



Cottingham and Middleton News

August/September 2014

Available online at www.cottinghamnews.co.uk

The Royal George

We have recently received the sad news that the Royal George pub has closed. We understand that, following lengthy negotiations with the pub's owners Punch Taverns, Hollie and James (who have been running the George for the last few months) have decided not to take on the lease.

Punch have told us that the closure will only be short term and that they hope a local operator will reopen the pub within the next week. They will shortly be advertising the lease on their recruitment website and are considering possible investment in the premises.

Keep an eye on the village website and Facebook page for the latest news.

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Next issue
October 2014

World War I Commemoration event

Sunday 24 August, 2 to 5pm, Village Hall Annex

Join us to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the start of the First World War and to remember the brave men of Cottingham and Middleton who fought and gave their lives for us.

There will be a history of Cottingham and Middleton's soldiers, prepared with the help of Chris Blenkarn who is building a website dedicated to the memory of the First World War servicemen named on the village war memorial, those that survived and their extended families (see www.cottinghamsoldiers.org.uk).

There will also be other displays, First World War memorabilia and music from the era sung by the Valley Voice choir, and played by fiddle duo 'Welland Valley Pals'.

There are period toys and games to try and, if you have the stomach for it, why not sample a cup of authentic recipe trench stew? There will also be food to buy and a pay bar. Entry is free and everyone is welcome to come along.

Any money raised on the day will go to Help for Heroes and the Royal British Legion.



If you have any World War I memorabilia, stories or documents that you would like to share, please contact Joanne Leaning on 770913, email joanne.leaning@btinternet.com

Villagers' support helps secure future for Store and Café

The Cottingham and Middleton Village Store and Café share offer has raised a fantastic £4,850 from 48 people, which is just a fraction short of the £5,000 target.

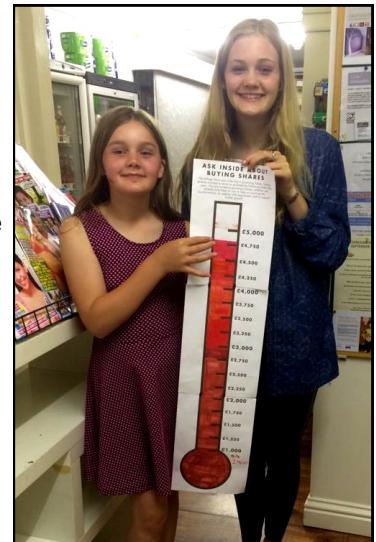
David Swallow, Chairman of the Management Committee, says: "We are delighted with the response to the share offer and our thanks go out to everybody who has supported us. The shop has been transformed, with new products, new staff and a new look, and the money raised from the share offer will help us expand further and provide a buffer for equipment repairs."

If you'd still like to buy shares, then you can do so. "We'd like as many people to join in as possible," says David. "The more money we raise, the more new lines we can introduce."

The shop has recently expanded its deli range and the beautiful weather in July was perfectly timed for a new range of delicious Thaymar ice creams. You can now email the shop to order fruit and vegetables and, if you haven't tried them, check out their artisan bread from Hambleton Bakery, locally made cheeses and quality meat products from Grasmere Farm. Keep an eye on the shop's Facebook page, www.facebook.com/cottinghamshop for the latest lines.

"We plan to expand our range further, and to redecorate the rooms upstairs," David added. "We are always keen to welcome new volunteers, so if you are able to support us, even for just a couple of hours a week, please pop in for a chat and a warm welcome."

You can contact the shop on 770097, email cottinghamshop@gmail.com or though Facebook.



Lily Swallow (age 10) and Nell Swallow (age 13) with the fundraising thermometer

Seasons of song



More than 60 people came along to the recent Valley Voice concert at St Mary Magdalene church. The choir, performing songs related to the seasons and weather, were joined by guest instrumentalists *Summertime Sax*, *The Point Road* and a ukulele group leading an audience sing along. The audience also enjoyed a performance from Brian Lewin on accordion, a piano duet from Diane Lewin and Debbie Smith, and a music hall sketch from George West Robinson and Wendy Harkin.

