone who would like a paper copy in the future, please fill in the slip below and deliver to the Secretary of the PCC at **33 Orchard Close, Hail Weston.**

Ruth Easom

I would like to receive a paper copy of the monthly edition of St Nicolas' Church Village Newsletter, if this proves to be possible.

Name: _____

Address: _____