



Cottingham and Middleton News

March/April 2012

Available online at www.cottinghamnews.co.uk

Little Meadow

Following the expiry of the temporary planning permission for Little Meadow in February, a new planning application to make the site permanent and add a utility room has been received by Corby Borough Council.

At a planning meeting on 8 March, Cottingham Parish Council agreed to oppose the application.

The planning application, crops from the supplied plans and the design statement can be downloaded from www.cottingham.org.uk/news.html

If you have any queries, please contact Cottingham Parish Council Clerk **Peter Taylor** on **01536 761752**, or email peter.taylor@cottingham.org.uk

Flying high at the Spread Eagle *by Andy Gilgrist*



There's a warm welcome, good pub grub and great service promised by the new landlady and landlord at the Spread Eagle.

The Cottingham pub's new managers, Susan Humphreys and John While, plan to enhance the Spread as a hub of village life. Susan has childhood memories of the Spread Eagle – she grew up in the village – and is keen to see the pub continue to be a landmark for locals and visitors alike.

"We want the Spread to be a real village pub, a real local, and very much at the heart of the community," said Susan.

Attractions include exciting new menus including a special of the day, the Sunday carvery from 12.30pm until 6pm, a midweek roast on Wednesday lunchtimes and a full takeaway service. If you don't fancy driving to the chippy, you can order and collect fish and chips, curry, pizza, pies or anything else off the menu.

Cask ales are featured, with new premium lagers arriving soon. Highlights of the calendar such as Mother's Day will see special events at everyday prices. And the pub is always happy to host and cater for weddings, christenings and funerals.

There's pub entertainment too: Sky Sports; live acts on Saturday nights; a fun quiz on Thursdays; karaoke and disco on the last Friday of each month; pool and skittles. Susan and John are keen to host a darts team alongside the pool players. Wireless internet will soon be in place, with business meetings offered for local firms.

Susan said: "We invite village people to use the pub as often as they can. If there is something you would like us to provide for, then please do ask us."

Spread Eagle, 1 High Street, Cottingham, 01536 772038

Remembering Eric Lawson (1925 to 2012)

Family, friends and villagers recently filled St Mary Magdalene Church for the funeral of Eric Lawson, a much loved and highly respected member of the community who sadly passed away on 13 February, aged 86. His life was celebrated in a personal service led by Rev Margaret Eales, with moving tributes from his sons William and David, and three of his grandchildren. He is laid to rest in the village churchyard.

Lilian Lawson wishes to thank everyone for their kindness during her husband Eric's illness and subsequent death.

"In particular our wonderful family, Ann and George Stretton and family, Wendy and Michael Curtis, Peter Taylor, Rev Margaret Eales and friends at Cottingham Methodist and St Mary Magdalene Churches and elsewhere, carers and medical staff, everyone for their lovely cards, flowers, donations to the WWF and RSPB, phone messages and those who attended the funeral".

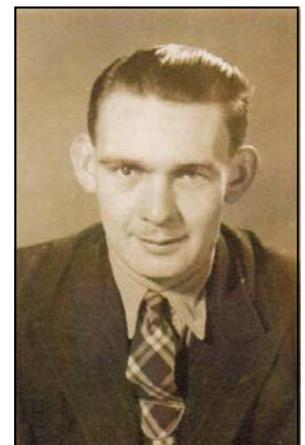
Lilian Lawson

Born in Kettering, Eric was a teenager when he moved with his parents to a rented house in Church Street. He later bought this house, which he modernised and lived in for the rest of his life.

Eric met Lilian when he joined Market Harborough Operatic Society and they married in 1954. After working as a greengrocer for a while, he became manager of a pet shop in Corby Old Village, a shop he later bought and turned into Eric's Pet and Garden Store.

Eric loved Cottingham and served the community in many ways. He was a member of the Home Guard, the village whist league and, for a time, local scoutmaster. He was also a school governor, Church secretary, member of the Village Hall Management Committee and served on the Parish Council for over 42 years, spending four years as Chairman before retiring in 2006. To acknowledge his outstanding contribution to the village, Lawson Court, the development of homes off Millfield Avenue, is named after him.

Eric leaves his wife Lilian, three children - William, David and Celia - and six grandchildren - Carrie, Elizabeth, James, Katie, Emma and Hannah. In the last year of his life, Eric proudly held his first great grandchild Evelyn.



