



SPRING GARDENS OPEN FOR CHARITY



- * **Cottesbrooke Hall: Sunday 27th April**
- * **Guilsborough: Sunday May 4th**
- * **Ravensthorpe Nursery: Friday 9th to Sunday 11th May**
- * **East Haddon: Monday 26th May**
- * **Creton: Sunday 1st June**

The National Garden Scheme raises millions annually by opening gardens for charity. In 2024 it donated a record £3,501,227. Since its inception in 1927, the scheme has raised over £67 million, supporting health charities and community projects through garden admissions and fundraising events. Not all garden openings in our communities are part of the NGS scheme, but they all play a vital role in supporting churches or community projects.

SAXON SPIRES WITH DR SUSIE NORTHOVER ARE RAISING VITAL FUNDS FOR CANCER RESEARCH

On Saturday 22nd March Saxon Spires and Dr Susie Northover encouraged people in our communities to take part a special Brixworth Park Walk, Run and Roll to raise funds for Cancer Research. The event took place after this issue had gone to print, but they are still fundraising and here's why.

"Those that know me will know that I am passionate about walking. Walking for health. Walking for wellbeing. Walking for mindfulness. Walking for transport (!) I am determined to get more people out there seeing the benefits!
In June 2024, I was forced to retire due to ill health when I was diagnosed with a rare and incurable brain tumour known as glioblastoma. There are very limited treatment options for this type of cancer and treatment has not changed in decades. In recent years however, Cancer Research UK have been funding some trials in to the use of immunotherapy drugs for glioblastoma, and the genetics involved in these types of tumour. For me personally, this research is critical, as I have one of the specific gene mutations being studied, as well as two other mutations potentially passed on within my family which may well also prove to be relevant as the research continues. The ongoing research could make a direct difference for my family as well as myself." Susie

*Already over **£1,700** has been raised ... but donations continue to be accepted. Scan the QR code below to find the Just Giving Fundraising Page and the full version of Susie's story.*



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WHAT'S ON

APRIL

- See p.6 for all Cold Ashby Events
- 9th Creton WI
- 10th Guilsborough Friends
- 11th Pop Up Pub Guilsborough
- 12th Lent Lunch Hollowell
- 12th Coffee Morning, Cottesbrooke
- 12th Creton Walkers
- 12th History Group Cake & Coffee, Creton
- 17th History Group, Creton
- 18th Good Friday MMM Guilsborough
- 24th Sound Bath Cottesbrooke
- 26th Big Breakfast Hollowell

MAY

- See p.6 for all Cold Ashby Events
- 3rd Coffee Morning, Cottesbrooke
- 3-4th Adult learn to Sail at Hollowell Sailing Club
- 10th Open Morning at Hollowell Sailing Club
- 10th Creton Walkers
- 17-18th Junior Start Sailing at Hollowell Sailing Club

AND REGULARLY ...

- Monday mornings MMM, evenings Knitwits Guilsborough; Tuesday evenings, Creton Singers; Thursday mornings indoor bowls, Creton; Sunday am and Tuesday pm, Tennis Guilsborough; Thursday evenings, Badminton Guilsborough and Nia Guilsborough. Sunday am Soul Yoga, Cottesbrooke

Creaton Village Shop

Opening Hours

Monday-Friday **7.30am-6pm**
 Saturday **8am-6pm**
 Sunday **8am-12 noon**

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VILLAGE LINK

is a bi-monthly publication delivered free of charge to households in Cold Ashby, Cottesbrooke, Creaton, Guilsborough, Hollowell, Teeton and Thornby. It is produced and distributed by volunteers. Due to restrictions of time and space there is no guarantee that copy submitted will be used. All funds received from advertising go towards printing costs.

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Wherever possible **please email** your contributions to. editorial@villagelink.org.uk. This saves considerable time re-typing information! When providing hard copy materials, please post to Sarah Dalzell, Five Springs, Nortoft, Guilsborough, NN6 8QB

Advertisements

are welcome from local businesses, charities, clubs and societies. Commercial businesses pay advertising rates. One insertion: full page £140, half page £70, quarter page £35, eighth page £20. Two or more insertions: full page £120, half page £60, quarter page £30, eighth page £15. All prices are per insertion. Colour available in some issues, price on application. Private ads are also welcome. Back page 'lineage' cost £1.50 per line. Please contact Sarah Dalzell to book advertising or email. advertising@villagelink.org.uk Cheques payable to 'Village Link'

**DEADLINE FOR THE JUNE/
JULY EDITION:
Monday 5th May**

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BIRDING NOTES

Special Sawbill at Ravensthorpe Reservoir

The morning of Wednesday January 29th began with clear skies and early sunshine: both very welcome after what had felt like a largely grey and dismal winter. I'd almost completed a clockwise lap of Ravensthorpe Reservoir and was walking across the causeway towards Coton when I spotted two dazzlingly white shapes through the low hedge to my left. Scanning through a gap with binoculars I was greeted with the unmistakable sight of two drake Smew.




The Smew is a member of the sawbill family of diving ducks, named for the serrated teeth with which they grip their fish and aquatic-insect prey. As is often the case with wildfowl, adult male and female plumages are very different. Females are largely grey overall, with a white chin and cheek and a dark red/brown crown, nape and forehead. Juvenile males are very similar to adult females: both are informally referred to as 'redheads'. Adult males on the other hand are strikingly white overall, sharply marked with neat black lines and black panels on the wings, with grey vermiculated flanks and a black eyemask, all topped off with a white crest with black sides at the rear which meet in a 'V' at the back of the head. At distance, drakes can be mistaken for gulls; they are also rather small and can be surprisingly hard to spot against the water in certain light conditions.

In the British Isles Smew are annual winter visitors, usually in small numbers, prone to seasonal movements as they are driven from their ice-bound breeding areas in Scandinavia and Russia. Milder winters appear to be reducing this tendency, one reason perhaps that Smew are increasingly scarce visitors to our county. At their breeding grounds, Smew frequent tree-lined lakes and slow-flowing rivers, nesting in holes in trees. Wintering birds often also favour tree-lined bodies of water: Ravensthorpe has over the years been a reliable site, along with the northern arms of Pitsford Reservoir.

While wintering Smew may linger for several weeks at favoured sites, recent local records have often involved short-staying birds. That proved to be the case with these two: they stuck around long enough to delight local birders throughout the day, giving close views in continued bright sunshine, but by the afternoon they had split up and - apart from a brief view of a single bird two days later - they were not seen again.

One of the local-patch highlights of this winter: any sighting of a drake Smew is always welcome; and to see these two at close proximity in fine weather was something really special.

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COLD ASHBY NEWS

NEWS FROM THE MEMORIAL HALL

Curry & Bingo Night

Thank you to everyone who joined us at the end of January for our Curry & Bingo night. Special thanks to Gemma Sellers and Mandy Carson for making the curries and to Dave Harris for calling the all-important numbers. It was a great evening, and we are grateful for the large turnout of support. It was lovely to have some new visitors to the hall and we look forward to seeing them again.



