



Cottingham and Middleton News

November/December 2019

Available online at www.cottinghamnews.co.uk



Welcome to the November/December village newsletter.

Thanks to everyone who has supported the fundraising

push for The Mill so far. Please see page 3 for a round up and to find out about the latest activities.

Christmas is also nearly upon us. We have lots of festive events coming up and you can find details on the back page.

As we near the end of 2019, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Lorraine Desmond, Sarah Brant and all the villagers who've once again helped to deliver the newsletters to your door. This is a real team effort and we couldn't do it without you.

And finally, I'd like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas. Please keep your eye on the village website and Facebook page for all the latest news in the run up to the big day.

Jane Smith, Editor
3 Corby Road, tel 770821, email jane@cottinghamnews.co.uk

Next issue
January 2020

St Mary Magdalene Church Survey

Following the recent departure of Rev Sian Reading, Cottingham Parochial Church Council (PCC) has agreed to a Deanery proposal to enlarge their benefice to seven parishes covering Ashley, Cottingham, East Carlton, Stoke Albany, Sutton Bassett, Weston-by-Welland and Wilbarston. This enlarged benefice will be served by a full time Rector.

The service pattern of our churches hasn't changed for many years, and this, together with the enlargement of the benefice, means the existing pattern is not sustainable for a single full time priest, and will need to change. Before a new priest is appointed, the PCC is carrying out a survey of villagers to find out, in particular, what services you'd like to attend, but also what you want from the church as a village asset.

You can download a copy of the survey from the village website at www.cottinghamnews.co.uk or please speak to any member of the PCC to let them know your thoughts.

Remembering our fallen soldiers

Thanks to everyone who organised and came along to the Remembrance Service on 10 November.

There are 24 WW1 soldiers commemorated on the Memorial and also four soldiers from WW2. One of these is **Flight Lt Bertram (Bert) Townsin** of the 29th Squadron Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve who died on 23 February 1944. We remember Bert and all the other soldiers who gave their lives for us.



Many thanks to Paul Barker for sharing this cherished family photograph. If anyone has any pictures of the other WW2 soldiers commemorated (John Campbell, Charles Cooper and Edward Hurst), please send them to jane@cottinghamnews.co.uk so we can share and remember them too.

Vehicle crime alert

Towards the end of October, there were a number of incidents involving a group of men seen trying car door handles in Middleton. Some items were stolen from vehicles and one keyless entry car was stolen from a driveway. These incidents all happened around 1am, although this isn't to say there's not a risk at other times of the day or night. Also towards the end of October, we were made aware of a spate of break-ins / attempted break-ins to vans in Cottingham and the surrounding villages to steal tools.

Please be vigilant in locking your house and car and removing contents that might make it a target. Police advice is to keep your car keys, and all keys, in a safe place away from your door, as some car keys can now be cloned from a short distance through your door.

If you notice any suspicious behaviour which concerns you, please report it to the Police with a vehicle registration number if you have one. All incidents, whether with cars or your home, however large or small, should be reported to the Police by calling 101 or, if it's an emergency and a theft is in progress, call 999. Remember if it's not reported, it can't be solved if thieves are targeting our village.

Calling for books



The village phone box library is running short of books, as many seem to have disappeared. Please pop some more books in if you have any to spare – novels only please, but please only leave them if there is space on the shelves. Thank you!

Parish Councils

Cottingham

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

David Grayson (Chair)
George West-Robinson
(Vice Chair)
John Adams
Clive Ashworth
Mike Curtis
Owen Davison
Luke Montague
John Muir
Tom Russel
Sarayou Thomas-George

Next meetings

Wed 4 Dec, 7.30pm
Wed 8 Jan, 7.30pm (TBC)

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)
Alan Cole (Vice Chair)
Barbara Bradshaw
Tony Freeman
Gina Hicks
Marie Thomas

Next meetings

Tue 27 Nov, 7.30pm
Tue 21 Jan, 7.30pm

www.middleton-northants-pc.gov.uk

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

Village Hall Annex

The Village Hall Annex has unfortunately had to cancel some music events this year due to poor ticket sales.

