



Cottingham and Middleton News

Summer 2011

Available online at www.cottinghamnews.co.uk



A strong community spirit is one of the things that really makes living in Cottingham and

Middleton special, and there has been lots of it on show of late.

The recent concert by the Valley Voice choir is a great example - an evening of music put on for villagers, by villagers. And to a first class standard too - not only the music, but the delicious spread of food and the bonanza of raffle prizes from choir members and their friends and neighbours really was something to behold!

Congratulations too to the team behind the new Village Store and Café. Now one step closer to opening with 160 new shareholders, there was a real air of excitement and optimism in the village at the recent open day, which gives us a small taster of the difference this facility will make when it opens and takes its place back at the heart of the village.

There's lots more happening in the villages over the coming months, including some traditional entertainment at the Village Fete on 16 July, and we're even being treated to an inter-village cricket match between Cottingham and our near neighbours East Carlton (see back page).

Have a fantastic summer and hope to see you out and about.

Regards,

Jane Smith, Editor

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jane@cottinghamnews.co.uk

Great things in store

The recent open day at the new Village Store and Café was a roaring success, with more than 160 people from the villages and beyond signing up for shares.

All in all, £10,000 has been raised from the shares and extra donations. Middleton Parish Council has purchased £1,000 of shares and Cottingham Parish Council have also pledged their support.

The shop is now looking for volunteers to help run the facility, which is on track for a summer opening. See Andy Gilgrist's article on page 3 to find out more.



Guy gets the boot!



14-year old Guy Clennett from Ripley Road, Cottingham, has received a £200 grant from the village youth club funds for football boots, which he gets through at an incredible rate as he has just been offered a two-year contract with Derby County Football Club.

Guy (pictured here in his Derby kit) travels to Derby four times a week to train and says that the support from the village is much appreciated. He is also giving something back to the community by helping with football coaching for youngsters in the village, and was down at the recreation field recently giving tips and advice on correctly kicking and passing the ball.

Guy's mum, Susan, said: "The help and support from the youth club reminds the whole family what a wonderful community we are fortunate enough to live in and we are so grateful. Guy has already got his eye on his next pair of boots - thanks to the youth club!"

Valley Voice raises the roof

Villagers were treated to an evening of music recently at the inaugural concert of our very own 'Valley Voice' choir. St Mary Magdalene was packed out for the concert and the choir definitely raised the roof! The evening also featured instrumental performances from guest artistes on guitar, ukulele, violin, piano and saxophone. More than £900 was raised on the night and the choir have made donations to the Church and Methodist Chapel. They would like to thank all their guest musicians and everyone who came along and supported them.



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September 2011**

Parish Councils

Cottingham

Clerk: Peter Taylor
01536 761752, 5 Headlands,
Desborough NN14 2QA

Councillors

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

Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month (except August) starting at 7.30pm in the Village Hall Annex. Villagers are welcome to attend and share their views.

More information can be found on the Parish Council notice board on the corner of Rockingham Road and School Lane.

Next meeting

Wed 6 July, 7.30pm
www.cottingham.org.uk

Middleton

Clerk: Justina Medwell
01536 771234
Middleton House, Middleton,
LE16 8YU

Councillors

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

Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month (except August) starting at 7.30pm in the Village Hall Annex. Villagers are welcome to attend and share their views.

More information can be found on the Parish Council notice board on Main Street, opposite No 34.

Next meeting

Wed 20 July, 7.30pm
www.middleton-northants-pc.gov

Rural Police update

From PCSO Mark Tooley



There have been a couple of reported incidents recently of suspicious males seen in Cottingham in the early hours – one with a red vehicle hanging about on Rockingham Road, near the old shoe factory, and another with a dark a coloured Golf, possibly wearing gloves. If anyone sees anything that looks suspicious, please give us a call on **03000 111 222**.

There has also been an increase in the number of young people coming in to the villages to camp out at the '22 foot' in Middleton and the old quarry in Cottingham, with most being intoxicated. All the youngsters spoken to by the Police have had a letter sent home advising parents, with some being taken home and parents spoken to, so hopefully they will not return.

The doorstep sellers known as the 'Nottingham Knockers' were seen in the villages again last month. Towards the end of May, two Nottingham Knockers were arrested in Gretton for peddling without a license and two in Weldon were spoken to and advised to leave the area. If anyone experiences door step sellers, please call the dedicated Doorstep Crime number **0345 23 07 702** or the usual **03000 111 222** and make us aware.

