

Issue Number 182 December 2018. With the compliments of the

Parochial Church Council of St. Denys Church, Ravensthorpe.



Local News from Ravensthorpe, Cotton & Teston

NEWSLETTER

Message from the Reverend Chris Peck, Rector of the Uplands Group of Parishes

THANK YOU!

On behalf of St Denys PCC I want to thank everyone who has given to St Denys through the year. We are aware of so many who do those vital tasks like cleaning and decorating the church, providing coffee after a service, welcoming people at the door, reading the lesson and many others. Many of you organise and take part in events like the Harvest Supper which help to raise funds, and many give generously to support the church financially. We are immensely grateful to all of you.

Christmas is a time when we remember the greatest gift of all, the gift of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Do join us at one of the events over the Christmas season to give thanks for God's overwhelming love for us.

David & Mavis Johnstone

David and Mavis Johnstone are leaving the village after 35 years. They are going to darkest Wiltshire to be close to their daughter and their service to the village, and particularly to St Denys, our Parish Church, is unmatched. David was elected to the PCC in 1985 and has remained a member to this day. He became Churchwarden in 1986 and served as such for 26 years. During this time he worked with 6 incumbents, saw through 5 interregnums (the first one lasting 4 years during which the future of St Denys was in doubt). Then there have been 5 quinquennial church restorations. He played a major part in the 1991 Wool Festival which went on to raise some £100,000 for the repair of the church tower. Thereafter, he was engaged with the "The Friends of St Denys" in the 2 Festive Markets which were major contributors to the quinquennial repairs.

In all this David was supported by Mavis. Together they weeded the paths and looked after the churchyard. They ran the bookstalls at all the Church Fetes. From their arrival, Mavis has organised and helped in the cleaning of the church. She will be greatly missed as a loyal and valued member of the choir.

We owe them both a huge debt of gratitude.

Church Items December 2018:

26th November, 3rd, 10th, 17th December – Monday – 7.30pm - The Uplands Group Advent Course – Spratton Church – Inspired to Follow: Art and the Bible Story. The course combines fine art with a biblical reflection as a springboard for discussing these two questions: How can I deepen my faith in God? and What does it mean to follow Jesus today. To join, at anytime, contact: revallisontwigg@gmail.com or 01604 846099

15th December 2018 - Saturday – 2.00pm – Living Nativity – St Denys Church – A fun interactive service for families. A chance for all children (and adults!) to dress up and take part in our living nativity story (along with our visiting live miniature donkey Betty!), and to sing some well known carols to celebrate the coming of Christmas.

16th December – Sunday - Christmas Brunch@11 for Everyone!

Guilsborough Village Hall. Relax with bacon & sausage rolls, fresh coffee, tea and juice. Newspapers, games, activities for children; Thought for the Day. Free of charge. There is also a Family Sheep Trail starting 10.00am at Guilsborough Church and finishing at Guilsborough Village for Christmas Brunch@11

17th December 2018 – Monday - Village Carol Singing – 6.00pm -Meet at the Church gate (see ad for details)

Traveling Crib – If you would like to be a host family for traveling crib this year during December, please contact Alice by email on: kierenandalice@btinternet.com

Bus Stop Tots

Tuesday mornings 8.45am – 10.00am at Ravensthorpe Village Hall. Refreshments, play, activities, bible stories, songs for babies and pre-school children. Contact Alice Cooper for more information: 01604 771245

St Denys Church Choir – is always looking for new members, so if you feel you would like to get involved please contact Meg Benn for more information: 01604 770629.

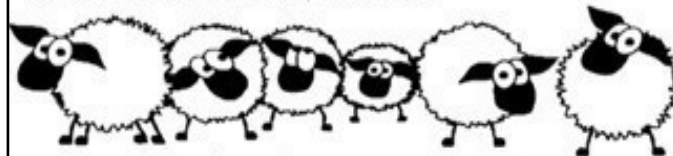
Cleaning the church - we are looking for volunteers to join the Church cleaning rota. Working in teams of two or three the rota is once every six weeks and it takes just over an hour. Please contact Thalia Pike (771277) if you are able to help.

