

# COLLINGTREE NEWS

**June 2015**

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Collingtree village & parish

[www.justcollingtree.co.uk](http://www.justcollingtree.co.uk)

## *A High Street with a difference*

In turning down the application by Bovis to build 1,000 houses close to Collingtree, Northampton Borough Council gave as its reasons, planning policy, traffic and highways and the environmental impact of the M1. The Council also argued that the development would adversely affect Collingtree and the Village Conservation Area.

The refusal concluded that:  
*"The proposed development would fail to safeguard the setting of Collingtree Village and its Conservation Area, contrary to the objectives of the National Planning Policy Framework and Policy BN5 of the West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy".*

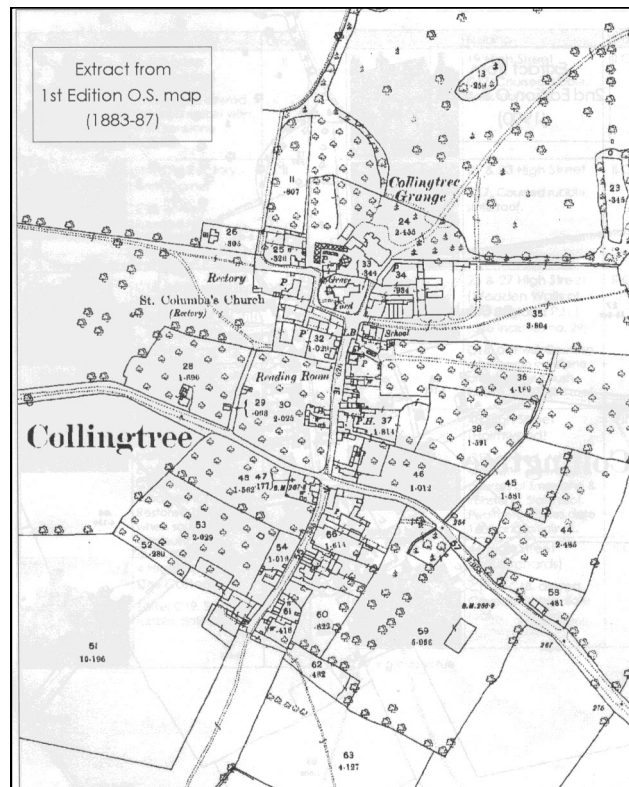
The Conservation Area, largely centred on the High Street, was designated in 1978 at the start of the biggest urban expansion in Northampton's history and was intended to "Ensure that changes which take place harmonise with the existing area, as far as possible, and enhance the area"

There are thought to be about 3,000 roads in Britain called High Street with another 2,300 having a variation like 'Upper High Street' or 'East High Street'. In most cases it is the main commercial or shopping thoroughfare. The name emerged in the 12th century when the word 'high' was used to signify importance.

Collingtree has one of the most unusual High Streets in Britain in that it has no shops and now leads nowhere in either direction. A settlement existed in Collingtree before the 12<sup>th</sup> Century but most of the older houses now remaining are 17<sup>th</sup> Century. Originally, the village grew along a route between Blisworth and Wootton, with the High Street being the main thoroughfare. Over time the route between what was 'London Road' (now A45) and Milton Malsor became the more direct link and Watering Lane & Ash Lane became the only through route for vehicles.

The High Street southbound route was eventually cut off by the building of the M1; northbound it petered out into what was parkland and is now Collingtree Park Golf Course.

Although the major objections to the Bovis proposal are the traffic and pollution problems it will create, its closeness to Collingtree Village and Conservation Area is a major factor.



The Appeal by Bovis against the refusal of its application has now been called in by the Secretary of State and the local Parish Councils together with Hunsbury & Collingtree Residents Alliance will be supporting NBC in defending its decision.

## 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 & Hart-  
well.

**Services for June****7th June**

10am Morning Prayer

**14th June**

9am Holy Communion

**21st June**

10am Father's Day Service

(Taken by Benefice Reader John Buck)

**28th June**

10.30am Family Service.

With Parade of Scouts, Cubs &amp; Beavers

**Church Flowers Rota****6th June**

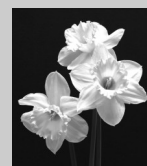
Selina Smith (Altar) Pauline Wright (Memorial)

**13th & 20th June**

Pamela Gosling (Altar) Elizabeth Anderson (Memorial)

**27th June & 4th July**

Cheruth Brown (Altar) Kath McCallum (Memorial)

*Victorian memories of Collingtree*

*This is an extract from a letter sent in 1931, to the Grandfather of Stanley Newman who was Churchwarden at St Columba's for many years. The letter is from Mrs Agnes Mary Lamb who was born in 1850 and was the daughter of Pickering Phipps the Victorian Brewer and Member of Parliament.*

"I first knew Collingtree about 1857 when my father, Pickering Phipps, took a small cottage on the site of the Grange as a summer holiday place from the north. In 1860/61 after enlarging the house considerably, we went to live there permanently. It is interesting to remember what the church was like then.

