



Cottingham and Middleton News

May / June 2013

Available online at www.cottinghamnews.co.uk



Welcome to the May /June village newsletter.

With the villages finally in the grips of Spring, we can start looking forward to the

Summer and two landmark events in the villages' calendar - the 11th Welland Valley Beer Festival from 7 to 9 June and the annual Village Fete on 29 June (see back page for details). It'll be great to see everyone out and about again after this long and seemingly never ending Winter!

Regards,

Jane Smith, Editor

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jane@cottinghamnews.co.uk

Ramblers boys get a crack at the Eggheads



Members of the villages' 'Ramblers' real ale club took on TV's mighty 'Eggheads' at a recording of the quiz show recently.

Cottingham and Middleton's Pete Bowman, Rob Cross, Del Robertson, Pete Smith and Kev Tyler, ably assisted by reserve Del Sturgess from Kettering, put together the Ramblers team to

try and beat the UK's most formidable quiz team, which included 'Millionaire' winner Judith Keppel and 'Mastermind' champion Kevin Ashman.

Ramblers team captain Del Robertson said: "It was a fantastic weekend, even though we had to get up at silly o'clock in the morning for the recording in Glasgow. The production crew and all of the Eggheads were really friendly and put us at our ease as we faced some very tough questions."

So how did the Ramblers team do? "We're sworn to secrecy," Del added. "You'll just have to wait until it's broadcast towards the end of the year!"

Pictured (front row left to right) are Del Sturgess, Del Robertson, Pete Bowman, Rob Cross, Pete Smith and Kev Tyler. Pictured back row (left to right) are Daphne Fowler, Pat Gibson, Judith Keppel, Kevin Ashman, Jeremy Vine and Dave Rainford.

Help our hedgehogs



This year's Hedgehog Awareness Week (5 to 11 May) focuses on gardeners and what

they can do to help our hedgehogs.

Here's a few tips:

- Make sure there's access into your garden (all you need is a 5" square gap).
- Check areas before strimming or mowing and move piles of rubbish before burning it.
- Keep netting at a safe height.
- Check compost heaps before digging the fork in.
- Stop or reduce the amount of pesticides and poisons used.
- Cover drains or deep holes.
- Ensure there's an easy route out of ponds and pools.

These beloved British mammals have declined in population by more than a third over the past 10 years and we need to do all we can to protect them. For more information, visit www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk

Team takes action on dog fouling

The first Rural Days of Action for 2013, held in February, were packed with initiatives to help make the rural areas safer, cleaner and greener. In particular, some new approaches are being trialled to reduce dog fouling, which we know is a big issue with villagers.

The Rural Safer Communities Team and Corby Borough Council's Neighbourhood Wardens carried out early morning (6.30am to 8am) and late afternoon patrols, handing out free dog waste bags and information packs to dog walkers and giving guidance on dog fouling legislation and the health and social implications.

The team also distributed information packs to households in hotspot areas including Camsdale Walk, Glover Court and Daescroft in Middleton, and Berryfield Road, Stonepit Drive and Church Street in Cottingham.

Neighbourhood Wardens also joined forces with the Borough Council's Environmental Services Team to pilot a dog fouling workshop for 28 children at Cottingham C of E Primary School. This new approach to tackling dog fouling aims to reinforce health and social messages to children that can be taken back to parents. The children learned about the impact of dog fouling, responsible pet ownership and how to remove dog waste responsibly.



Picture shows Middleton's Dillon Elliott (age 10) at the school workshop.

**Next issue
July 2013**

Parish Councils

Cottingham

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

Councillors

Owen Davison (Chairman)
Clive Ashworth (Vice Chairman)
Irene Beadsworth
Geof Hudson
Joanne Leaning
Terry Mason
Dave Sims

Next meetings

Wed 5 June, 7.30pm

Wed 3 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)
Alan Cole
Georgina Hicks
Jane Macdonald
Zena Taylor

Next meetings

Wed 15 May 7.30pm

Wed 19 June, 7.30pm

www.middleton-northants-pc.gov

All meetings are held at the
Village Hall Annex, next to the
School.



The fifth Corby Walking Festival takes place from 4 to 6 May 2013. There's something for everyone to enjoy, from gentle one hour leisurely walks to a challenging 18 mile route, Nordic Walking and themed walks around local history and photography.

The whole event is free of charge and is open to everyone of all ages and fitness abilities.

For the full programme, visit
www.corbywalkingfestival.org.uk.

Coronation remembered

Almost 60 years ago on 3 June 1953, the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II took place, but what did Cottingham villagers do to celebrate? Cyril Licquorish of Berryfield Road remembers:



"My brother Alf had just had the very first TV set installed in Ripley Road," says Cyril. "On the morning of the Coronation, family, friends and neighbours packed into the room and gathered around the 10 inch screen to watch the event.

