

Cottingham and Middleton News

April/May 2005

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



Welcome to the April/May edition of the village newsletter.

In this issue, we're

pleased to bring you news of a spectacular event being organised for Sunday 8 May to commemorate the 60th anniversary of VE Day. All the local pubs and the Hunting Lodge have agreed to help out and there's also been interest from BBC Look East and BBC Radio Northampton, so it should be a day to remember!

The picture in the header bar above shows an interesting piece of village wartime history - a welcome home party for cousins Bernard and Arnold Crane held at Church House, Church Street, Cottingham in June 1945 when they returned home, having been held prisoners of war. A larger version of this picture can be found on www.cottinghamhistory.co.uk

Keep your news coming in and, if you have any news for the Evening Telegraph 'Down Your Way' column, contact our new correspondent Pete Bowman (details opposite).

Yours,

Jane Smith, Editor

3 Corby Road, tel: 770821

Email:

jane@cottinghamnews.co.uk

Next Issue
June/July 2005

Issue date:
10 June 2005

Deadline for stories:
1 June 2005

Cottingham Community Speed Watch

More than a fifth of Cottingham residents have pledged their support to Community Speed Watch (CSW), an initiative which aims to raise awareness of speeding in order to change drivers' attitudes, slow cars down and make our village safer. The scheme is supported by Northants Police and Northants County Council.

With this pledge from villagers now in place, the next step is for the Safety Camera Team to visit the village to assess the scale of the problem. Depending on their findings, measures may include monthly visits from the Safety Camera mobile unit, highly visible CSW boards to go up on lamp posts/telegraph poles, use of portable speed indicator devices and semi-permanent loan of hand held speed guns for use by locally trained residents.



With speeding traffic having been one of the biggest issues raised at the recent 'Our Village, Our Future' event, Cottingham Parish Council has provisionally reserved a slot for the hand-held speed guns to be in operation in the village from 20 August to 1 October this year.

Volunteers are also being sought to operate the speed guns. If you're interested in operating a speed gun, please contact Cllr Pam Moore on 770022.

Cottingham Parish Plan - Update

The 215 comments provided by residents at January's 'Our Village, Our Future' event have now been analysed by the Parish Plan Steering Group. All the comments are now available online at www.cottinghamnews.co.uk with the main issues being speeding (as mentioned above), parking, village facilities and dog fouling.

The Steering Group is now developing a questionnaire based on this feedback to gain further input from all village residents. More information coming soon.

Congratulations to Laurie and Margaret Jackson of Rockingham Road who won the prize draw at the 'Our Village, Our Future' event for a half case of wine. Enjoy!

Plastics recycling

There are now bins for plastics recycling located on the Red Lion and Village Hall Annexe car parks.

If you would like recycling bins in any other village locations, contact **Johanna Hackney** at Corby Borough Council on 64164 or email johanna.hackney@corby.gov.uk



Pete Gets Down Your Way!

Pete Bowman has taken over as 'Down Your Way' correspondent for the local Evening Telegraph and will be extending the column to cover Middleton, as well as Cottingham. The column is featured in the paper every Saturday and the deadline for news is the Wednesday before.

A big thank you to Barbara Cain who has written the column for the last few years.

If you've got any news to share, please contact Pete at 3 Corby Road, telephone 770821 or email pete@cottinghamnews.co.uk

Parish Councils

Cottingham

Clerk: Peter Taylor
01536 262984 or 761752
5 Headlands, Desborough
NN14 2QA

Councillors

Phil Dyne (Chairman)
Clive Ashworth (Vice Chairman)
Mrs Pat Buckby
Owen Davison
Eric Lawson
John Muir
Pam Moore
George Sear
Dave Sims

Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month (except August) starting at 7.30pm in the village hall annexe. Villagers are welcome to attend and share their views.

More information can be found on the Parish Council notice board on the corner of Rockingham Road and School Lane.

Next meetings:

Wed 4 May 2005
Wed 1 June 2005

Middleton

Clerk: Justina Medwell
01536 771234
Middleton House, Middleton

Councillors

Keith Allsop (Chairman)
Dryden Phillipson (Vice Chair)
Raymond Ainge
David Curtis
Kay Dickens
Charles Freestone

Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month (except August) starting at 7.30pm in the village hall annexe. Villagers are welcome to attend and share their views.

More information can be found on the Parish Council notice board on Main Street, opposite No.34.

