



Cottingham and Middleton News

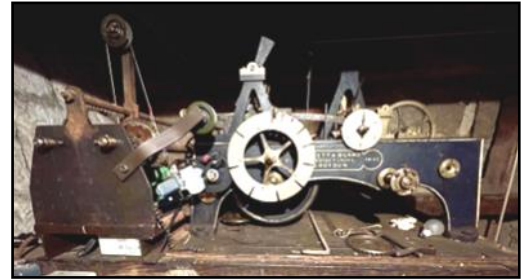
September 2024

Available online at cottinghamnews.co.uk

Church clock repairs

Fundraising to get the church clock going and chiming again is progressing well, with a fantastic **£6,362** raised so far. We've now had an estimate for the repairs and upgrades, which will cost between £8,000 and £9,600. This means we're already more than two thirds of the way there!

Thanks to everyone who has generously donated and supported our fundraising events so far. In particular, the **24 Carat Jazz and Phoenix Saxophone Orchestra** concerts at the church over the summer (pictured below) together raised £1,320. Lawson's Coaches, whose owner Will Lawson grew up on Church Street, has generously donated £400, and Kirsty Swallow has agreed for us to use £3,600 raised for the church from a previous wine safari for the clock restoration.



You can find a full list of fundraising and donations on the village website at cottinghamnews.co.uk/church-clock.



Village Fete

The village fete on 13 July raised a fantastic £6,574. Of this, £4,904 will go to the Mill Project, £1,070 to the school and £600 to the church. Thanks to everyone who helped organise, ran stalls, advertised in the fete programme and donated raffle prizes, and to everyone who came along on the day. An amazing event!

Tomas returns to The Royal George

Tomas Brito is back at the helm at The Royal George, with Darcy Lang as manager. "I am thrilled to be back, as I love the atmosphere in this pub," says Tomas. "I want to create a friendly, welcoming place, with prices at a level to keep locals coming in. This is your pub, and an important part of our community. I am looking forward to welcoming you all."



With a passion for cooking, Portuguese-born Tomas is looking to provide quality fresh cooked food using local produce, with a menu to include affordable pub classics together with a selection of regularly changing specials that show off his culinary flair. There is also a tapas menu available in the bar and he will soon be reintroducing pizzas.

Once a month, there'll be live music and a Sunday night quiz. And if you'd like to hold a meeting or event at the pub, Tomas is happy to work with you, to your budget, to make it go with a swing.

You can contact the pub on email cottinghamroyalgeorge@gmail.com, telephone **01536 660505**, or book online through their website at theroyalgeorgecottingham.co.uk. You can also find them on Facebook and Instagram, @cottinghamroyalgeorge. Look out for this logo!



Editor, Jane Smith
3 Corby Road
07800 523077
jane@cottinghamnews.co.uk

Next issue
November 2024

 facebook.com/cottinghamandmiddleton

 Join village email list at cottinghamnews.co.uk/e-list



Former Cottingham School pupil makes Paralympic debut

Huge congratulations to former Cottingham School pupil **Bruce Dee**, who has just competed as a swimmer in his first Paralympics. Bruce came fourth in the finals of the SM6 200m individual medley and fifth in the SB6 100m breast stroke final, breaking his own British record in the process! Bruce trains in Northampton with paralympic gold medallist Maisie Summers-Newton, and commentators Ellie Simmonds and Clare Balding were full of praise for the young athlete. At just 17 years old, the future is bright for Bruce, whose sights are already set on the 2028 Paralympics in Los Angeles. For more information, see paralympics.org.uk/athletes/bruce-dee.

Parish Councils

Cottingham



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

Parish Councillors

George West Robinson (Chair)
David Grayson (Vice Chair)
Andy Mackie
Mike Curtis
Owen Davison
Pete Crane
Sue Morphy
Terri McLean-Bowman
Tom Russell

Next meetings

Wed 2 October, 7pm
Wed 6 November, 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

Parish Councillors

Sian Coughlan (Chair)
Alan Cole (Vice Chair)
Caroline Boucher
Teresa Denton
3 vacancies

Next meetings

Tue 8 October, 6.30pm
Tue 12 November, 6.30pm

www.middleton-northants-pc.gov.uk

All meetings take place in the village hall (annex) on Berryfield Road, next to the school.

