



Cottingham and Middleton News

August/September 2013

Available online at www.cottinghamnews.co.uk

Village Store news

The Village Store and Café will be closing in the afternoons for around a week at the start of September, to allow them to extend their range to include a number of new local products including bread from the award winning Hambleton Bakery.

After this, the shop will be open as normal, Monday to Friday (8am to 6pm), Saturdays (8am to 4pm) and Sundays (9am to 1pm).

To keep up to date with the new products, pop your name on the mailing list in the shop. You can set up a standing order for Hambletons and the shop will also be holding a tasting event in September so you can try the new ranges for yourself. Look out for the date in the shop and on the village website.

See full article on page 3.



I hope you enjoy this issue of the newsletter.

You can keep up to date with the latest village news on the village website, on Facebook and now also on Twitter. Follow @LE16comms and @CottinghamNews



Jane Smith, Editor

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**Next issue
October 2013**

Fun in the sun as village fete raises record £3,687

The recent Cottingham Village Fete raised a record £3,687 for the refurbishment of Cottingham C of E Primary School's Early Years playground and the upkeep of the village church, St Mary Magdalene.

On a glorious summer's day, visitors came along in their droves to enjoy a variety of attractions including live music, children's dance demonstrations, a vintage fire engine, a helium balloon 'lucky dip' game, beer tent, BBQ and homemade cakes, all provided by community volunteers.

The popular 'made in the village' stall, stocked with handmade goods crafted by the ladies of Cottingham and Middleton, along with hand-carved garden sculptures, planters and gift items from Jon and Claire Dixon of Treespace, raised a very impressive £680 alone.

The children were delighted with rides on a miniature train pulled by Pete Stevens' Garrett 4 inch scale traction engine 'Buttercup', the Pets Cuddle Corner from West Lodge Farm Park, that became a perfect chill-out zone during the day, and 10p games and competitions.

The school also celebrated the opening of their Spiritual Garden by Rev Sian Reading. This has been another joint project forging even stronger links between the school and church, providing a quieter place for pupils to enjoy, away from the hullabaloo of the playground.

Fete organiser Angela Preston-Jones said: "We'd like to thank everyone who supported and came along to this year's Fete, and those who advertised in the event guide and contributed to our raffle, which together raised over £1,300 towards our total. This was a true community event and it was fantastic to see people of all ages coming together to help out, chat, relax and enjoy a great day out in the sunshine."

Pictures by Pete Bowman. For more pics, see the village Facebook page.



Cottingham School retains athletics trophy

Children from Cottingham School are celebrating after bringing home the Welland Valley Athletics Championships trophy for the second year running.

All 69 children from Key Stage 2 (aged 7 to 11) took part in the tournament, competing against six other schools from Brigstock, Weldon, Gretton, Corby Old Village, Wilbarston and Stanion. Events included 60m and 80m sprints, 400m and 600m runs, relays, triple jump, long jump, speed bounce, quoits and target throwing.

Head teacher Emma Taylor said: "The children have worked really hard for this event, coming along to practice at Athletics Club every Tuesday and Saturday morning, come rain or shine. It has helped create a real sense of teamwork and every single child did their very best – we are so proud of them! I'd also like to thank the parents and teachers that helped to train the children for the event, as we couldn't have done it without them."

Parish Councils

Cottingham

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

Councillors

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

Next meetings

Wed 4 Sep, 7.30pm
Wed 2 Oct, 7.30pm
www.cottingham.org.uk

Middleton

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

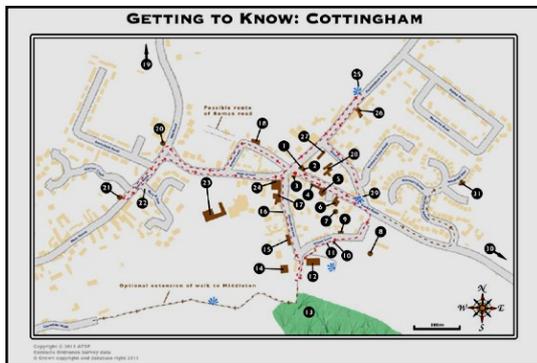
Councillors

Dryden Phillipson (Chairman)
Sarah Brant (Vice Chairman)
Alan Cole
Georgina Hicks
Zena Taylor

Next meetings

Thur 15 Aug, 7pm
No meeting in September
www.middleton-northants-pc.gov

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



Village walks

Elaine England and Andy Finney of Church Street, Cottingham, have been working with villagers to produce two fascinating village walks – one for Cottingham and one for Middleton.

