

## Message from Reverend Chris Peck – Rector for The Uplands Group of Churches

### The Turning Year

The year has just turned as I write this; we have entered a new year and a new decade. By the time you read this, the days will be beginning to lengthen and little signs of the oncoming Spring will be appearing. The changes in the seasons remind us that change is central to all life and cannot be avoided.

There will be many changes in the Uplands over the coming months. I will retire as Rector of the Uplands in March. My final service will be Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March at 10.00 at Guilsborough and it would be lovely to share that service with as many who would like to be there. The following week Judy and I will be moving to Little Brington.

Rev'd Allison Twigg will become Acting Rector and I hope in due course will be installed as Rector of the Uplands Group. As we are not moving far away, Judy will continue to serve as Assistant Priest in the Uplands, at least until a new appointment is made. There will be changes in the way the Uplands Group is structured and changes in the pattern of worship. What will not change is the constant love of God for each resident of the eight villages and two hamlets that make up the Uplands: the love that brought God to earth in the person of Jesus Christ that we celebrated at Christmas; the love that took Jesus to the Cross which we remember on Good Friday; the love that burst through the barrier of death on Easter day, having taken on itself all the evil and sin in the world, and brought into being that Kingdom of peace and goodwill that the angels proclaimed; and, the love that pours upon us the gracious fire of the Holy Spirit that we celebrate at Pentecost.

It is my experience of that love of God which has sustained me through all the challenges and joys of ministry in the Uplands. It is that love that I have sought to share with others and that I have longed to see expressed in our relationships with one another. It is that love that will sustain the Uplands into God's future; and it is to that love of God that I commend you as we move into our different futures.

## Message from Reverend Allison Twigg – Associate Priest for The Uplands Group of Churches

Happy New Year! So much happened across the Uplands Group of Churches over the Christmas period! Never before have the churches put on such a wide range of activities and services - traditional services of lessons and carols, Christingles, crib and donkey services, schools services and carol singing— whether in church, in the pub or on the streets of our villages. Each one of them was wondrous in its own way, drew in both those that were familiar with our churches and those who made contact with us for the first time. All of them inspired and filled those who came with the spirit of Christmas and we pray that for some there was a first real glimpse of the Christ child.

None of these Services could have happened without the huge group of volunteers from all of the parishes that worked so hard to put on the events. So to the church tree decorators, flower arrangers and cleaners who prepared our churches; those who printed and distributed publicity; those who helped to lead worship by reading, praying, singing and playing; those who provided welcome, refreshments and fellowship; those who shepherded children and sorted, distributed and laundered costumes; and those who cleaned up afterwards and anyone else who helped in any way- from the Clergy team – a huge thank you. You are all marvelous and we are blessed to be serving our Lord and our communities alongside you all.

## Update on the introduction of Toilet and Servery facilities at St Denys Church Ravensthorpe

The external works to the North path are now complete with the exception of the areas which will need to be turfed/re-seeded when the weather improves. The internal works are progressing and the toilet and servery are nearing completion with both currently undergoing final finishing. The last piece of work is the replacement of the wooden plinth in the south aisle which will be replaced with a stone floor. A further grant has been received from the All Churches Trust for £ 3,000. The South path steps have now also been repaired with new stone risers. If you are taking machinery or any equipment into the church yard which is likely to damage the South path, please use the churchyard entrance by the allotments instead.

### St Denys Church Choir

The St Denys Church Choir is looking for new members, if you are interested in joining, please contact Meg Benn.  
T: 01604 770629; M: 07960 946789

### Parish Electoral Role – St Denys Church Ravensthorpe

This is the basic list in the parish of all those entitled to vote on elections within the *Church of England, this includes the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)*. Those entitled to have their names on this roll have to be 16 years of age or more and they must reside in the parish or be regular worshipers in church whose roll they wish to join. The roll is completely renewed every six years, at which point all members have to re-apply for membership or else their names will be deleted. By this means, the continuing validity of the roll is maintained. If you would like to join the Electoral Roll please contact Gill Douglas: T: 01604 770541

### Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)

No date has yet been fixed, but it is expected to go ahead in late April/early May.

### Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March – Guilsborough Church – Group Service

This will be Reverend Chris Peck's final service before he retires as Rector of The Uplands Group of Churches, all are welcome to attend to show their appreciation of Chris' service to the community.

### CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION:

The Rector: Rev'd Chris Peck 01604 743734 [revchrispeck@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:revchrispeck@hotmail.co.uk)

Associate Priest: Rev'd Allison Twigg 01604 846099 [revallisontwigg@gmail.com](mailto:revallisontwigg@gmail.com)

The Uplands Group Office: [uplandsgroupoffice@gmail.com](mailto:uplandsgroupoffice@gmail.com); Website: [www.uplandsgroupchurches.org.uk](http://www.uplandsgroupchurches.org.uk)



PRESENTS

Mary Borden Famous & Infamous  
1886-1968 Heroine, Celebrity, Author  
AND Local Resident



This illustrated talk about heiress Mary Borden, Chicago-born unsung heroine of WW1, sees the welcome return of popular speaker, Gary Shaeffer. Mary was a battlefield nurse and activist. She was a prolific writer and a poet, recently celebrated for her war sonnets. As a social celebrity she played a significant part in 1900's London and Parisian circles. During the



Ravensthorpe High Street: celebrating the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II, June 1953

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Elections for Parish Councillors will be taking place in May: we would like to draw residents' attention to this and would encourage you to consider standing for election.

Nominations for prospective candidates would need to be submitted by the end of March / early April. If you think you may be interested, please contact Mrs Carol Holifield, Clerk to the Parish Council:

CRABTREE POCKET PARK

Spring is almost here. Early flowering plants produce a vital nectar source for insects that brave the cold such as peacocks, small tortoiseshells, brimstones and comma, who overwinter as adults.

At the pocket park now you can see snowdrops and aconites in the lane and daffodils and cowslips appearing in the meadow. Last Spring I counted over 17 different flowering plants and that didn't



Join us for:

A chance to chat while the children play  
Tea, coffee, croissants, & baby or toddler drinks & snacks  
A simple craft, and 10 minutes of bible stories & songs for babies and pre-school children (we usually do this about 9.20 am)

Tuesdays - 8.45-10.00 am Drop in at any time  
Ravensthorpe Village Hall Just £1 per child

Open to all families in the area

Book Club

The next Book Club is on **Wednesday 12 February at 7.45** at Sue Scobie's, 7 Guilsborough Rd. The book for discussion is **Olive Kitteridge**,

The Charles Rennie Macintosh evening held in November raised £150 towards the 78 Derngate development fund and £60.80 for the Ravensthorpe

Contributions to next month's Newsletter  
ravensthorpenewsletter@gmail.com by Sunday



PROGRAMME FOR 2020

- 16th January History of Folk Music
  - 20th February Policing Daventry - A talk by Sam Dobbs
  - 19th March To the Fringe & Beyond - a talk by Ginny Davis
  - 16th April Yoga - with Carol Lindley
  - 21st May Resolutions & a talk by Lorna Jones about her travels
  - 18th June History of Ballet with a demonstration by Natalie Carter
  - 16th July Northampton Leather Museum - talk by Victoria Green
  - 20th August Outing - a visit to the Northampton Leather Museum
  - 17th September War Graves Commission - a talk by Megan Kelleher
  - 15th October Annual General Meeting
  - 19th November Christmas Past - talk by Ruth Thomas
  - 10th December Christmas Party
- The meetings are held in the village hall on the third Thursday of the month starting at 7.45pm. We open to new members throughout the year and if you need more information you can contact Liz Ellison on 03301136831 or by e mail at ellisonthomas10@yahoo.com

FOODBANK

Thank you to everyone who continues to support the Foodbank. It is much needed.

Collection continues to be the first weekend of the month - February 1st & 2nd. St Denys Church is open on the Sunday



Food donations from the villagers of Ravensthorpe delivered (by Lorna Jones) to the Hope Centre,

and donations can be left there, or to Yvonne: 01604 770988 or email yvc3@outlook.com. Thank you!

"1 in 50 UK households used a foodbank in 2018-19". The State of Hunger 2019 report compiled by Heriot-Watt University for the Trussell Trust, calculated that the average household income (in households using

## Ravensthorpe Village Hall -

### What's on in February?

<https://www.ravensthorpe.me.uk/the-village-hall/>

<https://www.facebook.com/RVHall1>

**Saturday 1st:** 9am Back Care Pilates with Tina:

call 07810 380636

**Sunday 2nd:** 10am Zumba call Lina 07725 984674.

**Monday 3rd:** 9.30am Pilates with Sophie call/txt 07764586990.

**Tuesday 4th:** 8.45am-10.30am. **Bus Stop Tots** call Alice 07803 595106.  
2.00pm - 4.30pm **Afternoon Bridge Club** Call Bernadette 770424.