In villages, community shops succeed where commercial ventures often fail because they exist primarily for the benefit of the residents and they create a much greater sense of community in the villages they serve.

Although the priorities and concerns for Cottingham and Middleton's Village Store and Café remain (rising food prices and overhead costs, the ability to sustain and improve profitability and turnover), the future of the store is optimistic. But we still need more residents to use the shop and café.

The Village Store and Café is the centre of local community, open seven days a week offering essential services, particularly to those who are disadvantaged by lack of transport, limited physical mobility or who may be alone. But the store is for everyone.

With so many supermarkets locally, many customers only use the shop for basic provisions or those 'extras', but not having to get your car out to go to the shops to pick up your newspaper, Wesses bread, Corby rolls, milk, a pack of Joseph Morris ham, bacon, or sausages, or a hot Grasmere sausage roll, is a great benefit. Not only are you supporting local produce with lower food miles, but not using your car means you are also doing your bit for the environment.

Another great benefit of a community shop is its staff and volunteers. That little chat over the shop counter can be the perfect way to get to know others in your community, whether it's a cheery greeting or a heartfelt recommendation, and our staff and volunteers regularly go the extra mile for customers. You won't get that level of service or familiarity at the supermarket checkout.

Supporting the village shop and café isn't just about buying stuff – it's about investing in the heart and soul of our community and the Shop Committee would like to thank those residents who continue to support the shop by providing free tomato plants, produce, pickles, preserves and cakes, with the proceeds from these contributing to making the shop more sustainable, as well as the volunteers who generously give up their time to serve in the shop.

If anyone is interested in finding out more about supporting the shop please contact Shop Secretary **Audrey Teodorini**, on **07856 770857**, email audreyteodorini@msn.com.



Farewell John

In July, we bade farewell to a true legend, sports coach and former Gladiators referee, John Anderson, who passed away aged 92. John coached more than 100 Olympic athletes including Sheila Carey, Liz McColgan, Judy Simpson and David Moorcroft. He also served as head coach for the Amateur Athletics Association of England and Scottish national coach, and was inducted into the coaching hall of fame in 2002. RIP John.



Are you interested in becoming a Cottingham Parish Councillor?

On 1 May next year, local elections will be held in this area. The current four year term for Cottingham Parish Council (CPC) comes to an end and the community will be invited to nominate candidates to become parish councillors.

These elections are a 'level playing field' in that all candidates, whether they've previously stood or not, simply need to meet the eligibility criteria. In short, this means you must be at least 18 years old and have lived or worked in, or within three miles of, the parish for the past 12 months.

There are currently nine councillors for Cottingham. CPC Chair **George West-Robinson** said: "Cottingham PC has established a reputation over the last few years as being fairly proactive, financially organised and approachable. This is a good springboard for a brand new iteration of the Council to launch from next May. Don't you just wonder what it would look like, and be able to achieve, if you were on it? If you'd like to have an informal discussion with me, or ask any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me on **07891 159155**, or email me at grwrconsultingltd@gmail.com."

Bell ringing update

The bell tower at St Mary Magdalene has seen lots of activity over the past few months!

Shortly after the full peal was rung on 2 June, 21 members of the Kettering Guild of Bellringers, of which Cottingham is part, visited the church to ring in the tower, and the repairs to the frame for Bell No.3 have recently been completed by Pete Sturman, Dave Palmer and Andy Bimson. Thanks again to everyone who helped raise the money to get these repairs done, and keep our church bells ringing.

