

# VILLAGE PUMP



May 2016

No.428

## Middleton Open Gardens

Final preparations are underway for the 2016 Middleton Open Gardens Weekend, which this year will take place on the weekend 18th and 19th June.

Whilst there have again been many expressions of interest, and many firm entries, rumour has it that there are still a number of gardeners hiding in their sheds and behind compost heaps, undecided whether to take part.

Considering the fact that Middleton has been selected to be in the National Finals of the Royal Horticultural Society Britain in Bloom competition, we are hoping to put on an even better show than before.

SO... if you are one of these secret gardeners, or you have been meaning to contact the organisers but didn't get round to it, please contact Ann Stamper (email [ann.stamper@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ann.stamper@hotmail.co.uk)) or another member of the Environment Group as soon as possible, so that we can finalise the trail map.

Rob Stamper - Middleton in Bloom coordinator - 01629258471  
Mike Coveney – Middleton in Bloom Chairman

### **Ideal restoration project for young keen cyclists.**

We have a mountain bike which needs a new home. It's a lady's Muddy Fox, frame size 17" approx.

15 gears, 3 sprocket crank, 5 on the hub. Gears need slight adjustment for easier gear changing.

Reasonable condition with nearly new tyres. You can have it for the price of a pint or a glass of nice white for Joan.

Graham 07739583005  
[j.cooper16@btinternet.com](mailto:j.cooper16@btinternet.com)

### **Dates**

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May**  
Bingo at the Nelson.  
7.30pm

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May**  
Millennium Garden  
Maintenance 2-4pm

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May**  
Dougal's Disco at the  
Nelson. Fancy dress theme  
to be announced

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May**  
Folk Jam at the Nelson

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May** Live at  
the Nelson: Swansong

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> April**  
Quiz at the Rising Sun

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> May**  
Millennium Garden  
Maintenance 2-4pm

### **Bin Days**

**Blue bin / green bin:**  
Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May  
Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> May

**Grey bin:**  
Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May  
**Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> May**

**For Post Office opening  
times, see back page**

## March 2016 Cooler and wetter than average

		<b>Diff from or % of average</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Mean max temp</b>	7.3c	-0.2c	
<b>Mean min temp</b>	1.2c	-0.5c	
<b>Highest max</b>	11.8c		25th
<b>Lowest min</b>	-2.4c		7th
<b>Total Rainfall</b>	114.1mm	133%	
<b>Wettest Day</b>	46.5mm		27th
<b>Days with rain</b>	12		
<b>Total Sunshine</b>	90.3 hrs	97%	
<b>Sunniest Day</b>	9.9 hrs		25th
<b>Days with no sunshine</b>	7		

Despite the very mild winter it didn't warm up very much in March and it was the coldest since the very cold one in 2013.

The month began and ended wet but there was a 14 day rainless period from the 10<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>, the longest in March since 2003.

46.5 mm of rain on the 27<sup>th</sup> was the largest daily rainfall on record in March but almost all the rain fell overnight so most people will have missed it. The rainfall total for the first quarter of 2016 is 371.2 mm, the third highest on record for the first 3 months. Only 1995 with 395.5mm and 2014 with 408.0mm have recorded more.

Sunshine was about average for the month and it was less windy than normal for March. The highest gust recorded on the moor was 67 mph on the 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### Get fit for the summer

Get fit for the summer without leaving the village.

Jog Middleton meet at the Village Hall 9AM every Tuesday.

Friday Boot Camp meet at Middleton Recreation Ground 9AM every Friday - Now with new equipment.

Both sessions suitable for all abilities and beginners are very welcome so why not give it a try?

For further information please call Steph Spencer 01629 824595 07974 029156

### THE NELSON ARMS ART PUB

The Art Pub group continues to meet every Thursday at 7.30p.m at The Nelson.

We have covered a range of art skills and techniques including Cubism, Still Life, Pointless Drawing and have also made some great ceramic pieces.....chickens, pots, plates , planters to name but a few.

Ben and Mark, our teachers , encourage great enthusiasm and take the fear out of "having a go" Some of us had not picked up a paintbrush for over forty years but the results are massively encouraging.

We are planning to go out around the locality to draw and paint from the landscape soon which we are looking forward to. Our next focus will be on lino print techniques..... We may soon put Clinton Cards out of business!

Although it helps if you come every week, it is not essential, and if you wanted to turn up for a session to see if you like it, the cost is £8 for 2 hours, all materials provided.

# Holy Trinity Church Middleton

I remember, as a child, seeing a TV programme about children in Australia who lived on remote sheep stations in the outback. They would do their schooling via a radio link with their teacher hundreds of miles away. This was long before Skype was ever invented. At the time I thought that it would be brilliant—getting to play with all of that radio equipment and not having to actually go to school.

