



# NEWSLETTER



With the compliments of the Parochial Church Council of St. Denys Church, Ravensthorpe

## Update on alterations to St Denys Church

As previously communicated, revised plans for the new facilities were submitted to the Diocese at the end of February, and the plans will be posted on the church [www.uplandsgroupchurches.org.uk/ravensthorpe-st-denys](http://www.uplandsgroupchurches.org.uk/ravensthorpe-st-denys) and village [www.ravensthorpe.me.uk/st-denys-church/websites](http://www.ravensthorpe.me.uk/st-denys-church/websites), and put up on the church as early in March as full size printed copies are available. Specific dates that the church will be open will be posted on the church gate noticeboard to allow anyone who wishes to view them outside service times to do so.

## Rev Linnet and Looking to the Future

Sadly, at the end of October we'll be saying goodbye to Rev Linnet Smith as she retires - and while she's only been with us for a couple years (and has supposedly been part time!) many of you will have seen that she has made an outstanding contribution to our churches locally, and we have been very fortunate to have her. Looking forward though, we need to work out if we can afford, as a group of 8 churches, to replace Linnet with a full time priest. Once you take into account training, housing, pensions etc., each full time priest costs us over £67,000 a year, which is a big target to reach - and to know if we can try to reach it we need every member of the congregation to carefully consider their level of giving over the next few weeks and months, and also crucially whether they could commit to regular giving by direct debit if they don't already (this allows us to plan far better). Interestingly the Church of England nationally suggests that if each adult member of our congregations gave on average (we completely understand some can't afford to give this and others can afford to give more) £16 per person per week we could meet our commitments for clergy costs quite easily - whereas currently the average member of a congregation across the country gives £10 per person per week. If you'd like to hear more about the options for the future and help us decide what to do, please join us at a special open meeting about this decision after the Group service at Thornby on **12th March** - All are welcome

## Mothering Sunday

Please join us for our Mothering Sunday Family Service on **Sunday 26th March at 11am**. All ages very welcome, and posies will be distributed to all Mothers and Grandmothers by the children

## Churchyard

We're going to be having our annual tidy up of the churchyard in the next month or so, to make sure it remains a beautiful and timeless place for all the village to enjoy.

Therefore we'd like to politely remind people that according to the diocese rules, all extra items on and around graves, other than fresh real flowers, should be removed

<http://www.peterboroughdiocesanregistry.co.uk/summary.pdf>

## Lent Lunches.

12-2pm.

All welcome.

This year we have 4 lunches. Minimum donation £6 to be split between the Church and charity of hosts choice.

Please come and join us for soup, bread, fruit, tea or coffee and friendship. Note that first lunch is **Tuesday** all others **Wednesday's**.

**Tuesday 7th March.** Sally Marsh New Barns High St.

**Wednesday 22nd March.** Ann Fowler Home Farm, High St.

**Wednesday 29th March.** Charlotte Matts Manor Farm. Guilsbrough Rd.

**Wednesday 5th April.** Tricia Freeman 2 The Orchards

**Easter Eggs & More!**

Good Friday (14th April)  
Guilsbrough Village Hall - 10-12

Hot cross buns, coffee & children's snacks

Drop-in anytime  
All ages welcome

Fun Easter activities for adults & children



Run by the Uplands Group of Churches



## Young singers/musicians

We'd love to have more young people who love to sing or play an instrument involved in St Denys for our services, but also for special events like our Mother's Day service where we'd love to put a music group/little choir together - If you/your children might like to be involved, or you'd like to get involved in our music in any way as an adult, please get in touch with Alice on

[kierenandalice@btinternet.co](mailto:kierenandalice@btinternet.co)

## Village Hall What's On?

### Wednesday Coffee Mornings

**1<sup>st</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> March**  
10.30am – 12 noon  
Ravensthorpe Village Hall  
Call Bob Pike 771 277

### Village Cinema

**28<sup>th</sup> March**  
**7 for 7.30pm**  
**Touching the Void**  
email; [mike@mikecobb.com](mailto:mike@mikecobb.com)  
or call 328822 to reserve.

### Food Bank Collection

**Sunday March 5th**  
10am - Noon

### Northants CC Adult Learning Course

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> March**  
**6.30pm**  
"Write your own Life Story"  
Email [bobpike@church-hill.com](mailto:bobpike@church-hill.com) or call 771277

### Dog Training

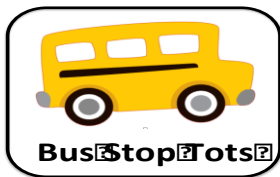
**Friday 3rd March** and each  
**Friday 7.30-8.30pm**

### Bridge Lessons

Tony & Bernadette Watson are running a Course of Bridge Lessons for beginners at the Village Hall **2pm to 4.30pm** Tuesdays  
If you would like to join please be sure to contact **Bernadette on 770424**

### Brunch @ 11

The Sunday event at Guilsbrough Village Hall aimed at families in the Uplands Group of villages  
**March 19<sup>th</sup>, May 21<sup>st</sup>**



**Join Us For:**

A chance to chat while the children play  
Tea, coffee, croissants, baby drinks & snacks  
A simple craft, and 10 minutes of bible stories & songs  
for babies and pre-school children  
(we usually do this about 9.20am)

Tuesdays 9.45-10.00am Drop in at any time  
Ravensthorpe Village Hall Just £1 per child

Open to all families in the area

All villagers welcome to drop in for coffee and chat, even if you don't have pre-school children with you!