The walks include a map, a route to follow and pointers to places of historical and local interest that you can see as you walk around the villages. The 1.5 mile Cottingham walk takes around 1.25 hours to complete and the 1 mile Middleton walk takes around 50 minutes, with optional extensions that take the walk to 6 miles. You can download the walks for free from www.atsf.co.uk/walks.

Remembering World War I

A number of villagers are starting to think about commemorations and activities to mark the 100th anniversary of the start of World War I on 28 July 2014. This includes researching the soldiers who are commemorated on the village War Memorial. If you would like to get involved, or if you have any World War I memorabilia, please get in touch with **Sue Hall** on **771127** (after 6pm), or email susan_e_hall@hotmail.com.



Scouting history

Gary Chisholm, who runs the local scout troop, would like to hear from ex-cubs and scouts who have memories or pictures that will help build up the troop's 'history bank' to pass on to future generations. If you can help, or if you know the whereabouts of the Cottingham group's flag, please contact **Gary** on **772331**, email chisholm21@btinternet.com.

Pictured above, Cottingham Scout Troop in 1949, and above right at the village war memorial.

Middleton Parish Council news from Dryden Phillipson, Chairman

Telephone Kiosk, Middleton. This is now owned by the parish and, as many will have noticed, it has recently been repainted shiny Post Office Red. Middleton Parish Council would like to thank local resident John Connachie for volunteering his services for painting the kiosk. Suggestions are welcome for future uses for the kiosk, now that the telephone equipment has been removed by BT.

Water problem in Main Street. After extensive discussions with various agencies, Middleton Parish Council is pleased to report that this issue seems to be resolved.

Village Hall plans take shape

Detailed plans for the new Cottingham and Middleton Village Hall and enhanced recreation ground facilities were jointly presented at the recent Village Fete by Cottingham and Middleton Parish Councils.

Having received a very positive response, the working group agreed at its meeting in July that the project should now go to the formal planning stage. This will be handled by the appointed architects, GSS of Kettering. It was also agreed that the initial stages of the project should be the provision of a new running track, football field and youth play equipment. Plans and drawings are available on the village website.



Local mums launch new kids online gift store



Lisa Lloyd from Rockingham Road, Cottingham has joined forces with another local mum, Rachel Weston, to launch **strawberry-duck.com**, an online boutique selling unusual children's gifts and decorative items.

The two mums decided to launch the site after struggling to find new and original products for their own children. With a product range already sprinkled with some great local artisan talent, Lisa and Rachel are now keen to hear from other talented designer-makers who create unique gifts for little ones.

Contact lisa@strawberry-duck.com.

Lisa Lloyd (left) and Rachel Weston with a selection of products from www.strawberry-duck.com

Village Store and Café needs your help for its future

By Andy Gilgrist

The Village Store and Café is to relaunch with a wider range of products for sale, but it needs more volunteers and customers as it prepares for a new era standing on its own financial feet.

The series of grants secured to open the shop in 2011 runs out at the end of this year, and the venture needs to balance the books if it is to thrive. A new committee was formed after June's Annual General Meeting, which heard that big decisions need to be made about the future of the Village Store and Café. To break even, the venture may need to reduce the hours it has paid staff on duty, with more volunteers needed to step forward and take responsibility.



The emphasis will switch firmly to the shop element, with the café space and menu likely to be reduced. The café has not delivered the level of business that was envisaged when it opened, whereas a survey of villagers found significant levels of demand for a wider range of products in the shop.

The survey of 191 people found overwhelming support for the shop and that people would buy more, and more often, if there were more products, including local 'artisan' foods, and better promotion.

Despite the support the community-run store and café receives from its volunteers – without whom the doors would not open – trading is patchy. The volunteer committee which runs the not-for-profit hub of village life is deciding what changes will attract more custom and keep costs in check.

Committee chair Wendy Curtis said: "The mode of other community shops is that they have few or no paid staff hours. We have to move to this model and to do that we need more volunteers who will gladly take on more responsibility, such as being in charge, opening up or closing.

"We can be very flexible on when they volunteer – some might prefer to do two hours every week, others a half or whole day once a month – and we also need people to volunteer their skills and expertise in areas such as bookkeeping, administration, painting and decorating. The shop has been amazing for getting people more involved in village life, and volunteering is a great way to meet more people. Training is given, so we are urging more people to step forward."

The new committee – Dorothy Anderson, Wendy Curtis, manager Claire Moorhouse, Chris Owen, Imogen Owen, Jake Raj, Alison Tootle and James Watkins – is forming two sub-groups. The first will focus on: the range of products stocked and marketing, and the second on operations, including volunteers and finances. Villagers are very welcome to join the groups without having to join the committee.

