



Local News from Ravensthorpe, Coton & Teeton

NEWSLETTER



Ravensthorpe Village Hall Christmas Carol Singing Evening

Festive Drinks & Food
Friday December 19th
All Welcome



5.45pm: Children's Carol sing-along in the Village Hall. Enjoy complimentary hot dogs and soup.

6.30pm: Assemble around the tree on the Green for carol-singing accompanied by the Herbert Family Brass. Bring a torch!

7.30pm: Return to the Hall for mulled wine and mince pies.

All donations on the night for the Hope Centre (registered chairy no. 278283).



Ravensthorpe Church Christmas Services All are welcome

Donkey Service
Saturday 20th December
3.00pm

Carol Service
Wednesday 24th December
5.00pm

Christmas Day
Communion with Carols
9.30am

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

	Location	Service Type	Time	Flowers
Sunday 7 December Advent 2	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 14 December Advent 3	Guilsborough	Group Service 10.00am		
Saturday 20 December	Ravensthorpe	Donkey Service, 3.00pm		
Sunday 21 December Advent 3	Ravensthorpe	CW Communion	9.30am	No Flowers—Advent.
	Other Churches / Services	Guilsborough (Brunch@11, Village Hall); Spratton (BCP Communion 8.30am).		
Wednesday 24 December	Ravensthorpe	Carol Service,	5.00pm	Flower Team Please
Thursday 25 December Christmas Day	Ravensthorpe	Communion with Carols.	9.30am	Flower Team Please
Sunday 28 December	Cold Ashby	Said Service	10.00am	Flower Team Please



Buckby Library & Hub
for books & buzz

Update from Buckby Library & Hub

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

Exhibitions and events

December: Drawings by Wyatt Watts. Wyatt is five and has a passion for art and the natural world. His drawings are mainly of the insect world and marine life. He can often be found at Mill Park Reserve or Cotton End Park exploring different habitats.

January: Long Buckby-on-Sea, an exhibition by local artist, Faye Spencer. Faye invites you to take a journey into an alternate universe which combines ancient tradition and future premonition. Along the way you may encounter strange and uncanny sights: Jackdaw Kings, churchyard mermaids and perhaps a rogue Morris dancer or two!

Tuesday, 16th December, 6.30pm: actor **James Hornsby** will give a dramatized performance of Charles Dickens' famous story **A Christmas Carol**. Suitable for children over 8 and above (and all adults). Under 12s to be accompanied by an adult please. Tickets are selling fast: £10/adult and £5 for under 16s, from the library and Peephole in the High Street. Doors open at 6pm. Refreshments available.

Monday 22nd December, 2–3.15pm: the Crimbo Limbo Magic Show with **Steve the Magician**. For young children up to 8 years; tickets are £7/child including a drink/biscuit, balloon and book from the book trolley.

Tuesday 23rd December, 2.30pm: children's Christmas **craft** activities – a creative afternoon of making cards and baubles; also book hunts! It's £2.50 per child but please book your place at the library. Thank you.

Tuesday, 27th January, 7.30pm: our film is **Downton Abbey: The Grand Finale**. 'When Mary finds herself in a public scandal and the family faces financial trouble, the household grapples with the threat of social disgrace. The Crawleys must embrace change with the next generation leading Downton Abbey into the future.' Tickets are £7.50 and will be available from the library or Peephole in the High Street. Doors open at 7.00.

Join us!

Friends: have you considered becoming a Friend of Buckby Library & Hub and making regular donations? For details of our Friends scheme, please go to: <https://buckbylibraryhub.org/friends/> or pop in to see us.

We are seeking a fundraising trustee: we have some wonderful new trustees in our community managed library & hub team. We are now on the look-out for a trustee to steer and coordinate our fundraising into the future, supported by our manager and volunteers. Is this you? If you are interested, please get in touch with sam.holst@buckbylibraryhub.org for an initial chat.

<https://buckbylibraryhub.org>; 01327 842591; NN6 7QB



National Garden Scheme

At Ravensthorpe Nursery

We have just received notification from the Northamptonshire National Gardens Scheme Treasurer that the total raised this year within the county was a magnificent £67,232.13, up £1,480 on 2024. Bearing in mind the very trying weather conditions in the summer both for garden owners and for visitors we think this is quite a remarkable achievement. We await the results for the whole country and will publish them in due course. Thanks to everyone who has supported the scheme in any way. Jean Wiseman

Ravensthorpe Village Hall

Pushing the Boundaries: Impressionism and Mid-Century Modernism



ACE are delighted to welcome back the popular lecturer **Judith Hodgkinson** to present this two-part course on artists that pushed the boundaries in their careers. The first part will be Impressionism in 1860's France, including other artists who quietly reinforced their message. The second part will be mid-century Modernism and the British artists who pushed the boundaries in a thought provoking way from the 1920s.



