

# NEWSLETTER

With the compliments of the Parochial Church Council of St. Denys' Church  
Village Website – [www.ravensthorpe.me.uk](http://www.ravensthorpe.me.uk)

## EASTER MESSAGE by The Revd. Mark Battison

It is almost beyond belief that Easter is upon us again so quickly and, as we enter into this period of Lent, I am sure we are all aware that, yet again, trouble in the Middle East and North Africa is dominating our world.

Just over 2000 years ago this same area was experiencing trouble of a similar sort – the murdering of God's only son, Jesus Christ, by a power hungry group who expressed their fear of losing power by striking out at those they should have been protecting.

Let us all pray that this Easter time we will see an end to the violence that is dominating so many people's lives and seeing so many murdered and injured in a fight for freedom – a freedom that we enjoy so casually in the western world that you and I inhabit.

I thank God daily for our communities and for the peace that we share and I invite you to pause in your busy lives and take the opportunity to thank God for all the good things you enjoy – by joining your local church on one of the services available over the Easter period - your prayers when joined with the millions of others throughout the world **DOES** make a difference.

I genuinely hope to see you over Easter, but if I do not, may I wish you a trouble free, peaceful and truly holy time, in which you can be refreshed and renewed for the future – whatever it may hold. **God Bless, The Revd. Mark.**

### **THE UPLANDS GROUP now has a Parish Office situated in the belfry of the church in Guilsborough.**

We also have a Parish Clerk, in the person of Valerie Kerr, who will initially be working 6 hours a week. The office can be contacted on **743444**. There will be a message on the answer phone when the office is not manned giving you the details of when the office and church will be open for the following week. Leave a message and we'll phone back.

**MOTHERING SUNDAY** – 3<sup>rd</sup> April at 11am in St. Denys Church. All Mothers and their children are invited to a special service where posies will be available for the children to give to their Mothers. Dads can come too!

**REMINDER** – “*SERENDIPITY THIS SPRING*” – in the Village Hall, April 7<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 4pm. “**Experience shopping with a difference and discover the unexpected**”. Entrance £2.50 to include refreshments - **in aid of the Village Hall Refurbishment Fund**. Also on the evening of 6<sup>th</sup> April from 6 – 8.30pm by invitation only or for villagers and their friends who cannot come on the 7<sup>th</sup>. Entrance £5 to include wine & canapés. Please phone Beryl Mott on 770618 if you plan to come in the evening for her to have an indication of numbers for catering.

### **MOLLY'S FUN RUN – The afternoon of Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> April on the Memorial Playing Field.**

The Fun Run is completely Molly's own idea. She wanted to do something that she could organise by herself and has enrolled most of her school class and brownie group already! The idea is for people to either sponsor someone to complete laps of the playing field or to do the run themselves. **Sponsorship forms are available in the Village P.O.** **All proceeds to the NGH Haematology Unit** – where Molly's granny (Lin Hudson) has received much treatment. There will be refreshments/drinks, a cake stall & raffle. For further information phone Jo Stalmach on 07854 421132.

### **CHARITY GARDENERS EVENING – “Planting Pots for the Summer”**

**A talk and demonstration by Susie Pasley-Tyler.** on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April at 7pm at **Coton Lodge, West Haddon Road, Guilsborough**. Supper will be served after the talk. Tickets £10 per person. Plants for sale and garden open from 6pm. Contact Claire on 740245 or Lin on 770562. **All proceeds to NHG Haematology Unit.**

### **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING** – Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> April at 8pm in the Village Hall.

A report by the Chairman followed by reports from our local charities and organisations together with a Police report and one from Neighbourhood Watch. The agenda will include a discussion on parking in the village amongst other items. All members of the Parish will be welcome to come and give their views – **come and have your say!**

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL – AGM** – Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> April at 10.45am, following the 9.45am service. Election of Church Wardens and financial report. All parishioners are welcome. **We want your input and support!**

**LENT LUNCHESES** – The final two lunches are on the Wednesdays of 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> April at Trish Freeman's home, 2 The Orchards and Thalia Pike's at Gretton, 52 Guilsborough Road respectively.

**LENT COURSES** – The last session will be on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm in the Guilsborough Surgery. Each session is self sufficient, so it doesn't matter if you have missed any. You're welcome if you come to church or not.

The ever popular **Village Quiz** is to be held at the Village Hall on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April starting at 7.30pm. Tickets are available from the Post Office and cost just £6.50 which includes a hot supper and licensed bar. All proceeds are going to support the Memorial Playing Field.

