



Cottingham and Middleton News

Christmas 2015

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Welcome to this special festive issue of Cottingham and Middleton News.

I'd like to thank everyone who has supported the newsletter this year, including the Parish Councils for their funding and all the people who co-ordinate and deliver the newsletter to your door. We couldn't do this without you!

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all.

Regards,

Jane Smith, Editor

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Next issue: Jan/Feb 2016



Yellow lines

Northants County Council has placed double yellow lines at the junction of Main Street, The Hill and Ashley Road in Middleton to stop parking across driveways on the Hill, which had become a problem.

The County Council is also consulting on the introduction of double yellow lines on the corners of Rockingham Road, Corby Road, Church Street and High Street in Cottingham. The deadline for responses is **10 December**. See the village website for more information.

Middleton Parish Council update

A task force of volunteers has cleared the Glover Court culvert to improve water flow. The upper banks have been planted and the lower banks will be seeded in the spring. Thanks to the volunteers, Treespace for donating bark chippings and Richard Thomas for donating a replacement tree at the entrance to the Community Orchard.

Middleton Parish Council and Rockingham Wheelers have raised £1,550 against a target of £2,000 for a community defibrillator. To donate, contact **Justina Medwell** on 771234.

Cottingham kids get active! *Pictures by Andy Gilgrist*

Olympic swimmer and commonwealth silver medallist Grant Turner popped in to Cottingham C of E Primary School in October as part of the 'Sport for Schools' scheme, which sees top UK athletes visiting schools to encourage children to take part in sport.

Nearly 120 children were sponsored to take part in a series of one minute fitness circuit exercises, raising a massive £1,150 of which £561 goes to the school to spend on sports

equipment, with the remainder going to Sport for Schools to support Olympic athletes.



In November, the children took part in their third 'Park and Stride' event as part of National [Road Safety Week](#). The children were dropped off at the Spread Eagle car park and were then escorted down the road to school by local Police, Corby Borough Council's Neighbourhood Warden team, parents and teachers in a 'walking bus'. Everyone also made the return journey at home time.



Planning update

The deadline has now passed for submitting comments to Corby Borough Council on the proposed housing development behind Bury Close. We expect the application will now be considered by the Development Control Committee in late January, with a reconvened appeal hearing expected to take place in March / April 2016.

Conservation area

Due to an unprecedented number of comments sent in on the Cottingham and Middleton conservation area appraisal, the meeting of the Borough Council's Local Plan Committee that was due to take place on **25 November 2015** to consider the proposals has been postponed.

You can keep up to date on both these developments on the village website.

Middleton's **Emma Love** is travelling to China next year to volunteer and trek across The Great Wall of China and raise money for Childreach International. You can support Emma at <https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/emmalove1>, or pop into the village shop and buy some of Emma's home made dog friendly Christmas crackers.

Quiz thanks: Del Robertson's November Souper Quiz raised £236.50 for the Village Hall Annex and Ant Licquorish's village quiz raised £232 for Northamptonshire Search and Rescue. Thanks to everyone who came along, helped out and supported these events.

The **Harvest Supper** held at the Church in October raised £646 to be split between Water Aid and Corby Food Bank. The 60 guests were treated to a supper of soup and fruit crumble, washed down with a glass of wine, with entertainment from the Valley Voice choir.

Medbourne Pre-school is looking for a voluntary treasurer and voluntary secretary for their pre-school management committee. Contact **Jo Cory** on **565991** for more information.



Christmas What's On

Church and Carol Services



Fri 18 Dec, 9.30am

St Mary Magdalene Church
Christingle Service with Cottingham School, everyone welcome



Sun 13 Dec, 6pm

St Mary Magdalene Church

Carols by candlelight with the Valley Voice choir, followed by mulled wine and mince pies

Sun 20 Dec, 6pm

Carol service at the Methodist Hall



Christmas Eve, 11.30pm

Midnight service at St Peter's, East Carlton



Christmas Day, 10.30am
St James, Gretton



Sun 27 Dec, 10am

Coffee and carols at St Mary Magdalene Church

Sat 12 Dec, 10am to 3pm

Deck the Halls!

Cottingham's Megan McKim will be hosting a Christmas extravaganza at her [Forget Me Not Florist](#) shop in Corby alongside [Paige's Elegant Occasions](#), with mince pies and 10% off all Christmas orders, wreaths and decorations. Many of you will know Megan and you can find lots of her beautiful crafts and decorations in the village shop.



Mon 14 Dec, 1.30pm

School nativity, St Mary's

Keeping up a long held Cottingham tradition, senior citizens from the villages are invited to come along to St Mary Magdalene Church for the dress rehearsal for Cottingham Primary School's Nativity Play. There will be tea, coffee and mince pies and the performance is free.



Fri 18 Dec, 7.45pm

Valley Voice, East Carlton



Come along to East Carlton Cricket Club and join the Valley Voice choir in singing all your favourite carols. The choir will be collecting for the Lords Taverners, a charity which aims to enhance the lives of disadvantaged and disabled children through sport and recreation. The choir has already collected £138 for the charity, at the Rockingham Castle Victorian Christmas event where they sang in November.

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 at Middleton Farm on Main Street and will then progress through Middleton and Cottingham to the crib at the Church. Please wrap up warmly and bring a lantern or torch, and you're welcome to dress as nativity characters.

There will be a charity collection, so please bring some loose change. For more information, contact **Ruth Colby** on **770178**.

Village pubs festive round up

We are lucky to have three excellent pubs back open in the villages. Here's a quick round up of what they have on over the festive period.

The Royal George has live music from Rockabilly band *Switchblade* on 19 December, from 8pm. The pub is open on Christmas Day from 12 noon and there are a few places left for Christmas lunch. On New Year's Eve, there will be a free buffet with a complimentary glass of bubbly at midnight. See www.facebook.com/theRoyalGeorgeInCottingham or call the pub on **660505**.

The Spread Eagle is open on Christmas Day and has a DJ from 8 till late on New Year's Eve. Contact Bob and Lyndsey at the pub on **772080**.

The Red Lion is open from 12 noon to 3pm on Christmas Day and has live music on Boxing Day and New Year's Eve. See www.theredlionmiddleton.co.uk or call **771034**.



Don't drink and drive

Local pubs are working with Northamptonshire Police, Fire and Rescue and Highways to raise awareness of the consequences of drink driving and to encourage safer driving choices over the festive period. If you suspect someone of drink driving, you can report it by calling Northants Police on **101** or by texting the drink drive textline **0780 000 5554**.

Travelling crib



Organised by St Mary Magdalene Church, sets of crib figures are 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 **Angela Preston-Jones** on **772297**.

The sign of a good pint!



The Royal George has been awarded the Cask Marque, meaning their real ales have been tested by independent, qualified assessors for temperature, appearance, aroma and taste.

Landlord Steve Picton is rightly proud of this recognition, which shows how much care and attention he places in providing the perfect pint.

As well as a wide range of real ales, the pub now serves food Wednesday to Sunday and has bed and breakfast accommodation available.