Dates: 12th January to 23rd March 2026

[half-term 16th February]

Time: Every Monday 2-4pm

Fee: £60 55 places available

Booking from December 1st, 2025

Book your place with either: www.rvhall.online or Mo Cobbe at mo@mikecobbe.com Tel: 01604 328822

Advanced booking and payment is necessary. Online payment can be made using the RVH website under ACE courses. For cash or cheque payments please use the contact details for Mo Cobbe above.

News from the Parish Council

There hasn't been a PC meeting since the last newsletter.

Ongoing issues are parking on pavements and trees.

Several people asked whether it would be possible to grow one of the shoots that have appeared from the beech tree on the Green that sadly had to be felled. Investigations have unfortunately concluded that the shoots are not suitable for potting on to grow into new trees.

For the Platinum Jubilee we planted 3 new trees under the Queen's Green Canopy scheme – one is at the bottom of West Haddon Rd on the corner with Guilsborough Rd; another is at the bottom of Scott Close; and the third is on the East Haddon Rd just after the Long Lane turning. Two of these have plaques.

We were impressed that WNC repaired a hole in the pavement near the Orchards on Guilsborough Rd within 2 hours of it being reported.

I have since reported a couple of things using Street Doctor including asking them to send the street sweeper for the path covered in leaves along Guilsborough Rd and a missing stile on a footpath. Street doctor is easy to use if you can go online. Just search for WNC street doctor.

Ravensthorpe through the reign of Queen Elizabeth II 1952-2022

The book will be on sale from 29th November. 200 copies, complete with illustrations and photos, have been printed with a cover price of £5 per copy. Copies can now be purchased by emailing dianeaudrey.hayes@gmail.com and you will be contacted to arrange pick-up / delivery and payment. Please include your address in the email. You can also text 07873 271126 with your name and address.

RAVENSTHORPE VILLAGE HALL: WHAT'S ON IN DECEMBER?

For more information visit www.rvhallonline.co.uk

ACE COURSES	<i>The American Civil War.: Monday 1 & 8, 2-4pm</i>	Sold out.
ARTS & CRAFTS	CRAFTERNOON: 2.15pm: Thursday 4th, 11th, 18th	Call Di 770482 or Pauline 770634.
BOWLING	SHORT-MAT BOWLING 2pm Wednesday: 3rd, 10th, 17th..	Call Lin 07557 396627
BRIDGE CLUB	2pm Tuesday 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd.	Call Bernadette 01604 770424
CINEMA	Tuesday 2nd & 16th. 7.30pm	See Box, right.
COFFEE MORNINGS	Coffee Morning. 10.30—12. Wednesday 3rd. All welcome.	
GAMING CLUB	Saturday 6th December 7pm Raven Loonies Table-Top Gaming Club. For more visit https://ravenloonies.com	
LIVE MUSIC	<i>The Ginger Pig Band, Friday 12th. (Sorry Sold out!)</i>	
PARISH COUNCIL	RAVENSTHORPE & COTON PARISH COUNCIL Wednesday 3 December at 7.30pm	
PILATES	Liz Reader Pilates. 9.30am Monday 1st & 8th.	Call Liz: 07810 235258
	Pilates with Sophie: Thursday at 9.30am: 4th, 11th, 18th.	Call Sophie 07764 586990
SHOTOKAN KARATE	Sunday at 9.30: 7th, 14th & 21st. (Seniors); Thursday at 6pm: 4th & 18th (Juniors).	Call Andy 07891 132675
TABLE TENNIS	Mondays at 7pm: 1st, 8th, 15th & 22nd; Fridays at 2pm: 5th & 19th.	Call/ text 07710 813069
WI	The next public meeting: January 15th.	Tricia 770855 Gill 770541

Christmas Wreath Making Workshop Saturday 6th December 2pm -4pm

Join us for a Fun Festive afternoon!
Create your own stunning wreath to adorn your home this Christmas. All materials provided, no experience is necessary.
Bring your friends and get into the festive spirit while crafting something beautiful to celebrate Christmas.



Limited spaces available, book your tickets now for just £30! includes refreshments

To book your place go to www.rvhallonline.co.uk or call Chrissie for further information 07507 895383



**RAVENSTHORPE
VILLAGE CINEMA**

Doors Open 7.00. Cinema starts 7.30pm.
Booking: go to: rvhallonline/cinema;
email: cinema@rvhallonline; or telephone Mike & Mo Cobbe
01604 328822

Tuesday 2nd December, 7.30pm Mainstream Feature

The Ballad of Wallis Island

An eccentric music fan lures his folk heroes to an island for a private performance, in a film which is warm, amusing and gently moving.

