

# Village Diary: March - May 2011

Parish Council Meetings (7.15pm): 7 Mar, 4 Apr, 9 May, 6 Jun.

\*MIDDLETON CHENEY VILLAGE WEBSITE - <http://middletoncheney.org>\*

Mar 17th. Thurs	W.I. / Village Hall / 7.30pm / Keep Fit with Music - Frances Gittings
Mar 21st. Mon	Garden Club / All Saints Church / 7.30pm / Heritage Fruit Trees presented by Andy Howard from the Heritage Fruit Tree Company
Mar 28th. Mon	Hist Soc / Library / 7.30pm / Sulgrave - A Hidden Gem. Built at the time of Henry VIII we take a look at the manor house described as, 'The perfect visit in the heart of England.'
Apr 6th. Wed	Age Concern / Village Hall / 2.00pm / Dog Training for TV with Gill Holt
Apr 18th. Mon	Garden Club / All Saints Church / 7.30pm / Grow Your Own Vegetables presented by Geoff Hodge, Author and Broadcaster.
Apr 21st. Thurs	W.I. / Village Hall / 7.30pm / Becoming a Studio Potter - Penny Varley
Apr 29th - 2nd May	<b>FOUR DAY VILLAGE FESTIVAL CELEBRATING THE ROYAL WEDDING</b>
May 4th. Wed	Age Concern / Village Hall / 2.00pm / A.G.M., Quiz & Horse Racing
May 10th. Tues until 14th. Sat	<b>'ALLO 'ALLO - by the Lynden Players / Village Hall / 7.00pm Box Office Mr Barry Coles 712427 / details page 2</b>
May 14th. Sat	<b>GARDEN CLUB - ANNUAL PLANT SALE - VILLAGE GREEN - from 9.00a.m. onwards</b>
May 18th. Wed	<b>ANNUAL PARISH MEETING / Village Hall / 7.30pm / details page 2.</b>
May 19th. Thurs	W.I. / Village Hall / 7.30pm / Food & Drink in Tudor Times - M. Sirot - Smith
May 15th - 21st	CHRISTIAN AID WEEK - <b>POVERTY, LET'S END IT!</b> PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY
May 23rd. Mon	Hist Soc / Library / 7.30pm / Further Sources for Family Research by Angela Malin, Chairman of Northamptonshire Family History Society
June 1st. Wed	Age Concern / Village Hall / 2.00pm / Hanging Baskets with Liz Coleman

**DID YOU MISS ANOTHER GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO PUBLICISE YOUR GROUP OR EVENT? THE CLOSING DATE FOR INCLUSION IN OUR NEXT EDITION IS FRIDAY 13TH MAY 2011**

If you would like to include your event in this section please notify the Parish Clerk, call 713500 or email: [clerk@middletoncheney.org.uk](mailto:clerk@middletoncheney.org.uk). 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 13  
March 2011**

## Middleton Cheney Newsletter

### THIS YEAR IS ELECTION YEAR

On May 5th this year we will be voting for a new Parish Council. All councillors will have to stand for re-election and there are currently 4 vacant places on our Council. This is YOUR opportunity to make a difference to your lives in the village.



Are you happy with the work that the Parish Council is doing? Please vote for the particular people you feel are best representing your views and making the decisions you agree with. If you are not happy and feel there should be a change, perhaps you would like to be more involved and become a Parish Councillor. Following, are a few comments recently made by our councillors on why they are councillors and what they hope to do and how they feel.

...I am very interested in what happens in our village. I wanted to represent the younger members of the community with young families....and I find it frustrating when people complain about local issues but then do not take any positive steps to change anything.

....I am keen for Middleton to keep its village status and not to lose its identity, but am mindful that we have to keep one

step ahead in an ever changing world.

....the next step for me will be to ensure that the village re-grows its community spirit, and try to ensure that young families and children of residents can live here with a sense of ownership that can only come from a village that is inclusive, diverse and free of closed minds.

...I have always tried to represent the needs and concerns of residents and continuing to serve the village particularly now is an interesting challenge during a period of change.

.....Over the years I have been lucky to be involved in a diverse range of projects working with dedicated members of the community. Collectively we can influence our surroundings, services and make Middleton Cheney a village to be proud of.

**WHATEVER YOU DECIDE TO DO,  
REMEMBER TO VOTE!**

Caroline Stacey - Clerk.  
Middleton Cheney Parish Council

The next issue of the Village News will be delivered in June. Please send all articles by **noon on 12th May** to the Parish Clerk by email: [clerk@middletoncheney.org.uk](mailto:clerk@middletoncheney.org.uk) or by post to the Parish Meeting Room. Entries should be no bigger than half A5 page.

**FOUR-DAY-FEST (29th April—2nd May)** - Plans are well under way for the forthcoming four day festival in the village of Middleton Cheney to celebrate the wedding of HRH Prince William of Wales and Miss Catherine Middleton.



