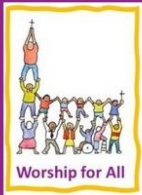


Church Notices:

Christmas Eve. We are so sorry we had to send everyone home on Christmas Eve before the service began due a major electrical fault which left us without heat or lights. We look forward to seeing you all again next Christmas!

Christmas Wreaths: May we kindly remind those people who have been putting Christmas wreaths on grave spaces to remove them by the end of February otherwise they will be removed. Thank you.



Worship for All is an informal, all-age service which has plenty for children to get involved in, and which always starts with coffee & homemade cake.

St Denys, Ravensthorpe

Find us on Facebook to find out more or to get in touch:
www.facebook.com/UplandsGroupChurches



Brunch@11 is a chance for a great hot breakfast, proper coffee and newspapers, and activities for the children, followed by a short informal service.

Guilsborough Village Hall

Find us on Facebook to find out more or to get in touch:
www.facebook.com/UplandsGroupChurches

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 Nurmahi 01858 791228; revcecilynurmahi@gmail.com
 The Uplands Group Office: uplandsgroupoffice@gmail.com;
 Website: www.uplandsgroupchurches.org.uk

Pastoral Care

Remember you can always phone a friend – or one of the clergy if you feel the need!

The Prayer Chain also continues – if you would like to be prayed for confidentially by our dedicated band of pray-ers do please be in touch. Our Pastoral Team and Prayer Chain can be reached by contacting Rev Allison directly so please do not hesitate to be in touch.

CHURCH SERVICES: RAVENSTHORPE & UPLANDS GROUP OF CHURCHES—FEBRUARY 2025

	Location	Service Type	Time	Flowers
Sunday 2 February	Ravensthorpe	BCP Communion	8.30am	Sally Marsh
	Other Churches/ Services	Cottesbrooke (11.00am BCP Communion); Creaton (9.30am BCP Communion); Guilsborough (11.00am CW Communion); Spratton (11.00am Worship for All); Thornby (9.30am BCP Communion).		
Sunday 9 February	Group Service	Spratton	10.00am	
Sunday 16 February	Ravensthorpe	CW Communion	9.30am	Sally Marsh
	Other Churches/ Services	Creaton (9.30am CW Communion); Guilsborough (Brunch@11 Village Hall; 6.00pm Evensong); Spratton (8.30am BCP Communion).		
Sunday 23 February	Ravensthorpe	Worship for All	11.00am	Sally Marsh
	Other Churches/ Services	Cold Ashby (9.30am BCP Communion); Guilsborough (9.30am CW Communion); Hollowell (11.00am CW Communion); Spratton (11.00am CW Communion).		
Sunday 2 March	Ravensthorpe	BCP Communion	8.30am	
	Other Churches/ Services	Cottesbrooke (11.00am BCP Communion); Creaton (9.30am BCP Communion); Guilsborough (11.00am CW Communion); Spratton (11.00am Worship for All); Thornby (9.30am BCP Communion).		



New warning issued following latest courier fraud incident

(Article from Northamptonshire Police website)

Officers at Northamptonshire Police are encouraging people to make their elderly relatives or vulnerable members of the community aware of courier fraud after two incidents last week.

Courier fraud involves fraudsters telephoning a potential victim, claiming to be from their bank, the police, or another law enforcement authority, and tricking them into revealing their PIN number, bank card and personal details.

The latest incidents occurred on Wednesday, January 22 and Thursday, January 23, after two separate vulnerable people in the Kettering area were contacted by fraudsters claiming to be police officers from the MET and Scotland Yard, who told them their bank accounts had been compromised.

In one of the incidents, the victims were informed it was a scam after attempting to withdraw money at a supermarket. However, unfortunately, fraudsters were able to use the bank card of the second victim, who handed them over along with the PIN.

Fraudsters tend to target a specific area over a short period, which has prompted officers from the Force's Economic Crime Unit to raise awareness of this incident. They would like to hear from anyone who may have been approached in a similar manner recently.

Detective Sergeant Matthew Crick of the Economic Crime Unit said: "The criminals carrying out these scams are exceptionally clever and know how to manipulate their victims by making them feel panicked and rushed into actions they will later regret.

