

# COLLINGTREE NEWS

**November 2015**

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

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

## Gunpowder, Treason & Plot

**“Remember, remember, the 5th November, gunpowder, treason and plot. I see no reason why gunpowder treason, should ever be forgot.”**

We remember the rhyme but what is often forgotten, is that it was largely Northamptonshire folk who were behind the plot to blow up Parliament in 1605.

If the plan had worked, the King of England and his government would have been destroyed and the Country would have been changed back from Protestant to Catholic.

The chief plotter was Robert Catesby from Ashby St Ledger, near Daventry. He gathered a band of fellow conspirators, including Francis Tresham from Rushton, near Kettering. Tresham was regarded as a ‘loose cannon’ and was always heavily in debt. Guy (Guido) Fawkes was simply the hired mercenary soldier brought in to hide the 36 barrels of gunpowder in a cellar that ran under the House of Lords. But it all went wrong. Francis Tresham had relatives likely to be in the house of Lords when it exploded. It is thought that he wrote to warn them and his letter was passed to the King’s spymaster, the Earl of Salisbury.

The cellar was searched on the night of 4th November, just before the opening of Parliament. The barrels were found and Guy Fawkes arrested. Robert Catesby was

killed during capture and the others eventually rounded up and executed.

Guy Fawkes met a particularly bloody end. He was questioned and tortured, and eventually confessed. Immediately before his execution on 31 January, Fawkes jumped from the scaffold where he was to be hanged and broke his neck, thus avoiding the agony of the mutilation that would have followed. Francis Tresham was

sent to the Tower of London where he soon after died of an illness. Some say he was spared execution because of his warning letter. Some say he was a double-agent.



A reconstruction of the assassination attempt carried out for TV in 2005, proved that if only half the gunpowder had gone off, it would have turned the House of Lords to rubble and killed everyone inside.

### Wooden Walls of Old England

6.30pm Thursday 5th November

Come and celebrate a community bonfire and fireworks night at the Walls.

Tickets £5 adults & £4 children (up to 10 yrs) Includes beefburger or hotdog. For more details 760641

# ST COLUMBA'S + COLLINGTREE

**Minister**

Rev. Mike Burton 862284

**Church warden**

John Green 763468

**PCC Secretary**

Chris Wright 761930

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



**Diary Date**

**Sunday 20th December. Service of Nine Lessons & Carols. 6pm followed by wine & Mince Pies.**

**Services for November**

**Sunday 1st November**

10am Morning Prayer

**Sunday 8th November**

6pm Remembrance Service

**Sunday 15th November**

10am Morning Prayer

**Sunday 22nd November**

10.30am Family Service.

*There is a Benefice Service at Roade on Sunday 29th November at 10.30am.*

**Church Flowers Rota**

**Saturday 7th November -**

Joanna Edmunds (Altar) Ruth Marris Memorial)

**Saturdays 14th & 21st November**

Agnes Barfoot (Altar) Kath McCallum (Memorial)

**Saturday 28th November**

Cheruth Brown (Altar) Gill Berry (Memorial)



**Did Yew Know?**

Like many English Churchyards, St Columba's has an ancient Yew tree by its entrance. There is also a column of Yew trees in the centre of the Cemetery on Watering Lane.

**But why are Yews traditionally planted in Churchyards?**

In many cases the Yew was there before the church as communities without a church would often gather around one to listen to a preacher. In 1307 Edward 1st ordered Yew trees to be planted by churches to help protect the building.

Yews are poisonous, so by planting them on hallowed ground it kept them well away from cattle. St Columba's

was once surrounded by farms.

Yew wood was the first choice for making the long bow which was once the basis of English military strategy. Protecting it in churchyards kept it available.

More symbolically, Yew branches on touching the ground, take root and sprout again. This became associated with death, rebirth and therefore immortality.



**What's On at the Village Room**

**Each Monday Morning** - 10 - 11am Cha Char Chimps Activity Group for up to 4yr olds.

**Each Monday Evening** - 7 - 8pm Shakers Group Meditation Class

**Each Tuesday Morning** - 11.40am - Pilates Exercise Class (£6)

**First Tuesday Evening each month** - 7 -8pm 'Paeon Frequencies' Relaxation & Meditation to Music Group.

**Each Thursday Morning** - 10am - 11.30am Adult Art Group.

All Groups are open to everyone and some make a small charge. For contact details of organisers call Esther on 07788 766616

**Saturday 21st November 7pm** The 'Indian Curry Night' to raise funds for the Village Room is now SOLD OUT. Thanks to everyone for all the support.

