

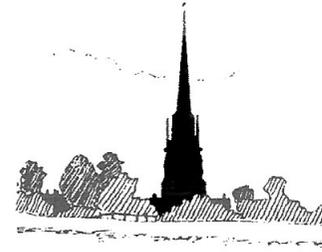
Village Diary: March—May 2014

Parish Council Meetings (7.15pm): 3rd March, 7th April, 6th May.
MIDDLETON CHENEY VILLAGE WEBSITE - <http://middletoncheney.org>

MP Surgeries	Andrea Leadsom's surgeries and drop ins are on page 5
Third Monday (usually)	Garden Club / Library / 7.30 / see page 5 for details
Fourth Monday	History Society / Library / 7.30pm / see page 4 for details
13th March	Film / Anna Karenina / Library / 7.30pm / see page 4 for details
20th March	Library Supporters / Talk / Library / 7.30pm / see page 4 for details
3rd April	Film / Philomena / Library / 7.30pm / see page 4 for details
6th April	Stonework Talk / All Saints / 2.30pm / see page 6 for details
12th April	Children's Film / Ice Age 4 / Library / 2.30pm / see page 4 for details
26th April	All Saints' Church Tours / 2.00pm—5.00pm / see page 6 for details
1st May—1st June	Middleton Cheney Art Group / Exhibition / Limes Farm / see page 7 for details
10th May	Library Supporters Talk / Library / 2.30pm / see page 4 for details
11th—17th May	Christian Aid Week / see page 2 for details
17th May	Plant Fair / Village Green / 9.30am—1.00pm / see page 5 or details
19th May	Garden Club / Flower Demonstration / All Saints' / 7.30pm / see page 5
25th May	Fete on Playing Fields / more details to follow / see page 7
29th May	Library Supporters / Talk / Library / 7.30pm / see page 4 for details
31st May—1st June	Garden Club outing / see page 5 for details
March/April/June	YEAR OF REMEMBRANCE ALL DETAILS TO DATE ON PAGE 7

DID YOU MISS ANOTHER GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO PUBLICISE YOUR GROUP OR EVENT? SEE THE FRONT PAGE FOR THE NEXT CLOSING DATE

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 25
March 2014**

Middleton Cheney Newsletter

HERITAGE HELPERS— We are a small group of enthusiastic volunteers who are dedicated to maintaining some of the historical aspects of our village. We are a friendly bunch who are all members of the village history society but you are welcome to join us if you are mad enough! Each month we meet at the churchyard and clear away brambles, prune trees and bushes, edge graves and generally help to facilitate easy access to the memorial inscriptions for future generations. The grass-cutters employed by the Parish Council do an excellent and professional job and we hope that our efforts can be regarded as the 'icing on the cake.'

Just before Christmas we were able to cut back a self-seeded holly tree which was damaging the Rev. Buckley's grave. It was due to this remarkable gentleman, who was a friend of William Morris, that we have the amazing stained glass windows of world renown in our church. We sold the holly, reviving an old village tradition and raised £210 for the church stonework fund. Thanks to everyone who didn't manage to escape from our shouts of 'Oyez' and the enthusiastic bell-ringer, especially the ladies who were expecting a quiet morning under the hair dryers in Upper Cut!



To date we have cleared a large area to the south west of the churchyard including the Horton Tomb (family donated money to build the Horton hospital in Banbury and paid for a number of the church windows); the memorials to two brothers of Admiral Holland of H.M.S. Hood fame (all born at the Holt in Middleton Cheney); the memorial to the Brickwell family who lived at Overthorpe Hall (now a

private school) who sold land on which to build the Banbury Workhouse; the memorial to Harold Smith K.C., M.P. whose son is listed on our War Memorial (killed WW2 in Italy); William Treadwell (the father of Hubert, a remarkable son who built his own X-ray machine in his workshop in Queen Street); Thomas Hunt who used the profits from his brewing industry to donate the money for a church organ; four commonwealth war graves (details can be found in the WW1 Roll of Honour in the church); Fred Seeney who was a church bell-ringer at All Saints for 57 years; the Wheeler family – (occupation) millers, a previous windmill was replaced by a steam mill on the site of the present day garage (hence the new street name 'Millers Way'); the Rev. Samuel Hall who was chaplain to the Duke of Clarence (later King William IV) and looked after the education and financing of the Duke's illegitimate children.... and many more fascinating people with so many stories to be told.

