



Message from Reverend Allison Twigg, Associate Priest, the Uplands Group of Churches

As I drive around the villages that make up The Uplands Group of Churches, from the beauty of our villages and the hills, valleys and reservoirs that surround us, I am constantly amazed. As I travel from community to community for meetings and services, visits and events, I often give thanks for the beautiful Northamptonshire countryside and for the green, rolling lushness of the landscape.

At this time of year, particularly with the 'generous' amount of rain we have had so far this summer, the countryside is full to overflowing with the bounty of nature; leaves, grasses, wildflowers, seed heads, moving with the breath of the wind, being beaten down by the heavy rain, drinking it up when it is light, lifting up towards the warmth of the sun (when it appears). And of course our farming community find all of this helpful and not so helpful at times in the course of producing food for our shops and tables.

As I look at the beauty that surrounds us, and the busy-ness of those that work the land here I am often reminded of a bible passage "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit... Abide in me as I abide in you."

The word that stands out here is abide. Abide means to remain, to wait, to continue to be held: a gentle word and I felt a great deal of peace when pondering it in a beautiful garden, in the sunshine. Jesus is the vine; God is the gardener; we are the branches, the plant. Our job is to 'abide'; to remain in God's presence. He will transform us into something beautiful. Plants grow their own: that's that? Perhaps it's not that simple?

This month the Pick Your Own season is in full swing: strawberries, raspberries and all sorts of yummy goodness. But nowadays we can have the fruit we want even when it's out of season and we can even grow our own strawberries or soft fruits early by forcing. The plants will produce fruit but generally at the cost of the plant itself.

Life can be a little like that, can't it? It feels like we force ourselves to bear fruit, to be successful, keep up with the expectations of others, of society and even ourselves. The problem is that it can sometimes be at the cost of our well-being. The news is full of stories of those that are struggling with their mental health. In a recent survey more than 74% of adults confessed to being overwhelmed or unable to cope in the past year. But it's not just the adults: 1 in 8 children/young people aged between 5 and 19 has a diagnosed mental health condition.

In that kind of world this bible passage has a lot to say to us. We don't have to conform to those expectations, we don't have to continually push ourselves, it's OK just to 'be' sometimes, in fact it's more than OK, it's essential! C.S Lewis sums it up brilliantly:

"A car is made to run on gas, and it would not run properly on anything else. God designed the human machine to run on himself. He himself is the fuel our spirits were designed to burn, or the food our spirits were designed to feed on. There is no other."

We're heading in to summer; it's the ideal time to slow down a bit and 'abide', to reconnect with ourselves, those we love and with God. I pray for lots of opportunities for of us do just that, I am sure we will all be better for it!

Reverend Allison Twigg

CONTACTS FOR MORE INFORMATION:

The Rector: Rev'd Chris Peck 01604 743734 revchrispeck@hotmail.co.uk

Associate Priest: Rev'd Allison Twigg 01604 846099 revallisontwigg@gmail.com

Update on the introduction of Toilet and Servery facilities at St Denys Church Ravensthorpe

Following a review of the tenders received for the above project, the PCC has selected Goodfellow Builders to undertake the work. Building work is due to start week commencing 23rd September 2019 and be completed week commencing 2nd December 2019. Initially the building work will focus on the external elements of the project i.e. works on the North Path. Ahead of that date there may also be some preparation work, e.g. maintenance of the trees lining the North Path.

Damage to Church Path and Steps

If you are taking machinery (i.e. mowers) into the churchyard, could you please now take these into the churchyard via the back entrance by the allotments. The steps have become chipped and the path no longer looks very new, so hopefully by using the rear entrance we can avoid any further damage. Thank you for your understanding.

Saturday 14th September—Ride & Stride to support Northamptonshire's beautiful churches. (see box)

Sunday 15th September – Guilsborough Village Hall, 11.00am to 12.30, Brunch@11 There are activities for all ages, and of course the usual excellent bacon and sausage rolls, croissants and jam, along with freshly brewed coffee, orange juice and the Sunday Newspapers.