In truth, it must have been hard for those Australian kids; so far away from other children and lacking the basics of friendship and community that school brings. Some of our longest friendships start at an early age. My best mate, Paul and I have known each other for over fifty years. We were about six years old when we realised that we were both sporting the same “International Rescue” badge which we had cut out off the back of a Cornflakes packet!

I often get to visit school to take assemblies, or to give it the proper title “collective worship.” That’s just what it is meant to be, -- the school gathering together to sing and pray, and to have a sense of belonging to each other.

Education is more than just learning- despite all of the targets and tests imposed on the system in recent years it remains about shaping and building character in our children. This term the children at Middleton School have been thinking about team work, which is what I spoke about when I visited last. I used stories from the Bible to show how we need to gather people around us in community to shape our lives and to encourage us as individuals along the way.

School is one form of community, but there are others, including the virtual communities on line, some of which can be less edifying than others! Human beings are naturally gregarious—we need each other in our exploration of life. For me, as a Christian, having the community of the Church has enabled me to shape my life, through sharing experience with others.

Sometimes people talk about not needing to go to church to be a Christian. It may be true, but Christians the world over go to church, not just for their own sakes, but because they see a need to build community together, with its strengths and weaknesses.

School, the pub, church- these are all aspects of our communities around the country, and the viability or otherwise of each of them is an indication of the health of that community. It’s for all of us to work together to ensure that these “tokens” of community life remain with us for the future.

With best wishes

Canon David Truby (Wirksworth Team Ministry)

## Christian Aid Week May 15<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup>

It’s that time of year again when we are asked to dip into our pockets to support those in need.

The effects of climate change have been felt by us all with flooding in many areas but in parts of Africa and Asia where there already exists a growing food crisis the situation is life threatening.

Many agencies, including Christian Aid, work with governments and partner organisations to help build resistance to the worst effects of climate changes. More information can be found on [www.christianaid.org.uk/foodcrisis](http://www.christianaid.org.uk/foodcrisis)

If your envelope is not collected and you would like your gift to go to Christian Aid, Jane at the Nelson has again agreed to be a collecting point. Residents living near Water Lane can leave their envelope at Betty Wain’s [number 7]

Christian Aid Week begins with a United Service at Middleton Holy Trinity Church at 6pm. All are very welcome.

I would take this opportunity to thank the stalwart volunteers.  
Anne Oldak

# Middleton Ladies Group

Unfortunately we were a little thin on the ground due to illness, holidays, and grandma's coming to the rescue in unfortunate circumstances, however I think I can honestly say that the Flames Belly Dancing Group was a great success. They first explained that the original Belly Dancing was not to display themselves to the opposite sex, but was for ladies to dance for ladies, and still is today, which was highly appreciated and appropriate for our group.



The Flames then gave us an amazing and quite beautiful performance of different dances. Their colourful and sparkling costumes were fabulous, and the joy and happiness we all experienced gave everyone a tremendous lift. As they explained, dancing is for all shapes and sizes, and when it came to our time to dance everyone joined in and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. It was the most engaging evening, so much laughter and fun with all of the group dressed in a jingly belt and/or a sparkling cape.

It was such a shame that some of our friends were not able to come and share the love.

Back down to earth we have Red Ruff coming to entertain us in May and then we are having a mystery outing in June. So much is happening for the Middleton Ladies Group!

Any ladies wishing to join us just come along on the 1st Thursday of the month at 7-45p.m.in the Congregational Chapel.

Pam.

## LATEST NEWS FROM MIDDLETON IN BLOOM

Despite the recent set back, when BT Openreach insisted that all hanging baskets were removed from telegraph poles due to Health and Safety breaches, plans are full steam ahead for Middleton's entry in the RHS National Bloom competition.

The small, but beautifully formed, Middleton in Bloom group have been bowled over by the massive support from local groups and businesses to help us in our bid to be crowned Best Village. We will keep you up to date with the financial support we are receiving and currently would like to thank the Knit and Natter Group, Wheeldons, Middleton Mountain Bike Group, Pat Craft, The Nelson Arms and two anonymous donations. The money has been spent on new tubs which will be placed strategically around the village so that Middleton can be seen at its blooming best throughout the summer.

There is no doubt that the hanging baskets will be missed, especially on Main Street, and if any of you gardeners whose houses front on to Main Street are busy planning what you will be planting this year perhaps you could put up some baskets on your own properties.....everything will help.

There will be regular gardening days at the Millennium Garden for anyone with a few hours to spare and dates are posted up in The Nelson.

So a big THANK YOU for the support that Middleton in Bloom has received and watch this space for more news as it happens.

Jane

## Village Green Committee News

The first meeting of the newly formed Village Green Committee was very well attended, with around 20 to 25 residents present. After officially adopting the Standing Orders the committee appointed the following - Peter Slack as Chair, Liz Mathews as Vice Chair, Jill Palin as Treasurer and Dawn Greatorex as Secretary - with a committee cohort of circa 12 people. It was agreed by all that the primary aim of the committee would be to look at ways to enhance the Village Green, whilst working alongside the Parish Council and the existing committees in the village.