Sunday Café

We were delighted to welcome Julie Grey from East Midlands Air Ambulance to our Sunday Café in March. Julie came to collect £700 that we made in memory of Chris and Darren Sellers at our Race Night in November. Thanks to everyone who came along to present the donation.



Cold Ashby Archive

The trustees of the Memorial Hall are collecting old village news cuttings, photos and any other memorabilia from Cold Ashby days gone by. If you have anything that we could have or re-photograph for the archive, please let Fiona or Mandy know. We will be holding a Heritage Open Day on Saturday August 30th so villagers can come and view our collection. More details about this will follow in future editions, but in the meantime please have a look in cupboards and drawers for anything that you may have that is interesting about our village history.

Skittles Knockout Championship

A fantastic evening was had by all who attended our 2025 Skittles knockout Championship. 32 people took part until Emma Oliver saw off all the competition and became champion. Congratulations to Emma and to everyone else who entered and made it such a fun occasion. Thank you to Mandy Carson and Gemma Sellers for making the Lasagnas and to Fiona Gunn-Stokes for organising the tournament.

Number 59 bus



Just a reminder that our twice weekly bus service is still in operation thanks to our Parish Council. The number 59 service runs to Market Harborough on Tuesday and Friday from the phone box at 10.00am and leaves from the bus station at 12.45. A single fare costs just £2.50 and concessions with bus passes are free. Thank you to all who regularly use this vital service.



Safari Supper

Thank you to all who joined the Safari Supper in February, a lovely evening was had by all and raised some much-needed funds for the church, the Memorial Hall and CAPFA.

COLD ASHBY NEWS



St Denys Church, Cold Ashby

Cordially invite you to an evening of Musical
Entertainment with the

Kettering Town Silver Band



Saturday 17th May 2025 at 7:30pm

Tickets £10 (includes Wine & Nibbles)

from Debbie 07794 179443

Cold Ashby Memorial Hall

presents:



Cold Ashby Merry Comrades May Day Reunion and Tea

Saturday 24th May @ 5PM

**Maypole dancing and tea included for
£5**

Please see Mandy or Fiona to book

Cold Ashby Memorial Hall Sunday Cafe



Join us for breakfast between
09:30-12pm

**Sunday 6th April
Sunday 4th May**

Bacon, Sausage, Egg rolls,
Toasties and cakes available to eat in
or takeaway

Cold Ashby Memorial presents



Join us for a fabulous, fun evening
compèred by our very own Peter Walton
Saturday 12th April @ 8pm

Maximum of 6 players per team.
(you can join a team on night if you
haven't one)

Hot Dogs or Burgers, onion rings & salad
available to preorder @ £5 served at
7:30pm

**Free entry, but all teams please
donate a raffle prize**

COLD ASHBY NEWS

COLD ASHBY EVENTS FOR APRIL AND MAY

Everyone is welcome to join us for the following events and residents' support will ensure that we are able to keep these important village facilities open and provide opportunities for entertainment, social interaction and keep the village pool and skittle teams going.

Date	Event	Place	Details
Sun 6 th April	Sunday Cafe	Memorial Hall	09:30-12:00pm
Sat 12 th April	Quiz Night	Memorial Hall	From 7:30pm (see poster)
Tues 22 nd April	Film Night	Pavilion	From 7:30pm £5 for cheese & wine
Sat 26 th April	Social Night	Memorial Hall	From 7:30pm
Sun 4 th May	Sunday Cafe	Memorial Hall	09:30-12:00pm
Sat 10 th May	Social Night	Memorial Hall	From 7:30pm
Sat 17 th May	Kettering Town Silver Band	St Denys Church	From 7:30pm (see poster)
Sat 24 th May	May Day Reunion Tea	Memorial Hall	From 5pm (see poster)
Tues 27 th May	Film Night	Pavilion	From 7:30pm £5 for cheese & wine

Pool nights some Mondays from 7.30pm at the Cold Ashby Playing Field Pavilion. Bar open. Skittles at Memorial Hall re-starts on Wednesdays in mid-May.

**No room in the garage
or the attic?**



SELF STORAGE

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A Fun-Filled Evening in the Village with Bangers and Mash

On a chilly February evening, our village came alive with a heartwarming community event that brought everyone together for a delicious evening of bangers and mash, topped off with laughter, great company, and a bit of friendly competition! The night kicked off with a true village effort - Sally, Joey, Sandy, Ross, and Glenys had all pitched in to prepare much of the meal at home before finishing up the final touches at the village hall. It was a lovely display of teamwork, with the aroma of sizzling sausages and creamy mashed potatoes filling the air, as everyone gathered in the hall to enjoy the fruits of their labour.

As the plates were filled with hearty bangers, peas and creamy mash, the mood was light and filled with laughter. People swapped stories, shared jokes, and dug in with smiles all around. The atmosphere was cozy and welcoming, a perfect reflection of the spirit of our village.

But the fun didn't stop at the dinner table! Glenys, put together a fun quiz that had everyone engaged and laughing in no time. Friendly competition filled the air, with everyone eager to answer (or sometimes just to make the others laugh with their guesses!).

By the end of the evening, everyone left with full stomachs, happy hearts, and memories of a wonderful time spent together. It was a reminder of the simple pleasures—good food, great company, and the joy of being part of a close-knit community. If you missed out on this event, don't worry! There will surely be more fun nights like this in the future. Until then, we'll be dreaming of those delicious bangers and mash!



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COTTESBROOKE

HALL & GARDENS

National Garden Scheme
Sunday 27th April 2pm - 5.30pm

Hall & Gardens open 1st May to 25th September
May & June: Weds & Thurs 2pm - 5.30pm
July, Aug & Sept: Thurs only 2pm - 5.30pm
Plus Bank Holiday Mondays (May - Sept) 2pm - 5.30pm

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COTTESBROOKE NEWS

Cottesbrooke Village Kitchen

Spring Vegetable Risotto

Ingredients

200g Arborio rice (risotto rice)	125ml dry white wine (optional)
1 tbs olive oil	1 ltr vegetable or chicken stock (kept warm)
1 small onion, finely chopped	50g grated parmesan cheese
2 cloves garlic, minced	30g butter
150g asparagus, chopped into bite size pieces	Fresh herbs (such as basil, parsley or mint) for garnish
150g peas, fresh or frozen	Salt and pepper to taste
1 medium courgette, diced	

Prepare the Vegetables:

Heat the olive oil in a large pan or skillet over medium heat. Add the chopped onion and garlic, cooking until softened (about 2-3 minutes). Add the asparagus, peas, and courgette to the pan and sauté for another 4-5 minutes until the vegetables are tender but still bright and vibrant.

