



THE

# HOULTON

# Signal



SPRING 2022

*First with the latest messages from Houlton, Rugby*

## MEET OUR COMMUNITY

### Family of four THE REDDY FAMILY

**Vineel, his wife Kanisha and their only child at the time Hemansh, relocated from Coventry to their four-bed home in Houlton.**

Vineel said: "There's a great community spirit at Houlton. Despite the lockdown we've been able to build great relationships with our neighbours, many of which are now good friends too."

"In the relatively short time we've been here we've made great friends and had some really happy times. We're blessed to be continuing our journey here as a new family of four and look forward to creating more memories with our loved ones. We're so happy to call Houlton our home."

"Everybody always comes forward to help. It's a really active community. There's about three or four resident groups who plan events, community activities, and share updates. There's always lots going on and that's great for us, especially with two young children now. Vineel and Kanisha welcomed a new addition to the family and baby Aishvi was born in December 2021."

**"There's always so much to do at Houlton which is great, and lots of different groups you can get involved with depending on your interests, from football to badminton."**

"The school provision was a massive draw for us too as we knew we wanted to choose a home for the future, somewhere the kids can make friends and grow up together, so having the schools on the doorstep is brilliant."

Vineel and Kanisha are actively involved in the community and worked with the Master Developer on site Urban&Civic to organise a Diwali celebration event last year.



Baby Aishvi



The Reddy family

### Also inside...

- Meet Our Community **P1-P3**
- The Tuning's Fork Jubilee recipe **P3**
- Top tips to an Instagram account **P4**
- Coming up at The Barn **P4**
- Be part of Houlton's future **P4**



# MEET MORE OF OUR COMMUNITY

## Newlyweds SINEAD & PETER

**Sinead, Pete, their four children and two dogs moved into their four-bed home in March 2020.**

Neighbours, who have since become firm friends and some who attended Sinead and Pete's wedding this April, rallied around to support one another in the first lockdown, pitching in to collect shopping and joining each other on their daily walks through Houlton's nature corridors – even the Hermes driver was on first name terms with the street and went out of his way to make life easier for anyone who needed it.

Sinead said: "It was a no brainer for us when we first came to visit Houlton, as we were really taken by the community here. Having Dolman Farm at the heart of the neighbourhood and the houses built up around that really adds to the feeling of community. Heading up to The Tuning Fork as a family, or with friends is one of our favourite things to do."

"I own a fitness business and since we've had to adapt and rethink how we do things, I'm now hosting classes for the community in The Barn and at Houlton School."

"I'm also working on a coffee morning group for mums to meet, share and support each other. I know how difficult stages of mum life can be and I want to bring something to the community that will support others in the same position. This is something I'm hoping I will be able to set-up in the not-too-distant future."

Sinead and Pete, having postponed their wedding four times due to Covid, took their vows this April in the company of family, friends and neighbours and are looking forward to the future.

"We love where we live and can't wait to make many more memories here at Houlton. Once our little ones are old enough, we're looking forward to sending them off to Houlton School. Our house backs on to Houlton School and we understand there will be a cycle path going through direct to the school, which isn't quite built yet, but the kids will absolutely love that – what a great commute!"



Sinead, Peter and their children

## Dog lovers MARY DEVANEY & PAUL DOPSON

**The Devaney household is home to Mary, Paul and their very sassy but loveable rescue dog Spider.**



Paul & Mary

Previously from West Bromwich, Mary first spotted an advertisement for Houlton on her lengthy commute from London back to Sandwell.

She said: "When I saw the advert that referenced how easy the commute would be from London to Rugby, I wasted no time getting onto the internet to find out more about the development, and from that point on it was a real no-brainer that we were going to move here!"

Spider the rescue pup had been a very important member of the family for five years prior to moving to Houlton, and she was a big fan too.

The picturesque surroundings, the nature corridors and the many walking routes were a big selling point for the Devaney clan as they knew Houlton would be the perfect place for them not only to enjoy a more laid-back way of life, but that they'd be blessed with lots of great dog walks right on the doorstep too.

"The dog walk is very important and it's so lovely to be able to get out and enjoy our beautiful surroundings whilst getting some exercise in for Spider too. Spider is such a little character and certainly keeps us on our toes, but she's our absolute world and so it was important to us that she'd be happy here too!"

"I love the green spaces we're surrounded by, and they aren't just there for the sake of being there, everything at Houlton you can tell has been really considered and that doesn't go unnoticed."

The infrastructure that's in place is perfectly pitched for the amount of people who live here, and that evolves as the development evolves.



Spider

**"The Co-Op is a great new addition and the Chai Lattes from The Tuning Fork are a personal weakness of mine!"**



# The women BUILDING YOUR COMMUNITY

**As part of our International Women's Day series, we're spotlighting some of the leading women in our community. You can watch the interviews in full on our social media channels.**

Women who are forging powerful partnerships and driving instrumental change which will ultimately determine the future of Houlton and the wider Rugby community for the future.

We spoke to representatives from development, planning, hospitality, education, and construction to gain a greater understanding of what it's like to be a woman in business.

We asked them to share with us their career stories so far, how they got to where they are now, what they love most about what they do and what they would say to other women considering a career at the heart of the community.

### Building a Career

**Johanne Thomas**, Regional Director, Communities and Partnerships at Urban&Civic, said: "I'm extremely

passionate about what I do here. My favourite thing about the role is shifting and changing perceptions about development and placemaking."

**Nicola Smith**, Chief Officer - Growth and Investments at Rugby Borough Council comments: "My favourite thing about my role is shaping the built environment. We are creating communities where people want to live, shop and recreate, communities people feel happy to live in."

