

NEWSLETTER

With the complements of the Parochial Church Council of St. Denys Church

The editor apologises for the continuing technical problems in producing the Newsletter in the form Clive Clewes and I would like. We are tremendously grateful to **Alistair** and **Alan Mold** who, at the last moment, copied off over half the March Newsletters.

VICAR'S EASTER MESSAGE

For the early Christians every Sunday was a celebration of Easter; the day when the empty tomb was discovered and, in the evening, Christ appeared to the gathered Disciples. The Bible teaches that the risen Christ stayed forty days before the Ascension – mirroring Jesus' time in the wilderness before he began his ministry; the time we observe as Lent.

Easter is what we call a "moveable feast" inasmuch that it is not on a fixed date – like Christmas. Tradition, and our Western Gregorian Calendar, says that Easter should fall on the first Sunday after the first Full Moon after the first day of Spring (March 21st). So it can be as early as the 22nd March or as late as the 25th April. In other parts of the world it is kept at different times.

Essentially it is the celebration of Christ's promise that death is no barrier to the love of God.

A Holy and Blessed Easter; The Revd. Michael Pettitt

EASTER LILIES; All those who wish to donate a lily in memory of a loved one to decorate the church at Easter please contact:- Doreen Buck on 770220.

THE ST. LUKE PASSION (Music attributed to J.S. Bach)

A Contemplation for **Good Friday, April 10th at 6pm in Guilsborough Church**

Featuring the Combined Church Choirs of Creaton, Guilsborough and Ravensthorpe. This is a charming and dramatic work and most suitable for Good Friday. It will reward all those who attend.

RAVENSTHORPE OPEN VILLAGE DAY – JUNE 21ST 2009 – message from the organisers.

To raise much needed funds for the improvements to the Village Hall we are planning a Village Open Day. We hope that anyone who has something to interest visitors will contact us. We are looking for artists and craftspeople to demonstrate or display and sell their wares as well as sideshows etc. We are open to more ideas to make a tour of the village as enjoyable as possible. We'll be using the church for some displays, but if you have a venue, from a garage to a barn which could provide shelter for stallholders in bad weather we'd like to hear from you. Several gardens will be open, along with Mr. Batten's bootmaker's workshop. We will be serving light lunches and teas in the Village Hall. Offers of help manning stalls, serving teas, washing up, car parking etc will be very welcome. If we have enough helpers, giving an hour each, we can all enjoy the day. Progress will be discussed **at a meeting on April 7th at 8pm in the Village Hall**. For offers of help please contact the following – before the meeting if possible.

Open gardens; **Jean Wiseman** 770548– Arts and crafts, stalls and sideshows; **Sue Goodfellow** 770135 – Production of plants for sale; **Liz Reader** 770275 – Production of jams, cakes, etc. and supply of surplus fruit and jam jars – **Janice Tevendale** 770302 (We hope to have the use of a freezer so we'd welcome the offer of cakes etc. made in advance) – Tombola contributions; **Jenny Barford** 770484, **Mary Worthington** 770957 Or **Ruth Giles** 770451. **MANY THANKS IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR HELP**

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING, Wednesday 22nd April at 8pm in the Village Hall

Agenda to include:- Street lighting – Going green, saving money – lights out at midnight – come and have your say! Also reports by the Chairman followed by the reports of our Local Charities, the Police and Neighbourhood Watch. All members of the Parish are welcome to come and speak.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL. AGM – SUNDAY, 19TH APRIL – 10. 30 am in St. Denys Church

Election of Church Wardens and financial report. All parishioners will be welcomed. We need your input!

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GARDINER WANTED to maintain the Bank" opposite the Village Hall. Maintenance required 4-5 times a year. Circa £100 would be paid annually. Please contact the Clerk on 770894

PAT PATRICK 1943-2009

Thursday March 26th saw St. Denys Church filled to capacity for an evocative and beautifully moving funeral service for Pat Patrick which was conducted by the Revd. Michael Petitt. Her brother, Trevor Foss, gave the Eulogy which truly portrayed the Pat we knew, loved and respected and included stories that reminded us of her great sense of fun. One of his most telling remarks was how generous Pat was with her time. Most of us knew this but Trevor's listing of her wide-ranging commitments underlined how extensive these were.