Cook the Risotto:

Stir the Arborio rice into the pan with the vegetables and cook for 12 minutes until the rice is lightly toasted and coated in the olive oil. Add the Wine: If using, pour in the white wine and cook, stirring constantly until the wine is almost completely absorbed by the rice. Add Stock Gradually: Begin adding the warm stock, one ladleful at a time, stirring frequently. Wait until the liquid is mostly absorbed before adding the next ladleful of stock. Continue this process for 18-20 minutes, until the rice is creamy and cooked to your liking (it should be tender with a slight bite).

Finish the Risotto:

Once the rice is cooked, remove the pan from the heat and stir in the butter and Parmesan cheese until creamy. Season with salt and pepper to taste.

Serve:

Spoon the risotto into bowls and garnish with fresh herbs. For an extra pop of colour, you can sprinkle some additional grated Parmesan or lemon zest on top.

Sound Bath Evening

meditate, heal, and connect through listening



~£15pp (depending on numbers)

27th March

24th April

7pm

Cottesbrooke Village Hall

Contact: Sally
cottesbrookevhc@gmail.com

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Creaton Walkers

Despite the rain the Creaton Walking Group have managed to stay dry on their walks, well, it hasn't rained, but the ground has certainly been sodden and slippery!



The February walk was over the fields from East Haddon to Althorp and Holdenby and the group were delighted to welcome 2 new walkers and to have 3 very well-behaved dogs out with them. The food at the Red Lion afterwards was very welcome. In March the group met again at the Red Lion, but this time in Thornby and walked to West Haddon, Coton and Guilsborough before returning to enjoy the delights of Thornby's lovely pub. Walks are about 8 miles in length mainly over fields, so if you enjoy rambling across beautiful Northamptonshire come and join the group on the second Saturday of each month. We meet at Creaton lychgate at 10am.

Next walks are on:

Saturday 12th April

Saturday 10th May

Creaton Singers

The new year has been all change for the Creaton Singers with the arrival of their new musical director Jamie Milburn. The practices get off to an active start with entertaining warm up exercises causing much hilarity. This is followed by learning new songs and ending with a relaxing 10 minutes of well-known numbers. The group have been delighted to welcome new singers who have joined, following a couple of taster sessions.

Come and hear some of the new songs whilst enjoying a delicious cream tea at Creaton in Bloom on Sunday 1st June. Teas will be served in the URC and the Creaton Singers will be entertaining you at 2:30pm and again at 3:30pm

Creaton WI

We have some very interesting speakers booked for our forthcoming meetings, to which non-members are most welcome:



- April 9th Geoff Lambert will be accompanied by his medical detection dog to tell us all about these amazing, life-saving animals.
- June 11th Master Perfumer Beverley Bayne will speak on The Art of Perfumery. Beverley has worked on scents for famous brands including Penhaligon's and Jasper Conran.
- July 9th the charity, SERV-OBN, will give an insight into the wonderful work of their volunteer motorcyclists who provide a rapid response, out-of-hours courier service of blood, and other urgently needed products, to hospitals in four local counties, including Northamptonshire.

Meetings are in the United Reform Church starting at 7.30 p.m. For more information please contact President, Daphne Clark, 01604 505546 or email wicreaton@gmail.com.

St Michael and All Angels

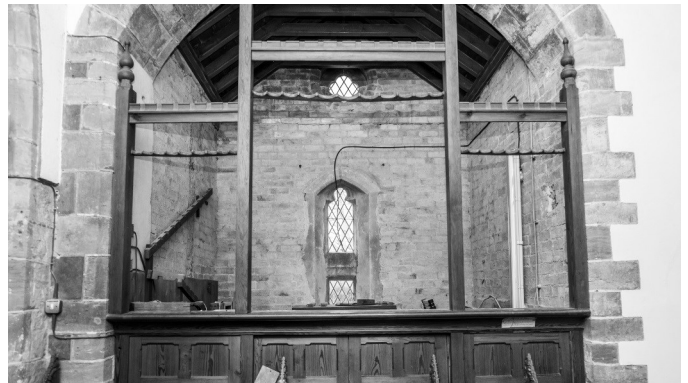
You may have noticed the huge pile of timber in the church yard! The builders working in the tower discovered that the floorboards and joists in the tower floor were in a very poor state and so have removed them. A new floor will be built with oak floorboards, and this should last for many decades.

The pine panels on the walls of the tower have also been removed because they were badly damaged by damp. The architect has advised us leave exposed the lower part of the tower walls to allow the stone to breathe. The stonework will be cleaned and re-pointed with lime mortar. Once this work is complete new oak cupboards will be installed and the oak and glass tower screen erected.



The restoration work needed in the tower is much more extensive than we had anticipated, and the PCC is extremely grateful to the Garfield Weston Foundation and the Bernard Sunley Foundation for their grants towards this work; and to the late Simon Bown for his generous bequest to help us complete this project. The PCC apologises that we have to keep the church locked whilst the builders are working in the tower.

The pipe organ has been dismantled and removed to the workshop of Cousans Organs Ltd for restoration. We are really looking forward to hearing our restored organ played for our Easter services.



The organ having been removed

CREATON NEWS

Over The Counter - at Creaton Village Shop

Well, it has been a busy start to the year, what with Valentine's Day, St David's Day and Pancake Day all coming fairly quickly. No sooner has one celebration cleared the shelves, then the next one is ready to take over. And it is not just these 'big' events that we have to keep our eye on. If you have been following the Shop on Facebook you will see that we have been celebrating Volunteer Week featuring some of our excellent voluntary staff, as well as the start of Crufts, and National Cereal Day (and yes, it is apparently a thing).

So, follow Creaton Village Shop on Facebook for inspirational ideas and impress your friends and family with a meal based on not-so-well-known celebrations. For well-known however, Easter is approaching fast. If you are looking for an Easter gift or want to cook something special, we can help. And have you tried the hot cross buns? They are delicious with butter or cheese.

To add to the onward march of Spring, flowers return to the Shop,



supplied by Sue McGlasson. As the Shop stands on Sue's land, we must beat almost everybody for air miles for some of them!

Volunteers

Volunteer Week saw many of our volunteers photographed whilst working. John Palmer (left) is one of the longest serving and also organises the rota to ensure that there is someone behind the shop counter from 7:30am to 6pm Monday to Saturday, and 8am to midday on Sundays. It is fun and you get to work with some great people.

Why not come for a taster session? You can ask anyone working in the shop for more details on how to become a volunteer.

One of our younger helpers, Edie, gives us her view on volunteering:

"Hello - my name is Edie and I've been volunteering at Creaton Shop for just over a year. I started off volunteering for my Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award and enjoyed it so much that I came back for my Silver.

So, what do I actually do?

Well, once a week, I do an early morning shift baking all the bread and pastries for our Bakery Section here at the shop. If I get a spare moment I also help to stock the shelves and tidy up the storeroom.

