

Vicar's Easter Message

"Easter comes at a wonderful time of year. Even as I write daffs are blooming where there has only been bare soil or the last remains of autumn leaves, and we can see the spring flowers waiting to take their places.

For Christians the contrast is even more amazing. One day we shall be remembering all that happened to end Jesus's life; then Holy Saturday and on the third day we meet to share the joy of new life through His resurrection.

We wish you all the happiest of Easters."

John & Madeleine Tamant

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL Annual General Meeting

The A.G.M. will take place at 10.30am on Sunday 25TH April in the Church, prior to the morning service.

All residents of the parish are welcome to come along and air their views on church matters.

EDITORIAL by JOHN MOTT

AS ANNOUNCED on this page, the Parish Council and Parochial Church Council are holding open meetings in April. We all pay local taxes and many of us also make donations and gifts to the Church as well as supporting organisations and charities in the parish.

These annual meetings give us the chance to learn from and, if we wish, to question those we have elected to represent us. They will welcome the support and interest shown by your attendance and any suggestions or ideas you may have.

We all wish the parish to be a happy and safe place in which to live and we all have a responsibility to assist in this endeavour.

PARISH AND DISTRICT COUNCIL ELECTIONS

2004 IS ELECTION YEAR but instead of the traditional date in May, the Parish and District Council Elections are to be held on Thursday 10TH June to coincide with the European Elections.

At the moment the government has not finalised the timetable. However, nomination papers for both Councils will be available from **The Parish Clerk, Liz Peachey, tel: 770894**, from the end of April or early May.

Nominations have to be submitted well in

advance of Election Day. Further details will be included in the next Newsletter.

If you feel the Parish Council needs new blood, why not get a nomination form and stand for election? We shall have an election if we get more than seven people standing in Ravensthorpe or more than two in Coton.

Anyone over 18 living or working in the Parish or nearby is eligible to stand. If you do stand, you can make a difference to the quality of life in the village.

OPERATION SPRING CLEAN SATURDAY 17TH APRIL

VOLUNTEERS, both adults and youngsters are invited by the Parish Council to pick up litter along the verges and hedgerows in and near the village. Gloves and tabards will be provided.

Meet at the **Village Hall at 2.00pm**. Duration 1-to-2 hours. **Please come and help.**

The village is entering the "Village of the Year" competition, so this is a start tidying up the village.

TOP OF THE LEAGUE!

THE RAVENSTHORPE ATHLETIC FOOTBALL CLUB are currently top of Division 3 in the Northants Combined Football League by one point, with five games left to play this season.

The team are also defending the League Cup, which they won last year, in the final against Wilby F. C. **The final will be played on Tuesday 13TH April**, at the Rushden Rangers' Ground, Haydon Road Rushden. Kick-Off at 7.30pm. Supporters will be most welcome.

They are also in the semi-finals of the Munton Cup, having beaten the Police 7-1 on Saturday 27TH March. Ravensthorpe Athletic FC now have a chance for a triple title.

We wish them luck.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

This meeting will be held on **Wednesday 21ST April at 8.00pm** in the Village Hall

Various village organisations and charities will give their reports.

The meeting will then be open and all residents of Ravensthorpe and Coton are encouraged to express their views and concerns on any matters relating to the parish.

WOMENS' INSTITUTE MONTHLY MEETING

VILLAGE HALL
THURSDAY 15TH APRIL
8.00pm

Hostesses:

E. Reed and K. Hastie

Talk by **Lynne Hunt**
"Special Effects Make-Up"

New members and visitors welcome

PLAYING FIELD COMMITTEE NEW PLAYING FIELD LOTTERY

WE PLAN TO LAUNCH A NEW LOTTERY (Odds-200?) early in April with the first draw taking place on the first Friday in June. A flyer will be delivered to each household during April.