"We would urge everyone who is involved in a caring or supportive role for an elderly loved one to start conversations about the tactics used and warning signs to look out for.

"Just having that conversation, especially if their loved one is not particularly tech savvy, could be the difference on whether someone becomes a victim of this trust-eroding crime.

"Under no circumstances would the police or banks ask you to withdraw money from your account, or transfer funds into another account for fraud reasons, nor would they ever ask you to become part of an undercover investigation.

"Our advice is that if you receive any call where you are asked to provide personal or financial information, is to take a few moments to reflect on the situation and stay calm. Never assume a phone call is genuine, even if the caller knows basic details about you, such as your name and address.

"You should also know that criminals can make any telephone number appear on your phone handset, so even if the number shown seems authentic, never trust this.

"If you receive a phone call of this type, have the confidence to end it. A genuine organisation will never mind you taking the time to think things over or to contact them back on a number you have verified, for example from your bank statement or payment card.

"If the caller is claiming to be a police officer, the relevant force can be contacted on 101 and will be able to verify if a caller is a genuine officer or member of staff."

If you think you have been a victim of fraud you should report it to Action Fraud, the UK's national fraud reporting centre online at www.actionfraud.police.uk or calling 0300 123 2040.



National Garden Scheme

At Ravensthorpe Nursery

2024 was another landmark year for the National Garden Scheme with the charity donating a record £3,501,227 from the 2024 garden opening season. The impact of these donations to our major nursing and health beneficiaries means that thousands of people who live with health conditions such as cancer or Parkinson's, who have poor mental health, or who struggle financially as unpaid carers, have been supported by our funding of the nurses, health professionals and case workers who support them.

Our funding has also provided support to those in the Gardens and Health sector along with Community Gardens and also supported gardeners through traineeships. The lion's share, £2,550,000 goes to some of the UK's best-loved nursing and health charities, many of which have continued to provide vital support to the NHS and communities across the UK in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic and who are now struggling to provide services in the current cost of living crisis.

The long-term nature of funding from the National Garden Scheme allows these charities to continue the provision of critical community nursing services, end of life care, and respite for families and carers across the UK. The impact of this long-term commitment was celebrated in 2024 by our milestone of 40 years of continuous funding for Macmillan Cancer Support, during which time we have given them more than £19.6 million.

Jean Wiseman



Ravensthorpe
Memorial Playing Field

PLAYING FIELD LOTTERY WINNERS:

December: Trevor & Pat Foss (£50);
Simeon Pallatt (£20).

January: Gavin Wesley (£50);
Carole Eustace (£20).

Xmas bonus draw: David & Sue Herbert (£100).

Thank you all for your support.

Playing Field AGM (December):

Adam Gooch was re-elected as Chair for 2025; Kieren Cooper (Treasurer) & Simon Cooper (Secretary). Members re-elected: Alina Cooper, Ken Hickman, Martin Wilkes. Alan Worthington has retired from the committee.



Can we tempt you to a CHOCOLATE DEMONSTRATION?

You are invited as a guest to join Ravensthorpe WI in the Village Hall on Thursday 20th February. The meeting will start at 7.45pm and at 8pm our Demonstrator Nenette Scrivener will show us how to make chocolate truffles using a professional chocolatier's mould. There will be stories and tips about chocolate and of course samples too. The cost will be £5 to include refreshments. It would be helpful if you could let me or any committee member know in advance if you are coming so that Nenette brings enough samples!



Maggie Lewis 07551 562951
maggielewisuk@gmail.com

RAVENSTHORPE VILLAGE HALL: WHAT'S ON IN FEBRUARY?

