



Cottingham and Middleton News

October / November 2016

Available online at www.cottinghamnews.co.uk



Welcome to the October issue of the village newsletter.

There are lots of activities to get involved in as we head towards Christmas.

We know the festive season is a busy time of year, so we wanted to get dates in your diaries as soon as possible.

As well as our traditional village events like the 'Christmas Story' journey on Christmas Eve, there are some new activities including an exciting idea to bring the villages alive with Christmas themed windows, lighting up to form a living advent calendar (see 'Christmas Countdown' on page 3).

Keep an eye on the village website for the latest news and information on all events and activities.

Jane Smith, Editor

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**Next issue
December 2016**

Perry good Mark!



Well done to Mark Shirley whose Rockingham Forest Cider has just won the gold certificate for the best perry in the CAMRA East Midlands Regional Cider & Perry Championships. "A well deserved accolade for an excellent 'Green Horse' single variety perry".



Join the village email list by following the instructions on the village website

www.cottinghamnews.co.uk

Little Meadow

In July, a planning application (reference 16/00337/RVC) was submitted to vary the conditions of the planning consent granted for Little Meadow on Corby Road, so that the number of mobile homes allowed on the site at any one time could be increased from two to six.

Cottingham Parish Council, our local MP Tom Pursglove and a large number of villagers have written to the planning authority (Corby Borough Council) to oppose the application. A decision is pending and we will bring you more information as soon as we know it.

For more information and background, see the village website at www.cottinghamnews.co.uk/news/little-meadow

65 years for Arthur and Phyllis

Congratulations to Phyllis and Arthur Collins who have just celebrated their 65th (Blue Sapphire) wedding anniversary.

The couple moved to Cottingham in 1957 and, as Arthur was the village policeman, lived in the old police house on Rockingham Road until Arthur retired in the 1970s, when they moved to Welland View Road. Their two children Nicholas and Amanda both attended the village school and, says Phyllis, had a wonderful education under headmaster Mr Kisby.

With Amanda and her family now living out in America, the couple have a busy few months ahead – Amanda's daughter Chelsea is expecting Phyllis and Arthur's second great grandchild any day now and their youngest granddaughter Taryn gets married in Florida in January.

Phyllis and Arthur, who celebrated their anniversary with lunch at Hambleton Hall, say they feel very blessed to have received cards and telephone calls from all over the world, including their second anniversary card from The Queen!



New-look village website



The village website at www.cottinghamnews.co.uk has been given a fresh new look and has been moved across to a new Wordpress platform.

We hope you like the new site. If you have any comments or feedback, or if there is any other information you would like to see on the site, please email jane@cottinghamnews.co.uk

We are planning to publish news more regularly on the site but will still be using the village email list (sign up details on the left) to keep villagers up to date on what's happening between newsletters.

Yellow lines survey



Cottingham Parish Councillors Owen Davison, David Grayson and Tom Russel

have formed a working group to co-ordinate the survey to gather views from Cottingham villagers about the yellow lines that have been introduced at the junctions of Corby Road, Church Street, High Street and Rockingham Road.

Look out for more news coming soon.

Parish Councils

Cottingham

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

Owen Davison (**Chair**)
Clive Ashworth (**Vice Chair**)
Mike Curtis
Trevor Dicken
David Grayson
John Muir
Tom Russel

Next meetings

Wed 2 Nov, 7.00m
Wed 7 Dec, 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 15 Nov, 7.30pm
Tue 20 Dec, 7.30pm

www.middleton-northants-pc.gov.uk

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

Harvest Supper

The Harvest Supper held at St Mary Magdalene on 1 October raised £285 towards repairs and improvements for the Church.

Organiser Angela Preston-Jones said: "It was a lovely, relaxing evening with good food and company, and fabulous entertainment from Valley Voice. "Thanks to everyone who took part and came along."

Chris says thanks

Chris Perkins would like to thank everyone who kindly visited and sent cards, flowers and messages while she was in hospital.

Chris is now home and progressing well.

Incident alerts – please be vigilant

Recent burglaries

Our local PCSO Anita Hambly has asked us to make you aware of a spate of attempted burglaries in the villages over the past month, plus one actual burglary where a car was stolen. Could villagers please be vigilant, keep windows and doors locked (even during the day) and place car keys out of sight. Report any suspicious activity to the non-emergency number on 101 and, if you witness a crime in progress, call 999.



PCSO Anita Hambly

Livestock thefts

A local farm has had some livestock stolen in recent weeks. Our rural police team is working closely with their colleagues in Leicestershire as it's possible this is an organised gang that may be travelling across borders. If you see anyone acting suspiciously near livestock, call the non-emergency number on 101 and pass on the registrations of any vehicles present.

