



## NORTHAMPTONSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER Road Harm

In the summer of 2015 the Police and Crime Commissioner, Adam Simmonds, visited one hundred different villages and parishes across Northamptonshire and the number one concern raised throughout conversations with residents was road related problems. To help tackle this issue, Adam has recently announced the launch of a brand new service for victims – **Voice: Road Harm**

The new service offers support for victims of serious road traffic collisions, an area which the Victims Code until recently did not support. **Voice: Road Harm** will give support to both victims and their families who have suffered distressing road-related trauma, such as face-to-face therapy and a telephone helpline offering emotional and practical support.

The key objectives of **Voice: Road Harm** is to ensure that all victims and witnesses of serious road traffic collisions receive a service that is tailored to their needs and preferences, that they receive appropriate information, advice and support to enable them to cope, recover and thrive, are treated in a respectful, sensitive, professional and non-discriminatory manner and are supported, where appropriate, through their participation in criminal proceedings.

Further information regarding this service can be found on the Voice website: [www.voicenorthants.org](http://www.voicenorthants.org)

### LIBRARY SUPPORTERS GROUP

#### New Library Opening Times from 7 March 2016

Mon/Tues/Thurs/Fri 2pm – 6pm  
Wed and Sat 10am – 2pm  
Sun 11am – 2pm

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. Prices, tickets and further details of all our events are available from the library.

Please make a note of two events which will be coming soon – in collaboration with the Primary Academy we have a ‘Pop up Planetarium Show’ as part of British Science Week (Wed 16 March) at the village hall – booking essential – and to celebrate five years of successful Supporters Group events we will be holding ‘The First Great Tiddlywink Challenge’ on Sat/Sun 21 and 22 May at the library. Don’t miss out on this fascinating and frustrating challenge – lots of prizes.

Events beyond these dates can be found on the village website: [www.middletoncheney.org.uk](http://www.middletoncheney.org.uk) (click Community then Library Supporters).

⚡ See Village Diary in middle pages for full list of events

The next issue of Cheney Chatter will be in June. Please send all articles before 13 May 2016 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.



# CHENEY CHATTER

ISSUE NO 33  
MARCH 2016

Cheney Chatter is 8 years old this month – the first edition dropped through letterboxes in 2008.

Our Clerk once quoted George Bernard Shaw who said ‘The single biggest problem in communication is the illusion that it has taken place!’ We are trying to communicate but need your feedback. We have a new website – try it out – if you have problems with the new format let us know.

This year is the Queen’s 90th birthday and we are looking to celebrate this – let us have your ideas. We are hoping to light a beacon on 21 April along with

numerous villages and towns throughout the UK.

The Parish Council has limited resources and therefore it remains a joint effort in keeping Middleton a village to be proud of. Please make sure you bin your litter whether general or dog waste – bins are located in the village for this purpose.

Road Safety continues to be a concern, particularly hazards posed by parked vehicles and speeding traffic. Please park with consideration for the safety of others. Take care!

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

### COUNCILLOR VACANCIES MIDDLETON CHENEY PARISH COUNCIL

Main Road, Middleton Cheney OX17 2LR T: 01295 713500

Any person willing to apply should contact the Clerk, Val Furniss, directly expressing an interest and requesting the Parish Council considers your application to co-opt for one of the vacancies.

Eligibility for Office is as follows: To qualify as a local Councillor and to hold such office, you must be a Commonwealth citizen (which includes a British subject) or Euro national, reached 18 years of age and

1. You are/continue to be, a local government elector for the area or the authority;
2. You have during the whole of the 12 months preceding occupied, as owner or tenant, any land or other premises in the area or;
3. Your principal or only place of work during that 12 months has been in the area or
4. You have during the whole of those 12 months resided in the area or
5. You have during the whole of the 12 months resided within 3 miles of the parish or community

We look forward to hearing from you.

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.uk](http://www.middletoncheney.org.uk)

## MIDDLETON CHENEY HEALTH WALKS – The 2016 season has started!

Come and join the Middleton Cheney Health Walkers for fresh air, fun and adventure each Monday morning, usually starting from Londis at 10am. See Banbury Guardian Village News section for details or contact Janine on 01295 712408.

## MIDDLETON CHENEY FOLK DANCE CLUB

If you have enjoyed Barn Dancing or just fancy a go at English Folk dancing, then come along and join us. We meet on the third Wednesday of every month in the Sports and Social Club, Astrop Road at 7.30pm. We have live music and a Caller to teach us and there is an admission fee to cover costs. We are a friendly, informal group and would love you to come and join us.

For any further details please do contact Anne Woolland on 01295 710007 or Diane Morgan on 01295 811414.

