



# CHENEY CHATTER

ISSUE NO 31  
SEPTEMBER  
2015

I hope you have all enjoyed the summer months and are now feeling relaxed – Christmas is just around the corner, or so I am told! I would like to take this opportunity of introducing our new Councillors, Emma Mason, Alan Deary and John Taylor. I would also like to welcome our new Rector, Charles Jefferson who joined us officially in May.

By now, you would know about developments concerning the Neighbourhood Plan. This project is ongoing and the fact that it is incomplete is not through any lack of effort by those involved. We will keep residents informed of progress – your input to the questionnaire has been invaluable. My thanks to all concerned in this project whether Councillors or not.

The Parish Council are responsible for a number of areas including general maintenance of play areas. The annual safety inspection has recently taken place, identifying areas needing

attention and these are being addressed.

We have recently called upon the services of Highways 'Community Enhancement Gangs' to undertake some maintenance, thus saving us money. Another area of concern covers overhanging hedges and shrubs. I would like to take this opportunity to remind residents of their personal responsibility to ensure that hedges, trees and vegetation are kept well back from pavements.

Our finances are in good shape, and we have had sufficient funds to cover all known running expenses with an adequate contingency for the inevitable unknown. I close by reminding residents that any matters of concern should be sent direct to the Parish Clerk, and that your Parish Council remains committed to working for the benefit of all residents. Finally, thank you for your continued support.

**Cllr. Alan Youel, Chairman  
Middleton Cheney Parish Council**



MIDDLETON CHENEY FOOTBALL CLUB  
presents

## ANIMATED SNAIL RACING

A FUN NIGHT FOR ALL THE FAMILY  
KIDS LOVE IT!

Friday 9 October at 6.30pm  
Middleton Cheney Social Club, Astrop Road  
£5 per family – pay on the door

Parish Council Meetings are held on 1st and 3rd Monday of the month at 7.15pm, except Bank Holidays when meetings are held on a Tuesday. Check notice boards for agenda and Middleton Cheney Village website [www.middletoncheney.org](http://www.middletoncheney.org).

This newsletter is published and sponsored by Middleton Cheney Parish Council

## GARDEN CLUB

The village Garden Club is entering its 15th year of operation; it was set up to promote an interest in gardens. In practice it also does a number of other things, such as act as a social network, raise hundreds of pounds each year for charity (over £500 in 2015) and organises community events. The annual membership subscription is £12 and the entry fee for each talk is £4. We have a monthly Club newsletter. The whole 2015/16 programme can be found in the library and on the village website – you can attend just an individual talk for £4 if you wish, new members are always welcome.

### Flower and Produce Show

Saturday 12 September is the Village Hall Open Day, which incorporates the traditional Flower and Produce Show. The show is a fun event, with no entry fees, but small prizes of Amazon vouchers for the children and the temporary award of historic show cups for adults. The schedule listing the various categories in the competition can be obtained from the village library, or from the village website: [www.middletoncheney.org/home/2015/5/7/middleton-flower-produce-show-2015](http://www.middletoncheney.org/home/2015/5/7/middleton-flower-produce-show-2015)

There is something for everyone, from flower arranging and vegetable growing to jam making, photography and craft work. New this year is a children's craft section – so parents or grandparents get the kids involved! Entries need to be brought to the hall on the Saturday morning between 8.30 and 10am, entries are judged between 10–11am and the show is open from 11am to 4pm. There is an associated produce stall selling fresh vegetables, fruit, jams and plants, with all the proceeds going to Katharine House. Donations of produce to the stall very welcome. The Village Hall Open Day has craft stalls, village organisation displays, raffles and wonderful refreshments provided by the WI.



See the Village Diary in middle pages for programme of events

## MIDDLETON CHENEY CHURCHES

### HARVEST FESTIVAL Sunday 4 October

The Churches in Middleton present **United Harvest Thanksgiving**, an All Age Service at All Saints Church at 10.45am with 'Songs of Harvest Praise' at the Methodist Chapel 4pm., followed by United Harvest 'Ploughman's Tea' at 5pm in the Methodist Hall. Donations of non-perishable goods will go to Banbury Young Homeless Project and cash collections and from sale of produce to the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC).

