

**CHURCH NOTICES**

**Rev Caroline Burnett**

It is with great sadness that we say farewell to Rev Caroline Burnett who is retiring on 12th April. Her final service will be at The Group Service on Sunday 12th April at Guilsborough Church at 10.00 am. We wish Caroline and her husband a long and happy retirement in Wales. We thank her for all she has contributed to The Uplands and we shall miss her very much.

**Rev Allison Twigg**

We also have to announce that we will also be saying farewell to Rev Allison Twigg who has been offered a new Living in Uppingham and will be leaving The Uplands in the summer. We are very sorry to be losing her but we are very grateful for her time here and wish her every joy in her new life.

**Youth Church:** Youth Church will resume on April 18th.

**Easter Eggs & More**

**Good Friday (3<sup>rd</sup> April)      Guilsborough Village Hall**  
**10am to noon (drop in anytime)**

Easter crafts  
& activities for  
adults &  
children.

Easter Story  
& Songs

Hot cross buns,  
children's snacks  
& hot & cold  
drinks



Run jointly by the MMM and Uplands Group Churches teams

**CHURCH CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

Rev'd Allison Twigg 01604 846099 [revallisontwigg@gmail.com](mailto:revallisontwigg@gmail.com); Associate Priest: Rev'd Caroline Burnett 01604 328629; [caroline\\_burnett@btinternet.com](mailto:caroline_burnett@btinternet.com); Assistant Curate: Rev Cecily Nurmahi 01858 791228; [revcecilynurmahi@gmail.com](mailto:revcecilynurmahi@gmail.com) Assistant Curate Jo Ognjanovic 07800 505891 [revjo.church@gmail.com](mailto:revjo.church@gmail.com)  
 The Uplands Group Office: [uplandsgroupoffice@gmail.com](mailto:uplandsgroupoffice@gmail.com);  
 Website: [www.uplandsgroupchurches.org.uk](http://www.uplandsgroupchurches.org.uk)

**CHURCH SERVICES: RAVENSTHORPE & UPLANDS GROUP OF CHURCHES—APRIL 2026**

	Location	Service Type	Time	Flowers
<b>Thursday 2 April</b> Maundy Thursday	Guilsborough	Holy Communion, 7.30pm		
<b>Friday 3 April</b> Good Friday	Creaton	Stations of the Cross, 2.00pm		
<b>Sunday 5 April</b>	<b>Ravensthorpe</b>	<b>CW Communion</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	Flower team
	Other Churches/ Services	Cold Ashby (9.30am BCP Communion); Cottesbrooke (11.00am BCP Communion); Creaton (9.30am BCP Communion); Guilsborough (9.30am CW Communion); Hollowell (11.00am CW Communion); Spratton (6.00am Dawn Service); Thornby (9.30am BCP Communion).		
	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).		
<b>Sunday 12 April</b>	Guilsborough	Group Service. Holy Communion & APCMs. 10.00am		
<b>Sunday 19 April</b>	<b>Ravensthorpe</b>	<b>CW Communion</b>	9.30am	Sally Marsh
	Other Churches/ Services	Creaton (9.30am CW Communion); Guilsborough (11.00am Brunch@11; 6.00pm Evensong); Spratton (8.30am BCP Communion).		
<b>Sunday 26 April</b>	<b>Ravensthorpe</b>	<b>Worship For All</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	Sally Marsh
	Other Churches/ Services	Cold Ashby (9.30am BCP Communion); Guilsborough (9.30am BCP Communion); Hollowell (11.00am CW Communion); Spratton (11.00am CW Communion).		
<b>Sunday 3 May</b>	<b>Ravensthorpe</b>	<b>Communion &amp; Morning Prayer</b>	<b>8.30am</b>	Barbara Guest & Jane Pinnock
	Other Churches/ Services	Creaton (9.30am CW Communion); Guilsborough (11.00am BCP Communion); Spratton (11.00am Worship for All).		

## RAVENSTHORPE & COTON PARISH COUNCIL

### Defibrillators

The defibrillator outside the Chequers has reached the end of its life as the consumables it needs can no longer be supplied. The Parish Council is backing fund-raising for a replacement. At the same time, it has been proposed that a defibrillator be set up in a suitable place for Coton residents to have access to. That is being investigated.

**The Annual Village Meeting** will be held on **Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April from 10.30-12 noon**. Free refreshments. Come along and hear from the PC and the voluntary groups in the village.

