

Seriously what do we do about dog-fouling in the Village?

This question is prompted by the Parish Council notice (below). Last month, as Chair of the Playing Field Committee, I inserted a similar notice into the Playing Field newsletter update. The PF notices appear in response to a fairly constant influx of comments and complaints that come to members of the Playing Field Committee from users of the Playing Field, particularly from the concerned parents of children who play there, all too-aware of the potentially serious health hazards associated with dog-poo. Between the Parish Council and the Playing Field notices in the Newsletter, dog-walkers are “reminded” several times a year about their responsibilities. The PC has also – from a couple of years ago – joined in the “Paint Means Poo” campaign, instigated by Daventry DC, spraying the offending items with coloured paint to highlight the problem, the rationale being (quoting the Daventry DCC website) “to embarrass owners into picking up their dog poo”. It has undoubtedly had some effect.

Looking back at the old copies of *The Raven*, it was the same issue thirty and more years ago – albeit spiced up by Pip Wernum’s colourful turns of phrase. In those days, the offensiveness of the problem was not supported by legislation which made not picking up after your dog a criminal offence, as well as just offensive. Moreover, the evidence then was not so clear as it is now about the potentially serious health hazards, particularly for children.

Unquestionably, over recent years the vast majority of dog-walkers have taken the issue on board: you see lots of people with dogs walking with their little bags of treasure held at arm’s length., But equally and unquestionably, there remains a small minority who don’t and won’tfor whatever reason. Nothing changes. You can see this all

It is understandable that none of us want to be put into a position of challenging or, worse, “shopping” our fellow-villagers. However, if people were given permission by the village as a whole, or the expectation was created where challenges could or should be made, then maybe it might be different. It would be a way of saying “we (collectively) do not want or accept this”. I don’t believe that people on the Playing Field (for example) don’t, occasionally at least, see people who don’t pick up after their dogs. Some Parish Councils have instigated a system whereby members of the local public are encouraged to “name” to the PC, dog owners who do not pick-up. The PC in turn contacts the dog-owners and tells the person that they have had this complaint – without identifying the person who has made the complaint, but making it clear that if there are further complaints, it will be reported to the local council. Of course, this puts the PC in a position of being “local policeman” ... or does it? Where it relates to the Playing Field, the Chair of the Playing Field, or a designated person, could take on a similar role. But if such a move was feasible, it would need the support of the village as a whole, so that the PC or the Playing Field would know that it had village support and was acting on behalf of the village, not just behaving like a bunch of prefects. It would underline the fact that this is a village problem and a village responsibility. The PC or the Playing Field would then, clearly, be representing the village. Would Ravensthorpe support such a move? As Editor of the Newsletter and as chairman of the Playing Field, each time I put in a notice reminding dog-owners of their responsibilities, a part of me dies from the futility of it. I know that the people who read it and do something about it, don’t need to read it.

Daventry District Council has a web-page devoted to the problem of dog-fouling:

<https://www.daventrydc.gov.uk/business/environmental-health/dog-fouling/> . It includes explanations for the new legislation (most recently updated in

PARISH COUNCIL NOTICE

If you’ve taken even a quick walk around the village lately, you won’t be surprised to hear that we again need to remind some owners of their responsibilities for clearing up after their dogs.

The problem is most obvious in Millennium Wood, in the field leading to it from the Coton Road and on the Playing Field, but also evident on many of the footpaths and verges. In addition to the unsightly mess which reflects badly on the village, it presents potentially serious health risks, particularly

RAVENSTHORPE MEMORIAL

PLAYING FIELD

BEER FESTIVAL & FAMILY DAY

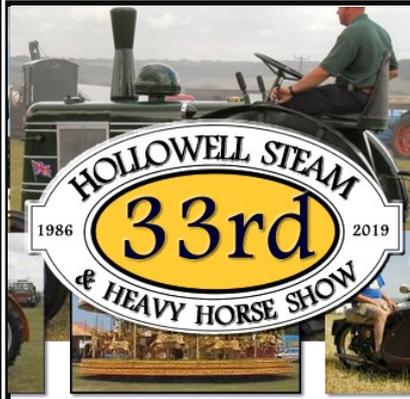
Ravensthorpe Memorial Playing Field,

Saturday July 20th. This year, we have received very generous sponsorship from:

- Loc Box
- Haddonstone
- Jackson Grundy Estate Agents
- Torquemeters
- Windows Design & Construct
- Charles Jackson
- Jurassic Way Breweries
- Cirrus Trading Limited
- Kingston Real Estate

There will be live music throughout the day. Craft Beers; Cider, Gins & Wine, plus soft drinks. Food, ice creams, tuckshop. Free Bouncy Castles; Face Painting; kids competitions & games.

2pm-11pm. Tickets: £5 on the gate; children free.



Saturday-Sunday
6-7 July

FOOTBALL COACHING

Ravensthorpe Playing Field
Every Sunday 10-10.45am.

for ages 6+
£5 per person

SKILLS COACHING/ TRAINING

There is no Newsletter in August—the next deadline will be 23 August, for the September Newsletter.

Contributions to the Editor,
Alan Worthington,



PRESENTS

Diplomatic Life: Behind the Glamour

A Talk by Paul Davies

Ravensthorpe Village Hall NN6 8EH

Thurs-
July at



Paul
head-

day 11th
7 for
7.30pm

will share
line sto-

ries - and more -

from his life as a career diplomat in
Embassies and Consulates in Africa, Asia, the
Caribbean and South America.

RAVENSTHORPE PLAYING FIELD

20TH
July



£5

KIDS
FREE

MUSIC, FOOD & BEER
CIDER, GINS & WINE

FREE BOUNCY CASTLES · FACE PAINTING

WWW.RAVENSTHORPE.UK.ME · TEETON ROAD, NN6 8EJ

2PM - 11PM

f RMPF RAVENSTHORPE 2019

REGISTERED CHARITY 304239

From the archives



Ravensthorpe AFC 1974:

Back Row (standing from left): Ian Humphrey, Ken Hickman, Trevor Foss, Charlie Reeves, Terry Smith, Tom Lawton, Brian Fox. Kneeling (from left): Richard Faulkener, Alan Mold, John Smith, Stuart Mold, Brian Faulkener.

Ravensthorpe Village Hall - What's on in July?

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

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

Monday 1st: am: Pilates with Natalie (see box below)

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

Wednesday 3rd: 10.30am – Noon. **Morning Coffee.** All Welcome. Fresh Coffee and home-made treats for just £2.

6.30pm: Zumba with Lina (see box below).

Friday 5th: 9.30am Yoga with Caron Lindley (see box below).

Saturday 6th: From 9.00am: Back Care Pilates with Tina (see box below).

Sunday 7th: 10am: Zumba with Zina (see below).

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

Thursday 11th: 7.00pm for 7.30: **Speaker's Corner** (see box).

Sunday 14th: Open Gardens in Ravensthorpe. Teas in the Village Hall from 2.00pm to 5.00pm. (see box)

Keep Fit at the Village Hall in Ravensthorpe:

Zumba with Lina, call 07725 984674

Sundays at 10am & Wednesdays at 6.30pm.

Over 50? Zumba "Gold"

You are never too old to exercise and keep fit! Zumba Gold sessions for the more Senior among us now run every Friday at 11.15am at the Village Hall. Want to try?

The first session is free. It is friendly, fun and inclusive.

Lina can be contacted on 07725 984674, or email



RAVENSTHORPE

VILLAGE CINEMA

The Ravensthorpe Village Cinema has now completed its 2018-2019 programme. The 2019-2020 programme will commence in September.

Crabtree Pocket Park & Beyond

In the pocket park, after a short seasonal pause the second generation of *Common Blue* butterflies are anticipated from mid-July through to September. Living in discrete colonies, this butterfly thrives where its food plant, *birds foot trefoil*, grows in sunny, Sheltered, unmown grasslands.