What have I gained out of it?

I have really benefited from my volunteering. I have gained lots of confidence from working with new people; improved my teamwork skills and gathered experience that will be very useful when I look for paid employment.

What is working in the shop actually like?

The atmosphere in the shop is very friendly and warm. The customers enjoy their shopping experience and are often found chatting with the till attendants. All of my fellow volunteers are very kind and made me feel welcome when I first started to volunteer.

How do you get to become a volunteer?

Whether you're doing your D of E like me or just looking for a way to help your community, Creaton Shop would love to have you. Just pop into the store and have a chat with one of our staff who will share everything you need to know about how to get started.

We can't wait to welcome you to our team of volunteers!"

Why not come for a taster session? You can ask anyone working in the shop for more details on how to become a volunteer.

A black and white promotional graphic for Jomidar Lounge. At the top is a circular logo featuring a crown and a stylized figure. Below the logo, the text reads 'JOMIDAR LOUNGE' in a large, bold font, followed by 'Fine Indian Restaurant' in a smaller font. The central text says 'Book Now For Easter' in a large, bold font. There are four decorative, patterned Easter eggs arranged around the central text. At the bottom, it says 'RESERVATIONS OR ORDER ONLINE' followed by the website 'WWW.JOMIDARLOUNGE.CO.UK' and the phone number 'T: 01604-505205 / 505305'. The very bottom line of the graphic provides the address: '6 Welford Road, Creaton, Northampton, England, NN6 8NH, United Kingdom'.

CREATON NEWS

HISTORY NOTES

Friends of St Michael History Group

April sees the last of the 24/25 season of Thursday evening talks. This final one, on April 17th, is entitled 'What have the Puritans ever done for us?' by John Perkins. Planning is already under way for the new season which starts in September.



CHANGE OF DATE

Friends of St Michael's
History Group
Cake & Coffee Morning

Featuring **The Lie of the Land**, a display of the history of the lands of Creaton

Come and meet your friends for a natter over a cuppa!

- WI Craft Items
- Beeswax Candles
- Perennial plant stall
- A splendid raffle

Saturday April 12th
10:00 to 12:00
Creaton Village Hall

Heritage Group

Work on the history of the Church and Creaton continues apace. The Church has been closed for much of March due to the work going on in the tower but it has given some the opportunity to see parts of the building stripped back that may not have seen light of day for a good century and a half. For pictures and information look at the Creaton Heritage web pages: creatonheritage.wordpress.com.

Creaton Old Pictures

This Facebook group has photographs from different periods. An interesting pair of pictures were two of Creaton Cricket Club from the 1950s. Below one of them is reproduced. Can you add any names? Any match memories?



Bottom row, l-r, 2nd is Eric Pember; 3rd John Pember; 4th Alf Horne; 5th Frank Trussell. Middle row, far right, is John Wright.

Creaton URC

You are warmly welcome to join us for our Sunday Worship and Junior Church.

Sunday	April	
6th 11am	Morning Worship	Jon Heard
13th 11am	Service with Communion for Palm Sunday	Rev Geoff Townsend
18th 10am	Worship for Good Friday	Marion Heard
20th 11am	Service with Communion for Easter Sunday	Andrew Bodsworth
27th 11am	Morning Worship	Rev Geoff Townsend
	May	
4th 11am	Morning Worship	Jon Heard
11th 11am	Morning Worship with Communion	Rev Jay Phelps
18th 11am	Morning Worship	Rev Geoff Townsend
25th 11am	Morning Worship	Suzie James

Poppies coffee shop is open every Wednesday and Friday from 10am to 12 noon. You will be very welcome.

Poppies will be closed on Friday April 18th

Crib Nib

22nd February.
I became a pensioner. Family dinner at the Red Lion.



The only card I need,
Is the Ace of Spades.

CREATON PARISH COUNCIL

Creaton Parish Council Contact Details

You can contact our Parish Clerk for Creaton Parish Council, Katrina Jones on creatonpc@gmail.com.

Agendas and minutes of meetings are available on the Parish Council website www.creaton.org.uk and are also posted on the noticeboard on Violet Lane. [We also have a Facebook page.](#)

Parish Council Meeting dates:

Meetings are held bi-monthly on the first Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm at Creaton Village Hall. The next meeting date is 6th May 2025.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held at 7pm on Tuesday 6th May. All residents are welcome to attend and village groups are invited to send a report by email to the Parish Clerk or give a report on the evening.

West Northants Council Consultations

West Northants Council hold regular consultations on a range of issues. Full details of current consultations can be found online at: <https://westnorthants.citizenspace.com/>

Planning Applications

Please look on the West Northants Council website for full details of all Planning Applications:

<https://www.westnorthants.gov.uk/planning-applications-and-enforcement/view-and-comment-planning-application>

Fix My Street

West Northamptonshire Council are responsible for highway issues such as potholes, fly tipping and grit bins. You can report concerns directly to them on the Fix My Street website:

<https://www.fixmystreet.com/>

The Green

The Parish Council has received reports of vehicles causing damage to the Green. Please can you be mindful when driving in this area not to cause damage to the grass and if you see any large vehicle cause damage please obtain their details so this can be followed up with them.

May Parish Council Elections

All Parish Councils across the West Northamptonshire area will have elections in May 2025. If you are interested in standing as a Parish Councillor please contact the Parish Clerk or West Northamptonshire Council for further information. If less applicants apply than there are seats on the Parish Council the election will not be contested.

What does the Parish Council do?

The Parish Council is a local authority which is the level of government closest to the community with West Northamptonshire Council being the level above it. It plays a vital role in representing the local community in matters such as planning consultations. It is not a religious body and has no political party affiliations.

Creaton Parish Council is responsible for the following assets and services within the Parish:

- * Mowing of verges, The Green and the churchyard;
- * Maintenance of the churchyard (which is owned by the Church but for which responsibility was transferred to the Parish Council);
- * Maintenance of The Green (which is owned by the Parish Council);
- * Street lighting;
- * Trees in the churchyard and on The Green;
- * Benches, the Parish Noticeboard and litter bins;
- * The defibrillator;
- * Speed Display Signs;
- * Litter picking equipment;
- * Burials.



GUILSBOROUGH NEWS

THE FUTURE OF GUILSBOROUGH PLAYING FIELD

Results of the Village meeting on 29TH January 2025 at the Village Hall

We had a good turnout of around forty villagers. A full discussion was had over an hour and a half with many contributions.

Just to recap:

- The field is located past the school on the West Haddon Road and currently run by only six volunteers.
- It's got a quality cricket wicket and several football pitches in seven acres.
- It's used by over 2,000 juniors and adults to play football and cricket.
- Villagers walk their dogs, knock a football around, use the nets and the exercise equipment and just enjoy the fresh air.
- The Association is a charity and under its charter any radical change means we have the duty to consult the whole village, so we are inviting you to get involved and find out more.

