



## Village Carol Singing Walk Wednesday 20th December



Join us for a walk around the village singing Christmas carols accompanied by the Herbert family brass musicians, and followed by festive refreshments at the Village Hall

Meet at the Church gate to start at 6pm, or if you are not mobile, please join us at the village hall from around 7.30pm for mulled wine.

We'll be stopping around the village to sing carols, and door knocking to collect for Northampton Hope Centre.

Route/likely stops will be: The Church gate (6pm), Bettycroft, The Orchards, brow of Little Lane, West Haddon Road Christmas Tree, Dairyfield, bend of Scott Close, Paddock Close, and the Village Hall (for more carols and mulled wine).



From the Ravensthorpe Church &  
Village Hall teams



### Christmas Eve Carol Service

We will be serving mulled wine and mince pies after the Carol Service so again, offers of help with providing mince pies would be appreciated.

A collection will be taken at the door after the Carol Service which goes towards the maintenance of the church. If you do not carry cash, there is a QR code for you to use with your phones!

### Erecting the Christmas Tree

We hope to be erecting the Christmas tree on Friday December 21st and would appreciate some assistance! Any offers of help would be most appreciated.

### Christmas Shoeboxes

Thank you to all who donated in anyway to the boxes, 150 boxes 37 knitted blankets were collected from Guilsborough last week. This is the best collection we have done. They will go to Ukrainian families where I'm sure they will be very grateful to receive them. If you would like to knit squares for blankets, baby clothes or have oddments of wool. Please let me know. Tricia. 770855.



### Dossal Cards

There are still some cards available of a photograph of the Dossal Tapestry (left) which hangs in the church vestry. They make lovely Christmas cards so do come in and have a look, they are just inside the door of the church.

## CHRISTMAS DISTRIBUTION

Applications for the above are now due and should be given to the below by 4th December. All Senior Citizens living in the village in receipt of State Pension are eligible, also students who are in their first year at College or University and living away from home during term time.

Applications to:

Mrs Lynn Holt, 10 Little Lane or Miss Karen Blakelock, Secretary, 2 Dairy Court; or,  
email:

[RavensthorpeUnitedCharities@outlook.com](mailto:RavensthorpeUnitedCharities@outlook.com)

Apology from the editor: in November's Newsletter, I included the wrong address for Karen. Please note above. Ed.

This Christmas, come and be part of Ravensthorpe's

## Donkey Service

Saturday 23rd December - 3pm at Church

A fun, interactive Christmas service for children, parents, grandparents, friends and the wider community - with a visit from Betty the miniature donkey!

Dress up and take part in our all-age living nativity (along with Betty!) to celebrate the coming of Christmas. Costumes provided, or bring your own.

Festive refreshments



St Denys Church, Ravensthorpe

South





**Buckby Library & Hub**  
for books & buzz

## Update from Buckby Library & Hub

**Arts and crafts sale:** we will be having a pre-Christmas 'Under £20' sale of arts and crafts during December. The sale will include handmade bookmarks and gift tags, Christmas cards, tree decorations and small paintings. Come along during opening hours and find gifts for family and friends.

**West Northants Council monthly drop-in sessions:** the next session is on Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, 10.30-12.30. Feel free to come along with your questions or concerns.

**Our December film:** on Tuesday, December 19<sup>th</sup>, come and see **Champions**. "Woody Harrelson stars in a heart-warming and funny tale of a former minor-league basketball coach who, after some personal trouble receives a court order to train up a team of players with intellectual disabilities. Despite his doubts, he soon realizes that together they can go further than they ever imagined." Doors open 7.00pm for a 7.30 start. Get your tickets from the Library & Hub or the Peephole in the High Street in Long Buckby: £7. Refreshments available.

**The Crimbo Limbo Magic Show!** This will take place on 27<sup>th</sup> December at 1.30pm. A balloon for every child! Tickets from the library & hub: £5 per child; accompanying adults free.

**Christmas closure dates:** Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> December and Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> except for the magic show. We are open as normal from 28<sup>th</sup>.

Do check the website for our regular activities. You can find our calendar here: <https://buckbylibraryhub.org/calendar/>

<https://buckbylibraryhub.org/> info@buckbylibraryhub.org; 01327 842591

**Seasonal greetings to all!**

## CRABTREE PIT POCKET PARK

**Volunteer sessions -10am to Noon:**

3<sup>rd</sup> Dec - woodland glade/ride - recover path, clear wood glade, trim the hedge, and move wood chips to path.

7<sup>th</sup> Jan - more cutting of the meadow wood margin

4<sup>th</sup> Feb - last woodland work before nesting season

Thanks to the lovely village volunteers for maintaining this wonderful space for wildlife and people. Any queries, please ask Ruth on [crabtreepit@gmail.com](mailto:crabtreepit@gmail.com).

