



# Cottingham and Middleton News

## June/July 2008

Available online at [www.cottinghamnews.co.uk](http://www.cottinghamnews.co.uk)



Welcome to the June/July edition of the village newsletter.

Two new groups have started up in the villages - one for the young and one for the old! Irene Beadsworth has set up a working party to look at getting a new youth club started for village youngsters (see page 2) and Dryden Phillipson has formed a Heritage Group to record the villages' history for future generations (see page 3). Both projects deserve our support and I hope as many of you as possible will look to get involved or help out.

As you may know, as well as writing the newsletter, I also run a history website for Cottingham at [www.cottinghamhistory.co.uk](http://www.cottinghamhistory.co.uk). I haven't been able to update the site for some time but, spurred on by the new Heritage project, I am delighted to say that the site is now fully up to date with new information, letters and photographs.

I'm looking forward to seeing lots of you out and about over the coming months, enjoying the outdoor events and wonderful countryside that surrounds our villages.

Regards,

*Jane Smith, Editor*  
3 Corby Road, tel: 770821  
Email: [jane@cottinghamnews.co.uk](mailto:jane@cottinghamnews.co.uk)

**Next Issue**  
**Aug/Sep 2008**

**Issue date:**  
**9 August 2008**

**Deadline for stories:**  
**1 August 2008**



### Red Lion in New Hands

Welcome to Kevin and Fiona Barby, the new landlord and landlady at the Red Lion in Middleton (pictured left).

Kevin and Fiona say they are looking to turn the Red Lion back into a family-run and family-oriented village pub. Kevin is Cottingham born and bred and Fiona's dad has been busy tending the pub's garden so you'll be able to enjoy a pint outside in the sun!

The couple source all their food and drink from local suppliers including Great Oakley and Langton's Breweries, Rockingham Forest Cider, brewed in Middleton, and Ashley Farm.

They have also recently installed a new bottle bank on the pub car park for use by villagers.

For more information, contact **Kevin or Fiona** on **771268**.

### Proposed removal of public phone box



Cottingham Parish Council is opposing BT's proposal to remove the public telephone box that currently stands in Rockingham Road.

BT's proposal is part of a national initiative to remove underused phone boxes, largely in light of the increased use of mobile phones. However, following a public meeting, the Parish Council has opposed the removal of the phone box on the grounds that there would be a lack of telephone cover for residents, especially as mobile phone reception is not great in the village. They have also pointed out that the phone box is part of the village's heritage and character.

For more information, contact Cottingham Parish Council Clerk **Peter Taylor** on **761752** or email him at [peter.taylor@cottingham.org.uk](mailto:peter.taylor@cottingham.org.uk)

### Fun with the Wheelers

Over 50 cyclists aged 6 to 60 turned out for Bip Wetherell's Fun Cycle Ride on 1 June. The group, some of whom hadn't ridden a bike since school days, left Rockingham Forest Wheelers' clubhouse in Middleton at noon with a choice of a 10 or a 20-mile route to lunch at the Wheel and Compass in Weston by Welland. Around 15 people opted for the longer route and everyone made it safely back to Middleton for tea and cakes in the afternoon.



Bip is organising another Fun Ride for **Sunday 6 July**, leaving the clubhouse at 2pm with a choice of 5, 10 and 15-mile routes, with a BBQ back at the clubhouse afterwards. BBQ tickets are £5 per family and Bip's hoping for another great turnout and some fabulous weather. For more information, call **Bip** on **07802 202313**.

## Parish Councils

### Cottingham

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

#### Councillors

Clive Ashworth (Chairman)  
Pete Bowman (Vice Chair)  
Irene Beadsworth  
Owen Davison  
Phil Dyne  
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 3 Sep, 7.30pm  
Wed 1 Oct, 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 17 Sep, 7.30pm  
Wed 15 Oct, 7.30pm



### Rural Police Update

*From Acting Sergeant Julie Mead, Corby Rural SCT*

I am pleased to report that we are still working hard on the priorities set by you and your Parish Councils - namely speeding, parking and fly tipping.

By now, most of you will have seen the team out and about with our speed gun. Love it or hate it - it's here to stay! We've had some great results in the villages with less and less vehicles speeding. The more cynical among us may suggest it's because our yellow jackets warn people we're there, but I hope it's also because the message is sinking in that we'll be in the villages and

will be prosecuting people who break the speed limits. Whatever the reason for the success of the speed gun, I for one hope it carries on.