Over the last few years, it has proved harder and harder to raise the essential £12,000 needed (maintenance, insurance etc.) so we are looking to the Guilsborough community to help, or help us explore what this land should be used for.



Several of the current committee are also due to step down soon after many years of service, so more volunteers are required to help us in the future...whatever the future maybe!

We have had several approaches from individuals and organisations interested in helping.

However, **we need more volunteers to specifically help with fund raising.**

Here are some of the ideas with which we need help: Hollowell Steam Rally – Bottle Stall, Bar in the Village Hall, Race Night, Summer Games Bar & BBQ, Village Lottery, Burns Night.

Come Along and Support our Pop up Pub, any other fund raising ideas welcome! Contact Freddie@delisle.co.uk



Pop Up Pub

Guilsborough Village Hall
Friday April 11th from 7pm
Beer, Wine, Soft Drinks and Light Bites

Come along and enjoy The Local Pub Experience in your Village Hall
Raising funds for GPFA

£14,000 Uplift for the Guilsborough Village Hall Stage

The Guilsborough Village Hall stage lighting rigging and other structures had not been updated for at least 50 years, were 'past their sell-by date', and didn't meet modern safety standards. In stepped Tom Harper, a Guilsborough resident who happens to run a local company 'Unusual Rigging' and has been involved in the local drama group 'GMADS' in the past. Tom arranged for his expert team to install new rigging structures above the stage and in the main hall, worth £8,000, for free! Unusual Rigging, based at Bugbrooke, are the UK's most experienced provider of rigging and stage engineering solutions, for example serving most of the London Theatres, and several Olympic Games.

Unusual's generous donation allowed the Village Hall/GMADS to secure a further £4,200 grant for a new sound system, wiring and curtains; so another big "thank you" goes to the Northamptonshire Community Foundation's Compton Fund. GMADS, Guilsborough Parish Council and Village Hall together put in another £1,000 cash.

There is now a fantastic theatre stage with a superb PA and sound system, perhaps the best in the Uplands Area, all ready for the next 50 years. The award-winning drama group GMADS performed three nights of the comedy "Vice Versa" in the hall to about 200 theatre-goers at the end of this March. The stage and Bluetooth speakers are now available to anyone who wishes to book the hall – providing a much better experience

for everyone.

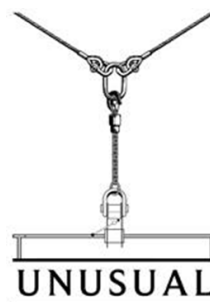
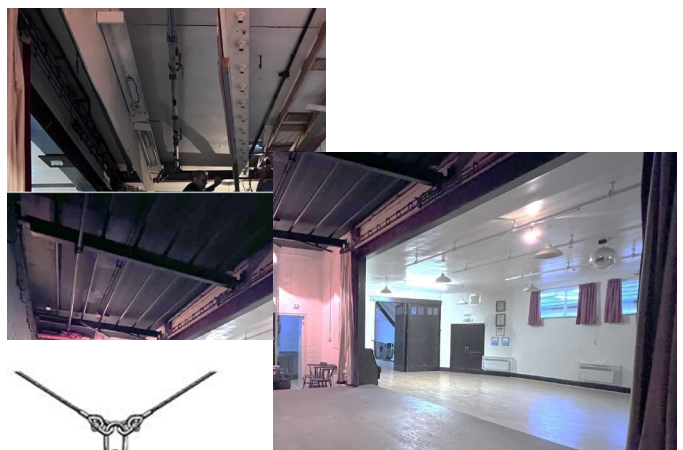
Want to hire the hall? For quizzes, parties and other events and classes contact Guilsborough Village Hall:

info@guilsboroughvh.uk or 07342 382706

Want to join GMADS? Contact Amanda Miller

amanda.mummy.miller@googlemail.com (07508 058998) or David O'Neil (07801 700909).

Facebook: search 'GMADSAmateurDrama'.



GUILSBOROUGH NEWS



From the Headteacher

So far, our Primary School Spring Term has been filled with lots of exciting activities and learning. We were very proud of our children who took part in all of our sporting events and tournaments this term we added

even more to our trophy cabinet!! Thank you Niall at Pacesetters Sport for supporting these events and also for the super PE sessions that have taken place throughout the Spring Term.

Our visit before the half term break to St Etheldreda Church put a smile on lots of children's faces for our end of half term service. The children sang beautifully and listened so well to Revd. Cecily during the service. It was joy to be part of.

Year 5 completed their trip to the Rock UK Frontier Centre for an exciting PDET Maths adventure day. They took part in many challenges and all came back to school bursting with problem solving strategies. It was a super day enjoyed by all. Our Safer Internet Day was full of information and all classes shared their learning of how to stay safe online with support from our Digital Leaders.

We would like to say a huge thank you for our Valentine non-uniform and cake sale money donations. The children all had a fun day and thank you to our wonderful staff for making lots of delicious cakes and cookies (which were all either sold or eaten by 3:30 that day).

Over the next few months we have a number of other events coming up, including World Book Day, Seasonal Walk, Parents evening, Science day and Year R/I Easter Parade. Information on these event will be communicated in the near future.

We really are looking forwards to a super Spring term now and please remember, if you need any information about what's happening at Guilsborough Primary we have lots of information on our website www.guilsboroughprimary.co.uk or you can keep up to speed or Follow us on X (aka Twitter)

[@GuilsboroughPri](https://twitter.com/GuilsboroughPri) / X and Instagram account [instagram.com/guilsboroughprimarieschool](https://www.instagram.com/guilsboroughprimarieschool)



Welcomes new and existing members from ALL VILLAGES for the 2025 season! A friendly club, playing social tennis.

Club play is on Tuesday nights at 6pm (when evenings are light enough), and Sundays at 10am.

Subscriptions are due on 1st April 2025. For more information contact Graham on 07894 424328

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Compass Energy Donation

We have received £913.30p from Compass Energy which will be spent for the benefit of the village. This donation is generated by Guilsborough residents purchasing their heating oil from Compass Energy and saying they're part of the Guilsborough oil buying group.

Local Elections

At the time of writing this, we do not know if there will be a Parish Council election on Thursday 1st May or not. It will depend on how many candidates stand for election and as we currently have two vacancies it may well be that we don't have an election. If you have an interest in standing though please contact any councillors for more information. There will definitely be elections for WNC though, so do check that you're registered to vote.

Road Safety

Speeding traffic is still an issue, unfortunately. All areas of our village suffer with congestion several times a day which would lead you to think traffic speeds would be reduced but it seems some drivers presume if they're going fast enough they will be given way to whether they have right of way or not, which could be defined as dangerous driving. If you witness any speeding or dangerous driving, please make a note of registration, make of vehicle and time of day and let us know so we can put together a case for enforcement. This applies to HGV's using our village as a short cut as well.

