

Village Diary

If you would like your event included in this section please notify the Parish Clerk by phone or email (Tel: 713500 or clerk@middletoncheney.org.uk) Entries for the news letter diary must be received from the organiser by the relevant copy date and are NOT automatically rolled over to the next edition.

VILLAGE EVENTS DIARY JUNE TO AUGUST 2008

Parish Council Meetings (7.15pm) - 2nd June, 7th July, 1st August, 6th Sept.

June 15th Sun	M.C. Art Group - Exhibition - All Saint's Church GARDENS OPEN DAY
June 23rd Mon	Historical Society 7.30pm - MC Library. English Civil War
June 26th - 22nd July	National Poo Scoop Week. Children, Adults & Dogs - PLEASE take a poo bag when you go for 'walkies' and <u>USE IT!</u>
July 2nd Wed	Age Concern Meeting. The work of Dogs for the Disabled with puppy 'Ludo'
July 12 th Sat	Strawberry Fayre & Art Exhibition - Joint Churches -Queen Street
July 12th Sat	M.C. Music Festival 1pm -11pm Playing Fields, Astrop Road
July 28th Mon	Historical Society 7.30pm - MC Library, Sports, Games & Pastimes.
Aug 6th Wed	Age Concern. A Social & Games afternoon
AUGUST (ALL MONTH)	Month of Madness on Tuesdays & Wednesdays. See local press for details & village publicity posters
Sept 3rd Wed	Age Concern Meeting. Our Harvest Festival
Sept 13 th Sat	Village Hall Fete / Parish Council Open Day

OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST

Monday 30th June at 7.30pm

**Music For A Summer Evening with - Brackley Male Voice Choir
at Magdalen College Chapel, Brackley**

The editors reserve the right to edit all material & every effort will be made to ensure that the information in this news letter is accurate. We will endeavour to include all items submitted but occasionally space may be limited & your article may have to be included in the next edition.

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**Cheney
Chatter**

**Issue 2
June 2008**

Middleton Cheney News Letter

It was wonderful to hear how much people enjoyed our first edition and hopefully, with your help we will get better and better. Your comments are very useful and always appreciated.

In May we had a visit from the Village of the Year judges who were impressed by all that is going on in the village. If you want to advertise any events in the Village Diary please let me know in good time.

My door is always open during office hours to whoever wants to come and tell me of a general or particular problem. I am well aware of the perennial problems of bad footpaths, bad road repairs and dog litter.

Hopefully with the new company who have taken over the Highways I will be able to build up a good working relationship and get some of our really bad roads repaired properly.

As for dog litter, we are going to put up five new dog bins after the correct consultation has taken place and then it's the case of - "PLEASE use them responsibly".

I would like to point out that the P.C. has not put up the Precept for the last four years.

Careful management has meant that we have been able to spend more on improvements without having to ask for more on your council tax.

Caroline Stacey — Clerk. Middleton Cheney Parish Council



The next issue of the Village News will be delivered in September. Please send all articles by the 14th August, either by email - clerk@middletoncheney.org.uk or by post to the Parish Office.

Entries should be no bigger than half an A5 page, please.

This News Letter is published and sponsored by Middleton Cheney Parish Council

4 SHIRES MODEL CLUB

“From Spitfires to Space Marines, Plate Armour to Power Armour and Space Ships to Sailing Ships”



The 4 Shires Model Club was formed about three years ago by a group of model makers, who were frustrated at not having anywhere to show off their miniature masterpieces. We meet once a month at the Middleton Cheney Parish meeting rooms from 7.30pm till 9.30pm - the date of the meeting is not set in stone so we can try to accommodate shift workers. Skill levels don't interest us as we don't take ourselves very seriously, and anyway we all had to start somewhere. We are not 'rivet counters', if your model looks good to you then it is good.

The club has model kit builders and war-hammers so it's something for everyone. We are currently working on a model of Middleton Cheney for the Parish Council. We attend model shows as a club and have a good time, so don't delay call today give Martin a ring on 712557.

TAOIST TAI CHI SOCIETY



We meet every Thursday morning in the Village Hall from 10.30 a.m. - 12 mid-day. Tai Chi is a series of gentle exercises which are suitable for all ages and for all levels of fitness. The class is now in its third year and has nearly 40 members, many of whom are seniors. There is a rolling membership system and anyone is welcome to come along and try the class. For further information please call Linda on 01295 255815.

HEALTH WALKS

We are going from strength to strength and recently signed on our 100th walker! Why not come along, meet new people and enjoy the local Countryside? Please see the village notice boards for more information.

CRAFT FAIR - CHENDERIT SCHOOL - SUNDAY 16TH NOVEMBER

Booking forms are now available for the above Craft Fair. Please contact Helen Mason Tel: 660508 or Chenderit School: 711567. Book early to avoid disappointment.

