



Lois Weedon and Weston Newsletter

March/April 2016 – Spring/Easter Edition



From the Editor

It's raining today It must be getting near a Bank Holiday !!! And as it's Easter, it's time for the daffodils to be in bloom and the Village Newsletter to land on your doorstep (or email inbox). A bit thinner than usual this time.

Preparations are now underway for the May Day Country Fair 2016 – Monday, May 2nd. Watch out for posters and flyers over the next few weeks and all the details will be in the next Newsletter. When you visit the fair, be sure to collect your souvenier programme – The covers were designed by children from our own St Loys Academy; I had the pleasure of handing out Easter Eggs to the children today in thanks for their efforts. (All properly supervised by the hardworking staff – of course !!!).

High Speed Community Broadband. This service is based on a 1Gbit/s fibreoptic connection. Each of the member households should now be benefiting from a stable and consistent service of at least 30Mbit/s. There are over 430 users on this system across the valley and in Lois Weedon & Weston we have about 105 homes connected. Anyone interested in joining the system should go to www.tovevalley.com and register.

The new Parish website is being developed, paid for by a grant from the New Homes Bonus. Any individual or organisation willing and able to contribute content should contact the webmaster, Frank Hunter (frank.hunter@btinternet.com) or give Frank a call (01327 860597).

I would like to thank the PCC for their kind donation in support of the Newsletter. You will receive a copy of the Church Services with your Village Newsletter. If not, please contact Revd. Carole Peters-King.

The next edition of the newsletter will be just in time for May Day 2016 and so, with all the preparations for that, I anticipate needing more time than usual to publish the Newsletter. So I would like all material for the next edition to be with me by **Sunday, 24th April 2016**.

Paul Smith, 8 Vicarage Rise (01327-860626)

Email: loisweedonpaul@gmail.com

Dates for your Diary

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Tues., 19 April | Annual Parochial Church Meeting 7:30pm at St Loys Academy, School Hall. Everyone welcome |
| Mon., 2 May | Lois Weedon & Weston May Day Country Fair – Details in the next edition. |
| Mon., 9 May | Annual Parish Meeting 7:30pm at the Baptist Chapel, Weston, followed by Parish Council AGM (approx.. 8pm) |
| First Wed., of the month | Lois Weedon & Weston WI – 7:30, Lois Weedon Village Hall |

Recent Winners of Village Hall '100 Club' Lottery

| March 2016 | |
|-------------------|----|
| Sheila French | 78 |
| Sue James | 82 |
| Pete Parmenter | 96 |

WANTED

Someone to mow the grass at 18 Middlethorpe, Lois Weedon – back and front gardens

I have an electric mower or bring your own

Jenni Liversidge

01327 860039

May Day Tombola - Reminder

We shall be collecting donations for the **May Day Tombola Stall** during the week-end of 23rd & 24th April.

Items such as tinned food, soaps and toiletries, stationery, small toys (unused), bottles of wine, packets of foodstuffs (please check 'sell by date') - basically anything suitable for a Tombola !

We will also be collecting games or jigsaws for the **Children's Games and Jigsaws** stall and books for the **Bookstall**. All donations will be gratefully received

Please note that we are no longer collecting "bric-a-brac".

Can also be delivered to Paul & Rachel Smith, 8 Vicarage Rise, Lois Weedon. (01327 860626)



The Astwell Benefice
*St Mary Magdalene Helmdon with Stuchbury
and St Lawrence Radstone
and St James the Great Syresham
with St John the Evangelist Whitfield,
St Mary & St Peter Lois Weedon with Weston and Plumpton
and St Mary the Virgin Wappenham*

Hello From Your Rector!

Did you know that for Christians, Easter is a bigger celebration than Christmas?

This is because it was some 30 years after Jesus was born in that stable in Bethlehem, that he left his carpentry job in Nazareth and started teaching and performing healing and other miracles in and around the towns and villages that today find themselves close to the Syrian war zone.

Just three years later, Christ's simple, but equally difficult message that we should all love our neighbours as ourselves and love God and do this with all our hearts, minds and souls, had attracted thousands of followers.

But that meant He was seen as a threat to the authorities, so He was arrested and sentenced to the popular method of execution in those days - Crucifixion. But even as He hung, dying, in that most barbaric and gruesome of ways, Jesus asked his Father to forgive all of us and for that forgiveness to be eternal.

In that way, we believe Christ died for the forgiveness of all sins and gave everyone the chance to experience God's unconditional love for us – now I think that's something to shout about!

But if that wasn't enough, just three days later, the tomb where he had been laid was discovered empty and a risen Christ appeared to disciples.

To remind us of this amazing and world changing event on Easter morning we greet the dawn with a fire and then from that light lanterns that re used to light darkened churches with candles at the start of our services and all this done with the shout: **He is Risen!** To which the reply is "**He is risen indeed ,Alleluia!**"

But to truly appreciate how amazing this is, we spend the week before "following" Christ to the Cross. We do this with services of music, our own "Last Supper" following the tradition of the Jewish Seder meal Jesus shared with his disciples and on Good Friday we take the time to follow completely the story of Jesus' walk to the Cross and beyond.

Not for you? - Well you won't know that till you try it!

Join us for any of the Holy Week and Easter Day services across our Benefice because Easter isn't just about eggs:

It's about Hope and a whole lot of Love!

Reverend Carole.

A list of our Easter Services and services throughout the Benefice for the next five months is in the booklet delivered with this newsletter. You are always welcome at any of our services!

