

Message from Reverend Chris Peck

At some point over the next 15 months I will retire as Rector of the Uplands Group. When that happens the Group will lose not just one but two clergy because Judy has played a full part in leading services and engaging with the ministry and mission of the Group. The parishes would love to be able to appoint someone full time to replace me, so the Uplands has two full time paid priests serving the eight churches. However, two things need to happen to make that possible.

First, our churches need to grow in numbers of those who commit themselves to follow Jesus Christ and who engage fully in the life of the church, including attending services. We all know the church is not perfect, with no one service suiting everybody, but it is in that coming together that our following of Jesus Christ is nurtured. We flourish more as fully rounded human beings and are helped to become better channels of God's love in a broken and suffering world.

Second, all those who value having the church in the village need to become part of the regular giving scheme. No matter how many fund raising events we hold or how much we give to fund a particular project, the church will not continue to be here as the spiritual heart of the village; a place, where people can come for christenings, weddings, funerals, find a welcome whoever they are and find comfort, encouragement, joy, hope and fellowship. That can only happen with the local community supporting the priestly ministry of clergy who lead the church in its call to follow Jesus Christ and provide a service to the wider community, as well as maintaining the historic building.

And, yes, you've guessed. That will only be possible through more people giving regularly, and those who do give regularly, many of you wonderfully generously, reviewing each year how much you give. The Bible is clear that Christians should give away ten percent of all they receive before they do anything else. The Church of England suggests that 5% of what you receive is given to charities, and 5% to the local church. If everyone who sees themselves as part of the church, or committed to its being there, did that, we would have no more worries about how to sustain our churches, and you would not have to read any more letters like this!

Sometimes, giving can be put over as something that we 'ought' to do and feels like just another demand on our limited resources. Because I believe that everything that I receive ultimately comes from God and is a gift, my experience is just the opposite. Giving away the first 10% of what I receive has become a wonderfully joyful experience.

I believe passionately in the value of the eight churches of the Uplands; I would be devastated to see any of our churches have to close. I long for Revd Allison to be able to have a full time colleague to share the work load and bring a new energy into growing our churches. If I could conjure up a genie and make a wish, that would be it...maybe you could help to make a wish come true.

Revd Chris



During the past 18 months £ 486.94 has been raised for the Uplands Group of Churches, which includes St Denys, Ravensthorpe by using **easyfundraising**.

This is "FREE" money and all you have to do is register at: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk> then any online purchases that are made via this site attract a donation to the Uplands Group of Churches. It is the retailer that makes the donation which is collected from them automatically. Currently there are 45 supporters signed up to this site across the Uplands Group of Churches..

RAVENSTHORPE LENT LUNCHES:

Wednesday 3rd April: Hostess: Charlotte Matts, Manor Farm.
Wednesday 10th April: Hostess: Tricia Freeman, 2 The Orchards..
Please call Tricia Freeman (770855) for any further information.

EASTER LILIES: if anyone would be happy to make a small donation towards the Easter flowers and lilies this year, please contact Sally Marsh at New Barns, 18 High Street.

Easter Eggs and More....

The 'MMM' and Brunch@11 teams welcome you to a morning of Easter Family Fun: Friday 19th April, 10 – 12 noon, Guilsborough Village Hall. Drinks, hot cross buns, plenty of family arts and crafts activities, songs, and a retelling of the Easter story.

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. Come as you are!
Contact Alice Cooper for more information: 01604 771245

Advance Notice

Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) at St Denys - 28th April 2019 – 12 noon

Electoral Roll

There are 37 parishioners on the St Denys Church Electoral Roll.

Big Brekkie for Christian Aid.

Sunday 19th May – Guilsborough Village Hall, 11.00am to 12.30, Brunch@11 will be a special **Big Brekkie for Christian Aid**. There will be activities for all ages, and of course the usual excellent bacon and sausage rolls, croissants and jam, along with freshly brewed coffee





PRESENTS

THE RECENT TERRORIST

TRAGEDY IN N.Z:

COULD IT HAPPEN HERE DESPITE THE UK'S
GUN LAWS?

Thursday 23rd May at 7 for 7.30pm

Ravensthorpe Village Hall NN6 8EH

A factual illuminating talk that sheds light on how firearms
enter the illicit market in the UK

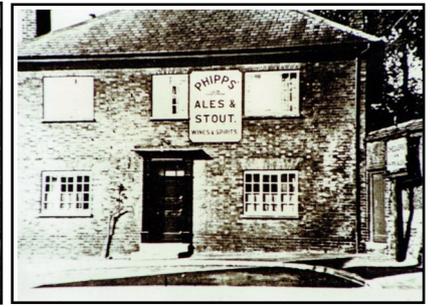
Given by Dr Helen Poole, Media Commentator and

Lead for the Centre for the Reduction of

Firearms Crime, Trafficking and Terrorism

Contributions to next month's Newsletter to

Alan Worthington, ravensthorpenewsletter@gmail.com



The Woolpack (left) c.1930, and the Chequers Inn c. 1940. Photos courtesy of John Patrick.