## GARDEN CLUB

The Club raised a substantial amount of money for Katherine House Hospice last year with its 'Plants on the Verge' plant sale; we will be repeating it again this year on 4 June. We rely on villagers to grow plants for this sale, so the next few months will be the time to pot up perennials which you are dividing in your spring clear up to donate to the sale. Thank you.

➤ See the Village Diary in middle pages for programme of events

## CLEAN FOR THE QUEEN

*Clean for the Queen* is a campaign to clear up Britain in time for the Queen's 90th birthday that will be officially celebrated in June 2016. We are reminded that when she came to the throne litter wasn't the problem it is today.



The national project is being organised by anti-litter groups, such as 'Keep Britain Tidy'. Organisations, clubs, businesses and individuals can start at anytime, but there is a special 'Clean for the Queen' weekend on 4, 5 and 6 March.

To find out more you can visit the following website: [www.cleanforthequeen.co.uk](http://www.cleanforthequeen.co.uk)  
Please contact the Parish Office on 01295 713500 if you have any specific questions.

To assist you with this initiative, you will be provided with appropriate tools and plastic bags that will be collected not only over the defined weekend of 4-6 March. A great way to nurture community spirit!

Val Furniss, Clerk, Middleton Cheney Parish Council

## MIDDLETON CHENEY AGE CONCERN

Meets on the first Wednesday of every month from 2-4pm in the Village Hall.

## MIDDLETON CHENEY W.I

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

➤ See the Village Diary in middle pages for programme of events

## AUNT SALLY

This game, played in our area outside on Thursday evenings from April – September is a great way to become involved in village life for newcomers in particular. At least three teams of eight people are fielded by The Dolphin, The New Inn and the Social Club in the local league each week. The New Inn is particularly keen to recruit new members – no previous experience necessary in Division 6! Good company, fun and banter are guaranteed. Interest can be registered by telephoning 01295 711780 or by signing up on the poster in The New Inn. Taster sessions can be organised in early April.

## AWARD PRESENTATION FOR LOCAL ARTIST IN VILLAGE GALLERY

Award winning local artist Caroline Chappell will be exhibiting in The Michael Heseltine Gallery, Chenderit School, Archery Road, Middleton Cheney 10-28 April 2016. This exhibition 'A Sense of Place' introduces more than 25 new works alongside the ceramics of Crabby Taylor. There will be a special award presentation evening on Thursday 14 April, when Oxfordshire Artweeks director Esther Lafferty will present Caroline with the Mary Moser Award 2016. The award was established in 2003 to mark the work of a local artist who has taken up art as a second career late in life.

The Gallery is open to the public every school day 9am – 4pm and on Sundays midday – 4pm.

Caroline Chappell will be taking part in Oxfordshire Artweeks and opening her Chacombe Road studio to the public on 21, 22, 28, 29 and 30 May. For more information please go to [www.carolinechappell.co.uk](http://www.carolinechappell.co.uk)

Also coming up in The Michael Heseltine Gallery is the annual South Northants Selected Open Exhibition 5-26 May. This is a great opportunity for visitors to encounter a wide range of local artists' most recent work. The exhibition really is a 'must see' and like the Royal Academy's annual summer exhibition, a fantastic excuse for everyone to pick their own favourite from this year's talent. Visitors are welcome any day during school hours.

## RED CROSS WEEK

**HELP is what the red cross does**

**HELP is what the red cross needs**

Could you spare some time collecting during Red Cross Week 8-14 May 2016? Take a Red Cross collection tin from house to house along your street to collect much needed funds to support our work? OR could you help with a Street collection in Banbury on 14 May 2016?

I would dearly like to hear from you.

Please contact Susan Heath-Fowler.

E mail: [susanheathfowler@redcross.org.uk](mailto:susanheathfowler@redcross.org.uk)

Text or phone: 07977567570

## MIDDLETON CHENEY ART GROUP

Annual Art Exhibition at Chacombe Village Hall, Thorpe Road, on Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 May from 10am–5pm each day. Free parking or take the 500 bus from either Banbury or Brackley. Free entry. Tea/coffee and cake. Some artists will be painting or drawing in the hall and there will be members of the group to answer questions and help. Come along and see some of our work. We hope that regular fans will continue to support us and new visitors will come and see what is on show. Art work and cards will be for sale, so do come along and visit us.

## MIDDLETON CHENEY CHURCHES

### FIRST STEPS

Every Wednesday in term time from 2–3pm at All Saints Church. All 0–5 year olds with their parents, grandparents, friends or carers are welcome to join us to learn about Jesus. With stories, songs and activities.