Next meetings:

Wed 20 April 2005
Wed 18 May 2005

Where Does the Money Go? Our Parish 'Precept' Explained



Have you ever wondered what happens to our 'precept' payments (that's the 2% to 3% of our Council Tax bill that goes to our Parish Council) and how these charges are arrived at?

Well each year, Cottingham and Middleton Parish Councils work out a budget for the provision of services in the villages. Here's an overview of how our money will be spent this financial year (April 2005 to March 2006).

	Cottingham	Middleton
Recreation ground maintenance *	£1,236	
Recreation field – loan repayment *	£711	
Village newsletter *	£300	
Parks and open spaces (including The Dale, grass cutting, maintenance of roadside seats)	£6,000	£1,200
Cottingham cum Middleton Village Hall Annexe - grant	-	£500
Middleton Village Meeting Room – grant	-	£1,000
Bus shelter maintenance	£50	£200
Community donations	£500	-
Subscriptions	£250	£145
Parish Clerk salary, expenses, conferences and courses	£5,628	£1,690
Chairman's allowance	£150	-
Stationery, post, telephone, meeting room hire	£690	£610
Insurance, legal, audit fees	£900	£630
Miscellaneous expenses	-	£250

The majority of the money to provide these services comes from villagers' precept payments (the amount shown on your Council Tax bill), but income is also received from other sources including Corby Borough Council, Northants County Council, grazing rights on The Dale, wayleaves and interest on investments.

The amount we're paying to our Parish Councils this year has increased by 14% - that's around £5 a year on a Band D property. These small increases have been necessary to fund emergency maintenance works in the Dale, the cost of maintaining the recreation field (which was previously offset by income from Cottingham Football Club) and the cost of grass cutting at Glover Court.

Payment for the items marked with a * above are split roughly two thirds (Cottingham) and one third (Middleton) reflecting the number of houses in each village.

If you'd like any more information on how your Parish Council spends your money, contact your Parish Clerk (names and numbers on the left).

Volunteers sought for Community Focus Group

A community focus group is being run by Northants ACRE to look at the issue of rural exclusion in the area. If you feel isolated or have difficulty accessing services – or know of people in this position – your input would be extremely valuable. The findings will be published in a Northants-wide report.



The focus group will take place sometime in May and transport is available. If you would like to get involved, please contact **Camilla Cobb**, Northants ACRE on **01604 825889** or by emailing camilla.cobb@northants.acre.org.uk

Garden Bonfires: No Smoking!

With summer around the corner we'll all be looking forward to spending time in the garden. But smoke from bonfires can sometimes spoil our enjoyment.

If you're planning to burn garden waste, please be considerate to your neighbours and remember that it is actually an offence under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 to create smoke which becomes a nuisance. If you do have a bonfire, please check with your neighbours first, only burn dry material (it's green or moist material that creates the most smoke) and avoid damp, windless days when smoke will linger at low levels.

Or put your recyclable garden waste in your green wheelie bin, then you don't need to burn it at all!



Hospital Appeal

Do you have any good quality second hand furniture or home entertainment systems that are looking for a good home?

If so, **Kettering General Hospital** is opening a new day room for patients on the Althorp Ward, a short stay medical ward mainly for elderly people. Says Ward Manager Carol Woodward: "We're looking for comfy chairs, bookcases, coffee tables, a TV and equipment to play videos, DVDs and CDs to make patients' stay as comfortable as possible. Pre-recorded videos and DVDs would also be really welcome."

Tim Byles has kindly offered to collect and deliver so, if you any items that may be suitable, please give Tim a call on **770143**.

'Lots' of Thanks!

A charity auction held at the Royal George in February raised an amazing £2,262 for Tsunami victims in Thailand. The auction was held in support of Cottingham resident Karen Blackman (from Blind Lane) who is spending eight weeks in one of the country's hardest hit areas. Karen, who works part-time at the George, is currently out in Thailand working at the Tsunami Volunteer Centre in Khao Lak.

"The amount we raised from the auction was absolutely fantastic and I'd like to thank everyone who donated prizes and came along to support me," said Karen. "The money will certainly be put to good use!"

Karen's accommodation costs in Thailand have been covered by Royal George proprietors Mass Farabella and Wendy Calver. Mass, who played the part of auctioneer for the night, added: "It was a terrific evening for a fantastic cause. We'd like to thank everyone who contributed and look forward to welcoming Karen back behind the bar later this month."



Karen (centre) is pictured with Mass and Wendy at the Royal George auction

Spreading Their Wings



The Spread Eagle pub has a new landlord in the shape of Cottingham-born Sam Perkins, who has taken over the pub along with partner Stella York and business partner Richard McLellan.