Potholes -The Street Doctor 0845 601 1113, Cold callers—0845 404 0506

MONTH OF MADNESS



Another Month of Madness will be taking place this August. Some of the same as last year and hopefully some new activities. Watch out for more details closer to the time but keep Tuesdays and Wednesdays in August marked in your diaries.

AGE CONCERN

Any resident of Middleton Cheney, aged 55 years or over, is very welcome to attend our monthly meetings held in the Village Hall on the 1st Wednesday of each month. We start at 2pm prompt and the cost is £1.50. This includes a lovely tea and a free raffle ticket.

At the moment we are desperate for general help (making a cake or a loaf of sandwiches, for which you will be reimbursed) or just helping out in general during the meeting, there is no stipulation about age. All of the committee are volunteers and we work hard to give the elderly people of Middleton Cheney a happy and interesting afternoon.

Please see the Events Diary (back page) for details of forthcoming meetings.

MIDDLETON MUSIC FEST 2008

Middleton Cheney's Music Festival is taking place on Saturday 12th July at Astrop Playing Fields. This year the proceeds will be shared by the village Pre-School Development Fund and the Playing Fields Association. By coming and enjoying yourselves you will be supporting two very good and essential village charities.

Rain will not stop the fun, as this year we have organised a 90'x60' marquee which will shelter both the players and spectators from either rain, or hopefully the sun. There is a fantastic website www.music08.co.uk with all the details of the various bands playing and a great competition to design the official festival t-shirt.

The organisers of the festival would like to thank all their sponsors for their generous financial support and especially the Middleton Cheney Parish Council for both their financial help and their support in putting on this year's festival.



Street Lighting & Cemetery - Contact Parish Clerk in Office 713500

ART EXHIBITION



The Middleton Cheney Art Group, which is less than a year old, is holding its first Art Exhibition!

On Sunday June 15th, Open Garden Day, we will be showing our paintings and drawings in All Saints Church.

As you move around the village admiring the wonderful gardens, why not stop off at the church and have a look at our paintings and drawings. You will find a wide variety of themes, approached with bold enthusiasm. Our work is mostly acrylic and mixed media, with some pieces in soft pastel and water soluble inks. If you like one enough to buy it, 20% will go to the church funds.

We are all amateurs who enjoy meeting to paint together on Tuesdays in the Parish Meeting Rooms, under the tuition of Caroline Chappell.

Caroline, a painter and tutor, will be holding her own exhibition on the same day in her cottage and garden in Glovers Lane. All welcome!

If you are at all interested in joining our painting group, please contact Caroline on 01295 711035

MANSION HILL VETERINARY PRACTICE

Be your pet's best friend this summer - Whilst we get ready to bask in a long hot summer (maybe!), **John Taylor, Middleton Cheney's resident vet** urges us all to spare a thought for our four legged friends. "At this time of year, we need to give our pets extra consideration. If not, we jeopardise not only their health and wellbeing, but in extreme circumstances, their lives. However, by following a few simple guidelines, we can help our pets to enjoy the summer as much as we do."



Cars are killers - Cars are like ovens at this time of year, heating up to temperatures of 50 degrees C or more, even with the windows open. Dogs can overheat in minutes. In this kind of weather no animal should ever be left alone in a car – even for a few minutes – and the same applies to conservatories, greenhouses and caravans.

Avoiding sunburn - Cover vulnerable areas with high factor sun cream, paying particular attention to the nose and ear tips, especially if your pet has white, or fine hair.

Only exercise animals during the coolest times of the day, early morning or late evening. This will decrease the risk of heatstroke and prevent them from burning their paws on hot pavements. And make sure there's a shady resting place and fresh drinking water available at all times.

If your dog overheats - Signs of overheating include vigorous panting, collapse, vomiting, seeking shade, appearing weak and white viscous saliva. To cool a hot dog down, give him plenty of water to drink, wet him with cool water and keep him out of the sun. If he doesn't improve immediately seek veterinary attention.

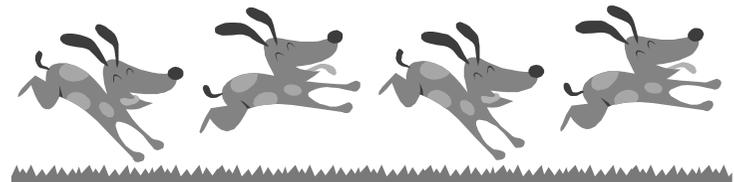
When the lightning strikes - After the sunshine comes the storm. Animals like humans can become stressed and upset, so bring pets inside, try to keep them calm and give them a quiet resting place to retreat to. If your pet becomes particularly upset, it's worth chatting with your vet to solve the problem.

