



Neighbourhood Café

The date of the next café is
Sunday 18th May 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

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)
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ST NICOLAS' CHURCH, HAIL WESTON

May 2025

VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

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Village Contact for St Nicolas' Church:

Mrs Sarah Herdman Tel: 07724 512851

A message from the Rev'd Canon Nicki Bland

Dear Friends,

As we welcome the month of May, our thoughts turn to an important historical milestone - the 80th anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE) Day on May 8th. This momentous day marks when Nazi Germany formally surrendered to the Allied Forces in 1945, bringing an end to World War II in Europe after six long years of conflict.

Across our nation, numerous commemorative events will honour this significant anniversary. A special National Service of Remembrance will be held at Westminster Abbey, with veterans, dignitaries, and members of the Royal Family in attendance. Following tradition, beacons will illuminate the country at 9:15 pm, symbolizing how the light of peace emerged from the darkness of war. Churches throughout the nation will participate by ringing their bells at 3 pm - the exact time when Prime Minister Churchill announced the end of the war in Europe.

VE Day represents far more than military victory. It commemorates the end of devastating conflict across Europe, honours the sacrifice of millions of service personnel and civilians, and marks the beginning of rebuilding and reconciliation. This day reminds us of the foundations of modern Europe and international cooperation, celebrating the triumph of freedom over tyranny and oppression. Even as we celebrate peace and victory, we remember that the war continued in the Pacific until August 1945, and that many families were still grieving tremendous losses even as celebrations took place.

As we reflect on this past conflict, we remain sadly aware that war continues to affect many around the world today. In this spirit, I share these prayers for peace and for those suffering in current conflicts:

Prayer for Peace

Almighty God, from whom all thoughts of truth and peace proceed, Kindle in the hearts of all people the true love of peace. Guide with your pure and peaceable wisdom Those who take counsel for the nations of the earth; That in tranquility your kingdom may go forward, Till the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer for Those in Conflict Zones

Lord of all compassion, We pray for all who endure the cruelty of war, For those who face danger and fear each day, For children who have known nothing but conflict, For parents who protect and provide in the most difficult circumstances. Be their comfort and their strength. Sustain them in their courage, And bring them peace. Amen.

I warmly invite you to participate in our commemoration of this historic event on May 8th - more information is elsewhere in this newsletter.

As Albert Einstein wisely noted, "Peace is not merely the absence of war but the presence of justice, of law, of order—in short, of government." As we celebrate



HAIL WESTON WILDLIFE AND GARDENING GROUP

Tuesday 6th May 7.30pm

Tales from the Riverbank, a Journey Through Time

with speaker Liz Davies

Members £1, non-members £3

Light refreshments available for a donation and there will be a Raffle (4-6 prizes, including a £25 garden centre voucher)

Friday 6th June

Garden Safari

Our very popular tour of beautiful Hail Weston Gardens

(Programme to be confirmed)

Pre-booking required - Members £10, Non-members £12

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

An Invitation to the Women of Hail Weston from

GREAT STAUGHTON WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

to join them for the following event

Tuesday 13th May

Great Staughton and its People

with speaker Anthony Withers

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 07849 272915

St Nicolas' Church 100 Club 2024/25 Draw Year

The winners of the April draw are:

1 st prize	Ticket no 111	Claire & Ian Hodge	£50
2 nd prize	Ticket no 15	Rita & Bill Neal	£25
3 rd prize	Ticket no 94	James Hackett	£10

Congratulations to all the winners!



The Mondays:

Your Community Choir

New members welcome

We're singing for fun this term, with a view to sharing our singing with folk in care homes.

Come and find your voice, in our friendly group

Monday 5th May No Meeting - Bank Holiday

Monday 12th May 7.30 - 9.00pm in Church

Monday 19th May No Meeting

Monday 26th May No Meeting BH

Monday 2nd June 7.30 - 9.00pm in Church

For further details ring Elaine on 474542

the peace won in 1945, let us commit ourselves to being peacemakers in our homes, our community, and our world, remembering the words from Matthew 5:9, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God."

With warm regards and prayers for peace,
Nicki Bland

CHURCH SERVICES - MAY 2025

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'

Sun 4th	10.30am	Morning Praise
Sun 11th	9.00am	Parish Communion
Sun 18th	3.00pm	Creative Communion
Sun 25th	9.00am	Parish Communion
	3.00pm	Rogationtide Service/Walk @ Rectory Farm, Little Staughton, MK44 2TA
	6.00pm	Benefice Evensong @ All Saints

Great Staughton St. Andrew's

Sun 4th	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion
	10.30am	All Age Worship
Sun 11th	10.30am	Parish Communion
Sun 18th	10.30am	Parish Communion
Sun 25th	10.30am	Parish Communion
	3.00pm	Rogationtide Service/Walk @ Rectory Farm, Little Staughton, MK44 2TA
	6.00pm	Benefice Evensong @ All Saints

Little Staughton All Saints

Sun 4th	9.00am	Parish Communion
Sun 11th	9.00am	Parish Communion
Sun 18th	9.00am	Parish Communion
Sun 25th	3.00pm	Rogationtide Service/Walk @ Rectory Farm, Little Staughton, MK44 2TA
	6.00pm	Benefice Evensong
Thu 29th	7.30pm	Ascension Communion Service

St Nicolas Church Restoration Group Update – May 2025

Over the last few months, restoration work at St Nicolas has been quietly continuing with a lot going on behind the scenes. We are extremely grateful to everyone who has helped to make a huge difference to the churchyard, in particular. You may well remember the huge mound of earth that was left over from numerous burials over many years? Thanks to Phil Lewis and Tony Bolton, that has now been levelled out, and Paul Baker and his team, plus our wonderful Garden Angels have used the rest to level up many of the graves which had sunk, which will make mowing much easier. Paul and his team have now seeded all these areas, and the stones are being raked off it again, so hopefully, once we get some rain, grass will begin to grow, and the churchyard will look a picture in time for the Summer Cream Teas.

We are also finally making progress with the new heating and lighting plans, having received a massive setback when the Diocese changed its lighting policies, just as we were finalising our original plans. It was extremely annoying at the time but may well have done us a favour in the long term as, after months of searching, our electrician has found a new system which could prove to be more cost-effective in the long run. We are getting the last details pulled together and very much hope to be in a position to apply for a faculty shortly which will then enable us to get on with some serious fund-raising. In the meantime, please do come and join us on Thursday 8th May for our next fund-raising initiative – VE Day Celebrations and an Official Beacon Lighting at Wood Farm. Tickets are strictly limited, but there are still a few left.

Finally, I am delighted to say that the bench that was so generously donated by The Neighbourhood Café has recently been delivered, and we hope to have it sited in the churchyard in the next couple of weeks. Thank you very much to everyone who donated so generously towards its purchase. It is just what is needed on the north side of the church as there is nowhere for anyone to sit at present.

Anne-Marie Hamilton
St Nicolas Church Restoration Group

St Nicolas Church Restoration Group presents:



An Evening of Celebration and Official Beacon Lighting Featuring Live Music with Martin John



**Thursday, 8th May 2025 starting at 7 p.m.
Wood Farm, Hail Weston, PE19 5LA
Advanced Tickets Only - £25 each (adults) £5 child (under 10 years)
£7.50 child (11 – 17 years)**

(Includes: A Glass of Wine, Fish & Chips cooked on site & Live Entertainment.) **Raffle.**

**Contact: Anne-Marie Hamilton: 01480 212772 or Mary Deacon:
01480 812363**

annemarie@thewoodfarm.com marydeacon101@gmail.com