### Potholes:

If you have online access you can report issues like potholes, or problems with footpath access or maintenance, to West Northants Council using Street Doctor. It is helpful if you have a photo to attach and if you can pinpoint the location on a map. Just google *Street Doctor West Northants*.

### Issues raised:

Please be aware that the local PCSO has reported increased instances of cold calling by people selling services such as roof repairs or moss clearance. It is not usually a good idea to do anything other than politely tell them – “no thanks!”

Another issue mentioned is an increase in instances of dog fouling around the village. We know that the vast majority of dog walkers do clean up after their dogs - this is just by way of a reminder. Thank you.

Chair of the PC  
Diane Hayes  
Chair of the Parish Council  
Tel 07873 271126

### COMMUNITY BUS SERVICE

The bus from West Haddon to Daventry via Guilsborough, Coton, Ravensthorpe and Long Buckby (No 52) picks up in Ravensthorpe at the bus shelter and at the bottom of the West Haddon Rd at approx 9.45am. It runs every 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday in each month.

The Haddon Hopper normally runs to Rugby (Elliott's Field or town centre) on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month departing from the village at approximately 9.30am. Other destinations, such as Rushden Lakes, are added to the programme from time to time.

The website <https://cmbus.org/shopper-hopper/> 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, I think it's currently £3. Passengers need to register to use the service - ring 0333 188 0591 or email [bookings@cmbus.org](mailto:bookings@cmbus.org) You must 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.



Join Kelmarsh Hall for a fabulous Spring Fair this Easter weekend and welcome in the new season. Enjoy a wonderful family day out with a variety of stallholders, spring gardens in bloom, and plenty to explore across the estate. With lakeside and woodland walks, the Hall open to visitors, an Easter egg hunt, and creative workshops, there's something for everyone to enjoy.

Parking is on the event site field, please note this is a 10-15 minute walk through the woodland. Accessible parking is available through the main gates. £10 per car entrance fee.



### CRABTREE PIT POCKET PARK UPDATE

The next and final monthly volunteer session on Crabtree Pit Pocket Park for 25/26 season, is on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April, 10am to 12noon including refreshments. We'll continue to work in the 'thicket' area, recovering the canopy and improving the conditions for the oak and apple trees there.

There maybe additional sessions over the summer to tackle jobs like removing the exposed and damaged pond liner and treating the wooden benches. Then we resume again in late August, with monthly sessions to maintain this wonderful village asset.

The Parish Council has completed tree works in the parks lane to ensure their safety. They have also equipped us with a telescopic saw, to help us reach those taller limbs.

Finally, if the deer don't eat them, there should be a show of native bluebells in the wood.

Ruth and Natalie - co-volunteer coordinators [crabtreepit@gmail.com](mailto:crabtreepit@gmail.com)



## HOLDENBY

### The Magic Of Easter at Holdenby House 5th-6th April

#### The perfect family day out—

Easter Egg Hunt with amazing £200 prize!  
Easter Market Stalls

Icarus Falconry and Wildlife Displays; Magician  
Alice in Wonderland Characters; Lawn Games  
Children's crafts; Face painting; Food court &  
Old Stable Tea Room

**Open Sunday & Monday 11am-4pm**  
**House open: Monday 12-3pm (last entry 2.30pm)**  
**To book tickets or for more information please**  
**visit our website: [www.holdenby.com](http://www.holdenby.com)**

# RAVENSTHORPE VILLAGE HALL: WHAT'S ON IN APRIL?

For more information visit [www.rvhall.online.co.uk](http://www.rvhall.online.co.uk)

