



Cottingham and Middleton News

August/September 2005

Available online at www.cottinghamnews.co.uk and www.middletonnews.co.uk



Welcome to the August/September 'anniversary' edition of the village newsletter.

The newsletter has been going for a year now and I'd like to thank everyone who has given me such positive feedback over the past 12 months.

In this issue (page 2), we've featured a short crime report. As someone so rightly said at the recent Neighbourhood Watch set-up meetings, there isn't much crime in the villages but we want to keep it that way! So, do get involved with Neighbourhood Watch, and let's all keep our eyes peeled over this holiday period for any suspicious or unusual activity.

This is the last call for the return of your Cottingham Parish Plan questionnaires! They'll be accepted right up to the end of August, so please fill them in and make your views count.

Finally, don't forget you can keep up to date with what's happening in the villages on the village websites (addresses above) and in Pete Bowman's 'Down Your Way' column featured every Saturday in the Evening Telegraph newspaper.

Yours,

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Email: jane@cottinghamnews.co.uk

Proposed Housing Development: Land to the Rear of Cottingham Hall

Villagers have recently received a letter from Bill and Sandra Kiff regarding a proposed development of 90 houses on land to the rear of Cottingham Hall (formerly Bury House). The bullet points below aim to answer some of the questions that villagers have raised:

- Approximately three quarters of the proposed site lies within Cottingham and one quarter in Middleton, stretching back from the gardens of Cottingham Hall to the Jurassic Way footpath that links the two villages. Access for both residential and construction traffic will be via Bury Close. One house (No.8) will be demolished to make way for the access road.
- The site falls outside the current 'village envelope', which is the boundary within which the local planning authority (in our case Corby Borough Council) proposes that development be contained.
- Within the proposed development, 20 per cent of the homes would be affordable housing. It is intended that these would be owned by a Housing Association and built specifically for people living or working in the villages, or with a strong family connection. The houses would be provided for shared ownership only and individuals would never be able to purchase the entire freehold.
- A 'section 106' agreement would be submitted with the planning application to provide £470,000 towards a new village hall for Cottingham, new facilities in Middleton and traffic calming measures. In addition, the Kiffs have made personal pledges of £20,000 to St Mary Magdalene Church and £10,000 for the Methodist Church, all to be paid by them on commencement of building work.
- The land contains a memorial 'Millennium Avenue' of lime trees, planted on behalf of villagers to replace an ancient row of elms that fell prey to Dutch elm disease in the late 1970s. The Kiffs have said that these trees will be relocated to a site that would be accessible to all, at the Kiffs' expense.
- It is expected that an outline planning application will be submitted in late Autumn, following which the Borough Council will allow three weeks for views to be lodged before consideration by its planning committee.
- Corby Borough Council's 2003 local plan review (referred to in the letter) estimated that 10,500 of a total 16,000 new homes would need to be built in urban extensions and within the rural villages over the next 20 years, with the majority in the form of urban extensions. However, according to the Council's planning office, the only official figures currently in planning policy are 16,800 new homes within Corby Borough over the next 20 years (Milton Keynes South Midlands Sub-Regional Strategy).

Bill and Sandra have said that they would welcome any comments - both positive and negative - from residents about the proposals, which can be put in writing to them at Cottingham Hall, Cottingham, Market Harborough, Leicestershire LE16 8XN.

Public Meeting - Wednesday 17 August

Cottingham and Middleton residents are invited to air their views on the above proposals at a public meeting on **Wednesday 17 August at 7.00pm** in the Village Hall Annexe.

The meeting has been organised independently of Bill and Sandra Kiff and the village Parish Councils, although Parish Councillors have been invited to come along and share any relevant information.

If you'd like to know more about the meeting, call **Julie Grant** or **Bob Riley** on **771881**.

Next Issue
Oct/Nov 2005

Issue date:
8 October 2005

Deadline for stories:
30 September 2005

Stop That Noise!

Corby Borough Council has appointed a new out-of-hours Noise Officer **Paul Craddock** to deal with noise complaints and minor incidents of antisocial behaviour.