The Village Hall Management Committee would be really keen to know what kind of music you'd like to see on down at the Annex, and also if there are any particular acts you'd like to see. Please speak to **Audrey** on **771084**, or message them through their [Facebook page](#).



Read all about it!

Cottingham School has come top in a Corby Library reading challenge. Sixty children took part in the challenge to read at least six books each over the summer break, double the number taking part in 2018. This placed the school top for the second year running, with the children reading at least 360 books between them.

Head teacher Ashley Scott said: "This is an amazing achievement, especially as we are only a small school of 130 pupils. We do all we can to promote a love of reading, both at school and at home, and we have a great relationship with Corby Library. This achievement really shows how well the school is supported by the parents, and the important part that reading plays in the children's learning."

Cottingham Parish Council update from David Grayson, Chair



Parish Clerk retires. Cottingham Parish Clerk Peter Taylor has retired after over 33 years of service. The Council was founded in 1894, meaning Peter has been Clerk for over a quarter of the Council's 125 year existence! He has been a safe pair of hands, as you'd expect from a former Hull City goalkeeper. We'd like to thank Peter for his hard work, dedication and assistance over the years, wish him good luck in his retirement and thank him for being the thoroughly nice man we've all come to respect.

Neighbourhood Plan. There is still work to be done obtaining the evidence required to produce Cottingham's Neighbourhood Plan, and we need more help from people in the village. Remember that, once accepted, the Plan will be the primary planning document for the village. Planning authorities are obliged to use a Neighbourhood Plan as a primary source of evidence when it makes decisions relating to green spaces, future housing, house extensions and a host of other aspects affecting village life.

We've had some interest shown from people whose email hasn't worked, so we've been unable to contact them. If you'd like to help and are not currently involved, please contact **David Grayson** on **772565**, email davidgrayson@live.co.uk or **Tom Russell** on **07806 784212**, email tom-russell@sky.com.

Overhanging shrubbery. A number of residents have contacted us about overhanging shrubbery at shoulder and head height restricting use of the pavements. We kindly urge homeowners with gardens running along pavements in the village, especially on Corby Road, Rockingham Road, High Street and School Lane, to keep their gardens cut back so pedestrians can use the full width of the pavement. If disposal of garden waste is a problem for you, you can get an additional green (or brown) recycling bin free of charge from Corby Borough Council on **01536 464242**. We thank you for your help in this matter.

Dog mess (yet again)

Despite several pieces in this newsletter about dog mess, it seems that some people either don't listen, don't care or remain too selfish to clean up after their dog. The school has been in touch to say that parents have raised concerns about the amount of dog poo on the recreation field – one child has had the misfortune of treading in a pile three times. And villagers have also taken to Facebook to complain about the increase in poop around the villages, particularly around Darescroft/Ashley Road, on the path up to The Dale, and even on someone's driveway!

Dog mess is an eyesore and a health hazard. If you're a dog owner, you have a legal duty to clean up if your dog messes in a public place. Failure to do so carries a maximum fine of £1,000.

The recreation field is a public place. The path up to the Dale may be classed as rural land, but even so, please be considerate and either bag and bin your poo, or get a stick and flick it into the undergrowth – don't leave it for people to step in.

If you spot someone letting their dog foul in a public place without cleaning it up, please report it to Corby Borough Council on **01536 464000** with as much information as possible, such as the time, date and location of the incident, the frequency (if it happens regularly), a description/breed of dog, a description of the owner and, if known, their name and address.

Update From The Mill Project

In October, The Mill trustees received official Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) status. The Mill's new Registered Charity Number is 1185835. Thanks to everyone who supported this move, as it makes moving the project forward a whole lot easier.

Meanwhile, the fundraising drive continues at pace.