### FIRST STEPS

Songs, Story time and Craft Activities. For ages 0 – pre-school and their parents/carers All Saints Church Wednesdays 2–3pm. (Term Time) w.e.f. September 9.

Its free... come and join in the fun. For more information, please contact Kate on 276278 or Chris on 710076. **There is a new pattern of services at All Saints – please see church noticeboard for details.**

### MESSY CHURCH

Sunday September 27, 3-5pm, Village Hall

A chance for individuals and families of all ages to have fun, explore faith and enjoy a meal together. For more information contact Amanda on 712648 or visit 'Messy Church' website. We will **again** be filling **Shoe Boxes for Operation Christmas Child**. More details for wrap and fill dates will be available in September.

## MIDDLETON CHENEY CRICKET CLUB

Middleton Cheney Cricket Club is enjoying another successful season. Whilst it would be difficult to match the achievements of 2014, with the 2015 season at the time of writing coming to a close, the club are still in with a shout of more success.

The 1<sup>st</sup> team will not be retaining their SNCL Premier division title, currently sitting 4<sup>th</sup> in the league, in a transitional season which has seen a number of under-17 players all perform above expectation. Following three successive promotions our 2<sup>nd</sup> team are also 4<sup>th</sup> in the league and should comfortably retain their Division 2 status, whilst our young 3<sup>rd</sup> team finished third in Division 5, and were runners up in the Division 4/5 Knock Out Cup.

Our under-13 team again reached county finals day. Although defeated by the eventual winners in the semis, all of the team are eligible for this age group next year, where they will hope to claim the crown. The team were also unlucky to finish 2<sup>nd</sup> in the South Northants under-13 league. Despite losing only one game all season, the way the league points system works meant that the lads finished below a side that had lost two games. They will also play in the Super 8s cup final.

Our under-11's in their first season finished 5<sup>th</sup> in Division 1, and our under-15's were runners up in Division 2, with our under-17 side currently unbeaten, and one win away from claiming the title, which will be a first for the club at this age group.

The 1<sup>st</sup> team are in the Pete Strong Cup finals day, at Marston St Lawrence on Sunday 6 September, where they will be hoping to win after finishing runners up three years running. With our presidents' day at the end of August, and our presentation night on 19 September it will be a busy few weeks as the season draws to an end.

We are keen to get more youngsters involved for the 2016 season by reintroducing Kwik cricket sessions for the younger age groups. We are recruiting coaches both to lead and assist with these sessions. Full assistance and training will be provided for anyone expressing an interest. For further information, contact Barry Hook at [barryhook@btinternet.com](mailto:barryhook@btinternet.com) or on 07867 508053. [www.middletoncheney.play-cricket.com](http://www.middletoncheney.play-cricket.com)

## LYNDEN PLAYERS

The Lynden Players proudly present *Hood* – a brand new panto for 2015 that contains all your favourite panto elements in an original fairy tale. Join Robin Hood, Little Red Riding Hood and a host of well-known characters (and a few surprises) in a comic caper that promises fun for all the family. Performances 10–12 December. For regular updates, follow **Hood – The Panto** on Facebook and **Twitter@Hood\_The Panto** or email: [hoodthepanto@gmail.com](mailto:hoodthepanto@gmail.com)

Can you fill these boots? An open read through for *Hood* will be held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 9th September at 7.30 p.m. in preparation for auditions on Sunday 13th September. New members are always welcome – we need talent on and off stage to bring our shows to life. Interested? Email: [hoodthepanto@gmail.com](mailto:hoodthepanto@gmail.com) for information.

Tickets for all performances are available from the Lynden Players' box office on 07849 062739 or you can book online at [www.ticketsource.co.uk/lyndenplayers](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/lyndenplayers)

## MIDDLETON CHENEY HEALTH WALKS

These boots are made for walking... so join us each Monday for fun and fresh air! Check Banbury Guardian weekly for details or contact Monty on 711780 or Janine on 712408. Are you ready boots?... Start walking!