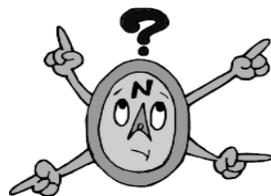


If you would like to join us, we meet at least once a month for a couple of hours, in the week following a history society meeting. Please bring secateurs, edging tools, gardening gloves and a kneeling mat. You may have to 'get down and dirty' but you'll have a great laugh, learn something about the history of this amazing village and be supplied with free tea/coffee and biscuits to keep your strength up. Please ring John Long (711064) for more details.

The next issue of the CC will be delivered in June. Please send in all articles by 15th May to clerk@middletoncheney.org.uk or by post to the Parish Office. No bigger than half A4.

CALLING ALL CLUBS, GROUPS AND ORGANISATIONS—

We can't contact you if we don't know who you are, or where you are or what you do!



As our village population increases, we really need to ensure that our contact database is up-to-date. It is very important that every club, group and organisation in Middleton sends us their current details and contact phone numbers (and email address if possible) of their Chairman and Secretary. It would also be useful if you know of any of these organisations which have closed down. Ideally we would like all this information to arrive within the first two weeks in March (this year folks!). So don't delay – contact us today.

A message to all club and group members – Please make sure that your chairman or secretary has seen this notice and taken appropriate action. Thank you. Phone the Office on 713500 or email clerk@middletoncheney.org.uk

LYNDEN PLAYERS—proudly present “**LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS**” on 5th, 6th and 7th June in Middleton Cheney Village Hall. Evening performances start at 7.30pm with the Saturday matinee starting at 2.00pm. Ticket prices are Thursday evening and Saturday matinee £8 and Friday and Saturday evening £10 (no concessions). Watch for further details in the local press.



ALL SAINTS' CHURCHYARD—We would like to try and establish a carpet of snowdrops and aconites in the churchyard under the holly bush on the western side of the main path. These two bulbs are traditionally best transplanted “in the green”, as they die back. Please contact David Thompson on 711 115 if you are able to donate any. Thank you.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK. May 11th—17th 2014. Christian Aid is a charity which works in some of the toughest places in the world helping people caught up in conflict and tragedy to get the basics, keep safe and later to rebuild their lives and communities, helping to promote peace and reconciliation. Every year, the churches in Middleton Cheney organise a house to house collection and for many years the generous people of Middleton have given around £3,000 to support this work. Please will you do this again. The need, as you will have seen from the news, is as great as ever.

We are also in need of more house to house Collectors. If you could offer a little time please contact Jane Bullock on 711 531. Thank you.

AGE CONCERN—Did you know that Age Concern is for anyone over the age of 55? We meet the first Wednesday of the month in the Village Hall from 2.00pm to 4.00pm. Where else can you get tea, sandwiches, scones and cake for £2 plus entertainment!

If you would enjoy an afternoon out once a month, meeting new and old friends, come along and give it a try. Transport can be arranged at a minimal cost. If you can spare a couple of hours once a month to help our older members enjoy their afternoon please contact us

Dates for the next meetings are
5th March Mr. Oxford on keyboard
2nd April Easter Celebrations
7th May Annual General Meeting
4th June Impromptu Singing Group



MIDDLETON CHENEY ART GROUP—will be holding our annual Art Exhibition at Limes Farm Teashop at Farthinghoe from Thursday May 1st to Sunday June 1st. The exhibition will be open from 9.00am to 5.00pm Monday to Saturday and 10.00am to 5.00pm on Sundays. There is plenty of parking and it can also be reached on the 500 bus from the village, with an easy walk to Limes Farm.



