



# Cottingham and Middleton News

May / June 2017

Available online at [www.cottinghamnews.co.uk](http://www.cottinghamnews.co.uk)



Welcome to the May / June issue of the village newsletter.

There are lots of events happening over the coming weeks including a weekend of family fun and music on 24 / 25 June. See the back page for more information.

It's great to see our Village Shop now opening longer on Mondays and Tuesdays, with some new products in store following feedback from the recent survey. But don't forget, this fantastic resource needs volunteer help and support to keep it going. The article on page 2 shows lots of different ways you can get involved, with a commitment of just two hours a week. Please help if you can.

## New look village website



The village website at [www.cottinghamnews.co.uk](http://www.cottinghamnews.co.uk) has been given another revamp to bring it right up to date.

We are now regularly publishing news on the site and we've added a full archive of past issues of the newsletter. We've also updated our photo galleries with lots of pics that have been taken at village events over the years. These are hosted on the village Facebook page but you don't need a Facebook account to view the pictures. We hope you like the new site. All feedback is welcome.

**Jane Smith**  
**Editor**

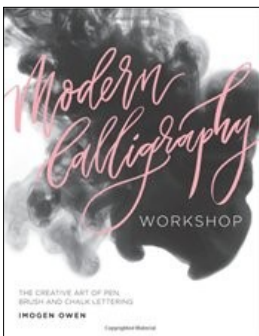
3 Corby Road, tel 770821, email [jane@cottinghamnews.co.uk](mailto:jane@cottinghamnews.co.uk)

**Next issue**  
**July 2017**

## Immie's write on!

Cottingham's Imogen Owen made national TV in March when she was invited on to Channel 4's Sunday Brunch to demonstrate her modern calligraphy skills and talk about her new book.

"I started teaching myself calligraphy back in 2013 as a way to chill out from work," says Immie. "But when I posted pics of my work on Instagram, I quickly got asked if I would teach workshops on my style of calligraphy, and so partnered with online stationery store Quill who hosted my classes in London. Having taught more than 1,000 people in my first year, I was then contacted by a few different publishers and asked if I'd write a book on it, which was pretty awesome!"



Immie's book '*Modern Calligraphy Workshop by Imogen Owen*' is doing really well and, after her TV appearance, was in the top 70 best selling books on Amazon.

Immie also runs a stationery brand from her studio in Church Street, designing greetings cards and luxury stationery printed on vintage letterpress printing presses. Immie's stationery is sold in shops from Anthropologie in the USA to Fortnum & Mason and Paperchase in the UK. You can see Immie's work and buy online from her website [www.imogenowen.com](http://www.imogenowen.com).



## New Pilates classes

Qualified local instructor Tina Kaczmar is starting up a new Pilates class, taking place at 9.30am in the Village Hall Annex during term time.

Mats and equipment are provided and the cost is £7 for each 1 hour class. However, Tina asks that you sign up for a full term (typically six weeks, so £42) to get maximum benefit from the exercises that are designed to build up your muscle strength and flexibility.

To book a place or a free taster session, please contact **Tina Kaczmar** on [tina.kaczmar@btinternet.com](mailto:tina.kaczmar@btinternet.com), or phone **07903 170943**.



## Planning update

There is currently no news on the planning applications for the Spread Eagle pub (proposed change of use) or Little Meadow (application to increase the number of mobile homes on the site).

An outline planning application (reference 17/00180/OUT) has been submitted for the 4,500 home West Corby sustainable urban extension, by the water towers on the A6003. If you have any comments you would like to make, the public consultation on the West Corby development runs until 17 May.

For more information, see Corby Borough Council's planning portal at <https://publicaccess.corby.gov.uk>.

## New chef joins Royal George team

Jo Joslin has joined the team at the Royal George as a new chef to work in the kitchen alongside current chef and landlady Debbie Gibson. The restaurant refurbishment is coming along a treat and, in the meantime, the pub is still serving food from their new menu in the middle and bottom lounges. They've also recently introduced a range of tasty bar snacks if you fancy a nibble to accompany your pint! For more info, visit [www.theroyalgeorgecottingham.co.uk](http://www.theroyalgeorgecottingham.co.uk), Facebook [@theroyalgeorgeincottingham](https://www.facebook.com/theroyalgeorgeincottingham) or call **01536 660505**.



