



Cottingham and Middleton News

March/April 2013

Available online at www.cottinghamnews.co.uk

What a lot o' litter!



Thanks to all the volunteers who turned out for the recent village litter

pick, organised by Corby Borough Council as one this year's Rural Days of Action. The volunteers collected 30 bags of litter before returning to the Village Café for a well earned cup of tea!

Cottingham School in footy triumph



Cottingham School's football team has beaten off stiff competition to become Northamptonshire champions in the English FA Small Schools Tournament.

The team won two games, drew three and, with the defence conceding only two goals and the strikers Max MacAuley, Max Fletcher and Luke Kearns scoring 12 goals between them, were the highest scoring team in the tournament.

Thanks goes to long term manager Dave Payne and team coach Al Cousins for all the time and effort they have put into training and matches. Al, who is also director of the team's sponsors Low Loaders Europe, said: "The competition was tough but the boys did amazingly well, putting all their training into practice. We are all over the moon!"

Winning the cup is a tremendous achievement and builds on the school's triumph in the Welland Valley Athletics Championships last year. Cottingham School is rapidly gaining a reputation as a sporting force in Northamptonshire. The team is now preparing for the Regional Finals to be held at Nottingham University this month.

Spread Eagle

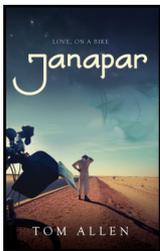


We've recently received the welcome news that the Spread Eagle pub has been sold to continue as a pub with dining. We'll let you have more information as we know it.

Village Store and Café - tell us what you think

The Village Store and Café is running a survey to find out what they can do to improve their service. You can pick up a copy of the survey in the shop or fill it in online by following the link on the shop's Facebook page or the home page of the village website. It'll only take five minutes and there's lots of space for comments, so don't hold back!

The Village Store and Café Management Committee is also looking for a couple of new members to join them, to pick up and run with some of the new initiatives arising from the survey. If you have a hands-on approach, creative flair and time during the day to put these ideas into action, please contact Chairman **David Swallow** on **0789 5011122** or email davidswallow@me.com.



Janapar (Armenian for 'Journey') by Middleton's Tom Allen is a moving true life story of love, adventure and danger on a round the world cycle ride. The

book is now available in the Village Store for £8, along with a DVD for £14. More information at www.janapar.com.

Church email list and electoral roll

St Mary Magdalene Church is compiling an email list to keep you up to date on services and events at the Church. To join the list, please send your name and email address to **Ann Sturman** at pandasturman@btinternet.com.

The Church is also preparing a new electoral roll, which is a list of people who can attend and vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. The roll needs to be prepared afresh this year and no names will be carried over from the old one, so if you'd like to be included, please get an application form from the Church, **Ruth Colby** on **770178** or **Ann Sturman** on **771343**, email pandasturman@btinternet.com. Please return your completed form to Ruth or Ann by 20 March 2013.

Repairs to wall on Corby Road

Repairs to the wall behind the bus shelter on Corby Road were completed in December last year. Parish councillors – especially Cllr Geof Hudson, who oversaw the project – worked hard to make sure that the repairs were carried out quickly, safely and efficiently.

Cottingham Parish Council felt that the work had to be undertaken immediately for a number of health and safety reasons to help protect the two properties behind the wall and restore the Royal George's rear emergency exit in time for the busy Christmas period.

These initial works, costing around £10,000, have been paid for by the Parish Council but they are still looking into ownership issues to see whether any of these costs can be clawed back. The Parish Council would like to thank Northants County Councillor Stan Heggs for his very generous contribution of £1,440 from his Empowering Councillors and Communities Fund to help fund the works. This is Cllr Heggs' second donation in as many months – the first being his donation of £1,200 to renovate the War Memorial – and we are all very grateful for his help.