The festival, which begins on the evening of Thursday 28th April, lasts throughout the long weekend and already has over 20 activities planned at various sites and venues across the village.

A Scarecrow competition, 'Scruffs' dog show, A Royal Treasure Hunt, Sports Matches and live performances can all be found in the list of events so far. The royal wedding itself will be screened in many public places throughout Middleton Cheney on 29th April. The village marching band are to begin the celebrations before the televised ceremony in the village hall and many residents have street parties planned for the afternoon.

All Saints League of Friends are planning a **Wedding Dress Display** and would love to hear from you if you would like to include yours (the older the better!), in this weekend celebration. We would also appreciate any help in sourcing mannequins to display them on. Please call either Violet Timms on 712431 or Chris Wells on 710076. All Saints church services on 1st May will have a theme of The Celebration of Marriage.

Although there are many events planned at this early stage, we are still encouraging all village groups, clubs and businesses to add to the list. If you are interested in holding an activity or exhibition sometime over the weekend, we would very much like to hear from you with details of what you have planned as soon as possible. The deadline for your submission into the brochure of events is March 14th. Please email your info or enquiry to [mcroyalwedding@gmail.com](mailto:mcroyalwedding@gmail.com) alternatively, contact the Parish Clerk on 713500 or email [clerk@middletoncheney.org](mailto:clerk@middletoncheney.org).



**ATTENTION ALL VILLAGE RESIDENTS AND ORGANISATIONS -**

**The ANNUAL PARISH MEETING** will be held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 18th May 2011 at 7.30pm. Following the success of last year's new format, this year the meeting will run along the same lines. All village organisations are invited to take part. This is your opportunity to present your organisation to the village; promote your aims and ideas and recruit new members. All the Parish Council ask is that you present your year end annual report to the office before the meeting and book a table (large or small) by Monday, 9th May at the latest. Please advise if you wish power to be available.

The local police will also be holding a "Have your Say" surgery at this meeting. This will give all residents the opportunity to come and speak to the Councillors, Local, District and County; speak to the Police and find out about all the many organisations that make up such an interesting and varied life in our village.

**ACTIVE RECREATION – HEALTH WALKS** - Be more active with a range of activities from the Sports Development Team at South Northamptonshire Council. Colin Hull, Sports Development Officer, said, "We work with local people to develop community based active recreation programmes. For example the **HEALTH WALKS** in Middleton Cheney are led by volunteers from the village."

The Middleton Cheney health walks programme is: -

- 2-Miler - Second Monday of each month - Meet 10am near the Red Lion
- 2-Miler - 4th Monday of each month - Meet 10am at The New Inn
- 3-Miler - Third Monday of each month - Meet 10:30am near The New Inn
- Extended Walk 4-5 miles - First Friday of each month - Meet 10am near The Red Lion and finish at The New Inn

Health walks are FREE and afterwards walkers are invited to join the Walk Leaders for tea and coffee. There is no need to book, just turn up on the day.

Other active recreation programmes that could be developed in Middleton Cheney are jogging and Nordic walking. If you would like to help promote either of these activities in Middleton Cheney, please contact Colin Hull on 01327 322337 or email [colin.hull@southnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:colin.hull@southnorthants.gov.uk)



**ATTENTION ALL MOTORISTS** - We have been asked to make a plea for a bit of understanding to our less able members of the community. People with mobility scooters, (or prams or pushchairs ) are finding it very difficult to get about when motorists park their car across the entrance to footpaths or half on the pavement, half on the road. All it needs is a little consideration to make life a bit easier for everyone. Please think before you park your car.

**SOME CONTACT E-MAILS YOU MAY FIND USEFUL**

The general trading standards email for reporting problems is: - [tradedstd@northamptonshire.gov.uk](mailto:tradedstd@northamptonshire.gov.uk)

Information & advice about common known scams can be found on: [www.consumerdirect.gov.uk](http://www.consumerdirect.gov.uk)

And also for postal mail scams information & advice can be found on: [www.thinkjessica.com](http://www.thinkjessica.com)

**Brackley Rural Safer Community Team**  
Tel: 03000 111 222



**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

**Your Safer Community Team**

PC1392	James Reid
PCSO	Clive Ashmore
PCSO	Scott Cochrane
PCSO	Charlotte Whithead

**FOLK DANCE CLUB** - If you have enjoyed Barn Dancing or just fancy a go at English Folk Dancing, then come and join us. It is a form of social dancing where all ages can take part and have a great time - even if you end up heading in a different direction to everybody else!. It does not matter whether you are a beginner, improver or experienced folk dancer, as all the dances are 'called' and walked through. There is no need to come with a partner: the atmosphere is informal with the emphasis on friendliness and enjoyment.



