



Village Carol Singing On the Green Monday 9th December



Join us for village carol singing, accompanied by the Herbert Family brass, and followed by festive refreshments at the Village Hall

This year instead of walking the village, we're going to sing on the Green NN6 8EH from 6.00pm and then go on to the Village Hall, so if you are less mobile, you are welcome to join us there around 6.45pm.

There will be a collection on the night for the Hope Centre, but as we won't be collecting door to door in the village this year, please give in advance if you won't be able to join us on the night:

www.northamptonhopecentre.org.uk/donations/

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 20th and would appreciate some assistance! Any offers of help would be most appreciated.

Christmas Shoeboxes

121 Shoeboxes & 43 blankets were sent to Ukraine. Thank you to everyone who donated, it was a great success as usual. Some very needy people will have something special for themselves.

We always need wool as we knit hats, scarves, mittens, gloves & small baby items all year. So any knitted things are welcome as well. Please let me know. Tricia. 770855.

Christmas Services

Ravensthorpe Church
All are welcome

- 21** Donkey Service
DECEMBER 3.00pm
- 24** Traditional Carol Service
DECEMBER 5.00pm
- 25** Communion with Carols
DECEMBER 9.30am



February Newsletter:

There is no January Newsletter. The deadline for the February newsletter is Tuesday 23 January. Contributions by email to: ravensthorpenewsletter@gmail.com.

This Christmas, come and be part of Ravensthorpe's Donkey Service

Saturday 21st December - 3pm at the Church

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

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

Festive refreshments



St Denys Church, Ravensthorpe

South



Update from Buckby Library & Hub

Seasons' greetings to all and thanks from all of us for your custom and support during 2024!

We would like to thank all who came to our **Auction of Promises** on Friday September 24th and all who so generously donated promises for the auction. Thanks also to Vinnie Collins for being a superb auctioneer. The evening was a fund-raising success, generating over £2,700 towards the library & hub. Thank you!

Flash book sale. Week beginning 16th December for one week only - all books 20p!

Pre-Christmas arts and crafts sale: our Art Club will have gifts for under £10 and under £20 on display from Tuesday December 2nd during opening hours. Come and see if there is something for family members or friends.

Our big Christmas hampers raffle! We will be having a Christmas hampers raffle from Tuesday 2nd December during opening hours. This is to raise funds for our community managed Library & Hub. Please come and buy your raffle tickets, which will be on sale at the library, the Peephole in Long Buckby High Street and other local venues (please check our website). Donations for the raffle are welcome - please bring them directly to the library. **The winning tickets will be drawn on 17th December at the film night** (see below). Huge thanks to all for any donations and for buying raffle tickets!

Our **seasonal film** for December (with mulled wine and mince pies) is on Tuesday, 17th and is **Holdovers** (highly recommended, 92% rating). "Nobody likes teacher Paul Hunham. With no family and nowhere to go over the Christmas holiday in 1970, Paul remains at school to supervise students unable to journey home. Joining Paul is a trouble making 15-year-old named Angus and head cook Mary. These three very different shipwrecked people form an unlikely Christmas family sharing comic misadventures during two very snowy weeks in New England, USA." Come and buy your glass of mulled wine, a mince pie and have a chat from 6.15pm onwards, while listening to your favourite Christmas songs. The film starts at 7.30pm. Mince pies, mulled wine, our usual bar and ice creams will also be available in the break. Tickets for the film are £7 from the library or the Peephole in Long Buckby High Street.

Books for teens and young adults: we now have special shelves of books and publications. Please do tell the teens and young adults in your family so that they can come and have a browse. It's free to join the library and we can join anyone up in no time at all. Just ask at the desk. All welcome!

Children's activities during the school holidays: please keep your eyes peeled and check our website. More news shortly...

Buckby Library & Hub is a designated **Warm Space**. We offer complimentary afternoon tea with scones, jam and cream every Friday afternoon, 2-4pm. Do come along to relax and have a chat. Bring a friend!

Also, do you know about our **Chatty Café**? This happens every two weeks on a Tuesday morning, 10.30-12.00. There is a Chatty Café table in our refreshment area with one or more volunteers to have a natter. Look for the yellow sign. We are part of the national scheme and the volunteers are fully trained. Just come along if you want some company for an hour. Refreshments are available. December and January dates are Dec 12th and Jan 7th.