# Village Diary

2 Sep, 2–4pm, Village Hall	Age Concern meeting, programme TBA
4–5 Sep, 7.30pm, Village Hall	Lynden Players, <i>Fawlty Towers</i>
9 Sep, 7.30pm, Village Hall	Lynden Players, open read through, <i>Hood</i>
9 Sep, 2–3pm, All Saints Church	'First Steps', start of new term
10 Sep, 7.30pm, Library (includes icecream)	Library Supporters, film showing: <i>The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel</i>
12 Sep	National Historic Churches, 'Ride and Stride'
12 Sep, 11am–4pm, Village Hall	Village Flower and Produce Show
17 Sep, 7.30pm, Village Hall	W.I. Speaker, Mr Bill Davies, 'A Pinch of Salt'
21 Sep, 7.30pm, Library Plants for sale	Garden Club, Growing Unusual Plants, Chris Morley, specialist horticulturalist
24 Sep, 7.30pm, Library	Library Supporters, Meet the Author, Anne Watts <i>Always the Children – An illustrated journey of a nurse's story of home and war</i>
26 Sep, 9.30am–3pm, Chenderit School	Library Supporters, The Big Draw Moving Pictures Two session workshop – use collage and animation to create your own work.
27 Sep, 3–5pm, Village Hall	Messy Church. All ages.
26–27 Sep	Garden Club, Great Dixter coach trip weekend Book with Martin's of Tysoe, tel: 680642
28 Sep, 7.30pm, Library	History Society, 'The Empress Elisabeth of Austria', a talk by Sue Edwards. Discover her connections to Northamptonshire.
2 Oct, 7.30pm, Social Club	P.F.A. Quiz Evening
4 Oct, All Saints and Methodist	Harvest Festival
7 Oct, 2–4pm, Village Hall	Age Concern Harvest Festival
8 Oct, 7.30pm, Library (includes icecream)	Library Supporters, film showing: <i>The Imitation Game</i>
9 Oct, 6.30pm, Social Club	Middleton Cheney F.C., Animated Snail Racing
11 Oct, 11am–4pm, Village Hall, Entry: £1.00 (with a donation to Katherine House Hospice).	Craft and Gift Fair, Organiser: <b>Cheryl.moss@ btinternet.com</b> , tel. 01295 711752
15 Oct, 7.30pm, Village Hall	W.I. Annual Meeting, 'The Seaside'
16 Oct, 7pm, Primary School Hall, Free. Obtain ticket from Library.	Library Supporters, <i>Music, Words &amp; Pictures</i> . Launch event for The Big Draw.

17–18 Oct, 9.30am–12, 12.30–3pm, Library, Primary School and Chenderit School All ages. Adult £1 / Child 50p.	Library Supporters, The Big Draw, Moving Pictures. Four workshops developing the theme through a variety of media. <b>All materials supplied</b>
18 Oct, Social Club	P.F.A. Great Middleton Bake Off
19 Oct, 7.30pm, Library	Garden Club, 'The Flowers that Bloom in the Spring', Janet Cropley, Gardening Journalist & Writer.
26 Oct, 7.30pm, Library (with display)	History Society, 'The Ubiquitous Green Man', A talk by Dr Colin Harris on the meaning of The Green Man and his origins.
29 Oct, 7.30pm, Library (we hope to display some of her work at the library prior to the talk)	Library Supporters, The Techniques of Woodblock Printing, illustrated talk and demonstration. Local artist Margot Bell RBSA
1 Nov, 4pm, All Saints Church	All Souls Service for bereaved families
4 Nov, 2–4pm, Village Hall	Age Concern Remembrance
8 Nov, 10.45am, All Saints Church	Remembrance Sunday Service
12 Nov, 7.30pm, Library (includes icecream)	Library Supporters, film showing: <i>The Theory of Everything</i>
16 Nov, 7.30pm, Library	Garden Club, 'Aliens in the Garden'. Roger Umpleby, entomologist and biological gardener
19 Nov, 7.30pm, Village Hall	W.I. Speaker, Mr John Bates, 'Gardening in the Falklands'
23 Nov, 7.30pm, Library	History Society, 'Coughton Court' A talk by Alan Green. An appropriate month to discover more about The Gunpowder Plot and the Throckmorton family.
26 Nov, 7.30pm, Library	Library Supporters, 'Festive Fables' The Midnight Storytellers – with Chloe Lees, Spoken Word Artist, Raconteur & Writer.
2 Dec, 2–4pm, Village Hall	Age Concern Christmas meal with entertainment by Steve Parry
3 Dec, 7.30pm, Library (includes icecream)	Library Supporters, film showing: <i>A Hundred Foot Journey</i> and Christmas Hamper draw
7 Dec, 7.30pm, Library	Garden Club, Medieval Christmas Michael Brown, garden historian & musician
10–12 Dec, Village Hall	Lynden Players, <i>Hood</i>
17 Dec, 7.30pm, Village Hall	W.I. Craft Evening
21 Dec, 7.30pm, Library Christmas Sherry and Mince Pies	History Society, Winter Country Bygone Quiz, Bert Manton, A fascinating look at rural craft tools.

