July – September 2007

Hail Weston Garden Competition - Results

Well done to all of you who worked so hard to keep your front gardens looking good despite the difficulty in having to tolerate such wet weather conditions. There were many lovely contenders for the prizes so here are winners of this year’s Hail Weston’s Garden Competition.

1st Prize Winner – Mr & Mrs Bickley, 57 Orchard Close. Lovely design, great colour & well maintained.

3rd Prize Winner – Mr & Mrs Baker, 2 Spring Place. Full & well chosen colours in planting.

2nd Prize Winner – Liz Bacon, Rose Cottage, 85 High St. Classic simple design in keeping with the property.

Special Category Prize Winner – Mr & Mrs Moon, 4 Orchard Close. Full, colourful & well looked after pots & baskets.

In addition to the winners it was felt that the following gardens deserve a mention as Highly Commended:

Mr & Mrs Jordan, 44 High St, for Best Kept Front Garden

Mr & Mrs Herdman, 61 High St, for Best Hanging Basket

PRIZES

£100 1st Prize sponsored by Green Thumb Lawn Treatment Service

£50 2nd Prize sponsored by Bright Mortgage Advice

£30 3rd Prize sponsored by Courtyard Flowers of Kimbolton

£20 Special Category Prize – Best Pot/Hanging Basket/Window Box sponsored by Lovett Residential

Once again a big thank-you to Dawn Isaac, for taking time out of her busy schedule as a garden designer, to contribute to and judge the Hail Weston Best Kept Front Garden Competition.
Grass Cutting

At the beginning of 2006 the County Council informed the Parish Council that, due to financial restrictions, they would be reducing the number of cuts to land in their control in the village.

The Parish Council therefore decided to negotiate to take on certain grass cutting responsibilities from the County and this has been the case through 2006 and 2007.

The County remains responsible for cutting the verges along the B645 and on the eastern High Street from the B645 to the Church.

The Parish Council employs a contractor to cut certain verges in the High Street, Bird Lane, Orchard Close, the Garden of Rest and the Playing Field. Trying to arrange a cutting regime that keeps the village looking tidy and remains cost effective is a constant challenge.

Our present contractor has contracts for several villages in North Bedfordshire and Cambridgeshire. Due to the scale of his operation we benefit from competitive pricing.

During the early part of 2006 there were delays as cutting responsibilities were transferred from casual labour to a bona fide contractor with all the appropriate Health & Safety certification and insurance and then due to a drought cutting was not required for many weeks.

So far 2007 has been one of the best grass growing years we have had for some time.

Unfortunately, the perfect growing weather, warm and very wet, has conspired to stop the contractor actually cutting the grass when we would wish.

Our finances allow for the contractor to visit the village every three weeks, if in the third week it is very wet then the work has to be rescheduled with the contractors other commitments!

The Parish Council has been frustrated with the service received and therefore will be reviewing the Contract for 2008.

Campaign To Save Buckden Road Recycling Centre

A campaign has been launched to save the recycling centre in Buckden from closure. Cambridgeshire county councillor Peter Downes has created a petition protesting to the proposed closure of Buckden Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC), which is located in Brampton and is scheduled for closure in October 2008.

The petition is available for signing at various locations including, The Royal Oak, Hail Weston. The petition needs to be signed by the end of September as the plan is for it to be presented to the County Council at their next meeting in October.

Hail Weston Village Fete– Saturday Sept 8th

Just a reminder that the bi-annual Village Fete & Dog show will be taking place at 11.30am on Saturday 8th September in the village playing field situated at the end of Newtown.

The highlight of the day will be the Dog show which will include a range of different competition classes and also feature a “Pet’s Corner”.

As always there will be a variety of stalls & events including:

- Fancy dress parade, miniature garden & photographic competitions.
- All day BBQ, licensed bar, ice cream van, tombola, homemade cakes, crazy golf, microlight flight auction, birds of prey, beat the goalie, slowest bicycle race & much much more!

If you would like your own stall then pitches are available from £8.

For further information please contact Peter Mailer on 211693.

Drop off points for the donations of books, raffle & tombola prizes are Rose Cottage, 85 High St & Pages Farm Cottage, 49 High St.