

NEWSLETTER

With the compliments of the Parochial Church Council of St. Denys Church, Ravensthorpe

Message from Mark Battison



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Some of you may be aware that 14 people from our local area have just completed a Pilgrimage to the Land of the Holy One to experience what our world was like in the time of Jesus and to start to get an understanding of what the lives of those who live there are today.

It is not possible to visit Israel and Palestine without being changed in some way. The historical, archaeological and spiritual history can be overwhelming and to know that you are actually treading the same paths that Jesus did and looking at the same views can be awesome.

At the same time we all travelled with our own perceptions of the political situation in the Middle East and our own views of how the people would greet and accept us and how they are relating to each other.

There is no getting away from the fact that the peoples of Palestine are suffering in the most horrendous of ways through the acts and intentions of the leaders of Israel and how these acts are being lived out every day. There is equally no getting away from the horrors that the Jewish people have suffered in their history which makes their current behaviour even harder to understand.

However, the overriding feeling that we experienced was one of hospitality and hope, despite the everyday situation. The Palestinian people we met showed great patience and understanding and had one desire only, to live in Peace with their neighbours and to share this land of the Holy One with all those who had a right to be there. If the peoples of this land can behave as such then surely we can also consider patience and peace to be our goals for our lives and for our communities.

At Easter we remember the wonderful message which Jesus left us, his Resurrection message, that God loves each and every one of us, equally and without condition and that we are to respond to this love by loving God back with all that we have and by loving each other equally and without condition!

God Bless. Reverend Mark Battison

Daventry Food Bank Collections



Many thanks to all those who contributed to our first Food Bank Collection. Seven large bags of essentials were delivered and gratefully received by the Vineyard Food Bank. Next collection is Sunday April 7th in the Village Hall from 10 a.m until 12 noon. Your continued support would be much appreciated.

Crabtree Pit Pocket Park



Please join us at 10.am on Sunday 21st April to plant in 300 donated plug plants. If you could spare a few minutes we would be glad to see you. Spade, trowel and boots will be needed. If you require any further information contact Cliff Giles (770 451).

Many thanks to Nick and Liz Ellison for clearing the pathway up to the park. It turned out to be a mammoth task for them.

Cliff Giles, Pocket Park Co-ordinator

Toddler Church



There is a new group for all babies and pre-school children and their carers starting for Ravensthorpe and surrounding villages. Come and enjoy free fun and informal session including: "mini" worship, songs, stories, play and a chance to meet others over tea and a chat!

Fancy joining us? Drop in to 21, Church Gardens, Ravensthorpe, on Wednesday 17th April between 2pm- 3.30pm for a chat and a taster session. If you can't make it contact Alice on 01604 771245 or kierenandalice@btinternet.com to find out more.

What's On?

Village Litter Pick, Sat 6th April

Due to bad weather, the litter pick will now take place on the 6th April. Meet outside the Village Hall at 10.30 am and have fun whilst spending just an hour or so helping to keep our village tidy. A good turn-out will make all the difference; your help would be most appreciated.

Please wear sensible shoes and bring along some sturdy gloves if you have them. All ages are welcome.

Village Hall Lunch, 17th April

The next village hall lunch date is Wednesday April 17th. To save you place, let Lin Hudson 770562 or Pat Foss 770466 have your name.

Parish Meeting, Weds 17th April

The Ravensthorpe Annual Parish Meeting will be held in the Ravensthorpe Village Hall at 8.00pm. The agenda will include:

- Affordable housing survey results.
- Reports by the chairman of the Parish Council
- Annual report by our local charities
- Police and neighbourhood watch reports

This is an open meeting and all members of the public are welcome to come and speak – we look forward to seeing you!

St Denys AGM & Electoral Roll

St Denys AGM will take place on Sunday 21st April at approximately 10.45am (after the 9.45am service) at the church.

Everyone is welcome to join us, tea and coffee will be served. We are also updating the church electoral roll this year (more details on notice in church porch), if you would wish to be added (to vote at the AGM etc) please let one of the PCC know and we can provide you with a form.

SSPPG AGM, Tues 30th April

All welcome to attend the AGM at Guilsborough Surgery 6.00 - 7.30pm.

Safari Supper, Saturday 11th May

Have you booked your place on the Ravensthorpe Safari Supper on Saturday 11th May?

If not contact Pat Foss on 770 466.

Ravensthorpe Village Hall News



So much has happened to our village hall over the past 2 years and the developments continue. During the closedown last summer the kitchen was completely refitted and is now fully equipped to enable full meal preparation on-site. With the installation of an industrial dishwasher, clearing up is no longer a chore!

Development work will continue this year with plans for a complete overhaul of the toilets (including hot water), treatment to modify the hall acoustics and new shutters to the serving area and kitchen store.

Bookings at the hall continue to reach new peaks and provide a wide range of regular activities for you and your families to enjoy.