The Chancel was almost tumbling down and a tall three-decker stood where the pulpit now is. There was a fair sized wooden gallery at the west end, approached (from where the font now is) by an open staircase with a handrail. Here sat the church band, four men playing cornet, violin, bass viola and flute, also the singers male and female.

After the Rector had given out the hymn, the parish clerk left his place in the three decker and walked solemnly up to the gallery to lead the singing. The hymn concluded, he returned, passing the stove halfway down the north wall

and, in readiness for the sermon, would put a few lumps of coal from the kitchen scuttle nearby, usually licking his thumb and forefinger and drying them down his trouser leg.

During the hymn the Rector retired to change his surplice for a black gown. All the pews were square with narrow seats and high backs, which were pierced with holes for Christmas decorations. I remember how extremely inconvenient the worshippers found the bunches of holly.

After the bandsmen had died off, a harmonium played by the Rector's sister took its place in the gallery. The altar table was a plain table with a red cloth.

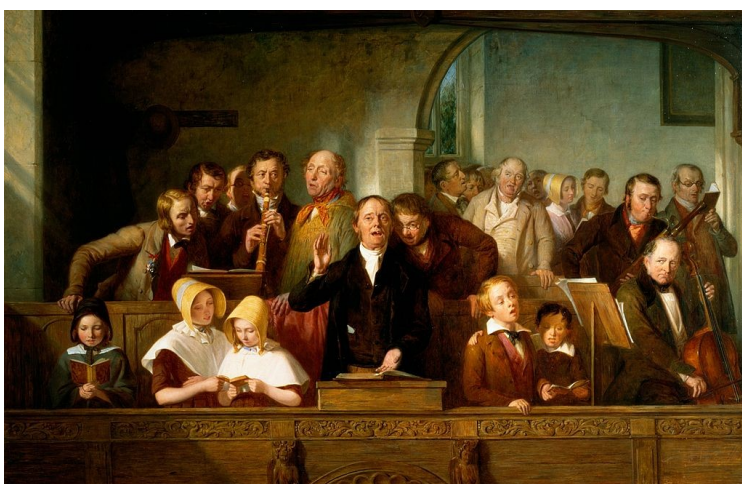
In 1861 the only school in Collingtree was kept by Dame Labrum, who could neither read nor write. She taught the children manners, the Lord's Prayer, the Catechism and how to make lace, then the usual industry of the countryside.

My father's son (my brother) built a school and established a teacher. Payment was tuppence weekly for two children in the family and the others free. Between 14 & 16 shil-

lings a week was the ordinary farm labourer's wage and some had a cottage free, others paid a shilling or so.

I wrote this out for my children and think you may be interested in hearing of things as they were".

*Picture: 'A Village Choir' by Thomas Webster.*



## VILLAGE ASSOCIATIONS & SOCIAL GROUPS

### Allotments Association

Usually the risk of frost has passed by now, and with longer days there comes more sunshine and time to be in your allotment. Whether that be sowing seeds, harvesting early crops or simply sitting back and admiring how your crops and flowers are growing or looking at the wildlife in your pond. For many people living in towns this is just a



dream. But here in Collingtree you could make it a reality as we have a couple of allotments waiting for an owner.

*If you would like to find out more give Martin Grosse a ring on 762700.*

### Women's Institute

The next meeting is on Thursday 11th June at 7.30pm in Milton Malsor Village Hall. The Speaker is Ann Stevens and her subject is 'Concerning Captives' The competition is 'Correspondence'

Advance notice: Make a date in your diary for 15th September and the WI Centenary Tea Party—more details later.

*For further information call Ann Marsh 766060*

### Collingtree Art Group

The Art Group meets at 10am every Thursday (during term time) in Collingtree Village Room.

*To find out more call Agnes Barfoot on 762389*

### Medicine Collection Rota

June

Weeks Commencing:

1st & 8th June

Ted Anderson 763264

15th & 22nd June

Joanna Edmunds 761759

29th June

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

The season has drawn to a close and a respectable 4<sup>th</sup> place for the team. Changes ahead for the team next season with Tony Jones being selected as captain at our end of season social night.