There's now a framed certificate in the church acknowledging the generous donations received for the purchase of new bell ropes, that were installed in February. Donations were received from Mary Freestone, whose coffee morning raised £760; from Noel Rogers, Wendy and Gordon Brown, in memory of a much-loved wife and sister, Patricia Rogers; and from Jane Smith and Pete Bowman, in memory of their friend and neighbour, Wayne Smith. For more information, and pictures of the bell frame repairs, see cottinghamnews.co.uk/church-bells.



Blackberry Way

There are huge crops of juicy blackberries in the hedgerows this year. But did you know that any that aren't picked by the end of the September become the devil's share?

To find out why, along with a lovely recipe for blackberry compote, read local author **Lesley Bailey's** article on the village website at cottinghamnews.co.uk/blackberries.



Ashley Road planning update from Middleton Residents Action Group

Below is a brief summary and update on where we currently stand regarding the gypsy and traveller sites on Ashley Road, Middleton.

Oakley Park. In April 2023, planning permission was granted, at appeal, for 10 gypsy and traveller pitches on this site. Since then we have seen much unlawful activity, including the importation of more static caravans and aggregate with no adherence to the conditions set out by the Planning Inspector at appeal. A temporary stop notice was issued by North Northants Council (NNC) on 8 July 2024. We are fully aware of the issues we face at this site and we continue to work tirelessly with NNC's planning and enforcement officers to put a stop to this unlawful activity.

Peasdale Hill. Planning permission for this site was dismissed at appeal in January 2024 and NNC subsequently issued a new stop and enforcement notice (in May 2024). The enforcement notice requires the site to be vacated by 18 September and gives a further two months for the site to be reinstated to its original condition. Any failure to comply by the owners will result in prosecution action by NNC.

Middleton RAG and Middleton Parish Council (MPC) will continue, on your behalf, to closely monitor developments at both Oakley Park and Peasdale Hill. However we do believe that we face a number of challenges, over an extended time period, before these issues will be fully resolved. We also recognise that speculation and misunderstanding can rapidly spread through our community and we thank you for your continued support. RAG and MPC are here for you! Please contact middletonrag@gmail.com if you have any concerns or questions.

Warm Space, Warm Welcome!

By **Kathryne Tilley**

As a volunteer, it's been amazing to see the village Warm Space group grow over the past couple of years. For what started in Winter 2022 to provide a warm room and a hot drink for a couple of months to still be going, and growing, just goes to show that it's something the community wants, and needs. To (mis)quote Kevin Costner's 1989 film *Field of Dreams*: "If you build it, they will come!" And that certainly sums it all up for me!

Organised and run by the Welland Valley Benefice, Warm Space provides company for so many people. We regularly have around 20 guests when I help out during school holidays, and I'm reliably informed there's often double that number during term time! We provide tea, coffee, cake, a lunch of filled rolls, and hot soup during the winter. We also have events happening from time to time, such as singing, visitors and day trips.

It's always great to spend time talking with people and catching up on events, but I thought I'd ask one of our regulars, Glynn Ball, what he gets out of it. "It's the company that makes it so enjoyable," said Glynn, "This weekly meeting where everyone chats, shares news and problems has really helped me get to know people better. And as the volunteers come from across the benefice, you get to meet people from outside the village as well. I've found it a really positive, welcoming group and I'd certainly miss it if it stopped."

So, if you fancy some company or if you just want to see what it's all about, why not pop along to the village hall on a Wednesday morning from about 10am? You'll receive a big welcome, and the wonderful, supportive atmosphere is sure to put a smile on your face! For more information, contact **Kathryne** on **07870 101658**, email randktilley@outlook.com.



What's On

For latest events, see
cottinghamnews.co.uk

The Mill Community Hub Events Calendar



- 26 Oct * Family Halloween party
- 9 Nov * Quiz night (details on right)
- 23 Nov Xmas wine tasting (SOLD OUT)
- 29 Nov * Wreath making

* The pop up bar will be open on these dates and also from 6pm on **27 Sep, 18 Oct and 22 Nov**. If you can help run the bar on any of these dates, please message **Leigh** on **07813 926408**. Thanks to everyone who supported the pop up bar over the summer.