## COMPASS ENERGY & RAVENSTHORPE CHARITIES

In January 2021 - pre-pandemic - Trevor Reay from Compass Energy offered us (the village) a fundraising opportunity. Compass would donate, to the village charities, £50 for every 10,000 litres of household heating oil purchased by Ravensthorpe villagers under "RAVS", the Ravensthorpe oil buying group. Last week, Trevor contacted me to say that the Ravensthorpe fund now stands at (app.) £660. This will be distributed to our charities in the coming weeks.

With this in mind, if you are needing household heating oil, it is worth contacting Compass Energy (01604 345526) to see how their rate compares with the other companies in the region at any one time, and if you are ordering from them, to say that you are a Ravensthorpe customer. It is supporting our Charities.

## Ravensthorpe Village Hall History of Medicine



We are very pleased to welcome back Dr Michael Muncaster to present this 10-week course on the History of Medicine.

During the 150 years covered, the basis of modern medicine was established and a unified and regulated profession emerged.

From Quacks and Charlatans to the start of the NHS enjoy a journey through time studying the development of medicine in Britain. Discover how fortunate you are to be a patient in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

Lecturer: Dr Michael Muncaster  
Every Monday: 9<sup>th</sup> January to 25<sup>th</sup> March 2024  
Time: 2-4pm

Fee: £60.00 for the 10 weeks

Venue: Ravensthorpe Village Hall, 1 High Street NN6 9EH

Book your place with either:

Mo Cobbe at [mo@mikecobbe.com](mailto:mo@mikecobbe.com) Tel: 01604328322

Or: Graham Metcalfe at [gm@grahammetcalfe.com](mailto:gm@grahammetcalfe.com)

Tel: 07894 424328

Registered charity no. 278283

## The CHEQUERS Ravensthorpe Calendar

**December 1st—XMAS Hamper Prize draw opens.**  
Pop to the pub—Buy your tickets

**December 1st—Xmas Menu Opens.**  
Pre-order and secure your table.

**December 5th—12-3pm OAP Xmas Lunch**  
Arrive 12pm; sit down to eat: 12.30  
Pre-order and secure your table  
3 courses: £15; 2 courses £12.50

**December 16th—Village Xmas Buffet**  
Book your table

Telephone 01604 770379  
Email: [pubchequers@gmail.com](mailto:pubchequers@gmail.com)

## Resurgence of the Dog-Poo Problem!!

After (what feels like) a long period of quiet, there has been a resurgence of complaints from villagers in recent weeks about dog-poo on pavements around the village. This has been particularly noticeable along Gillsborough Road and the High Street.

It is without doubt that the vast majority of dog-walkers are meticulous about picking up, but it only takes a very small number who don't to make it a serious problem. As we know, (and according to *Keep Britain Tidy*) "dog fouling is not only deeply unpleasant, it is dangerous", and is related to serious infections. Anyone who fails to clear up after their dog can be fined for up to £1,000.

In Ravensthorpe, it is not policed (as such) and we rely on dog-owners' common sense and their sense of responsibility for others' welfare. Parents are asked to ensure that their children are instructed, willing and equipped (with a bag) to "pick-up", if they are walking the family dog. Thank you for your co-operation with this.



## RAVENSTHORPE VILLAGE HALL: WHAT'S ON IN DECEMBER-JANUARY?

Friday 1	7pm	Ginger Pig Band	Sold out!
Sunday 3	9.30am	Shotokan Karate Seniors	Andy 07891132675
Monday 4	9.30am	Elizabeth Reader Pilates	07810 235258
Tuesday 5	2pm	Afternoon Bridge Club	Bernadette 770424
	7pm	Village Cinema: <i>Mission Impossible</i>	See Box (right)
Wed 6	10.30am	<b>MORNING COFFEE</b>	<b>All welcome!</b>
Thursday 7	2.15	"CRAFTERNOON"	Call Di 770482, Pauline 770634
	6pm	Shotokan Karate Juniors	Andy 07891 132675
Sunday 10	9.30am	Shotokan Karate Seniors	Andy 07891132675
Monday 11	9.30am	Elizabeth Reader Pilates	07810 235258
Tues 12	10.30am	Afternoon Bridge Club	Bernadette 770424
Wed 13	2pm	Short Mat Bowling	Lin 07557 396627
Thurs 14	2.15	"CRAFTERNOON"	Call Di 770482, Pauline 770634
	7.45pm	WI Christmas Party	Call Tricia 770855
Sunday 17	9.30am	Shotokan Karate Seniors	Andy 07891132675
Monday 18	9.30am	Elizabeth Reader Pilates	07810 235258
Tues 19	2pm	Afternoon Bridge Club	Bernadette 770424
	7pm	Village Cinema: <i>Double Indemnity</i>	See Box
Wed 20	2pm	Short Mat Bowling	Lin 07557 396627
	8pm	After 6pm Carol Singing- Mulled wine & mince pies!	
Thurs 21	2.15	"CRAFTERNOON"	Call Di 770482, Pauline 770634
	6pm	Shotokan Karate Juniors	Andy 07891 132675