Friday 4th October - The Harvest Supper at Ravensthorpe Village Hall, doors and bar open at 7.00pm. Tickets can be booked at The Chequers and are priced at £8.50 for adults and £4.00 for under 12's. For more information please call Thalia Pike, Tel: 01604 771277

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



FREE MONEY! - www.easyfundraising.org.uk

This really is "FREE" money and all you have to do is register at http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk and nominate the Uplands Group of Churches – Northampton as your chosen cause, then any online purchases you make attract a donation to the Uplands Group of Churches which includes St Denys Church in Ravensthorpe. All major on-line retailers (Amazon, Ebay etc.) are signed up for this initiative and there really is additional no cost involved!

Currently we have 46 supporters across the Uplands Benefice and have raised £564.12

## DOG-FOULING

Thank you to those who have emailed regarding the concerns over dog-fouling in our public spaces. These and other comments have underlined that the concern and "fed-upness" is a shared one, though clearly not by all. Observations give rise to various suggested reasons for the continuing difficulty: "repugnance" at being expected to pick it up; lack of awareness of what dogs (off leads) are doing while dog-walkers are having a chat; children not wanting to, or being expected to (by parents), to take a poo-bag out on walks or to play; people "forgetting" to take poo-bags with them. One sug-

## PLAYING FIELD

The Beer Festival and Family Day on 20 July raised (approx.) £2,500 towards the Playing Field upkeep and Children's Play Area development. Thank you to everyone who supported it and to those who gave us their time, talents and generosity —musicians, DJ, volunteers, raffle donors, and sponsors: Charles Jackson, Cirrus

Trading Limited, Haddonstone, Jackson Grundy Estate Agents, Jurassic Way Breweries, Kingston Real Estate, Loc Box, Torquemeters, Windows Design & Construct.

## LOTTERY WINNERS FOR AUGUST

The Playing Field Lottery winners for August were Ken & Vana Hickman (£50) and Mrs



## The Golden Age of Spain

Visit 16<sup>th</sup> Century Spain – The Superpower of the Age

Experience the Inquisition, the Armada, and much more!

Explore 120 years of Spanish History, Spain's rise to prominence and the part played in the affairs of 16<sup>th</sup> Century Europe

Course Begins: Monday 7th October 2019, 2:30 to 4:15pm for 9 weeks

Cost: £54 (find out if you can attend for free)



## PRESENTS

**TWO TALKS FOR AUTUMN**  
**AT RAVENSTHORPE VILLAGE HALL**  
**NN6 8EH 7 for 7.30pm**

### Fine Shoemaking in Northants; A Family Heritage

With William Church & Martin Grey

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September



William Church, is part of Northants fifth generation of the shoemaking Church family. He and his colleague will share with us their extensive knowledge of the craft, of the industry locally and the company's now famous global appeal.

### Wallis Simpson and The Year of Three Kings!

An illustrated talk by Roy Smart

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November



Roy Smart was a Naval Officer, Fleet Air Arm pilot and Air Director of many great national events. He is also an entertaining speaker with an interest in history. He will tell us about a very special piece of British

## GUIDED TOUR OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE CHURCH, NORTHAMPTON

ONE OF ONLY FOUR NORMAN ROUND CHURCHES IN ENGLAND – A **TREASURE** IN SHEEP STREET, NORTHAMPTON NN1 2LY

**WEDNESDAY 11 SEPTEMBER 2019 2.30pm**

**Nearby car parking. Meet at the church at 2.20pm.**

Contributions to next month's newsletter by

Wednesday 23rd October please.

