

## CHURCH NOW OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

The church in Ravensthorpe is now open for Individual Private Prayer on Sundays 5-6 and Wednesdays 10-11. It is important that those who are shielding, vulnerable or self-isolating, should stay at home where possible, as outlined in official government advice. Do not enter if you feel unwell, especially if you are displaying the symptoms of Covid 19.

The church building remains closed for Communal Worship until further notice, due to the Coronavirus pandemic. This will be reviewed by the Leadership Team of the Uplands Group of Churches and the PCC of St Denys Ravensthorpe in early July and we hope to be able to resume worship at St Denys soon.

You are all welcome to join in with our live streamed Sunday Worship through the Uplands Group Churches Facebook Page at 9.30 every Sunday. This service is subsequently posted to the Uplands Group YouTube channel to be viewed at your convenience. On Tuesday mornings at 9.30 there is also a BCP Communion Service - this service can also be accessed by those who do not have the internet through a standard rate phone call - please contact Reverend Allison on 01604 846099 for more details about how to do this. This service can be viewed through a livestream on the Facebook page

Should you wish to receive the weekly Church Email please contact [uplandsgroupoffice@gmail.com](mailto:uplandsgroupoffice@gmail.com)

Rev'd Allison Twigg  
Associate Priest  
Uplands Group of Churches  
01604 846099

**HARVEST SUPPER:** We are assuming for now that it is unlikely that the Harvest Supper will take place this Autumn due to restrictions on group gatherings. Should this situation change, we will of course inform you.

## FOOD BANK: PLEASE HELP

The Foodbank is unable to accept donations of food (or other items) at this present time, due to the Coronavirus. However the need for help remains great and you can make cash donations via the website <https://www.restorenorthampton.org.uk> Just click on donations and follow the instructions.

## RAVENSTHORPE2020:

### Support for residents in Ravensthorpe, Coton & Teeton

If you are self-isolating and require assistance of some kind during the current lock-down, please Email [ravensthorpe2020@gmail.com](mailto:ravensthorpe2020@gmail.com) or call Bob Pike (771277) who is co-ordinating a group of villagers who have made themselves available for community support where help is needed. For the latest local information and help advice, visit the Ravensthorpe website [www.ravensthorpe.me.uk](http://www.ravensthorpe.me.uk) . You can also visit the Village Hall Facebook page: <https://m.facebook.com/RVHall/>

## NEWS FROM BUCKBY LIBRARY & HUB

The library in Long Buckby continues to be closed at present. You can see brief information about the reopening of libraries in the county here: <https://buckbylibraryhub.org/library-reopening-news/>.

As soon as we know we can open up again, and under what conditions, we will put the information on the website and Facebook. Meanwhile, we have been adding a few things to the website. Please see our 'Emu of the week' and the emu paintings from Buckby Meadows Art Group. For those who may be seeking support in these difficult times, we have created a 'Help and Support' page: <https://buckbylibraryhub.org/help-and-support-links/>.

You can also find out about the 'Summer Reading Challenge' and the 'Keep Calm and Write a Diary' initiative. We have started a 'Learning Opportunities' page: <https://buckbylibraryhub.org/learning-opportunities/>, so do let us know about any other learning opportunities you think we could include by emailing [info@buckbylibraryhub.org](mailto:info@buckbylibraryhub.org).



Old Ravensthorpe - Church Hall as it used to be many years ago. All that was remains, though completely different in appearance in the cottage standing in the distance.

## RAVENSTHORPE CRIME ALERT

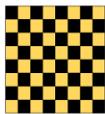
It has been brought to our attention that, very recently, there have been two overnight thefts from vans in the village. In each case valuable tools & equipment have been stolen. The same has occurred in neighbouring villages. Please be extra vigilant and take extra care about locking up. If you see anything suspicious, please do not hesitate to call 101 and report it.

For more information about village events, news and the latest updates, visit the village website: [www.ravensthorpe.me.uk/](http://www.ravensthorpe.me.uk/)

## RAVENSTHORPE VILLAGE HALL

The Village Hall cannot safely open yet for general use. We are awaiting news of further relaxation of guidelines. Opening during July or August is not ruled out although September now seems more likely. There will be another update before the end of July.

## Welcome Back to the Chequers!



From Saturday 4th July, the Chequers will be re-opening, but due to the current situation, we have reduced opening times from the normal & outside sitting only for now. Opening times as follows:

**Weekdays Mon-Fri 6pm-10pm**

**Weekends Sat & Sun 12-2pm; 6-10pm.**

**Drinks only; no food at present.**

**Shop open 11am-2pm Daily.**

As per Government Guidelines:

- You will be required to sign in when you arrive;
- Please keep your distance and be patient with staff and other customers;
- You will be requested to wear a face mask covering when entering the pub toilets;
- Hand sanitizer will be provided where appropriate;
- Glasses will be single use only;
- Contactless payments are preferred, but cash is acceptable.