Parish Meeting

Our Parish meeting will be held on Monday 12th May, time to be confirmed via The Guilsborough Hub and Parish Council website (www.Guilsborough-pc.gov.uk) and notice board.



GUILSBOROUGH FRIENDS

We are a local friendly group for ladies and gentlemen, usually meeting at 7.30pm, at Guilsborough Village Hall, the second Thursday of the month.

During the summer months we arrange outside events.

Weather permitting.

Social activities include

- Guest speakers
- Garden visits
- Meals out
- Visits to local places of interest and much more

£3 per meeting, unless otherwise stated, which is used to cover refreshments, costs and make charitable donations.

We look forward to welcoming new members.

Our Programme for the next 3 months:

Thursday 10th April, talk by Northamptonshire Domestic Abuse Department about the work they do and to receive a cheque for the money raised at the Charity Supper.

May meeting, to be arranged.

Thursday 12th June, visit to 3 local gardens, which, are opening for the first time for the National Garden Scheme.

For further information contact:

Janet Minney T 01604 740640

Elizabeth Southgate T 01604 740064



MMM



Monday Morning Meet

Guilsborough Village Hall
9 – 11am every Monday (excluding Bank Holidays)
All welcome, baby – OAPs.
£2.50 per Adult, Children Free
Meet for a chat, knit, hot drink & cake.

Good Friday April 18th MMM with
Children's crafts and Hot Cross Buns
(No MMM on Easter Monday)

For more information contact
Janet 01604 740640



Days gone by, a snippet of Guilsborough's history

In the distant past we had various plagues, smallpox and other killer diseases. These included a cholera outbreak caused by contaminated water



in Northampton in 1638, where 665 people died. Recently I was researching Medical Officer Annual Reports for the Brixworth Area (including our local villages), going back over 100 years and some surprising revelations resulted.

In 1898, in the days before antibiotics, there was a major outbreak of scarlet fever in Guilsborough and surrounding villages. This disease can be fatal.

Also in 1898, there was an epidemic of diphtheria in Guilsborough spreading to Coton, Creton and Holdenby. It was fatal 5% to 10% of the time. Other scarlet fever epidemics hit again in 1904 and 1926. In 1904 there were 1,127 cases in the County, and 7 in Guilsborough where the then Grammar School was closed for weeks.

In 1933 there was a drought leading to a severe water shortage in Guilsborough, which had no piped water for the then 127 houses. There was only one public well with a hand pump down Nortoft, and 50 private wells (where are they all now? – I know of about 10). By 1954 only 144 houses of the then 169 houses had piped water. In 1948 Guilsborough Grammar School's well was contaminated with faeces, and needed chlorination.

In 1938, nine cottages in Neaton Lane, Nortoft were demolished as unfit to live in, as they had just two shared outside wells, no electricity, and only outside toilets.

In 1946, just after the war, 43 houses in Guilsborough had minor defects, 15 needed structural repair, and nine houses were unfit for human habitation and had to be pulled down.

Also in 1938 Hollowell reservoir was opened, providing clean water and allowed piped water to start to be put into homes.

In recent years water companies have failed to stop sewage going into streams, however in 2023 Anglian Water finished a new £4m storm water storage system and nutrient removal facility at its water recycling centre at Creton Road in Hollowell.

We still have some issues, but health is certainly better now than it was in the past!

David O'Neil is the Chair of Guilsborough History Society, which can be found on Facebook.

Guilsborough resident Julia Hart's great grandmother Alice Dunkley (nee Bounds), who lived in Neaton Lane, returning from the public well in Nortoft.

Guilsborough resident Julia Hart's great grandmother Alice Dunkley (nee Bounds), who lived in Neaton Lane, returning from the public well in Nortoft.



LONG BUCKBY LIBRARY & HUB

OUR MONTHLY FILMS

Tuesday, 29th April, 7.30pm: the film will be **Gladiator II**. 'Ridley Scott returns to direct again following the legacy of his original classic Roman epic. Years after witnessing the death of Maximus at the hands of his uncle, Lucius must enter the Colosseum after the powerful emperors of Rome conquer his home. With rage in his heart and the future of the empire at stake, he looks to the past to find the strength and honour needed to return the glory of Rome to its people.'

Tuesday, 27th May is Conclave. 'Based on the best-selling Robert Harris novel, Ralph Fiennes stars as Cardinal Lawrence, tasked with one of the world's most secretive and ancient events - selecting a new pope. Finding himself at the centre of a conspiracy, he discovers a secret that could shake the very foundation of the Roman Catholic Church.'

All our films start at 7.30pm. Doors open at 7pm. Tickets are £7 from the library (NN6 7QB) and the Peephole in Long Buckby High Street. Refreshments including ice creams available.

OUR MUSICAL EVENTS

Thursday 3rd April, 7.30-9pm (doors open at 7.00): **Cut-a-Caper**, the acclaimed band, which gave us a wonderful evening on Thomas Hardy last year, is back to provide more entertainment – this time about the Northamptonshire poet, John Clare. With musical accompaniment, members of the band will talk about his life and work. And apparently John Clare liked to scrape a fiddle! You'll have an opportunity to learn a dance – only if you wish! Tickets are £7 from the library and Peephole in the High Street. Refreshments will be available.

Thursday 24th April, 7.30-9pm (doors open at 7.00): our resident **Long Buckby Ukulele Group** are with us for another evening of music. Come along with your friends (or just come along!) to this informal and friendly café style event. Refreshments available. Free

entry but donations welcomed please.

Save the date. Saturday 17th May, together with Long Buckby Community Centre, we hope to have **jazz** performed by students from NMPAT. The event will be held at the Community Centre - more details on our website soon!

ART EXHIBITIONS IN OUR REFRESHMENT AREA

In **April**, we will have watercolours and acrylics from Long Buckby artists Ann Whiting and Joy Clues, while there will be an exhibition from local artist Simon Jones in **May**.

FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS

We have lots of facilities for children: books for all ages (tinies to young adults), weekly Stay and Play and Rhymetimes, and activities during the school holidays. This **Easter** holiday, there will be **craft sessions** for children (3-9 years) on Tuesday 8th April and Tues 15th April, 2.30pm-3.30pp. £2.50 a child. Just come along – no need to book.

If you are a young adult and interested in **volunteering** with the library, please talk to your school and they will contact us to see what opportunities are available. Also do come and look at our bookshelves for things of interest to you.

NEW VENTURES

We are hosting outreach sessions from **Citizens Advice**. More information about this will be on our website or please ask at the library. You can now obtain **caddy bags** from the library (a roll of 30 for £1). This is a West Northamptonshire scheme to encourage food waste recycling. For all our library services and activities for children and adults, please see the **What's On** calendar on our website: <https://buckbylibraryhub.org/calendar/>; info@buckbylibraryhub.org; 01327 842591; NN6 7QT.