### ALL SAINTS COFFEE MORNINGS

All Saints Church will be open again this year, each Wednesday morning 11–1pm. Everyone welcome! Come and enjoy a cuppa, cake and chat with us and perhaps get to know someone new. There will be a short time of prayer at 11am in the side chapel for those who wish. For further information contact Amanda on 01295 712648.

### MOTHERING SUNDAY

Mothering Sunday – Sunday 6 March  
10am Family Service at All Saints Church

➤ See Village Diary for Easter Services at All Saints Church and Messy Church dates. See noticeboard and website for normal service pattern.



## CHRISTIAN AID WEEK Sunday 15 – Saturday 21 May

### Love our global neighbours

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. There will be the usual door-to-door collection around the village. Envelope collectors are needed, so if you are able to volunteer a small amount of time it would really be appreciated. Sunday 22 May at 12.30pm. Soup lunch in the Methodist Chapel school rooms, Queen's Street. Everyone welcome – children and adults. The total raised last year from the door to door collection and lunch was over £3600.00, a wonderful amount – so let's try to do it again this year! Further details about the collection and lunch are available from Jane on 01295 711531.

**FUN WALK** on Saturday 14 May – Come and join in a gentle fun walk around Middleton Cheney village and local footpaths (including a couple of fields) to help raise £250 – the cost of a Christian Aid Home Safety Package to flood-proof a family's home in Bangladesh, enable them to keep livestock, grow crops for a long-term income and make a solid foundation for a new life. Meet at All Saints Church at 2pm and return around 3.45pm to enjoy yummy cakes and refreshments in church (non-walkers very welcome to join in with this bit!). A suggested donation of £2 per walker / £5 per family is requested please. You may like to ask your friends and family to sponsor your walk. Further details about the walk available from Mary on 01295 712894.

## MIDDLETON CHENEY TENNIS CLUB

If you are interested in playing tennis in 2016 why not join us for a friendly introduction to our club here in Middleton Cheney? We are holding an open free session from 10.30am–2pm on 17 April and all adults are welcome, regardless of ability.

Also ask about opportunities for junior coaching, with our registered Tennis Coach Michael. These sessions are available on Saturday mornings throughout the year.

If you require any further information refer to Middleton Cheney Tennis Club website or contact Helen Harman on 01295 712073 or [helen.h.harman@hotmail.com](mailto:helen.h.harman@hotmail.com)

## HISTORY SOCIETY

Great news! Following the outstanding success of the Middleton Cheney Village Trail (updated 2014), not only within the village and the surrounding area, but also through the Banbury Tourist Information Centre, Banbury Charities have kindly agreed to support a further reprint. Why not introduce your Easter visitors to our amazing history? Copies are available in the library and they are free. Please provide your own sunny day and chocolate eggs as a reward.

Looking ahead... To mark the Queen's 90th birthday, the History Society would like to encourage the village to recognise this occasion and propose an exhibition by groups, societies and individuals, creating displays of nine decades of village, church and national life in Britain. The display to be staged at All Saints Church on the weekend of the Anglican/Methodist 'Strawberry Fayre' 16–17 July. Your display could include memorabilia, a flower arrangement events from your chosen ten years (eg 1936–46, 1946–56, etc) and/or represent the Queen's specific interests (eg horses, dogs, charity work, the Commonwealth). If you are interested, please contact Chris Wells on 710076 or Denise Howes on 711962. New members and guests always welcome, please contact Chris Wells.

➤ See Village Diary in middle pages for full list of events

## MIDDLETON CHENEY PLAYING FIELDS ASSOCIATION

### Summer Fete Sunday 6 June 12noon–5pm

Organised by the PFA, this is a fete for the entire village to come together and have fun while raising funds to maintain the village sports field and facilities. A free arena and sound system for clubs and groups to showcase their activities will be available, together with stalls, a tug of war, activities and entertainment. Food, courtesy of The Butler's Pantry, will be available and the Social Club bar will be open. If you are interested in taking a stall or wish to partake in the arena activities please contact Caroline on [cmstacey50@gmail.com](mailto:cmstacey50@gmail.com) or 01295 710258 for further details.

Please come along, have fun and support the Playing Fields. It is your field and needs your support.

## OXFORDSHIRE ARTWEEKS 2016

During Artweeks, which runs from 21–30 May in North Oxfordshire, more than 60 painters and designers in and around Banbury, including potters and sculptors, photographers, jewellers and textile artists will be opening their homes, studios and other venues to the public for free to showcase their talent through exhibitions and demonstrations. Be amazed, delighted and enjoy a wonderful day out!