**If you can't follow the rules, then we will be forced to shut again ....**

Thank you & we look forward to seeing you again.  
01604 770379

## Ravensthorpe Nursery & Garden

Jean and Richard Wiseman would like to thank everyone who supported Ravensthorpe Nursery through the seven weeks of lockdown. We are now back to normal opening hours and are able to welcome customers to the Nursery and visitors to the garden during opening hours (Wed. to Sat. 10 till 6).



The N.G.S. are delighted that many of our gardens in England are now open. All visitors must pre-purchase tickets on the NGS website ([www.ngs.org.uk](http://www.ngs.org.uk)) for a timed slot at their garden of choice. All funds raised will go to the Help Support Our Nurses campaign. For full details and to see those gardens opening go to the NGS website.

Ravensthorpe Nursery is collecting donations for the National Gardens Scheme Help Support our Nurses Campaign and will be also be opening for this cause on Sunday, July 12th. Tickets via [ngs.co.uk](http://ngs.co.uk) (as above). Please note conditions:

## COTON MANOR GARDEN

Coton Manor Garden is now fully open and, after the latest Government guidelines, the tea room is now offering a sit down service as well as take away.

With all the lovely weather the garden is looking stunning and over the winter four new flamingos have been making themselves quite at home. For more information go to: [www.cotonmanor.co.uk](http://www.cotonmanor.co.uk).

## AUGUST NEWSLETTER

There is not normally a Newsletter in August. However, given current circumstances and things changing and updating so much, we are going to do one this year. The deadline for contributions will be Thursday 23rd July. Any queries, please contact the Editor, Alan Worthington, 01604 770957 or email [ravensthorpenewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:ravensthorpenewsletter@gmail.com).

## RAVENSTHORPE MEMORIAL PLAYING FIELD

### Children's Play Area

Unfortunately, we are not yet in a position to open the Children's Play Area. To manage it according to government safety requirements, we would need to have oversight of the Play Area at all times it is in use, ensuring the effective management of social distancing and the disinfecting / cleaning of equipment after each use. The Playing Field Committee relies on its voluntary help for this, and at this stage we simply do not have the resources to ensure the effective management of this.

We are really very sorry but we shall continue to look at ways that this may be achieved. However we might be able to do it, we will need additional (adult) voluntary help, so if this is something you may be able to offer, then please contact us. Any updates to arrangements will be posted at the entrances to the Playing Field.

Looking further ahead, we hope to have the new surfacing for the roundabout installed as soon as it becomes possible, and the refurbished roundabout platform back in place after that, but only once we are able to re-open the Play Area..

### Please Be Thoughtful

We would like to remind everyone (young, old & in-between) to be mindful of the guidelines when meeting friends on the Playing Field, as well as being thoughtful about making noise—how loud and how late—and leaving rubbish. But thank you to everyone for helping to manage the lockdown with so little in the way of disruption.

### The Playing Field Lottery.

Again, thank you to everyone who has supported the Odd-200 lottery this year. It is the first time we have passed the 200-tickets sold mark and this has made a big difference to our concerns about covering our costs for the year. Thank you!

The lottery winners for June were Glyn & Maggie Lewis (£50), and Sam Gibson & Alan Cook (£20). And for July, the winners are Sue & Steve Pearson (£50) and Steve & Lynne King (£20). Hopefully, the Chequers Accumulator prize will be back on the agenda next month.

## CRABTREE PIT POCKET PARK



### Magnificent Meadow

It's been wonderful seeing so many villagers enjoying the pocket park. The meadow is looking magnificent and is well worth a visit in July if you haven't been during the summer months.

We'd like to keep you in touch with news about the pocket park.

Every season I email about the wildlife at the park. Last autumn it was waxcaps, winter was lichens, spring was general new life sightings, and summer will be sent out soon. If you're interested please email me at [ruth.rolls@gmail.com](mailto:ruth.rolls@gmail.com). Just to reassure you, you won't see others email addresses.

I will also keep you informed of our occasional practical work sessions all held during autumn and winter months. In September we cut the meadow and rake the arisings. There'll be tree sapling planting in Nov/Dec to restore gaps in the lane and other work in the wood in Jan/Feb time.

I look forward to hearing from you.

*Ruth Rolls, Pocket Park Volunteer Coordinator*

## NEWSPAPERS

A special "thank-you" from all newspaper subscribers in the village to Pauline & Terry Smyth for the superb, early-morning delivery service over recent months. Collection from the Village Hall will resume from Monday 6 July, from 7.15-8.30, except for any special arrangements. .