Bus Stop Tots run by the Uplands Group of Churches



**Adult Education in Long Buckby**

**“Behind the Iron Curtain: Life in Eastern Europe under Communism”**

- Cultural conflict in Poland & East Germany
- Propaganda & the arts
- ‘Secret police’ organisations
- Work, leisure, entertainment and shopping

Tutor: **David Price**

Begins **Wed 18th January 2017 2:30 - 4:15pm** for 9 weeks

Cost: **£52 (free if qualify)**

Venue: **Long Buckby Community Centre**

For more information contact **Joan Holah:**

**01604 770030**



**Hope Tools** is a social enterprise, set up to recycle and refurbish second-hand garden tools and then sell them to raise money for Hope's work.

Staff work alongside Hope Centre clients to recycle and refurbish tools and build products for gardens.

The workshop helps people to develop necessary skills in tool repair, confidence, teamwork and to build their self-esteem. The tools are on sale, at reasonable prices at the workshop at Hope and The Workbridge Centre, Bedford Road, Northampton. Old tools can be donated at the

workshop in Ash Street, Bells Northampton Workbridge, Yardley Hastings Garden Centre and Coton Manor (during opening hours) Do you run a garden centre or nursery? We welcome any other outlets where our tools can be sold. Contact us [atoffice@northamptonhopecentre.org.uk](mailto:atoffice@northamptonhopecentre.org.uk)

**Repairs & Servicing**

Hope Tools also offer a service to have favourite garden tools repaired or refurbished, including the servicing and repair of gardening equipment such as lawn mowers.

Please contact our Workshop Supervisor on 0845 519 9371 to obtain a free quotation for the repair &/or servicing of your favourite garden tools or equipment.

**“Play keyboard” at Ravensthorpe Village Hall**

Sessions on playing keyboards for absolute beginners and another for more knowledgeable players has been proposed by Andrew & Gillian Pitts. Each lasting 45 mins, they will take place fortnightly at the Village Hall on Monday starting at 2pm.

Participants are invited to bring their keyboards to an introductory free “Taster” on **Monday March 20th**. Even if you do not have your own keyboard at this moment, but still want to learn, then come to the first free session. The cost of the following sessions will be £5 each and all proceeds go the Village Hall (Charity No. 278283). Beginners at 2pm and the more knowledgeable at 3pm.

For more information or to register interest in joining the sessions, please call 771451 or email [aandgpitts@gmail.com](mailto:aandgpitts@gmail.com) or call 771277.

**Playing Field lottery winners for February:**

Winner (**£50**): Karen Reeve.

**£20** winner: Vana Hickman.

The Chequers accumulator: ticket number 16155 - not claimed.

Our thanks to all who support the Playing Field lottery.

**Bus Stop Mum's** night out at The Chequers raised £70 towards the Playing Field

**Book Club**

**Tuesday 14 March 2017**  
**7.45pm** at The Mill House  
*My Name is Lucy Barton* by Elizabeth Strout

**FULL HOUSE!**  
The Book Club is welcoming Mark Carey to the Village Hall on **Saturday 4 March 7.30pm** for his performance of **'INTO THE BREACH'**.

Please ring 770868 if you would like to join the month's meeting, so that we can find you a chair! The Book Group has proved to be very popular, since it started just a year ago.

**“A Note For Your Diary”**

On **Thursday April 27<sup>th</sup>** there will be an afternoon talk at the village hall by Colin Chapman from Northampton University on the WW1 POW Camps in Northampton. More information will be available soon

**Brunch @ 11**

The Sunday event at Guilsborough Village Hall aimed at families in the Uplands Group of villages **March 19<sup>th</sup>, May 21<sup>st</sup>**

Email newsletter contributions to [ravensthorpenewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:ravensthorpenewsletter@gmail.com) for the attention of the editor, Zöe Dando by 5pm on the 23rd of the month

Date	Time	Service Type	Led by	Location (No flowers in Lent)
Sunday 5th March	8.30am	Traditional Communion	Clergy	Ravensthorpe
	5.00pm	Evening Service (Taize style)	Clergy a& Lay team	Ravensthorpe
Sunday 12th March	10.00am	Group Modern Communion with refreshments	Clergy	Thornby
Sunday 19th March	9.45am	Modern Communion with refreshments	Clergy	Ravensthorpe
	11.00am	Brunch@11	Lay team	Guilsborough VH
Sunday 26th March	11.00am	Mothering Sunday Family Service with refreshments	Clergy & Lay team	Ravensthorpe
Sunday 2nd April	8.30am	Traditional Communion	Clergy	Ravensthorpe
	5.00pm	Evening Service (Taize style)	Clergy & Lay team	Ravensthorpe
Sunday 9th April	10.00am	Group Modern Communion with refreshments	Clergy	Guilsborough

Advance notice of APCM on Sunday 23rd April - full notice to follow