Parish Councils

Cottingham

Clerk: Peter Taylor
01536 761752

Councillors

Pete Bowman (Chairman)
Clive Ashworth (Vice Chairman)
Irene Beadsworth, Alan Davies,
Owen Davison, Geof Hudson,
Joanne Leaning, Terry Mason

Next meetings

Wed 4 Apr, 7.30pm
Wed 2 May, 7.30pm

www.cottingham.org.uk

Middleton

Clerk: Justina Medwell
01536 771234

Councillors

Dryden Phillipson (Chairman)
Sarah Brant (Vice Chairman)
Raymond Ainge, Alan Cole,
Georgina Hicks,
Jane Macdonald

Next meetings

Wed 21 Mar, 7.30pm
Wed 18 Apr, 7.30pm

www.middleton-northants-pc.gov

Vacancy

Cottingham Parish Council

Cottingham Parish Council wishes to co-opt one councillor to its current membership of eight. If you live in the village, or within three miles of it, and would like to be considered, the Parish Council would like to hear from you.

Parish Council Clerk Peter Taylor is more than happy to talk anyone through the role of councillor, and you can call him on the number above. Please email applications to Peter at peter.taylor@cottingham.org.uk or post them to 5 Headlands, Desborough, Northamptonshire NN14 2QA before 23 March.

All applications will be considered in early April 2012.

Rural Police update

From PCSO Mark Tooley



Parking has been identified as an issue across all our rural villages and has therefore been adopted as one of our locally identified priorities for the next three months. This means the Police Rural Safer Community Team and our partner agencies will be robustly tackling any parking issues within the villages, particularly near our schools.

We will also challenge inconsiderate parking that obstructs other residents, road users and agencies that visit the villages to conduct a service, for example Kier's refuse collection. I have had reports that some bins have not been emptied due to restricted access. Blind Lane

and Church Street are two areas that have been mentioned, so could vehicle owners please be mindful of their parking prior to bin collection days. Otherwise there could be an early morning wake up knock requesting the vehicle to be moved. I have also received complaints that visitors to the village shop are parking on the Corby Road and Rockingham Road junctions. Please be mindful of the junction.

On a more positive note, the crime figures for December showed a 'zero', no reported crime. This is excellent news, considering there had been a high number of burglaries in the villages over the same period for the past couple of years.

With hopefully better weather coming, we'll have the speed camera in various locations at hotspot times. This is not only to catch, but also to deter motorists from speeding.

I am still in the process of setting up a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme for Ripley Road and Bancroft Road. I will get round to all houses to gauge interest.

If you have any concerns, then please pop along to one of my Police surgeries, that I now hold at the Village Store and Café and the over 60s club in the Village Hall Annex.

Next Police surgery
Sat 24 March, 11.30am, Village Store

Home from home



It's Wednesday, it's 12.30pm, so it must be the Homeworkers Soup Kitchen at the Village Store and Café !

Homeworkers are regularly coming along to the Soup Kitchen to enjoy a bowl of Del Robertson's delicious homemade soup, a roll and a free drink - or, if they prefer, a bacon sarnie or even a piece of cake.

It's aimed at people who normally work from home who just want to break up the day with a bit of a walk, lunch and a chat, and hopefully half an hour away from the mobile phone. Fear not, this is certainly not a high powered business networking lunch!

Come along and give it a try or contact **Phil** at the shop on **770097**.

News from the Village Store

From Store Manager, Linda Begley

"We continue to be delighted with the number of people who are using the facilities on a regular basis. We also remain grateful to our outstanding group of volunteers, whose hard work and dedication are crucial to the successful running of the Village Store and Café.

"We are continuing to make improvements to the service we offer, for example by introducing a process by which newspapers can be reserved. As well as the homeworkers' lunch on Wednesdays, we have 'Tea for Two' on Fridays, when you can buy any hot drink and a tea cake, and receive the same again for free.

"We have introduced a loyalty card for hot drinks (one free drink when you have gained six stamps) and we are gradually introducing a wider range of hot food, such as jacket potatoes. We are delighted to welcome individuals and groups who can make use of the facilities - Nikki's nails is using the upstairs room for manicures on the last Thursday of the month from 10am to 2pm. We would encourage any groups that meet regularly in the village to consider using the café as a place to meet during the day.

"If you have specific requirements, please call into the shop or telephone **770097**, and speak to Linda, Phil, Tracy or Claire."

www.thevillagestoreandcafe.co.uk

Teens meet the Tigers! by Andy Gilgrist



The teenage volunteers who regularly help out at the Village Store and Café recently enjoyed a thank you treat - a trip to the Leicester Tigers training ground.

Not only did the young people get to see round the Premiership rugby union

club's facilities at Oval Park, they got to rub shoulders with the players at lunch too.

