



Cottingham and Middleton News

April/May 2008

Available online at www.cottinghamnews.co.uk



Welcome to the April/May edition of the village newsletter.

There is lots happening in the villages over the next couple of months and it's great to see so many groups up and running and new ones starting up in the villages. So, whether you're interested in walking, history and heritage, craft, dancing or just getting together for a drink or two, there's something for you! A full list of the village clubs and groups, along with contact details, can be found on the village website at www.cottinghamnews.co.uk

We're pleased in this issue to include the first regular update from Acting Sergeant Julie Mead, head of the Corby Rural Safer Community Team, including confirmation of the rules on pavement parking and details on action being taken to combat speeding in the villages.

And finally, I'd like to congratulate all at Cottingham Methodist Church on the Church's 200th Anniversary which is being celebrated this year. See the feature on page 3 for a brief history of the Church and details of the celebrations taking place.

I hope you enjoy this issue.

Regards,

Jane Smith, Editor

3 Corby Road, tel: 770821

Email:

jane@cottinghamnews.co.uk

Youth Consultation, Cottingham School Saturday 19 April, 2-4pm

In February, a survey carried out at the school revealed 42 out of 46 young people would be interested in a regular youth group in the village (parents permitting).

Cottingham, Middleton and East Carlton residents are invited to a meeting at Cottingham School to discuss this - arranged by Cottingham Parish Council and Corby Borough Council in partnership with Northants Association of Youth Clubs (NAYC).

This is a chance for young people to have their say with discussion focusing on the need for a youth group in the village, the need for volunteers, how NAYC can help, young people's views and any concerns people may have.

For more information contact Cottingham Parish Councillor **Irene Beadsworth** on **770059** or email her at irene@beadsworth.fslife.co.uk

Note: due to publication/distribution dates, this newsletter may not reach you until after this meeting has taken place. We will give you an update in the next issue.

Cottingham and Middleton Heritage Project

The Middleton Heritage Project has now been extended to include Cottingham as well as Middleton. The first meeting of the new Cottingham and Middleton Heritage Group took place on 16 April. The next meeting is on **14 May** starting at 7pm in the Methodist Hall on Corby Road.

The aim of the project is to research and record the villages' heritage and history, including photographs, documents and villagers' memories and stories.

To help with this, the group would like to get in touch with **Michael Yorke**, a former Middleton resident who wrote a useful history of the villages some years ago.

If anyone knows how to get hold of Michael, or if you'd like to get involved in the project, please contact **Dryden Phillipson** on **770950**, or email him at dryden.phillipson@middleton-northants-pc.gov.uk

Village Health Walk Group

Fancy a healthy walk around the villages? If so, Corby Borough Council's Rural Pride team has organised a weekly walk around Cottingham and Middleton to take place every Friday through to 3 October. The walks start at the Village Hall Annex at 10am. Don't forget to wear stout shoes and bring your waterproofs.

For more information, contact **Suzanne Preston** on **01536 464281** or email her at suzanne.preston@corby.gov.uk

Obituary: Bill Reynolds, 1924 - 2008



Bill Reynolds of Reynolds Farm, Rockingham Road, sadly died in February.

Bill was born and bred in Cottingham and kept large herds of cattle and sheep for many years. He was a genuine, caring country gentleman who loved his work and was dedicated to his animals. One year, when there was a terrible drought in the area, Bill arranged transport for around 500 of his cattle to land near Morecambe Bay where they could enjoy eating the lush green grass.

Our thoughts are with Bill's wife Anne and son Michael who would like to thank everyone for their kind support, letters and cards.

**Next Issue
June/July 2008**

**Issue date:
7 June 2008**

**Deadline for stories:
30 May 2008**

Parish Councils

Cottingham

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

Councillors

Phil Dyne (Chairman)
Clive Ashworth (Vice Chairman)
Irene Beadsworth
Pete Bowman
Owen Davison
Geof Hudson
Pam Moore
John Muir
David Swallow

Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month (except August) starting at 7.30pm in the Village Hall Annex. Villagers are welcome to attend and share their views.