**Friday 27th November 7pm - 9pm 'Pamper & Shopping Night'** A repeat of the popular evening focussing on Beauty Products, Christmas Shopping and demonstrations together with Mulled Wine & Mince Pies.

Due to the success of the last event and the expected demand, this event will be held jointly at both the Village Room and Collingtree School Hall Over 20 different stall holders will help kick start the Christmas Shopping season

The Village Room is available for hire at very reasonable rates: £10 per hour for Collingtree residents - £8 per hour for frequent users. For other rates contact Esther on 07788 766616 [esther.stowe@btinternet.com](mailto:esther.stowe@btinternet.com) [www.hallsforhire.com](http://www.hallsforhire.com)

**Wooden Walls Pub** The new menu includes an **Early Bird** special available Tuesday to Friday 6.30 to 7.30 - £10.50 for 2 courses together with **Steak & Fish Tuesdays** - Fish & chips or steak & chips, with a range of drinks—£12 & £16 per person respectively. We look forward to seeing you.

## VILLAGE ASSOCIATIONS & SOCIAL GROUPS

### Allotments Association

Leaves are falling rapidly and wind and rain are on the increase. Remember winter can be a tough time for birds in terms of water and food, so keep supplies well topped up. Remember also to net your brassicas as pigeons can be a problem. Think ahead to Spring and plant daffodil and tulip bulbs for that riot of colour early in the year. And talking of Spring, now is the time to make a move to have your own little bit of paradise. A few allotment plots are available. *Don't put it off, contact Martin 762700 or Bob 761369. We'll be happy to show you round.*

### Milton Malsor & Collingtree Women's Institute

The next meeting will be 12th November at 7.30p.m. in Milton Malsor Village Hall. Change of Speaker this month. We welcome Richard Lawrence; his talk is "Memoirs of a Traffic Officer". A small donation will be given to this Speaker for the Memorial Fund in support of the Police Officer murdered recently in Wallasey.

Competition is "Red, White and Blue."

*For further information call Ann Marsh 766060*

### Medicine Collection Rota

#### November

#### Weeks Commencing:

**2nd & 9th November**

Wilma McArthur 764734

**16th & 23rd November**

Barbara Brice 764723

*For anyone in Collingtree who has difficulty in getting to Roade or Blisworth Surgeries, help with collecting prescriptions can be a lifeline. There is an urgent need more volunteers to maintain this rota. If you can help occasionally with this voluntary service, please contact the Co-ordinator: Shirley Flight 764433*

## SPORTS CLUBS

### Pub Skittles

Four wins out of four since the last Newsletter - all of the team are doing very well at the moment and the spirit is fantastic. We now have only one unbeaten player though, Roo Smith. Some fantastic performances also from Oscar Simmonds, Glen Bass and the Wykes brothers. Tough games are to come though. Fixtures are on the wall at the pub - so come along on a Thursday night for a few beers and a great atmosphere. *Find out more from Tony Jones 07789 912796*

### Cricket Club

With the season now over the cricket teams thoughts have turned to golf. A successful golf weekend away was held in October with the vice captain's team retaining the trophy. The annual presentation dinner is being held at Green's on Friday 20th November, all are welcome. *If you would like to come or would like to know more about the cricket team then please contact Karen Hopkins on 07787786094 or visit our play cricket site at <http://collingtree.play-cricket.com/>*

### Tennis Club

Interested in playing floodlit tennis? Collingtree Tennis Club has fantastic floodlights, so as the evenings darken there is no need to stop playing.

To find out more visit our website: [www.collingtreetennis.co.uk](http://www.collingtreetennis.co.uk)

## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

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

**Golf Course development** The Bovis appeal pre-inquiry meeting scheduled for 10am on 23rd September was attended by the Chairman and the Parish Council was informed of the outcomes which appear in the minutes.

Evidence has been produced by some of the clever chaps in HCRA & CPRA and the Wootton Brook Action Group (WBAG) that suggests that the current figures used by the Environment Agency do not represent the full picture re flooding and the figures used by the Borough Council to measure air pollution are inadequate as no measure is taken of particulates, the results of diesel engine emissions that can be injurious to health.

**Latest draft minutes** The draft minutes of the meeting held on 23rd September, 2015 are now in the boxes and will appear in the Just Collingtree website.

**Parish finances** The audit of the parish finances conducted by BDO, the firm appointed nationally for this purpose, has been completed and the result was per-

fectly sound. The November meeting will include discussions on the setting of the precept for 2016/7, the money the Parish Council seeks from your local taxes.

