

Village Diary: March 2009

Parish Council Meetings (7.15pm): 2nd Mar, 6th Apr, 11th May, 1st June

Mar.	4th	Wed	Age Concern - Nick West with his Wildlife Slides
Mar.	6th	Fri.	Chenderit School CSA - Curry & Quiz Night. 7.00 for 7.30pm. Raffle & Licensed Bar. Tickets £8 / Students 11-18 £5. Advanced booking only - Jenny on 711915
Mar.	23rd	Mon	History Society 7.30pm - M.C.Library. Bob Hunter: Middleton Cheney - A Self Sufficient Village. The way we worked from 1750 - 1899. A fully illustrated talk covering the trades, hardships and the people in Middleton Cheney.
Mar.	28th	Sat	W.I.- ' Credit Crunch Jumble Sale' - Village Hall 2.00 - 4.30pm. NB. The Hall will be open from 12.30pm for any items you wish to donate.
Mar.	31st	Tues	GARDENERS' QUESTION TIME. M.C. Village Hall. <u>SORRY -SOLD OUT!</u>
Apr.	1st	Wed	Age Concern - Northants Entertainers
Apr.	27th	Mon	Hist. Soc. 7.30pm - MC Library. Bruce Smith: The Welsh Lane and Banbury Lane. Many drover's roads were ancient routes, of unknown age, whilst others date back to medieval times. Discover more about the Drovers' Routes in Northamptonshire.
May.	5th	Wed	Age Concern - A.G.M. followed by an afternoon with the Middleton Cheney Brownies and the Lynden Kidz.
May.	9th	Sat	Garden Club - Annual Plant Sale - Village Green
May.	10th	Sun	All Saints Sunday School - Charity Walk
May.	15th	Fri	Chenderit School Association - Casino Night. Contact Jenny Smith 711915 for information / bookings
May.	13th 16th	Wed - Sat	JEKYLL AND HYDE—The Musical. N.B. This is a dark play with adult themes. By the Lynden Players. Box Office - Mr Barry Coles 712427
May.	25th	Mon	Hist. Soc.- No meeting, but look at HISTORY ON YOUR DOORSTEP - This month we recommend a visit to Mary Arden's Farm, Wilmcote near Stratford on Avon. See the Elizabethan way of life and interact with the daily domestic routine of a working farm.
			BANK HOLIDAY

If you would like to include your event in this section please notify the Parish Clerk (Email clerk@middletoncheney.org.uk or call 713500). Entries must be received from the organiser by the relevant copy date - they are not automatically rolled over to the next edition.

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



Cheney Chatter

Issue 5
March 2009

Middleton Cheney Newsletter

Welcome to the FIRST BIRTHDAY edition of the Cheney Chatter.



We have been falling through your letter box for a whole year now and we hope you are finding this to be a useful and informative addition to the life of our village. We are always pleased to receive articles, entries or even letters and suggestions for inclusion in future additions. Thank you to everyone for your support.

Through our County Councillor, Mr. Ken Melling, the Parish Council has obtained funding to run another **Month of Madness** in August, with as many varied and different activities for the children as possible. We have already had some interesting suggestions for new activities - not all of them possible! I will need at least 25 volunteers if these events are to take place. You would not have to be available for all the month; a week, a day, or even just a few hours would be very helpful. If we do not get the

volunteers we will not be able to run the activities. Please contact the Clerk if you think you may have some spare time during August. I will be delighted to hear from you.

Spring will soon be around the corner and more and more of us will be taking advantage of the better weather and getting out in the countryside. Many a walk is spoilt by stepping into the mess left by people's dogs. **PLEASE** may we impress on dog owners to pick up after their dogs and dispose of the mess either in the bins provided or take it home with you to be disposed of in your black wheelie bins. It is not difficult to just get in the habit of picking up wherever you are even if you think you do not have to. It would make country walks so much nicer for everyone.



Caroline Stacey - Clerk.
Middleton Cheney Parish Council

The next issue of the Cheney Chatter will be delivered in June. Please send all articles by 15th May to the Parish Clerk by email: clerk@middletoncheney.org.uk or by post to the Parish Meeting Room. Entries should be no bigger than half A5 page.

