

VILLAGE PUMP



March 2016

No.426

Middleton in Bloom

Village walk-round Saturday 5th March

Each year around this time Middleton in Bloom arranges a look at the whole village to see what needs attention so that we can plan our work throughout the year. This helps us to make the village as good as it can be for Middletonians and visitors alike.

This year we have the added focus of the 'East Midland in Bloom' competition' and also as **Derbyshire's only finalist in the National 'Britain in Bloom'** competition.

We would really like your ideas and suggestions and will be walking around the village to 'take stock' starting at the Village hall at 11.30 on Saturday the 5th March.

Anybody, individuals or as members of any village group, committee or club are very welcome to join us.

If you are not able to join us but have an issue you would like to raise about an area needing improvement please let us know by email or telephone.

Rob Stamper - Middleton in Bloom coordinator - 01629258471

Mike Coveney – Middleton in Bloom Chairman

Middleton Village Gardening days

Spring is about to spring and we need to start work on the Millennium Gardens as well as the tubs, baskets and other areas around the village.

If you can spare a couple of hours now and then you are VERY welcome to join us, no experience is needed and advice and tools are provided.

We will meet on the FIRST and THIRD SUNDAY of each month from 2pm to 4pm in the MILLENIUM GARDENS (with a few extra days thrown in now and then!) The first session will be Sunday 6th March.

If the weather is very bad we will still get together in the Nelson Arms each time to plan the year's programme to help our 2016 Britain in Bloom entry.

If you are not able to 'garden' but have any ideas we can be found in the Millennium Gardens on every working garden day.

Dates

Saturday 5th March

Live in the Nelson: the Pitz

Sunday 6th March

2-4pm Millennium Garden

Maintenance – everyone welcome

Wednesday 9th March

Middleton in Bloom meeting
7.30pm in The Nelson

Thursday 10th March Bingo
in the Nelson. 7.30pm

Wednesday 16th March

Folk jam at the Nelson

Sunday 20th March

2-4pm Millennium Garden

Maintenance – everyone welcome

Tuesday 22nd March

Allotments AGM

7.30pm in The Nelson

Friday 25th March

Quiz at the Sun

Bin Days

Blue bin / green bin:

Monday 14th March

Tuesday 29th March

Grey bin:

Monday 21st March

Monday 4th April

January 2016 Mild and wet

		Diff from or % of average	Date
Mean max	6.1c	+1.2	
Mean min	1.5c	+0.9	
Highest max	11.7c		24th
Lowest min	-1.9c		21st
Total Rainfall	144.5 mm	133%	
Wettest Day	22.0 mm		3rd
Days with rain	26		
Total Sunshine	33.0 hrs	76%	
Sunniest Day	6.0 hrs		15th
Days with no sunshine	15		

It was the mildest January since 2012 and the 8th mildest in the last 40 years despite a short cold snap in the middle of the month. The temperature reached 10c on a record 7 days, all towards the end of the month. The previous record was 5 days in 2005 and 2008.

The 24th was the second mildest January day on record beaten only by 12.2c on the 9th last year.

It was the wettest January since 2014 and the 11th wettest in the last 40 years. The first week of the month recorded 76.1 mm of rain making it the wettest first week of January on record. The second half of the month was much drier than the first half but small amounts of rain fell on most days so it didn't seem particularly dry.

Sunshine was below average and it was the dullest January since 2014 and the second dullest in the last 20 years.

It was less windy than December but the end of the month gave 3 days with gales and the highest gust recorded on the moor was 66 mph on the 29th.

Middleton Ladies Group

The February meeting was a visit to Derbyshire Wildlife Trust after a kind invitation to have a tour around the new headquarters and a talk about the work the Trust does around the County and beyond.

We had such a warm welcome from Jane and Ellen and the most enthralling and enthusiastic talk and slide show from Jane. One of the most exciting things that came from our visit was the manner that the Trust has embraced our Village and are already making plans to get involved with the "Bloom" and other Community Activities. We also had a tour around the building which was almost built for their needs .

Finally we drew the raffle and the winners were 1 Frances. 2 Marie. 3. Rob.

Thanks so much to all who bought a ticket, we were able to hand £157.00 to the Trust, who were delighted.

March meeting with Steve Pepper should be fun, and in April we have the Flames Belly Dancing Team, yes its always entertaining at our lovely Ladies Group, so for anyone looking to make Friends please come along, our next 2 meetings are at the Congregational Chapel at 7-30 p.m for 7-45p.m. start the first Thursday of each month.

Pam

Advertise in the Village Pump

Just £2.50 an issue

Pasture/woodland wanted

I live in Middleton and am looking to purchase or rent some pasture and / or woodland in the Middleton area, any size.

Please contact Jack on 07903787479

Village Groups Contact List

If you have a group that you'd like to include, please contact Lucy Peacock on 820831.

