

COLLINGTREE NEWS

August 2015

*Visit the only website dedicated to
Collingtree village & parish*

www.justcollingtree.co.uk

England Expects!

Collingtree, although small, has origins as ancient as any English village.

Its history takes in Iron Age settlements, Roman occupation, Anglo Saxon culture, Norman Conquest, a bloody Civil War and threat of invasion by both French and German megalomaniacs.

Consequently, like other villages, it celebrates anniversaries and key dates that have helped define England and Britain, as a free and independent nation. Many of these dates have a special significance during 2015.

In June it was the 800th anniversary of the signing of the Magna Carta described by Winston Churchill as *'the foundation of principles and a system of government of which King John and his Nobles could never have dreamed'*.

It shaped not only England but America, the Commonwealth and much of the world, by establishing the principles of individual freedom, parliamentary democracy and the supremacy of law.

Other major anniversaries this year have celebrated the struggle to defend those founding principles. For gen-

erations of schoolboys their two outstanding heroes were the Duke of Wellington and Admiral Lord Nelson.



The Wooden Walls. Nelson's Flagship built 250 years ago in 1765

In June it was 200 years since the Battle of Waterloo of 1815, when, in an epic turning point, Wellington ended French ambitions to dominate Europe.

On 21st October it will be Trafalgar Day and 210 years since Nelson's crushing defeat of the French Navy in 1805. It was a victory that ensured control of the Seas by Britain and led to the defeat of Napoleon at Waterloo ten years later.

The oak built ships of the Royal Navy were known as 'The Wooden Walls of Old England' and this name was given in 1847 to the pub in Collingtree. As far as we know the only pub anywhere so named.

In recent weeks we have been celebrating 75 years since the Battle of Britain when the RAF, day after day for three months,

fought off the Luftwaffe and eventually enabled the Allies to end the German domination of Europe.

These continuing anniversaries are a reminder that whether in Collingtree or anywhere else, a nation's independence is hard won but easily surrendered.

ST COLUMBA'S + COLLINGTREE

Minister
 Rev. Mike Burton 862284

Church warden
 John Green 763468

PCC Secretary
 Chris Wright

Collingtree is part of the combined Salcey Benefice together with Roade, Courteenhall, Ashton & Hartwell.



Services for August

Sunday 2nd August
 10am Morning Prayer

Sunday 9th August
 9am Holy Communion

Sunday 16th August
 10am Morning Prayer

Sunday 23rd August
 10.30am Family Service.

Church Flowers Rota

1st August Agnes Barfoot (Altar) Jan Birch (Memorial)

8th & 15th August Ann Marsh (Altar) Gill Berry (Memorial)

22nd & 29th August Catherine Thompson (Altar) Jo Clamp (Memorial)



COMING SOON !

Collingtree Church

FETE

2pm - 5pm Saturday 5th September

The Playing Field Watering Lane

Pony Rides - Bouncy Castle—Bungee Run - Traditional Games for Kids - Live Music & Dance Show - Cakes, Sweets, Preserves & Bric a Brac stalls

There will be a BBQ (Tickets £6 Adults & £4 Child)

Entry to the Fete and entertainment will be £1 per adult at the Gate - Children Free.

Fete BBQ Tickets

Available from Agnes Barfoot 762389, Esther Sooriah 07788 766616 or Lisa Potter 07738 511750 - or purchase on the day.

Can you Help ?

We would love some more volunteers to help with the stalls - Do you have a gazebo you could loan for the day ? - Would you like to sponsor your local business ? If so please call any of the above numbers.

If you have items you could donate for the Cake Stall please see back page. For Plants, Preserves & Jams & Bric a brac stalls - please contact :

Esther Sooriah 07788 766616

The Friends of St Columba



It is your Village Church !

Get to meet your neighbours in the village, have fun attending events AND help raise funds for the fabric of our ancient church. Become a member of the 'Friends' for just £10 per household.

Fund Raising Committee. *Peter Skinner (Chairman) Pamela Jackson (Treasurer) Catherine Thompson (Secretary) Selina Smith, Agnes Barfoot, Martin Grosse, Richard Evans, John Green, Ann Marsh, Mick Marsh, Shirley Yule.*

Please join us in the Village Room at 7.30pm on Thursday 17th September for a social meeting with light refreshments.

A New Look for the Village Room

The improvements to the Village Room are now complete.

