



Cottingham and Middleton News

December 2011

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With the festive season nearly upon us, I'd like to thank everyone who has supported the newsletter this year. In

particular, a big thanks to my guest correspondents Andy Gilgrist and Steph Brown, and to Del Robertson, Irene Beadsworth and all the people who help get the newsletter to your door. We couldn't do this without you!

Don't forget, if you want to join the village email list to keep up to date with news and events, please contact me on the email address below.

And finally, I'd like to wish all villagers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Regards,

Jane Smith, Editor

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Next issue: February 2012



Henry makes the grade

Henry Hudson of Church Street, Cottingham has achieved a merit in his Grade 5



electric guitar examination, thanks to a lot of hard work and a grant from the village youth club.

Henry, who is hoping to progress to grade 8 on his guitar, would like to thank the youth club and his tutor Owen Edwards of 'All Out Guitar' for their support. Henry is pictured here with Youth Club Secretary Dave Swallow.

Rural days of action

Local residents recently joined the Rural Safer Communities Team (SCT) and Corby Borough Council in partnership with the Probation Community Payback team and Northants Fire Service for three 'days of action' in the villages.

And what a lot was done! The team collected 18 bags of rubbish and repainted four benches and the Middleton finger road sign. The mobile police unit was on hand offering crime prevention advice and there were early morning and evening dog fouling patrols. Speed check signs were also installed on Corby Road.

Youngsters from Cottingham School joined in the clean-up efforts too, collecting two bags of rubbish from the Recreation Field and Berryfield Road, and were treated to assembly talks from Northants Fire Service and the Rural SCT.

Pictures show Diana Sharvill, Cllr Bob Riley and Sarah Brant at the litter pick (top) and the assembly talk at Cottingham School (bottom).



Dale is first to respond

By Andy Gilgrist

If you are unfortunate enough to be in a medical emergency in the villages, you may be lucky enough to be helped in an instant by Dale Love.

Dale, 19, is a First Responder for East Midlands Ambulance Service (EMAS). Believed to be the only one in the two villages, Dale has been trained to be first on the scene after a 999 call.

Because ambulances can sometimes take more vital minutes to arrive than those in peril have to spare, the First Responders are on call to be on the scene faster than the paramedics. They are trained to stabilise the person in need, assess the urgency, tell the ambulance crew what to expect and whether the case needs prioritising over other call outs.

Dale, at 19, is the youngest of about 10 First Responders in the team centred on Corby. There are doctors, teachers - even paramedics in the squad - but no other teenagers. A sports performance and coaching student at Moulton College, Dale also works at Corby's swimming pool as a coach and lifeguard.

"I applied to be a First Responder a few years ago, but needed to have passed my driving test," said Dale. "Now I have my licence and have spent two weekends of training, learning first aid, life support techniques and how to use all the equipment."

Dale's kit includes oxygen cylinders, a defibrillator, suction equipment and more. And thanks to the villages' fund for young volunteers, he now has a £100 grant to buy a sat nav to find unfamiliar streets in Corby and elsewhere.

If you too are keen to be a First Responder, see www.emas.nhs.uk/get-involved/cfr/





Christmas What's On

Church and Carol Services



Sun 11 Dec, 6pm

St Mary's - Nine lessons and carols by candlelight followed by mulled wine and mince pies. The Valley Voice choir will be joining in the singing.

Thur 15 Dec, 7pm

Methodist Church - Coffee and carols with readings, solo performances, tea, coffee and mince pies. Entrance is £1.

Fri 16 Dec, 2pm

St Mary's - Cottingham School Christingle Service.

Sun 18 Dec, 6pm

Methodist Church - Carol service and readings led by Sidney Beecroft.



Christmas Eve, 11.30pm

Midnight Mass at St Peter's, East Carlton.



Christmas Day, 10.30am
St James', Gretton.

Sat 10 Dec, 8pm to late

Christmas party with the Cat Came Back and the Point Road



The Cat Came Back invite you to a village Christmas party to dance the night

away to a mix of pop, indie and light rock tracks, plus a few Christmas favourites of course!

The band will be supported on the night by 'The Point Road', a new folk band

featuring Paul Aspinall and Pete Smith on violins, Matt Gadsby on bass and Pete Bowman on acoustic guitar.



There will be a pay bar on the night and tickets, at £6 each, are available from **Pete** and **Jane** on **770821**, email jane@cottinghamnews.co.uk.

Website: www.thecatcameback.co.uk



Fri 9 Dec, 8pm

Desperate Housewives Village Hall Annex

Join the desperate housewives of Cottingham and Middleton for a good natter and a Chinese meal from Mr Choi's. The cost is £7 each. Contact **Jan (772130)**, **Kirsty (771796)**, **Wendy (771177)** or **Sandra (770184)**. Bring your own drinks.

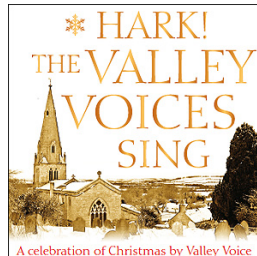
Travelling crib, December

During Advent, St Mary Magdalene Church will be organising the Travelling Crib. Three sets of crib figures will be travelling around our villages in search of a place to stay, symbolising Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem. If you would like to offer a home for the crib figures for one night in December, please contact **Rachel** on **770766**.

Fri 23 Dec, from 7pm

Carols with Valley Voice

Come and join the Valley Voice choir as they visit East Carlton Cricket Club, the Spread Eagle and the Royal George to sing some carols and spread some festive cheer.



The choir has also recorded a CD of carols 'Hark the Valley Voices Sing' at St Mary Magdalene Church. At just £5, this is a great stocking filler. CDs will soon be on sale at the Village Store and Café.

Christmas Eve, 4pm

Living Crib Journey

Join Mary and Joseph on their journey through Cottingham and Middleton to the stable for the birth of Christ. This year, the journey starts outside the Village Store and Cafe, again finishing at Middleton House Farm where there will be refreshments and a charity collection. The route is suitable for push chairs.



Please wrap up warmly and bring a lantern or torch, and you're welcome to dress as nativity characters. For more information, please contact **Ruth Colby** on **770178**.

Calendar competition

The competition being run by the Village Store and Café to gather photos for a 2013 calendar has been extended to adults as well as under 16s. The competition is now open to anyone in the villages. Please email photos that reflect village life, a month or season, together with your name, age (if 16 or under), date and subject of the photo to **Geof Hudson** on geof.hudson@cottingham.org.uk. For more information, contact **Geof** on **770766**.

Bottle tops

A local school teacher is collecting plastic bottle tops to raise money for a baby needing a life saving operation. If you would like to help, there is a collection box in the Village Store. Deadline is 15 December.

Thanks

The Village Shop and Café would like to thank all the customers who have supported the shop since it opened. They would also like to thank their team of volunteers for all their hard work.

Irene Beadsworth would like to thank all the villagers who donated to this year's Poppy Appeal which raised a splendid total of £547.58. Well done!

Residents of Ripley Road recently raised £55 for Marie Curie Cancer Care. Sidney Beecroft would like to join Marie Curie's patients, nurses and providers in saying a big thank you for your generosity.

Colin and Dianne would like to thank everyone who donated money to the Church and Oxfam at their mother, Hilda Bradshaw's funeral.

Obituary - Gladys Harrison (1919 to 2011)

Gladys sadly died on 15 November aged 92 years. She and her late husband Jim lived in Cottingham all their lives. Gladys attended the village school and later worked at the clothing factory. She was popular and well known in the local community and will be sadly missed.