Meetings are on the third Wednesday of every month in the Sports and Social Club in Astrop Road at 7.30pm and the cost is £3 per session. For further details phone Anne or Charles Woolland on 710 007

**NEW YEAR RESOLUTION** - should it be give up chocolate, cake, etc., lose weight? - or how about one you could certainly keep - **JOIN THE W.I.** We have speakers on a variety of topics (see the village diary back page) and also organise skittles evenings, theatre and television trips Members also receive a free monthly newsletter which details events arranged by the Northamptonshire County Federation.



Come along on the 3rd Thursday of the month to the Village Hall, guests are always welcome (admission £1.00)

**YOUR LOCAL PHARMACY NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT!** -

They were there for us in the snow and the ice. Now they need our help too. Michelle Sutton from the Co-op Pharmacy says - 'We are struggling to meet our weekly targets for sales and prescription numbers. Please tell your Banbury surgery that you would like us to collect prescriptions for you. It really matters, each and every time, where you choose to have them dispensed. Next time you are in town or a supermarket buying toiletries or medicines, ask yourself if you could have purchased them from us.



We have monthly price reductions on certain medicines and common items such as toothpaste, toothbrushes and baby wipes and a good choice of pound lines. If there is anything that you buy regularly that we do not stock, please ask us and we can get it in stock for you. Every little helps us too.'

**IT'S A DISASTER! (but we're on the way)** - Dig down the back of the sofa. Empty your pockets. Raid the piggy bank. Your donations will help us fight poverty and injustice around the world, offering hope to millions. Christian Aid Week (15th - 21st May) started out as the churches' response to the horrors of the refugee crisis in Europe after the Second World War. The appeal envelope is an iconic symbol of the generosity of people in the UK and Ireland - giving money to those who need it most.



Please give generously. **POVERTY** - LET'S END IT...

**FIND YOUR FAMILY - MEMORIAL INSCRIPTION BOOKLETS** - Copies are available from the Parish Office email [clerk@middletoncheny.org.uk](mailto:clerk@middletoncheny.org.uk) tel: 713500 or by contacting Northants Family History Society on [www.northants-fhs.org](http://www.northants-fhs.org) (cost £3.00 plus post and packing 95p). With over 400 entries, the booklet will be an invaluable resource for people researching their ancestors in the village, the Banbury area and beyond. Check on the 'Heritage' section of the village website to see if your family name is recorded.



**NEW AND EXCITING STREET DANCE CLASSES** - Street Dance is an incredible, fun and popular dance form. Pupils will be given the opportunity to learn exercises, movements & routines to R & B, Pop and Dance music. This energetic and popular class is great for building confidence and expanding your dance style and knowledge - think Diversity and Flawless.

Wednesday 2nd March onwards - The Scout Hut, Midway, Middleton Cheney,

- 4.00pm - 4.30pm - Street Kidz (4-6yrs)
- 4.30pm - 5.10pm - Street Kidz (7-10yrs)
- 5.10pm - 5.50pm - Street Dance (11yrs+)



First lesson **FREE** as a trial - limited places, please call Lorraine 07711010404 or, for more information email [lorraine@loveballet.co.uk](mailto:lorraine@loveballet.co.uk) or check out [www.loveballet.co.uk](http://www.loveballet.co.uk)

**\* NEW \* CYCLE CLUB IN MIDDLETON** - starting in March - age range 8 to adult. Cycle Safety and Maintenance and Club Cycle Rides, Thursday nights will be the club night with 'Ride-Outs' on the weekends. We already have a team of helpers - but could always do with more. Club members will also receive a discount card for the shop. If you are interested in either joining or helping out please contact Dave at the cycle shop - tel. 710518 or [www.townandcountrycycles.co.uk](http://www.townandcountrycycles.co.uk)



**PRE-SCHOOL PLAYGROUP - 102 MILE SPONSORED BIKE RIDE** - Training is going well for the sponsored ride which will take place on the **25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> March**. The money raised will be donated directly to the pre-school playgroup - sponsor forms are available from the bike shop in the village and AR Mills Motors. Both Dave and Pete are on target for this Devon Coast-to-Coast ride, recently completing 51 miles on a very cold February weekend. Fingers crossed for better weather in March - and yes, it's **102 miles** - it's the extra two that will be the hardest!