### EARLY JANUARY 2024

Wed 3	10.30	New Year Morning Coffee	All welcome!
	2pm	Short Mat Bowling	Lin 07557 396627
Thursday 4	6pm	Shotokan Karate Juniors	Andy 07891 132675
Sunday 7	9.30am	Shotokan Karate Seniors	Andy 07891132675
Monday 8	9.30am	Elizabeth Reader Pilates	07810 235258
	2pm	ACE Course: <i>The History of Medicine</i>	See box. Call 01604 328822.

[www.rvhallonline](http://www.rvhallonline)

Email contact: [contact@rvhallonline](mailto:contact@rvhallonline)

[www.facebook.com/RVHall](https://www.facebook.com/RVHall)

### Community Bus Service –

Free to anyone with a bus pass. Regular weekly services run in the mornings on Tuesdays to Daventry or on Thursdays to Rugby (Elliott's Field or town centre). Pick-up starts at 9.30am. The bus returns after approximately 2 hours. Passengers need to register to use the service - ring 0333 188 0591 or email [bookings@cmbus.org](mailto:bookings@cmbus.org). If you want to use the service you must also book for each trip.

Upcoming Journeys (to be confirmed): Daventry – Tues 5, 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> Dec, Tues 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> Jan 16<sup>th</sup> Jan Rugby/ Elliott's Field - Thurs 28<sup>th</sup> Dec. and Thurs 25<sup>th</sup> Jan. I will be getting an update as soon as the days/times are available so you can ring me to check. Ravensthorpe contact Di Hayes 01604 770482



RAVENSTHORPE

VILLAGE CINEMA

Doors Open 7.00. Cinema starts 7.30pm.  
Tickets £7. Go to: [rvhall.onlinecinema](http://rvhall.onlinecinema);  
email: [cinema@rvhallonline](mailto:cinema@rvhallonline); or telephone Mike & Mo Cobbe  
01604 328822

### Mainstream Feature 5th December "Mission Impossible – Dead Reckoning Part One". Certificate 12

Is the past catching up with Ethan Hunt (Tom Cruise)?

"Mission Impossible Dead Reckoning" returns former IMF director Eugene Kittridge to Ethan's life with a new mission. Kittridge informs Hunt that there's essentially a rogue A.I. in the world that superpowers are battling to control. The A.I. can be manipulated with a key split into two halves. One of those halves is about to be sold on the black market, and so Ethan and his team—including returning characters Luther (Ving Rhames) and Benji (Simon Pegg)—have to not just intercept the key but discern its purpose. The key only matters if IMF can figure out where and how to use it. But all sorts of pesky do-gooders and do-badders are on Ethan's tail and so begins a sprawling cat and mouse game, with some ingenious twists on the series' tropes.

Cruise, credited by Stephen Spielberg with "saving Hollywood's ass" after Covid, with Top Gun: Maverick, has pulled off another miracle". "Outrageously enjoyable".



### Cinephile Screening 19th December "Double Indemnity"; Certificate PG

Set in 1938 Los Angeles, this 1944 adaptation of James M. Cain's story, "Double Indemnity," itself apparently based on a sensational murder of the 1920s, sees Walter Neff (Fred MacMurray), a smooth talking Los Angeles insurance agent, let an alluring housewife Phyllis Dietrichson (Barbara Stanwyck) seduce him into a scheme of insurance fraud and murder that arouses the suspicion of his insurance investigator colleague Keyes (Edward G. Robinson).

Directed by Billy Wilder (Some Like It Hot) and co-written by him with Raymond Chandler, the film received seven Oscar nominations and is regarded as having set the standard for 'Film Noir'. "A dark, tautly constructed adaptation of James M. Cain's novel – penned by Billy Wilder and Raymond Chandler – Double Indemnity continues to set the standard for the best in Hollywood film noir." (Rotten Tomatoes). "Quintessential film noir".



### JANUARY FILMS:

#### Mainstream Feature Tuesday 9th January: Body Heat

An updated tribute to the film noirs of the '40s, Lawrence Kasdan's Four Star "Body Heat" is the sexiest and most steamy mainstream film of the 80s. It is regarded as one of the best films of that era and launched the careers of Kathleen Turner and William Hurt. A cleverly crafted thriller with more twists than an Agatha Christie classic.