Paul works closely with the police and other agencies providing a useful channel for passing complaints to the appropriate authority.

Typical nuisances handled include loud music, parties, burglar alarms and car alarms, noise from licensed premises, barking dogs and noisy vehicles.

The after-hours telephone number for Corby Borough Council is **400088**. Complaints are logged and then passed on to Paul via mobile phone.

Crime Report

Between January and June this year, 25 crimes have been reported in the villages including:

- Three overnight thefts of motor vehicles and four incidences of criminal damage to vehicles
- Two thefts from garages/outbuildings and one attempted break-in
- Vandalism of railings next to Church pathway
- Four arson attacks and the theft of roadside posts from land at the top of Corby Road
- Six incidences of theft, attempted break-in and vandalism at commercial premises

Parish Council Meetings

Cottingham Parish Council next meets on **Wed 7 Sep** with Middleton Parish Council meeting on **Wed 21 Sep**. Both meetings will take place at **7.00pm** in the Village Hall Annexe and members of the public are welcome to attend.

Parish Council Contacts:

Cottingham, Peter Taylor (262984). Middleton, Justina Medwell (771234).

Rare specimens spotted in The Dale



When Gill Gent, the Northamptonshire County Recorder for wild plants, visited Cottingham recently, she revealed that The Dale is one of only 18 places in the County that is home to meadow saxifrage and one of the most prolific sites she's come across for salad burnet. Eagle-eyed Gill also spotted a rare bur chervil plant growing on a wall in Church Street!



Currently there are harebells, scabious, stemless thistles and wild thyme flowering in The Dale, replacing the violets, wild garlic, cowslips and hybrid bluebells that were popping up earlier in the year.



Says Chris Owen, Co-ordinator for the Friends of the Dale: "The Dale really is one of the most prolific areas for wild plants in the whole of Northamptonshire and we are so lucky to have it on our doorstep.

"Unfortunately, this beautiful natural haven is being spoilt by litter, and the tree where young people have built their swing is covered in graffiti which will have to be removed. I would ask all villagers to please keep an eye out, especially over the school summer holidays, and do all they can to stop any more damage or littering in the Dale."

Pictured (top to bottom): meadow saxifrage, salad burnet and bur chervil.

Neighbourhood Watch Takes Shape



Following the set-up meetings held in June, the Neighbourhood Watch team at Corby Police is now liaising with Cottingham residents to get schemes up and running in Corby Road, Rockingham Road, Mill Road, Stonepit Drive and Welland View Road. Schemes are also starting up in Middleton but we don't have any specific information at the time of writing.

Neighbourhood Watch has been proven to reduce crime by heightening awareness and deterring opportunist thieves. You can also get discounts of up to 30% on your home insurance! So, if you'd like to get a Neighbourhood Watch scheme started for your street or group of houses, please contact **Luisa Jepson** on **444697** or **Jolene Wood** on **444686**. You can also email Luisa at luisa.jepson@northants.police.uk

Volunteers Sought for Churchyard Spruce-Up



The inside of St Mary Magdalene Church was given a thorough spring clean at the recent Church Action Day but the good old British weather unfortunately put a dampener on any outside work.

Church wardens are now urgently looking for help with clearing and tidying the graveyard which is so overgrown in places that it is near impossible for people to visit their family graves.

The Church is considering forming a small steering group to organise this project. If you're interested in joining the steering group and/or in helping to clear the graveyard, please contact **Mary Freestone** on **771339** or **Kathryne Tilley** on **770159**.

Pictured above at the Church Action Day are Emily Sturman, Sophie Colby and Bethany Colby.

From Canada to Cottingham

Pictured right are Ardith Tureski (nee Tilley) and her husband Peter from Canada on a recent visit to Cottingham. Ardith was looking to find out more about her 'Tilley' ancestors, whom she has traced back to Cottingham in the early 19th Century.



The Mane Man!

