



Cottingham and Middleton News

February/March 2006

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



Welcome to the first village newsletter for 2006.

The main news at the moment has got to be the closure

of the village shop and post office. It's come as quite a shock, but it really is great to see so many villagers pulling together to find a solution and help each other out while the shop remains closed.

This issue of the newsletter includes a feature on some of the sporting activities taking place in and around the village, from golf and snooker to 'Kick Fit' and Pilates. So if you're still looking to get fit or lose a few pounds after the Christmas excesses, now's your chance! See page 3 for more details.

Work on the Cottingham Parish Plan is continuing with an action plan currently being drafted for further discussion with Cottingham Parish Council. We'll bring you more news in the next issue.

Finally, our thoughts and sincere condolences go to the families and friends of Mabel Adams, Ethel Jackson and Norah Walker who have all sadly passed away over the past couple of months. We're pleased to include a few memories on the back page.

Yours,

Jane Smith, Editor

3 Corby Road, tel: 770821

Email:

jane@cottinghamnews.co.uk

Villagers Join Forces in face of Shop Closure

Villagers are rallying together following the recent closure of the village shop and post office.

The shop is an invaluable resource for villagers in Cottingham, Middleton and East Carlton, and Cottingham Parish Council Clerk, Peter Taylor, is leading a cross-village working party that is looking to find a solution to the closure as soon as possible.

The working party, which includes representatives from the Post Office, Northants ACRE and local councillor Bob Rutt, is in active liaison with the shop's current proprietor. A number of possible solutions to the closure have been discussed, including re-opening the shop on a temporary 'village co-operative' basis, but no action can really be taken until the intentions of the current proprietor are made known. However, the good news is that there has been a lot of interest shown in taking over the shop and post office, not only from the surrounding area, but nationally as well.

An official notice for the vacancy of sub-postmaster has been advertised (see the Parish Council notice boards) and anyone who'd like to register their interest should call Post Office Agency Recruitment on **0845 6016260**. Anyone interested in taking over the shop should contact **Peter Taylor** on **01536 262984** (daytime) or **01536 761752** (evenings).



Free Shopping and Bread Delivery



Whilst the shop is closed, villagers **Rachel Hudson** and **Denise McElwain** have offered to provide a free shopping service for villagers in Cottingham and Middleton who are unable to get to the shops themselves. They plan to make one trip to Asda every Thursday so if you'd like to take them up on this offer, call **Rachel** on **770766** or **Denise** on **771374**.

Also, **Jan Stuman** on Blind Lane is offering to run a bread delivery service for Cottingham and Middleton villagers. Jan already sells bread alongside her award-winning pickles and preserves on her stall at Rothwell's Monday market and she's willing to order and deliver bread to villagers on Mondays if enough people are interested. If you'd like to take **Jan** up on this offer, give her a call on **771713**.



Newspaper Delivery

The **Evening Telegraph** has put a couple of delivery teams on standby to make sure you can still get your local paper. If you'd like to know more about ET deliveries, call the sales office on **01536 506178**. The ET is also still on the lookout for a few more youngsters to help deliver newspapers in the villages. If you're interested, call **Sam** at the ET on **01536 506184**.

Next Issue
April/May 2006

Issue date:
8 April 2006

Deadline for stories:
31 March 2006

Regular updates on the shop and post office will be provided in the 'Down Your Way' column in Saturday's Evening Telegraph and on the village websites, www.cottinghamnews.co.uk and www.middletonnews.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

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

Next meetings:

Wed 1 March 2006, 7.30pm
Wed 5 April 2006, 7.30pm

Middleton

Clerk: Justina Medwell
01536 771234
Middleton House, Middleton

Councillors

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

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

Next meetings:

Wed 15 Feb 2006, 7.30pm
Wed 15 March 2006, 7.30pm

Until further notice, both Parish Councils will be meeting in the Methodist Hall.

Crime Report

There were 10 crimes reported in Cottingham during December and January, most of which (6) were thefts, attempted thefts or petty damage to parked motor vehicles. There was also one garage break-in and an attempted house burglary.

Planning and Development

Installation of Mobile Home - Land at top of Corby Road

Corby Borough Council's planning department has refused the planning application for the installation of a mobile home on land at the top of Corby Road on the basis that it would be 'beyond any established settlement and would not be within an area allocated for development'. Sustainability issues were also cited.

The Northamptonshire County Council/Atkins partnership will also be pursuing the reinstatement of the grass verge between the current unauthorised access and the road.

Land to rear of Cottingham Hall

The outline planning application that had been submitted for the proposed development of 90 homes on land to the rear of Cottingham Hall has not yet been registered by Corby Borough Council but has been returned to the applicant with a request for more information.