Organised by local resident and Tigers acting chief operating officer Simon Cohen, the visits gave a real insight into how the Tigers recover from and prepare for their bruising encounters with the best players in the UK and Europe.

From the ice bath to the physio's treatment tables, the laundry room full of acres of clean kit, the weights room and some of the most advanced fitness and conditioning equipment at any club in any sport, the Tigers are set up with one thing in mind – winning.

But what strikes the visitor is how down to earth everyone is. And it is deliberately so, as the club seeks to keep its feet on the ground and promote an ethos of teamwork, responsibility and confidence.

Lunch was grabbed alongside the players in a very relaxed setting. It was hard to remember you were eating the same food in the same room as a good number of world rugby stars.

The teenagers from Cottingham and Middleton, who have worked at the shop since it opened last September, all had a good time. It was a great way to say a big thank you to the young volunteers, who typically give up an hour and a half each week. Those on the trips were Holly (16) and Liam (15) Rigsby, Jordan MacDonald-Black (16), Joel MacDonald (17), Eliza Hudson (14) and Nathaniel George (14).

Jordan, who plays wing for Corby's S&L and enjoys watching the Tigers, said it had been a real eye-opener. The Tigers were, on the whole, giants – even the faster backs. Manu Tuilagi, one of world rugby's brightest stars, looked like he could run through brick walls for fun.

Picture shows (left to right) Louis Deacon, Jordan MacDonald-Black, Holly and Liam Rigsby, Dan Cole, Julian Salvi, George Chuter and Boris Stankovich.

Local cider wins CAMRA award

Mark Shirley's Rockingham Forest Cider, brewed at his home in Middleton, has beaten off competition from across the East Midlands to win a silver award in the regional Campaign for Real Ale's 2011 Cider of the Year competition.



Mark started making cider 15 years ago as a hobby and now brews 600 gallons a year, mainly for CAMRA festivals and also for some local outlets. The winning brew was made with Kingston Black and Sweet Alford apples from the Cotswolds.

Mark is pictured here receiving his award from Dee Wright, Nottingham CAMRA. More information at rockinghamforestcider.moonfruit.com

Fundraising on song

Thanks to everyone who came along to *The Cat Came Back* gig just before Christmas. The event raised £200 that has been split equally between the Methodist Church, the Village Hall Annex, the Over 60s Club and to go towards repair of the steps leading up to St Mary Magdalene Church.

The Valley Voice choir also raised £180 for the NSPCC from carol singing and 50p donations from each of the 110 'Hark the Valley Voices Sing' CDs sold. They'd like to thank the Village Store for their help in selling the CDs.

Let's get quizzical

Del Robertson would like to thank everyone who came to his inaugural 'Souper Quiz' at the Village Hall Annex in February. There was a good turnout and fun was had by all. Clive Ashworth's tasty rolls and some decent raffle prizes all added to the success and helped raise £125 for the Annex. Congratulations to *Supper's Ready*, the winners on the night. Full results are available on the village website.

The final total raised for Canine Partners from Ant Liquorish's last quiz was £501.

Edna Simpson

Brian Gamblen is trying to find out more about his birth mother, Edna Simpson. Brian was adopted just after he was born in 1942, and only knows that his mother Edna was working as a domestic and living with a family in Church Street just before he was born. If anyone has any information about Edna, including where she worked, please contact **Brian** on **01933 623005**, or email him at digiz@mypostoffice.co.uk

Dog mess

There have been a number of complaints about dog mess in the village recently, especially on Rockingham Road, Bancroft Road and Ripley Road. The Council Neighbourhood Warden Jim McCabe has been informed and will be patrolling the area. However, if you do see any incidents of dog mess not being cleaned up, please report it to the Council Neighbourhood Team on **01536 464619**, noting the time, the breed of dog and, if you know the owner, their name. And, if you're a dog owner, please clean up after your animal or risk facing a hefty fine!

NAB News

Northants Association for the Blind is offering commentary for selected Northants County Cricket Club (NCCC) matches at the Wantage Road ground and online at www.northantscricket.com/commentary. Blind or partially sighted supporters can also get into the ground for £5 for these matches. Please pre-book with **Barbara** at NCCC on **01604 514455**. For more information on NAB, including volunteering, visit www.nab.org.uk

What's On

Sat 24 March, 9am to 12 noon

Car boot sale, Cottingham School

Cottingham School PTFA is holding a car boot sale on the Recreation Field to raise money for play equipment for the school. It's £5 for a car and set up is from 8am. There will be refreshments available, including drinks and hot food. Contact Jake Raj on jakesnraj@googlemail.com or call him on **07803 701514**.