The music makers



If you've ever fancied learning to play an instrument, want to hone your skills, or love to sing and would like to learn more, then help is at

hand from Cottingham's **Sally Peerless**. Professional performer and teacher Sally, who grew up in Cottingham, is back in the village for a few months and is offering individual and group tuition in singing, music theory, clarinet, saxophone, flute, beginners' piano and recorder, for people of all ages, along with fun classes in music and movement for children. She is offering a discount for Cottingham and Middleton residents and classes start at £10. For more information, contact Sally on **07846 806944**, email s.peerless@live.co.uk



Music lessons are also available from the village choir's musical director **Debbie Smith**. A music

teacher in Market Harborough during the school day, Debbie offers individual and group tuition from her home in Middleton in piano, singing and music theory. She has 25 years' experience, enjoys teaching and takes a fun, relaxed approach. Exams are also an option. You can contact Debbie on **07743 087621**, email debmusic@hotmail.co.uk

Village fete draws in the crowds

The recent Cottingham Village Fete attracted a record number of visitors and raised a fantastic £3,427 for the school and church.

On a glorious summer's day, visitors came along to enjoy a range of attractions, all provided by community volunteers, including live music, miniature train rides, face painting, a beer tent, tea room and barbecue and the Pets Cuddle Corner from West Lodge Farm Park. There were lots of games and stalls, including a very cuddly teddy bear stall run by Sue Beadsworth and the ever popular 'made in the village' stall selling locally crafted gifts and toys.

Fete organiser Angela Preston-Jones said: "We are all delighted with how well the fete went this year. We had more games, more attractions, more visitors and a brilliant atmosphere. It was the busiest yet and we are so grateful to all those people who gave their time and skills to help us make the day enjoyable and profitable."

The school will use the money raised to buy musical instruments, starting with guitars, so that more children have the opportunity to learn an instrument, and the church will use the funds to repair the church path.

Pictured (top): Sue Beadsworth's teddy bear stall proves a hit with Abigail McNicol (age 7) and Joseph McNicol (age 9). Bottom (left to right): Paula Phillipson, Sarah Brant and Lynn Carson on the 'Made in the Village' stall.



Youngsters get on board for village skate park

The Recreation Ground Working Group, alongside HAGS play company, spoke with young people and residents about the proposed new skate park scheme at the recent village fete. They collected 40 questionnaires, which asked people about construction materials, design and preferred layout. Together with the online survey carried out earlier this year and village survey activity in 2012, the team now has more than 100 responses to inform the project.

Most respondents placed a skate park as their first or second choice in terms of preferred additional facilities for young people in the village. The working group will now look at the results and the next step will be to set up a young persons' action group, which will assist with developing a final design and organising local fundraising efforts. The working group will also start to look at potential funding sources for the bulk of the project.

If you'd like to fill in a survey or get involved in the action group (where the exciting design stuff will happen), please email **Suzanne Preston** at suzanne.preston@corby.gov.uk or call her on **01536 463177**.

Pictures show (top) young people completing the survey and (bottom, left to right) Jerry Jarman from HAGS play company, Cottingham Parish Councillor Irene Beadsworth, Corby Borough Council's Rural Pride Officer Suzanne Preston and Dryden Phillipson, Chairman of Middleton Parish Council.

Cottingham School welcomes celebrity guests

Cottingham C of E Primary School welcomed two celebrity visitors in the last few weeks of term. Actor Warwick Davis came along to collect a donation on behalf of Little People UK (LPUK) and loveable Nickleodeon TV character Humf, face of children's charity ICAN, came along to thank the children for raising money for the charity earlier in the year.

LPUK is a charity providing help, friendship and support for people in the UK with a restricted growth condition. The children presented Warwick, who is patron of the charity, and his wife Sammy, the charity's Chairperson, with a cheque for £137, which was raised at a recent charity day at the school. LPUK was nominated by 8-year old Elliot Dee in support of his younger brother Bruce (aged 7), who has the restricted growth condition 'Achondroplasia'.