Parking remains an issue for you, particularly around our schools. Please take the safety of our children as seriously as we do. As most parents will be aware, your children are helping us get the 'safe parking' message across, so expect to hear from the young people soon. Although I keep saying it, I really do not want to ticket and fine parents for parking offences, but for safety reasons and at the communities' request, if parents carry on thoughtlessly parking we will carry on with the fines.

### Action on Fly Tipping

Corby Borough Council is in the process of purchasing a covert camera to catch people fly tipping around the villages so I urge you to use the correct facilities if you need to dump your rubbish. Please see the leaflet enclosed with this newsletter for more information.



We are starting a blog on our website [www.northants.police.uk/sct](http://www.northants.police.uk/sct) soon so you can keep a track of our day-to-day activities or at least keep track of PCSO Peter Heyward, who I volunteered to take part in the blog scheme! We are also producing a Podcast to keep you updated with our work on Corby Rural. All in all, the website is well worth a browse.

Have a great summer.



### Village Youth Club Working Group

A group of volunteers has got together to investigate getting a new youth club up and running for youngsters in Cottingham, Middleton, East Carlton and Rockingham. The project is being co-ordinated by Cottingham Parish Councillor Irene Beadsworth with support from Corby Borough Council and the Northamptonshire Association of Youth Clubs (NAYC).

The Group held its second meeting recently following a successful launch at Cottingham School. If you or your youngsters would like to get involved with the Group, call **Irene** on **770059** or email her at [irene.beadsworth@cottingham.org.uk](mailto:irene.beadsworth@cottingham.org.uk)

*Pictured (left to right) are Corby Borough Council Rural Pride Officer Suzanne Preston, William Jones, Michael Tyler, Amelia Mears, NAYC Youth Development Worker Mark Palmer, Jordi Wells and Cottingham Parish Councillor Irene Beadsworth.*

## Gladiators... Ready!

By Graham Ley

What do most people remember about one of the most popular pieces of TV family entertainment in the 1990s? Gladiators with toned bodies and daft names like Wolf and Jet strutting and posing, Ulrika Jonsson looking glamorous, contestants dropping like flies in games like Hang Tough and a diminutive figure in black and white stripes presiding over the mayhem and shouting "You will go on my first whistle. Gladiators... ready!" in no-nonsense Glaswegian tones. For most of us, this was our first view of John Anderson, but he and Dorothy are better known to us now as friends and neighbours in Middleton where they have firmly established themselves since arriving from Scotland eight years ago.



John is pictured centre with new Gladiators' presenters Kirsty Gallacher and Ian Wright

As those of you with access to Sky may have noticed, the show has made a successful comeback this year. Although there is a brand new crop of Gladiators and new presenters, the producer was adamant that only one referee would do. And that was the original one. John says it was very different in 1992 when the first series started. As a highly respected professional athletics coach in early retirement (he has helped an unequalled 170 athletes into the Great Britain team, including Dave Moorcroft, Dave Bedford and Liz McColgan), John was engaged as Director of Training for the original show. The referee's role was an afterthought and John reluctantly agreed to do it, adding a baseball cap to the uniform in the vain hope that his friends wouldn't recognise him. There weren't even any rules written down for the games, so John had to make them up as he went along. Fortunately, nobody dared challenge his judgements and by the time the first run ended in 2000, John was a household name.

Although the razzamatazz of Gladiators is fun (you can catch the new series on Sky One on Sundays at 6 pm), athletics remains John's passion and he is still putting his energy and enthusiasm into helping young athletes locally. At least two from Corby – Mark Allen in the hammer and William Sharman in the high hurdles – have a good chance of representing Great Britain in the 2012 London Olympics. John says that coming to Middleton is the best move he and Dorothy ever made, thanks to the beauty of the Welland Valley, the vibrancy of village life and the friendliness of their neighbours. With Dorothy also contributing her bookkeeping skills to a number of local clubs and groups, they are certainly giving a lot back.

## Cottingham and Middleton Heritage Group

The Cottingham and Middleton Heritage Group has been formed to help preserve our villages' history and recent past for future generations.

The Group is looking to talk to people with knowledge of village personalities, long-established village families, history of buildings (standing or gone), past businesses and professions, celebrations, events, groups and societies, Wartime involvement, farming, land ownership and management, transport, ghost stories, crime, humorous anecdotes...you name it!