**Wednesday 5th:** 10.30am – Noon. **Morning Coffee.** All Welcome.

Fresh Coffee and home-made treats for just £2. **6.30pm Zumba** call Lina 07725 984674.

**Thursday 6th:** 9.30am Pilates with Sophie call/txt 07764586990.

**Friday 7th:** 9.30am: **Yoga** with Carol Lindley 07786 911593.

**Saturday 8th:** 9am Back Care Pilates with Tina: 07810 380636

**Sunday 9th:** 10am Zumba call Lina 07725 984674.

**Monday 10th:** 9.30am Pilates with Sophie call/txt 07764586990.

**Tuesday 11th:** 8.45am-10.30am. **Bus Stop Tots** call Alice 07803 595106.  
2.00pm - 4.30pm **Afternoon Bridge Club** Call Bernadette 770424. 7.00 for 7.30pm **Village Cinema** presents **The Children Act** (see Box).

**Wednesday 12th:** 12.15 RVH Lunch. Call 770466 or 770562 to book.  
6.30pm **Zumba** call Lina 07725 984674.

**Thursday 13th:** 9.30am Pilates with Sophie call/txt 07764586990.

7pm for 7.30 **Speakers' Corner** presents an illustrated talk by Gary Shaeffer: **Mary Borden—Famous & Infamous** (see Box).

**Friday 14th:** 9.30am: **Yoga** with Carol Lindley 07786 911593.

11.15am **Zumba Gold** call Lina 07725 984674.

**Saturday 15th:** 9am Back Care Pilates with Tina: 07810 380636

**Sunday 16th:** 10am Zumba call Lina 07725 984674.

**Monday 17th:** 9.30am Pilates with Sophie call/txt 07764586990.

**Tuesday 18th:** 8.45am-10.30am. **Bus Stop Tots** call Alice 07803 595106.



**RAVENSTHORPE  
VILLAGE CINEMA**

Ravensthorpe Village Hall: Admission: £6—Students £4

Seat reservation recommended:

Enquire/book/pay cash 01604 328822 or email:

### The Children Act

**Tuesday 11th February  
7.00 for 7.30**

Fiona Maye (Emma Thompson) is an eminent judge in the Family Division of the High Court, making daily decisions about complex family issues. But her workload is heavy and her marriage to American professor Jack (Stanley Tucci) is at breaking point.

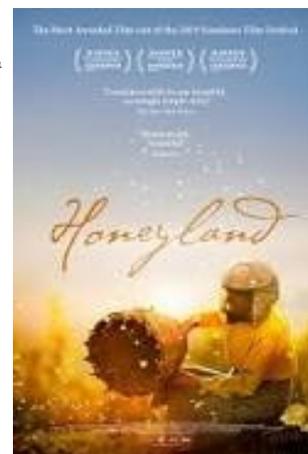


In this moment of personal crisis, Fiona is asked to rule in the case of Adam (Fiona Whitehead), a brilliant and beautiful teenager who is refusing on religious grounds the blood transfusion which will save his life.

Wanting to hear from Adam before making a decision, Fiona goes to his hospital bedside. This extraordinary meeting releases strong emotions, with momentous consequences for both of them as Fiona decides whether Adam should live or die.

#### **What the critics say - The Guardian:**

*"Thompson's performance as a brilliant but tortured judge elevates the Ian McEwan adaptation of his 2014 novel ... a stately courtroom saga with parallels to the Charlie Gard case..... Directed by Richard Eyre. .... a highly watchable drama - it would make a good stage-play. – and the film is put together with an intelligence which saves it from being preposterous, although that's a bit of a close thing. There's a shrewd eye here for the pagantry and complacency of the English law"*



### Honeyland

**Tuesday 25th February 7.00 for 7.30**

Nestled in an isolated mountain region deep within the Balkans, kindly Hatidze Muratova lives with her ailing mother in a deserted village without roads, electricity or running water. She's the last in a long line of Macedonian wild beekeepers using traditional methods to eke out a living farming honey in small batches.