**Playing Field matters** **The playing field gate must always be left locked as this prevents any traveller incursions!**

**Streetlights** 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 by using the numbers on the lamp posts. 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.

**Trees and bushes alongside pavements** 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 wheel-chair users in the village and obstruction of pavements is an offence.

**Watering Lane** Concern continues about parking on the narrow pavement up the hill in Watering Lane as this at times forces pushchair users to have to walk in the road. This is unacceptable. A possible solution would be to ban all parking on this part of the street and another could be to provide a long parking bay with the road being made effectively single track with a one way priority system if this could meet safe highway regulations. Views from parishioners are sought. **This is repeated as no views have yet been sent for the next meeting.**

Please make any contact with Parish Clerk (details above) The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on **Wednesday 11th November at 7.30pm in the Village Room**, when it is hoped information about the Ash Lane traffic calming will be available. Minutes of all meetings appear in PC notice-boards and Email versions are available from the Clerk. Minutes and accounts now also appear on the Just Collingtree website:

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

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.

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## Planning Watchdog

After almost nine years the planning saga over the Bovis application to build thousands of houses between Hunsbury and Collingtree, is reaching its climax.



All eyes will now be on the Inquiry hearing, starting on 1<sup>st</sup> December, into the appeal by Bovis against the refusal of its two applications by Northampton Borough Council. Everyone knows that the greenfield site bordering Wootton Brook is unsuitable for mass housing. There are obvious problems with air pollution, flood risk, local road access, congestion on A45 and J15 etc, etc. It should be an open and shut case. The NBC Planning Committee visited the site and saw the problems for themselves before turning the application down.

But the developers have deep pockets and expensive lawyers. NBC Planning Officers, who have consistently supported the plans, are now advising that most of the original grounds for refusal are dropped before the case goes before the Planning Inspector.

Throughout this long running saga the plan has been opposed by local councillors, local MP's local Parish Council's, groups like Hunsbury & Collingtree Residents Alliance. Collingtree Park Residents Association, Wootton Brook Action Group and hundreds of local residents.

All these groups will speak at the Inquiry and the hope must be that democracy, not money, will prevail.

For more background visit: [www.HCRA2013.co.uk](http://www.HCRA2013.co.uk)

## Parish Notices



- Sadly, a well-known parishioner Marjorie Ball of Ash Lane, passed away on 8<sup>th</sup> October. Marjorie had been a regular worshipper at St Columba's. She had been in the choir, a Sunday School teacher, on Deanery Synod, helper with the fete, member of the Mothers' Union, school governor, reader at school and for thirty years Poppy Appeal organiser for the village.
- Collingtree's Harvest Weekend started with a School Harvest Festival on 2nd October with a wonderful range of donations for the Northampton Food Bank. Parents and children also attended the Harvest Service on the 4th with grateful thanks to Sue Clutterham (Benefice Children & Families Worker) for officiating. An enjoyable Harvest Supper then followed on the 5th October.
- Profound thanks also to Geoff Goswell who has taken many services at St Columba's, despite him being supposed to be retired. Geoff is now 're-retiring' but will continue his fundraising efforts for the Leprosy Mission. Used postage stamps, British, Foreign or even machine franked, can be sold along with other memorabilia like postcards, cigarette cards and old coins. Last year £127,341 was raised. If you can, cut them from the envelope leaving at least 1/4 inch margin and either leave them in church or give to a church member to pass on. All proceeds will go to help the treatment and cure of leprosy sufferers.
- Trafalgar Day was 21st October and a most enjoyable celebratory Dinner was held at the Wooden Walls to mark the occasion. Nelson's Navy was known as The Wooden Walls of Old England and ensured that Britain fought off the French and Spanish invasion.
- Grateful thanks to all who supported the Scout Group at their recent 'Tea Prepared' event. A splendid total of £325 was raised.

**Friends of St Columba's  
Saturday 5th December  
Day Trip to Birmingham**



*A coach (generously provided by Collingtree Coaches) will visit bustling Birmingham. Attractions include the revamped Bull Ring Shopping Centre and the new enormous John Lewis store. Also a chance to visit the Frankfurt Xmas Market & Craft Fair. With 180 stalls, it is the centrepiece of the city's Xmas calendar.*

*Coach leaves Collingtree at 8am and returns at 6pm. Cost only £15 per person. More information and tickets from Mick Marsh 766060*

*Closing date for tickets - 27th November.*

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