For more information visit www.rvhallonline.co.uk

ARTS & CRAFTS	CRAFTERNOON: 2.15pm every Thursday.	Call Di 770482 or Pauline 770634.
BOWLING	SHORT-MAT BOWLING 2pm every Wednesday.	Call Lin 07557 396627
BRIDGE CLUB	2pm every Tuesday.	Call Bernadette 01604 770424
CINEMA	Village Cinema: Tuesday 4th & Tuesday 18th.	See Cinema Box
COFFEE	MORNING COFFEE From 10.30-12 on Wednesday 5th & 19th. All welcome!	More information: Chrissie 07507 895383
COURSES/ EDUCATION	ACE course: <i>Discovering Ukraine through its Culture</i> . Every Monday at 2pm. Call: 01604 328822.	
MEET OUR MP	Friday 7th, 5.30pm: Meet our new MP, Stuart Andrew.	
PARISH COUNCIL	RAVENSTHORPE & COTON PARISH COUNCIL- Wednesday 19th at 8.00pm	
PILATES	Liz Reader Pilates. 9.30am every Monday.	Call Liz: 07810 235258
	Pilates with Sophie: Every Thursday at 9.30am	Call Sophie 07764 586990
SHOTOKAN KARATE	Sunday mornings at 9.30 (Seniors); Thursdays at 6.30 (Juniors).	Call Andy 07891 132675
TABLE TENNIS	Mondays at 7pm & Fridays at 2pm.	Call/ text 07710 813069
WI	Thursday 20th February, 7.45pm: <i>Chocolate Making (see box)</i> .	Tricia 770855 Maggie 770458

Stuart Andrew

Is our new Member of Parliament for the Daventry Constituency
elected in July 2024

He will come to the Village Hall on
Friday February 7th at 6pm.

To talk about his experience in Parliament since 2010
Meet everyone and answer questions.

The Bar will be open from 5.30pm

More information 07710 813069 or contact@rvhallonline

Ravensthorpe Newspaper deliveries.

I apologise that this 'thank you' did not go into the December newsletter, as intended. Nigel Hall, who delivered the newspapers to the village hall every morning in recent years, was forced to retire in the autumn of last year for health reasons. Nigel contacted me before Xmas to ask if I could add a "thank you" from him to all the people who sent him cards, good wishes as well as generous donations. He was very grateful and very touched. Editor

MARCH NEWSLETTER: The deadline for contributions to the March Newsletter is Sunday 23 February.
Queries to Alan Worthington (07801 051 402).

RAVENSTHORPE VILLAGE HALL

RAVENSTHORPE

VILLAGE CINEMA

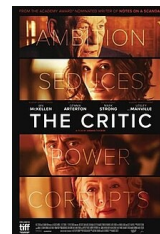


Tickets £7. Go to: rvhall.online/cinema; email: cinema@rvhall.online; or telephone Mike & Mo Cobbe
01604 328822

February 7:30 pm - 10:00 pm

Mainstream Feature – The Critic

Marking the first screenplay from Patrick Marber since 2006's "Notes on a Scandal", "The Critic" is a welcome return for a writer unafraid to confront people's most horrible impulses.



In 1930s London, theatre critic Jimmy Erskine (Ian McKellen) wields a poison pen and enormous influence and lives as flamboyantly as he writes. He relishes his power to make or break a performer or a production.

Nina Land (Gemma Arterton) is the actor desperate for a good word from Jimmy, whom she idolises, while Lesley Manville plays her worried mother. "The Ian McKellen and Gemma Arterton show is a hoot. This tangy tale of a savage theatre critic and one of his hapless victims lovingly recreates the West End of the 1930s (The Times). "McKellen is the reason to see *The Critic*". (Roger Ebert)

Tuesday 18th February 7:30 pm - 10:00 pm

Cinephile Screening – My Favourite Cake

A lonely widow seizes the day in this bittersweet comedy drama, which drew the ire of the Iranian authorities on its release earlier this year.



Married Iranian film-makers Maryam Moghadam and Behtash Sanaeeha have had their passports confiscated by the government for making this 2024 film, a beautifully delicate concoction explores themes of love, regret and second chances with nuance and grace. It is set against the backdrop of Iran with its strict rules and restrictions, especially when it comes to the rights and freedoms of women.

A widower for 30 years, and alone since her daughter and grandchildren emigrated, Mahin (Lily Farhadpour) lives in her quiet home on the outskirts of Tehran and feels the ache of isolation on a daily basis. She's alive. But is she living? She is fiercely determined to revitalise her mundane existence and taste a better life. She spots a kind taxi driver Faramarz (Esmaeel Mehrabi) during a visit to a restaurant and invites him to spend the evening with her in this tender Persian language comedy drama. Heart-warming scenes offset an up-setting depiction of grief. In Persian with Sub-titles.