There is a brand new Kitchen donated by Howdens including fitted units, two fridges, dishwasher, microwave, two cookers, hob, and two sink units. The funds raised from the recent 'Ladies Night' provided an automatic Water Boiler for Tea & Coffee making. There is a new re-plastered ceiling in the kitchen, the main room and toilets have all been redecorated and all the electrics have been updated and renewed.

Grateful thanks go to Stuart & Walter, M & L Builders, Les Verlander and Lee Warren Electricals for all their hard work.

The Village Room is now 'open for business' and to make bookings or discuss hire rates - contact:

Esther Sooriah 07788 766616
 esther.stowe@btinternet.com

VILLAGE ASSOCIATIONS & SOCIAL GROUPS

Allotments Association

At present we have a couple of vacant allotments. *If you are interested in seeing what is available phone Martin 762700 or Bob 761368.*

This month sees the return of our ever popular 'Members BBO' on Sunday 23rd August. Any members who have not yet booked and want tickets can contact Martin on 762700.

We have also scheduled a date for cutting the hedge and generally tidying the allotments. This is arranged for Saturday 15th August at 10am. As many members as possible are needed to come along and lend a hand.

Milton Malsor & Collingtree Women's Institute

We are taking a break this month, so that we can prepare for the very special

month of September.

On the 10th September at 7.30pm in Milton Malsor Village Hall, we welcome back popular Speaker Sue Edwards with another 'The Story behind the Picture' The competition is 'A Picture says a 1,000 words.

On Tuesday 15th September we meet again (2.30pm - 4.30pm) for Tea and Cakes to celebrate the Centenary of the Women's Institute. *Milton is 90 and still going strong!* We are hoping for a great turnout of Villagers, former WI members, parents and carers collecting from school. There will be a charge of £1 for tea and cakes - plus a special raffle. Accompanied children are welcome free of charge. Please join us. *For further information call Ann Marsh 766060*

Medicine Collection Rota

August

Weeks Commencing:

3rd & 10th August

Debbie Flowers 763355

17th & 24th August

Jane Thompson 761968

31st August

Shirley Flight 764433

For anyone in Collingtree who has difficulty in getting to Roade or Blisworth Surgeries, help with collecting prescriptions can be a lifeline. If you can help with this voluntary service, please contact the Co-ordinator: Shirley Flight 764433

SPORTS CLUBS

Pub Skittles

Skittles practice for the new season has started and therefore the decibel level in the pub has increased dramatically. Thursday night at 8pm for any new players that are interested.

Find out more from Tony Jones 07789 912796

Cricket Club

The three Sunday games in early July saw Collingtree win two and lose 1. On 5th July Collingtree limited Hanslope to 134 for 9 off 40 overs with bowling honours

being shared between Kevin Hopkins (3

for 15 off 5 overs) and Chris Pedel (3 for 13 off 7 overs)

Rob Flight scored an unbeaten 69 to see Collingtree over the line in the 28th over. The following Sunday against Horton, saw John Bishop our opening batsman in fine form scoring an unbeaten 105 with a six off the last ball to win the match. On 19th July, Collingtree lost to Everdon. Batting first Collingtree posted a low total of 131, with the highest batting partnership of 43 being between two of the bowlers, Kevin Hopkins (18 not out) and Gary Ray (26) Everdon reached the target comfortably in the 20th over losing

only 3 wickets. Home games during August are on 9th, 23rd & 30th. Spectators always welcome. *If interested in joining the Club - please contact Karen Hopkins 07787786094*

Tennis Club

As the Summer season starts many of us will enjoy a game of tennis on our travels. We are also able to enjoy the warmer evenings and play a game at our friendly club

Check out our website and Facebook page Collingtreetennis.co.uk

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

PARISH CLERK: SHIRLEY WONG 01604 700691 E: collingtreeparishcouncil@gmail.com

Planning matters Golf Course development

An appeal against the refusal of the Bovis applications by Northampton Borough Council has been made and will be considered by an inquiry held by a planning inspector. The start of the inquiry is planned for December. with a pre-inquiry meeting scheduled for 10am on 23rd September.

Toms Close Negotiations continue between Northampton Partnership Homes (NPH) and the individual owner-occupiers.

Playing Field matters It was reported last time that anti-bird spikes placed across the top of the swing frame to deter birds from messing on the swing seats had been pointlessly damaged. They were working well and so will now have to be replaced at a financial cost to the community - unless those who damaged them offer to pay. No offer to pay has been received. As dogs are not allowed on the playing field for child health reasons, will anybody responsible for visitors to the field please make them aware of

this rule. The field is legally covered by the Northampton Borough Council's dog ban regulations and the notices relate to Health and Safety law so any fines could be expensive.