Late evening opening hours: we are now open until 7pm on Wednesday evenings. All welcome!

Will you become a **Friend** of Buckby Library & Hub? We have a scheme through which you can become a regular contributor to help sustain Buckby Library & Hub into the future. Friends who sign up to regular donations will be entered into a twice-yearly small prize draw. To find out more and how to sign up, please go to the following web page: <https://buckbylibraryhub.org/friends/>.

Do you want to become a member of our team? It is 5 years since our charity was formed and would like to welcome new people to help us continue to grow and develop. We are currently a team of 4 trustees, 50 volunteers, and a part-time, paid manager. We are seeking a Chair of Trustees, a Treasurer/Trustee and non-role specific trustees to enhance the team. If you would like more information, please contact info@buckbylibraryhub.org for a chat and an application form. Please do get in touch with us for an initial chat.

Christmas closing: 24th, 25th and 26th December. We are open 27th and 28th but then closed again until 2nd January.

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

From the Parish Council

It's that time of year when we have a lot of **leaves and tree debris** falling. It would be appreciated if you can clear the footpath in front of your property.

Parking on pavements - the obstruction to people walking in the village caused by vehicles parked across pavements is a constant bugbear. The Parish Council is in the process of acquiring some signs to remind people, especially delivery drivers and tradespeople, to leave access, (on the pavement, not on the grass verge!) especially for buggies and people with impaired mobility. Imagine the scenario of someone with a baby in a buggy, and a small child walking alongside, having to go out into the road in the High St with the speed and size of vehicles coming down there!

Annual Village Meeting - the provisional date for 2025, for this Saturday morning get together, is April 5th from 1030 to 12 noon.
Diane Hayes, Chair of the Parish Council.

The community bus service to Daventry or Rugby/Elliott's Field.

The Tuesday bus from West Haddon to Daventry via Guilsborough, Coton and Long Buckby is No 52. It picks up in Ravensthorpe at the bus shelter and at the bottom of the West Haddon Rd at approx 9.45. It runs every Tuesday.

The Haddon Hopper normally runs to Rugby (Elliott's Field or town centre) on the 4th Thursday of each month departing from the village at 9.30. The dates for December will be on the **Ravensthorpe Hub** page on Facebook when available. For all trips the bus returns after approximately 2 hours. This service is run by a social enterprise - CommMiniBus and administered by volunteers.

The service is free to anyone with a bus pass. It costs £2 per single journey for anyone without a pass. Passengers need to register to use the service - ring 0333 188 0591 or email bookings@cmbus.org

If you want to use the service you must also book for each trip. Ravensthorpe contact Di Hayes 01604 770482. It's a great service, with helpful drivers, so please support it and help to keep it going.



Ravensthorpe Village Hall

Discovering Ukraine Through its Culture



Marina Burrell introduces Ukraine's most popular writers, musicians and artists who through their work gave expression to Ukraine's unique identity.

**Every Monday 13th January to 24th March
[half term 17th February]**

Time: 2-4pm

Fee: £60 for 10 weeks 55 places available

Advanced booking necessary with either: www.rvhall.online (under ACE courses) or Mo Cobbe

mo@mikecobbe.com for payments by cash or cheque)