ACE COURSES	<i>From the Gods to Cinema— Japanese history and visual art. Monday 27 April 11.30-4.30</i>	See box.
ARTS & CRAFTS	<b>CRAFTERNOON:</b> 2.15pm every Thursday.	Call Di 770482 or Pauline 770634.
	Needle Felt Workshop: Saturday 11 April 2pm.	See box.
BOWLING	<b>SHORT-MAT BOWLING</b> 2pm every Wednesday.	Call Lin 07557 396627
BRIDGE CLUB	2pm every Tuesday.	Call Bernadette 01604 770424
CINEMA	Tuesday 7th & 21st. 7.30pm	See box, right.
COFFEE MORNINGS	Wednesday Coffee Morning. 10.30—12.00 April 1st & 15th. All welcome.	
GAMING CLUB	Saturday 4 April. 7pm Raven Loonies Table-Top Gaming Club. For more visit <a href="https://ravenloonies.com">https://ravenloonies.com</a>	
LIVE MUSIC	Govennen: Celtic music "at its best". See box.	
PARISH COUNCIL	<b>RAVENSTHORPE &amp; COTON PARISH COUNCIL</b> Wednesday 15 April at 7.30pm  <b>Annual Village Meeting:</b> 10.30am Saturday 25 April.	
PILATES	Paula Edmunds Pilates. 9.30am Every Monday (except 6th).	Paula 07799 798424
	Pilates with Sophie: Every Thursday at 9.30am	Call Sophie 07764 586990
SHOTOKAN KARATE	Every Sunday at 9.30 (Seniors); Every Thursday at 6pm (Juniors).	Call Andy 07891 132675
TABLE TENNIS	Mondays at 7pm; & Fridays at 2pm (except Friday 24th).	Call/ text 07710 813069
WI	Thursday 16 April 7.30pm.	Gill Douglas 01604 770541

## NEEDLE FELT WORKSHOP



Ravensthorpe Village Hall,  
Sat. 11 April, 2pm-4.30pm  
Workshop cost: £25  
To book: contact Ali  
07849 178 015  
[Fuzzycrumbs.co.uk](http://Fuzzycrumbs.co.uk)

An introductory workshop for beginners; .  
Not suitable for under 14s due to sharp needles;  
All materials and refreshments provided;  
SMALL WORKSHOP: 8 places available.

## RAVENSTHORPE VILLAGE HALL



RAVENSTHORPE

VILLAGE CINEMA

Tickets £7. Go to: [rvhall.online/cinema](http://rvhall.online/cinema);  
email: [cinema@rvhall.online](mailto:cinema@rvhall.online); or telephone  
Mike & Mo Cobbe 01604 328822

### Tuesday 7 April: Cinephile screening **THE RETURN**

Ralph Fiennes and Juliette Binoche, two of the greatest living actors, portray two of the most iconic roles in Western culture in this tense historical drama based on The Odyssey.

"The Return is a heroic gambit for Pasolini.....

often, interestingly it has the crowd pleasing energy of Ridley Scott's Gladiator films" (The Guardian)

"The Return removes the mythology from Odysseus' homecoming along with some of the fun, but Ralph Fiennes and Juliette Binoche's terrific performances keep this drama absorbing." (Rotten Tomatoes)

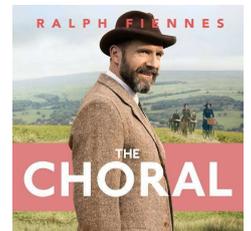


### Tuesday 21 April 7.30pm **THE CHORAL**

Alan Bennett and Nicholas Hytner's fourth collaboration is a comedy drama set in World War I as a small Yorkshire town attempt to stage Elgar's "The Dream of Gerontius" in which small town social under-currents are humorously explored against the pathos of war time.

"One of Ralph Fiennes finest performances" (The Times)

"a quiet and consistent pleasure" (The Guardian)



RAVENSTHORPE  
VILLAGE  
CINEMA

**National  
Theatre  
Live**

### Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May - All My Sons

Bryan Cranston (Breaking Bad) and Marianne Jean-Baptiste (Hard Truths) feature in a five-star, triumphantly acclaimed new production of Arthur Miller's classic play, from visionary director Ivo Van Hove (A View from the Bridge). It picked up a **huge six Olivier Award nominations** – the most of any play this year, including Best Play Revival and four acting awards



### Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June - Playboy of the Western World

Nicola Coughlan (*Bridgerton*) joins Éanna Hardwicke (*The Sixth Commandment*) and Siobhán McSweeney (*Derry Girls*) in John Millington Synge's riveting play of youth and self-discovery. Synge's 'succulent' text is delivered in its original early 20<sup>th</sup> century melodic Hiberno-English dialect which captures the lyricism of the language but for clarity we will screen with subtitles.



### Friday 26 June—Les Liaisons Dangereux

BAFTA Award-winner Lesley Manville (*Phantom Thread*) joins Aidan Turner (*Rivals*) in a striking new staging of Christopher Hampton's celebrated adaptation of the classic novel, where among the glittering salons of the super-rich, one misstep



Further information and booking link at <https://www.rvhall.online/events-and-activities-calendar/national-theatre-live-screening-les-liaisons-dangereuses/>



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

## Update from Buckby Library & Hub

### Short story competition

As part of our activities for the **National Year of Reading**, we are holding a short story competition. Our Story Theme is **"THE DAY EVERYTHING CHANGED"**. Your story can be funny, mysterious, magical, dramatic, heart-warming - in fact, whatever you wish!

