

# NEWSLETTER

With the compliments of the Parochial Church Council of St. Denys' Church  
Village Website – [www.ravensthorpe.me.uk](http://www.ravensthorpe.me.uk)

## ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – 13<sup>th</sup> April 2011

**A full copy of the minutes can be found on the village website. This is a brief and edited summary of some of the matters reported on and discussed. The editor apologises for the many omissions and any misstatements.**

The Chairman, **Stephen Holt**, welcomed everyone to the meeting, especially **Ros Alibone** who has become a councillor following **Pat Foss's** retirement. The meeting then went to the Police Report by **Glyn Lewis**, our PCSO. Glyn stated that there were 10 recorded crimes in the village during the year, 4 of which were domestic related. There was a burglary in Dairy Field's together with a car theft. Another car was stolen from the service station forecourt in January. Machinery was stolen from the yard on West Haddon Road and an attempted theft of a motorcycle. In April this year high quality metal was stolen from Torquemeters. There were 23 incidents of anti-social behaviour: - 4 vehicle related, 8 malicious phone calls, 9 rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour and 2 concerning animals. Glyn emphasised that, with reduced police budgets, it was important that the public be extra vigilant and notify the police of and dodgy behaviour by individuals or vehicles.

**Jonathan Jones** gave the financial Report, **Mary Worthington** the Planning Report, **Ian Baverstock** the Neighbourhood Watch Report and reports were received from **Maureen Cobbe**, Footpath Warden, **Kay Lee**, the Woodland Trust and **Martin Wilkes**, Memorial Playing Field. **Shirley Blakelock** has taken over as Chairman of the Ravensthorpe United Charities from **Dennis Patrick** who had been a Trustee for 34 years, 21 of them as Chairman. **Lin Holt** has been appointed as a Trustee and **Karen Eagles** as Secretary. **Cliff Giles** gave the Pocket Park Report' thanking **John Matts** for the new gates he installed, **Alan Mold** for mowing the paths, **Glyn and Margaret Lewis** for their help in planting and coppicing and all the people who have helped during the year.

**Trevor Foss** presented the Village Hall Report. The VH AGM took place two evenings earlier on April 11<sup>th</sup>.

A target of £110,000 was set to refurbish and extend the hall. However, the Lottery and BIFFA applications did not succeed so plans to widen the hall have been abandoned. (The editor calculates that since May 2008, some 20 fund raising activities have taken place as well as about 10 Hall lunches. Combined with the pledges given, plus gift aid, the village itself raised well over £40,000). In addition generous grants and donations were received from The Bernard Sunley Charitable Foundation, Daventry District Housing Fund, Ford Motor Company, Garfield Western Foundation, Catherine Boardman's Empowering and Communities Fund, Hollowell Steam and the Maude Elkington Charitable Fund. In total there should be close to £80,000 for the refurbishment – not enough to equip the extended kitchen and hopefully problems won't be discovered when the stage is removed. It is planned to call on volunteers for painting etc.

Trevor wishes to thank all of his hard working and devoted committee as well as **Steve Holt, Gordon Smith, and Mo Cobbe** for the funding applications, also **Margaret Lewis** for her work on the kitchen design and **Kevin Ross** and **John Benn** for their ongoing work in the planning of the hall's refurbishment. When the refurbishment is finished the village will have a bigger, better equipped, well insulated Hall that we can all be proud of.

In conclusion, Trevor formally asked the Parish Meeting to support a donation from the PC of at least £1,000 a year for the next 3 years to help this goal to be achieved.

**Catherine Boardman**, County Councillor for the Uplands' Division stated that the NCC had to make savings of £150 million over the next three years. She was particularly concerned to protect the Children and Young Peoples' Agenda. Later, in answer to concerns about parking in the Paddock Close area, she said she would contact the Highways Engineer to see what, if anything could be done. Our District Councillor, **Ian Pasley-Tyler** addressed the meeting and also spoke of cuts in the DDC budget calling for a £3million reduction this year alone.

## SUMMER OLYMPICS – Chequers' Challenge in aid of the Memorial Playing Field

Those who attended the Winter Olympics, and those who missed it, will be keen to hear that they can once again assess fitness levels by taking part in this event starting around **4pm on Bank Holiday Sunday – 29<sup>th</sup> May in the Chequers**. Teams of 4, BBQ and details will be posted around the village. Put a note in your diary!!

## PICNIC IN THE POCKET PARK – Saturday June 4<sup>th</sup> from 2 to 4pm.

In order to promote this lovely area (opposite Torquemeters on the West Haddon Road), Ravensthorpe WI is inviting all young families to a BYO picnic. There will be a Teddy Bear hunt with a small prize for finding them! Come and enjoy an afternoon of fun and friendship – we look forward to seeing you there!