For all event details and timings, visit themillhub.co.uk.

Please note that Ant Licquorish's quiz planned for 5 October at Pinky's Pastries has been postponed so that quizzes can be more evenly spaced.

Due to personal circumstances, the wine tasting scheduled for 21 September has also been postponed until the New Year.

Live music @ The Royal George

Sat 28 September, 6.30–9.30pm
Celtic folk music from **Reel Thyme**



Sat 2 November,
8–10pm, jazz trio
24 Carat Jazz



Entry free. For more info, see the pub's Facebook page, [@cottinghamroyalgeorge](https://www.facebook.com/cottinghamroyalgeorge).

Wed 9 Oct, 11am–1pm, 5–7pm

Mobile flu jab clinic, Bancroft Road

Thursfield's Pharmacy will be offering flu jabs from their mobile van at 22 Bancroft Road again this year.



Thursfields will also provide COVID jabs, if they're available from the NHS by then, but if not will come back to do these at a later date.

For more information, contact **Carol** on **07711 545470**. Note there's a fee payable for the jabs.

Sat 9 Nov, 6.30pm

Quiz night, village hall



Ant Licquorish will be running one of his popular village quizzes at the village hall in support of The Mill project.

Tickets are £12 each to include a fish or chicken and chip supper (vegetarian option to be confirmed), or £5 if you want to bring your own food. The ticket price is slightly more this time around, due to increased food costs.

No need to lug heavy bags, as the pop up bar will be open, serving a range of reasonably priced wines, beer, lager, cider and soft drinks.

There'll be eight quiz rounds rather than 10, but otherwise the format will be the same as Ant's previous quizzes, including a raffle.

Doors open 6.30pm for a 7pm start. Please book by 31 October, by emailing **Joanne Leaning** on joanne.leaning@btinternet.com, or message her on **07776 261647**.

Simply Floyd, simply amazing!



The Simply Floyd gig in the school hall on 20 July had audiences transfixed, with note perfect renditions of Pink Floyd classics from an outstanding group of musicians. The pop up bar in the village hall next door, including a guest beer 'Comfortably Numb' from Weldon Brewery, also went down a treat! Thanks to the band and everyone who came along and helped run this event, which raised £495 for The Mill project.

The Welland Valley Voice Choir returns for their autumn term this month. The choir rehearses in the school hall on Tuesday evenings during term time. If you're interested in joining, contact valleyvoicechoir@gmail.com.



St Mary Magdalene Church

First Sunday, 10.30am, Hymns and coffee
Third Sunday, 10.30am, Communion Service (bells rung at 10am)
Fridays, 7-8pm, bell ringing practice
See cottinghamnews.co.uk/church

Useful Contacts

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

Corby Urgent Care Centre
01536 202121
cucc@onemedicalgroup.co.uk

Safer Corby Team, for reporting anti-social behaviour
01536 464603, safercorby.cbc@northnorthants.gov.uk

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

North Northants Council
Street lighting, environmental issues, highways etc
0300 126 3000, customerfirst.cbc@northnorthants.gov.uk

Corby Neighbourhood Wardens
karen.millsop@northnorthants.gov.uk
brian.houston@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), Leigh McGivern,
07794 703206, Facebook,
leighmcgivern2@gmail.com

The Mill Community Hub Project
mail@themillhub.co.uk

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

Clubs and Groups

Valley Voice, village choir
Pete Smith, **07971 989081**
valleyvoicechoir@gmail.com

Rockingham Forest Wheelers
Norman Needham, **771356**

Royal George Golf Society
Norman Golding, **07768 536344**

East Carlton Cricket Club
Marion Goodman, **07901 941224**

East Carlton Walking Group
Pam Grayson, **772565**

The Great

Imogen Owen of Church Street, Cottingham has opened the former Great Easton post office and stores as 'The Great', a stylish café and deli selling artisan produce. Telephone **07736 453868**.

