

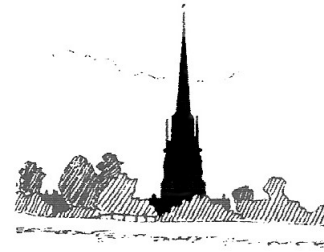
Village Diary: March - May 2012

Parish Council Meetings (7.15pm): 5 Mar, 2 April, 8 May, June TBA

Mar 7th	Age UK / Village Hall / 2pm / "Impromptu" Singing Group
Mar 15th	WI / Village Hall / 7:30pm / The French Can-Can with David Price
Mar 19th	Garden Club / All Saints / 7:00pm / AGM / Climbers and Wall Shrubs / See Page 5 for details
Mar 24	Dogs for Disabled/ Frances Hay Centre / 11am—3pm / Craft Fair / See Page 7 for details
Mar 26th	Hist Soc / Library / 7:30pm / The Home Guard by Chris Beazley / See Page 7 for details
Mar 27th	All Saints / 8:00pm / Brackley Jubilee Choir / donations to Katherine House
April 4th	Age UK / Village Hall / 2pm / Gill Holt: Dog Training for TV / Easter celebrations
April 16th	Garden Club / All Saints / 7.30pm / Gerald Sinclair / See Page 5 for details
April 19th	W.I / Village Hall / 7:30pm / Behind the Curtain at Milton Keynes Theatre / Lynda Maude
April 23rd	Hist Soc / Library / 6:30pm / Farnborough Hall Park by Stephen Wass / See Page 7 for details
May 2nd	Age UK / Village Hall / 2pm / AGM and Quiz
May 7th	Scare Crow and Olympic Teddy Bear Jump / See Page 3 for details
May 9/24th	MC Art Group / Library / Annual Art Exhibition / See Page 4 for details
May 12th	Garden Club / Trip to Malvern Show / See Page 5 for details
May 17th	WI / Village Hall/ 7.30pm / Resolutions Meeting / Gaffes & Clangers / Prof. Ronald Spiers
May 19th	Garden Club / Village Green / Annual Plant Sale / See Page 5 for details
May 28th	His Soc / Library / 7:30pm / 18 Century Criminal Justice / Dr. Drew Gray / See Page 7 for details
June 2/4th	Diamond Jubilee Celebrations in the Village / Details to be announced

MIDDLETON CHENEY VILLAGE WEBSITE - <http://middletoncheney.org> DID YOU MISS ANOTHER GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO PUBLICISE YOUR GROUP OR EVENT? THE CLOSING DATE FOR INCLUSION IN OUR SPRING EDITION IS FRIDAY 11th May 2012

If you would like to include your event in this section please notify the Parish Clerk, call 713500 or email: 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 17
March 2012**

Middleton Cheney Newsletter

DEVELOPMENT IN MIDDLETON CHENEY

Building seems to be in the headlines every day and I would like to assure you, on behalf of the Parish Council, that we take planning very seriously in Middleton Cheney. Over the past few months we have received two proposed applications via South Northants Council, and one approved application that is in the final detailed stage. You have our reassurance that we do not condone wholesale, indiscriminate development and whilst we recognize that some development is inevitable, the Parish Council will be doing as much as possible to ensure that any development is appropriate, in keeping with local styles and that there is sustainable infrastructure (e.g. roads, transport, sewers etc.) to cope with the new housing.

In the meantime, we would ask you to recognize also that the Parish Council has limited resources, and that ultimately, the Parish Council, whilst a statutory consultee, has only one opportunity to object or comment as does any other individual in the village. It therefore remains very much a joint effort and the responsibility of us all to make our representation as we see fit. The Parish Council, along with members of the public have formed a Neighbourhood Planning Group to

develop a long term Neighbourhood Plan for Middleton Cheney. This will form a vital document which ultimately, when approved by referendum within the village, will be submitted to South Northants Council and incorporated into statutory planning guidelines.

If you are interested in becoming involved in shaping the future for planning and development in Middleton Cheney please contact the Parish office on 01295 713 500 or clerk@middletoncheney.org.uk and we will put you in touch with the appropriate people.

We need to work together for a better future for Middleton Cheney, for the present residents and for our children.