More information can be found on the Parish Council notice board on the corner of Rockingham Road and School Lane.

Next meetings:

Wed 7 May, 7.30pm
Wed 4 June, 7.30pm

Middleton

Clerk: Justina Medwell
01536 771234
Middleton House, Middleton,
LE16 8YU

Councillors

Dryden Phillipson (Chairman)
Kay Dickens (Vice Chair)
Raymond Ainge
Yvonne Alvey
Gemma Claypole
Alan Cole
Janet Robertson

Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month (except August) starting at 7.30pm in the Village Hall Annex. Villagers are welcome to attend and share their views.

More information can be found on the Parish Council notice board on Main Street, opposite No.34.

Next meetings:

Wed 21 May, 7.30pm
Wed 18 June, 7.30pm



Rural Police Update

From Acting Sergeant Julie Mead, Corby Rural SCT

The priorities that the Rural Safer Community Team (SCT) focus on are decided by the local Rural Area Forum which includes representatives from local Parish Councils, including Cottingham and Middleton.

Speeding has been highlighted as your main concern and, by now, I'm sure most of you have seen us in the parishes with our new speed gun. We've been working very hard to reduce speeding through our villages. We've taken readings from

over 1,100 vehicles and only 38 have been over the speed limit. Of these, 30 drivers have been issued with warning letters for minor breaches and eight have received fines/points or alternative penalties. I would like to think people are beginning to realise we are in the villages and will be enforcing the limits, so hopefully the message that only careful and considerate drivers are welcome in our parishes is sinking in.

Parking has also been highlighted as a priority issue, mainly around schools. In Cottingham, the Hunting Lodge has kindly given permission for parents to use their car park when dropping off and picking up and I would urge you to take up this offer. The schools are working with us on the parking problem so expect to hear from your children soon!

Parking on pavements has also been highlighted. To make the position on this clear, it is not an offence in itself to park on the pavement but it is an offence to park in such a way that you are causing an obstruction - either to the pavement (you must leave enough room for a double buggy or a disabled carriage to pass) or blocking a driveway.

There has also recently been another distraction burglary on an elderly resident in the area. If you are a neighbour of an elderly resident please keep a watch for unexpected callers and, if you see anything suspicious or unusual, please call the police.

If you have any concerns or views about rural policing, or think there are other areas we need to be addressing, please contact one of your Parish Councillors or the SCT directly on **08453 700700** or by emailing **SCTCorbyRural@northants.police.uk**

And finally, I would like to let you know that PSCO Sally Ellson is leaving the team at the end of May to become a regular Police Constable. Sally has completed some excellent work throughout the parishes and I hope you'll join me in wishing her good luck as a police officer.



A Purfect Ending!

We're delighted to report that **Tigger** (pictured left) who went missing from High Street, Cottingham recently has been found and returned home, a little thinner than usual but otherwise unscathed!



We're also pleased to tell you that the Tyldesley family's missing cat **Branston** (pictured right), is back home having turned up safe and well 20 miles away in Rushden, more than eight months after going missing. What an adventure!

Graham makes a run for it!



Our roving reporter Graham Ley is taking a break for this issue as he's busy training for the Edinburgh Marathon. Graham will be running the marathon on 25 May in aid of TandT, a charity project being supported by his daughter Natasha to provide 'toilets and textbooks' for a school in The Gambia.

If you'd like to sponsor Graham, visit www.pageant.org.uk/working/donate_tandt.htm and enter the amount you'd like to give, marking it 'TandT' where indicated. Or you can send a cheque to Graham at 8 Church Street, Cottingham, LE16 8XG and he will forward the money to the charity. If you do donate online, please let Graham or

Natasha know by emailing leyfam@btinternet.com

Cottingham Methodist Church Anniversary: 1808 to 2008

Cottingham Methodist Church celebrates its 200th Anniversary this year. The original Methodist Church (now the Methodist Hall) was built on Corby Road in 1808 on land belonging to John and Mary Stretton. Before the chapel was built, worshippers used to meet in the Stretton's home and then, as numbers grew, in a nearby barn. Believe it or not, the Stretton's actually moved out of their house into an adjacent property so that the first chapel could be built on the site in 1808.