"Then, in the afternoon, with incessant rain pouring down on the village, the Methodist Brass Band abandoned plans to tour the villages on foot and instead did the tour on a lorry covered with a tarpaulin. This was followed by a sumptuous tea in the old school hall on School Lane and the village band provided the music for a dance. Despite the weather, we can certainly say that the Queen's coronation was well and truly celebrated!"



Cottingham Parish Council News

A look back at the year

The Chairman's Report and 2012/13 Accounts were the two main topics on the agenda at April's Annual Parish Meeting, which preceded the main Parish Council meeting.

Here's a short extract from outgoing Chairman Pete Bowman's report. The full version can be downloaded from Cottingham Parish Council's website at www.cottingham.org.uk/news.html.

"The last 12 months proved to be a very busy period for the Parish Council, with some difficult issues being successfully addressed and overcome.

"In November, we worked with Middleton Parish Council to refurbish the War Memorial. Cottingham Parish Council also organised for the handrails on the church steps to be finally replaced, and at no cost to the two Parish Councils or the Parochial Church Council. We would like to thank Northants County Council Rights of Way Officer Jim Cosford for all his efforts in getting the work on the handrails financed and completed.



"The collapse of the wall behind the bus shelter on Corby Road was probably the year's most important incident. The Parish Council felt it was crucial that the work was 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. Recognition must go to Cllr Geof Hudson, who oversaw the project and worked hard to

make sure that the repairs were carried out quickly, safely and efficiently.

"Finally, after much deliberation, I have decided to stand down both as Chairman and as a Parish Councillor. I've had the privilege of sitting on the Parish Council for six years and I hope my participation has helped move our village forward. Being a part of a tradition that has continued for just short of 120 years is humbling, to say the least, but I leave knowing that the Parish Council will be in safe hands for many more years to come."

At Cottingham Parish Council's May meeting, Cllr Owen Davison was elected Chairman with Cllr Clive Ashworth as Vice Chairman.

Parish Council vacancies

There are currently two vacancies on Cottingham Parish Council (following the resignations of Pete Bowman and Alan Davies) and one on Middleton Parish Council. If you are interested in becoming a Parish Councillor, please contact the relevant Parish Clerk, details on the left.

Cottingham School makes headlines



Cottingham based public relations agency LE16 Communications is providing PR support to Cottingham C of E Primary School to help them raise their profile – and they're doing it for free!

Emma Tayler, Head Teacher at Cottingham C of E Primary School (pictured back right), said: "We're doing some great things at the school but we've never really had the time or knowhow to get our

message out there. LE16 have quickly got to the heart of what makes the school tick and their generous offer of free PR support means we can work together to turn our successes into real news. We're really excited to be embarking on our very first PR campaign and we're looking forward to spreading the word about this fabulous community school."

LE16 director Jane Smith (pictured back left) said: "We've been running our business from the village for nearly 10 years now and are keen supporters of our local community. We're pleased to be able to use our professional skills to help the school tell their story and help the village to thrive."



It's a plant!

Year 11 students were making the most of the long-awaited Spring sunshine recently, planting snowdrops and daffodils in Middleton's new Pocket Park and Orchard. Organised by School Governor and Cottingham Tree Warden Jon Dixon, the children also helped to tidy up the Park ready for the Bank Holiday. Picture shows (left to right), Lola Celebicanin (age 11), Jemima Watkins (age 10), Jessica Flint (age 11) and Brianna Taylor (age 11).

Jemima's in the running

Cottingham girl Jemima Watkins (pictured above, second left), also has another reason to smile, having recently represented the school in the Leicestershire and Rutland Primary Schools Cross Country Championships. Running a mile cross country in torrential rain and thick mud, Jemima came in the top half of the field, finishing 44th out of 100 runners. Well done Jemima!

In the last newsletter, we also reported on the school's success in reaching the finals of the English FA Small Schools Tournament. The football team fought hard in the finals, which were held in Nottingham in March, winning one out of their three games and coming third in their group. Unfortunately, with only the top two teams going through to the next stage, this was the end of the team's journey in the competition for 2013. Not to be defeated though, the team and their coaches are already working hard to get into next year's competition, so watch this space!

For more information about the school and upcoming events, please visit www.cottinghamprimary.co.uk

Middleton Parish Council News *from Dryden Phillipson, Chairman*

Middleton Parish Council is sad to report the recent passing of Middleton Parish Councillor Ray Ainge (22 April) and former Middleton Parish Councillor Yvonne Alvey (13 April). Our thoughts are with their friends and families at this difficult time.

Ashley Road Gypsy / Traveller site - the applicants' appeal was successful and permanent residence on the site for named families has been granted by HM Inspectorate, for the stationing of caravans for three gypsy plots with utility/day rooms.

Village Hall and play area

The working group looking into the new village hall and play facilities on Cottingham Recreation Ground agreed at their April meeting to instruct architects to produce detailed plans for the project. This will help towards producing a full feasibility study and business plan. There will be further public consultation with residents of Cottingham and Middleton through the Summer, and it is hoped that the Village Fete on 29 June will provide an ideal opportunity to do this.