Email: [ravensthorpenewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:ravensthorpenewsletter@gmail.com)

For any enquiries or suggestions, telephone the editor,

Alan Worthington 01604 770957. I'd be very happy to receive articles or suggestions for articles about Ravens-

**Small and friendly**  
**Spanish Classes, taught by a native speaker, on Tuesdays, at the Cricket Pavilion in East Haddon (NN6 8BU)**

**Beginners 12:00**  
**Intermediate 9:00am & 10:30am**  
For more information contact  
Lucia on 07896 298129 or  
[info@talkspanish.org.uk](mailto:info@talkspanish.org.uk)

**Lessons 80 minutes long from £10**  
**Private tuition available**

**iHasta luego!**

**iHola!**

## Ravensthorpe Village Hall - What's on in September?

<https://www.rvhall.online>

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

**Sunday 1st:** 10am **Zumba:** call Lina 07725 984674. Every Sunday.

**Tuesday 3rd: Afternoon Bridge Club:** call Bernadette 770424  
7pm for 7.30pm: **Village Cinema: *The Blues Brothers*** (see box)

**Wednesday 4th:** 10.30am – Noon. **Morning Coffee.** All Welcome.  
Fresh Coffee and home-made treats for just £2.

6.30pm: **Zumba** with Lina. Call 07725 984674. Every Wednesday.

**Friday 6th:** 11am: **Zumba Gold.** Call Lina 07725 984674.  
Every Friday.

**Saturday 7th:** 9.00am: Back Care Pilates with Tina (07810 380636) .

**Sunday 8th:** 10am: Zumba with Lina (07725 984674).

**Monday 9th:** From 9.10am **Pilates** with Natalie. Call 07894 593397.  
3 sessions every Monday.

**Tuesday 10th:** 8.45am to 10.30am. **Bus Stop Tots:** call Alice  
07803 595106. 2.00pm to 4.30pm **Afternoon Bridge Club:** call  
Bernadette 770424

**Thursday 12th:** From 9.10am **Pilates** with Natalie. Call 07894  
593397. 3 sessions every Thursday.

**Friday 13th:** 9.30am **Yoga** with Caron Lindley (07786 911593);  
11.00am: **Zumba Gold.** Call Lina 07725 984674. Every Friday.

**Tuesday 17th:** 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 7.30: **Village Cinema: *Downfall*** (see  
Box).

**Wednesday 18th:** 10.30am – Noon. **Morning Coffee.** All Welcome.  
Fresh Coffee and home-made treats for just £2. 6.30pm: **Zumba** with  
Lina. Call 07725 984674. Every Wednesday. 8.00pm: Parish Council  
meeting.

**Thursday 19th:** From 9.10am **Pilates** with Natalie. Call 07894  
593397. 3 sessions every Thursday. 7.45pm: **WI Meeting: A Snap-  
shot of Stanley Unwin**—Lois Johnson (daughter).



**RAVENSTHORPE**

**VILLAGE CINEMA**

Ravensthorpe Village Hall: Admission: £6—Students £4

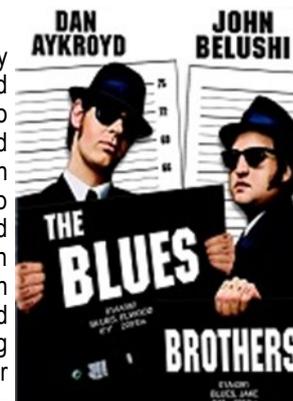
Seat reservation recommended:

Enquire/book/pay cash 01604 328822 or email:

**Tuesday 3rd September: 7pm for 7.30**

### **The Blues Brothers**

Comedy classic from the 'Saturday Night Live' stable which comes packed with car chases, music and cameo appearances. Blues brothers Jake and Elwood (John Belushi and Dan Ackroyd) have sold their souls to rhythm'n'blues, but still lend a hand when the church orphanage in which they were raised is threatened with closure. Resolving to get their old band together and stage a fund-raising gig, the brothers have God on their side but everyone else against them - and that includes a bunch of Country and Western rednecks, an angry chapter of neo-Nazi thugs, the massed ranks of the Chicago police force, and Jake's psychotic ex-girlfriend Camille (Carrie Fisher). 1980 133 minutes. Cert 15.