# Village Diary March – June 2016

2 March, 2–4pm, Village Hall	Age Concern. Quiz
4–6 March	‘Clean for the Queen’
6 March, 10am, All Saints Church	Mothering Sunday Family Service
10 March, 7.30pm, Library	Library Supporters, film showing <i>Mr Holmes</i>
16 March, 3.45pm– 7pm, Village Hall	Library Supporters/Primary Academy ‘Pop-Up Planetarium Show’
17 March, 7.30pm, Village Hall	W.I. <i>Recycle and Renew</i> . Speaker Shirley Allen
18 March, 7.30pm, Library	Library Supporters Illustrated Talk, ‘Adventures of an Ageing Juvenile’ with Mike Murray
20 March, Palm Sunday, 9.30am	All Saints Church, Saints Alive – all age service
21 March, 7pm, Library	Garden Club, AGM followed by ‘A Bulb for All Seasons’. Talk by Chris Day, Buckingham Garden Centre at 7.30pm
24 March, Maundy Thursday, 7.30pm	All Saints Church, Holy Communion
25 March, Good Friday, 11am	All Saints Church, Easter Garden
25 March, Good Friday, 7.30pm	All Saints Church, Easter Vigil
25 March, Good Friday	All Saints Church, Messy Church, Messy Easter
27 March, Easter Sunday, 9.30am	All Saints Church. Saints Together
28 March, 7.30pm, Library	History Society, <i>The work of the portable antiquities scheme</i> . Julie Cassidy (Finds Liaison Officer) will talk about the work of the PAS in Northants / Midlands, and display some finds of note.
6 April, 2-4 pm, Village Hall	Age Concern, Raptorkotics
10 April, 12noon, All Saints Church	Morning Service followed by All Saints APCM
10 – 28 April, The Heseltine Gallery Chenderit School	‘A Sense of Place’, exhibition featuring the work of Caroline Chappell and Crabby Taylor.
14 April, 7.30pm, Library	Library Supporters, film showing <i>Suite Francais</i>
17 April, 10.30am–2pm	Tennis Club Open session (free of charge)
18 April, 7.30pm, Library	Garden Club, ‘Wild Life in the Garden’ Talk by Stuart Mabutt
21 April, 7.30pm, Village Hall	W.I. Fine Lady Statue. Speaker Rosy Burke
25 April, 7.30pm, Library	History Society, ‘Poisons for Medicine – Victorian Pharmacists and Quacks’, by Graham Harrison

28 April, 7.30pm, Library	Library Supporters Illustrated Talk Jane Bullock and Chris Charles, ‘Whole Life Living, The Middleton Eco House’
4 May, 2–4 pm, Village Hall	Age Concern, AGM and Bring & Buy
5th May 7.30 p.m. Library	Library Supporters, film showing <i>Shaun the Sheep – the movie</i>
5–26 May, The Michael Heseltine Gallery	South Northants Selected Open Exhibition
8 May, All Saints Church	Messy Church, Stories Jesus told
8–14 May	Red Cross Week
14 May, 2pm, All Saints Church	Christian Aid – Fun Walk
15–21 May	Christian Aid Week
19 May, 7.30pm, Village Hall	W.I. Resolutions, followed by ‘A Nurse Abroad’ Speaker Anne Watts
20 May	Garden Club. Evening car share visit to Bunkers Hill to see their new rare plant collection
21 May, 9.30am–1pm, Village Green	Garden Club Plant Fair. Numerous local plant growers, seven retailers, outdoor refreshments by The Butlers Pantry, cake stall by W.I.
21–22 May, 10am–5pm, Chacombe Village Hall	Middleton Cheney Art Group Exhibition
21–22 May, 2.30pm – 5.30 everyday, Library	Library Supporters, ‘The First Great Tiddlywink Challenge’
21–30 May	Artweeks 2016
21–22 and 28–30 May	Caroline Chappell Chacombe Road studio open
22 May, 12.30pm, Methodist Chapel school rooms	Christian aid – Soup Lunch
23 May, 7.30pm, Library	History Society, ‘A Brief Introduction to the English Civil War’. The story of the English Civil War with reference to events and people in our village by military historian Mike Ingram.
1 June, 2-4pm, Village Hall	Age Concern, impromptu
4 June	Garden Club, ‘Plants on the Verge’ plant sale
6 June, 12–5pm, Playing Field	Summer Fete
9 June, 7.30pm, Library	Library Supporters, illustrated talk, ‘The Dambusters’ by author Colin Higgs. The creation of a unique squadron 1943-45.
16 June, 7.30pm, Village Hall	W.I. Customs Officer, Speaker Malcolm Nelson