Mark Underwood signed off his tenure as captain with a 3<sup>rd</sup> successive Captains Cup success at the finals night running out a comfortable 9 -1 winner which at least ensured some silverware,

*To get involved call Mark Underwood 07864 518760*

### Cricket Club

Three games have been played in May and two cancelled one due to the

weather and another due to the opposition cancelling. Of the three games played Collingtree have won one and lost the other two. A good win was had by 1 run over Horton, Rob Flight performing some excellent fielding to run out the last man. Also in this game Gary Ray took 5 wickets for 38 runs off 9 overs. On the batting front Dan Harris top scored with 66 runs before later when fielding having to go to hospital with a dislocated finger. Recovery is going well. Chasing 215 to win Collingtree lost to Northampton Indians by 27 runs on 17th May despite Terry Rhodes scoring 120 not out. Our first midweek game of the season against Castle Ashby away resulted in a loss. In

June we play home games on 14th, 21st and 28th with the game on 7th to be confirmed. There are also two mid week 20/20 games scheduled at home on 11th June and away on 18th June, these start at 6pm.

*If interested in joining the Club - please contact Karen Hopkins 07787786094*

### Tennis Club

Andy Murray is playing fantastically well so far this year. Unleash your inner Andy and join us for a game of tennis on a club Sunday morning.

Also check out our Facebook page

[Collingtreetennis.co.uk](http://Collingtreetennis.co.uk)

## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

PARISH CLERK: SHIRLEY WONG 01604 700691 E: [collingtreeparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:collingtreeparishcouncil@gmail.com)

Following the meeting on 13th May, it was discovered that there had been a procedural snag about which advice needed to be sought.

So far it has been agreed that an Extraordinary meeting of the Parish Council needs to be held on Wednesday 3rd June at 7.30pm in the Village Room, High Street, Collingtree. The purpose of this meeting will be solely to take any steps

required to correct procedural difficulties in the meeting on 13th May and deal with matters relevant to that correction, including the election of a Chairperson. Normal service will be resumed as soon as possible.

Please make any contact with the Parish Council through the new Clerk, Shirley Wong using the contact details listed above. Minutes of all meetings are placed

in the Parish Council notice-boards and email versions can be gained from the Clerk.





## Parish Notices

'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 News-letter door to every household every month.

Compiler/Editor

Rod Sellers

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- The 'Ladies Night' held at the Village Room on 22nd May was a great success and raised £417 for Church funds. Esther Sooriah, the event organiser, wants to thank everyone who helped (particularly Selina Smith and Hilary McCallum) and all who supported the evening.
- The Village Room has been newly decorated and is equipped with comfortable seating, a stage, disabled access and a spacious kitchen. To enquire about hiring contact Esther on 07788 76616
- Sadly, some well known Collingtree residents passed away during May. Peggy Bowring had moved away from her home in High Street South to be with family but will be well remembered in the Village. Her late husband Peter had been a member and Chairman of the Parish Council for many years. Anne Harris of Watering Lane has also passed away. Anne had been a regular worshipper at St Columba's and member of the Church Choir until travelling became difficult. Anne's husband Albert had also recently died and they will be both remembered as a familiar part of Collingtree life. Another sudden loss during May has been Robert 'Bob' Barrett of Spinney Drive who had lived in Collingtree since the early days of the 'Grange' estate.

## SAY NO TO HOWDENS



### 'WALK THE WALK'

**Starts 10.30am Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June**

**(At the end of High Street by M1 Bridge)**

Walkers from four villages will arrive along different routes and meet at a central point overlooking the proposed site.

Join local residents from Collingtree, Milton Malsor, Blisworth and Roade, in a footpath walk to highlight plans for a 2.67 million sq. ft. Distribution Centre adjoining Junction 15 of the M1. The whole development, more than twice the size of the O2 Arena in London, would displace 430 acres of farmland and open countryside and have a severe traffic and pollution impact on surrounding communities.

All walkers on the day are asked to stay on the Public Footpath and keep their dogs on a lead.

## News from The Wooden Walls of Old England

*We are pleased to confirm that our new Chef Kirsty and her partner Alan, start at the Walls this month. Please join us for a complimentary running buffet on Friday evening 12th June 7.30 until 9.30pm*

*From 18th June we will be opening all day from Tuesday to Sunday inclusive, serving both lunch and dinner, apart from Sunday evenings. We look forward to welcoming you at the Walls.*

*Sue Blackman 01604 760641*

*[www.woodenwallsof-oldengland.co.uk](http://www.woodenwallsof-oldengland.co.uk)*

# CENTRAL FOODS



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