Have some family fun finding the lost sheep!

The sheep hunt begins at St Etheldreda's Church, Guilsborough
Sunday 16th December, 10.00

Follow the trail through the village and end with free Brunch, craft, song and Christmas message in Guilsborough Village Hall from 11.00

Sheep Trail Competition- 50p per entry in aid of Northampton Hope Centre
Winners will be drawn from the correctly returned entries.



We Wish 'Ewe' A Merry Christmas!

SHOE BOXES

Thank you to everyone who did a shoe box or donated items for the boxes. 120 boxes were sent to Blythwood Charity from the Parish, as well as 23 knitted blankets. We are always looking for wool oddments, so if you have any let me know. *If you want to knit squares, no 8 needles, 10cm square. Tricia Freeland*



Boxes & blankets at Guilsborough church.

Adult Education in Long Buckby

“Behind the Scenes – Comfortable Life in the Country House”

(WEA course ref C2340022)

From privies to colza oil lamps, and dovecotes to bell-pulls, this course will look at the way comfort was gradually achieved within country houses. Technological developments will be looked at, alongside the servants, whose hard work was still necessary to make life easier for their employers.

Tutor: Judith Hodgkinson

**Wed 9 January to Wed 6 March 2019 2:30 - 4pm
(9 weeks with half term break)**



Venue: Long Buckby Community Centre

Village Carol Singing Walk Monday 17th December



Join us for a walk around the village singing Christmas carols, accompanied by our local brass musicians, and followed by festive refreshments in the village hall.

Meet at the Church gate to start at 6pm, or join us later at the village hall at around 7.30 for mulled wine. We'll be stopping around the village and door-knocking to collect for Northampton Hope Centre.

Route as follows: Church Gate (6pm);

Bettycroft; The Orchards; brow of Little Lane;

Coffee Morning at Home Farm

Many thanks to all the helpers especially Beryl with the selling of raffle tickets and for the many villagers who supported the event. Amazingly we made a record £1,200. It was wonderful to have Avery and

NEWSLETTER:

The next Newsletter will be the February edition. Deadline for contributions will be Wednesday 23rd January. Please email the editor, Alan Worthington.

Parish Council Notices

Footpath Warden – Volunteer Required

Having recently moved to Long Buckby, John Peachey is 'hanging up his boots' after many years of being Ravensthorpe/Coton's footpath warden so we are looking for a volunteer to take over this role. Brief description below:

- To ensure the statutory footpaths and bridleways are in a useable state;
- To ensure the walks are signed but taking care not to affix footpath signs at will;
- To liaise with the County Council Rights of Way Officer of any problem areas;
- To inform the Parish Council of any persistent problems;
- To prepare a short annual report for the Annual Parish Meeting;
- Answer any questions/queries from members of the public.

The footpaths divide into 3 areas and if they were all walked in the same session, it would take around 3.5 hours.

Anyone interested in finding out more, please let the Clerk know by email: Ravensthorpepc@yahoo.co.uk

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Many years ago I was a member of the local neighbourhood policing team and as a retirement present was

offered the job of Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) coordinator. As such I get messages regarding crimes in the area, trading standards alerts and incidents affecting rural and wildlife crime. I have reasonable access to the local team based in Brixworth as well as the area sergeant in Daventry. Where appropriate I pass on information from members such as suspicious vehicles.

Currently there are 35 people in the village on my circulation list and if you would like to be added please let me know on glynlewisuk@yahoo.co.uk

Not all of the messages received are circulated as I cull



17th JANUARY Beadcraft - a demonstration by Alison Rocket

21st FEBRUARY Stop the press – a talk by Tony Boulemier

21st MARCH Flower Arranging – a demonstration by Alison Bolton

18th APRIL Beetle Drive

6th MAY 100 years Of Ravensthorpe WI – come celebrate our Birthday

16th MAY Resolutions and Social including memories of the last 100 years

20th JUNE Fun on your feet – a Demonstration By Renee Watt

18th JULY. The Northampton Hope Centre – a talk by Tanya Haji-Miller

Ravensthorpe Village Hall -

What's on in December?