Says Sam (pictured left with Stella): "As a local lad myself, I'm looking to re-establish the Spread Eagle for local people and to place it firmly at the heart of the community. We look forward to welcoming all customers - old and new."

Wendy O' Brien, who has run the Spread Eagle pub for the past seven years, has moved on to open a tea shop in Rockingham.

All the very best to Sam, Stella, Richard and Wendy in their new ventures.

Wendy's Rockingham Tea Rooms on Rockingham Hill (where Jilly's Dress Agency used to be) are open daily from 10am to 4pm.

Good luck Claire

Claire Dixon from Church Street will be running the **London Marathon** on 17 April to raise money for the housing charity Shelter. If you'd like to sponsor **Claire**, call her on **772363**.

£194 raised

The February Village Dance raised £90 for the Church and Chapel, and the recent quiz night £104 for the Village Hall Annexe. Thanks to everyone for their support.

The Street Doctor

A new service is available from Northants County Council to report blocked road drains, pot holes or damage to pavements. This service replaces 'Clarence' that has been previously featured in this newsletter.

Contact The Street Doctor on **0845 601 1113** or online via www.northamptonshire.gov.uk

What's On

Tue 12 April, 2pm

Over 60s

The Over 60s Club starts up again after a short break.

The group meets every other Tuesday from 2-4pm in the Village Hall Annexe to play whist and bingo.

If you'd like to come along, contact **Audrey** on **771084**.

Sat 16 April, 8.15pm

Village Dance

Dance the night away from 8.15pm to midnight in the School Hall to the sounds of the Blue Moon Disco.

Tickets cost £4 with proceeds to the Village Hall Annexe. Bring your own refreshments. Alcohol allowed. Call **Audrey** on **771084**.

Sat 23 April, 8pm, Village Hall Annexe

St George's Day Quiz



Ant Liquorish will be running his next six-monthly village quiz on 23 April (St George's Day), this time in aid of the charity 'Breakthrough Breast Cancer'. The cost is £5 per person (teams of up to four people please) to include a fish and chip supper. Bring your own drinks – alcohol allowed!

There will also be a raffle, with many donated prizes. If you'd like to take part please contact **Ant** on **771062**, email quiz-man@tiscali.co.uk to reserve your place and to let him know your food order! Doors open at 7.30pm.



This is the 26th quiz that Ant has organised raising more than £6,000 for charity in the process. If anyone has a charity in mind and would like a professionally-compiled quiz (which can be tailored to suit to include picture, audio, table top and spoken rounds) please get in touch with Ant.

He'd also be interested to hear from anybody who'd like to suggest a charity for the next village quiz night (8 October).

Sunday 15 May, 2-6pm

Open Gardens



The following three village gardens will be open under the National Garden Scheme on 15 May:

Middleton: 5 School Hill (Gerry and Noel Henson) and 15 Main Street (Angela and Dick Pollard)

Cottingham: 2 School Lane (Janet and Robert Newman)

Admission is just £3 for all three gardens. Children go free. All money raised will go to charity, especially cancer charities, including Macmillan Nurses.

There will also be tea available and plants for sale.



VE Day Celebrations

**Sunday 8 May, 10am to 5pm
Recreation Field**

A spectacular event is being planned to commemorate the 60th anniversary of VE Day which marks the Second World War victory of allied troops in Europe.

Attractions will include:

- Army, Navy, Air Cadets and Scouts
- beer tent, BBQ, cake stall and refreshments
- white elephant stalls, side shows, raffle
- 1940s music
- five- and seven-a-side football matches
- clowns and face painting

If you have any wartime memorabilia, photographs or stories to tell, or if you would like to have a white elephant or charity stall at the event, or help out in any way, please get in touch with organisers **Maggie Silcock (770568)** or **Ian Hodge (771616)**. More information will be available soon.

Useful Contacts

Corby police station: **400400**

Police, northern area control room helpdesk: **445532**

Cllr Robert Rutt
Corby Borough Council
07801 945948

Village Hall Annexe
Frances Innes, **770574**

Methodist Hall
Joan Jarman, **771193**

Northants ACRE

Carolyn Turner
01604 825 889

carolyn.turner@northantsacre.org.uk

Down Your Way correspondent for Evening Telegraph

Pete Bowman, **770821**
pete@cottinghamnews.co.uk
3 Corby Road

Street Doctor (Northants CC)
0845 601 1113

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 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**