DID YOU KNOW

100 YEARS AGO, RAVENSTHORPE HAD THREE PUBS!

In 1919, Ravensthorpe had 3 pubs: The Dun Cow, The Woolpack and the Chequers Inn.

The Dun Cow was situated on the High Street, at (what is now) No 25, Ivydene, and closed, "around 1923", according to Eric Hickman's village memoir* (c.1994)

The Woolpack was located at (what is now) No 7 High Street, the cottage by the road, and adjacent to Ravensthorpe Motors. Eric remembers that "it was owned by J.Manning and Son, later to be taken over by Phipps of Northampton. It closed "around 1953-54". The Woolpack was so-named "because the wool clipped from the sheep was put into bales there, ready for dispatch to the market". The original building, a cob house with a thatched roof, was almost totally destroyed by fire in 1976.

The third pub was, of course, the Chequers Inn. As Eric says, "this is an inn; the Woolpack was a public house there is, or was a lot of difference between the two". On 27 April 1842, the

PLAYING FIELD

SPONSORED MUD-RUN

Some children of the village are raising funds for the new play area by doing a sponsored 5K Mini Military Mud Run on Sunday 28th April. If anyone would like to sponsor them there is a sponsor form in the pub and shop. Many thanks for your support.

PLAY AREA DEVELOPMENT

The first phase of the Children's Play Area development is scheduled to begin in the week commencing 20 May.

QUIZ NIGHT

Quiz Night: Friday 17th May, Village Hall, 7.30pm.
Tickets £8 (£3 for under 18's) includes nibbles.

Licensed Bar. Teams max 6. Arrangements for ticket purchases will be in the next Newsletter.

LOTTERY WINNERS

Playing Field Odds-200 Lottery winners for March:

Mrs G Woods £50, Mr Colin Mold £20. The Chequers Accumulator: not claimed.

BEER FESTIVAL & FAMILY DAY

Saxon Spires Patient Participation Group

As per notice in last Newsletter, the next meeting will be our AGM, Brixworth Surgery, Tuesday 30 April at 6.30pm. If you have an interest in supporting the work of the Practice, you are welcome to come along.

JUNIOR FOOTBALL IN RAVENSTHORPE

George Dukes & Katie Mold, currently running football coaching sessions on a Sunday morning on the Playing Field are planning to run a

Ravensthorpe under 8 team for next season. It is also possible they may run an under-10 team as well, but need to know the interest there might be for this in order to register before end of May for next season. If any parents / children interested

FOOTBALL COACHING

Ravensthorpe Playing Field

Every Sunday 10-10.45am

for ages 6+

£5 per person

SKILLS COACHING/ TRAINING

FUN, GAMES & MATCH with

Shop Closure:

THE CHEQUERS STEPS IN TO FILL THE GAP WITH VILLAGE SUPPLIES

As we all know, the Ravensthorpe Shop & PO will be closed from Saturday 30th March. Gordon & Gill at the Chequers are stepping in to ensure the village will continue to be able to buy "its basics" on the doorstep and ease the pain of the loss of the Shop.

From Monday 1 April, they will be selling basic village shop supplies along with a few extras:

- Basic daily supplies, such as milk, eggs, bacon, bread and other groceries;
- Basic household products
- Stamps and stationery

Book Club

The next Book Club is on **Wednesday 10 April at 7.45** at Sue Goodfellow's, Teeton Road. The book for discussion is

Go Set a Watchman by Harper Lee

Ravensthorpe Village Hall - What's on in April?

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

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

Tuesday 2nd:

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

2.00pm to 4.30pm **Afternoon Bridge Club** Call Bernadette 770424

7pm for 7.30pm **Village Cinema: Lion** (see box).

Wednesday 3rd:

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

Fresh Coffee and home-made treats for just £2

Tuesday 9th:

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

2.00pm to 4.30pm **Afternoon Bridge Club** Call Bernadette 770424

Tuesday 16th

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

2.00pm to 4.30pm **Afternoon Bridge Club** Call Bernadette 770424

Wednesday 17th

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

Fresh Coffee and home-made treats for just £2

NEWSPAPERS

From Sunday 31 March, pre-ordered newspapers can be collected from the RVH lobby between 6.45am—9.00am. Call Pauline &

Keep Fit at the Village Hall in Ravensthorpe:

Zumba with Lina, call 07725 984674

Sundays at 10am & Wednesdays at 6.30pm.

Back Care Pilates – Saturdays 9.00am: 2 sessions with Tina, 07810 380636

FOOD BANK

Collection on first weekend of the month—April 6 & 7. . St Denys Church is open on Sunday and donations can be left there, or to Yvonne: 01604 770988 / email Yvonne.yvc3@outlook.com.