"*The Ballad Of Wallis Island* is a big-hearted, consoling hug of a movie. It might not reinvent the wheel, but it's the low-key crowd-pleaser of the year so far" (Empire)

Tickets: £7



Tuesday 16th December, 7.30pm Cinephile Film

The Last Journey

In this moving and funny documentary, Swedish TV presenters Filip Hammar and Fredrik Wikingsson try to coax

Filip's aging father into re-engaging with life by embarking on a joyous, heartfelt road trip through the South of France.

"Do not let this magnificent little film pass you by." (The Irish Independent). "A film like *The Last Journey* feels even more special and affirming as it projects pure beauty and an uplifting nature in telling its central story around two men and their determination to reaffirm life's wonder for another." (The AU Review)

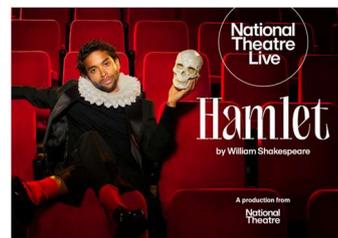
Tickets: £7



National Theatre Live:

Friday 23rd January 7.30pm *Hamlet*

Olivier Award-winner Hiran Abeysekera (*Life of Pi*) is *Hamlet* in this fearless, contemporary take on Shakespeare's famous tragedy. Tickets: £12



PERCIVAL GUILDHOUSE NEW COURSES IN 2026



A Spring adventure for curious minds is on offer at Rugby's Percival Guildhouse with 19 new courses starting in January 2026 in addition to its usual full-term programme.

From weekday workshops to six or nine week-long courses, there are things to inspire, tempt and attempt for adults of all ages. There's a new sewing and dressmaking course; Pilates courses for beginners and experienced; wine appreciation savouring classics from around the world, and history focusing on the Cold War and on Russia.

Anyone interested in Animation can join an introductory course or if interests lie in character concept design for games, there's a course on that. Off to Spain in 2026, there are two beginners' courses in Spanish or if you simply want to get each week off to a good start, try Mindful Mondays.

A full list of all courses and details of how to join can be found at <https://percival-guildhouse.co.uk/courses/> or phone 01788 542467. Booking opens on 1st December.

CHURCH SERVICES: RAVENSTHORPE & UPLANDS GROUP OF CHURCHES—JANUARY 2026

	Location	Service Type/ Activity	Time	Flowers
Sunday 4 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 11 January Baptism of Christ	Cold Ashby	10.00am Group Service .		
Sunday 18 January Epiphany 2	Ravensthorpe	CW Communion	9.30am	TBA
	Other Churches/ Services	Creaton (Word of Prayer for Christian Unity Service—CW Communion, 9.30am); Guilsborough (Brunch@11 Village Hall; Evensong 6.00pm); Spratton (BCP Communion 8.30am). .		
Sunday 25 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 NOTICES

The last Youth Church will be on December 6th and will resume on January 10th .

If you receive this newsletter in time, we would like to remind everyone of the Advent Songs of Praise on Sunday 30th November at 3.00 pm

CHURCH CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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

CHRISTMAS SHOEBOXES

Thank you to everyone who donated to the shoeboxes this year, 130 were collected from Guilsbrough & other villages.

Maureen Druce

Maureen sadly passed away on 17th November. The funeral service will be held in St Denys Church on Monday 22nd December at 1 pm.



PLAYING FIELD

We're incredibly grateful to our sponsors and volunteers, and to the village and wider community for making the Bonfire & Fireworks a resounding success. The profits raised will be used to maintain the

field and play area. You may have noticed the new gate and fencing installed at the field's entrance just before the fireworks event. These investments ensure the field and play area remain safe for everyone.

Organising these events requires a dedicated team of volunteers. We're always looking for new committee members and volunteers to help ensure a smooth event.

Our AGM will be held on 11th December at 20:00 at the Playing Field pavilion. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend.

Lottery winners for November - Richard Avery £50, Jonathan Lloyd £20



W.I. holds its Christmas party in December for members (only). Our speaker on January 15th will be Fay Tennet, who will present a view from the police front line. Her talk will be entitled "Women in Blue". The meeting starts at 7.45 p.m. in the Village Hall and all ladies are

welcome. Visitors pay £5 to include refreshments.

Contacts: Gill Douglas 770541; Tricia Freeman 770855.

CRABTREE PIT POCKET PARK

Hedging our bets for wildlife

When you visit Crabtree Pit Pocket Park, you'll see we've started on preparing the meadow hedge so that it's ready to be laid in the New Year.

Hedge laying is a guaranteed win for wildlife. Restoring what is now gappy and dead, into a hedge that is thick at the base, is a windfall for hedgehogs, newts and other animals.

Our next session is on Sunday 14th Dec 10am -11.45am with refreshments. You're welcome to come up to say hello and see what we're up to.

If you work in a team and are looking for a social green activity please contact us. We'd welcome some help. Nature conservation is a very satisfying task.

Any queries please contact Ruth or Natalie, crabtreepit@gmail.com.

February Newsletter:

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