Quiz raises £263

Ant Licquorish's recent quiz at the Village Hall Annex raised £263 for the Mia and Cory Blakey-Tew Fund, a charity that's been set up to raise money for two children with a genetic disorder.

Of the 15 teams that took part, the top four teams were separated by just four points and 'Andrew Mitchell and the Plebs' gained top spot by just one point.

Thanks to everyone who came along, helped out and donated raffle prizes. The next quiz is to be held on 19 October.

Welcome back Mark



We are delighted to report that, following some changes at Northants Police, Mark Tooley will be staying on as PCSO for the rural wards covering

Cottingham and Middleton. Mark and the team are holding Police Surgeries at the Village Store and Café at 4.30pm on 3 May, 7 June and 27 June. Please feel free to drop in for a chat.

NAB Mobile Sight Centre



The Northamptonshire Association for the Blind (NAB) Mobile Sight Centre will be visiting Corby from 10am to 2pm on 10 May and 14 June (Queen's Square) and on 24 May and 28 June (Corporation Street). Come on board for information and support, and to 'try and buy' specialist aids and gadgets that can help people with sight loss.

For more information on NAB including volunteering, contact them on **01604 719193** or visit www.nab.org.uk.

Fri 10 May, 7.30pm

Café Jazz, Village Hall Annex



Come along for an evening of laid back music from Cafe Jazz, a new jazz quintet featuring Jane Smith on vocals, David 'Zoot' Barrs on tenor sax, Fino Lopes on

acoustic jazz guitar, Mark Ginns on upright bass and Ian 'Bud' Gemmell on drums.

The band will be playing vocal and instrumental jazz classics made famous by the likes of Peggy Lee, Etta James, Billie Holiday, Ella Fitzgerald, Nat King Cole, Gershwin and Sinatra, plus some more modern jazz numbers from artists including Amy Winehouse, Caro Emerald and Tom Waits.

Tickets are £6 each from **Irene** on **770059** or **Audrey** on **771084**. There is a pay bar on the night.

Wed 5 June, 7.30pm

How to grow what you drink Ashley Village Hall

Join the Ashley Welland Valley WI for a presentation from Doreen Hillier-Bird on "How to Grow What You Drink." Doreen will also be bringing along some of her home made wines to sample.

Entry for visitors is £3 including refreshments. Contact **Wendy Martin** on **0780 119 4560** or email wendy10ecp@gmail.com.

Fri 7 to Sun 9 June

Welland Valley Beer Festival



There are at least nine pubs taking part in this year's Welland Valley Beer Festival.

The Royal George in Cottingham will have live music from 'The Band of 4' on Friday evening (featuring Cottingham's Pete Bowman). The Welland Valley Stompers will be playing on Saturday afternoon and there'll be more live music in the evening (band to be confirmed).

Vintage buses will be running on Saturday and programmes are available from the Royal George. For more information, visit www.wellandvalleybeerfestival.co.uk

Fri 21 June, 7.30pm

Seagrave Singers Village Hall Annex



Come along for an evening of song with award winning ladies' choir, The Seagrave Singers. Tickets (price £6) include strawberries and fizz. Call **Irene** on **770059** or **Audrey** on **771084** for tickets and more details.

Fri 21 June, 7.30pm

Barn Dance, E Carlton Cricket Club

Barn dancing to Culpepper Catch. Tickets are £10 to include supper. Contact **Diane Cooksley** on **07761 453418**.

Sat 29 June, 12 noon

Village Fete, Recreation Ground

Cottingham C of E Primary School and St Mary Magdalene Church are joining forces again to stage this year's Village Fete.

There will be a beer tent, tea room, barbecue, bouncy castle, games, stalls and the Pets Cuddle Corner from West Lodge Farm Park. All the village groups and organisations have been invited to host a stall or game for their own profit, so there's sure to be something for everyone on the day. There are also a few new attractions planned, so watch this space!

This year's competition will be **Guess the Northamptonshire Village** - create a model, picture or whatever out of any medium (no bigger than a shoe box) to represent a village in Northamptonshire. Visitors to the Fete will be asked to guess the village, so please don't put the village name on your entry! Please have entries in place by 12.30pm. There will be a prize for the most inventive entry and for the person who gets all the villages correct.

An A5 event guide will be delivered to every house in the villages before the Fete. If you'd like to advertise in the guide, prices start at £20 for a quarter page up to £50 for a full page (copy deadline 1 June). Or, if you'd like to make a donation or provide a raffle prize for the Grand Prize Draw, all contributions will be acknowledged in the event guide.

The organisers are looking to top the fantastic £3,555 raised from last year's Fete. Money raised this year will be used to refurbish the school's Early Years playground and for upkeep of our lovely church.

For more information, to advertise in the guide or make a donation, please contact **Angela Preston Jones** on p.j55@btinternet.com, telephone **772297**.

Useful Contacts

Northants Police **101**

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
Audrey Ashworth, **771084**

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**

Cubs and Scouts
Gary Chisholm, **772331**

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**