

Village Diary December 2011 –February 2012

Parish Council Meetings (7.15pm):5th Dec, 9th Jan, 6th Feb, 5th March.
MIDDLETON CHENEY VILLAGE WEBSITE - middletoncheney.org.uk

Dec 7th Wed	Age UK / Village Hall / 2pm / Christmas Dinner
Dec 6th/7th	Purely Plants Festive Workshops / See page 2
Dec 6th/10th/17th/	Urban Angelz / Workshops / See page 2
Dec 8th/15th/22nd	Urban Angelz / Late night Shopping / see page 2
Dec 16th Thurs	WI / Methodist Church / 7.30pm / Tasting the Past.
Dec 16th Thurs	Methodist Church / 7pm / Carols and Mince Pies
Dec 18th Sun	All Saints / 6pm / Nine Lessons and Carols
Dec 21st Wed	Cheney House / 5pm / Carol Singing
Dec 24th / 25th	Christmas Services are all detailed on page 3
Jan 4th Wed	Age UK / Village Hall / 2pm / Hand bell ringers
Jan 7th Sun	All Saints / Christingle service / Details to follow
Jan 23rd Mon	Hist Soc / Library / 7.30pm / Banbury at War / see page 5
Feb 1st Wed	Age UK / Village hall / 2pm / to be confirmed
Feb 5th Sun	All Saints / 2.30pm / Experiences of Antarctica / See page 5
Feb 27th Mon	Hist Soc / Library / 7.30pm / Parish Fugitive to Lord of the Manor / see page 5

DID YOU MISS ANOTHER GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO PUBLICISE YOUR GROUP OR EVENT? THE CLOSING DATE FOR INCLUSION IN OUR SPRING EDITION IS FRIDAY 10th February 2012 If you would like to include your event in this section please notify the Parish Clerk, call 713 500 or email clerk@middletoncheney.org.uk. Entries must be received from the organiser by the relevant copy 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 16
Dec 2011**

Middleton Cheney Newsletter



Another exciting and eventful year for the village is coming to an end. We live in turbulent times but with all that is going in the world we can still make a difference to life in our village.

We may only be a small cog in the bigger wheel but it's our village and our every day life that will be affected. On Page 3 there is a list of New Year Resolutions. Please take some time and see if you can help in any way.

This year saw another successful Month of Madness and the Music Festival went ahead under new management. Our scarecrow competition was great fun and a great success and there is another one planned for next year. Our teddies will be able to play their part in the Olympics with a parachute jump from All Saints Church. Check the website for details.

The Royal Wedding weekend was enjoyed by all with so many events taking place in the village. Next year there will be another weekend of celebrations in June for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Let us know what your clubs and groups are planning and the Parish Council will put

together a programme of events.

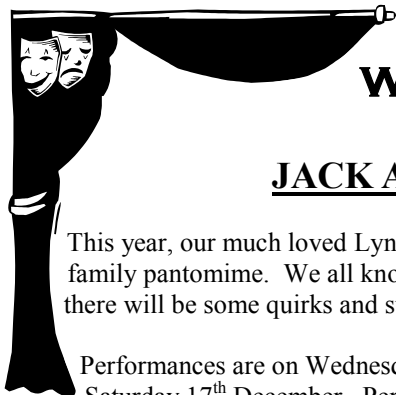
The Parish Council would like to wish everyone a Happy Christmas and a Healthy New Year. Please stay safe and if you know anyone who may be living on their own and lonely, why not pop round for a chat or invite them to join you for a while during the festive break.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR.

CAROLINE STACEY - CLERK
 Middleton Cheney Parish Council



The next issue of the Cheney Chatter will be delivered in March. Please send all articles by 10th February to the Parish Clerk by email: clerk@middletoncheney.org.uk or by post to the Parish Meeting Rooms. Entries should be no bigger than half A5 page.



...DECK THE HALLS WITH BOUGHS OF HOLLY

JACK AND THE BEANSTALK

This year, our much loved Lynden Players are proud to present a traditional family pantomime. We all know the story of Jack and the Beanstalk but I am sure there will be some quirks and surprises in their adaptation.

Performances are on Wednesday 14th December – Saturday 17th with a matinee on Saturday 17th December. Performances start at 7.30pm with the matinee at 2.00pm.

Tickets are £6.50 with concessions at £5.50 (not available Friday and Saturday)

Matinee Only – Family ticket (2 + 2) for £20 (additional children £4)

Tickets are available from Barry Coles (01295 712 427)

Book early to avoid disappointment

URBAN ANGELZ -will be running late night shopping evenings on Thursday 8th, 15th, and 22nd December. Renee will be on hand with drinks and nibbles to help you do some last minute gift shopping. She is also running the following workshops before Christmas.

Make Mum a gift (£7.50 to include beads) on Tuesday 6th December at 4.00pm Booking essential for this one.

Beaded Snowflakes (£3.50) on Saturday 10th and 17th December. These are drop in workshops with no need to book.