Rabbits and guinea pigs beware - Warm, wet weather also means an increase in flies, which can lead to fly-strike. This is where flies lay their eggs in faeces stuck to the animal's fur and these eggs hatch into maggots. The maggots can do a lot of damage very quickly, eating away at the surface of the skin and in more severe cases, all the way through the abdomen. Check your pet every day to ensure the fur is clean and free from dirt. Clean out hutches and change bedding weekly - and apply a preventative product available from your vet.

"Planning is key to preventing animals suffering in the heat, so think about their needs and take action," John concludes.

For a safe and happy time with your pets this summer, remember John's top tips

- 1 Never leave an animal in a car in warm weather**
- 2 Don't over exert animals in the heat**
- 3 Always provide access to shade and fresh drinking water**
- 4 Protect animals from sun burn**
- 5 Watch out for fly-strike in rabbits and guinea-pigs**





A HOT SUMMER?

An open window may let in more than a cool breeze. In the Summer as many as a quarter of all Burglaries happen through open windows - some when the occupant is at home!

When you go out make sure all accessible doors and windows are securely closed and locked.

When you are at home, securely close all accessible windows, unless you are in the same room and fully awake.

If you really need to keep a window open think about installing a suitable security grille.

IF YOU'RE GOING AWAY ON HOLIDAY:

Cancel any milk or newspaper deliveries.

Cut the lawn and leave garden tidy.

Don't put your home address on luggage labels when travelling to your destination.

If you can, get a friend or neighbour to look after your home while you are away.

Ask them to collect your post, draw your curtains at night and open them in the morning, and generally make the place looked lived in.

Be prepared to do the same for them.

BE A GOOD NEIGHBOUR

If you see anyone acting suspiciously in your neighbourhood, call the Police Tel. 0845 700700.

Useful Contact Numbers -

The Street Doctor Tel. 08456011113

Untaxed Vehicles Tel. 0800 0325202

Fly Tipping Tel. 01327 322347

Stray Dogs Tel. 0845 4040506

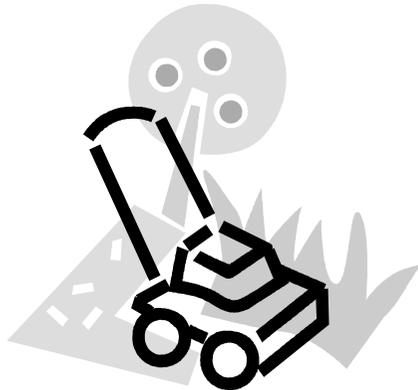
Consumer direct (DTI) Tel. 0845 4040506

Free Home Fire Safety Checks Tel. 0800 3899950

Abandoned Vehicles Tel.0845 6121999

Have a good and safe summer - Your Safer Community Team

**PC790 Martyn Dearsley
PCSO Suzanne Bourne
PCSO Clive Ashmore**



MIDDLETON CHENEY PRE - SCHOOL

In November 2007 Middleton Cheney Pre-School undertook their regular OFSTED inspection and came out with flying colours in all areas. Due to the popularity of the Pre-School and additional requirements / legislations we are in the process of commissioning plans for a new dedicated building to allow the younger members of our community to receive an even higher level of learning and education.

A New Building Development committee was formed back in 2006 and we are now in the position where we have a piece of land that we can lease over a long period and build on. We are currently applying to the Nation Lottery and other financial institutions for funding and over the last few months our dedicated Fund Raising team (with the fantastic support of Pre-School Parents and Children and the local community) have raised in excess of £10,000 from their own fund raising efforts.

FIRST STEPS

First steps is a pre-school group which meets regularly at All Saints Church, Middleton Cheney, every Wednesday afternoon 2pm – 3pm during term times. We also hold a special session during the school summer holidays, where we extend our usual hour and invite older siblings to join us for more activities and games.

Our group has been running for approximately 11 years and consists primarily of babies and toddlers, covering ages from birth to 5, their parents, carers and grandparents. Each week children and their parents/carers join together to sing songs, listen to a short bible based story and then complete an activity on the given theme for that session. After all this the children and adults have a short time for refreshments and play.

Attendance is not obligatory and varies weekly. No admission fee is charged to anyone attending the group and all craft materials and refreshments are provided free.



We are also very happy to announce that Lord Heseltine has very kindly offered to nominate us as his charity for 2010 and donated £30,000 to our cause!

I should mention at this point that we are a “not for profit” organisation, a **registered charity (1025821) and that all monies are fed back into Pre-School for the development, education and enjoyment of the children who attend.**

The project has the full support of both the Parish Council, Community and Northamptonshire Early Learning.

Please help to support the building of our new Community Pre-School and therefore help to develop the future generations of this vibrant community. If you would like any further information then you can email me - chrispalmer1960@yahoo.co.uk or phone 01295 72606.

Chris Palmer, Chairman, Middleton Cheney New Pre-School Development Fund.