Jo Joslin (left) with Debbie and Kevin Gibson

# Parish Councils

## Cottingham

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

Owen Davison (**Chair**)  
Clive Ashworth (**Vice Chair**)  
Mike Curtis  
David Grayson  
John Muir  
Tom Russel  
George West-Robinson

### Next meetings

Wed 7 June, 7.30pm  
Wed 5 July, 7.30pm

## Middleton

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

Sarah Brant (**Chair**)  
Alan Cole (**Vice Chair**)  
Barbara Bradshaw  
Kate Cross  
Tony Freeman  
Gina Hicks  
Marie Thomas

### Next meetings

Tue 16 May, 7.30pm  
Tue 20 June, 7.30pm

[www.middleton-northants-pc.gov.uk](http://www.middleton-northants-pc.gov.uk)

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

## Middleton PC update

Middleton Parish Council's 2016/17 Annual Report is now available on the village website at

[www.cottinghamnews.co.uk](http://www.cottinghamnews.co.uk).

The target funding for the Community Defibrillator which the Parish Council was planning to place in the Middleton phone box has been achieved. Unfortunately, BT has disconnected the electricity supply to the phone box, so the project has been delayed while BT looks into reconnecting it.

# The Village Store & Café

## Calling all volunteers – could you spare 2 hours a week?

Do you have 2 hours a week to offer much needed help in our local community shop? The shop is looking for volunteers in the following areas.



### Food preparation

Can you prepare a mean baguette or sandwich, or chop salad? It would really help the shop if food could be prepared in advance, and the two hour shift could be at any time of the day.

### Flower arranging



Do you enjoy arranging flowers? Could you come and arrange

small and informal table arrangements for the shop to make it cheery and fresh?



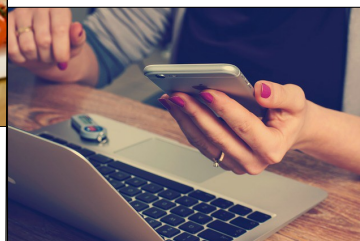
### Admin

Do you enjoy paperwork? Are you organised? Could you spare a

couple of hours a week to help the shop with filing, occasional letters and phone calls?

### Shelf stacking

Come and help keep the shop looking inviting.



### IT and social media

Do you have IT skills? Could you help the shop set up a website and maintain their Facebook page? Could you build a database and mailing list? If so, the shop needs you!



### Cleaning and laundry

Would you and a friend like to help keep the shop clean? All cleaning equipment will be provided. Or could you pop in once a week and collect the shop's aprons and tea towels for a wash, for delivery back the next day?



@cottinghamshop



### Delivery driver

The shop would love to offer a delivery service to villagers who, for whatever reason, can't get to the shop in person. Do you have a vehicle and the time to maybe chat a while with our local residents? The shop would love to hear from you.



**DIY:** Can you turn your hand to some light DIY duties? If the shop phoned you now and then, could you bring your tool bag and help them out?

If you can help out, please call the shop on **01536 770097** for a chat or email [cottinghamshop@gmail.com](mailto:cottinghamshop@gmail.com)

And of course, the shop is always on the look out for volunteers to spend a couple of hours a week serving in the shop. Full training is provided, you'll never work on your own and there's free tea and coffee plus a 10% discount on all grocery items on the day(s) you work.

The shop would like to say a big thank you to everyone who responded to the recent village shop survey. The shop is now getting fresh fruit and vegetables in regularly on Fridays and there are whole chickens and joints of beef for your weekend roast. You can also buy fresh flowers for just £3.50 a bunch as well as perennials, herbs and tomato plants.

The shop is now open from 8am to 6pm Monday to Friday, 8am to 4pm Saturdays and 9am to 1pm Sundays. On Bank Holiday Monday (29 May), the shop will be open from 8am to 10am.



## Remembering World War I



As part of their World War I commemorations, Corby Council has been raising a First World War Centenary Flag outside The Cube on the 100th anniversary of the death of any of the borough's servicemen, where it is flown all day.

A roll of honour with information on each of the villages' soldiers who gave their lives during the War is now available on [www.corby.gov.uk](http://www.corby.gov.uk).

You can see shortened versions of the soldiers' stories, which were exhibited at the village World War I commemoration event held in August

2014, on the village website at [www.cottinghamnews.co.uk/WW1](http://www.cottinghamnews.co.uk/WW1).

And former villager Chris Blenkarn's fabulous website [www.cotthamsoldiers.org.uk](http://www.cotthamsoldiers.org.uk) provides detailed information on all the WW1 servicemen named on the village war memorial, along with those that survived and their extended families.