"..... lovely, quietly subversive late-life Iranian romance." (The Guardian). "A septuagenarian Brief Encounter jollied along by quiet political fury" (The Irish Times) [https://www.rvhall.online/cinema/](http://www.rvhall.online/cinema/)



Buckby Library & Hub
for books & huzz

Update from Buckby Library & Hub

Happy New Year everyone – if it's not too late to say so! Here are some of our February events:

For our February **film night**, on Tuesday 25th February, we are showing **Thelma**: "When 93-year-old Thelma Post gets duped by a phone scammer pretending to be her grandson, she set out on a treacherous quest across the city to reclaim what was taken from her. Inspired by a real-life experience of the director's own grandmother, **Thelma** shines the spotlight on elderly people as unlikely action heroes and tackles the themes of aging, mortality and human frailty with affectionate humour." Doors open at 7pm; film starts at 7.30. Tickets £7 and will be available from the Library and Peephole in the High Street. You can also buy refreshments, including ice creams!

Our **art exhibition** in February is a wonderful display of **wildlife photography** from **Sue Ebbage**.

Books, books, books! On Saturday 8th February 10am-2pm, we are having a book sale. Come along and find your bargain books!

Health and Wellbeing: Just a reminder of our new fortnightly **Stresses to Smiles™ community wellness hub** on Tuesday mornings starting at 11am and lasting about 30-40 minutes. These sessions alternate with our **Chatty Café** (10.30am-12.00pm also on Tuesday mornings). Please check out our website calendar: <https://buckbylibraryhub.org/calendar/>. And do you have sight issues? On Thursday February 13th, 10am-12pm, the **Northampton Association for the Blind** will have their advice bus in our car park.

Advance notice! On Tuesday March 11th 7.30-9pm (doors open at 7pm): **A musical entertainment in the life of John Clare** with the band, **Cut-a-Caper**, which gave us a wonderful evening on Thomas Hardy last year. John Clare was a self-declared scraper of the fiddle and a much-loved poet of Nature. The Cut-a-Caper Band plays his music, reads his poetry (with readalong texts) and describes his life and times. There will be an opportunity to join in a simple country dance typical of John Clare's time. Tickets are £7 and will be on sale in due course at the library and the Peephole in the High Street. Refreshments available on the night.

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

CRABTREE PIT POCKET PARK

Our next session is on Sunday 30 March 2025 10am to 12noon

Various tasks, such as:

- Mow meadow where grass is has excessive growth to knock it back and help wildflowers.
- Clean down benches and noticeboard for visitor season (so to speak).
- Cut/ slash/ mow nettles regrowth in lane avoiding key flowers.

More cutting in thicket if we can see there's not nest or nesting building activity.

New and regular volunteers welcome

Refreshments provided

Or just come and see what we're up to.

Of course the snowdrops will be flowering during February, so it's a good sheltered place for winter cheer.

Ruth and Natalie

COMMUNITY BUS SERVICE FROM RAVENSTHORPE 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 will pick 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.

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. There is a charge 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

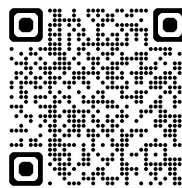
If you want to use the service you must also book for each trip.

Ravensthorpe contact Di Hayes 01604 770482

It's a great service, with helpful drivers, so please support it and help to keep it going.

Wellbeing Service

**We offer a 12-week
programme personalised to
your health & wellbeing**



Are you over 18?

Do you sometimes lack motivation,
feel isolated or lonely?

Are you struggling with a health
condition or your general wellbeing?

Have you noticed any recent changes
in your health or needed to make
changes in your life?

We offer: a person-centred support plan to help you reach your goals; advice, information & support on a range of lifestyle issues; intervention and support for low-level mental health and emotional difficulties; support to access activities, including local groups and events; "Walk and Talk" with your advisor to support you become more active from your own home.



**West
Northamptonshire
Council**

0300 126 7000

wellbeingsservice@westnorthants.gov.uk