To find out more about volunteering and the sub-groups, call into the shop or contact **Jake Raj** on **07803 701514**, email jakesnraj@googlemail.com.

Methodist Hall bookings

Wendy Curtis has taken over bookings for the Methodist Hall on Corby Road. Please contact **Wendy** on **771987**, email wendymichael80@yahoo.co.uk.

Joan Jarman has been the key holder at the Methodist Hall for many years. She has done this with care and great pride in the Church. The team at the Methodist Church would like to thank Joan for her years of service in this capacity.

Top of the class!



Well done to Philip Chisholm and Thomas Dixon (both aged 10), who recently won prizes for the

outstanding achievement and progress they've made in maths (Philip) and science (Thomas) during Year 5 at Cottingham CofE Primary School. The awards, presented recently at Robert Smyth Academy, are funded by the Ogden Trust and a private benefactor, who are both keen to promote science and mathematics education.

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, before 1 Sep 2013.

Well done lads!



Well done to New Cottingham FC who recently won the Bob Quincey Shield after beating Leather Craftsman of Kettering in the final. The scores were 1-1 after extra time but New Cottingham won 3-1 in a dramatic penalty shootout.

Fri 23 Aug & 27 Sep, 4.30pm



Police surgeries

Our local Community Police Support Officer Mark Tooley will be holding police surgeries at the Cottingham and Middleton Village Store and

Café. Please feel free to drop in for a chat.

Bank Holiday Monday, 26 Aug

Welland Valley Truck Pull



Teams of 15 are invited to enter the Welland Valley Charity Truck Pull Challenge, an exciting new charity

fundraiser coming to Medbourne on Bank Holiday Monday.

The aim is to be the fastest team to pull an articulated lorry just about a mile from Drayton Road to Main Street in Medbourne. The lorry, which weighs in at just over 8 tonnes, has been kindly loaned by Stephen Sanderson Transport, Market Harborough.

The Welland Valley Truck Pull will be in aid of a fund for the young son of Drummer Lee Rigby, the soldier who was murdered in Woolwich in May, as well as Medbourne Village Hall playground and playgroup.

To enter a team or for more information, please contact carolinejack@hotmail.co.uk or gary.s.gardner@icloud.com

Wed 4 Sep, 7.30pm

An Artist's Journey Ashley Village Hall

Join the Ashley Welland WI for an artist's journey through the work of Parian porcelain and acrylic paintings with Heather Wilson. Entry for visitors is £3, including refreshments. Contact **Wendy Martin** on **0780 119 4560** or email wendy10ecp@gmail.com.

Keep fit classes

Keep fit classes start up again on Wednesday 4 September and will take place every Wednesday morning (10 to 11am) at the Village Hall Annex. The cost is £3 per class. Contact **Emma Bradbury** on **0777 5860751**.

12 to 15 September

Heritage open days



The 'Heritage open days' happen every year, for four days in September. The idea is to allow people to take a glimpse for free inside historic buildings across the UK that are not normally open to the public.

Chris Owen from Church Street is looking to organise some special limited tours around the villages to coincide with the event. Keep an eye on the village website for the latest information. It will also be an ideal opportunity to try out one of the new village walks (see page 2).

Sat 14 Sep, 10am to 4pm

Quilting open day

Organised by Quiltitude at the Village Hall Annex, there is free entry, a raffle and refreshments.

Sat 21 Sep, 7.30 to 11.30pm

Dance, Village Hall Annex

Dancing to ballroom, sequence and modern tunes. Tickets are £4 each and you can bring your own refreshments (including alcohol). Contact **Audrey** on **771084**.

Fri 11 October



Opera Dudes, Village Hall Annex

By popular request, the Opera Dudes return to the Village Hall Annex on 11 October to take us 'Russian around the UK'.

Tickets are £8 including nibbles and there is a pay bar. Contact **Irene** on **770059** or **Audrey** on **771084** for tickets and details.

Sat 19 October, 6.30pm

Charity Quiz, Village Hall Annex

Come along to Ant Licquorish's 's Village Charity Quiz in aid of the Dogs Trust.

Food is provided if you wish, either fish (or chicken) and chips or a vegetarian option. The cost is £7 per person including food or £3 if you want to bring your own. There is no bar so it is bring your own drinks. Doors open at 6.30pm for a 7pm start.

Call **Ant** on **01536 771062** or email quiz-man@tiscali.co.uk.



Useful Contacts

Northants Police **101**

Corby BC Neighbourhood Warden
(Jim McCabe) **01536 464619**

Street Doctor (Northants CC)
www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/streetdoctor

Clr 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
Wendy Curtis, **771987**

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**