No Cold Calling Zones

Suzanne Preston, Rural Pride Officer at Corby Borough Council, will be proposing at the next Rural JAG (Joint Action Group) meeting that we select Cottingham and Middleton as the initial pilot areas for two 'No Cold Calling Zones' (NCCZs). The next step will be to identify any streets in the villages that are particularly vulnerable to cold calling. We'll also need to find some funding for the lamppost signage, which will cost around £40 per sign. Trading Standards have already said they'd be happy to support us, including talking with people in the chosen streets and calculating the number of signs needed. We will keep you posted as and when we have an update.

Neighbourhood Watch, Church Street and Water Lane

We have just set up Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) schemes in Church Street and Water Lane to add to the ones already in place in the village. For those of you who couldn't make the meeting on 18 May, I will be visiting you once I have the NHW members' packs to finalise the members in the scheme. The newly appointed NHW co-ordinators are Geof Hudson and Richard Guilford. I now just need one more co-ordinator for Water Lane.

Welcome to new Parish Councillors

Cottingham and Middleton Parish Councils both welcomed new Councillors in May and June (see full list on the left).

Joanne Leaning (Church Street) joins Cottingham PC. She has lived in the village for 18 years and is Chairman of the Valley Voice choir. Joanne says: "I enjoy living in the village and want to be a part of what makes the village what it is. As an active member and treasurer for the Cottingham Parish Plan Steering Group, I also found out what residents want in the village and what they appreciate about village life. I hope to put this to good use on the Parish Council."

Middleton PC welcomes two new Councillors - Georgina Hicks and Jane Macdonald, both from Main Street. Georgina and her husband Michael moved to Middleton four years ago from Corby old village, where she was a NHW co-ordinator, and says she has always supported the community in one way or another. Jane moved here just over five years ago with her family, having previously lived in Stoke Albany for over 10 years. Jane is deputy head teacher at a primary school in Corby and says she has joined the Parish Council to become more involved in village life.

Welcome too to Terry Mason, who was co-opted onto Cottingham Parish Council as the newsletter went to print. More about Terry in the next issue.

Village Store and Café - calling all volunteers



By Andy Gilgrist

Volunteers are needed to help run Cottingham and Middleton's new Village Store and Café, which is on track for a summer opening after smashing past its target for community shareholders.

Several villagers have already volunteered to spend a few unpaid hours each week helping the part time managers who will be paid to run the Village Store

and Café. But more volunteers are needed to help make the project the roaring success and the hub of village life that people at the open day said they hoped for. All volunteers will be given free training covering subjects such as health and safety, and hygiene.

Dawn Watkins, Chair of the management group behind the plans for the store and café, said: "We are delighted with the response that we have received from volunteers but we would love to have more. The more we have, the more we will be able to spread the workload and make it a fun, social thing to do. More volunteers will also widen the family of friends and volunteers who are keen to make the store and café a success.

"The positive response that we have received from shareholders and from everyone who came to the open day gives us every confidence that the Village Store and Café will be popular and well supported."

Passing the 100 shareholder target means there are now enough shareholders to unlock a series of grants for the co-op style Industrial and Provident Society set up to run the facility. The money is being spent on equipment, fitting out the interior and stock.

To find out more, go to the website www.thevillagestoreandcafe.co.uk

There is also a Facebook page www.facebook.com/pages/The-village-store-and-cafe/134841919923146



Village quiz raises more than £400 for Crazy Hats appeal

Ant Licquorish would like to thank all helpers and team members at his recent quiz held in April. It was another well attended and fantastic night, and the £413.80 raised for the Crazy Hats Breast Cancer Charity exceeded all expectations.

The charity's founder Glennis Hooper came along with her colleague Marilyn and accepted the donation after giving a brief talk on the work of the charity. "Thank you for all the hard work and organisation you have put in, and for raising a wonderful amount," said Glennis. "We are truly grateful for your support and to that of everyone who attended on the night."

The next quiz (Ant's 39th) is to be in aid of Canine Partners and will take place on Saturday 15 October. And Ant's 20th Anniversary quiz is due to take place in 2012 so we can look forward to something special!

William Riddell Educational Trust (Middleton)

Grants are available from the William Riddell Educational Trust for Middleton residents aged under 25 years to assist with the costs associated with learning a trade, profession or for further education after leaving school.

If you would like to apply for a grant, please write to Mrs K M Dickens, Hill House, Middleton, Leicestershire LE16 8YX, giving date of birth and explaining the circumstance and requirements. The deadline for applications is 1 September 2011.

Middleton orchard

Middleton Parish Council has applied for a £65,000 grant to landscape and enhance the old orchard on Main Street, at the entrance to Glover Court.

A bid for funds has been made through the Grantscape Community Greenspace Challenge. If successful, it is hoped to create a tranquil natural garden environment for residents to enjoy. The intention is to use local labour where possible for any work required on the project.