Lead thefts

We have also been alerted to recent thefts of lead from the church roofs in Weston-by-Welland and Gretton. Please keep your eyes open and report any unusual activity to the non-emergency number on 101.

Police surgeries

PCSO Anita Hambly will be holding a Police surgery at the Village Shop at 11am on 7 November. You can also contact her by emailing anita.hambly@northants.police.uk

Scouts celebrate 1st anniversary

The 1st Welland Valley Scout group has just celebrated its first anniversary in style, winning the Market Harborough District 'Clem Webb Award' for being the group that is 'reaching new heights'.

Formed in September 2015, the group is attended by girls and boys aged 6 to 14 years from both our villages.



"It's been an amazing first year for us with over 1,000 badges earned, 80 youth members, one chief scout bronze, 10 chief scout silvers and four chief scout gold awards," said Scout leader Gary Chisholm, who lives in Cottingham. The gold awards were earned by Cottingham's Philip Chisholm, former Cottingham School pupil Adam Sherlock, David Malin from Stoke Albany and Josh Lake from Wilbarston.

The highlight of the Scout's year was a week-long camp in Charnwood where, having joined 4,000 scouts from 24 nations, three Welland Valley Scouts were chosen to escort the flagbearers at the opening ceremony. They also had some sporting triumphs at the County Championships where their rifle shooting team came third and they gained fourth place in a 12 mile 'Soaring Fox' activity hike. In the summer, the cubs joined 1,000 others at the County Camp at Mallory Park race track.

Other activities have included themed sleepovers and watersports days, and the group has even reintroduced the tradition of a duck race in Medbourne!

If you're interested in joining in the fun, the Beavers and Cubs meet on Thursday evenings at Medbourne Village Hall and the Scouts meet at Ashley Village Hall, also on a Thursday evening. For more information, see the village website or contact **Gary Chisholm** on **772331**, email chisholm21@btinternet.com

A great walk on the Great Wall

Middleton's Emma and Dale Love, and Dale's fiancée Jessica, flew out to China in August to walk around 90 miles of the Great Wall. They would like to say a big thank you to everyone in the villages who kindly sponsored them. The group of 11 raised £57,349 for Childreach International.





Countdown to Christmas



Living Advent calendar – your windows wanted!

Imogen Owen from Church Street, Cottingham is organising a 'living advent calendar' to bring the villages alive in the run up to the big day.

"Having seen living advent calendars elsewhere, I thought it would be a great idea for Cottingham and Middleton to get everyone feeling festive and jolly," says Immie.

The idea is to have 24 houses around the villages, with each house assigned a date from 1 December onwards. Each homeowner would then create an advent calendar window display in secret, and unveil it at an agreed time on their assigned date. The window would then be lit up for the rest of advent.

At each unveiling there would be a countdown and homeowners can do as much or as little as they like to mark the occasion. "If you want to offer mulled wine or mince pies, then that's great, but it's fine if you just want to unveil the window," says Immie.

The display can be anything with a festive feel and the 24th window will hopefully have some added festive cheer. A map for the windows and times will be available so you can follow it around the villages.

So, if you have a window that's easily visible from the street and would like to take part, please email thelivingadventcalendar@gmail.com by 31 October.



Reverse Advent food box challenge

St Mary Magdalene Church invites you to join their Christmas challenge for Corby Food Bank.

The idea is that you fill a box with one non-perishable food item each day during November – the reverse of taking a treat out of your Advent calendar.

"Christmas, for all its treasures, can be a time of enormous stress for families," said organiser Angela Preston-Jones.

"No-one in our local community should go hungry and Corby Food Bank plays a vital role in ensuring that those in need get help."

Your filled boxes can be taken along to the joint benefice Advent Service at Rockingham Church at 10.30am on Sunday 27 November. Alternatively, you can take your box to Cottingham Primary School or St Mary Magdalene Church, or contact **Kathryne** on randkillee@outlook.com, telephone **07870 101658**.

The Church team will ensure that all boxes are delivered swiftly to Corby Food Bank for them to distribute before Christmas.

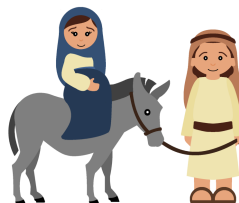
For more information about Corby Food Bank and the kind of items to include in your boxes, visit their website at www.corby.foodbank.org.uk

Travelling crib (27 November to Christmas)

Organised by St Mary Magdalene Church, a set of knitted nativity crib figures will be travelling around our villages in search of a place to stay in the run up to Christmas, symbolising Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem.