Tel: 01604 328822

BOOKING FROM DECEMBER 1st

Registered charity no: 278283

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

For more information visit www.rvhallonline.co.uk

ARTS & CRAFTS	CRAFTERNOON: 2.15pm Thursday 5th, 12th & 19th.	Call Di 770482 or Pauline 770634.
BOWLING	SHORT-MAT BOWLING 2pm Wednesday 4th, 11th, 18th	Call Lin 07557 396627
BRIDGE CLUB	2pm Tuesday 3rd, 10th & 17th.	Call Bernadette 01604 770424
CAROL SINGING	Carol Singing on the Green, Monday 9th at 6pm followed by mulled wine, mince pies & bar in VH.	
CINEMA	Village Cinema: Tuesday 3rd & 17th December; 7th & 21st January.	See Cinema Box
COFFEE	MORNING COFFEE From 10.30-12 on Wednesday 4th. All welcome!	More information: Chrissie 07507 895383
COURSES/ EDUCATION	ACE course: Discovering the Ukraine Through its Culture. Commences 2.00pm Monday 13th January. Call: 01604 328822.	
THE GINGER PIG BAND	7pm Friday 13th. SOLD OUT.	
PILATES	Liz Reader Pilates. 9.30am every Monday (except 30th).	Call Liz: 07810 235258
SHOTOKAN KARATE	Sunday mornings (except 29th) at 9.30 (Seniors); Thursdays at 6.30 (except 12th & 26th) (Juniors).	Call Andy 07891 132675
TABLE TENNIS	Mondays at 7pm (2nd, 16th & 23rd) & Fridays (6th, 13th & 20th) at 2pm.	Call/ text 07710 813069
WOMEN'S INSTITUTE	Thursday 12th. 6pm W/ Christmas Party.	Tricia 770855 Maggie 770458

JANUARY 2025: All activities start again on Thursday 2nd.

Morning Coffee in January will be on 8th & 20th.

ACE Course Discovering Ukraine through its Culture starts on Monday 13th January. For full details of all events go to www.rvhallonline

SUPPORTING THE NORTHAMPTON HOPE CENTRE

During the month of December, Ravensthorpe Village Hall is promoting the **Northampton Hope Centre**, a local charity supporting people through periods of homelessness or hardship. Anyone visiting the hall is invited to take an envelope for their donation and place it in the Village Hall post box – outside the front door.

When the RVH bar is open, you can also donate by credit card.

Or you can send a donation to www.northamptonhopecentre.org.uk/donations

The collection made during Carol Singing on December 9th will be for the same aim.

Please join us in supporting this worthwhile cause during the Christmas Season.



RAVENSTHORPE
VILLAGE CINEMA

Doors Open 7.00. Cinema starts 7.30pm.
Tickets £7. Go to: rvhallonlinecinema;
email: cinema@rvhallonline; or telephone Mike & Mo Cobbe
01604 328822

Mainstream Feature 3rd December

As Good As It Gets.

Jack Nicholson and Helen Hunt are in Oscar winning roles in this romantic comedy drama of a dysfunctional misogynistic writer whose world is forever changed by a waitress with a sick child, a gay artist neighbour and an ugly but endearing little dog.

"You can watch this movie time after time, and it comes up trumps every time, delivering the laughs and a warm glow of pleasure." (Derek Winnert – London Critics Circle)

"James L. Brooks and Jack Nicholson, doing what they do best, combine smart dialogue and flawless acting to squeeze fresh entertainment value out of the romantic-comedy genre." (Rotten Tomatoes Critics Consensus)



Tuesday 17th December: Hard Miles.

Based on an inspirational true story, four troubled teenagers are challenged by their social worker to accompany him on a 762 mile bike ride across Arizona and Colorado.

"a nuanced sports drama with stunning Grand Canyon views. Matthew Modine finally gets the starring role he deserves in RJ Daniel Hanna's story of a teacher who takes four young offenders on a 762-mile cycle ride" (The Times):

"we cannot help but be moved by the scope and beauty of the landscape and the dedication of the adults who see possibilities for teenagers after the rest of the world has given up" (Roger Ebert).



JANUARY FILMS:

Mainstream Feature Tuesday 7th January:

Maudie.

Sally Hawkins is exceptional in portraying the optimism and humour of Maud Lewis who despite ill health and a hard life became recognised as a much loved and admired Canadian folk-artist. The film follows the development of her career and her relationship with the singularly difficult Everett Lewis. (Ethan Hawke).



"The only fireworks here are of the indoor kind, but this sensitive, beautifully acted film lingers long after the final frame. And the Newfoundland locations are breathtaking." (Empire)

Cinephile Screening Tuesday 2nd January:

Ne Le Dis À Personne (Tell No One).

The most Hitchcockian film that Hitchcock never made, this ingenious French thriller based on a US novel takes the concept of the man wrongly accused to new labyrinthine places. Aided by a good soundtrack and an excellent cast including Francophile Kristin Scott Thomas, all elements of a good thriller are present and critics gave the film rave reviews.