Thur 29 March, 5.30 to 6.30pm

Dance school open evening Village Hall Annex

Laura Kingzett, Principal of Arabesque School of Dance, is looking to start children's (and possibly adult) dance classes in Cottingham. Come along to the open evening where children from her dance school in Kings Cliffe will be doing a short demonstration. You can meet Laura, join in and try out some of the different styles of dancing including tap, ballet and modern dance.

More information on the village website, or at www.arabesqueschoolofdance.co.uk or contact Laura on **07940 006417**.

Fri 30 March, 8pm

Desperate Housewives Village Hall Annex

Join the desperate housewives of Cottingham and Middleton for a good natter and takeaway. The cost is £7 each, payable a week in advance. Contact **Wendy (771177)**, **Kirsty (771796)**, **Sandra (770184)** or **Sarayou (771342)**. Please bring your own drinks, including alcohol.

Sat 21 April, 6.30pm

Charity quiz, Village Hall Annex

Come along to Ant Licquorish's 's 40th Charity Quiz, this time in aid of the English Contact Karate Organisation. The cost is £7 per person including fish (or chicken) and chips or a vegetarian option, or £3 if you want to bring your own food. There is no bar so please bring your own drinks. Doors open at 6.30pm for a 7pm start (please note the new times). To take part and order your food, please call **Ant** on **771062** or email him at quiz-man@tiscali.co.uk.

Sat 28 April, 8pm

Dance at the Village Hall Annex

Dancing to ballroom, sequence and modern tunes. Tickets are £3.50 each and you can bring your own refreshments (including alcohol). Contact **Audrey** on **771084**.

18 May - Fish and Chip Supper

The Spinal Injuries Association (SIA) is asking people across the UK to hold a fundraising 'Great British fish and chip supper' on Friday 18 May to raise money for people with spinal injuries. The SIA can provide a fundraising pack with hints and tips, recipes, invitations and donation envelopes. For more information visit www.spinal.co.uk/fishandchips or call **Elizabeth Wright** on **0845 071 4350**, email fishandchips@spinal.co.uk.

Mon 4 and Tue 5 June

Queen's Jubilee Weekend



The villages are gearing up to celebrate the Queen's diamond jubilee.

On Monday 4 June, there will be a barbeque and dance at Ann and Owen Davison's (The Rectory, Church Street) with

entertainment from the Valley Voice choir, followed by dancing to the sounds of Mr Bip.

In the day on Tuesday 5 June, there will be a tea party for children on the Recreation Field with entertainment, including Bluenose (Bob Riley and Julie Grant) and a football match for the adults.

Times and details will be confirmed shortly.

Fri 15 to Sun 17 June

Welland Valley Beer Festival



There are 14 pubs taking part in this year's Welland Valley Beer

Festival, including the Royal George and Spread Eagle. For the latest details, keep an eye on the Festival website at www.wellandvalleybeerfestival.co.uk.

Useful Contacts

Northants Police **03000 111222**

Corby BC Neighbourhood Warden (Jim McCabe) **01536 464619**

Street Doctor (Northants CC) **0845 601 1113**

Cllr Bob Riley, Corby Borough Council, **01536 771881**, bob.riley@corby.gov.uk

Down Your Way correspondent for Evening Telegraph, Pete Bowman, **770821**, pete@cottinghamnews.co.uk
3 Corby Road, LE16 8XH

Village Store and Café, 770097
www.thevillagestoreandcafe.com

Village Hall Annex
Pam Moore, **770022**

Methodist Hall
Joan Jarman, **771193**

Rev Sian Reading, **770237**
sianreading@tinyonline.co.uk

Clubs and Groups

Over 60s Club
Audrey Ashworth, **771084**

Minerva Group & Whist Drives
Pam Moore, **770022**

WRVS, Sue Jefferson, **771822**

Mums and Tots
Sandra Battersby, **770184**

Crafty Monkeys pre-school club
Nicola Gumber, **770563**

Youth Club
David Swallow, **771796**

'Valley Voice', village choir
Pete Smith, psmith1309@hotmail.co.uk

Wesley Guild
Cyril Liquorish, **771401**

Sunday Clubs - St Mary's
Ruth Colby, **770178**

Rockingham Forest Wheelers
Norman Needham, **771356**

New Cottingham FC
Neil Jarman, **07708 323077**

Cottingham youth football
Mark Steiner, **07731 385107**

Royal George Golf Society
Norman Golding, **771081**

Blackthorn Wood Pool Team
George Barker, **07904 954040**

East Carlton Cricket Club
Sharon Jantzen, **771371**

East Carlton Health Walking Group
Noel Rogers, **771837**