- The **Chilli Cook-Off** on 2 November was a sell-out and raised £500. The six hot chefs for the night were (left to right) Del Robertson, Mary Knott, Sam Ryall, Kerry Baxter, Sue Aspinall and Lee Gray. Lee's chilli came out tops on the night, winning him the coveted 'Crown of Chillies'. Suits you Sir!
- The **Italian Clothes Sale** on 4 November raised £158, with organiser Kate Cross generously providing wine and snacks for free as a thank you for those who attended.
- Jars around the villages are filling up with loose change for the **Copper Mile** we'll be building in May next year. Keep collecting and we'll let you know when and where to bring your coins nearer the time.



Thanks to everyone who has organised and supported these events.

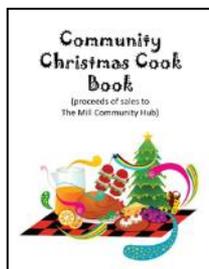
Countdown to Christmas

The next big fundraiser for The Mill is the **Christmas Bazaar** on 30 November (see back page).

On sale at the Bazaar will be a **seasonal cookbook** with 42 mouthwatering recipes from village foodies. Take your pick from drinks, nibbles, starters, mains, sweets, cakes and treats, including vegetarian options. The team is still planning to produce a full community cookbook next year, so please keep your recipes coming. Please send them to **Del Robertson** on delboy639@goolemail.com

The Millers are also producing a Christmas card featuring a snowy village scene. These will be on sale for 60p each at the Bazaar and at the Village Store. You can also get them from **Pete Bowman** on **770821**, email pete@themillhub.co.uk

For more information and a full calendar of planned events, please see www.themillhub.co.uk



Getting quizzical

The Spread Eagle Thursday night quiz is going great guns, with lots of new teams now coming along regularly to test their grey matter. It starts at 8pm and costs £1 per person. There are cash, drinks and other prizes.

The Sunday night quiz at the Royal George is now taking place fortnightly. The cost is £1.50 per person with 50p going to The Mill project. There are cash and other prizes, and food is available.

Ant Licquorish's October quiz raised £333 for Medical Detection Dogs. Look out for details of his next quiz in April 2020.

What a racquet!

If you've ever played badminton, why not dust off your racquet and come and join the village badminton club? This small friendly group from Cottingham, Middleton and the surrounding areas gets together to play badminton at Rockingham Village Hall on Friday evenings from 7:30–9:30pm, and they're looking for new members.

Please contact **Sue Aspinall** on **07454 010582**, email genie@oldbakehouse.net or **Helen Bradshaw** on **01536 770029**, email hsbradshaw@hotmail.com



If tennis is your game, **Rutland Tennis Academy** is keen to welcome new members to join its fun and friendly coaching and matches at Uppingham Community College.

There are already members from Cottingham and Middleton and the coaching is suitable for first timers, former players and experienced regulars. Ages range from 13 to 70+.

Coaching is on Sundays at 9.30am and Tuesday evenings at 6.15pm throughout the year. Just turn up for a free taster. Call **Andy Gilgrist** on **772256** if you'd like to find out more, or see the club's [Facebook page](#).

Friends of East Carlton Park

The Friends of East Carlton Country Park (FoECCP) have existed for many years, supporting and nurturing the natural environment and landscape of our treasured local park. As winter approaches, they're planning their support programme, with next spring and summer in mind. It's an ambitious project which has already begun, but there's still a lot to do. These plans need support to be turned into action, and the FoECCP would dearly welcome any help from interested local people, for however many hours a week.

To find out how you can help, please contact **Steve Mcilvenny** on **07966 119383** or **John Bee** on **01536 770977**, email johnbeejax@outlook.com. "The park belongs to us all and gives many people great pleasure," says Steve. "Let's do what we can to give it some loving attention in return. We'll keep you posted on progress over the coming months."



What's on

For latest events, see
www.cottinghamnews.co.uk

Sat 30 November, 1–4pm, Christmas Fayre and Bazaar

Cottingham School's Christmas Fayre will be taking place in the school hall, raising money for the school, alongside a Christmas Bazaar, being organised by the ladies from the 'Made in the Villages' stall at the Village Hall Annex to raise money for The Mill project. Come along to get in the Christmas spirit and snap up some bargains.