The present larger chapel was added alongside in 1878 and, at the opening, it is recorded that the church was so full people were sitting on the steps up to the gallery which housed the choir and harmonium. Near to the pulpit were pews for poorer members of the congregation who the steward would not approach for any collection.



The Methodist choir continued for over 100 years with its heyday in the 1930s and '40s when its ranks were boosted by new members who had arrived in Corby to work at the steelworks.

At one time over 100 children attended the Methodist Sunday School. On August Bank Holidays, the children were taken on a tour of the six neighbouring villages in open wagons - originally horse drawn and later pulled by lorry - led on their way by the Cottingham Wesleyan Brass Band. The day finished with a feast at the Methodist Hall followed by competitive sports on a field near the old clothing factory on Rockingham Road. This annual event, commonly known as 'Round in the Wagons', continued until the outbreak of war in 1939.



The brass band played an important part at all social functions in the village for over 60 years. One of their last public engagements was on Coronation Day in 1953 when, after

a tour of Cottingham and Middleton, they played for dancing at the school. Soon after this, several younger members were called up for National Service and others left to go to college so the band was unfortunately unable to continue.

Over the years, the Methodist Church has hosted youth clubs, sewing circles and the Girl's Brigade to name but a few. The Wesley Guild, formed in 1946, continues today with 15 members.

Pictured (from top): Notice from opening service for new Chapel (1879), 'Round in the Wagons' (1930s), Cottingham Wesleyan Brass Band.

For more pictures visit www.cottinghamhistory.co.uk

Methodist Celebrations

The Methodist Church has a number of events happening during the year to celebrate the 200th anniversary, including a choir concert on 22 April (see back page), a flower festival on 19/20 July and a concert by the Corby Singers on 14 October.

A free commemorative booklet, cataloguing the history of the Methodist Church, is available from Cyril Liquorish on **771401**. There are also commemorative tea towels available at £3 each - contact **Joan Jarman** on **771193** or **Michael and Wendy Curtis** on **771987**.

Many Thanks!

Don and Pam King of Berryfield Road would like to thank all their family and friends for the cards, flowers and gifts they received on their recent Golden Wedding Anniversary, which was held at the Hunting Lodge where they enjoyed a family celebration meal.

Rose Boughton would like to thank all her family, friends and neighbours for the wonderful flowers, presents, cards and birthday messages which made her 90th birthday so very special.

Nora Davies of Bancroft Road would like to extend a proud thank you to her grand-daughter Amy, currently studying at Bath University. Amy raised over £600 for Lakelands Hospice by running a half marathon in memory of Nora's late husband, who sadly passed away last August.

WRVS

Judy Evans, who has been the village co-ordinator for the WRVS (Women's Royal Voluntary Service) for the last 16 years, has recently stepped down, handing over her role to **Sue Jefferson** who can be reached on **771822**. We wish Judy well in her retirement.

Ant's Quiz Success

Over 80 people (17 teams) took part in Ant Liquorish's latest quiz on 12 April, raising a superb £370 for the Hearing Dogs for Deaf People charity.

Congratulations to winners 'The Racegoers Club' who only dropped 10 out of a possible 300 points to clinch victory. Ant would like to thank everyone who took part and helped out, especially John Hulatt for his 'to-ing and fro-ing' and Betty Booth for running the raffle.

Ant's next quiz will be held on **Saturday 11 October**, this time in aid of Cancer Research so get the date in your diaries now.

WW2 Campout

Cottingham School PTFA will be holding another Campout event on the Recreation Field on **Sat 14 June** themed around life on the home front during the Second World War. This will include some simulated air raids, so please don't panic if you hear the siren!

What's On

Tue 22 April, 7.30pm

String of Pearls Choir Methodist Church



Enjoy an evening of music from Weldon's award-winning ladies' choir, String of Pearls. The concert is part of the Methodist Church 200th Anniversary celebrations.