We are all amateurs who meet once a week on a Tuesday morning for three hours of painting, drawing and chatting. We have been in existence for seven years and, as well as lessons, attend workshops and go on coach trips to exhibitions. We are a small friendly group, who also socialise for lunches and are always open to people, who wish to join us.

We hope that regular fans will continue to support and visit us. New visitors are welcome. Some of the work will be for sale. Do come along and see us as you might see something you like or wish to join in.

MIDDLETON CHENEY YEAR OF REMEMBRANCE—events for the coming months.



- 4th March Shrove Tuesday Pancake Race. All ages welcome. Meet at the Social Club with uniform of Wellies Hat and Pinny. Bring your own frying pan. Entry £2. There will be pancakes to eat after the race and refreshments.
- 28th March Tea Dance at the Social Club 4.00pm—7.00pm. Tickets £3 are available from the Parish Office and the Social Club.
- 30th March Fishing Competition. £7 per person. Details from the Parish Office.
- 20th April Family Easter Egg Hunt meeting at the Social Club. Details yet to be confirmed. Watch the website and local press. Tickets from the Parish Office and the Social Club.
- 5th May Scarecrow Festival. Details to be finalized. Watch the website and local press.
- 25th Village Fete on the Playing Fields. Details to be finalized. Watch the website and local press.

MIDDLETON CHENEY PARISH COUNCIL is updating its emergency plan. We are looking for individuals or groups of residents who have specific skills and/or resources which, at times of extreme emergency, could assist in the delivery of the emergency plan. We need people with medical skills, transportation resources, and mobile catering facilities. If you think you can help, please contact us via the Parish Office, clerk@middletonCheney.org.uk Phone 713 500 or the website. Thank you.



Useful Contact Numbers:

Your Safer Community Team

PS 581 Micki Simons
PCSO Clive Ashmore

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

MIDDLETON CHENEY HISTORY SOCIETY are organising a Village Commemoration Floral Tribute to be held in All Saints Church as part of the national recognition of the outbreak of World War 1; a significant milestone in world history. The event will form part of The Middleton Cheney Year of Remembrance and will take place during the weekend 2nd/3rd August. Donations received from visitors will go to the Year of Remembrance nominated charities.

We are inviting village organisations, clubs and individuals/families to commemorate WW1 through a flower display based on the music and poetry of the period. Photographs and memorabilia of local and individual involvement are also welcome.

For example Commemorate a village soldier

Commemorate a WW1 event e.g. (Football Club -football match and Xmas Day truce)

Poem e.g. In Flanders Fields, Anthem for Doomed Youth

Song e.g. It's a Long Way to Tipperary

Quotation e.g. They shall grow not old as we that are

left grow old.....



The possibilities are endless and the ideas are entirely up to you and your imagination but please remember that this is a Commemoration and not a Celebration. We must stress that this is intended as an event for the people, by the people and not intended as a competition—your display can be as simple or elaborate as you like. For further information contact Chris Wells on 710 076 or Nancy Long the Voluntary Village Archivist on 711 064. Details and entry forms are available from the Library.

MIDDLETON CHENEY HEALTH WALKERS— Our latest schedule is as follows

1st Monday in month Street stroll with no stiles (stop after 2 miles or continue for a longer walk which may include stiles)

2nd Monday 2 –3 miles*

3rd Monday 3 miles*

4th Monday Over 4 miles*

5th Monday 3 miles *

*Walking in countryside on footpaths, some stiles, some hills. Walks start at 10.00am at Londis unless otherwise stated in the Banbury Guardian. We finish our walks at a café or pub for refreshments.

Contacts are Monty on 711 780 or Janine on 712 408 or 0771 2511 830



ALL SAINTS' CHURCH— Stonework Talks and Church Tours

On Sunday 6th April Sue Vickers-Thompson will give a talk entitled Cookery for Festivals, illustrated with complementary food samples, raising funds for the restoration of All Saints' stonework.

Entry £3. Starts at 3.00pm with refreshments from 2.30pm .