Poster for Cottingham C of E Christmas Fayre. Text includes: SATURDAY 30TH NOVEMBER 2019 1PM TIL 4PM. COTTINGHAM C OF E. CHRISTMAS FAYRE. JOIN US IN THE SCHOOL HALL FOR SOME FESTIVE FUN! Activities listed: CHOCOLATE TOMBOLA, RAFFLE, LUCKY DIP, WATER & WINE; REFRESHMENTS, POUND A POP, GUESS THE WEIGHT OF THE TURKEY; ELF YOURSELF, LUCKY DIP, POUND BUCKET AND MORE. WHY NOT POP ALONG TO THE VILLAGE HALL WHERE YOU WILL FIND MORE STALLS WHICH ARE IN SUPPORT OF THE MILL PROJECT.



Poster for Christmas Bazaar. Text includes: Christmas Bazaar. SATURDAY 30 NOVEMBER 1pm to 4pm at COTTINGHAM VILLAGE HALL ANNEX. Unique, affordable, hand-made gifts. Everything you need for Christmas. Food • Drink • Games • Festivities • Fun for all the family. All proceeds to The Mill Community Hub. Come along and find more stalls in support of Cottingham C of E Primary School in the School Hall. THE MILL COTTINGHAM & MIDDLETON COMMUNITY HUB.

29 Nov and 1 Dec, Choir at Rockingham Castle

The Valley Voice Choir will be singing carols at the Rockingham Castle Victorian Christmas at 6.15pm and 7.10pm on Fri 29 Nov and 4.15pm and 5.10pm on Sun 1 Dec.

Thur 12 Dec, 7pm

Coffee and carols at Cottingham Methodist Church.



Sun 15 Dec, 6pm

Carol service at St Mary Magdalene Church, with the Valley Voice Choir.

Fri 20 Dec, Carols round the pubs

Valley Voice will be visiting the Nazz Lounge, Spread Eagle and Royal George to spread some Christmas cheer.



Cottingham walkabout, Wed 18 Dec, 2–3pm

Join Corby Borough Council's Neighbourhood Wardens [Karen Millsop](#) and [Brian Houston](#) for a walkabout in the top half of Cottingham (Ripley Road/Bancroft etc). The idea is to take a look around the area and identify any concerns or issues that need addressing. Meet on the corner of Ripley and Rockingham Road at 2pm.

Sun 22 Dec

4.15pm – Carols with Valley Voice, Main Street Orchard, Middleton

6pm – Lessons and carols, Cottingham Methodist Church.



Christmas Eve, Christmas Story

We'll be starting near the corner in Middleton at 4pm and walking up to Cottingham Church, stopping off along the way for a retelling of the Christmas Story. Call **Angela** on **772297** if your child would like to dress up and be part of the story.



Christmas Eve, 11.30pm

Midnight Mass, St Peter's, East Carlton.

Christmas Day, 10.30am

Service at St James', Gretton.



Useful Contacts

Northants Police **101**
northants.police.uk/webform/report-crime

PCSO Joe Devlin Joseph.Devlin@northants.pnn.police.uk

Rural Neighbourhood Team (Suzanne Preston) **463177**, email suzanne.preston@corby.gov.uk

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

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

Street lighting, Corby Council, email customer.first@corby.gov.uk

Cllr Bob Rutt, Corby Borough Council, **07801 945948**

Cllr Sandra Naden-Horley, Northants County Council, **07944 213860**
SaNaden-Horley@northamptonshire.gov.uk

Down Your Way correspondent for Northants Telegraph, Beth Kilgallon, 8 Stonepit Drive LE16 8XY, **07933 985186**, bethkilgallon456@hotmail.com

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

Village Hall Annex
Audrey Ashworth, **771084**
[Facebook](#)

Methodist Hall
Lynette Muir, **770094**

The Mill Community Hub Chair, Pete Bowman, pete@cottinghamnews.co.uk
www.themillhub.co.uk

Clubs and Groups

Cubs and Scouts
Gary Chisholm, **772331**

Valley Voice, village choir
Pete Smith, 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, **772565**



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