*"The live music is pulsating ....Ray Charles, James Brown, Aretha Franklin ...."*

*".... Is recognised now as more than a cult classic".*

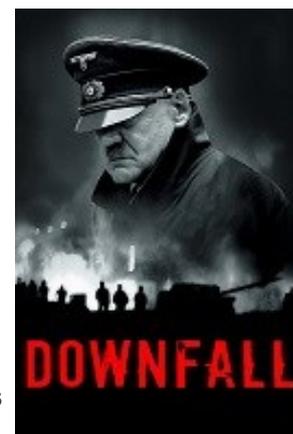
*"... a comedy classic with some of the finest car chase scenes in the history of movies".*

**Tuesday 17th September: 7pm for 7.30**

### **Downfall**

Controversial and award-winning German drama about the final days of Adolf Hitler and the Nazi regime. Bruno Ganz plays the German dictator who, as the Russians close in towards Berlin, retreats to his bunker with his fiancée Eva Braun (Juliane Köhler), his private secretary Traudl Junge (Alexandra Maria Lara), and his propaganda minister Joseph Goebbels (Ulrich Matthes). His mood ranging from violent rage to pessimistic defeat, Hitler attempts to deny the inevitable as the other occupants of the bunker deal with the prospect of their impending death at the hands of the Russians..

Charting the last 10 days of Hitler's life, the film uses multiple characters to show the chaos of a country coming apart at the seams, from Hitler's henchman under the streets of Berlin, to the soldiers and civilians fighting and dying as the Soviet Army ravaged the city



# RIDE + STRIDE for Churches

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September** - The Ride and Stride to support Northamptonshire's beautiful Churches.  
The event is organised by Northamptonshire Historic Churches Trust. Over 350 Churches and chapels will be open for refreshments. Volunteers are needed to Ride or Stride and also to sit in our Church for an hour to welcome cyclists and offer them a drink.



**Sponsorship forms and a guide for the Churches open is available from Gill Douglas, Tel: 01604 770541**

**For people who love church buildings**

## FOOD BANK

Collection on first Sunday of the month—September 1st.  
St Denys Church is open on Sunday and donations can be left there, or to Yvonne: 01604 770988 / email



## HARVEST SUPPER

**Friday 4 October 2019  
in Ravensthorpe Village Hall**

**Raffle, delicious supper and good company**

**Doors and bar open 7.00pm**



## NATIONAL GARDEN SCHEME & MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT: CELEBRATING A 35-YEAR PARTNERSHIP

On July 23rd, the National Garden Scheme & Macmillan Cancer Support celebrated an exceptional 35 year partnership that has generated £17.2 million to support people living with cancer. A gathering at the Garden Museum of London brought together today's partnership team along with many who were working for the charities in 1984.

## RAVENSTHORPE NGS OPEN DAY

The NGS Open Day in Ravensthorpe in July raised over £1,700. Our thanks to everyone who supported it and contributed to making it such a successful day.

Jean & Richard Wiseman would be like to hear from anyone who would be happy to open their garden for the Open Day in 2020. Please contact them asap as the NGS requires Yellow Book entries in September. You can contact them at the Nursery, 01604 770548, or

[email ravensthorpenursery@hotmail.com](mailto:ravensthorpenursery@hotmail.com).

**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 Guilsborough Rd. (770547); Books:

| September            | Time    | Service Type   | Led by               | Location                  | Flowers                     |
|----------------------|---------|--|----------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Sunday 1st September | 8.30am  | Book of Common Prayer Communion  | Clergy               | Ravensthorpe              | Sandra Patrick / Lin Hudson |
|                      | 5.00pm  | Evening Service—Taize  | Clergy               | Ravensthorpe              |                             |
| Sunday 8th Sept.     | 4.00pm  | Uplands Group Service— Common Worship with Communion<br>Admission of Bob Tomalin as a Reader in the Uplands Benefice | Bishop John & Clergy | Creaton                   |                             |
| Sunday 15th Sept.    | 9.45am  | Common Worship with Communion  | Clergy               | Ravensthorpe              | Sandra Patrick / Lin Hudson |
|                      | 11.00am | Brunch@11  | Lay Team & Clergy    | Guilsborough Village Hall |                             |
| Sunday 22nd Sept.    | 11.00am | Worship for All  | Lay Team & Clergy    | Ravensthorpe              | Sandra Patrick / Lin Hudson |
| Sunday 29th Sept.    | 10.00am | Uplands Group Service—Common Worship with Communion  | Clergy               | Spratton                  |                             |