The Group is also looking to gather photographs of bygone days, recent pictures that show significant changes in the villages, old maps, books, plans or documents of interest and any artefacts relevant to the history of the villages.

This ongoing project will undoubtedly take considerable time to bring together, but the Group is committed to piecing together this potentially immense jigsaw. The project will look to complement and work alongside the [www.cottinghamhistory.co.uk](http://www.cottinghamhistory.co.uk) website which has recently been updated with new stories, photographs and letters from around the world.

If you can help, know of anyone no longer living in the village who may have useful information or would like to join the Group, please contact **Del** on **771353**, **Dryden** on **770950** or **Jane** on **770821**.

## Well done Graham!

Well done to Graham Ley who completed the Edinburgh Marathon in 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. Graham would like to thank everyone who has supported him, particularly the Ramblers who have been very generous.

## William Riddell Educational Trust (Middleton)

Grants are available from the William Riddell Educational Trust for Middleton residents aged under 25 years to assist with the costs associated with learning a trade, profession or for further education. If you would like to apply for a grant, please write to Mrs K Dickens, Hill House, Middleton LE16 8YX explaining the circumstance and requirements. The deadline for applications is 1 Sep 2008.

## G'Day From Oz!

John and Patricia Torrance and their children Michelle, Melanie and Steven would like to say hello from Oz to all their friends in Cottingham. The family lived in Stonepit Drive before emigrating to Perth in 1992. If anyone would like to make contact, John's email address is [jgtwa@e-wire.net.au](mailto:jgtwa@e-wire.net.au)

## Wednesday Night Wii...!

Wednesday night is Wii night at the Royal George. If you're over 18 and fancy having a go at Nintendo Wii Sports, pop down to the pub every Wednesday from 8pm onwards.

## Wall Repairs

Northants County Council has donated £1,000 to help repair the car park wall at the junction of Church Street and Water Lane. The balance will be funded by Cottingham Parish Council.

## Thank you for the music!

Young musicians Susannah Peterson, Neil Sturman and Julian Port raised £302 for WaterAid when they played at the Methodist Hall in May.

The concert was part of the Church's 200th Anniversary celebrations and included a selection of singing, trombone, guitar and piano music. They'd like to thank everyone who attended for their support.

# What's On

**Sat 14 June, 7.30pm**

## Seagrave Singers Village Hall Annex



Enjoy an evening of music from the Seagrave Singers ladies choir. Tickets are £4 each including wine and nibbles. Contact **Irene Beadsworth** on **770059** or **Audrey Ashworth** on **771084**. All proceeds to the Village Hall Annex.

**Fri 20 June, 8pm**

## Desperate Housewives! Village Hall Annex



The next Desperate Housewives event takes place on 20 June. Come along for a takeaway and a good natter. This time,

it's curry on the menu, with the food supplied by the Royal George.

The cost is £6 each, payable in advance. Contact **Jan (772130)**, **Kirsty (771796)** or **Wendy (771177)**. Please bring your own drinks, including alcohol.

**Sat 21 June, 8pm**

## Disco night, Village Hall Annex

A ploughman's supper will be served and you can bring your own drinks, including alcohol.

Tickets at £5 each are available from **Irene Beadsworth** on **770059** or **Audrey Ashworth** on **771084**. All proceeds to the Village Hall Annex.

**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 28 June, 7.30pm**

## Annual Wine Safari



Tickets for this year's Wine Safari are now on sale. The cost is £15 per person to include at least five glasses of wine and nibbles at each of the stops along the way. There'll also be wine for sale at the last stop.

Last year's Wine Safari raised more than £2,000 for St Mary Magdalene Church and all proceeds from this year's event will again go towards the Church.

Tickets are available from **Kirsty Swallow** on **771796** or **Paula Phillipson** on **770950**.

**Sat 5 July, 1-5pm**

## PTFA Summer Fayre



This year's PTFA Summer Fayre promises to be a spectacular event.

Corby Radio will be on site helping to host the day with live music from Superminx and the Front Room Jazz Band. Attractions include remote control 'Robot Wars' robots, FA football coaching sessions, Beat the Goalie, bouncy castles, pony rides and face painting. There will also be displays from Corby TISKA Karate Club and the Welland Valley K9 Club's Dog Agility Display Team.

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

Admission is £1 per family, For more information, contact the PTFA on **pt.fa@cottingham.northants.sch.uk**

**Sun 6 July, 2pm**

## Fun Cycle Ride & BBQ

See front page for more details

## 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**