Categories & Word Limits:

Under 12: 300–800 words

Ages 12–17: 600 – 1,200 words

Ages 18+: 800 – 1,800 words

Submission Deadline: Thursday 23rd April 2026. Full details, terms and conditions are on the website: <https://buckbylibraryhub.org/were-delighted-to-announce-our-short-story-competition-for-2026/>.

### Special events in April

**Spring Fayre:** We are having a Spring Fayre on Saturday April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2-4.30pm. Stalls include bric a brac, toys, bottle tombola, raffle, crafts, cards, cakes, forestry and plants, accessories, skincare, and products from our local deli. Something for everyone! It's a fundraising event for the library and is free entry. All welcome.

**Our art exhibitions:** in April there will be an exhibition of works by **James (Jim) Hollin** and then local artist, **Ian Dexter**, in May – details on our website soon!

**April film night:** our April film is on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> and is Hamnet. "After her young son Hamnet dies, Agnes Shakespeare is struck with intense grief. As she mourns with her husband William, the pair struggle to come to terms with the frailty of life and the ruthlessness of the plague. Set in 16<sup>th</sup>-century England, Agnes, a healer by trade, must find a way to move on with her life and provide for her other children." Tickets are £7.50 from the library or the Peephole. Films start at 7.30; doors open at 7pm. Refreshments available, including ice creams. Do check our website for future films which are always on the last Tuesday of the month: <https://buckbylibraryhub.org/film-nights-2/>.

Will you support Buckby Library & Hub by becoming a **Friend** and help sustain us into the future? Please see the information on our website <https://buckbylibraryhub.org/friends/> or pop in to see us.

We are also looking for more **Trustees**. Would you be interested to get involved and help our wonderful charity continue to thrive? Please get in touch with [sam.holst@buckbylibraryhub.org](mailto:sam.holst@buckbylibraryhub.org) to find out more and have a chat with existing trustees to see what's involved.

<https://buckbylibraryhub.org>; <https://buckbylibraryhub.org/calendar/>; email: [sam.holst@buckbylibraryhub.org](mailto:sam.holst@buckbylibraryhub.org); 01327 842591.

### Playing Field Lottery:

**March lottery winners: Rob & Nicola Williams (£50) ; Steve Edge (£20).**

**May Newsletter:** the deadline for the May Newsletter is Thursday 23 April. Any queries to Alan Worthington, 07801 051402 (text or phone), and contributions to [ravensthorpenewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:ravensthorpenewsletter@gmail.com).



ACE Courses Presents:

**From the Gods to the Cinema**  
The Worlds of Japanese History and Visual Art

Ravensthorpe Village Hall  
11.30–16.30 Monday 27th April 2026

Julian Sedgewick makes a welcome return to guide us through the strange world of Japanese myth and pre-history to the present day and how that history has expressed itself in the visual arts. From calligraphy to gardens, from print-making to cinema, we will see how history and belief have manifested in art. The course will run from 11.30am to 4.30pm with a break for lunch. Please bring your own lunch and a drink. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided at the break.

Fee £20. 40 places available.  
www.rvhall online or phone Mo Cobbe  
01604 328822.



## GOVANNEN

"One of the best Celtic music bands in the UK,  
blending jigs & reels with traditional & contemporary  
Irish songs".

Friday April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2026

Ravensthorpe Village Hall

8pm to 10.30pm Doors Open 7.15pm

Licensed Bar – Age 16+ Admission £15.00

Tickets online from [www.rvhall.online](http://www.rvhall.online)

Call 07507 895383 or email [rvhlive@rvhall.online](mailto:rvhlive@rvhall.online)

### SAMPLE SOMETHING NEW THIS SUMMER

Fancy getting to know more about Italian wines or tasting some locally-distilled gin? Both are possible among 12 new courses being run by the lifelong learning centre between April and July as part of a summer term programme packed with nearly 80 courses being offered by Rugby's Percival Guildhouse from 20th April.

A list of all courses, with dates, times and number of sessions, can be found at [www.percival-guildhouse.co.uk/courses/](http://www.percival-guildhouse.co.uk/courses/). Or phone 01788 542467 with any queries about courses. Lower fees apply for those in receipt of means-tested benefits.