Star Wars and Harry Potter star Warwick spent an hour at the school, talking to the children about his life and career, and answering their questions. He said: "As patron of Little People UK, I would like to thank Cottingham Primary School for their amazing fundraising work. I am delighted that LPUK were chosen as a beneficiary and I know the money raised will go a long way to helping people with dwarfism."

Two other charities benefited from the school's charity day - children's charity Spurgeons and Rainbows Hospice for children and young people. Each received donations for £137.



Picture shows Sammy and Warwick Davis with 7-year old Bruce Dee (centre front) and children from Cottingham School, including Bruce's brother Elliot (aged 8) and sister Imogen (aged 10), who are standing just behind him.

Humf surprised the children of Willow Class with an end of term visit to thank them for taking part in a Chatterbox Challenge earlier this year, where they were sponsored to sing nursery rhymes to raise money for ICAN. The children, aged 4 and 5, raised £285.90 for the charity and also won first prize in the charity's prize draw, winning £500 of educational supplies and, unbeknown to the children, a visit from Humf. School head teacher Emma Tayler said: "This was a wonderful surprise for the children – the look on their faces was an absolute picture! It will

be a day they'll remember for some time and it certainly makes all the effort they put into the Chatterbox Challenge worthwhile."

Update on proposed development to rear of Bury Close

From Cottingham and Middleton Parish Councils

- In June, Corby Borough Council (CBC) received the landscape and layout plans they had requested prior to making a decision on the application. In these plans, the number of houses on the site has been reduced from 75 to 57. CBC has received some responses from statutory consultees on these plans. Northamptonshire Wildlife Trust and the Ramblers Association continue to object to the application and Northamptonshire County Council Highways have also lodged an objection on the grounds of unsuitable access through Bury Close and the impact on walkers' enjoyment of the Jurassic Way. These consultee responses are now available on the Cottingham and Middleton website.
- CBC has been waiting for an archaeological report, which has just been received, and an ecology report, which is expected any time now. The next steps are for CBC to consult with the County Archaeologist and English Heritage on the archaeological report, and with the Wildlife Trust and Northants Bat Group on the ecology report.
- All these documents are (or will soon be) available on CBC's website and you are welcome to comment on them at any stage up until a decision is made on the application. Keep an eye on the village website for the latest information.

William Riddell Educational Trust (Middleton)

Grants are available from the William Riddell Educational Trust for Middleton residents aged under 25, to assist with the costs associated with learning a trade, or profession, or for further education after leaving school. If you would like to apply for a grant, please write to Mrs K M Dickens, Hill House, Middleton, Leicestershire LE16 8YX, giving date of birth and explaining the circumstance and requirements, before 1 Sep 2014.

Strawberries and wine

This year's wine safari raised £1,333 for the church. Thanks to everyone who came along, hosted, helped organise and donated raffle prizes.

Thanks too to everyone who came along to the strawberry tea at the Methodist Hall on 26 June. Organised by Sue Hall, the event raised £250 for breast cancer research.

Say it with flowers



Megan Mckim of Berryfield Road has recently opened her own floristry business. Forget Me Not Florist offers flowers, bouquets and arrangements for all occasions. For more information, visit www.forgetmenotflorist.net or call Megan on 772222.

Cottingham boys are on the ball

New Cottingham FC has now completed five seasons. The team finished runners up in the Kettering Area Sunday Football League at the end of the 2013/14 season and the club hopes to challenge for the league title when the new season starts in September.

You can keep up to date with the team through their website www.clubwebsite.co.uk/newcottinghamfc and on social media through Facebook, Twitter and Instagram (search for 'newcottinghamfc') as well as on YouTube.

Going to the dogs

There is a persistent problem with dog mess in Cottingham and Middleton, and one Main Street resident recently found a strange dog in her kitchen helping itself to food off the kitchen worktop. Please can dog owners keep their animals on leads and clean up after them.

What's on

See www.cottinghamnews.co.uk for latest events

15 Aug (3pm) and 6 Sep (3.30pm)

Police surgeries, Village Store



Our local Community Police Support Officer Mark Tooley will be holding police surgeries at the Cottingham and Middleton Village Store and Café. Please feel free to drop in for a chat.