MIDDLETON CHENEY HEALTH WALKS - These village-based walks are part of the South Northants programme of health walks, with Angela and Roy Clements leading the 1st Friday of the month (longer walks) and the 2nd Monday health walks. They have handed the 4th Monday of the month health walks over to leaders Janet Davies, Paul 'Monty' Montague and Len Wood.



The Monday health walks are intended for those who are not regular walkers or are recovering from illness. They are taken at an easy going pace, 1.5 – 2 miles in length on pavements and generally level footpaths with few stiles and take about an hour to complete.

The Friday walks are longer, 4 -5 miles in length, of about 2 hours duration, taking in slightly more challenging terrain and are designed to develop walkers towards joining one of the numerous walking/rambling groups in the area.

All walks are of a social nature and end with the option of refreshments.

2nd Monday walks: Meet at 10.am nr the Red Lion with the option of refreshments (£1) afterwards at 'Take Thyme' by kind permission.

4th Monday walks: Meet nr the New Inn at 10am with the option of refreshments (£1) afterwards in the Parish Meeting Room.

1st Friday walks: Meet nr the Red Lion with refreshments (£1.50) afterwards at the New Inn

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE - CREDIT CRUNCH JUMBLE & GOOD AS NEW SALE-
Saturday 28th March 2.00—4.00 pm in the Village Hall.

If you are about to start Spring Cleaning, de-cluttering and clearing your cupboards, lofts and garages please pass any unwanted items our way. We are helping to raise funds for the Middleton Cheney Pre - School Building Appeal. Stalls will include cakes, clothing, toys and bric-a-brac, a raffle and a tombola. Refreshments will also be available. Please note that the doors will be open at 12.30pm for any items you wish to donate but entry to the grand sale will not start until 2.00pm.



ALL SAINTS SUNDAY SCHOOL CHARITY WALK -
Sunday 10th May 2009

Come and join us in the afternoon for a fun walk around the village and local footpaths, led by Charles Woolland. A small fee to take part but sponsorship is optional. Funds raised in aid of Banbury Young Carers. Look out for full details nearer the time.

TENNIS CLUB - The snow has been fun but it has disrupted our attempts at playing in the Banbury winter league. We still have several matches to rearrange. No we can't play with snowballs. This will lead us into the usual summer league where we have entered three teams. As daylight increases we can start our club evenings on Sunday March 29th. There will be club play for adults as usual on Sundays, Mondays and Wednesdays. For the first few weeks the Sunday session will start at 5 pm. We hope to have our usual coaching for all levels on Fridays. If any parents want to arrange additional junior events or games please contact us. Previous members will receive a membership form but we are always happy to welcome new members. Fees are, £49 for adults and £99 for families. Contact John 712 474 or Lyn 710 472



FIRST STEPS - Meet on Wednesdays from 2.00 - 3.00pm, term time only at All Saints Church. The sessions are **FREE** to all pre-school children and their parents and carers - refreshments are provided. Each session includes singing, instruments and easy-to-learn activities followed by a short story and fun craft activities. Please contact Louisa on 710449 for more information.



Protect your vehicle from number plate theft

From June 07 to June 08 there were 253 recorded offences of number plate thefts across Northamptonshire West. Number plates can be used as an aid to commit further crime and the following information is designed to ensure your vehicle isn't next.

Consider investing in a secure number plate. `Secureplate` is a theft resistant vehicle number plate independently assessed by Sold Secure* (*Independent security testing organisation). For more details visit www.secureplate.com Alternatively replace the existing screws in your number plate with non-return screws.

If you have any information about crime or criminal activity contact

Northamptonshire Police on 08453 700700 or e-mail sctbrackleyrural@northants.police.uk, alternatively call Crimestoppers anonymously and free on 0800 555 111.

Useful Contact Numbers:

The Street Doctor	0845 6011113
Untaxed Vehicles	0800 0325202
Fly Tipping	01327 322347
Stray Dogs	0845 2300226
Consumer direct (DTI)	0845 4040506
Free Home Fire Safety Checks	0800 3899950
Abandoned Vehicles	0845 6121999

PC790 Martyn Dearsley
 PCSO Clive Ashmore

HELP AT HAND - GIVE A LIFT TO YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY

What do we do?