Paul Browne,
Chairman
Middleton Cheney
Parish Council



The next issue of the Village News will be delivered in June. Please send all articles by 11th 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 A5page

STONEMWORK TALKS IN ALL SAINTS CHURCH Over the coming years considerable money will need to be raised for essential repairs to the external stonework of our 700 year old Parish church. The local soft stone, although noted for its beautiful honey colour, has slowly eroded over the centuries. Although inherently not very glamorous, the early priorities are to keep the building watertight and to preserve the window openings, which secure the church's famous stained glass. Fund raising efforts have started with the Stonework Talks; a series of presentations to be run each winter and spring by village people on topics which they are knowledgeable and enthusiastic about. Entry is £3.



The next talks, to be held in the church starting at 3.00pm with refreshments from 2:30pm are:

Sunday 4th March The Iona Community by Alison Solesbury
 Sunday 1st April The Home Guard by Chris Bazeley.

This year we aim to complete the task of renovating the two carved medieval water spouts over the church porch and the face of the sundial. If you are interested in donating specifically to this project please contact David Thompson, the Churchwarden on 01295 711 115.

STOP PRESS: on 27th March at 8:00pm the Brackley Jubilee Choir will perform Malcolm Archer's Requiem in the Church. Refreshments available. Entry by donation and proceeds to Katherine House.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 13TH TO 19TH MAY Christian Aid works to bring an end to poverty around the world – tackling its root causes as well as its effects. It helps people of all faiths and none.

During Christian Aid Week we will be holding our usual door-to-door collection around the village, and we do hope that you will give as generously as possible. Envelope collectors are needed, so if you are able to volunteer a small amount of your time it would really be appreciated.

On Sunday 20th May there will be a Soup Lunch in the Methodist Church Hall (Schoolrooms), Queen's Street; everyone is most welcome to join in – children and adults. Last year the total money raised was £2955.70, a wonderful amount but wouldn't it be great to reach £3000 this year?! For further details about the collection and lunch, please contact Anne on 01295 710007.

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY SCHOOL FUN WALK FOR CHRISTIAN AID

Also on Sunday 20th May - Come and join in a fun walk around Middleton Cheney village and local footpaths (including fields); meet at All Saints Church at 2.00pm. Yummy cakes and refreshments will be in church for everyone to enjoy at the end - approx 3.45 / 4pm (non-walkers will be very welcome for this bit!). **£2.00 donation per walker** is requested (under 3 years 'free'). All proceeds will be given to Christian Aid – including any sponsorship you may like to ask from friends and family.



MIDDLETON CHENEY HISTORY SOCIETY. We have a varied programme of talks this spring beginning on 26th March with Chris Bazeley on The Home Guard. This should prove to be very entertaining with special reference to our local 14th Battalion, Northamptonshire Home-Guard, their own tales and anecdotes. A befitting salute to the Home Guard from the call to arms to the stand-down. The developments in uniform, duties and weaponry will all be brought to life and there will be a final question set to the audience!



On 23rd April Stephen Wass will talk about Farnborough Hall Park, its archaeology and history.



On 28th May Dr. Drew Gray, a Senior Lecturer in Crime at Northants University has called his talk "For a sheep or a lamb – the eighteenth century criminal justice system. He will outline how the system worked, concentrating on dispelling some of the myths about how harsh it was and why all we ever think about are highway men. There will be stories about Dick Turpin and Jack Sheppard with a range of images from the period.

The History Society meetings are held in the Library from 7.30pm – 9.00pm. Visitors are welcome and their entry fee is £2.00.

THE BANBURY AND DISTRICT DOGS FOR THE DISABLED SUPPORTERS' GROUP



are holding a Craft Fair on Saturday March 24th at The Frances Hay Centre, Blacklocks Hill, Banbury OX17 2BS. With all the toys, jewellery, woodwork, beautiful glass and china and so many other stalls to look at, choosing Easter presents could not be easier. The craft fair is open between 11am and 3pm.

Admission is £2 for adults to include a complimentary drink and children under 12 are free. Contact Yvonne on 01295 711 780 or info@dogsforthedisabledsupporters.org for details.



Useful Contact Numbers:

The Street Doctor	0845 6011113
Untaxed Vehicles	0800 0325202
Fly Tipping	01327 322322
Stray Dogs	01327 322322
Consumer direct	0845 4040506
Police non-emergency	0300 0111222
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 Whitehead

ROLL OF HONOUR – WW2 and NORTHERN IRELAND –

Many of you will know by now that a World War 1 Roll of Honour was presented to All Saints Church on Remembrance Day last year. I am currently working on the names on our war memorial for WW2 and N Ireland. Whilst I am nearing completion of these soldier's stories there are a number of photographs I have been unable to discover, namely Harold Barker, Albert Bayliss, William Dumbleton, Donald Ewbank, Cecil Johnson, Horace Lester, Michael Trevethan, William Tuckey and Gary Kiteley. If you can help in any way please contact me.