**FUNKY MUNKY'S** - Is a music group for pre-school children and babies held every other Tuesday at the Sports and Social Club, new comers are welcome. Our sessions run from 1.30 - 2.45pm (note the new time), and the cost is - Adult + 1 child £1.50 (each extra child is 50p). The group continues to run during the school holidays. Contact Adele Markham for more information on 711751 or email [neiladele96@aol.com](mailto:neiladele96@aol.com)





**ITALIAN FOOD & WINE EVENING** - Come and try some delicious Italian Dishes and enjoy sampling some fine quality wines. **Friday 15th April** at Pudding Pie Cookery School (Burgess Farm, Farthinghoe Road), in association with Brackley wines. Places are limited so book fast to avoid disappointment. Tickets £25.00 per person from [www.puddingpie.co.uk](http://www.puddingpie.co.uk) or phone 713705

**MIDDLETON CHENEY ART GROUP** - will be holding their annual Art Exhibition in the Library at Middleton Cheney from **Monday May 9th to Thursday May 26th**. It will be open from 1pm to 6pm on Mondays to Fridays and from 10am to 2pm on Saturdays.

The Art Group has been in existence for four years and meets once a week for three hours of painting, drawing and chatting. The tutor, Caroline Chappell, teaches mixed media, drawing and painting techniques and also holds one day workshops through the year. Coach trips to exhibitions are occasionally arranged and are always very enjoyable with good attendance. It is a small friendly group, who also socialise for lunches and outings. Please visit, as they would like an opportunity to show off their work and you might see something that you would like to buy, as some of the works will be for sale.

If you are interested in joining the group, there will be information available at the show. We look forward to seeing you there.



**GARDEN CLUB** - Don't forget to keep **Saturday 14th May** free, when we shall be holding our Annual Plant Fair on the Green from 10.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m.

Come along and choose from lots of stalls selling top quality, locally grown shrubs, herbaceous plants, annuals and herbs. This is the right time to buy from local specialist nurseries, all brought to your doorstep. The WI will be there with their delicious cakes which always sell out early and the Garden Club will be featuring jams and preserves this year (any donations would be welcomed). See you there.

**FANCY A DAY OUT? - TWO COACH TRIPS HAVE BEEN ORGANISED** - You are invited to join the villagers of Chacombe on a coach trip to **THE MALVERN SPRING GARDENING SHOW Saturday 14th May**. The cost is £28.00 and there will be a pick up from Middleton Cheney at 8.15am. Please phone Betty Ware on 710455 to book your seat.

**OR -**

You are invited to join us for an outing to **'BRIDGES OF WORCESTER'** (Carvery & Cabaret) on **Wednesday 1st June**. Included in the price of £29.00 per person is a two course carvery (main & dessert) to be enjoyed before you settle down for the show! Pick up at Middleton Cheney - please contact Pam on 711657 for more details (£5.00 deposit payable on booking).



**THE LYNDEN PLAYERS PRESENT -**

## **ALLO 'ALLO!**



The stage show is based on the TV comedy and features all the favourite characters, Rene & Edith cafe owners, Michelle the resistance girl, the bungling Germans, and of course Officer Crabtree... Come along and enjoy what will be a hilarious evening.

Performances are on Tuesday 10th May until Saturday 14th May inc. (£8.00) Concessions available on Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday.

Tickets are available from mid-March, contact Barry Coles on 712427

**DIGITAL SWITCHOVER** - Do you need help or advice about the Digital Switchover? Northampton ACRE are trying to contact people across Northants who are over 75 or disabled as they are eligible for assistance from the Switchover Help Scheme. If you require any further information regarding the scheme please contact Sarah Clarke at Northamptonshire ACRE on 01604 765888 or write to - The Hunsbury Hill Centre, Harksome Hill, Northampton, NN4 9QX



**KEEP YOUR AIR AMBULANCE FLYING** - Join us for a Run, Walk, Jog around Holdenby House (near Northampton), on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> April. This event is not just for runners, joggers and walkers; it's a fun day out for the whole family as our finish line festival offers food, drink and entertainment for all ages, including falconry show and a chance to meet our Helicopter and crew. Dogs on leads welcome, 5k and 10k route options (10k is two laps of the circuit). Gates open 10am, Race Starts 11am



Register: Online at [www.wnaa.co.uk/northamptonshire-heroes-run](http://www.wnaa.co.uk/northamptonshire-heroes-run) or email [tracy@wnaa.co.uk](mailto:tracy@wnaa.co.uk) for an entry pack. Cost of registration: £10 per adult, £5 per child (to be accompanied by parent or guardian). Corporate Team enter 5 get one free contact [tracy@wnaa.co.uk](mailto:tracy@wnaa.co.uk) You will receive from WNAA : Running Number, sponsorship forms and fundraising information, medal for all participants – Those who raise over £50 sponsorship will receive a free Heroes Run T-Shirt (collect on the day)

**JOIN US NOW AND HELP US SAVE MANY MORE LIVES**

**THE OXFORDSHIRE ADVICE CENTRE** - will be holding a "drop-in" advice service in the Parish Meeting Room one Wednesday a month between 1pm and 3pm. They will be able to help any village residents with problems to do with benefits, pensions, tax and certain legal situations. This is a voluntary organisation and their services are free of charge. Please check the Village News in the Banbury Guardian for the start date or call the clerk's office on - 713 500.