Out in the wider countryside, we are fortunate to have an elusive butterfly living amongst our hedgerow trees. *White-letter*

Hair-



Above left: *The Common Blue* in the Pocket Park, 2019.
Above right: *the White-Letter Hairstreak*.

streaks are a vulnerable yet at times locally abundant butterfly entirely dependent on flowering elm trees. And yes, there are a few reasonable sized elm trees about that haven't succumbed to Dutch

Volunteer Dog Walking Service

for

Ravensthorpe Residents

Tuesdays & Thursdays: 4-6pm

Two responsible teenage girls, from the village, Maisie & Lucy, with Animal Care



PARISH COUNCIL NOTICE

It would be greatly appreciated if householders who have gardens bordering the village footpaths could ensure that any vegetation which is overhanging the footpaths or encroaching onto

FOOD BANK

Collection on first weekend of the month—July 6th & 7th.

St Denys Church is open on Sunday and donations can be left there, or to Yvonne: 01604 770988 / email

Ravensthorpe Christian Aid Week 12-18 May

Thank you again to everyone who was involved in any way with raising money for Christian Aid this year. The total amount donated was £733 of which £593 was collected in Ravensthorpe and Coton and the other £140 was donated from Lorna Jones' Lent Lunch earlier this year.

Sunday 21st July – Brunch@11 Guilsborough Village Hall, 11.00am to 12.30, There are activities for all ages, and of course the usual excellent bacon and sausage rolls, croissants and jam, along with freshly brewed coffee and orange juice.

Pastoral Visits and Care

If you would like to talk to someone, or know anyone who would welcome a home visit, please telephone Anne Strudwicke on 01604 743389

Join us for 'Picnic in the Park' this summer holiday



We're aware that lots of events and clubs for families stop over the summer break, and that sometimes you might be wanting an excuse to get the kids out in the fresh air.....so we're inviting anyone (including especially young families, but all ages welcome) from any of our local villages to bring a picnic, (and chairs,

blanket etc. If you want them) and we'll provide the company and some games/activities for the kids. We'd love to see you!

12 – 2pm - drop in anytime (Weather permitting) on the following dates:

- Thursday 1st August - Ravensthorpe Playing Field**
- Thursday 15th August - Spratton Playing Field**



**NGS Open Day
Ravensthorpe
Sunday 14 July
1.30-5.30pm**

There will be five gardens open this year Teas will be available in the Village Hall, 2-5pm. Another chance to look at the Wall Hanging produced by the W.I. Admission £5, children free.

Book Club

The next Book Club is on **Wednesday 10 July at 7.45** at Lorna Jones', Teeton Road. The book for discussion is **Ransom** by David Malouf.

Brunch @11

More than just good food

For families wanting a taste of faith and good food

One Sunday a month, 11am, Guilsborough Village Hall

Next dates for 2019:

- Sunday 16th June
- Sunday 21st July
- Sunday 18th August
- Sunday 15th September
- Sunday 20th October
- Sunday 17th November
- Sunday 15th December

Saturday 21 September 2019 from 10am to 12 noon

Coffee + in Ravensthorpe Village Hall to raise funds for-

MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

Your help with any of the following would be much appreciated: Cakes: to the Hall on the morning; Bric a Brac: (New or nearly) Dave & Julie Faulker,39

July	Time	Service Type	Led by	Location	Flowers
Sunday 7th July	8.30am	Book of Common Prayer Communion	Clergy	Ravensthorpe	Meg Benn / Sally
	10.00am	Uplands Group Service—	Clergy	Hollowell— Main Arena	
Sunday 14th July	8.30am	Book of Common Prayer Communion	Clergy	Ravensthorpe	Meg Benn / Sally
	5.00pm	Taize	Clergy	Ravensthorpe	Meg Benn / Sally
Sunday 21st July	9.45am	Common Worship with Communion	Clergy	Ravensthorpe	Meg Benn / Sally
	11.00am	Brunch@11	Lay Team & Clergy	Guilsborough Village Hall	
Sunday 28th July	11.00am	Worship for All	Lay Team & Clergy	Ravensthorpe	Meg Benn / Sally