I would like to take this opportunity to thank the families, both those in Middleton and further afield who have shared their memories, stories and photos in order to help with this important history project for the village.

All of these brave young men lost their lives in the service of their country and deserve to be remembered –

TODAY, TOMORROW, FOREVER

Nancy Long – voluntary archivist for the Parish Council) 01295 711 064

“WALKING FOR HEALTH” IN MIDDLETON CHENEY Our health walks are some of the most successful in the South Northants Walking for Health scheme. Initially designed for those recovering from health problems, they have been developed by ‘Natural England’ into an exercise in keeping the nation healthy based upon ‘fresh air, friendship and feeling the difference’. Local walk leaders, Angela and Roy Clements, Janine Burton and Monty offer different grades of walk which are held on the following days of each month:-

1st Friday, 10am. (4-5 miles – Leader, Roy) These walks are graded ‘A’ for the more experienced walkers who wish to extend themselves and/or would like more of a challenge. They may involve some of our steeper hills as well as stiles.

Meeting points vary and are advertised in the Banbury Guardian or you can ring 710 143 for details.

2nd Monday, 10am (1.5 – 2 miles – Leader Angela) Meet near the Red Lion. Grade B moderate hills and few stiles.

3rd Monday, 10.30am (3 miles – Leader Monty) Meet mainly at the New Inn but may start out of the village by bus – details in the Banbury Guardian or on 711 780. Grade B as above.

4th Monday, 10am (1.5 – 2 miles – leader Janine) Meet near the Red Lion. Grade B.



All walks are designed to increase heart rate but rarely leave you so out of breath that you cannot talk while walking and this is encouraged. They all finish with refreshments afterwards, usually in The Butler's Pantry (formerly Take Thyme) or the New Inn. We look forward to seeing you on a walk soon.

SCARECROW FESTIVAL After the success of last year's scarecrow festival we will be holding the next Scarecrow Festival on May 7th, residents are invited to create a scarecrow/display on the theme of “Olympics”. Get your thinking caps on as the possibilities are endless! Displays will need to be ready for viewing between 10am and 6pm and completed voting forms should be dropped back to the Parish Office at the end of the day.



Entry forms will be available from the Parish Office and there will be a map for sale for £1 over the weekend. There will be prizes for 2nd and 3rd place and a cup for the winning display. Check out the village website or the Middleton Cheney Chatter Facebook page for more information over the next couple of months.

TEDDY BEAR OLYMPICS Parallel with the village Scarecrow Competition, on the early May bank holiday **Monday 7 May**, there will be a Teddy Bear Festival featuring a range of teddy related activities, based at All Saints Church. Starting at 12.00, 13.00, 14.00, 15.00 and 16.00 teddies are invited to parachute jump from the tower of the church. The Olympic challenge is which bear can stay in the air the longest? There will be two separate competitions, *juniors* for young owners (up to 15) and *seniors* for adult owners. The two winning bears over the whole afternoon will each be awarded a medal on a ribbon. Every brave bear which jumps will get a certificate to put up on its bedroom wall. Entry £1 per jump.

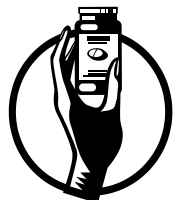


At 12.30, 13.30, 14.30 and 15.30 there will be a teddy bear story reading. There will be a display of 'Teddy Bears through the Ages', where well loved bears will be able to show off. As teddies are very much a hands on experience there will also be a 'cuddle corner'.

Refreshments will be available from 11.30 to 16.30; naturally these will include orange juice, bear biscuits, honey and marmalade sandwiches.

MIDDLETON CHENEY PHARMACY offers the following services. Medicine Use Review, New Medicine Service, Weight Management (Lipotrim) and Stop Smoking Service. We also offer Free Blood Pressure Checks, Morning after pill, Asthma Lifestyle advice Free Prescription Collection and Delivery, Family Planning advice and Travel Advice. Stop smoking before it stops you. Your local pharmacy in Middleton can successfully help you to quit – call in today to find out how.

Bowel cancer is the UK's 2nd biggest cancer killer but if detected early, it can be cured. Please do the simple screening test that will be sent to your home. It could save your life. For more information please visit Middleton Cheney COOP Pharmacy and speak to a member of the team.