FESTIVE DECORATION WORKSHOPS – at Purely Plants. Our visiting floristry expert, Kathy, will be back to show you how to make lovely festive arrangements, wreaths and garlands. Workshops are on Tuesday 6th and Wednesday 7th December at 7:30pm and Wednesday 7th December at 11.00am.

Pre-booking is essential. Places are selling fast!
Phone 01295 713 570

THE CO-OPERATIVE PHARMACY – Flu Vaccination Service. We are now offering the 2 in 1 Swine/Winter flu jab for £10 only + membership points. Take advantage of this opportunity now, whilst stocks last. To book your appointment and for further details please call 01295 710 386

Please order your prescriptions early for Christmas as it is our busiest time of the year – surgeries encourage you to do this to help them too! Many of you have three month repeats so check now if you need anything.

The Pharmacy opening times over the Holidays are as follows:

Christmas Eve 9:00am – 1:00pm
Christmas Day and Boxing Day CLOSED
New Year's Eve 9:00am – 1.00pm
New Year's Day and Monday 2nd Jan 2012 Closed.

Vickram Parmer MRPharms



SURE START CHILDREN'S CENTRE – We are based next to the Library and open most week days, including school holidays. If you have a baby or young child under 5 years, we warmly welcome you to come along and make use of the wonderful new facilities.

In addition to our play sessions we offer courses and workshops for parents and carers including First Aid, Parenting skills and Baby Massage.



To find out more visit our website at www.southnorthantschildrenscentres.org.uk or call us on 01295 714 143 or drop in and visit.



Your Safer Community Team

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

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

MIDDLETON CHENEY PLAYING FIELDS ASSOCIATION - The PFA is run by a team of volunteers, some from the sports clubs and some from other walks of life. We need fresh blood to keep it going. Could you spare a couple of hours per month and perhaps a little bit extra to do a bit of thinking? If you can organise others to help you would be helping your community maintain the Playing Fields for future generations.



Your reward would be the pleasure of seeing the young, adult and older people enjoying the freedom of this piece of land playing cricket, football and tennis or watching the matches.



If you do volunteer, you will prove me wrong and demonstrate that there is a "community spirit" among the residents of the largest village in Southnorthants. Come along to the next meeting and show this "Doubting Thomas" that Middleton residents do care for their community and wish to keep alive the legacy of the inaugural Playing Fields Association.



Please give a couple of hours per month to your community. Our next meeting is at the Social Club on Monday 14th December at 7.30pm or contact me on 07995 426565 or via email on tom@tdickson.co.uk

Tom Dixon, Chairman PFA.

MIDDLETON CHENEY SOCIAL CLUB—has been in existence for over forty years. Run as a business, it is the main source of income for the Playing Fields. The Social Club has always been run by volunteers. I have been Chairman for many years (too many to remember) and I work with a very dedicated group of people, both in past years and now in the present. We have had good times and bad times, lean ones and more profitable ones and have reached a cross road.

We need new committee members to help the club into its next forty years. New blood will bring new ideas and attract new members to use the club. If we all sit back, I am afraid that the club will die. If this happens, then the Playing Fields would suffer as would the local community. I am asking people of this great village to give some of their time to ensure that our club continues to run and prosper. Don't forget that all the youngsters who play sports on the field are the future of Middleton Cheney. Without volunteers to run the club and keep the field going, what does the future hold? (Maybe another housing development!)

If you are interested in giving some time either as a committee member or in joining the club please contact me, Alastair Markham on 01295 710 654 or Alastair.markham52@btinternet.com



Your Community Needs You!!

'TIS THE SEASON TO BE JOLLY...



MIDDLETON CHENEY ANGLICAN AND METHODIST CHURCHES EXTEND A VERY WARM INVITATION FOR YOU TO JOIN US IN CELEBRATING THE BIRTH OF JESUS CHRIST.

Unless otherwise stated, all our services will be held at All Saints Anglican Church

December 16 th	at 7.00pm	Mince pies and Carols at the Methodist Church
December 18 th	at 6.00pm	Nine Lessons and Carols
December 21 st	at 5.00pm	Carol Singing at Cheney House Nursing Home
December 24 th	at 4.00pm	Crib Service
	at 7.00pm	Carol Service with a difference
	at 11.15pm	Midnight Mass
December 25 th	at 9.30am	Christmas Morning Service
January 7 th	January	Christingle Service Time to be announced.



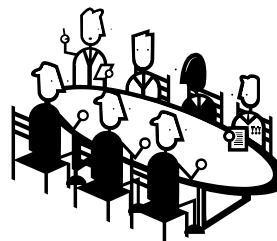
NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS

Have you thought of becoming a Parish Councillor? We still have places. Our meetings are on the first Monday of every month. If you are interested, please come along to the meetings and see what is done. Perhaps you would like to contribute and make a difference that way.

The Village Hall, home to the Lynden Players, is used by many indoor organisations, for both the elderly and the young. They are in need of committee members and helpers to make sure that The Hall continues as a village asset.