When an unruly itinerant family moves in what at first seems like a balm for her solitude becomes a source of tension as they too want to practice bee keeping while disregarding her advice. This causes a breach in the natural order that provokes a conflict with Hatidze that exposes the fundamental tension between nature and humanity, harmony and discord, exploitation and sustainability.

RAVENSTHORPE MEMORIAL PLAYING FIELD

**A CHANGE OF CHAIRMANSHIP**

After several years as Chairman of the Playing Field, Alan Worthington has stepped down from the role. Adam Gooch (hitherto Secretary) has been invited—and has kindly accepted—to take on the role as the new Chair. Alan has agreed to stay on as Secretary for the coming year, and Kieren Cooper to continue as Treasurer.

Over recent years we have struggled to fill particular roles in relation to the management of the Playing Field and this has meant that a greater load has fallen on a small number of shoulders. We really need, and would welcome, some (more) "new blood", not just from individuals who may be prepared to join the committee, but also from those who perhaps do not want to be on the committee, but would be prepared to have an input or role in relation to a specific event.

Alan has agreed to continue this year to co-ordinate the Odds-200 lottery and to continue pro tem as Bookings Secretary, until we are able to find someone to take this on. He is also (with Mary), stepping down from his organising role in relation to the annual bonfire and we are looking now for someone who would be prepared to gather and manage a small team to organise the food and the bar for this.

If you might be interested please give Alan a call: 07801 051402. We very much need more support.



**THANK YOU TO SPEAKERS CORNER & THE VILLAGE HALL**

The Playing Field Committee wishes to thank Speaker's Corner & the Village Hall for a very generous donation of £340. This will go towards the Children's Play Area Development.

**DAVENTRY DC LOTTO:** By playing the Daventry DC local lottery, you could help raise funds for the

**Lent Lunches - 2020**

A variety of tasty soups, fresh fruit and coffee or tea

These will take place from 12noon to 2pm throughout Lent and a minimum donation of £6 is expected with half the proceeds going to St. Denys Church and half to a charity selected by the hostess. Everyone is welcome.

- Wednesday 4th March Hostess: Ann Fowler Home Farm
- Wednesday 11th March Hostess: Lorna Jones Teeton Road
- Wednesday 18th March Hostess: Tricia Freeman 2 The Orchards
- Wednesday 25th March Hostess: Susie Pasley-Tyler Coton Manor
- Wednesday 1st April Hostess: Charlotte Matts Manor Farm

Please call Tricia Freeman for any further information 770855.



**More than just good food**

**For families wanting a taste of faith and good food. Third Sunday of each month:**

**11.00am Guilsborough Village Hall**

**Dates for 2020:**

16th February; 15th March

19th April; 17th May

21st June; 19th July;

16th August; 20th September

18th October; 15th November;

20th December.

CHURCH SERVICES					
February	Time	Service Type	Led by	Location	Flowers
Sunday 2nd February	8.30am	Book of Common Prayer Communion	Clergy	Ravensthorpe	Beryl Mott/ Sally Marsh. Candlemas
Sunday 9th February	10.00am	Uplands Group Service—Common Worship with Communion	Clergy	Cold Ashby	
Sunday 16th February	9.45am	Common Worship with Communion	Clergy	Ravensthorpe	Beryl Mott/ Sally Marsh
	11.00am	Brunch@11	Lay Team & Clergy	Guilsborough	
Sunday 23rd February	11.00am	Worship for All	Lay Team & Clergy	Ravensthorpe	Beryl Mott/ Sally Marsh
Wed 26th February	10.00am	Communion with Imposition of Ashes	Clergy	Guilsborough	Ash Wednesday
March					
Sunday 1st March	8.30am	Book of Common Prayer Communion	Clergy	Ravensthorpe	1st Sunday of Lent—no flowers
Sunday 8th March	10.00am	Uplands Group Service- Common Worship with Communion	Clergy	Guilsborough	2nd Sunday of Lent—no flowers
Sunday 15th March	9.45am	Common Worship with Communion	Clergy	Ravensthorpe	3rd Sunday of Lent—no flowers
	11.00am	Brunch@11	Lay Team & Clergy	Guilsborough	
Sunday 22nd March	11.00am	Mothering Sunday Service	Lay Team & Clergy	Ravensthorpe	4th Sunday of Lent—no flowers Mothering Sunday
Sunday 29th March	10.00am	Uplands Group Service—Common	Clergy	Creaton	No Flowers—Lent