



Cottingham and Middleton News

Autumn 2021

Available online at cottinghamnews.co.uk



Welcome to the Autumn newsletter.

It's great to see a full page of face-to-face 'What's On'

activities on our back page again. It's also uplifting to see so many villagers raising money for charity and local causes, helping people in need and working to protect and enhance our environment.

The supportive, caring community spirit we have in these villages is something to be cherished and nurtured – so please get your nominations in for the 'Neighbour of the Year' awards below. This is a great opportunity to recognise the great work people in our community are doing.

Neighbour of the Year Awards

Neighbourhood Watch, in partnership with the Co-Op, is inviting people across the UK to nominate their 'Neighbour of the Year', 'Young Neighbour of the Year' (21 years and under) and 'Community of the Year', in their annual award scheme.

'Community of the Year' is a new category for 2021 that could be a street, sports club, faith collective or any group that has worked to support others and make a difference.

The deadline for nominations is 26 October and there's more information at coop.co.uk/noty.

And finally, a warm welcome to our new vicar, Rev Amanda Oliver. I hear she has lots of ideas! We all look forward to meeting you.

Jane Smith, Editor

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St Mary's welcomes new vicar

St Mary Magdalene Church, Cottingham is now part of the Welland Valley benefice along with Ashley, East Carlton, Stoke Albany, Sutton Bassett, Wilbarston and Weston-by-Welland.

The benefice will be served by our new vicar, Rev Amanda Oliver. Amanda (pictured on the right with Mary Freestone) recently completed her curacy (apprenticeship) at Yardley Hastings Benefice between Northampton and Wellingborough. She is married to Darren and has two daughters, Megan and Helena.



"It is a privilege to have been called to your beautiful parishes and I am looking forward to getting to know you all," says Amanda. "Although I can't be in each church every week, I am never that far away. Do come and find us throughout the benefice. My prayers are with you all, and I am excited to begin this next chapter in the life of God's church here in this place."

You can contact Amanda on email rev.ajoliver@gmail.com

There is now a dedicated page on the village website for all things church-related, including details of services in Cottingham and elsewhere in the benefice. See cottinghamnews.co.uk/church.

The benefice is also now producing a weekly e-newsletter called 'Grapevine'. If you'd like to receive a copy, please contact **Clare Holden** on email mrsclareholden@gmail.com

Green award for Ganders Goat

Congratulations to **Ganders Goat** who recently scooped a silver trophy in the 'Green Award' category at the SME National Business Awards. This is a true recognition of the sustainable work that Ian and Lauren Horton do at their farm on Rockingham Road, and Ian is now discussing experimental technologies with University College London (UCL) that would mean the goats can generate electricity and further reduce their carbon production.



Meanwhile, the appearance of 'Farmer Fearless' (AKA Ian) with his amazing search and rescue dog Super Ted on BBC's Countryfile in February has proved so popular that viewers are calling for this 'canine Poirot' to get his own show! Ted also went along to the September meeting of the Ashley Welland Valley WI to show off his skills.

Well done Ian, Lauren and, of course, Ted! For more information see gandersgoat.com.

Oakley Park planning appeals, Ashley Road – deadline 1 October

The two planning appeals for the Oakley Park travellers' sites are now being considered together and the deadline for comments to the Planning Inspector is **1 October**.

Middleton RAG has prepared templates to help with your objections for **Appeal Ref 3258705** (refusal of retrospective planning permission for additional pitches and the new entrance to the existing site) and they will be sharing their representation for **Appeal Ref 3270912** (refusal of planning permission for the new, adjacent travellers' site at Oakley Park South) shortly.

For more information, see cottinghamnews.co.uk/ashley-road-planning.