For the twelve years prior to her illness she was a forthright member of the Parish Council. She was an active member of the W.I. and helped clean St. Denys Church. When her husband, John was Chairman of the Playing Field's Committee she worked to raise funds for the pavilion. The Pocket Park, which she helped to establish, was a very special place for her. Her annual coffee mornings raised funds for MacMillan Cancer Relief. She also raised money for the Cynthia Spencer Hospice, Riding for the Disabled and Christian Aid. Pat also helped adults with reading problems and spent some time as a Prison Visitor. Donations by Pat and John around 1993 gave the start to the Greenbelt Foundation in Tanzania. This foundation has now planted some 360,000 trees to arrest the degradation of the soil and provide jobs, wood and food. If Pat hated anything it was litter! She organised the Annual Village Litter Pick and always carried a bag to collect rubbish when out walking. (She also found time to distribute this Newsletter to the houses in the High Street).

Pat was a true country girl, brought up on the family farm in Ravensthorpe. She was an excellent rider and loved the outdoors and gardening. Their garden was in the "Yellow Book" for years. She was the mother of two daughters, one of whom lives in Australia, and she and John would visit many countries on their annual journeys to see her. This included visiting Tanzania to see the work of the Foundation. As well as two daughters and a step-son she had six grandchildren.

Pat will be sadly missed and honoured for her bravery in coping with her last, long illness. **The village has lost a great lady** and our sympathy goes out to John and all her family and many friends.

**February also saw the deaths of two other villagers; HUBERT BOTT and ROY ASTROP.
Hopefully both their obituaries will be published in the next Newsletter**

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2009 MOON WALK - 16th MAY

Sian Griffiths, who lives at 7, High Street will take part in the 26 mile night time walk which starts and finishes in Hyde Park, London. The walk is in aid of raising money and awareness for vital **breast cancer causes**. Sian is hoping for sponsorship for his endeavour. You can use the following link:- www.bmycharity.com/SianGriffiths or call in at 7, High Street, Ravensthorpe.

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WEDDING: The wedding of **Guy**, the son of Ian and Susie Pasley-Tyler of Coton Manor, and **Zoe Waller** took place at Highbrook near Ardingly in Sussex on Saturday, 28th February. The couple spent their honeymoon in South Africa. We wish them great happiness in their future together.

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THANKS to **Dennis and Sandra Patrick** who, once again, donated the daffodils on Mothering Sunday and also to the hostesses of the Lent Lunches. The hard work of **Lorna Jones, Ann Fowler, Tricia Freeman**, and **Beryl Mott** together with their helpers and those who took part raised £342 which will be divided equally between St. Denys Church and the Bangladesh Charity we support.

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CHURCH FETE. SUNDAY, 9th AUGUST from 2 pm. **Colin and Emma Mold** have generously offered their gardens again this year for the popular Church Fete. Radio Northampton have kindly offered to come along with the Green Welly show from 12 - 2pm. Colin is already well ahead with the organisation but would welcome any offers of help, suggestions and new ideas. Contact Colin, Torch Hill Farm – tel.770667.

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CHURCH SERVICES

ALTAR FLOWERS & BRASS ROTA

Sunday, 5 th April	10.00 am	Palm Sunday , Group Service at Guilsborough	Lent
Friday, 10 th April	6.00 pm	Good Friday , St. Luke Passion at Guilsborough	
Sunday, 12 th April	9.45 am	Easter Sunday , Holy Communion	Easter Lilies
Sunday, 19 th April	11.00 am	Holy Communion	Easter Lilies
Sunday, 26 th April	8.30 am	Holy Communion	Ann Smith
Sunday, 3 rd May	8.30 am	Holy Communion	Ann Smith
Vicar: The Revd. Michael Petitt		Tel: 743508	

Contributions for the May Newsletter should be sent to the editor, John Mott at 16 Church Gardens or Telephone: 770618, email jmd.mott@yahoo.co.uk by April 23rd.