The crib starts its journey at the joint benefice Advent service being held at St Leonard's Church, Rockingham, on 27 November and will return to St Mary Magdalene Church in time for Christmas. The crib is accompanied by a book with pictures to colour in and a place to leave a Christmas message from your family.

If you would like to offer a home for the crib figures for one night in December, please contact **Angela Preston-Jones** on **772297**, or email p.j55@btinternet.com



Christmas in August



Almost 70 villagers entered into the festive spirit early this year, when Santa came to Middleton for a charity event hosted by John and Paula Orton, in aid of [Leicester Children's Holiday Centre at Mablethorpe](#).

"It began to snow as everyone arrived before entering Santa's grotto to a cheery Ho Ho Ho!" said Paula.

"We had a great night of music and dancing and we're told our carol singing could be heard in Cottingham, as we belted out favourites like The 12 Days of Christmas,"

"Thanks to everyone who helped us raise £2,500 for this fantastic charity for underprivileged children."



See the back page and the village website for more festive events

What's on

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

Sat 22 Oct, 6.30pm

Charity Quiz, Village Hall Annex



Come along to Ant Licquorish's Village Charity Quiz in aid of SERV (Service by Emergency Rider Volunteers) who transport

blood, blood products and other urgent medical items for NHS hospitals across the county.

Food is provided if you wish, either fish (or chicken) and chips or a vegetarian option. The cost is £7 per person including food or £3 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.

Call **Ant** on **771062** or email him at ant_the_quizmaster@btinternet.com

Wed 2 Nov, 8pm

Everest – beyond the limit Ashley Village Hall



Slide show and commentary from Ian Rogers on one of his three attempts to climb Everest. Tickets are £3.50 each and are being sold in advance. Please contact **Wendy Martin** on **0780 119 4560**, email wendy10ecp@gmail.com

Fri 4 Nov, 8pm

Bonfire night East Carlton



Come along to East Carlton Cricket Club for the lighting of the beacon at 8pm followed by a fireworks extravaganza.



Sat 12 Nov

Carltonfest, East Carlton

In the spirit of Oktoberfest, Carltonfest 2016 takes place at East Carlton Cricket Club, with a live Oompah band and hot supper. Fancy dress is optional. Tickets are £15 from **Adele** on **07816 14752**.

Sun 13 Nov, 10.45am

Remembrance Sunday



A joint remembrance service between St Mary Magdalene and the Methodist Church 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.

22 and 24 Nov, 6.30 and 7.45pm



Valley Voice Rockingham Castle

The Valley Voice Choir will be back singing at the Rockingham Castle

Victorian Christmas event, performing at 6.30pm and 7.45pm on both days. More information on the Castle's website at www.rockinghamcastle.co.uk

Sun 27 Nov, 10.30am

Advent Service St Leonards Church Rockingham



Joint benefice Advent service to include the launch of the travelling crib and collection of reverse advent boxes (see page 3).

Sun 11 Dec, 6pm

Carols by candlelight St Mary Magdalene Church



An evening of 'carols by candlelight' in the Church. Come along and join in with the beginning of this year's festivities.

Fri 16 Dec, 9pm

Valley Voice, Royal George

The Valley Voice Choir will be out and about spreading some Christmas cheer! They'll be singing at the old people's home on Main Street Middleton, at East Carlton Cricket Club around 7.45pm and then at the Royal George in Cottingham at around 9pm. Come along, listen and join in with your favourite yuletide tunes.

Sun 18 Dec

Community Carols Middleton Orchard



Christmas carol sing-along with the Valley Voice Choir at the Pocket Park (orchard) in Middleton. This will take place late afternoon / early evening, details to be finalised. Wrap up warm, bring lanterns and your best singing voice.

Christmas Eve, 11.30pm: Midnight Mass, St Mary Magdalene Church, Cottingham

Christmas Day, 10.30am: Christmas service, St Leonard's Church, Rockingham

Useful Contacts

Northants Police **101**

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

Street Doctor (Northants CC) www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/streetdoctor

Cllr Bob Rutt, Corby Borough Council, 07801 945948 robert.rutt@btconnect.com

Down Your Way correspondent for Northants Telegraph, Del Robertson, **07927 179921**, delboy639@gmail.com

Village Store and Café, **770097** 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

New Village Hall Trust, Chair, Pete Bowman, 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

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**

Sun 24 Dec, 4pm

The Christmas Story

This popular annual event will begin in Middleton (place to be advised) and finish with refreshments and a blessing in Cottingham Church.

The Christmas Story will be told as you walk through the villages. All dressing up is welcomed, so if you have any eager little angels or shepherds, they can be included in the story. Wrap up warm and bring lanterns.