It's free to join the library - all welcome!



Wendy Yvonne

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HOLLOWELL & TEETON NEWS

The Jane Letts Trust – the tale of a Victorian Laundress and her Joiner Brother

You may have seen the annual advert in this magazine, for the Miss Jane Letts Charity; a small trust fund set up in 1941 and overseen by three Hollowell Parish Councillors. Jan, Emily and Viv from Hollowell have done some research. The Charity's original objective was to purchase coal or blankets for distribution amongst 'poor widows and other deserving poor' of the parish.

In the 1990s, the terms were amended to enable the Trust to contribute to electricity bills. But who was Jane Letts and who set up the Trust?

A search of the census records established Mary Ann Jane Letts, known as Jane, was born in Guilsborough in 1856. Her parents were James William Letts, a carpenter from Guilsborough, and Elizabeth from Wellingborough. She had a brother James and a sister Sarah.

Jane and her sister lived together in Guilsborough. Jane was a laundress but also an employer. Then, some point during the 1890s, Jane moved to Rickmansworth to work as a laundrymaid at The Lodge, Loudwater. We have not been able to discover why she left Guilsborough, but it seems a step down from being an employer to being a laundrymaid. Her death certificate shows she died in 1899 in Guys Hospital, London, of Pernicious Anaemia, aged 43.

Of James William Boothe Letts' life we have been able to establish the following. He was a lodger, living first in Northampton and then in Kingsthorpe and worked as a joiner. He became known as 'Boothe Letts'.

In 1915, aged about 57, he retired to Abthorpe. He lived in a cottage at the end of the village variously called Letts Cottage, Heggs Cottage, Brackley Road Cottage, Sheppard House and now Grafton View.

He did carpentry jobs around the village and was known to be a spiritualist. He ate and drank well but always pleaded poverty and when he grew ill, tried to get public assistance with his care and was eventually taken in by a local nurse in the village, who cared for him during his last 10 days.

An elderly resident of Abthorpe recalled that 'Old Mr Letts' kept the house in good order, doing all the repairs himself. The orchard was spectacular, and he had a huge pear tree near the road and encouraged the children of the village to help themselves to the fallen pears.



He would take the bus into Northampton on Saturdays to carry out business deals, have lunch/dinner in town and catch the late bus back. The local postmaster was also sending off telegrams for him ordering the sale and purchase of stocks and shares.

She said that it was not a secret in the village that he was wealthy, but he dressed more like a tramp. She could also recall his sister Sarah. She was a Medium and a number of people visited her when their family members 'passed over'. Old Mr Letts was devastated when his sister Sarah died and wore her cape forever afterwards.

James William Boothe Letts died on 16 December 1940, aged 82, and his death was recorded at nearby Towcester.

To everyone's astonishment, his probate record showed he had left £13,948.

He left all his tools to the Dr Barnardos Homes, £500 was to be used to set up the Jane Letts Charity and £3000 was to endow a trust for three beds at Northampton General Hospital, the beds to be placed on the middle floor of Grafton Ward with brass plates to say "This bed is endowed by James William Boothe Letts in memory of his mother Elizabeth Sykes Letts" - but these were lost until they turned up in a cupboard amongst a collection of 73 more plaques.

The rest of the estate was to be divided between Guy's Hospital and the Salvation Army. So, we learnt a lot about the Letts family but are left still with big questions. None of the three siblings ever lived in Hollowell, but all three are buried and commemorated in Hollowell Churchyard.

Why, having lived in Guilsborough all their lives and appearing to be doing well, did both girls move away in the 1890s?

Why, in 1933, did James Letts make a will in aid of the poor of Hollowell?

What caused him to specify in his will, that no one from the church could be a Trustee? Was there a serious disagreement with the Guilsborough Vicar? Was it because of his interest in spiritualism? We remain intrigued by this interesting character.

Research by - Jan Craig, with assistance from Emily Curtis & Viv Benjamin.

See left Wool-worked pictures donated by James Letts to Northampton Art Gallery pictured here with Emily, Jan and Viv



HOLLOWELL & TEETON NEWS

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Village Hall Quiz Night

After relaxing during one of the first sunny days of the year, the pace picked up considerably one evening in early March, when Hollowell residents arrived at the Village Hall with competition in their hearts.

A brilliantly devised quiz tested the wits of the teams, all of whom represented different areas of the village.

Teams battled it out over six rounds on varied subjects: London Underground stations, famous Davids and a North to South geography round.

However, by far the most wonderful round was when Quiz Master and professional trumpet player, Paul Mourant took up his instrument to give us live excerpts of pop songs, operatic arias and television themes, in a Name That Tune round. At one stage the whole room was singing along under its collective breath to Bohemian Rhapsody. The enthusiastic applause was very well deserved!

As the evening drew to a close, The Hillbillies drew ahead to end the evening victorious. Most importantly a wonderful evening was had by all thanks to the efforts of the organisers, question setters and the multi-talented quiz master!



The winning team The Hillbillies



Please join us for our next Village Hall event, the Big Breakfast on **Saturday 26th April** 9.30 to 12 noon - hot filled rolls, homemade cake, tea and coffee

We are also keen to add some fresh faces to the Village Hall Management Committee. We meet about once every 6 weeks to plan events and take care of the management of the hall, and occasionally eat curry. If you are interested in finding out more, or helping away way, please contact Hannah Oswin: oswinhannah@gmail.com.

Hollowell Lent Lunch

Hollowell will be holding a Lent Lunch on Saturday 12th April in the Village Hall from 12 o'clock.

A lunch of soup, cheese and cake will be served to support the Church and WaterAid. This is a great opportunity for people from different villages to meet together during the period of Lent. We would suggest a donation of £8.

Please let Gill Brown know if you will be coming; she can be reached on 07833 321448.

It will be lovely to see you there.

HOLLOWELL & TEETON NEWS

HOLLOWELL VILLAGE HALL

Big Breakfast

SATURDAY 26TH APRIL
9.30 to 12 noon

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AND SAUSAGE ROLLS; TEA,
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THORNBY NEWS

ST. HELENS CHURCH, THORNBY



SATURDAY 12TH APRIL 2025

AT 7:30 PM INCLUDES REFRESHMENTS

TICKETS £10

Contact. Paul 07545 929639

Barbara 01604 740505



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As I write this, my thoughts turn to preparations for Lent and Easter. Lent, a significant season in the Church's calendar, mirrors the 40 days Jesus spent in the wilderness, as described in the Bible. It is a time of reflection and preparation—an opportunity to pause, look inward, and engage in a kind

of spiritual and mental spring cleaning. Symbolically, the Church embraces simplicity and solemnity during this time, removing flowers and decorations and streamlining parts of the liturgy to help us focus on Jesus' ministry and suffering. For me, Lent always deepens my appreciation of the joy of Easter when it arrives.