Full details will be posted on the Middleton Parish Council website at www.middleton-northants-pc.gov shortly and community involvement from both villages will be most welcome.

Window cleaning

Local lad **Evan Burbidge** has set up a new business as a window cleaner, initially just for Cottingham, Middleton and East Carlton.

If you'd like your windows cleaned, contact **Evan** on **07809 672590** or email him at evanlfc@aol.com

What's On

Fri 24 June and 19 Aug, 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 **Jan (772130)**, **Kirsty (771796)**, **Wendy (771177)** or **Sandra (770184)**. Bring your own drinks.

Fri 1 July and 5 Aug, 7.30pm

Bingo night, Village Hall Annex

Eyes down! Free entrance, 10 games are played and bingo cards cost £10 for six books or £5 for three. All proceeds go into the prize fund on the night.

Sat 2 Jul and 6 Aug, 7.30pm

Whist drives, Village Hall Annex

Entrance £2 with proceeds to the Village Hall Annex. Contact **Pam** on **770022**.

Fri 8 July, 7.30pm

Seagrave Singers, Village Hall Annex



Come along for an evening of song with popular ladies' choir, The Seagrave Singers. The choir was named winners in the best all-female/male voice choir category at the recent Kettering Eisteddfod, so you'll be in for a treat!

Tickets (price £6) include strawberries and fizz are available from **Irene** on **770059**.

Fri 15 July, 7.30pm



Hank Wangford, Village Hall Annex

In conjunction with Northants Touring Arts, Country and Western legend Hank Wangford will

be appearing at the Village Hall Annex with his old musical buddy and saddle pal Brad Breath. Tickets priced £8 from **Irene** on **770059**.

Sat 16 July, 12 noon to 5pm

Village Fete, Recreation Field

This year's Village Fete is one not to be missed. Attractions include a BBQ, beer tent, tea room, bouncy slide, welly wanging, stocks, jewellery making, face painting, plate spinning, biscuit decorating and children's races as well as lots of traditional games and stalls. There's also a 'Cuddle Corner' where you can pet some small animals, kindly provided by West Lodge Farm Park, along with live music and performances from the children.

Many of our village groups are taking part, including the Village Hall Management Committee, Rockingham Forest Wheelers, Cottingham Junior Football Group, Methodist Church, Cubs and Beavers to name but a few. Cottingham and Middleton Parish Councils will also be represented.

'Best of' Competition

There's still time to enter the 'Best of' Competition. Categories include best chocolate cake, cupcakes, flower arrangement, sewing craft item, homemade wine and preserves as well as the comical 'best potato dressed as a historical character'. These are open to all and there are also lots of 'children only' categories. For more information, and to download an entry form, visit the village website at www.cottinghamnews.co.uk/villagefete2011.htm

Thanks to everyone who has supported the event guide or provided a raffle prize. Any extra prizes would be very gratefully received and will help to boost the fundraising. The money raised from the Fete will be used to improve the outside areas at the school, creating a more vibrant place for play and learning, and for upkeep of the Church.

Contact **Angela Preston-Jones** on **772297** or email cap-j@tiscali.co.uk for more information or if you would like to make a donation.

For the young at heart!

The Over 60s club meets every other week on a Tuesday afternoon at the Village Hall Annex to chat over a cup of tea and play whist and bingo.

The cost is just £2 a time to pay for refreshments and prizes. The next meeting is on Tuesday 5 July, from 2pm to 4pm.

If you'd like to join, just turn up on the day or contact **Audrey** on **771084** for more information.

Useful Contacts

Northants Police: **03000 111222**

Corby BC Noise Officer
Paul Craddock, **400088**

Street Doctor (Northants CC)
0845 601 1113

Cllr Bob Riley, Corby Borough Council,
770821, pete@cottinghamnews.co.uk

Cllr Stan Hegggs, Northants County
Council, **01536 202918**

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

Village Hall Annex (VHA)
Pam Moore, **770022**

Methodist Hall
Joan Jarman, **771193**

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

Sun 24 July, afternoon

Cricket match, ECCC

Come along to East Carlton Cricket Club for an inter-village match between Cottingham and East Carlton. Everyone welcome. Come along to cheer on the village team!

Tue 26 July, 12.30pm

Homeworkers' lunch club

The first meeting of the Cottingham and Middleton Homeworkers' lunch club will take place at the Hunting Lodge. You're welcome to stay as long as you like, have lunch or just a drink - it's very informal.

So, if you work or run a business from home in the one of the villages and would like to come along, please contact **Ali Freestone** on **771274**, or email her at info@charliesguide.com so she can book a table.



To keep up to date with village news, why not join the village email list? All you need to do is visit

cottinghamnews.co.uk, click on 'join village email list' and follow the instructions. Simple as that!