Parish Councils

Cottingham



Clerk: Rachel Raj
07584 212067,
6 Church Street, Cottingham
LE16 8XG, email
clerkcottinghampc@gmail.com

George West-Robinson (Chair)
David Grayson (Vice Chair)
Colin Bates
Mike Curtis
Owen Davison
Terri Mclean-Bowman
Andy Mackie
Sue Morphy
Tom Russel

Next meetings

Wed 6 Oct, 7pm
Wed 3 Nov, 7pm

www.cottingham-northants-pc.org.uk

Middleton

Clerk: Justina Medwell
01536 771232, 5 Main Street,
Middleton, LE16 8YU, email
clerk@middleton-northants-pc.gov.uk

Sarah Brant (Chair)
Sian Coughlan (Vice Chair)
Alan Cole
Barbara Bradshaw
Alison Freestone
Gina Hicks
Marie Thomas

Next meeting

Tue 19 Oct, 7.30pm
Tue 16 Nov, 7.30pm

www.middleton-northants-pc.gov.uk

All meetings are now taking place at the Village Hall Annex, next to the school on Berryfield Road.



Gretton WI enjoyed a guided history walk around Cottingham recently, including a visit to the church and the chance to meet and feed the Cottingham Alpacas. £36 was raised, to be split between the church and The Mill.

Our green spaces need friends!

From George West-Robinson, Chair, Cottingham Parish Council



For me, one of the most inspiring aspects of helping to create Cottingham's [Neighbourhood Plan](#) was learning about our green spaces and what we can do to preserve, safeguard and improve them.

You'll be familiar with The Dale, the recreation field and the churchyard, but there are also other smaller areas – like the wide verge at Glover Court and the recently cleared area between the church and The Dale, along with pockets of green between roads, behind garages etc – that all just need that little bit of help to realise their aesthetic and biodiverse potential.

We feel that all our green spaces, large and small, could be greatly enhanced if we could manage, study and care for them in a holistic, strategic way. For example, much is often said of the importance of 'wildlife corridors', but in truth we don't really have a handle on where these are locally and what issues and threats they face.

As a first step, we're therefore looking to set up a 'Friends of Green Spaces' working group (or FROGS maybe?). We'll be drawing on villagers' significant knowledge and expertise, including from members of the now diminished 'Friends of the Dale' which has done so much to secure and safeguard that space over many years. We are also hugely encouraged to have some young villagers who show passion and determination to prevent deterioration (e.g. of verges), promote biodiversity, enhance pollinator populations and connect with nature.

If you're interested in helping to get FROGS off the ground, please email me at grwrconsultingltd@gmail.com. We're just looking to gain interest at this stage with a view to holding a get together sometime in October. And remember, our green spaces really do need friends – here's your chance to be one of them!

Best wishes and stay safe, George.

Cottingham Neighbourhood Plan

Villagers now have their final chance to comment on the Cottingham Neighbourhood Plan, which has been prepared by Cottingham Parish Council with the help of the community and submitted to North Northamptonshire Council for publication.

Consultation on the Plan runs **from Friday 27 August to 5pm on Friday 8 October 2021**.

The Plan sets out detailed local planning policies to help shape and guide development within the designated neighbourhood plan area for Cottingham, which covers the whole of Cottingham Parish.

You can find all the information you need on the Parish Council's website at cottingham-northants-pc.org.uk/neighbourhood-planning

Reporting aggressive and noisy dogs

There have been multiple reports regarding harassment of walkers, cyclists, horse riders and livestock by aggressive, loose dogs at Oakley Park, including a recent dog attack on a child and a Police Officer. Please continue to report any incidents you witness as follows.

- Barking, noise, dogs escaping from the site and obstructing traffic but **without any aggressive behaviour** – report to **Kerry Walke**, North Northants Council Environmental Health, tel **01536 464069**, email envhealth.cbc@northnorthants.gov.uk
- If a dog is aggressive and bites, attempts to bite or puts a person in fear of being bitten, report this to the **Police** using the 101 number (999 if an emergency). Please take a photo of the dog if you can do so at no personal risk. The Police will ask you to provide a formal statement.

Please also send details of any new reports, and any already made, to Middleton RAG at middletonrag@gmail.com, so they can compile a comprehensive record of incidents.

The Mill Community Hub

*An update from Acting Joint Chairs
George West-Robinson and Sarah Brant*

The easing of restrictions and early signs of economic recovery are giving us hope and impetus to crank up Mill related activities, both in terms of fundraising and on the practical construction front. Even though it'll take a while yet for the brakes to come off various capital award and grant bodies, our amazing supporters in the community have kept funds coming in.