Streetlights The streetlight outside no 1 Spinney Drive has been smashed down by what must have been a large vehicle. This happened on Friday 17th July but the vehicle has not been identified. If anyone saw this incident and knows the cause can they please contact the Clerk or Chairman. It could be that a child at the school saw what happened. The cost will be met by insurance but the excess charge might be saved if the offending vehicle can be identified. Any such incident or any faulty lights should be notified to the Parish Clerk or Chairman. It is possible for parishioners to report incidents or faulty street lights themselves if they so wish. The contact for most village lights is E.ON on 01604 493743. For Collingtree Park lights and those in Glebe Farm Close, the contact is Balfour Beatty on 0300 126 1000 option 4.

A new streetlight for Spinney Drive has been ordered and will be fitted early in August.

Trees and bushes alongside pavements As the growing season is now well under way, will all residents please continue to check that any trees or bushes alongside pavements are kept pruned back so that the full width of the pavement is clear and fully accessible. There are several wheelchair users in the village and obstruction of pavements is an offence.

Parish Council contact Please make any contact with the Parish Council through the Clerk, Shirley Wong (contact details above) **The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 23rd September at 7.30 in the Village Room** when more information about the Bovis planning inquiry should be available.

Minutes of all meetings are placed in the Parish Council notice-boards and email versions can be gained from the Clerk. Minutes are also posted on the www.justcollingtree.com website.

Collingtree News is produced and delivered to every household each month, at no cost to the parish.

The support of the Parish Council and the Women's Institute is gratefully acknowledged. We also appreciate the support of our regular Sponsor, Central Foods.

A special thank you to all those who deliver the Newsletter door to every household every month.

Compiler/Editor

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Village Traffic

The speed of traffic through Collingtree Village continues to alarm residents along Watering Lane and Ash lane and anyone, especially children, trying to cross these roads. The Parish Council has been urging the County Council to come up with a sensible traffic calming scheme that includes an effective 20 mph limit. NCC has not as yet achieved this.

What would help in the short term would be improved white lining and road markings as has recently been installed in Milton Malsor. The lane separation centre line around the blind corner on Ash Lane was never replaced when the road was resurfaced some years ago. The only long term remedy is some kind of physical road narrowing, such as a 'chicane', that seems to work in other villages.

Public Footpaths

The Ramblers Association has launched a campaign to highlight and improve every public footpath in England & Wales. It is called 'The Big Pathwatch' and they want volunteers to pick a grid square on the OS Explorer maps (from their website) and walk every path in the square. The aim is then to report back to the RA on the condition of the path and any barriers. The RA will then work to sort out the problems. Volunteers can use an App on their smartphone or print a map from the website and send comments by post.

Details from www.ramblers.org.uk/BigPathwatch

Parish Notices

- As part of the preparations for the Collingtree Church Fete on 5th September, there is an appeal for contributions to the Cake Stall. If you can make a cake, biscuits or muffins for sale at the stall - Agnes Barfoot would be most grateful if they could be delivered to 134 Windingbrook Lane on the morning of the 5th September or direct to the Fete before 1.30pm
- Long established charitable organisations have become alarmed at the aggressive methods used by some other charities in raising funds. These methods have involved harassing phone calls and shoppers being accosted in the street by 'chuggers'. The Salvation Army, one of the oldest and most respected Christian charities, has condemned this aggressive fundraising which often impacts on the very people their members are trying to help. The Salvation Army this year celebrates 150 years fulfilling its Christian mission to give practical help to homeless, lonely people.

The Wooden Walls of Old England

Our 400 year old Public House is open all day from Tuesday to Sunday inclusive, serving both lunch and dinner, apart from Sunday evenings.

www.woodenwallsofoldengland.co.uk 01604 760641

Planning Watchdog

The Appeal Inquiry into NBC's refusal of the Bovis planning application on the Hunsbury/Collingtree site, begins on 1st December.

Meanwhile a report has gone to NBC Planning Committee (28th July) advising it, on the advice of its lawyers, to amend its reasons for refusal.



This would involve removing reference to the dispute with the other Joint Planning Authorities (Daventry & South Northants) and dropping the concerns about Air Quality. This seems surprising as questions over Air Quality have increased both locally and nationally.

The grounds for refusal now largely focus on traffic on the A45 and surrounding roads. The row between NBC and the other authorities continues with Daventry once again taking the Chairmanship (and casting vote) of the West Northamptonshire Joint Planning Committee, which designated the Bovis site in the first place.

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