**DOREEN BUCK.** Doreen was born in Ravensthorpe on Christmas Day 1926 and died on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2011. It is hard to do justice to this remarkable villager. Apart from a six year stay in Hollowell, she lived her whole life in this village. She married her husband, Charlie, on 21<sup>st</sup> September 1946 – a marriage lasting 64 and a half years. She was a member of the Parochial Church Council for 60 years and was active from a young age in raising money for charities. Her Coffee Mornings with “Bring and Buy” sales contributed greatly to the Talbot Butler Ward at NGH and the Northants & Warwickshire Air Ambulance Service.

From March 2006 to October 2007 her series of articles entitled “The Way We Were” were published in this Newsletter. They are a very literate and brilliant description of her life in Ravensthorpe in the 1930’s and 40’s – also a tribute to the education she received at the then, Village Church School. (Editor: I’ll make copies if you’re interested).

Our thoughts and prayers go out to her husband, Charlie and to their daughter, Linda, who looked after her parents for many years and tragically lost her husband, Kevin, the week before.

**LEO HIGHTON** died on the 10<sup>th</sup> April aged 93. He came to live in Ravensthorpe in 1979 with his wife, Joan who died last year. They had been married for nearly 70 years. As the last remaining man in the village who served in the armed services during World War II he recounted his experiences to the editor and lent his contemporary notes. The first part of his account was published in March and I plan to publish the remaining parts in his memory as space is available. Our deepest sympathy to his son Terry and Terry’s wife, Anita.

**MICHAEL LOMER.** Marilyn Reed (Eileen Reed’s daughter) would like to thank everyone who sent cards and messages of sympathy when her partner, Michael died. It was a great comfort to her to know that friends and relatives were thinking of her and also remembering Michael with such fondness. He loved his many visits to Ravensthorpe and counted himself lucky to have made so many friends here.

#### **FUNDS RAISED FOR THE HAEMATOLOGY UNIT – Northampton General Hospital**

**The Gardeners Evening** held at Coton Lodge on April 19<sup>th</sup> was an overwhelming success. All 150 tickets went quickly leaving a big waiting list. **Joanne De Nobriga’s** gardens looked superb following all her hard work to get it just right for the evening and the weather wonderful. The talk by **Susie Pasley-Tyler** was both informative and fun. **Claire De Nobriga** and her friend **Daphne Turpin** did a fantastic job on the food for supper. It was a great night which raised £2,500 and made all the hard work so worthwhile.

**Molly’s Fun Run** on April 16<sup>th</sup> raised £350 so far with a little more sponsor money to come and hopefully matching funding from Argos. The event was **Molly Stalmach’s** own idea and she worked so hard to get her friends involved. She wishes to thank all those who came and supported the event and to the children who took part.

**LENT LUNCHESES** – The PCC is very grateful to the hostesses, **Lorna Jones, Ann Fowler, Susie Pasley-Tyler, Tricia Freeman and Thalia Pike** for raising £430 for St. Denys Church. An additional £100 was given to charities of the hostess’s choice. These were all very enjoyable and social occasions.

“**SERENDIPITY THIS SPRING**” – This “shopping event with a difference” was organised by **Beryl Mott** with a lot of help and support from the Village Hall Committee and many others. A respectable £1,118 was made for the VH Refurbishment Fund on the evening of 6<sup>th</sup> April and the following day.

**IAN MACDONALD** completed the **London Marathon** on April 17<sup>th</sup> in 4hrs. 14mins. A magnificent effort to add funds to the £3,000 he has already made for “**Breakthrough Breast Cancer**”. The total will published when known.

The ever popular **VILLAGE QUIZ** on April 8<sup>th</sup> was as usual a very enjoyable and fun event raising about £400 for the Memorial Playing field. Many thanks to the organisers, helpers, cooks and all who gave their supported.

**WOMEN’S INSITUTE MONTHLY MEETING** will be held at **Ann Fowler’s house, Home Farm** on 19<sup>th</sup> May at 8pm. “Resolutions and a Competition”. Visitors and new members welcome!

**Thanks to all those who donated lilies to decorate the Church on Easter Sunday and those who arranged the flowers to make the Church so beautiful and ,of course to the choir who made the service so special.**

#### **CHURCH SERVICES**

Sunday	1 <sup>st</sup> May	8.30am	Holy Communion
Sunday	8 <sup>th</sup> May	10.00am	<b>Group Service at Guilsborough</b>
Sunday	15 <sup>th</sup> May	9.45 am	Holy Communion
Sunday	22 <sup>nd</sup> May	11.00am	Morning Prayer
Sunday	29 <sup>th</sup> May	10.00am	<b>Group Service at Creaton</b>
Sunday	5 <sup>th</sup> June	8.30am	Holy Communion

Interim Minister – The Revd. Mark Battison – phone 846690

#### **ALTAR FLOWERS & BRASS ROTA**

Easter Lilies
Pauline Reeve
Pauline Reeve
Sally Barringer
Sally Barringer
Lin Hudson

*Contributions for the June Newsletter should be sent by 23<sup>rd</sup> May to the editor, John Mott  
At 16 Church Gardens or telephone 770618 – email: [jmd.mott@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jmd.mott@yahoo.co.uk)*