**Chloe Buckenham**, Vice Principal at Houlton School said: "My day-to-day role at Houlton School is supporting pupils in everything they do, and ensuring our staff are best equipped to teach the very best lessons that they can."

**Elaine Enticott**, owner of Tuning Fork café at Houlton said: "Managing the team at The Tuning Fork is a joy. We have a great team of people, great ideas and it's all about bringing those ideas to life."

### Women in Business

**Johanne** continues: "I am a woman in business, but I don't want to be judged on that. I want to be judged on my work ethic, approach, and my achievements."

**Nicola** added: "I've had many female bosses who have been senior leaders. Bosses who have reached their position through dedication and hard work and not because of their gender."

**Alice Bright** said: "To get jobs done you need good communication and confidence, and that's what people respect you for. Gender doesn't come into it."



**To find out more about the women behind Houlton scan this QR code.**



Johanne



Nicola



Alice



Elaine



Chloe

## Jubilee Jewelled Scones

The Tuning Fork, set in Dollman Farm's courtyard at Houlton, has created a Jubilee inspired recipe that can be enjoyed with friends and family this spring. Tuck in, enjoy, and share snaps of your very own creations with us on social media using **#HoultonRugby** and tagging **@thetuningforkhoulton**. Why not give them a follow whilst you are there?

### Recipe

- 700g Self Raising Flour
- 2 tsp Baking Powder
- 2 tsp Sodium Bicarbonate
- 170g Castor Sugar
- 200g Butter
- Zest of 4 Satsumas or 2 Oranges
- 240g Dried Cranberries
- 1 tsp Freshly Grated Nutmeg
- 520ml Plain Yoghurt/Sour Cream/Buttermilk
- 1 Egg Yolk & Dark Brown Sugar for glazing

### Method

- Blend sugar, flour & butter together using a food processor or mix by hand.
- Add remaining dry ingredients: orange zest, cranberries & nutmeg & mix well by hand.
- Add wet ingredients to bind with dry ingredients to make a soft dough consistency.
- Roll out the dough to 4cm high and cut out using a circular scone cutter.
- Brush the top of each scone with the beaten egg yolk.
- Sprinkle with dark brown sugar.
- Bake for 15 minutes at 180°C.

### To Serve

Decorate with fresh orange segments, clotted cream & marmalade.





@Carnel\_OnTheGreen

59

# Top Tips

## FOR BUILDING A SUCCESSFUL INTERIOR INSTAGRAM ACCOUNT

Over the last 18 months, the Instagram community of interior design enthusiasts, passionate renovators and enthusiastic first-time buyers has exploded.

### 1 Why?

What's your point of difference, and what do you want to get from it? @ourmorrishome\_theblenheim said for them it was a hobby and a way to build the excitement in the lead up to moving in. For them, gaining thousands of followers was never the original aim – it just happened!

### 2 Tell your story – warts and all

Be honest, realistic and bring your own personality out in the content you share. @homeinhansfordpark said they found they got the most engagement from posts about decorating they had done themselves, or furniture they had made or upcycled.

### 3 Make a plan and stay consistent

To help plan your content use an Instagram planner, @Carnel\_OnTheGreen uses a planning app such as 'My Feed' or 'Feed Preview' so you can plan how you want your Instagram grid to look.



@ourmorrishome\_theblenheim

221

### 4 Interact

The more you share, the more you'll get back in return. Local businesses really appreciate this love too! @ourmorrishome\_theblenheim says they've built some great links with wonderful local businesses and have witnessed first-hand how beneficial this can be to a business.

### 5 Be creative, explore & have fun

If you're sharing content that you love, your followers will love it too. @Carnel\_OnTheGreen suggests using hashtags to engage and find content that's relevant to you, this way you'll come across people that have the same interests.

# BE PART OF HOULTON'S FUTURE

There are many career opportunities on the horizon at Houlton for those looking to be a part of this neighbourhood's exciting future.



Whether you're looking for an opportunity to spread your wings in education, construction, retail or development, there are more and more opportunities becoming available as the neighbourhood continues to flourish.

Chloe Buckenham, Vice Principal at Houlton School, says: "What we look for when we're recruiting is a variety of staff who can bring different skills and individual personalities to the role. In terms of advice, I would say do your research. If you never put yourself out there and try, you'll never get the things that you want, so go for it!"

"I feel like Houlton genuinely is the family that we speak about, and I feel like I have found my forever home here."

The team at Houlton School is recruiting for a number of roles over the next 6-8 months and vacancies can be found on their website [houltonschool.org.uk/trust-information](http://houltonschool.org.uk/trust-information)

## The Barn

There is a jam-packed schedule of events lined up at The Barn for you to enjoy over the coming months from art workshops, to bake-offs, to book exhibitions and bingo there is something for everyone. Keep an eye out on our social media channels for the full line-up of scheduled events from April to December so you can dip into your favourite events and activities and not a miss a thing!



# Still daydreaming about your dream home?

On site at Houlton, you will find show homes from Redrow, Davidsons Homes, Morris, Midland Heart and Civic Living and there are brand-new William Davis and Lovell show homes opening this summer.

### 1. Book an appointment

All the show home sales teams operate on an appointment only basis so step one is to book a personal appointment. You can do this by visiting [houltonrugby.co.uk/buy-a-home](http://houltonrugby.co.uk/buy-a-home) and clicking on your housebuilder of choice.

### 2. Choose your dream home

Get excited, take away brochures and pour through the information and pictures you've captured. Find out everything you need to know about your new home before making your choice!



William Davis show homes coming soon

There are plenty of other housebuilders on site, for more information visit: [houltonrugby.co.uk/buy-a-home](http://houltonrugby.co.uk/buy-a-home).

