



Cottingham and Middleton News

March 2020

Available online at www.cottinghamnews.co.uk



Welcome to the first newsletter of 2020.

I had the pleasure recently of meeting the amazing Ruth Harrison, who

remembers how the village used to be like a big family in the old days. While things may have changed, we are still very lucky to have so many people in the villages who are prepared to put themselves out for others.

The Friendly Food project being organised by Kirsty Swallow and Rachel Hudson is a great example, as are, to name but a few, our shop volunteers, Parish Councillors, newsletter distributors and all the 'Millers' who are putting so much effort into fundraising for our new community hub.

It's people who make places and give our villages such a close-knit sense of community. I certainly wouldn't want to live anywhere else!

Jane Smith, Editor

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

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April 2020

Friendly Food Project



See the enclosed leaflet to find out about this fantastic new project being organised by Kirsty Swallow and Rachel Hudson.

The aim is to connect neighbours through kindness, by a neighbour providing and delivering a meal to a neighbour who is in need of one.

You can find more information and a form for volunteers online at www.cottinghamnews.co.uk/friendlyfood. Forms are also available in the Village Store.

Ruth passes her century!

Ruth Harrison of Berryfield Road, Cottingham, celebrated a true milestone on Boxing Day when she reached her 102nd birthday!

Born Ruth Blissett in Wilbarston in 1917, Ruth's father was an ironstone labourer who she says worked extremely hard and gave them a good life growing up.

Ruth left school at 14 and went to work as a seamstress at Symingtons in Market Harborough, where she cycled to work every day before moving to a corset factory in Desborough.

Ruth married Cottingham-born John William (Jack) Harrison in 1941 and moved to the village, taking a job making clothes at the Wallis and Linnell factory on Rockingham Road. The couple lived in Blind Lane for 11 years before moving to one of the 11 cottages in Barrack Yard, which used to run between Corby Road and Blind Lane. These cottages had no inside toilets or hot water, and Ruth remembers that her rent was eight shillings a week – that's 96 pence in today's money!

"They were nice days and I have some happy memories," said Ruth. "We were like a big family. Everyone looked out for each other and you could ask for anything. We also had a clothing club and a sick club that we paid into, that would support anyone who needed help."

When Barrack Yard was demolished in 1960, Ruth, Jack and everyone who was left in Barrack Yard moved down to the newly built homes in Berryfield Road. Ruth was the village post lady for 20 years and even delivered mail on Christmas Day!

A belated happy birthday to this amazing lady.

We recently came across father and son team Alan and George Goulding from Melton Mowbray's Pipe Organ Services, tuning the pipe organ at Cottingham Methodist Church. How great to see these specialist skills alive and well, and running in the family!



75 years on – lest we forget

In our last newsletter, we remembered Flight Lt Bertram Townsin, one of four WW2 soldiers commemorated on the village War Memorial.

As we head towards the 75th anniversary of VE Day, we remember another of our fallen WW2 soldiers, John (known as Jack) Campbell, of Middleton Main Street. Jack was only 25 when, on 24 October

1941, he was tragically knocked down by a motor coach in Freckleton, Preston and suffered a fractured skull. An inquest returned a verdict of 'death by misadventure'. Thanks to Jack's niece Sally Pashley for sending us this photo and sharing his story.

If anyone has any pictures or information about Charles Cooper and Edward Hurst, the other WW2 soldiers commemorated on the War Memorial, please send them to jane@cottinghamnews.co.uk.



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
Tom Russel
Sarayou Thomas-George

Next meetings

Wed 4 Mar, 7pm
Wed 1 Apr, 7pm

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
Alison Freestone
Gina Hicks
Marie Thomas

Next meetings

Tue 17 Mar, 7.30pm
Tue 21 Apr, 7.30pm

www.middleton-northants-pc.gov.uk

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



Congratulations to Deb, Kev and the team at the Royal George for winning this Living in the Shires Magazine Award of Excellence Yor Fine Dining Experience of the year 2020.

Parish Council elections, Thursday 7 May

Elections for both Parish Councils will take place on 7 May (if there are more people standing than there are seats), the same day as elections for the new Unitary Authority.

David Grayson, Chair of Cottingham Parish Council, says: "This is an important time for the village. We have a new Unitary Authority on the horizon and Cottingham is close to having a Neighbourhood Plan, both of which will potentially shape the village for some time to come. We're hoping enough people are interested in becoming a councillor to generate an election, so residents can vote on who they want to take the village forward." Contact **Rachel Raj** (email opposite) or **David Grayson** on davidgrayson@live.co.uk.

Sarah Brant, Chair of Middleton Parish Council, says: "Our seven existing councillors are all prepared to stand again in May, but some would also consider standing down if any other residents are interested and able to take on the role and responsibilities of councillor. If you'd like to represent your community, either as a councillor or in a less formal capacity, please contact **Justina Medwell** (email opposite). She'll let you know what it entails and how to apply."