These include: *Bowling, Pilates, fitness training, dance classes for children, Women's Institute and lunches for our senior citizens as well as less frequent ones such as hive making for beekeepers – quite a range!*

More and more villagers are making use of the hall to hold larger family functions which is great. For those events that you want to hold at home, most of the hall equipment e.g. tables, plastic chairs, crockery and cutlery is available to hire.

Basic hall hire is only £8.00 per hour and discounted rates apply for children's parties (£25.00 for a four hour hire) and for full morning, afternoon evening or day hire.

Tables can be hired for just £2.00 each per day and plastic chairs for £0.20 each per day.

To hire the hall or any of the hall equipment contact Roger Spring on 01604 770403

rvh-bookings@rogerspring.plus.com

Ravensthorpe Playing Field News



The Playing Field Committee are keen that the playing field is kept in great shape for the whole of the village to enjoy. One idea which has grabbed interest is outdoor table tennis.

The Committee have looked at the potential suppliers and have sourced some grants to help fund the project. It is thought that the table would be sited in the play area just behind the pavilion and would be available to be used by everyone, whatever your age or ability.

If you have any questions about this scheme or anything else to do with this village amenity contact Barry Langsford on 771 195.

Future Dates for your Diary!

Every year the Playing Field provide a happy band of volunteers to help out at the **Hollowell Steam Rally 7th / 8th July**. If you have a few hours spare on either day please give Barry Langsford a call on 771 195. All helpers get a free ticket to this marvellous event!

The Playing Field Committee are planning an **Inter Village Challenge** where we hope to host a family rounders competition on **Saturday 29th June**. Local villages are being invited to submit adults and junior teams for this fun event. There will be a BBQ, bar, bouncy castle, face painting and other stalls to add to the entertainment.

8th November: Bonfire and Fireworks Night

23rd November: Themed Supper Night and 'Promises Auction'. Tickets for tables of eight will soon be on sale.

11th October: Race Night at The Chequers.

More information will be available on the Playing Field section of the Village website:

www.ravensthorpe.me.uk

St Deny's Church News



New Assistant Priest

We are pleased to announce that we have appointed Andrew Taylor-Cook to be our assistant priest for the Uplands Group of Parishes, starting from May.

Andrew will be part time and will continue to minister to the deaf community in the area for the rest of his time. We are really pleased to welcome Andrew and his wife Margaret to our communities.

Dog fouling in churchyard

We have found increasing levels of dog fouling in the churchyard which is inconsiderate and upsetting for those visiting graves of loved ones. Please ensure that all waste is picked up and removed. Thank you.



Easter Lilies

Many thanks for all the donations for Easter Lilies in memory of a loved one that decorated the church at Easter.

Lent Lunches

Many thanks to all who hosted, and helped serve at the Lent Lunches. Attendance was really high, and a good time was had by all with significant funds being raised for a selection of charities chosen by both the hostesses and the church.

Particular thanks should go to Sally Marsh, Ann Fowler, Lorna Jones & Tricia Freeman for hosting this year.

Day	Time	Ravensthorpe Village Hall	Price	Contact	Back Care Pilates in the Village Hall!
Monday	09.20 – 10.20 10.25 – 11.25 11.30 -12.30	Pilates	£6.50	Natalie Carter 07967 811945	Back Care Pilates is an established way of regaining the flexibility, mobility and strength lost after an operation or injury, without building bulk or stressing your joints. Designed to help the body regain its natural capabilities, using mainly floor exercises. It is the perfect complement to cardiovascular exercise, athletic training and rehabilitation. Do join me, Tina 07810 380636.
		Pilates	£6.50		
		Beginners Pilates	£6.50		
Tuesday	09.45 – 10.45	Triple Workout (aerobics/toning & flexibility)	£5	Vicky Sewell 07970 116576	
Thursday	10.00 – 11.00 11.05 - 12.05	Pilates	£6.50	Natalie Carter 07967 811945	
		Pilates	£6.50		
Saturday	09.00 – 10.00 10.00 – 11.00	Special Back Care Pilates	£7	Tina Sheridan 07810 380636	
			£7		

Church Services	Time	Service	Location	Flower/brass rota
Sunday 7 th April	8.30am	Traditional Communion	Ravensthorpe	Yvonne Reeve – Lilies
Sunday 14 th April	10.00am	Group Communion Service	Ravensthorpe	Sally Barringer
Sunday 21 st April	9.45am	Communion (refreshments & AGM)	Ravensthorpe	Sally Barringer
Sunday 28 th April	11.00am	All-age Service	Ravensthorpe	Thalia Pike
Sunday 5 th May	8.30am	Traditional Communion	Ravensthorpe	Thalia Pike

Email May contributions to ravensthorpenewsletter@gmail.com
for the attention of the editor, Viv Rees (01604 771 076) by: **5pm Tuesday 23rd April 2013**

Visit the village website: www.ravensthorpe.me.uk or find us on Facebook 'Ravensthorpe Northampton'