## Belgian refugees in Cottingham?

Corby Borough Council is looking to gather information on Belgian refugees lodging in Cottingham during WW1. If you have any information, please contact **Paul Goult** on **01536 464013** or email him at [paul.goult@corby.gov.uk](mailto:paul.goult@corby.gov.uk).



## Two sons lost

The most recent Cottingham soldier commemorated by the Borough Council was 19 year old **Ernest Crane** (pictured above left), who was killed in action on 4 March 1917 at the Battle of the Somme.

His brother **George** (pictured above right) had been killed in the Somme just nine months earlier (30 July 1916), aged 20.

Both boys were born in Liverpool and before the War lived in Rockingham Road with their father William.

On 4 June 1917, 32 year old **James Simpson** lost his life in the Arras Offensive on the Somme.

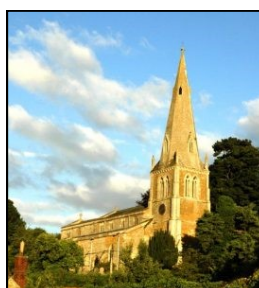
James, a farm labourer, had lived on Mill Road with his father Francis, a market gardener, mother Annie and siblings.

James served in the Northamptonshire Regiment's 6th Battalion that had been led by **Colonel George Ripley** of Bury House, Cottingham (pictured right) until he died on 16 October 1916 from wounds sustained at Thiepval.



## Church news

St Mary Magdalene Church is looking clean and bright following limewashing of the chancel walls. The church could do with more help with regular cleaning (hoovering carpets, polishing brasses and woodwork). If you can help, please contact **Sue Beadsworth** on **771420**, email [jsbeadsworth@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jsbeadsworth@yahoo.co.uk).



St Mary's would like to welcome Brad Revell as their new church warden, working alongside Kathryn Tilley, and would like to thank their former warden Alex George, who has had to step down due to work commitments, for his loyal service.

There are still some numbers left for the St Mary Magdalene 100 Club, that has been set up to raise funds for maintenance, preservation and improvements to the church. You pay £5 a month for a number that's yours for a year. There is then a monthly draw with prizes of £100 for first place, £50 for second and £25 for third. Winners are announced each month on the village website and Facebook page. For more information, contact **Kathryne Tilley** on **770159** or **Brad Revell** on **772585**.

## Obituaries



### Trevor Dicken

Trevor Dicken sadly passed away on 12 February. Trevor and his wife Sue had lived in Cottingham for many years. He was a Parish Councillor and was very popular and well respected. He leaves his wife Sue and son Darren.

### Joyce Hubbard

Joyce Hubbard (nee Jarman) passed away on 4 March aged 87 years. She was born and brought up in Cottingham, attended the village school and later worked at the village post office when it was run by Kath Buswell. Joyce and her husband Eric subsequently moved to Drayton. Joyce leaves Eric, their three children, two grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

### Colin Dexter



Former Cottingham resident Colin Dexter, author of the Inspector Morse novels, passed away in March.

Simon Medwell remembers Colin. "He lived for a while in Bury Close, Cottingham, while he was teaching Greek and Latin at Corby Grammar School, now the site of Tresham College. He also played hockey for Corby Hockey Club.

"One of the characters in his novels, Max the pathologist, was based on a friend who worked at what is now the Lakeside Surgery. The giveaway connection was the standard bow tie which both men wore."

## County Council

Sandra Naden-Horley (Cons) has been elected as the new Northants County Councillor for Corby's Rural Ward.



# What's on

For latest events, see  
[www.cottinghamnews.co.uk](http://www.cottinghamnews.co.uk)

**Monday, 29 May, 10am**

## Bell ringers, St Mary Magdalene

St Mary Magdalene Church will be welcoming a group of bell ringers to Cottingham on May Bank Holiday Monday.

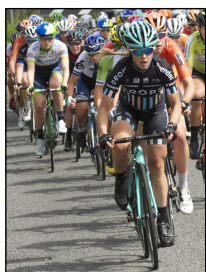


The ringers are coming to Cottingham as part of a local tour and will perform a full peal, something we haven't enjoyed in Cottingham since 2007! The ringing will last for approximately 2 hours, 45 minutes.

**Wed 7 June, lunchtime**

## Aviva Women's Tour

The 2017 Aviva Women's Tour Cycle Race will be coming through the villages around lunchtime on 7 June. The cyclists will be coming off the A427, down The Hill into Middleton, along Middleton Main Street, up Cottingham High Street and then up Rockingham Road into Rockingham village.