Contact **Joan Jarman** on **771193**.

Fri 25 April, 8pm

Desperate Housewives! Village Hall Annex



The first Desperate Housewives event in February was a great success and the next one takes place on 25 April.

Come along for a takeaway and a good natter. The cost is £6 each, payable a week in advance. Contact **Jan (772130)**, **Kirsty (771796)** or **Wendy (771177)**. Please bring your own drinks, including alcohol.

Fri 25 April

Notes on a Scandal Rockingham Village Hall



Film showing as part of the Rockingham Forest Village Cinema project. For more information, contact **Ian Norman** on **771985**.

Sat 26 April, 8pm

Village Dance, Village Hall Annex

Pull on your dancing shoes for the village dance with dancing to ballroom, sequence and modern tunes.

Tickets are just £4 and you can bring your own refreshments (including alcohol). Call **Audrey Ashworth** on **771084** for more details.

Saturday 28 June
Annual Wine Safari

More information coming soon

Sat 3 May, 10am to 4pm



Cottingham Crafters Village Hall Annex

Cottingham Crafters meet on the first Saturday of every month for people into card making, scrapbooking and jewellery-making to work on their current projects with others, share ideas and make friends.

The club now meets at the Village Hall Annex, having outgrown the Methodist Hall. Admission is £7.50 for a full day (£5 for OAPs, students and under 16s) or £5 for half a day. Contact **Emma Davies** on **771221** or **07776 084190** or email her at **email@ejdavies.net**

Wed 14 May, 7pm

Cottingham & Middleton Heritage Group Meeting, Methodist Hall

See front page for more information.

Fri 20 to Sun 22 June

Welland Valley Beer Festival

The Royal George, Spread Eagle and Red Lion are all taking part in this year's Beer Festival, joining another eight pubs in the area. As usual, there'll be a free vintage bus service running between all the pubs on the Saturday. For more information call **07790 197220**, or email **wellandvalleybf@ntlworld.com**

Sat 5 July, 1-5pm

PTFA Summer Fayre

Plans for the PTFA Summer Fayre are well underway. Corby Radio will be on site helping to host the day and attractions include live music, Corby TISKA Karate Club, remote control 'Robot Wars' robots, FA football coaching sessions, bouncy castles, pony rides, children's hair styling, make-up and fun tattoos.

Great Oakley Brewery will be sponsoring the beer tent this year and the BBQ and café will both be open for business.

For more information, contact the PTFA on **07765 631967** or email **pt.fa@cottingham.northants.sch.uk**

Useful Contacts

Northants Police: **08453 700700**

Neighbourhood Watch
David Robins, **01933 304357**
david.robins@northants.police.uk

Corby BC Noise Officer
Paul Craddock, **400088**

Street Doctor (Northants CC)
0845 601 1113

Cllr Robert Rutt
Corby Borough Council
07801 945948

Cllr Stan Heggs
Northants County Council
01536 202918

Northants ACRE
Carolyn Turner, **01604 825889**
carolyn.turner@northantsacre.org.uk

Down Your Way correspondent for Evening Telegraph
Pete Bowman, **770821**
pete@cottinghamnews.co.uk
3 Corby Road, LE16 8XH

Village Hall Annex
Pam Moore, **770022**

Methodist Hall
Joan Jarman, **771193**

Rev Sian Reading, **770237**
sianreading@tinyonline.co.uk

Clubs and Groups

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

Minerva Group & Whist Drives
Pam Moore, **770022**

WRVS
Sue Jefferson, **771822**

Mums and Tots
Sandra Battersby, **770184**

Cottingham Craft Club
Emma Davies, **771221**

Wesley Guild
Cyril Liquorish, **771401**

Sunday Clubs - St Mary's
Ruth Colby, **770178**

Breast Cancer Support Network
Judy Evans, **770799**

Rockingham Forest Wheelers
Norman Needham, **771356**

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

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

East Carlton Cricket Club
Nick Sumpter, **771203**