Congratulations to **Colin Bradshaw** of Blind Lane who has taken over as President for Corby Lions Club. Colin says he's looking forward to his year as president and to carrying on the Club's good work, raising money for charity.



King of the Car Wash!

A resourceful young entrepreneur is making the most of his school holidays by setting up his own car wash business.

The 'Cottingham Car Wash King' (otherwise known as nine year old Henry Hudson from Church Street) is offering a wide range of valeting services for car owners in the area.

His prices start at just £3 for a regular car wash and go up to £8.50 for a complete large car valet. And Henry's even offering a special 10 per cent discount for regular customers.

Ever mindful of the environment, Henry has also said that he will happily cease trading if any hosepipe bans come into force over the summer!

If you think your car could do with a 'Car Wash King' once-over, you can call Henry on **770766**, although it's advisable to book 72 hours in advance as demand for his services is high.

Middleton Village Hall

Middleton Village Hall, to be located on land at the entrance to Glover Court has now been granted planning permission. The development will include a 1,300 square foot (119 square metre) main hall with a smaller meeting room, kitchen and toilets. To give you an idea of scale, the main hall will be larger than Cottingham School assembly hall, more than big enough to accommodate dances and discos. There will be parking for at least 10 cars, with the option for additional car parking on the open space opposite the hall site.

So far, £105,455 has been raised towards the hall, including Section 106 monies from Glover Court developers Faircloughs and funding from Corby Borough Council, Northants County Council, Middleton Parish Council and Corus. Applications are now being made by the Middleton Village Hall Trust for further funding and donations towards the hall, estimated at a total cost of £330,000.

Dryden Phillipson, Chairman of Middleton Village Hall Trust, said: "The original village hall in Ashley Road, Middleton burned down in the 1960s and was never replaced. Two village surveys including the Parish Plan in 2003/4 have indicated a strong need for a suitable hall in Middleton for a variety of activities. The hall will be available for use by both Cottingham and Middleton residents, and we expect to start work on it in May 2006."

A rough plan of the new hall and an aerial photograph showing the site are now available on the www.middletonnews.co.uk website. For further information, please contact **Dryden** on **770950** or email dryden@parishbiz.fsworld.co.uk

New Minister

Welcome to **Rev Sian Reading** who will take over as the new vicar for Cottingham, Gretton, East Carlton and Rockingham on October 31 this year.

In the interim, if you need to organise a baptism, wedding or funeral, please contact **Mary** on **771339** or **Kathryne** on **770159**.

Pam Says 'Thanks'

Pam Harrison would like to thank all the people who sent her cards and flowers, and telephoned her, during her recent stay in hospital. Says Pam: "I was so overwhelmed with all your kind thoughts. It's nice to know how good friends and neighbours are when you need them. I also had lots of offers of help. Thank you all so very much."

BMX Track

Work is about to start on the temporary BMX track to be located on the Recreation Field, down towards the old grandstand.

Dave Saunders from the BMX Track Working Group said: "To make sure the track doesn't cause a nuisance to nearby residents, we've moved it further away from the houses in Berryfield Road and have also agreed that the track will not be used after 10pm, or dusk, whichever comes sooner."

It is expected that construction of the track will be completed in September. If you have any queries, please contact **Dave** on **770568**.

Fundraising Focus

Cottingham and Middleton villagers have raised almost £3,800 for local causes over the past couple of months. The 100 villagers that turned out for the village Wine Safari helped to raise £1,003 for St Mary Magdalene with a further £585 being raised for the Church at the following weekend's treasure hunt and barbecue. The village fun day raised just under £1,000 for the Village Hall Annexe refurbishment and the Midsummer Madness event held at Blackthorn Wood Golf Club raised £1,200 for new laptop computers for Cottingham School.

Thanks to everyone who helped to organise the events, and everyone who came along to make the days such a huge success. *Photographs below by David Swallow: (1) & (2) Wine Safari, (3) BBQ/Treasure Hunt, (4) Fun Day*



Get Active!