Sun 24 Aug, lunchtime onwards

Fun day, Red Lion, Middleton

Come along for a fun day at the Red Lion. There will be fun activities for the kids, a bouncy castle, music, paella and an outside BBQ. Everyone welcome.

Sun 31 Aug, 1.30pm

Andy Roberts Memorial Cricket Match



Andy Roberts, who sadly passed away recently, was a keen supporter of East Carlton Cricket Club. He served on the committee for many years and was particularly active with the development of youth cricket coaching.

To commemorate Andy's life and his service to the club, a friendly memorial cricket match will take place between the villages of Cottingham and East Carlton on 31 August.

The bar will be open and there will also be food available. Proceeds will go to Cransley Hospice. Everyone welcome.

Sun 31 Aug

Polo Cup, Ashley Road, Middleton



Polo returns to Middleton on 31 August for the Sturgess Jaguar and Landrover Polo Cup.

Come along for a family day out where you can experience the fast paced game of polo and enjoy exclusive food and retail stalls. For tickets (priced £8.50), please call **0843 506 5001**. Children under 10 go free.

More information at www.poloevents.co.uk

Sun 28 Sep, 12 noon to 4pm

Cottingham Apple Day Recreation Field



'Green Horizons' are organising an Apple Day to celebrate our local countryside and raise money for the charity, which is setting up a horticultural project in Cottingham for children with autism and their families.

Apple Day was launched in 1990 by a national organisation called Common Ground, and communities across the country have since adopted the idea as a way of celebrating the richness and importance of local landscape and culture.

There will be performances from the Rutland Morris Men, and the National Trust will be coming along with information and activities based on Northamptonshire apple growing and bee keeping. Stamford Community Orchard is loaning its cider press and our own local cider man, Mark Shirley from Rockingham Forest Cider, will be on hand to show us how it's done.

Rockingham Castle Tearoom is donating pork and apple baps, and lots of Green Horizons supporters will be baking cakes and apple treats for the teas which will be served by helpers from St Mary Magdalene Church. A Green Horizons Apple Book with recipes and children's drawings will also be on sale.

Green-fingered gardeners are bringing autumn plants and making chutneys, crafts and produce to sell on the day, alongside traditional stalls and activities for children and families.

Green Horizons chairman Jan Mears says there has been a terrific response from people who want to get involved: "We wanted to organise a day with some serious messages about the traditions of the countryside and the importance of locally grown food. But we wanted it to be a lot of fun as well. Since we started talking about our plans, we have felt a real buzz from people bringing ideas and offers of support. It should be a fantastic day!"

There will also be a competition for the best scarecrow. Please bring your scarecrow down to the recreation field before 12.30pm. It must be less than 1.5 metres high and able to stand up on its own.

For more details, contact **Jan Mears** on **772130**, **Lucie Middlebrook** on **772254** or email administrator@greenhorizons.org.uk

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 Riley, Corby Borough Council, **01536 771881**, bob.riley@corby.gov.uk

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

Village Store and Café, **770097** www.thevillagestoreandcafe.com

Village Hall Annex
Audrey Ashworth, **771084**

Methodist Hall
Wendy Curtis, **771987**

St Mary Magdalene Church
Ruth Colby, **771078**, ruthcolby2@gmail.com or Rev Sian Reading, **770237**, sjmr216@btinternet.com

Clubs and Groups

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

WRVS, Sue Jefferson, **771822**

Cubs and Scouts
Gary Chisholm, **772331**

Youth Club
David Swallow, **771796**

'Valley Voice', village choir
Pete Smith, psmith1309@hotmail.co.uk

Wesley Guild
Cyril Liquorish, **771401**

Rockingham Forest Wheelers
Norman Needham, **771356**

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

Cottingham youth football
Mark Steiner, **07731 385107**

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

Blackthorn Wood Pool Team
George Barker, **07904 954040**

East Carlton Cricket Club
Sharon Jantzen, **771371**

East Carlton Health Walking Group
Noel Rogers, **771837**

Parish Council meetings

Cottingham - 3 Sep, 1 Oct

Middleton - 17 Sep, 15 Oct

Meetings starts at 7.30pm at the Village Hall Annex. There are no meetings in August