Middleton Cheney volunteer car service is supported by Northants County Council, Our volunteer drivers use their own cars to take people to essential (usually medical related) appointments. Anyone can use the service if they live in Middleton and their mobility problems make it difficult to access public transport.



What does it cost?

There is no registration fee and our service is open to anyone in Middleton Cheney who has a genuine need. Our drivers are volunteers who give their time without being paid. However, passengers pay a mileage charge to help cover the driver's fuel cost. In addition passengers meet the cost of any car parking or congestion charges. Payment is made to the driver at the time of the journey.

Examples (return journeys) -

Middleton Cheney	£1.00	Banbury	£4.20
Brackley	£6.00	Oxford	£18.20

We can also help with transport to Katherine House Hospice.

What journeys can we help with?

We can take you to appointments at:-

Hospitals	Opticians	Podiatrists	Dental Surgeries
Day Centres	Doctors	Health Centres	

We can also take you to visit relatives in Hospital and Nursing Homes.

How do I book my journey?

Telephone Lynda on 01295 711273

How much notice do you require to find me a volunteer driver?

Tell us as soon as you have got your appointment (at least three working days notice if possible). We cannot guarantee that every request for a journey will be met - although it is rare that we cannot help.

MORE VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!



Are you a car owner with a couple of hours free time with which you could help those who really need it? Volunteer driving won't cost you anything - mileage expenses are paid. You can control how much time you wish to volunteer and how far you are prepared to travel. Telephone Lynda (number as above) to make an informal enquiry and obtain more details.

THE MIDDLETON CHENEY PLAYING FIELD ASSOCIATION - look after and protect the fabulous playing field in Middleton Cheney and we are appealing for new members to join us. We meet each month to discuss the way forward in order to benefit all those who have a connection with the playing field - whether it be playing football, cricket, tennis or just enjoying time with the family. The P.F.A. is a registered member of F.I.T (Fields in Trust), receiving practical support and advice in order to improve the facilities. F.I.T also helps to protect individual playing fields – permanently - from development.

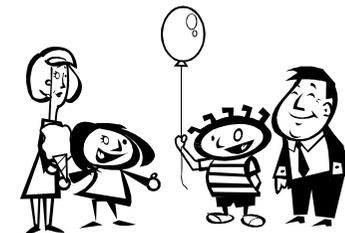


Our Annual General Meeting will be held on Mon. 20th April - 7.30pm. - at the social club, Astrop Road. We meet on the second Monday of every month and look forward to your ideas and suggestions for the future of **YOUR** playing field. For further details, please call 01295 712464.



We also hold charity events throughout the year including the popular **MIDDLETON MUSIC FESTIVAL**, which will take place on Saturday 11th July 2009, when you can enjoy another great afternoon and evening of varied performances by some of the best in local music. Last year almost 2000 people from all generations, came along and soaked up the atmosphere. The following day, (Sunday 12th July) will see the return of the traditional **VILLAGE FETE** – an opportunity

for all groups, clubs and societies from the village and surrounding area to be involved in a great summer event - raising, much needed, funds and public awareness. From tombolas to welly-wanging, football matches to pudding tasting, there should be something for everyone to enjoy, all profits from this spectacular weekend will go toward the upkeep of the playing field. If you would like to hold a stall, take part in a public display or performance, or generally help out and get involved please call Teresa on 712464 for further details, we will be delighted to hear from you!

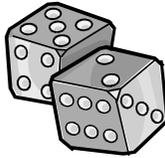


MIDDLETON CHENEY ART GROUP -

Three hour sessions are available on Tuesdays at the Parish Meeting Rooms. We also run Saturday Art Workshops. Suitable for adults of all abilities; introduces mixed media techniques, ink and bleach.

Tutor: Caroline Chappell Ring 01295 711 035 for details.

CHENDERIT SCHOOL ASSOCIATION would like to thank everyone for their support at the Craft Fair in November. We raised £3430.00 which will be spent to benefit pupils at Chenderit School.