Annual tickets costing £12 will include ticket holders in a monthly draw and a bonus draw at Christmas. Our aim will be to sell 200 tickets across the village (approximately 300 households). Single monthly tickets (£1) will also be available. Of course anyone who wishes to purchase more than one ticket will not be discouraged.

45% of each monthly draw will go to a single prize-winner. 5% will go into the Xmas Bonus Draw and 50% towards Playing Field funds. So, using a few conversion tables, 220 tickets sold will provide a winner's prize of £100. 100 tickets sold will provide a monthly prize of £45, with an additional Christmas bonus prize of £60. Players must be over 16 years of age (with no maximum age!).

200 annual tickets sold will provide an additional income to the Playing Field of £1,200. Please support us!

SUMMER EVENT DATES FOR DIARIES AND A REQUEST FOR HELP.

WE have marked Saturday 10TH July for a Summer Fundraising Event with stalls and games for all at the Playing Field in the afternoon and a disco in the evening at the Village Hall. The WI have kindly offered to provide afternoon teas and a cake stall.

We should love to hear from anyone who may be able to help by providing and running stalls or games.

More details in May.

BURIAL PLOTS FOR ASHES

THE PLAN for these burial plots has been drawn up and accepted by the Parochial Church Council.

The memorial stones are to be laid flat in the south-east corner of the churchyard. They are to be a uniform size of one foot square, separated by one-and-a-half feet.

For ease of maintenance no flower holders can be incorporated with the stones but the area will be bordered by a flower bed for those wishing to plant flowers in memory of their loved ones.

NEW MINIBUS SERVICE

Spratton Travel Club is providing a new minibus service connecting the villages of Brixworth, Spratton, Creaton, Teeton, Hollowell, Guilsborough, Coton, Ravensthorpe, East Haddon, Holdenby, Church Brampton, Chapel Brampton, with Kingsthorpe.

Prepaid tickets are available from the Village Shop and Post Office, or Creaton Stores. The fare each way is £1.

A full time-table is posted on the Village Notice Board.

Shortened Time-table:

	Monday/Wednesday	Monday/Wed/Friday
Coton	09.55am	13.15pm 16.15pm
Ravensthorpe	09.58	13.18 16.18
Kingsthorpe	10.15	13.35 16.35
Kingsthorpe	10.20am	13.40pm 16.40pm
Ravensthorpe	10.38	13.58 16.58
Coton	10.40	14.00 17.00

MOTHERING SUNDAY 21STMARCH

The Family Service conducted by **Sandy Tringham** was a great success. Many thanks also to **Sandra and Dennis Patrick**, who once again, donated the flowers and to **Beryl Mott and Gill Douglas** who organised the bunches for presentation by the children to their mothers. Thanks also to **Barbara Ward** for providing refreshments after Service.

TOPPING-UP MOBILE PHONE CARDS

In the article last month on services available at the Village Shop and Post Office we forgot to include the availability of the above service. Apologies.

WELCOME JENNY BROWN

JENNY is visiting England from Australia and basing herself in Ravensthorpe for two months having done a house-swap. She has already become a lively addition to our village scene.

YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS PLEASE DEADLINE FOR MAY ISSUE IS 22ND APRIL

Contact Editor John Mott,
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or email: clive.jcapr@talk21.com

CHURCH SERVICES

ALTAR FLOWERS
AND BRASS ROTA

Sunday	4 TH April	11.00am	Palm Sunday Family Service
Thursday	8 TH April	7.30pm	Maundy Thursday Holy Communion at Thornby
Friday	9 TH April	12-1.00pm	Good Friday Address and Prayers
Sunday	11 TH April	11.30am	Easter Sunday Holy Communion Easter Lilies
Sunday	18 TH April	8.00pm	Holy Communion Easter Lilies
Sunday	25 TH April	11.00am	Holy Communion Mrs Pat Patrick
Sunday	2 ND May	11.00am	Holy Communion Mrs Ann Fowler

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 9-15 MAY