

ST NICOLAS' CHURCH, HAIL WESTON
August 2020

VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

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A message from Rev Nicki Bland:

Dear Friends

As we start to come out of lockdown, as things begin to ease, there are many longed-for opportunities, even if they are at a distance. We are able to see friends, play sports, resume contact with family and even get back to work and some of our children to go back to school. In addition to all this, we have been able to open up the churches for worship.

Like everything else, worship is not quite the same, in fact if you had said a year ago that we would be; coming to church in masks, sitting two metres apart, bringing our own service sheet and readings, sanitising our hands or wearing gloves, going up one at a time for communion and it being only in one kind and having no hymns, no one would have believed it possible, but that is exactly what is happening. We will also be filling in a Track and Trace spreadsheet as we are doing everything we can to keep those who come to church safe.

For some people it is a step too far to come back to church and so we are also continuing with 'Zoom' services. In addition, we have to keep the numbers down, so every other week there will be a church service you can attend and there will always be a 'Zoom' service.

On **August 2nd** there will: be a 'Zoom' BCP service at 8.00 am and a 'Zoom' Communion Service at 9.00 am for anyone who wants to attend. Then at 10.30 there will be a Communion Service for the people of Hail Weston and Little Staughton at St Nicolas, Hail Weston.

On **August 9th** there will be a 'Zoom' All Age Communion Service for anyone at 9.00 am and a 10.30 am Communion Service for the people of Great Staughton and Perry at St Andrew's Great Staughton

On **August 16th** there will be a 'Zoom' Service for anyone at 9.00 am and a 10.30 am Service for the people of Hail Weston and Little Staughton at All Saints' Little Staughton.

On **August 23rd** there will be a 'Zoom' Communion service for all at 9.00 am and a 10.30 am Communion Service for the people of Great Staughton and Perry at St Andrew's Great Staughton.

On **August 30th** there will be a 10.30 'Zoom' Benefice Service for all.

On the weeks when there has been a Church Service the Church will be locked for 72 hours, this again is for your safety.

We hope we will see you either at Church or on 'Zoom'. It has been really good to see different faces at our 'Zoom' services.

Please be assured that I am here to talk to, especially if you are feeling anxious in any way.

'May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit' (Romans 15:13)

*With love and prayers,
Nicki Bland*

ZOOM SERVICES: ZOOM ID 712447549 PASSWORD 022067

IN CHURCH SERVICES: Please wear a mask to Church and observe the social distancing marked out

FRIDAY FAMILY FUN is taking a summer break but will start again in September.

St Nicolas Church – Volunteer Vacancies

Our Annual Parochial Church Meeting for St Nicolas, Hail Weston, will be on Wednesday 12th August at 7.30 pm in the church.

We are so very thankful to those who have served our churches for so long, especially Carol Clapham, secretary, and Barbara Herdman and Pam Flint who have served in many ways but, in particular, sides people for many, many years.

We now have several vacancies which we need to fill. Please contact me, Rev'd Nicki Bland on 01480 869485 or revlesnicki@gmail.com if you could help us in any way.

We need:

- A Churchwarden to work alongside Elaine McCarthy;
- A Secretary (we have 4 Parochial Church Council meetings a year and an Annual Parochial Church Meeting);
- People to offer to help with the cleaning. There is a rota and you would be needed about once every six weeks.

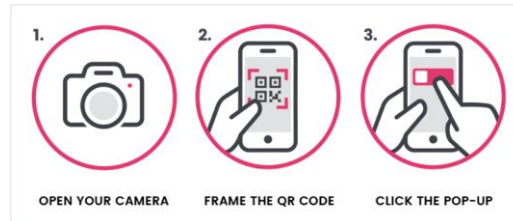
If we don't have people taking responsibility for the practical tasks which underlie the smooth running of the church it is everything else that cannot continue.

St Nicolas' strength is in its work with the youth which we would like to expand. This is run mostly by a ministry team from outside the village.

St Nicolas' Parochial Church Council Hail Weston – Fundraising

The past few months of lockdown have resulted in a substantial reduction in fundraising opportunities for the church. However, you will see from the newsletter how the virtual world has been embraced to bring the church to you. Everyone with access to online services has the opportunity to take part from home.

Unfortunately, no physical services have resulted in no opportunity for congregations to provide offerings and greatly reduced the church community's ability to hold fundraising events. These activities are essential to enable Hail Weston to have both an active church community and keep our much loved 800 year old building and churchyard in reasonable repair. Technology is available though, and details below provide an opportunity for you to make contactless donations using your mobile phone camera. If your phone is not set up to read QR codes follow the instructions at the bottom of the page to down load the Tap & Scan application.



On the Google Play Store or the Apple App Store download an app called Tap&Scan. It's provided by (Thyngs) and its logo is orange. (Using this app you can scan QR codes without getting adverts which is handy).



Using your mobile device, phone or tablet camera, scan the QR code and then follow the onscreen directions.

You will get options for amounts to donate, just tap the amount.

Next you get a choice of method of payment. 'Donate' takes you to Google Pay option, alternatively choose 'card payment' and then complete payment details as requested.

You will finally have an option to add Gift Aid if you are a UK tax payer completing this element enables the church to claim 25% on your donation from HMRC.

When the process is complete you will receive an email confirmation.

If the above is not for you but you would like to support the St Nicolas 'church community by making regular **Planned Giving** donations direct from your bank account please contact Barry Easom, PCC Treasurer, on 01480 217034 or beasom@beasom.plus.com . All conversations and transactions will be subject to strict privacy and confidentiality regulations.

News from the Churches of Great Staughton, Little Staughton and Hail Weston

During the time we can't meet up, here is a way of keeping in touch with what is happening through our Church network.

There is now an electronic newsletter which gives a weekly update from the Staughtons with Hail Weston Church family. If you would like to be included in its circulation please email giving permission to:

elizabeth.edmunds4@gmail.com

St Nicolas Church 100 Club 2020/21

The winners of the July 100 Club Draw are as follows:

1st prize	Nicki Bland	£50.00
2nd prize	Chris Couzens	£25.00
3rd prize	Jan Matthews	£10.00

Congratulations to all the winners!

Hail Weston Parochial Church Council

Covid 19 - Hail Weston Mutual Aid

Hail Weston has its own Covid-19 Mutual Aid Group where we can support each other during these difficult times. If you need help or you would like to volunteer then please get in touch.

Possible Support Options are:

Arranging Deliveries
Picking up Shopping & Medication
A friendly Phone Call
Posting Mail
Urgent Supplies
Help topping up Electric or Gas key

Phone call or text to 07513-914986

Email: marianmulcahy@btinternet.com and /or
martin@baughan.org.uk

Just call or text and we will do our best to help you (for free!)

Even if you're self-isolating, you're not alone

THE VILLAGE HALL

Contact: Dawn Isaac (01480 581634)

Hire Rates: £10 ph Hail Weston Residents £12 ph Non-Village Residents

Deposit: £20

PRE-SCHOOL ACTIVITY GROUP Monday-Friday 9.15am - 2.15pm term time

Contact: Sam Hitchen (during pre-school session) on 01480 214574

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)

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