"In the shortcut language of a movie pitch, Guillaume Canet's delicious contemporary thriller 'Tell No One' is 'Vertigo' meets 'The Fugitive' by way of 'The Big Sleep.' That is meant as high praise." (The New York Times)

"A thriller in the grand manner, Tell No One takes Hitchcock's favourite theme – a man wrongly accused – and runs with it." (The Guardian).

CHURCH SERVICES: RAVENSTHORPE & UPLANDS GROUP OF CHURCHES—DECEMBER 2024 & JANUARY 2025

December	Location	Service Type/ Activity	Time	Flowers
Sunday 1 December Advent 1	Ravensthorpe	Book of Common Prayer—Communion	8.30am	No Flowers—Advent
	Other Churches / Services	Cottesbrooke (BCP Communion, 11.00am); Creaton (BCP Communion 9.30am); Guilsborough (CW Communion 11.00am); Spratton (Worship for All 11.00am); Thornby (BCP Communion 9.30am).		
Sunday 8 December Advent 2	Thornby	Group Service 10.00am		
Sunday 15 December Advent 3	Ravensthorpe	CW Communion	9.30 am	No Flowers—Advent.
	Other Churches / Services	Creaton (CW Communion 9.30am); Guilsborough (Brunch@11, Village Hall; Evensong 6.00pm); Spratton (BCP Communion 8.30am).		
Saturday 21 December	Ravensthorpe	3.00pm Donkey Service		
Sunday 22 December Advent 4	Ravensthorpe	Worship for All	11.00am	No Flowers—Advent.
	Other Churches / Services	Hollowell (CW Communion, 11.00am); Spratton (CW Communion, 11.00am).		
Tuesday 24 December	Ravensthorpe	5.00pm Carol Service		
Christmas Day	Ravensthorpe	Communion with Carols	9.30am	Flower Team
Sunday 29 December	Ravensthorpe	Group Service, 10.00am		
January 2025				
Sunday 5 January Epiphany	Ravensthorpe	BCP Communion	8.30am	TBA
	Other Churches/ Services	Cottesbrooke (BCP Communion 11.00am); Creaton (BCP Communion 9.30am); Guilsborough (CW Communion 11.00am); Spratton (Worship for All 11.00am); Thornby (BCP Communion 9.30am)..		
Sunday 12 January Baptism of Christ	Creaton	10.00am Group Service (CG/CB)..		
Sunday 19 January Epiphany 2	Ravensthorpe	CW Communion	9.30am	TBA
	Other Churches/ Services	Creaton (WOPCU service @ URC Church); Guilsborough (Brunch@11; Evensong 6.00pm); Spratton (BCP Communion 8.30am)..		
Sunday 26 January Epiphany 3	Ravensthorpe	Worship for All	11.00am	TBA
	Other Churches	Cold Ashby (BCP Communion, 9.30am); Guilsborough (BCP Communion 9.30am); Hollowell (CW Communion 11.00am); Spratton (CW Communion 11.00am).		

CHURCH CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Rev'd Allison Twigg 01604 846099 revallisontwigg@gmail.com; Associate Priest: Rev'd Caroline Burnett 01604 328629; caroline_burnett@btinternet.com; Curate: Rev Cecily Numahi 01858 791228; revcecilynumahi@gmail.com The Uplands Group Office: uplandsgrouppoffice@gmail.com; Website: www.uplandsgroupchurches.org.uk



Playing Field Lottery winners for November:

Michael & Jenny Hall, £50. Glyn & Maggie Lewis, £20.

Bonfire Night:

The Playing Field Committee would like to thank the village for its support for the bonfire on November 8th. And we would especially like to thank all the extra volunteer help, which makes such an

event possible. There was also a lot of support and interest from outside the village and almost £3,000 was raised on the night, thanks to the very generous donations.

New Pathway & Lighting:

We have installed a new pathway with low level lighting from the car-park gate to the pavilion. This was made possible by the generous legacy left to the Playing Field by John Patrick—a true stalwart of the Playing Field (& the village) throughout his years in the village.

The Playing Field AGM will be held on Tuesday 8 December at 8pm. We would particularly like to hear from people with new ideas and suggestions, as well as feedback on what has happened over this last year. We certainly have room for new committee members. All welcome.

CHRISTMAS DISTRIBUTION

Applications for the above are now due and should be given to the below by 5th 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