<https://www.ravensthorpe.me.uk/the-village-hall/>

<https://www.facebook.com/RVHall1>

Tuesday 4th:

8.45am to 10.30am. **Bus Stop Tots** call Alice 07803 595106

2.0pm to 4.30pm **Afternoon Bridge Club** Call Bernadette 770424

7pm for 7.30pm **Village Cinema: Three Billboards outside Ebbing,**

Missouri. An Oscar, Golden Globe and BAFTA winning tragi-comedy—probably the 2018 film of the year. (Some strong language).

Wednesday 5th:

10.30am – Noon. **Morning Coffee.** All Welcome.

Fresh Coffee and home-made treats for just £2

Saturday 8th:

At 7pm: the outstanding **Fiori Musicali Chamber Ensemble** perform

Christmas Concertos. Bar. All tickets now sold.

Tuesday 11th:

8.45am to 10.30am. **Bus Stop Tots** call Alice 07803 595106

2.0pm to 4.30pm **Afternoon Bridge Club** Call Bernadette 770424

Thursday 13th:

WI Christmas Party.

Monday 17th:

6pm at St Denys Church: **Carol Singing around the village**, finishing at the Village Hall at around 7.30 for mulled wine and mince pies. **Collecting for Northampton Hope Centre—Poverty and Homelessness.**

Tuesday 18th

Playing Field

Lottery winners for November:

Yvonne Reeve (£50); Ann Fowler (£20).

The Bonfire Night raised £275 towards the running costs for the Playing Field. This was down somewhat on the previous 2 years, but mainly due to the increase in insurance costs, and not because of any lack of generosity on the part of the attendees.

The Saturday Night Fever Disco night raised £420.20 towards the Children's Play Area development. Thank you for all your support, and special thanks to DJ Alister Mold.



RAVENSTHORPE

VILLAGE CINEMA

Ravensthorpe Village Hall

Doors Open 7.00pm: Admission: £6—Students £4

Seat reservation recommended

Tuesday 4th December: *Three Billboards outside Ebbing, Missouri*

Directed by Martin McDonagh (Calvary, The Guard, In Bruges). A darkly comic, crime drama in which a woman pressures the police into continuing the investigation into her daughter's murder. Set in mid-South, blue-collar, rural America and, in turns, violent and comic with liberal use of bad language, it is a film that continually surprises as the narrative and characters develop.

Written specifically for Frances McDormand (Fargo) and co-starring Woody Harrelson and Sam Rockwell, this British film won two Oscars (Best Actor and Supporting Actor), five BAFTAs including Best Screenplay and four Golden Globes. With 200 nominations and 113 awards, it can probably claim to be 2017 'film of the year'. 115 mins; Cert 15. 2017.

Tuesday 18th December: *RAMS*

Feuding brothers, chilly vistas and sickly sheep provide the perfect premise for this darkly comic Icelandic saga. A story of Icelandic country folk, this film by Grímur Hákonarson finds intensity and dead-pan humour in this idiosyncratic

THE RAVEN:

The Raven - a quarterly "journal of events and opinions in and about Ravensthorpe", was created and edited by "Pip" Wornum (and latterly with Alison Whitton) from its inception, Spring 1983 to its final edition, Winter 1994. When Mary & I came to the village in February 1995, the final edition had just been published and it was clear that *the Raven* would be very much missed, as a source of news, creativity, enjoyment, conversation and, at times, controversy. Here's a snippet from the Winter 1983 edition, 25 years ago: Pip Wornum on the problem of dog-poo:

"Dog owners can be fined for dung on footpaths but not alas on playing fields. a standard remedy for dogs dunging on carpets is to rub their noses in it: would that the owners get the same treatment for the offences they encourage. The dog is not to blame: the tinned food on which they are fed these days con-

THE NEWSLETTER TEAM

May we take this opportunity to thank David Johnstone for his years of stalwart service as a deliverer of the Newsletter within Ravensthorpe, and (more latterly) John Peachey in Teeton. Also a thank you to everybody who contributes to the printing and distribution of the Newsletter: the Parochial Church Council (sponsorship), Martin Wilkes (printing), Cliff Giles (delivery co-ordination), and the delivery team: Ann Fowler, Karen Hastie, Sue Goodfellow,



Come and be part of Ravensthorpe's

Living Nativity

Saturday 15 December
2pm at the Church

A fun, interactive Christmas service aimed at families.