## THE GREAT MIDDLETON BAKE OFF

Apparently the hills are alive, with the sound of baking.... the Great Middleton Bake Off is coming on Sunday 18 October at the Social Club, Astrop Road. There will be two age groups, adults and youths. All cakes **must** be baked in your home kitchen (not bought from M&S!).

The adult's competition is open to 16 yrs+ and will be £5 per entry, unlimited entries. Any type of cake can be entered, let your imagination run wild!! The youth's competition is for 15yrs and under and will be £2.50 per entry for cupcakes, cookies or biscuits – 5 items of each constitutes one entry.

Full details and competition rules can be found on the PFA Facebook page, in The Butler's Pantry or the Library. Completed entry forms can be delivered back to The Butler's Pantry or the Library or emailed to [cmstacey50@gmail.com](mailto:cmstacey50@gmail.com). Local 'celebrity' judges will make 60 percent of the judging decision on presentation, originality and taste with the public judging contributing the other 40 per cent on presentation and originality.

Once all the hard work of judging has taken place, it will be time to savour those delicious creations with a cake sale (optional), with tea and coffee available. Please join us in making this a really fun and flavoursome day.

The Playing Fields Association are holding a Fish (or sausage) and Chip quiz evening on Friday 2 October in the Social Club at 7.30pm. Entry is £6 per person and teams can be up to six persons. There will be a raffle and quiz prizes. All proceeds will go towards the upkeep of the PFA and Social Club.

## MIDDLETON CHENEY POPPY APPEAL 2015

Whether it's families coping with the loss of a loved one, help at home to adapt to independent living, recovery centres for injured personnel, money and careers advice or residential care, the Royal British Legion are here to help. Millions of people in the UK and around the world are eligible to access their welfare services and they aim to help the most in need.

As the legacy of Afghanistan and Iraq combine with defence cuts, strains on public sector support and a peak in welfare demand from older veterans, the Service community is facing a perfect storm of health and welfare needs in the coming years. The Royal British Legion **will** support them but they need **your** help. This year the annual poppy appeal will run from Saturday 24 October until Tuesday 11 November, please remember to buy a poppy and wear it with pride. Enamel poppy pins (1915 – 2015), wrist bands and bracelets will also be available. Please check local press for details in October.

### REMEMBERING – 100 years on...

Private George Flowers, Killed in action, September 25 1915, Age 21,  
Menin Gate Memorial

Private Alf Gibbard, Died of wounds, November 7 1915, Age 19,  
CWG Corbie Communal Cemetery

Private Arthur Mold, Killed in action, November 25 1915, Age 24, Basra Memorial

## 100 NOT OUT!

George Emmerson, 'The Little Man with a Brush', will be 100 years old on 21 September. Born in Forest Gate, London, in 1915, George moved to Middleton Cheney ten years ago with his wife, Gladys, to be nearer to their son Michael, who lives in Byfield. Their daughter Madeleine lives in Grays, Essex. A naturally gifted artist, George initially worked in film studio portraits before joining the Army at the start of the Second World War. After serving for six years, George took a Civil Service exam and spent his entire working life with the Inland Revenue. It is art, however, that has remained his true passion and his talent has enabled him to travel extensively, meet many people and have many wonderful experiences, some of which he has captured in watercolour and in beautiful leatherbound books, recording his experiences both in words and pictures. Gladys sadly passed away in 2008, but George has continued living in Horton Drive, passing on his knowledge, skill and experience to those around him and still holds weekly painting workshops at his home. A truly inspirational character, who has enriched the lives of many.

**Thank you George and Happy Birthday!**

A Special Mass celebrating George's life will be held at St Joseph's, Banbury, on Sunday 20 September, followed by a party for family and friends.