All Saints', our parish church is over 700 years old and contains a famous collection of stained glass windows by the firm of William Morris. It attracts visitors from across the UK. On Saturday, 26th April, we will again be offering guided tours, so that you can find out more about its local historical and national artistic heritage. Tours are from 2.00pm to 5.00pm.

Refreshments will be available.

The tours are free, but donations to our restoration fund would be appreciated.

FROM THE CHAIR'S DESK—March already.....

The origin of most English parishes is the same as that of the Manors which commonly formed their nucleus and which they were often conterminous; in an era when money was seldom used and trade an abnormal activity, when agriculture was primitive, when the countryside was nearly empty of inhabitants and largely virgin, and when no effective central authority existed to enforce daily order. The manor was simultaneously a collective farm, a unit of local administration, police and a defensive organisation. Its inhabitants were the lord and his family, his retainers, headed by the steward, with free and unfree tenants and all were bound to each other by a network of obligations and services. These varied from place to place but committees or assemblies known as courts and held by the lord or the steward determined the way in which they were regulated. The lord was under an obligation to hold them regularly and the tenants were bound to attend.

When the first Tudor ascended the throne the manor courts had already ceased to be important, though they survived – mainly for conveyancing purposes – well into the 20th century. As these courts declined the influence, wealth and responsibility of the Church increased. The chancel of the parish church was sacred, but the body of the building was the 'parish hall' and the only sheltered public meeting place for the inhabitants.

You might think at this point little has changed, we are regulated by rules decided by those in power and what have we learnt from our past! Sometimes, I wonder as well but no matter what we think Parish Councils in some form are here to stay. Oh! We have moved from the church to Main Road and have our own Parish Meeting Rooms now !

So, you might ask what is different now and what does the Parish Council do. Your Parish Council has an overall responsibility for the well being of the village and mostly the work falls into three main categories:

Delivering services to meet local needs

Representing the community

Doing our best to ensure quality of life in the village.

We have Committees and working groups to address different needs. This is where Councillors decide which activities to support, where money should be spent, what services should be delivered and what policies should be implemented.

With this in mind, we will be seeking your thoughts on how best to develop a growth strategy to guide planning decisions and hence, as some of you might already know, we are in the process of putting together a Neighbourhood Plan. We need residents to participate, as you will then have more say in shaping and managing change for our village over the next 20 years. Why is that important you might ask? The approach that is taken to all future planning decisions will be judged against this document i.e. new housing, retail, leisure, community facilities, essential public service and transport will be shaped by what you tell us you want. So join us in producing this very important document - it's your village and your input is needed and would be appreciated.

I have recently put reminders on both the website and Facebook relating to General Waste and Dog Waste. We have 16 Dog Bins located in the village. If you believe there to be a particular problem and a further bin might solve this, please let me know.

As always, my sincere thanks go to all Middleton's Parish Councillors for their time and efforts and to their families who allow them to give their time in order to improve our village and the lives of our residents, both young and old. If you have any concerns or suggestions, please let me know via the Parish Office and I will endeavour to address them. Phone 01295 710 500. The next Cheney Chatter is in June— let's hope the rain and wind stop and we can all have an enjoyable summer.



Val Furniss
Chair, Middleton Cheney Parish Council

NEW STREET NAMES – After much deliberation and attention to detail by the Parish Council, Village History Society and the Chief Planning Officer (Cherwell & South Northants Council) the new street names for the development in Waters Lane are -



CENTENARY ROAD, POPPY FIELD WAY and REMEMBRANCE CLOSE.



The building of these houses coincides with the 100th anniversary of the declaration of WW1, a significant milestone in world history. For centuries, communities across the country had survived invasions, civil wars, industrial and agricultural revolutions which affected family life. But until 1914, Britain had never before been involved in such an enormous event that it quite literally dominated the lives of every man, woman and child in the British Isles for the next four years.