We thank and salute everyone whose incredible efforts and ingenuity has kept the bank balance growing. Since the last newsletter, Kate Cross has donated £230 from a clothes sale, £156 of coppers have been collected from jars around the villages and Amazon Smile earned us £45. Including £94 of interest, the Mill's funds now stand at almost £44,000. Bear in mind that some elements of the project such as the archaeological and tree surveys have been paid for.

We are now in a position to focus on the gateway and entrance element of the construction plan and, once that's done, we will consider the best options for the car park. In that regard, we are looking to move away from traditional methods and materials by exploring green solutions that don't require the smothering of large areas in tarmac. As the costs of building materials have spiralled over the last 18 months, and with availability badly affected, we'll also be looking into alternative, cost-effective, efficient materials and construction methods. This could, for example, move us from a 'bricks and mortar' to a modular approach.

We will keep you posted as things move forward, through this newsletter and also online at themillhub.co.uk



Support for Afghan refugees

Two villagers, **Nicola Tyldesley** in Cottingham and **Leigh Morrell** in Middleton, are organising collections for the refugees arriving in our region from Afghanistan.

Leigh is collecting for a Corby-based project co-ordinated by Corby Councillor Martin Reuby and local volunteers, and for 'The Shack' food project in Kettering.

She is looking for non-perishable food items, quality second hand clothing, new pants and socks, toiletries, baby items (nappies, wipes, prams, cots, blankets), quality toys, working mobile phones, tablets and gaming items. If you have items to donate, please contact **Leigh** on **07813 926408** and she can arrange for collection or drop off.

Nicola, pictured above with Mezmin Malida who spearheads many Leicester charities, is collecting new items and is also taking cash donations. Nicola has used the almost £1,000 donated so far to buy pants, socks, tracksuit bottoms, T shirts, baby milk and nappies. The items have been donated to the 'Care to Feed' and 'City of Sanctuary' charities in Leicester and also to the Shack food project.

"These people are arriving with nothing," said Nicola. "They are terrified and lost, and many have left loved ones behind who they may never see again. I am just so grateful to all the people who have donated and offered their time. It's been humbling to see people rallying to help – I've even had two little children raising money by drawing pictures and selling them to family members. Thank you all so much."

You can contact Nicola on nicolatyldesley67@gmail.com or through the Nextdoor.co.uk app.

You can also donate direct to The Shack project at paypal.me/theshack2020



Bob pushes the boot out!

Middleton's Bob Gowen put his best boot forward in an international walking football match recently,



playing for the Republic of Ireland against England. Bob helped set up Ireland's goal in the match, that ended in a 1-1 draw, and he's now looking forward to a rematch in London on 3 October. Good luck Bob!



John Eric Hulatt sadly passed away on 15 August. He was born in Cottingham and lived here all his life. John was a lovely man who will be missed by all his family and friends.

The Cottingham Stack



Sales of limited edition vinyl copies of 'The Cottingham Stack' by Cottingham based music project 'the arthur park' and Corby's Chuck The Poet have so far

raised £180 for Corby Foodbank.

The Cottingham Stack is a rickety old chimney on Corby Road that's taking its place in local folklore and even has its own [Facebook page!](https://www.facebook.com/cottinghamstack)

There are two copies of the vinyl single left, available for £10 each from **Pete Bowman** on pete@LE16.com. You can also download the track for £1 from thearthurpark.bandcamp.com. All proceeds to Corby Foodbank.

Learning the ropes!



Church bell ringers who practise at Wilbarston on Tuesdays (7.30pm) are looking to bring together ringers from across the new Benefice so they can support and help each other.

They'd also like to hear from anyone who'd be interested in learning to ring, Bell ringing is suitable for all ages from 11 up, and is good exercise for the body and mind!

If you're interested, please contact **Andy Bimson** on **07816 787639**, email bimsona@hotmail.co.uk

What's on

For latest events, see
cottinghamnews.co.uk

Churchyard working party

Sat 25 Sep, from 9am



The team at St Mary Magdalene Church is hosting another tidying event. Refreshments will be provided, including hotdogs.

Please come along for as much or as little time as you can spare, bringing any

gardening equipment you can provide or would want to use. The aim is to continue with the incredible effort from last year, recutting the grass in the fenced off area and moving around to tackle more of the overgrowth at the side of the church, along with any other general tidying and maintenance that's needed.