Spread Eagle car park planning application refused

The planning application submitted by William Masson and Thomas Southall to erect a house on the Spread Eagle car park (reference 18/00617/DPA) was refused by Corby Borough Council's Development Control Committee on 11 February. Councillors had made a site visit earlier in the day and the decision was made by a majority of 4 to 3, with 1 councillor abstaining.



Artist's impression of proposed new house

At the meeting, Owen Davison raised his objections and Sarayou George did the same on behalf of Cottingham Parish Council. "I am pleased Corby Council has given us a voice," said Sarayou. "The area is already congested and if permission was granted it would have impacted on the pub which we want to see thrive."

Cllr David Sims, who recommended the refusal principally on highways grounds, also said that, if built, the house would affect the viability of the drinking venue and have a detrimental effect on the conservation area.

The applicants still have the right to appeal against this decision.

Ralph Turner (1948 to 2020)

Ralph Turner sadly passed away on 25 January, aged 71.

Ralph was born in Co. Durham and he and his wife Ann lived just doors away from each other. They then lived in Nuneaton with children Victoria and Colin before moving to Middleton after Ralph had stumbled on the new Glover Court development while out on a Sunday drive. He soon had his garden looking beautiful, especially the roses which blossomed under his care. Ralph also tended a number of local gardens until his illness stopped him carrying on.

"Ralph was a loving husband and father who will be dearly missed, a wonderful man who touched the hearts of so many, including his carers in his final months," said Ann. "May you be forever at peace and walk among the roses in heaven."

Barry Lonsdale (1951 to 2019)

Barry Lonsdale sadly passed away on 28 November, aged 68. He had lived in Berryfield Road for many years and his wife Pam had lived in the village even longer, her family all coming from the Cottingham 'Jacksons'. Barry's family would like to say a massive thank you to the Spread Eagle for opening up specially for the wake following Barry's funeral on 9 December. "They provided a great buffet, lovely food and excellent service," said Barry's daughter Jo, "and keeping it local meant so much. We'd also like to thank all our friends, family and neighbours for their condolences and support during this difficult time."



Update From The Mill

From Chair of Trustees, **Pete Bowman**

"Work on the Mill project is progressing well and we've been consulting with building industry professionals to fine tune our 'design and build' construction costings. We'd like to thank all the local and national businesses that have already given us valuable advice and support to help move the project forward. As it stands, we're looking to start initial groundworks by August 2020, as the first phase of the construction programme.

"We are also constantly amazed (and humbled) by the amount of effort and enthusiasm that villagers have put into raising money for the project. The 'thank you' list would take quite a while to write out, but be assured you have the Trustees' heartfelt appreciation for all the important work you do, both in arranging events and behind the scenes."

Since the last newsletter, villagers have raised almost £3,000 for The Mill, bringing the fundraising total for the last eight months to at least £9,789. The Christmas Bazaar, along with the sale of seasonal cookbooks and Christmas cards, raised £2,043 and Paula and John Orton's Christmas drop-in event added a further £204. Valley Voice raised £360 from carol singing, including a £75 donation from Rockingham Castle, and Del's Souper Quiz on 8 February raised £324.

What's next?

The next big fundraising event for The Mill is the village **Wine Safari on Saturday 16 May**. See the back page for details.



Then, on **22 August**, John and Paula Orton are organising a 1940s themed party to celebrate the 75th anniversary of VE Day, taking place at the Conservative Club in Corby. There'll be live music from the Harborough Big Band, food from the NAAFI, flag waving and a few newspaper hats, mixed in with a bit of 'Allo 'Allo and Dad's Army fancy dress, for those who want to join in.

Tickets are £22.50 (including buffet), and a bus is being organised to take folks to and from the villages for a small extra cost. To

reserve your place, please contact **Paula** on **771223**, or email paula.orton50@yahoo.co.uk.

Please also contact Paula if you can organise raffle prizes, loan old tablecloths, photographs that can be copied or glass vases for table decorations, or if you have ideas or a skill you think will help make this a memorable evening.



The Royal George is also holding a regular Quiz Night every other Sunday evening with 50 pence of the £1.50 a head entrance fee going to the Mill. These quizzes have raised £85 so far.

If you have any fundraising ideas, would like to come along to the next fundraising workshop or simply want to be included on the email list of almost 80 'Millers' who are supporting the project, please contact **George West-Robinson** on **07891 159155** or email him at george@themillhub.co.uk.

For more information, the 2019 report from the Chair of Trustees, a round-up of the money raised so far and a full calendar of planned events, please see www.themillhub.co.uk.



The value of a smile!

Children from Cottingham CofE Primary School have been spreading a little happiness in the villages as part of their most recent 'Values Day', which the school holds once a term. The children wanted to make people in the local community smile, and they've been out singing to residents at the Manor House Residential Home, planting bulbs in the Middleton Pocket Park, clearing litter from the village playing field and delivering cakes and postcards to neighbours.