Millennium Garden Group

Secretary: Hilary Casey (820076)

Middleton Environment Group

Chair: Rob Stamper

Allotments Committee

Chair: Mike Knott (826075)

Middleton Ladies' Fellowship

Olwyn Bailey (924868)

Steeple Grange Light Railway

Martin Smith: martinsmith187@tiscali.co.uk

John Cash: jtpc@supanet.com

Middleton Book Group

Lucy Peacock (820831)

Middleton Toddler Group

Meets Wednesdays 1.30pm-3pm at the Village Hall

MMBG (Middleton Mountain Bike Group)

www.mmbg.co.uk

Middleton and Wirksworth Wrestling Club

Classes on Monday evenings in the village Hall

Contact Trevor Hoskins (07961 516722)

Salsa classes

Tuesday evenings in the village hall from 7.30

Contact Simon 07977 491272

Nelson Arms

Bar and accommodation. Alan and Jane (825154)

Rising Sun

Bar and food. Steve (823247)

Knit and Natter

In the Nelson on Mondays, 1-3pm, with Community

Luncheon on alternate Mondays. Brenda Hobson 824600

Getting to know Middleton

The biggest conversation in Middleton: the Knit and Natter group

On Monday afternoons, a number of Middleton women can be seen making their way to the back door of The Nelson. Their tippie is tea (often with cake) and they are a very productive group. While they chat, Knit & Natterers make woolly wonders for friends and family, charities, schools and the village, and sometimes for themselves.

Between them the group made numerous hedgehogs for Derbyshire Wildlife Trust. The hedgehogs were left around Derbyshire for people to find to help raise awareness about the decline of this delightful creature. Hedgehogs have declined by 30% in the last 10 years alone and there are now thought to be fewer than one million left in the UK. We also got to know the folks at the Wildlife Trust and made them feel welcome in the village. Now we are knitting bees to help the

Trust highlight the plight of honey bees.

K&N members have also knitted poppies for the church railings and flowers for the Millennium Garden.

Some of the things we have been knitting: scarves, hats, blankets, throws, mittens, sweaters, toys, chickens, sheep and a whole menagerie of other creatures.

We knit blankets, jumpers and toys for Aquabox – patterns provided; bonnets and cardigans for premature babies at the DRI, and for people suffering from dementia we have recently been making thick textured muffs which keep them warm and help to soothe hand tremors.

Knit & Natter is open to everyone of any age in Middleton and nearby villages who enjoys knitting. If you don't know how

to do it, we can show you. If you don't know what to knit, we have lots of patterns we can share. If you need help to get started or keep going, we can help. We also welcome other crafters such as embroiderers, quilters and rug makers.

Plea for knitting yarn: if you have any spare wool, we can use it knitting for Aquabox or other charities. Even the smallest amount can be used up in stripes or for babies.

K&N, every Monday from 1-3pm at The Nelson Arms. £1 contribution to cover cost of tea. Everyone welcome to join in.

This article was jointly written by Knit and Natter members.

PARISH COUNCILLORS

	Tel
Cllr Ian Bailey	01629 824 868
Cllr Sandy Clark	01629 822 372
Cllr Dawn Greatorex	01629 826 647
Cllr Rob Rawlinson	01629 824 655
Cllr John Sedgwick	01629 822 601
Cllr Debbie Skellern	07875 942 503
Cllr Peter Slack	01629 823 359
Cllr Dr Peter Stanley	01629 823 761
Parish Clerk: John Rowe	07717 137526

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Irene Ratcliffe, 47 Yokecliffe Cres, Wirksworth irene.ratcliffe@derbyshiredales.gov.uk	823023
Mike Ratcliffe, 47 Yokecliffe Cres, Wirksworth mike.ratcliffe@derbyshiredales.gov.uk	823023
Peter Slack, 31 Chapel Lane, Middleton Peter.slack@derbyshiredales.gov.uk	823359

COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Irene Ratcliffe, 47 Yokecliffe Cres, Wirksworth	823023
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Village Hall

For bookings contact Linda	822511
Village Hall Website www.middletonvh.org.uk	

Post Office Opening Times

At the Nelson Arms. Tel 01629 733520 / 07770 662364
Monday 2pm-5pm
Wednesday 2pm-5pm
Thursday 9am-12pm

Parish Council Meetings

Ordinary meetings will be held at 7.15pm in the Committee Room of the Village Hall. Members of the public are welcome to attend meetings and to raise concerns or make representations to the Council during the Public Participation section of the meeting.

Police

Contact your local team on 0345 123 33 33 or email directly to
PCSO 4413 Sue Lester suzanne.lester.4413@derbyshire.pnn.police.uk

Village Pump Editors

David Casey	820076
Lucy Peacock	820831

All views expressed are the contributor's own and unless expressly stated are not necessarily the view of the Village Pump. We reserve the right to edit or omit contributions.

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