With Betty the miniature donkey!

Costumes provided, or bring your own

All ages welcome

SPEAKERS' CORNER PRESENTS AT RAVENSTHORPE VILLAGE HALL NN6 8EH

PROGRAMME OF TALKS FOR 2019

Many thanks to all who have supported us in 2018
Speakers Corner Team Wish Everyone a Happy Healthy and Brilliant 2019

THREE LONDON OLYMPICS 1908, 1948 & 2012
An entertaining evening with heroes and villains, winners and losers, fascinating facts and riveting rivalries. Photos, sport and history. Something for everyone! Gary Shaeffer returns with his talk, an illustrated history of the Summer Games.
Tuesday 15th January 7 for 7.30pm

LEATHER IS EVERYWHERE! The National Leather Collection
Northants Leather Museum curator Phillip Warner will introduce us to a selection of treasures and their histories from the nation's largest acquisition of leather craft. A unique talk about a unique collection. **Wednesday 13th March 7 for 7.30pm**

THE YEAR OF THE THREE KINGS
Roy Smart's long military career includes pilot and air director for many great national and royal memorial events. He is also an entertaining speaker with an interest in history. Tonight he will tell us about the royal topic that has intrigued generations. The story of Wallis Simpson and the abdication crisis of 1936.
Thursday May 23rd 7 for 7.30pm

TICKETS £5 FROM RAVENSTHORPE PO. BOOK EARLY CALL 01604 770482. OR Email: contact@church-hill.com TEA AND COFFEE INCLUDED. BEERS AND WINES ON SALE

We warmly invite you to join us to celebrate Christmas at Ravensthorpe Church this year:

Saturday 15th December
2.00pm
Living Nativity Service with dressing up and miniature donkey

Monday 17th December
6.00pm
Village Carol Singing Walk (see separate advert for details)

Sunday 23rd December
11.00am
Christmas Worship for All Service

Monday 24th December
5.00pm
Traditional Carol Service

Tuesday 25th December
10.00am
Christmas Communion Service

You are of course very welcome to join any services happening elsewhere around the Uplands Group, but in particular, for families, you are welcome to join us on

Sunday 16th December for:
10.00am – Guilsborough Church for the start of the Family Sheep Trail (see ad for details) and....
11.00am – Guilsborough Village Hall for the end of Family Sheep Trail and Christmas Brunch@11



Sunday December 16
11am at
Guilsborough Village Hall

Christmas Brunch

More than just good food!

CHURCH SERVICES					
December	Time	Service Type	Led by	Location	Flowers
Sunday 2nd December	8.30am	Book of Common Prayer Communion	Clergy	Ravensthorpe	No flowers - Advent
	5.00pm	Evening Service—Taize	Clergy	Ravensthorpe	
Sunday 9th December	10.00am	Uplands Group Service— Common Worship with Communion	Clergy	Thornby	No flowers—Advent
Saturday 15th December	2.00pm	Living Nativity Christmas Service	Clergy	Ravensthorpe	
Sunday 16th December	9.45am	Common Worship with Communion	Clergy	Ravensthorpe	No flowers—Advent
	11.00am	Brunch@11	Lay Team & Clergy	Guilsborough Village Hall	
Sunday 23rd December	11.00am	Christmas Worship for All	Lay Team & Clergy	Ravensthorpe	No flowers—Advent
Monday 24th December	5.00pm	Carol Service	Clergy	Ravensthorpe	
Tuesday 25th December	10.00am	Christmas Day Service— Common Worship with Communion	Clergy	Ravensthorpe	
Sunday 30th December	10.00am	Uplands Group Service— Common Worship with Communion	Clergy	Spratton	