Many of you will know that in the early Church, Lent began after Shrove Tuesday—better known today as Pancake Day. This was traditionally a time to clear the larder of fats and sugars, marked by a feast before entering the simplicity of Lent. Over time, this practice evolved into the custom of giving up indulgences like chocolate, biscuits, or alcohol. A few years ago, I reconsidered my

own Lenten practice. I realised that giving something up—didn't necessarily bring me closer to God. Instead, I decided to take something on: reading a book, joining a Lent study group, or engaging in a spiritual discipline that would enrich my faith.

This year, during Lent we will be studying together, learning through The Prayer Course. All are welcome to join in with this – please email revallisontwigg@gmail.com for more information.

Lent also carries with it the quiet promise of spring. As the season unfolds, snowdrops, crocuses, and daffodils begin to break through the soil, adding splashes of colour to our winter-weary gardens. Their emergence is a reminder that new life is on the way.

As Lent begins, I pray that we all find moments to pause, reflect, and perhaps do a little spring-cleaning in our own lives—preparing our hearts for the glory of Easter.

With prayers for you all,

Reverend Allison

Lent Lunches

Guilsborough's event in March was at the Village Hall and those who attended enjoyed some delicious home made soups with crusty bread followed by a choice of cheese and biscuits. The event raised £153 for the church and a raffle raised £60 for The Leprosy Mission.

Hollowell will be holding a Lent Lunch on **Saturday 12th April** in the Village Hall from 12 o'clock. A lunch of soup, cheese and cake will be served to support the Church and WaterAid. Please let Gill Brown know if you will be coming; she can be reached on 07833 321448.



Brunch@11 is a chance for a great hot breakfast, proper coffee and newspapers, and activities for the children, followed by a short informal service.

11 am Sundays, at Guilsborough Village Hall:
18th May

Find us on Facebook to find out more or to get in touch:
www.facebook.com/UplandsGroupChurches



Worship for All is an informal, all-age service, with plenty for children to get involved in, and which always starts with coffee & homemade cake.

Next services, always at 11 am: April 6th Spratton, April 27th Ravensthorpe, May 4th Spratton and May 25th Ravensthorpe.

St Michael's Creaton is currently closed for building works. It is hoped that it will be open by Easter. For more information contact the Uplands team:

Allison Twigg, Rector, tel: 01604 846099,

revallisontwigg@gmail.com,

Caroline Burnett, Associate Priest, tel: 01604 328629

CHURCH ROTA

Uplands Group of Churches Service Planner April and May 2025											
	6 th April Lent 5	13 th April Palm Sunday	17 th April Maundy Thursday	18 th April Good Friday	20 th April Easter Day	27 th April Easter 2	4 th May Easter 3	11 th May Easter 4 APCM	18 th May Easter 5	25 th May Easter 6	29 th May Ascension Day
	Purple	Red	White	Red	White/Gold	White/Gold	White/Gold	White/Gold	White/Gold	White/Gold	White/Gold
Cold Ashby		10.00am Group Service	7.30pm Ravensthorpe Holy Communion	2.00pm Gulfsborough Stations of the Cross	9.30 BCP Com	9.30am BCP Com		10.00am Group Service plus APCM		9.30am BCP Com	9.00am Spratton Holy Com
Cottesbrooke	11.00am BCP Com	Cold Ashby			11.00 BCP Com		11.00am BCP Com	Gulfsborough			
Creaton	9.30am BCP Com				9.30 CW Com		9.30am BCP Com		9.30am CW Com		
Gulfsborough	11.00am CW Com				9.30 CW Com	9.30am CW Com	11.00am CW Com		Brunch @ 11 Village Hall 6.00pm Evensong	9.30am BCP Com	
Hollowell					11.00am CW Com	11.00am CW Com				11.00am CW Com	
Ravensthorpe	8.30am BCP Com				9.30am CW Com	11.00am WFA	8.30am BCP Com		9.30am CW Com	11.00am WFA	
Spratton	11.00am WFA				6.00am Dawn Service	11.00am CW Com	11.00am WFA		8.30am BCP Com	11.00am CW Com	
Thornbly	9.30am BCP Com				9.30am BCP Com		9.30am BCP Com				

Compline Monday 14th April at Hollowell, Tuesday 15th April at Thornbly and Wednesday 16th April at Creaton. 7.00pm

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Adult Learn to Sail 2025

COURSE DATES:

Sat 3rd and Sun 4th May
 Sat 31st May and Sun 1st June
 Sat 28th June and Sat 5th July
 Sat 26th and Sun 27th July
 Sat 20th and Sun 21st September

RYA Levels 1 and 2 available on most dates.

Check online for booking details, scan the QR code to go direct to the page.



Or for more information contact Andrea King on 07920 107903 or email: andrea.r.king@gmail.com



Would you like to learn a new skill, or build your children's confidence on the water? Perhaps you sailed as a child but have been too busy since? Why not consider watersports at your local family friendly sailing club?

At Hollowell Sailing Club we offer sailing, stand-up paddleboarding and Model Radio Yachting. Hollowell Scullers also operate on the reservoir and can offer separate memberships.

Come along and see what is available. Have an informal tour with one of our committee members, look at our equipment and even try out a short sailing session. We will try to answer any questions you may have about getting on the water as a beginner or more advanced sailor.

Open Mornings for ages 8 to 88 on **Saturday 10th May** and Saturday 21st June. These are free of charge, but booking is essential. For more info visit: <https://hollowellsc.org.uk/openday.html>

Alternatively, sign up for any of the two-day Introduction to Sailing courses on offer.

Adult dates, more info, see advert top left or visit: hollowellsc.org.uk/train-adult-dinghy.html

Junior dates, more info, contact Jenny Sturt on email: sail-train@hollowellsc.org.uk

Visit hollowellsc.org.uk for more information.



All our RYA adult courses last 2 days and cost £100 for members or £175 for non-members



The Saxon Spires Patient Participation Group is a collaborative team of Patients and Practice Staff, including GPs and practice Management.

Our meetings are held quarterly and alternate between Brixworth and Guilsborough Surgeries. We meet to review issues and identify ways of assisting the practice in its effort to improve the services available.

The next meeting will be held at Guilsborough Surgery on **Wednesday 14th May** at 6pm. New members are always welcome. For more information drop us an email on ssppg2022@gmail.com or phone 01604 880552.

ALPHABETICAL ADVERTISERS

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Courses for would-be animators & games developers, and workshops on art and exercise, all at Rugby's Percival Guildhouse

These are among 18 new offerings at the adult education centre which has been combining learning and fun for 100 years. Also new are several additional well-being courses and introductory foreign language courses. Courses vary in length, with many new courses taking place in the evening. Full details are available at www.percival-guildhouse.co.uk or phone: 01788 542467 between 9am-3.30pm on weekdays.