**THE VILLAGE HALL AGM** will be held at 7.30pm on the 11<sup>th</sup> April in the hall.

Although sadly the grant applications to BIFFA and the Lottery were unsuccessful, a scaled down refurbishment is planned to begin on May 9<sup>th</sup>. A considerable amount has been raised by the many fund raising events and other grants together with the village pledges – a huge thanks to all those who gave so generously. **It is not too late to make a pledge! – contact Trevor Foss on 770466.** From May 9<sup>th</sup> the hall will be closed then ,sometime in the late summer a grand re-opening is planned. Please try to attend the meeting and learn what is planned and voice your comments.

**One more Village Hall Lunch** will be held on 27<sup>th</sup> April at 12.30 for 1pm. These have proved to be a great success.

**ST.DENYS CHURCH FETE** – Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> August. It's early days, but Colin Mold is already booking bands and other entertainments. The balloon race last year was fantastic! The first balloon belonging to Ben Van Millingen was sent back within a week having landed in Newmarket, Suffolk. Four further balloons were returned within the next couple of weeks – all of which crossed the channel! Emily Mold's flew to Munich, Ann Smith's to Belgium, J. Varley's to Germany, but the winner was George Mold who's balloon flew to Bavaria winning him a meal for two at the Spencer Arms in Chapel Brampton, which included a bottle of wine – lucky George!

Once again, any offers of help or donations for the raffle etc. will be gratefully received. Colin is now collecting good quality Bric-a-Brac at Torch Hill Farm but due to an excess last year no more items of cutlery or kitchenware are being accepted. You'd be surprised at some of the items donated – used underwear, burnt candles and half filled bottles of shampoo which, surprisingly, do not sell very well! This year we will take good quality furniture items and collect if necessary. Colin can be contacted on 770667.

**MACCA'S BEST DRESSED BREAST BASH** – The editor is ashamed that this event, which took place on the 18<sup>th</sup> February in the Village Hall, escaped his notice. The event was organised by Ian MacDonald, a relative newcomer to the village, in aid of **Breakthrough Breast Cancer**. With live music by “Anybody Out There?”, a licensed bar and an exciting “Wishes Auction”, the evening raised an astonishing £2500 – wow! A big thank you is due to all who donated auction prizes and who gave so generously. Particular thanks are owed to Rebecca Wallington and Gordon Walker for their contribution to the success of the evening.

Ian is training to run in the **London Marathon on the 17<sup>th</sup> April** to raise more money for “Breakthrough Breast Cancer”. To date he has raised £2950 and has pledged to bring this total over £3000. You can sponsor him with sponsor forms at the “Chequers” or make donations at his home, Hunter's Gap in the High Street or phone 770891.

**THE BINGO EVENING** in aid of the Women's Institute on March 11<sup>th</sup> filled the Village Hall and contributed £420 to their funds. The WI would like to express their thanks to Colin Mold who organised and orchestrated the event.

**WOMEN'S INSTITUTE MONTHLY MEETING** – Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> April – 8pm in the Village Hall.

“Old Soldiers” by David Williams” – Hostesses:- Jean Wiseman and Brenda Ball. New members welcome.

#### **EASTER LILIES**

**Anyone wishing to donate a lily, or lilies, in memory of a loved one to decorate St. Denys Church on Easter Sunday – please contact Yvonne Reeve on 770408. Now that Dennis Patrick has retired we will have to pay the retail price. We should thank Dennis for the many years he has provided lilies at cost.**

#### **CHURCH SERVICES**

Sunday April 3<sup>rd</sup> 11.00am **Mothering Sunday**  
Sunday April 10<sup>th</sup> 10.00am **Group Service – Cold Ashby**  
Sunday April 17<sup>th</sup> 9.45am Holy Communion  
**Maundy Thursday-** April 21<sup>st</sup> - 7.30pm at **Spratton**  
**Good Friday** – April 22<sup>nd</sup> - 6.00pm at **Guilsborough** (A contemplative service of music, prayer and readings.)  
**Easter Sunday** – April 24<sup>th</sup> – 10.00am Holy Communion  
Sunday May 1<sup>st</sup> 8.30am Holy Communion

#### **ALTAR FLOWERS & BRASS ROTA**

NO FLOWERS IN LENT

EASTER LILIES

Interim Minister – The Revd. Mark Battison – phone 846690

*Contributions for the May Newsletter should be sent by 22<sup>nd</sup> April to the editor, John Mott  
At 16 Church Gardens or telephone 770618 – email [jmd.mott@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jmd.mott@yahoo.co.uk)*