Northampton Chronicle & Echo, Wed 6 February 2019:

“DONATIONS URGENTLY NEEDED AS USERS OF NORTHAMPTON FOODBANK TRIPLE IN ONE YEAR”. “There



RAVENSTHORPE

VILLAGE CINEMA

Ravensthorpe Village Hall

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

Seat reservation recommended

Tuesday 2nd April:

Our next Mainstream Feature is the popular “Lion”. A five-year-old Indian boy gets lost on the streets of Calcutta, thousands of miles from home, and survives many challenges before being adopted by a couple in Tasmania where he enjoys a settled and happy life. But 25 years later, a chance encounter triggers long suppressed memories and he can't think of his lost birth family without devastating remorse so determines to find them.

Nicole Kidman's emotional performance enriches the film enormously and Dev Patel's is his best since Slumdog Millionaire but the film captures hearts initially with the stunning performance of Mumbai native Sunny Pawar playing the five year old Saroo.

For his feature debut, Australian director Garth Davis (BAFTA-nominated for his work on 2013 crime-mystery series *Top Of The Lake*) has adapted a real-life



story. The excellent script, by the Australian writer Luke Davies, is derived from a 2012 memoir by the grown Saroo Brierley called *A Long Way Home*.

Receiving numerous nominations including for six Oscars, it won - amongst others - two BAFTAs and the Evening Standard International Film of The Year. Not surprisingly, it swept the board at the 2017 Australian Academy of Cinema and Television Arts Awards. 118 mins Cert PG 2017

☆☆☆☆

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Annual Parish Meeting will take place on Wednesday 17th April, 8.00pm in the Village Hall.



Come to our Big Brekkie!

Ready to change the world over breakfast? We'll be serving a delicious morning meal, while raising money to fight poverty and help save lives.

Sunday May 19th 11.00am -12.30
Gulfsborough Village Hall

Our May Brunch@11 will be a special Big Brekkie for Christian Aid. There'll be activities for all ages, and of course the usual excellent bacon and sausage rolls, croissants and jam, along with freshly brewed coffee and fruit juice.

christian aid
12-18 MAY

Ravensthorpe WI Birthday Celebration

MONDAY MAY 6th 2019

Come celebrate with the WI

See our Centenary Wall hanging and Show at 2.30pm.

Bring your family and friends and enjoy some tea and cake.

CHILDREN we need you too...

CHILDRENS COMPETITION - your chance to make an item to hang on a tree – decorated egg, flower or leaf, bird or bug, just use your imagination. Attach a ribbon or thread to your

From the Archives

Northampton Mercury 25 January 1840:

INQUEST AT RAVENSTHORPE

"An inquest was held before G.Abbey Esq on the 17th instant, at Ravensthorpe, on the body of Mr John Ward, aged 63 years. It appeared that on the preceding morning, at about half-past nine, the deceased, who was acting overseer of Ravensthorpe, was walking through fields towards the Blissworth Union Workhouse, apparently in perfect health, when suddenly he fell down dead across the carriage road. He was found lying on his back, across the rut, with his parish book under one arm, and an umbrella under the other. He had not been subject to fits.

Verdict – Died by the Visitation of God."

**BRIXWORTH
MUSIC
FESTIVAL**

**FRIDAY 10 MAY-
SUNDAY 19 MAY**

**ELEVEN FANTASTIC
CONCERTS OVER TEN
DAYS**

Music to suit all tastes: classical and popular; orchestral and chamber music. Performers include Brixworth Festival Orchestra, Fiori Musicali & the Northampton Musical Theatre Company.

It's on again

**2019 Ravensthorpe Beer
Festival & Family Day**

**SATURDAY
JULY 20**

**CRAFT BEERS-
REAL ALES
CIDERS-WINES**

FAMILY FUN-GAMES

Watch this space for further details.

**In aid of the Ravensthorpe
Memorial Playing Field**

Northampton Mercury 31 May 1879:

DAMAGE TO GRASS

"Thomas Lane, higgler, Ravensthorpe, was summoned for doing wilful damage to grass, to the amount of 1s (one shilling) at Ravensthorpe on 4th May, the property of William Clarke, of the Manor Farm. The defendant, it appeared, had been in the habit of allowing his horse to stray into the complainant's rickyard, and had also turned it out onto the highway, where it ate the grass which complainant rented from the Lord of the Manor. He (Mr Clarke) did not wish to press the case, and if the defendant would promise not to offend again, would not ask for a conviction.

The Chairman: You hear what Mr Clarke says. Will you promise not to do it again?

Defendant: Well, I don't know about that.

The Chairman: Then I do. You will be fined 10s, costs 0s 6d, and damage 1s."

April	Time	Service Type	Led by	Location	Flowers
Sunday 7rd March	8.30am	Book of Common Prayer Communion	Clergy	Ravensthorpe	No flowers– lent
	5.00pm	Evening Service—Taize	Clergy	Ravensthorpe	No flowers– lent
Sunday 14th April	10.00am	Palm Sunday Uplands Group Service— Common Worship with Communion	Clergy	Spratton	
Thursday 18th April	8.00pm	Maunday Thursday Communion	Clergy	Ravensthorpe	No flowers– lent
Sunday 21st April	11.00am	Easter Day Common Worship with Communion	Clergy	Ravensthorpe	Flower Team
Sunday 28th April	11.00am	Worship for All	Lay Team & Clergy	Ravensthorpe	