The main roads through the villages will be closed for around 30 to 60 minutes and will be marshalled by the Police on the day. More accurate times will be announced nearer the date. Please feel free to come out and cheer the cyclists on.

Corby Borough Council is also looking for volunteers to help steward parts of the route through Corby. If you would like to help, please contact **Adam Smith**, email [adam.smith@corby.gov.uk](mailto:adam.smith@corby.gov.uk), telephone **01536 464047**.

**Wed 7 June, 7.30pm**

## Rockingham Castle talk



The Welland Valley WI will be joined by Rockingham Castle's Estates Manager for a presentation 'Yesterday, today and the future'. Non members are welcome (£4 each). Contact **Wendy Martin** on **0780 1194560** or email [wendy10ecp@gmail.com](mailto:wendy10ecp@gmail.com).

**Sun 2 July, 6pm**

## Cultural hour, Ashley Church

Hear guest speakers explain the real meaning behind great works of art, music and literature. Entrance is free. More information coming soon.

**Sat 24 June  
12 noon to 5pm**

## Village Fete

Come along to this year's village fete at the school and recreation field for a fun family day out.



There will be a BBQ and beer tent, a VINO Van selling wine, Prosecco and Pimms, plus stalls selling books, toys and plants and the ever popular 'Made in the Villages' stall selling beautiful hand crafted items.

Try your hand in the lucky dip or enter the raffle (see the village website for a list of prizes). For the kids, there will be a bouncy castle, a visit from 'Marshall' from the TV series *PAW Patrol* and stalls selling slushies, ice cream, sweets, candy floss and popcorn. The fire engine and Police car will also be paying a visit (non emergency permitting!)

Live music will be provided by village band *Soundpost*, and our very own former Gladiators referee John Anderson will be back, by popular demand, to referee family games and tug of war.

More attractions are currently being finalised – keep your eye on the village website for the latest information. The Fete is being organised by Cottingham School PTFA to raise funds for the school with a generous donation to St Mary Magdalene Church.

**Sun 25 June, 6pm**

## Summer Concert, East Carlton CC



The Cottingham and Middleton Valley Voice Choir is joining forces with the Alright Jack saxophone quartet to present a Summer concert at East Carlton Cricket Club. There will be a pay bar serving a variety of alcoholic and soft drinks, plus cocktails. Tickets are £6.50 each to include refreshments, afternoon tea, sandwiches and cakes.



For more information and tickets, please contact **Joanne Leaning** on **770913**, email [joanne.leaning@btinternet.com](mailto:joanne.leaning@btinternet.com). Profits from ticket sales will go to Lakelands Hospice.

## Useful Contacts

Northants Police **101**

Neighbourhood Management Team (Suzanne Preston) **463177**, email [suzanne.preston@corby.gov.uk](mailto:suzanne.preston@corby.gov.uk)

Street Doctor (Northants CC) [www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/streetdoctor](http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/streetdoctor)

Cllr Bob Rutt, Corby Borough Council, **07801 945948**, [robert.rutt@btconnect.com](mailto:robert.rutt@btconnect.com)

Cllr Sandra Naden-Horley, Northants County Council **07944 213860**

Down Your Way correspondent for Northants Telegraph, Del Robertson, **07927 179921**, [delboy639@gmail.com](mailto:delboy639@gmail.com)

Village Store and Café, **770097**, [facebook.com/cottinghamshop](https://facebook.com/cottinghamshop)

Village Hall Annex, Audrey Ashworth, **771084**

Methodist Hall, Lynette Muir, **770094**

St Mary Magdalene Church, Rev Sian Reading, **770237**, [sjmr216@btinternet.com](mailto:sjmr216@btinternet.com)

New Village Hall Trust, Chair, Pete Bowman, [pete@cottinghamnews.co.uk](mailto:pete@cottinghamnews.co.uk)

## Clubs and Groups

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

Cubs and Scouts, Gary Chisholm, **772331**

Valley Voice, village choir, Pete Smith, [psmith1309@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:psmith1309@hotmail.co.uk)

Rockingham Forest Wheelers, Norman Needham, **771356**

New Cottingham FC, Neil Jarman, **07708 323077**

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

East Carlton Cricket Club, Sally Hitches, **01536 771733**

East Carlton Health Walking Group, David Grayson, **771837**



## Sat 8 July, 7pm Wine Safari

Tickets for this year's Wine Safari will be on sale from 3 June and proceeds will be split between St Mary Magdalene Church and the New Village Hall project.

Save the date and look out for more information coming soon.