What's On

See www.cottinghamnews.co.uk for latest events

Sat 23 March, 10am to 1pm

Tabletop sale, Cottingham School



Cottingham CofE Primary School PTFA is holding a tabletop sale to raise funds for school projects. Spaces are available at £5 a table so if you have anything to sell, from Bric a Brac to vintage clothing, call **Jake Raj** on **07803 701514** to book a table. Entrance to the sale is free and there will be refreshments available.

Sat 23 March, 7.30pm to 11pm

Race night, Gt Easton Village Hall



Raising money for Brighthurst Primary School, tickets are £10 each to include a fish and chip supper. There is

also a licensed bar. Get your tickets from Great Easton Shop or **Nora Clarke** on **772951**.

Wed 27 March, 7.30pm

The hypnotic wisdom of weight loss Best Western Hotel, Corby

Middleton's very own hypnotherapist Steve Ashman invites over 18s to 'The hypnotic wisdom of weight loss', a mixture of fun stage hypnosis and education on how hypnosis works to create the right mind set for weight management.

The event takes place at the Best Western Hotel, Rockingham Road, Corby on 27 March and tickets are £5 each from the hotel or from **Steve** on **07982 063219**, email steve.ashman@yahoo.co.uk. It's hoped that tickets will also shortly be on sale at the Village Shop.



Next Parish Council meetings

Cottingham: Wed 3 April and Wed 1 May, 7.30pm, Village Hall Annex.

Middleton: Wed 20 March, Wed 17 April and Wed 15 May, 7.30pm, Village Hall Annex.

Contact: Editor Jane Smith

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Next issue: May 2013

Rural Police update

From PCSO Mark Tooley



Catalytic converters - towards the end of last year, there were a few thefts in the rural villages of catalytic converters, taken from high sitting vehicles like 4x4s. Please report any attempts as well as actual thefts.

Parking - we have again been receiving complaints of parking and near misses in relation to parents parking outside Cottingham School. Parents, again please be mindful where you park when dropping and collecting your children. The school has been issued with 'No waiting' cones - please adhere to these if they're out by parking away from the front of the school.

We have also received complaints of inconsiderate parking whereby residents are causing an unnecessary obstruction near to other residents driveways or access points, either on the road or on grass verges. Again, please be mindful where you park.

Next Police surgery - Fri 5 April, 4.30pm, Village Store; non-emergency contact number 101

Middleton Parish Council

Middleton Parish Council sends its best wishes for a speedy recovery to Cllr Ray Ainge who is unwell and in Kettering General Hospital.

Recreation Ground

The Cottingham and Middleton recreation ground working group is making progress and has been invited to visit Great Oakley village hall in March. It is hoped to learn from their experiences of planning, fundraising and management.

DIY help for over 55s

If you're aged over 55 or disabled and need help with DIY or gardening, Age UK Northamptonshire's Handyperson Service is here to help.

The Handyperson Team is made up of employees and volunteers who provide practical, DIY type help like fitting stair banister rails, putting up shelves, dealing with tripping hazards and fitting keysafes. There is a small charge to help fund the service, but this is often just £10.

For more information, or if you'd like to volunteer, contact **Wendy Ryan** on **01536 524986**, email wendy.ryan@acnorthants.org.uk

Garden tools wanted

If you have any garden tools you don't need, Northants ACRE (Action with Communities in Rural England) is collecting them on behalf of the Community Payback scheme for use in community gardening projects. If you have any tools you can donate, please contact **Thomas Meyer** at Northants ACRE on **01604 765888** or email him at thomas.meyer@northantsacre.org.uk and he will arrange to collect them from you.

Farewell to Mark

This is sadly PCSO Mark Tooley's last column for Cottingham and Middleton News, as he is moving on to become PCSO for the Danesholme Estate in Corby.

Mark would like to bid villagers a fond farewell, and we would all like to thank Mark for the sterling work he's done in our local community over the last three and a half years.

Mark will be replaced by PCSOs Alex Franklin and Artur Periera. The Rural Sgt is still Abe Smith.