## MIDDLETON CHENEY LIBRARY SUPPORTERS GROUP

This award-winning group offer a wide range of events, to make broader use of the library and raise funds to improve facilities. Events start at 7.30pm, unless otherwise stated. Prices, tickets and details available from the library. Events may be cancelled if ticket sales do not reach breakeven point one week before the published date.

Our famous Christmas Hamper draw tickets will be on sale from early November. See the **diary in the middle pages** for full list of events; events beyond these dates can be found on the village web site [www.middletoncheney.org.uk](http://www.middletoncheney.org.uk) and click Library Supporters.

## CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

Thank you to everyone in the village who generously contributed time and money to the success of this week. A total of £3643.56 was raised for the Charity. This total included £328.30 raised by the walk which was sufficient to buy two cows, a goat, two chickens and two vaccines for the chickens for women in Ethiopia to improve their lifestyles, provide good nourishment for their families and to raise their profiles in their communities and give them a say in village life.

**So thank you again. Jane Bullock**

## MIDDLETON CHENEY HISTORY SOCIETY

Meets on the fourth Monday of the month at 7.30pm in the Library.

## MIDDLETON CHENEY AGE CONCERN

Meets on the first Wednesday of each month from 2–4pm in the Village Hall.

## MIDDLETON CHENEY W.I.

Meets on the third Thursday of every month at 7.30pm.

 See Village Diary in middle pages for full list of events

## SOUTH NORTHANTS DISTRICT COUNCILLOR: Val Furniss

### Keeping Safe – Emergency Plan

The new Parish Council website will shortly be up and running and could be essential for contacting residents, giving advice on what to do in an emergency, especially, if time would allow, for contingencies to be put in place and sending out the latest news. The Parish Council has undertaken a local risk assessment and will act as facilitator and co-ordinate information, should the need arise. If any member of the public has relevant experience, skills, or equipment that could be called upon in the event of an emergency, they should send details to me as the Parish Clerk and I will compile a register for this purpose. We are fortunate in that we have facilities that could be made available as temporary

shelters, a number of local residents with 4x4 vehicles, a doctors' surgery and a pharmacy. I would also take this opportunity to remind residents of the importance of being responsible when it comes to parking, leaving our narrow village lanes and roads free for emergency vehicle access at all times – not just in an emergency. Above all, I believe we are a community of helpful, resilient and caring individuals so we will survive!

**Surgeries:** To remind you, I will be having drop-in sessions where any concerns or questions regarding the village or the Ward, in general, can be aired. Remainder of the year are as follows: 19 September, 3 & 31 October, 14 November, 5 & 19 December.

## THE MICHAEL HESELTINE GALLERY CHENDERIT SCHOOL

### Exhibitions until Christmas

Gallery opening times: 9am–5pm, weekdays in term time

#### 'Horse, Women, Tree, Moon'

An exhibition of paintings by  
George Wagstaffe  
Private View – Thurs 3 Sep, 6.30–8.30pm  
Until Thurs 15 Oct, 9–5pm weekdays,  
Sundays 10am–4pm

#### Pottery Evening Class

Tues 2 Sep – 10 Dec, 10 weeks (half term  
Tuesday 27 October) 7–9pm  
The Art Department Tutor: Sue Clayton  
Adults £70 Concessions £60 (OAP's,  
Students, benefits).

#### The Banbury Camera Club

Annual Exhibition  
Michael Heseltine Gallery  
Opens 20 – 25 October, 9am–5pm  
weekdays,  
Sat 24 – Sun 25 Oct, 11am–4pm

#### 'Just prints'

Oxford Printmakers Private view  
Weds 4 Nov 2015, 6.30–8.30pm  
Until 16 Dec 9am–5pm weekdays

## CRAFT AND GIFT FAIR

11 Oct, 11am–4pm, Village Hall  
Following last year's successful event,  
please support local craft workers and  
small businesses again. A chance to find  
unique and unusual gifts for you, your  
family and friends. Refreshments and  
light lunches available.



See Village Diary for full details

The next issue of Cheney Chatter  
will be in December. Please send all  
articles before 13 Nov 2015 by post to  
Plumtree Cottage, 1 Rose Hall Lane,  
Middleton Cheney, OX17 2NQ or  
by email to [angeladeary@gmail.com](mailto:angeladeary@gmail.com).  
Articles should not exceed 175 words.  
Events will be included separately on  
Village Diary pages.