There's still time to book a place on the free 15 week

'Active Life' programme to be held at the Village Hall Annexe on Wednesday afternoons from September.

The programme is suitable for people of all ages and fitness levels wishing to learn more about health, fitness, diet and stress management.

The courses are being organised by the Tresham Institute and 'Sport Active'.

To book a place, call **Emma** at **Active Life** on **0115 922 7020**. Information is also available on www.activelife-online.co.uk

William Riddell's Educational Charity (Middleton)

Young people under the age of 25 living in Middleton are being given the chance to apply for a grant to assist with the costs of further education or to help them learn a trade or profession. The grants are available through William Riddell's Educational Charity (Middleton) which was set up over 200 years ago after Riddell bequeathed the rent of a piece of land to the village, along with a sum of money. The interest on this sum, which currently amounts to around £1,000 a year, is used to fund the grants.

If you'd like to apply for a grant, please write explaining your circumstances and requirements to **Kay Dickens**, Clerk to the Charity, Hill House, Middleton, Market Harborough, Leics LE16 8YX, by no later than **Thursday 1 September**.

Cottingham Parish Plan Village Appraisal Questionnaire

Keep Your Views Coming

If you live in Cottingham and haven't yet completed your village questionnaires, you've still got time to air your views.

Simply complete the forms, pop them in the envelope provided and return them to one of the following members of the Parish Plan Steering Group - Jane Smith (3 Corby Road), Theresa Lawrence (4 Berryfield Road), Sue Hall (4 Church Street) or Jan Mears (22 Rockingham Road).

Questionnaires will be accepted right up until the end of August and the Steering Group would like to say a big thank you to everyone who's taken the time to fill in their questionnaires so far.

If you haven't received a pack, or need additional copies of the adult questionnaire, contact **Irene Beadsworth** on **770059**. Additional copies of the youth questionnaire are available from the village shop or can be downloaded from www.cottinghamnews.co.uk

Your views are important - don't miss this opportunity to have your say!



Obituary: Pauline Rutt 1942 to 2005

"We were all sorry to hear of the recent death of Pauline Rutt who many villagers will remember. She and Robert came to Middleton in 1975 and, although the couple suffered some severe personal set-backs, they were always ready to help and share in village activities.

"Pauline was an active supporter of the villages' NSPCC Committee, where she helped raise money with her home-made produce. She discovered a real talent for sugar craft in the early 80s, taking on a craft workshop in East Carlton park from which she produced prize-winning, exquisite cakes. She later went on to teach her skills to others.

"In the early days, Pauline became a real character when she frequently walked Shane the sheep and Tiny the dog through the village, exacting much comment, not to mention publicity! After her serious accident, she continued with her cake-making in a more limited but equally enthusiastic way. She was also a very creative gardener and great letter writer.

"Pauline loved people, and the way she coped with her disablement was an inspiration to us all. We will remember her as a strong, determined and fun-loving friend."

Sue Hall

Useful Contacts

Corby police station: **400400**

Neighbourhood Watch
Luisa Jepson, **444697**
luisa.jepson@northants.police.uk

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

Street Doctor (Northants CC)
0845 601 1113

Cllr Robert Rutt
Corby Borough Council
07801 945948

Cllr Stan Heggs
Northants County Council
07801 945948

Northants ACRE
Camilla Cobb, **01604 825 889**
camilla.cobb@northantsacre.org.uk

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

Village Hall Annexe
Frances Innes, **770574**

Methodist Hall
Joan Jarman, **771193**

Clubs and Groups

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

Minerva Group
Pam Moore, **770022**

WRVS
Judy Evans, **770799**

Youth Club
Diane Cooksley, **771545**

Mums and Tots
Sandra Battersby, **770184**

Wesley Guild
Cyril L liquorish, **771401**

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

Breast Cancer Support Network
Judy Evans, **770799**

Rockingham Forest Wheelers
Norman Needham, **771356**

Cottingham Youth Football Club
Albert Hussain, **772189**

East Carlton Cricket Club
Nick Sumpter, **771203**