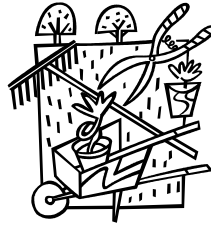
A dedicated group of residents are busy compiling our Neighbourhood Plan. Already they have submitted an application to be considered for the Frontrunners Scheme which would give us both financial and professional support for this plan. The plan is to set out our hopes and aspirations for the future of the village. They too need your help and it would not need to take up too much time.

Many hands make light work. The more people involved in these groups, the less work there is for everyone. Our committees are getting older and need young blood and new ideas. Help make our village the place we would all like it to be; a friendly, vibrant and safe place to live.



If you are interested, please contact the Parish office and we will put you in touch with the right people.

CEMETERY CLEAN UP - A BIG THANK YOU to the six volunteers who joined the two Parish Councillors, the Clerk and two Parish Council employees for the Cemetery Clean Up on Saturday 29th October. We were fortunate that the weather was fine and sunny - and what a hard working team they proved to be - a full morning was spent weeding, pruning, sweeping, clearing faded flowers, removing ant nests and generally tidying up. The overall improvement is very noticeable. Thank you also to those who regularly maintain their family plots, this ensures that our cemetery looks cared for and loved. Your help is much appreciated.



The Parish Council will be undertaking more work in the coming months with hedge and tree pruning which should make the cemetery a more attractive and proper resting place for our loved ones.



ALL SAINTS CHURCHYARD:- HISTORY UNCOVERED -

I would like to thank the Parish Council for the amazing amount of work that their Garden Contractor has carried out in All Saints Churchyard during the summer months.

Many of the overgrown graves have been cleared, allowing visitors much easier access to the headstones, which is particularly important to people who are tracing their family history.

A number of the cleared headstones belong to people whose descendants still live in the village today - Wheelers, Pinfolds and Timms to name a few. It is also possible to see a memorial to a soldier who was killed in WW1 and whose name is listed on Chipping Campden war memorial.

Another Parish Council employee has re-painted the decorative arches over the entrance gates and the railings surrounding the Horton family tomb. If you haven't visited our beautiful and interesting churchyard recently please go and take a look, I think you will be impressed.

Nancy Long, Volunteer Archivist to Middleton Cheney.

GARDEN CLUB – Have a Snappy Happy Christmas! We thought it would be a good idea to publicise next year's categories now so that you can all start planning what to photograph for the Plant and Produce Show next September. They are as follows: Quintessential England / A Flower Portrait / Candid Camera. Details of the vegetable and flower categories can be found on the village website or drop into the Parish Office for a copy of the schedule.



POPPY APPEAL 2011 – Described as a very special year for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal, Middleton Cheney families have raised the amazing total of **£3,386!** (This is a record amount - £821 more than last year).

Thank you for your outstanding support. We wear the poppy as a sign that we will not forget those who died in the service of our country. However, the poppy also has a practical use. Money raised in each year's appeal is used to protect the welfare, interests and memory of ex-Service people and their families.

You don't have to be a Legion member to ask for help – you just have to be an ex-Serviceperson or a dependant. Your very generous donations will provide the support the Legion needs to ensure that we can all provide a land fit for a new generation of heroes.

SHOULDER TO SHOULDER WITH ALL WHO SERVE

THE HISTORY SOCIETY - have an interesting programme planned for next year. They meet in the Library on a Monday night. Check the back page for times.

Monday 23rd January – Banbury at War 1939 – 1945. Repercussions as a result of the declaration of war against Germany on 14th August 1914 quickly affected the life of the town. Find out more about Banbury at this difficult time.

Monday 27th February – A.G.M. followed by Parish Fugitive to Lord of the Manor – A short history of the Horton Family and their influence on Middleton Cheney.

ALL SAINTS CHURCH – Stonework talks - Our ancient parish church is showing its age and needs repairs to its external stone work. This will require lots of fundraising from the village community over a protracted period of time. As a follow on from the first talk 'Cooking for Christmas' we are organising a series of interesting illustrated talks to fill some of the quiet Sunday afternoons in the winter and early spring. All the talks will take place in All Saints, starting at 2.30pm and finishing at about 3.45pm. Refreshments will be available from 2:00pm – 2:30pm. Entry will be £3 on the door. The dates and topics are:

- Sunday 5th February “Experiences of Antarctica” by Jane Bullock
- Sunday 4th March “The Iona Community” by Alison Solesbury
- Sunday 1st April “The Home Guard in our Benefice” by Chris Bazeley

KEEP ACTIVE – on Monday mornings, classes are held at the Social Club, Astrop Road. These consist of light exercises to music, a great way to stay healthy and to socialise. We welcome new people, so if you feel that you would like to try it out, do please give me a ring for further details, or just turn up at 11.00am or 12.30pm on any Monday. Anne Woolland—01295 710 007