If you'd like to know more, contact Corby Borough Council's planning department on **464158** and speak to Michael Woods (mobile home) or Gordon Smith (Cottingham Hall development).

Village Design Statement

Cottingham Parish Council is currently considering the development of a Village Design Statement. This would describe the visual character of the village and demonstrate how local character and distinctiveness can be protected and enhanced in any new developments or renovations.

News from Africa



Michael and Wendy Curtis have sent us their first reports from Zambia. They've now set up their four-room house in the village of Choma in the middle of a much welcomed rainy season and Michael is currently helping out with routine maintenance at Chodort College while the powers that be sort out the paperwork for his official appointment as Foreman.

Wendy, meanwhile, is scouring the shops for fabrics so she can make a start on the dressmaking classes she'll be running at the college. These classes will help encourage the students to make a range of goods to sell at local craft markets. We'll bring you more news from Michael and Wendy as it comes in.

Mind Your Own Businesses!

Two new businesses have set up in Middleton in the past couple of months.

Profiles Mobile Hair Design is providing a weekend and evening mobile hairdressing service for men, ladies and children and is currently offering a 10% discount on all hair colouring. Contact **Debbie**, Glover Court, on **770652** or **07958 409226**.

Colin Cramphorn has set up a printing service for documents up to A3 size from his home at 27 Main Street. Colin, who has just retired as a full time professional printer, is offering black and white prints from 5p per A4 side and colour prints from 50p per A4 side. He will also fold, staple and punch documents for you at no extra cost. For more information, contact Colin at **Cramphorn Colour Printers Ltd** on **01536 772115**, email **cramphorn.colourprinters@virgin.net**

Colin has given us a great price on printing for Cottingham and Middleton News, so we're delighted to say that the newsletter is now being written, designed and printed entirely within the villages!

Raffle Results

The Cottingham and Middleton Village Hall Management Committee (VHMC) Christmas Raffle has raised just over £215.

The £50 first prize was won by Alex George, the £30 second prize by Nigel Cox and Amy Moore claimed the £20 third prize.

Village of the Year

Following encouraging feedback from competition judges last year, **Ann Davison** is co-ordinating a group of villagers to help pull together Cottingham's entry for the 2006 Village of the Year competition. If you'd like to get involved, contact **Ann** on **771333**.

Sport and Fitness

Royal George Golfers Get in the Swing

The Royal George Golf Society is on the lookout for new members to join their happy band.

The group, which has been going for four years now, currently has 22 members that meet up on the first Saturday of every month to play competitions throughout the region.

If you'd like to join, contact Treasurer **Norman Golding** on **771081**, mobile **07768 536344**, email **nmgolding@aol.com** or pop into the Royal George and have a word with landlord Mass Farabella.

Pictured left to right with Mass Farabella (front) are Royal George Golf Society members Joe Hoedemaker (Secretary), Alan John (President) and Norman Golding (Treasurer).



Spread Eagle Pool Team Back on Cue



The Spread Eagle Pool Team has been

rejuvenated by George Barker and is now playing weekly matches in the Welland Valley Pool League.

To find out more, call **George** on **07904 954040**.

Pilates Pilot

Sue Hall in Church Street is looking to organise a Pilates Class for the villages.



Pilates is a gentle exercise form that concentrates on good breathing, posture and balance, and also includes some yoga. Sue would need 8 to 12 people to make the classes viable with an initial 'taster' course of around half a dozen classes costing £5 to £6 per class, depending on the venue.

She's found an experienced teacher who can do most afternoons or Tuesday mornings, but there are no evenings free at the moment.

If you'd be interested in taking part, call **Sue** on **771127** after 6pm, or leave a message with your details and she'll get back to you.

Slim Gym

Did you know that there's a fully fitted gym at **Lodge Park Sports Centre** that villagers can use for just £2.10 a day following a £12.50 induction? Or, for just £20, you can get an induction along with a personal fitness programme and follow up.

For more details, contact Lodge Park on **400033**.



Andrea Gillan (centre) puts Pam Moore (left) and Marie Chandler through their paces.

Kicking Fit

Pam Moore of Stonepit Drive has organised a weekly Kick Fit class in the Methodist Church hall at 7pm on Monday evenings. Pam asked instructor Andrea Gillan to start a group in Cottingham after chatting to a friend who'd been to one of Andrea's Kick Fit sessions at the Ennerdale Centre in Corby.

Kick Fit uses high energy cardiovascular work and area-specific body toning to keep your heart and lungs healthy, improve your mobility and flexibility, and lose a bit of weight into the bargain. You can take the class at basic, intermediate

or advanced level depending on how far you want to push yourself.

Andrea currently has eight regulars, but there's room for up to 12, and hopefully a few more when the class moves to the new Village Hall Annexe when the refurbishment is complete.