Our next events will be Curry & Quiz night on March 6th and Casino Night on Friday 15th May. Details to be confirmed. Contact Jenny Smith 711915 for information/ bookings.

MA MITES - is a parent and carer - toddler and baby group. We welcome parents, aunts, uncles, grandparents, childminders etc. The chair of Ma Mites is a child minder with teenage children of her own. We cater for new-borns to pre-school children and in holidays we are going to open for primary school siblings too.

People pay per session - £1:50 plus 50p per extra child. The aim of the group is free play, including cars, trains, dolls, role play dressing-up and 'ride-ons.' We also have a structured theme each week for the children, such as sticking, preparing food, and crafts which may relate to that specific date, such as daffodils on St David's day. We have a varying number of people coming and after a quiet few months we have now changed committee and "business" is picking up again! We are a non-profit making organisation and when we do our fund raising activities we like to divide the proceeds - buying new toys for the group and also supporting local worthy charities.



Meetings are held in the Baptist Church Middleton Cheney on Thursdays 1:15 - 3pm and Fridays 9 -11:15am.

Please contact Debbie 07710791812 or Ceri 07900907732 for more information, new members are always welcome.

MIDDLETON CHENEY BELL RINGERS - invite you to join their happy band. People who can read music are an advantage but many of our current members are learning from basics. This is an enjoyable activity with lots of laughter along the way. Practice nights are Wednesdays from 7.30 -9.00pm.



Also, the Church bell ringers are looking for new recruits and would welcome anyone who is interested in learning this traditional craft. Their practice night has recently changed to Thursdays from 7.00 - 8.30pm.

"Bell ringing is a team activity that stimulates the brain and helps keep you fit... it also makes a glorious sound!"

Please contact Kathy - tel. 710554 for more information.

ROCK (The Story Of Simon Peter)

A production of the new musical by Roger Jones will take place in Banbury on Sunday the 22nd March at St Mary's Church, Horsefair, Banbury. Tickets £10.00 adult / £8.00 concessions. The performance features the original cast supported by a choir from the local area, recruited from churches of multiple denominations. Roger is a well-known Christian composer (21 musicals!) who has been writing for over thirty years. This production features catchy songs, moving dance, entertaining drama and a powerful message for today. For more information please contact Box Office - Jenny Smith on 711915.



GARDEN CLUB -The Middleton Cheney Garden Club was set up in 2002 and now has seventy nine members and rising. We have enjoyed some fantastic speakers and trips during that time and now, to our great delight, we have been chosen to host a recording of the Radio 4 programme 'Gardeners' Question Time'. We feel very fortunate as some clubs wait up to twenty years or more and still do not have the opportunity to take part. The recording takes place on Tuesday, 31st March, in the Village Hall, when the panel will be Anne Swithinbank, Bunny Guinness and Bob Flowerdew. As you can imagine, tickets have been very much in demand and we have sold out. Everyone is now frantically thinking of an original question to ask the experts. So look out for the broadcast which goes out on Friday afternoons and is repeated on Sunday afternoons. The club's next big event is our annual Plant Fair on the Village Green on Saturday, 9th May, 2009, when, hopefully, spring will be with us. This have been a great success in previous years , so do come along, get your plants and talk to members to see if the Garden Club is something that appeals to you. We meet on the third Monday of each month, at 7.30 p.m. in the Church and everyone is welcome.



MIDDLETON CHENEY CRICKET CLUB - start indoor nets at Chenderit School from the beginning of March on a Tuesday evening to prepare for the 2009 season which starts in May. We run two Saturday sides in the South Northants League & a side in the Brackley mid-week League on a Wednesday evening. We also have a youth section running under 13s, under 15s & under 17s. There is also a Ladies team that play friendly matches on a Sunday afternoon.



The club play their matches on the Astrop Road playing fields. If you are interested in joining a progressive & friendly club, ring Secretary Andy Mayo 01295 712129 or 07931966948 or for the Ladies Carole Twynham 01295 710158 or 07525345301. Or visit our website www.middletoncheney.play-cricket.com