THE MIDDLETON CHENEY ART GROUP will be holding their annual Art Exhibition in the Library in Middleton Cheney from Wednesday May 9th to Thursday May 24th. It will be open from 1pm to 6pm on Monday to Friday and 10am to 2pm on Saturday. The Art Group has been in existence for five years and meets once a week for three hours for painting, drawing and chatting. Our 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 a good attendance.

We are a small friendly group, who also socialise for lunches and outings. We hope that our loyal fans will visit as usual and hope that we can encourage new visitors. We enjoy the opportunity to show off our work, including some unfinished ones 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, information will be available or you can chat to one of our members.

MIDDLETON CHENEY PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENTS' ASSOCIATION are holding an Easter Bingo on Friday 23rd March—check our website for details.

SHORT MAT BOWLS is played in the Village Hall every Tuesday from 1.45pm—3.45pm. It is not taken too seriously and new members are always made very welcome. Many of the current devotees were new to the game when they started—basic informal instruction and equipment can be provided. Why not come along, give it a go and join in the fun? The annual membership is only £5.00 and £3:20 per session which included tea and biscuits. For further details call David on 01295 712 304.



PLAYING FIELDS ASSOCIATION The AGM of the Playing Fields Association is to be held on Monday 16th April at 7.30pm at the Social Club. We are currently looking for new Committee members, along with a new Chairperson and Treasurer. If you would like to join us, please come along to the AGM. We need you to get involved to safeguard the future of the playing field for our children and their children to enjoy. Do we want it to become yet another housing estate?

AGE UK meets on the first Wednesday afternoon of every month in the Village Hall from 2 o'clock until 4 o'clock. New members over the age of 55 are always welcome to join us. We play a couple of games of bingo, have a raffle, and there is usually a speaker. We enjoy a tea of freshly made sandwiches, home-made scones, and lovely cakes. Entrance is £2.00 with the bingo and raffle tickets charged extra. We look forward to you joining us.



MIDDLETON CHENEY GARDEN CLUB On Monday 19th March Janet Cropley will be returning for another of her very entertaining evenings. Her subject is Climbers and Wall Shrubs. Janet is always great company and full of interesting and amusing information. This meeting will start at the earlier time of 7:00pm to allow for the AGM part of the evening to take place before the talk. April's talk is on Monday, 16th, and features Gerald Sinclair from The Nursery Further Afield. He will be telling us about Summer Perennials and will be bringing along plants, so bring your pennies. Gerald is a very funny speaker with lots of tales to tell.



We have an extra treat this spring. We are going to the Malvern Spring Show on Saturday, 12th May. The coach fare is a real bargain at £8.00 each. Visitors then pay at the gate; advance booking for RHS members plus a maximum of 4 guests (call 01684 584924) £14.00; advance booking for non-RHS members (01684 584924) £15.00; on the day at the gate £17.50. Malvern is considered by many to be the best of the RHS shows as it is a 'proper flower show', selling both common and unusual plants, in an absolutely stunning setting with the backdrop of the Malvern Hills. Please note this trip is open to all, **both members and non-members** so everyone is welcome to come along and enjoy a fantastic day out. Please ring Margaret Finch on 01295 711100.

Saturday May 19th is our Annual Plant Fair on the Village Green. This has always been a very popular village event. There will be the usual mix of stalls by locally grown producers all at great prices, so make a note to come along and bag a bargain.

Our meetings are every third Monday in the month at 7.30 p.m. in Church. New members are always welcome; so, if an evening of general gardening chat, lots of amusing speakers and refreshments all for £3.00 appeals to you come and join us. You will be very welcome.

MIDDLETON CHENEY LIBRARY puts on a varied programme of events throughout the week. Please watch their notice board for special events.

For Children:

1st and 3rd Wednesdays / 10 -10:30am / Rhyme time for Under 5s
 Wednesdays / 3:30 – 5pm (term time) / Discovery Club / Homework Club
 March 31st / 11am – 12pm / Beast Quest Event / 6 – 12 years
 April 28th / where's Wally / 11am – 12pm 6 – 12year/ Fancy Dress

For Adults

March 3rd / Book Sale / 10am – 1pm
 March 28th / Twist – a one man show by James Hornsby / 7:30pm / £5 plus glass of wine
 April 1st / Car Book and Book Sale

For more information or to book an event call 01295 710 796