The classes last an hour and cost just £3 a session so if you'd like to join in or find out more, call **Andrea Gillan** on **01536 407449**, email **andrea.gillan@merley.com**, or just pop along to the Methodist Church hall on a Monday evening to see what you think.

Cricketers Get Netted!



East Carlton Cricket Club has just started its Winter training programme with weekly practices taking place in the cricket nets at Uppingham School from 6.30pm to 7.30pm on Fridays.

East Carlton now has an adult team and four youth teams - Under 11s, Under 13s, Under 15s and, playing their first season this year, an Under 17s squad. If you're interested in playing cricket, or helping to coach the youth teams, please contact Youth Development Officer **Nick Sumpter** on **771203**.

In Memory...

Mabel Adams, 1906 to 2005



Mabel Adams, just before her 99th birthday

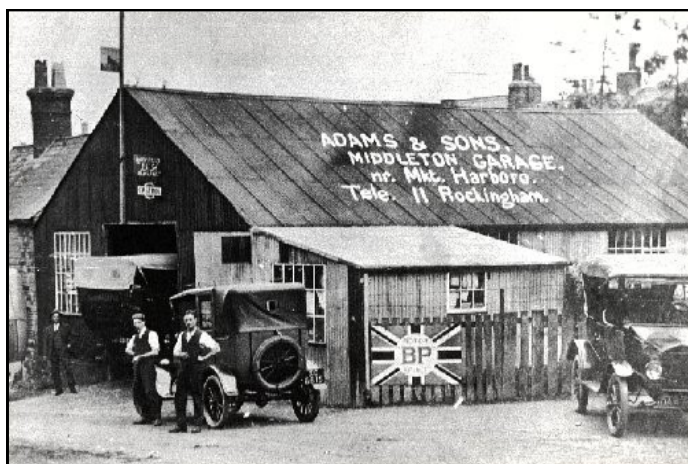
Mrs Mabel Adams sadly died in Kettering Hospital last December at the age of 99.

Mabel had lived in Middleton for some 70 years and was a keen and active member of the local community, including the local Women's Institute where she won many awards for her glove-making and knitting skills.

She was born in Darlington in 1906 and was brought up by her grandmother after being orphaned at the age of four. She trained as a cook/housekeeper at Walworth Castle before being poached by Captain Lucas and his wife who brought her to Bury House when she was 19 years old.

Mabel married her husband Eric in 1928 and together ran the Bluebirds Coaches business (pictured right) from premises next to the Red Lion in Middleton. They sold the business in 1955 and then ran a service station and café in Wilbarston before retiring seven years later.

Mabel loved travelling - Spain and Tenerife being particular favourites - as well as cooking and joining in with the village whist drives. Mabel is survived by her grandsons Philip and Richard and great grandchildren Amy and Ian.



Norah Walker

Jan Sturman would like to thank everyone in the villages for their kind thoughts and messages of sympathy following the sad death of her mother Norah Walker.

Norah lived with Jan and her husband Dave in Blind Lane until five years ago when she unfortunately suffered a stroke, but she had always regarded Cottingham as her home since the family moved here from Kettering in 1964.

Ethel Jackson, 1908 to 2005

Mrs Ethel Jackson sadly passed away on December 3rd, 20 days short of her 97th birthday.

The Jackson family are one of the oldest in Cottingham and Middleton, and Ethel herself moved to Cottingham following her marriage to Sidney Jackson in 1928.



She had been widowed for 25 years and in recent years had suffered ill health. During her working life she spent many years at the village factory of Wallis and Linnell as a sewing machinist.

What's On

We've not been informed of any events for February and March, but up-to-date information can be found on the village websites and in the 'Down Your Way' column in Saturday's Evening Telegraph

Useful Contacts

Northants Police: **08453 700700**

Neighbourhood Watch
Luisa Jepson, **444697**
luisa.jepson@northants.police.uk

Corby BC Noise Officer
Paul Craddock, **400088**

Street Doctor (Northants CC)
0845 601 1113

Cllr Robert Rutt
Corby Borough Council
07801 945948

Cllr Stan Heggs
Northants County Council
01536 202918

Northants ACRE
Carolyn Turner, **01604 825889**
Carolyn.turner@northantsacre.org.uk

Down Your Way correspondent
for Evening Telegraph
Pete Bowman, **770821**
pete@cottinghamnews.co.uk
3 Corby Road, LE16 8XH

Village Hall Annexe
Frances Innes, **770574**

Methodist Hall
Joan Jarman, **771193**

Clubs and Groups

Over 60s Club
Audrey Ashworth, **771084**

Minerva Group & Whist Drives
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**

Royal George Golf Society
Norman Golding, **771081**

Spread Eagle Pool Team
George Barker, **07904 954040**