School Headteacher Ashley Scott said: "We've had a great response to this. It really shows how important the local community is and the role a small school like ours can play within it."



Middleton Village Watch

Middleton Village Watch is a new WhatsApp group for villagers to report any incidents in the area – from attempted car or house theft, accidents or incidents – anything where the safety of villagers or their property may be affected.



If you live or have a residence in Middleton and would like to be a part of this group, please email **Alison Freestone** on alison.mf@hotmail.com with your name and mobile number, so you can be added to the group. All members are asked to use the group responsibly.

New businesses



Cottingham's **Daniella Moriarty** has started up a mobile podiatry business and hopes to become the first point of call for all the community's foot health needs. Daniella is NHS trained and a member of

the Society for Podiatrists and Chiropodists. Contact her on **07864 391086**, email dmoriartypodiatry@gmail.com.

Middleton's **Chris Spitteler** has launched a new business **Magnolia**, offering garden, decorating and maintenance services.



Chris, a former professional chef, has decided to swap the hot kitchen for a new career where he can enjoy the outdoors and some fresh air!

Chris learned the basics of decorating from his mum at the tender age of 9 and has completely redesigned his garden at home. He is now already working on a range of professional projects for local clients.

Contact Chris on **07790 866598**, email spittelerchris@gmail.com.



Farrell's Fish



Grimsby fishmonger Paul Farrell brings his fresh fish and seafood van to outside the Village Store every Wednesday from 12 noon to 12.30pm.

You can contact Paul on **07730 601644**, email farrellsfishgrimsby@gmail.com

What's on

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

Friday worship, 2.30pm, Cottingham CoFE Primary School



All local residents are welcome to come along and join in with prayer, hymns and celebration of achievements, every Friday during term time. Please sign in at the front office.

Sun 1 March, 7pm

Charity Quiz for KGH Spread Eagle



The Spread is hosting a charity quiz in aid of the Kettering General Hospital Intensive Care Unit (ICU). The cost is £2 a head for teams of up to six people. All proceeds go to the ICU Rehab Fund and there are lots of prizes!

Wed 11 March, 6.15pm

Left to Their Own Devices Cottingham Primary School



Are your children safe online? This 90 minute session is being run by the Hope Church, Corby, in partnership

with national charity Care for the Family.

The session is open to all parents, not just those with children at the school.

Admission (including refreshments) is free but places are limited, so please email admin@cottinghamprimary.co.uk by Friday 6 March to book your place.

Sun 15 March, 10.30am

Community litter pick

Meet at the Orchard on Main Street, Middleton, for the Cottingham and Middleton community litter pick. Litter pickers, gloves and bags will be provided. Please wear suitable clothing and footwear. Under 16s must be accompanied by an adult.

Fri 3 April, 7 for 7.30pm

Dave's Quiz, Village Hall Annex



Dave Curtis' quiz for teams of up to six people. There will be filled rolls available to buy but there's no bar, so please bring your own drinks. The cost is £2 a head and all profits go to The Annex. For tickets, please contact **Audrey** on **771084**.

Sat 25 April 6.30 for 7pm

Charity Quiz, Village Hall Annex



Ant Licquorish's Village Charity Quiz in aid of **East Northamptonshire Association of the National Trust (ENANT)** and Sophie

Ambrose, who is looking to spend three weeks in Sri Lanka helping a small community build a library before undertaking a five-day trek across the country.

Tickets are £10 each with food (fish or chicken and chips) or £5 without food. Please bring your own drinks. Doors open at 6.30pm for a 7pm start.

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

Fri 1 May, 8pm

24 Carat Jazz, Village Hall Annex

The 24 Carat Jazz quartet will be back at the Annex playing all your favourite jazz standards, as well as some modern numbers with a jazz twist.



Nibbles will be provided and there's a pay bar. Doors open at 7.30pm for an 8pm start.

Tickets are £7 each from **Jane** on **07800 523077**, email jane@cottinghamnews.co.uk or **Audrey** on **771084**.

Sat 16 May, 7pm

Village Wine Safari

Tickets are now on sale for the 2020 Village Wine Safari, which this year is raising money for The Mill community hub project.

Tickets are £20 each on a first come first served basis. Email **Alison Freestone** on alison.mf@hotmail.com.



WI, Ashley Village Hall

Wed 4 Mar – Fab fabric shoes. Revamp those old comfy shoes or customise shoes you've fallen out of love with.

Wed 1 Apr – Edith Piaf. An insight into France's most famous singer and performer.

Both events take place at 7.30pm at Ashley Village Hall and guests are welcome. Tickets are £4.50 each from **Wendy Martin** on **07801 194560**, email wendy10ecp@gmail.com.



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](https://www.facebook.com/villagehallannex)

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**

For Church services, including Lent and Easter, please see cottinghamnews.co.uk/church