#### Cinephile Screening Tuesday 23rd January Cairo Conspiracy

A nail-biting political thriller of murderous intrigue within the religious and political corridors of modern Egypt with shades of "All the President's Men" and "The Name of the Rose".



# CHURCH SERVICES: RAVENSTHORPE & UPLANDS GROUP OF CHURCHES—DECEMBER 2023 & JANUARY 2024

December	Location	Service Type/ Activity	Time	Flowers
Sunday 3rd December	Ravensthorpe	Book of Common Prayer—Communion	8.30am	No Flowers—Advent
	Other Churches / Services	Cottesbrooke (BCP Communion, 11.00am); Creton (BCP Communion 9.30am); Guilsborough (CW Communion 11.00am); Spratton (Worship for All 11.00am); Thornby (BCP Communion 9.30am).		
Sunday 10th December	Creton	Group Service 10.00am		
Sunday 17th December	Ravensthorpe	CW Communion	9.30 am	No Flowers—Advent.
	Other Churches / Services	Creton (CW Communion 9.30am); Guilsborough (Brunch@11, Village Hall); Spratton (BCP Communion 8.30am).		
Sat 23rd December	Ravensthorpe	3.00pm Donkey Service		
Sunday 24th December	Ravensthorpe	5.00pm Carol Service		
	Thornby	Group Service, 10.00am		
Christmas Day	Ravensthorpe	Communion with Carols	9.30am	
Sunday 31st December	Cold Ashby	Group Service, 10.00am		
January 2024				
Sunday 7th January	Ravensthorpe	BCP Communion	8.30am	TBA
	Other Churches/ Services	Cottesbrooke (BCP Communion 11.00am); Creton (BCP Communion 9.30am); Guilsborough (CW Communion 11.00am); Spratton (Worship for All 11.00am); Thornby (BCP Communion 9.30am)..		
Sunday 14th January	Creton	10.00am Group Service (CG/CB)..		
Sunday 21st January	Ravensthorpe	CW Communion	9.30am	TBA
	Other Churches/ Services	Creton (11.00am @ URC WOPCU); Guilsborough (Brunch@11; Evensong 5.00pm); Spratton (BCP Communion 8.30am)..		
Sunday 28th January	Ravensthorpe	Worship for All	11.00am	TBA
	Other Churches	Cold Ashby (BCP Communion, 11.00am); Guilsborough (CW Communion 9.30am); Hollowell (CW Communion 11.00am); Spratton (CW Communion 11.00am).		



**Ravensthorpe Church  
Christmas  
Services  
All are welcome**

**Donkey Service  
Saturday 23rd December  
3.00pm**

**Carol Service  
Sunday 24th December  
5.00pm**

**Christmas Day  
Communion with Carols  
9.30am**

## CHURCH CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Rev'd Allison Twigg 01604 846099 [revallison@twigg@gmail.com](mailto:revallison@twigg@gmail.com); Associate Priest: Rev'd Caroline Burnett 01604 28629 [caroline\\_burnett@btinternet.com](mailto:caroline_burnett@btinternet.com);  
Assistant Curate: Rev'd Clare Glover 07912 188359 [revclare@icloud.com](mailto:revclare@icloud.com)  
**The Uplands Group Office: [uplandsgroupoffice@gmail.com](mailto:uplandsgroupoffice@gmail.com); Website: [www.uplandsgroupchurches.org.uk](http://www.uplandsgroupchurches.org.uk)**

## Note from the Parish Council

Back on the theme of Street Doctor. I don't know whether any of you have used it but it is very easy if you have access to the internet. We did get some repairs done to Little Lane fairly promptly, although they only repaired what they deemed to be the worst two patches.

I have just used it to report the state of the footpath along the Guilsborough Rd. Anyone who walks along the road will know that there are a lot of leaves and tree seeds along the road which can make it treacherous in places. I am hoping WNDP will send the pavement cleaner.

Should you sweep the path in front of your house if you are fit and able? Our answer is -yes please - if you can sweep the leaves etc into the gutter there is a chance they will send the road sweeper round. But in any event it makes it safer on the path itself.

Don't forget the agenda and minutes of the Parish Council meeting are on the noticeboard on the High Street near the bottom of Little Lane if you want to see what goes on.

Di Hayes Chairman (01604 770482)

## February Newsletter:

There is no January Newsletter. The deadline for the February newsletter is Tuesday 23 January. Contributions by email to: [ravensthorpenewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:ravensthorpenewsletter@gmail.com). Many thanks.