Middleton Cheney was no exception and these road names are a fitting and lasting tribute to all the people who lost their lives and those whose lives were changed forever. Our photo shows two of the girls from Middleton who worked in the shell filling factory (munitions) in Overthorpe. They are wearing their work 'uniforms.' (*Village archive – more information available*)

MIDDLETON CHENEY HISTORY SOCIETY – Calendar of events. All meetings are held in the Library starting at 7.30pm Non-members are always welcome (£3 entry fee)

24th March "Notorious Ladies of the Night" by David Price. In Paris during the Second Empire, the courtesans were regarded with more fascination than ladies of the aristocracy – and they were often as rich and nearly always better dressed. They were not only sought after for sex but many of them were highly intelligent and witty conversationalists!

28th April "The Wonderful World of Metal Detecting" by Alan Standish with emphasis on MC finds recently discovered! Come and find out what has been found.

26th May No meeting. Bank Holiday.

LIBRARY SUPPORTERS GROUP- are offering the following programme for the coming months. All events start at 7.30pm unless otherwise stated. Film tickets cost Adult £6/ Child £4 including ice cream. All tickets are available from the Library during normal opening hours. Events may be cancelled if ticket sales do not meet a break even point one week before the published date.

13th March Film "Anna Karenina"
20th March James Hornsby's One Man Show
"GREAT EXPECTATIONS".

3rd April Film "Philomena"

12th April Children's Film Matinee "Ice Age 4" at 2.30pm

10th May "May Morris" (Daughter of William Morris of the Arts and Crafts Movement) starts at 2.30pm. Nicola Jarvis, artist and embroiderer gives an illustrated talk about this very famous person.



17th May Specialists Plants, books, Hamper Raffle at the Plant Fair on the Green from 10.00am – 2.00pm
29th May "The History of the Horton Family" – from Parish Fugitive to Lord of the Manor. Nancy Long explores this famous local family. Adults £5/Child £2 including refreshments.

MIDDLETON CHENEY GARDEN CLUB – Following is the schedule of talks and events for the coming months

17th March "The Manor through the Seasons" by Richard Roslyn, Gardner at Blewbury Manor. 7.30pm in the Library.
14th April "New Varieties for Autumn Colour" by Peter Richardson of Preston Bisset Nurseries. 7.30pm in the Library.
17th May Annual Plant Fair on the Village Green with growers selling the plants from 9.30am – 1.00pm
19th May Flower demonstration with repartee on the theme of a garden party by Ros and Sarah, florists. 7.30pm at All Saints'. Non-members welcome.
25th May Club plant stall at the Fete on the Playing Fields. Raising money for the Water Aid Charity. Donations of plants appreciated either on the day, or in advance to David at Church Cottage 12 Church Lane phone 711 115
31st May "West Country Gardens" weekend visiting gardens in Somerset with an overnight stay in Barnstaple. Organised by Martin's of Tysoe Phone 01295 680 642
1st June



ALL SAINTS' CHURCH – Calendar of events and services for Easter

4th March Shrove Tuesday. Fundraising Pancake Party at Chris Wells' home, 129 Main Road from 10.30am – 12.30pm and again 6.30pm – 8.0pm. Pancakes, puzzles, bring and buy. If you eat too many at the morning session why not join in the Pancake races at the Social Club in the afternoon.
5th March Ash Wednesday 7.30pm Holy Communion
30th March Mothering Sunday 10.45am. All age service with band.
13th April Palm Sunday 10.45am Holy Communion
17th April Maunday Thursday 7.30pm Holy Communion
18th April Good Friday 7.30pm Vigil
20th April Easter Sunday 10.45am Holy Communion.

HELP THE BEAVERS—Middleton Cheney Scout Group is on the lookout of adult volunteers to keep it Beaver Section going. It meets every Friday from 4.45pm to 6.45pm in the Scout Hut in Midway. To volunteer, please call Paul Cavanaugh our assistant cub leader on 0771 7702 366.



ANDREA LEADSOM MP-Surgeries

4th April Advice Surgery at Brackley Town Hall from 3.00pm – 6.00pm
30th May Drop in at Tesco Brackley from 10.00am – 11.00am
6th June Advice Surgery at Brackley Town Hall from 3.00pm – 6.00pm