There will be something suitable for everyone to help with, no matter what age, ability or skill. Or just pop up to say hello. And, if anyone wants to split their day by nipping down to the Macmillan coffee morning with the Cottingham Alpacas between 11am and 12 noon, please feel free!

Contact **Angela Preston-Jones** on p.j55@btinternet.com, telephone 772297.

Macmillan coffee morning with the Cottingham Alpacas

Sat 25 Sep, 11am – 12 noon



Tracey and Jon Hinton are holding a Macmillan Coffee Morning with a difference! Come and meet the Alpacas of Cottingham and enjoy coffee and cake in their field on Corby Road, accessed from the path down to Water Lane.

If you're planning to come along, please text Tracey on 07546 888188, or email her at tracey19662010@hotmail.co.uk so she can get an idea of numbers for the refreshments.

27 Sep, 11.30-12.30

Police Surgery, Village Store & Café

Police Surgery with PC Brad Wilson. Feel free to drop in for a chat.



Tue 5 October, 7.30pm

Valley Voice free taster session

Our community choir **Valley Voice** will soon be back singing again, and they're holding a free taster session for potential new members on 5 October at the Village Hall Annex on Berryfield Road, Cottingham.



Directed by Debbie Smith and accompanied by Mike Dando, the choir mainly performs pop, rock and show songs, along with seasonal pieces in the run-up to Christmas.

It's great fun, and good for you too! You don't need to be from Cottingham or Middleton to join, all musical abilities are catered for, there are no auditions and you don't need to be able to read music.

So, if you fancy giving your vocal cords a stretch, making some new friends and having fun along the way, why not come down and give it a try? More details are available from **Paul Aspinall** on 07943 984949, email valleyvoicechoir@gmail.com

Sat 23 October, 6.30 for 7pm

Charity Quiz, Village Hall Annex



Ant Licquorish's Village Charity Quiz is back!

The cost is £10 each including food, which is fish, chicken or mushy peas and chips (vegetarian), or £5 each if you

want to bring your own. There is no bar so please bring your own drinks. Doors open at 6.30pm for a 7pm start.

If you'd like to come along, please let Ant know on telephone 771062, email ant_the_quizmaster@btinternet.com, so he can get an idea of numbers. Ant will confirm the charity and that the quiz can definitely go ahead nearer the time – fingers crossed!

Sun 14 Nov, 10.45am

Remembrance Service

A remembrance service is being held at the War Memorial outside the school to honour the men and women who gave their lives in the two World Wars and other conflicts. Everyone is welcome to attend.



Useful Contacts

Northants Police 101
www.northants.police.uk
PC 820 Brad Wilson, PCSO 7030
Chris Asante-Ampaduh
NeighbourhoodTeamCorbyTown@northants.pnn.police.uk

Safer Corby Partnerships Officer
Suzanne Preston, 463177, suzanne.preston@northnorthants.gov.uk

Corby Neighbourhood Wardens
karen.millsop@northnorthants.gov.uk
brian.houston@northnorthants.gov.uk

Highways issues, Northants Council
www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/streetdoctor

Street lighting, North Northants Council, customerfirst.cbc@northnorthants.gov.uk

Cllr David Sims, North Northants Council, 07966 221591, david.sims@northnorthants.gov.uk

Village Store and Café, 770097
cottinghamshop@gmail.com
cottinghamshop.wordpress.com

Village Hall Annex
Angela Ruthven, 07538 719032
[Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/villagehallannex)

The Mill Community Hub
George West-Robinson
george@themillhub.co.uk

St Mary Magdalene Church
Rev Amanda Oliver,
rev.ajoliver@gmail.com

Clubs and Groups

Cubs and Scouts
Gary Chisholm, 772331

Valley Voice, village choir
Paul Aspinall, 07943 984949
valleyvoicechoir@gmail.com

Rockingham Forest Wheelers
Norman Needham, 771356

New Cottingham FC
Neil Jarman, 07708 323077

Royal George Golf Society
Norman Golding, 07768 536344

East Carlton Cricket Club
Sally Hitches, 01536 771733

East Carlton Health Walking Group
David Grayson, 772565



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Middleton
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