Acorn Decorating Services

First class service

**free quotations for all you internal decorating coving, dado, paper hanging,
low oder water based paints as well as oil paints**

07947122230

St Mary and St Peter , Lois Weedon with Weston & Plumpton



Parochial Church Council



Our Village wouldn't be the same without it's Church and while you may not be a member of the congregation or plan to get married or hold a baptism with us. We will be there for a loved ones funeral and even if the bells aren't your cup of tea – did you know that having a Church in a village adds a little extra to the value of your home!

In 2015 it cost nearly £20,000 to keep our Church open and with help of some kind donations and some inventive fundraising we raised almost all of it!

This year we need to carry out more repairs to our building, our day to day running costs aren't getting any less and due to age and illness we are now having to pay to have our churchyard kept mowed and tidy.

So would you be willing to help us?

Just £1 a month from every home in the village would provide us with the money to pay our regular bills.

£1 pound a week the money to pay half of all our yearly running costs and that would insure we have a beautiful building to worship in and admire into the next century.

It will also allow us to keep holding our services and initiatives like Messy Church. It might even help towards getting that much needed toilet.

And knowing that we have a monthly or weekly commitment from you also helps us to budget and takes a huge weight off our minds

So, if you are able to help, please contact our PCC Treasurer Frank Hunter on 860597 or email him at frank.hunter@btinternet.com and he'll sent you a direct debit form.

We are also in need of a PCC secretary – would you be willing to take the minutes at 3 or 4 meetings a year and distribute them via email to PCC members. We will cover all expenses. Please contact Barry Peters-King on 860089 or at barry.towcester@gmail.com if you are able to help.

If you would like to get involved in anything to do with the Church come along to our **APCM meeting on Tuesday April 19th at 7.30pm in the School Hall.**

There will be drinks and nibbles and a chance to hear what we've been up to.

The PCC of St Mary and St Peter

Luke Parker

You will be aware, as mentioned in a previous newsletter, that one of our residents, Luke Parker, sadly passed away on 10th November 2015.

We have been slowly coming to terms with his loss. Luke lived his 29 years to the full, spending the past 11 years with William Blake House in Farm Cottage Milthorpe. He was quite simply a joy to care and support in all he did. Luke thoroughly enjoyed his music, arts and crafts, and especially good conversation!

Luke loved to visit Chapel in Weston on Sundays and was a familiar presence in our local community. Luke was looking forward to Christmas and to celebrating his 30th Birthday in December.

William Blake House wish to thank you for all your kind messages of remembrance and support at this time.

Best wishes,

Jane Other, General Manager, William Blake House, (01327 860906)

Parish News

As both Newsletter Editor and a Parish Councillor, I receive a regular stream of information from sources such as South Northants Council, Northamptonshire County Council, The Highways Department as well as companies and organisations advertising products and services. A lot of this material is irrelevant but a fair chunk of it will be of interest to the community. Although I try and include some of the most relevant items in the Newsletter, because the Newsletter is only published once every 2 months and has limited space, much of the information is no longer relevant by the time I come to publish.

If you would like to receive this information and you are not already on my “News for the Parish” distribution list then email me at loisweedonpaul@gmail.com and I’ll add you to the list

Paul Smith

Microchipping Dogs

A lot of dog owners have always understood the importance of microchipping - it gives you reassurance that should your pet get lost or stolen, they are more likely to be returned to you safe and sound. Up till now this has been voluntary. However, from 6 April 2016 all dogs in England and Wales will be legally required to be microchipped and their details registered on an authorised database.

Why is the government making it compulsory for dogs to be microchipped

The Government hope that the change in the law will help reunite owners with lost or stolen pets, relieve the burden on animal charities and local authorities and protect the welfare of dogs by promoting responsible dog ownership.

Is there a fine/penalty if I don't get my dog microchipped or keep my details up-to-date?

Once the new rules come into effect, if a dog without a microchip comes to the attention of the authorities, its keeper may be served with a notice requiring the dog to be microchipped, and may face criminal prosecution and a £500 fine if they do not comply with the notice. If the keeper continues to take no action, an enforcer can seize the dog and microchip it at the keeper's expense. In addition, if the breeder or subsequent keepers of the dog do NOT update the dog's details on a database that is compliant with the regulations, then a notice may be served requiring the keeper to microchip the dog within 21 days of the served notice.

How will the microchipping law be enforced?

The Microchipping of Dogs (England) Regulations 2014 will be enforced by local authorities, police constables, community support officers and any other person authorised to act as an enforcer of the regulations.

What is a microchip?

A microchip is a small electronic chip, around the size of a grain of rice, which is implanted under the dog's skin and contains a unique number that can be read by a scanner. The dog owner's contact details are logged on a central database, so should the dog ever go missing or be stolen it can be scanned by the authorities and returned to its owner swiftly and safely. It is vital that the owner takes responsibility for updating their details with the database should their circumstances change.

How and where is the microchip implanted?

Using a specially designed implanting device, the microchip is injected through a sterile needle under the dog's skin between the shoulder blades. There is no pain for the dog and the process is similar to a normal injection.

At what age must a puppy be microchipped?

All puppies must be microchipped by the time they are 8 weeks old. It will be illegal for breeders to sell a puppy that is not microchipped and registered on an authorised database that meets the legal requirements.

Do older dogs still need to be microchipped too?

Yes – all dogs will need to be microchipped.

Where can I get my dog microchipped?

You can get your dog microchipped at your local veterinary practice or in a range of other places such as pet retail stores or animal rehoming centres. The Dogs Trust offer free microchipping across the UK through its network of rehoming centres and community events. Visit www.chipmydog.org.uk for more details.

Other details of this legislation are available on-line