Various suggestions on ways to enhance the Village Green were tabled; Jack Roper suggested that a **Wild Bird Feeding Station** on the Green would be a way of encouraging wildlife for everyone to enjoy. It has now been agreed that this be sited near the *Cotoneaster bush*. The feeding station will compliment the historical aspect of the village as it will be an *Hopton Wood stone* pillar, standing approximately 4 feet high and will have both feeder and swing attachments.

Other suggestions were to improve the bus shelter. Firstly, to repair and redecorate it - which is now completed. Secondly, to fix a new **open community notice board** onto the rear wall of the bus shelter- with a view to having laminated 'photo's of village memories; also, an advertising area for village events etc.,. The committee embraced the idea that the bus shelter could be an ideal focal point for residents, visitors and walkers to view all the coming and past events in a dry area. Finally, having a **Map of the Village** on the rear wall of the bus shelter was also tabled - both the proposed suggestions of a notice board and map of the village are now in the early stages of discussion with the Parish Council and fellow village committees.

It was agreed that the **heart shaped flower bed** on the green could be greatly improved by having a surrounding limestone wall; which would lift the bed, thereby giving a greater display coming up Main Street. Work will soon be underway on this.

The Village Green Committee anticipates that most of the abovementioned work can be completed by the Judging time of **Britain in Bloom**.

Other long term proposals are for the reconstruction of the historic **Village Green Basin** (which the horses that pulled the wagons of limestone from Hopton Wood and other various

quarries along the Via Gellia drank from). Early suggestions are that this be sited at the top of The Green, just across from where the Basin originally was. Also, to consider having some form of **Granite or Hopton Wood ornament** for the top of the Bus Shelter,.

Finally, DDDC have recently sited the lovely new street signs around the green.

The Village Green Committee meets every other month in the Nelson. We will keep you up to date on our progress.

Dawn Greatorex - Secretary Village Green Committee



**DRCS** | Your Counselling Service

We are proud to announce

**A Charitable Antiques Valuation Event**

given by Mr Charles Hanson

**Bakewell Town Hall**  
Friday May 6<sup>th</sup> 2016 7pm

**Tickets £15 each**  
Including a glass of wine and nibbles

There will be a talk by Mr Hanson and a Valuation of a selection of items submitted by ticket holders

Ticket holders wishing to submit an antique item to be valued should do so at the Town Hall between 4 and 6pm.

**Please note: Items are submitted at owner's risk**

Auction and raffle will take place during the evening

For information and tickets contact:

01773 833716  
0114 236 7804 - Jack Yarwood  
drcsevents@gmail.com



www.drcs.org.uk  
Patron: Lord Edward Manners  
Registered Charity No. 1124775

### 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 <a href="mailto:irene.ratcliffe@derbyshiredales.gov.uk">irene.ratcliffe@derbyshiredales.gov.uk</a>	823023
Mike Ratcliffe, 47 Yokecliffe Cres, Wirksworth <a href="mailto:mike.ratcliffe@derbyshiredales.gov.uk">mike.ratcliffe@derbyshiredales.gov.uk</a>	823023
Peter Slack, 31 Chapel Lane, Middleton <a href="mailto:Peter.slack@derbyshiredales.gov.uk">Peter.slack@derbyshiredales.gov.uk</a>	823359

### COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Irene Ratcliffe, 47 Yokecliffe Cres, Wirksworth	823023
---	--------

### Village Hall

For bookings contact Linda	822511
Village Hall Website <a href="http://www.middletonvh.org.uk">www.middletonvh.org.uk</a>	

### 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](mailto: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.

### MP for Derbyshire Dales

**RT. HON. PATRICK McLOUGHLIN**

*Member of Parliament*

You can write at any time to:

House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA

[patrick.mcloughlin.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:patrick.mcloughlin.mp@parliament.uk)

Regular advice bureaux

Call for details **020 7219 3511**

**Working for Derbyshire Dales**

### Housecoal, Smokeless Fuel, Logs, Kindling & Firelighters

Quality fuels at unbeatable value

**Signal Fuels**

**01773 747027 07974 434447**

**07970 215726**

Approved coal merchants

Our reputation is glowing

### PJB Projects

**Groundwork and Construction**

Minidigger & driver, drives, dropped kerbs, paths,

extensions, garages & conservatories,

landscaping, fencing & stonewalling

15 years experience.

Fully Qualified and Insured.

Call Phil for a free estimate at a realistic price

**07977 240223**

## M J Petts Plumbing & Heating

*Installation - Service - Repair*

**07580 457426**

**mjpetts@hotmail.co.uk**

**Gas Safe Registered - 551336**

### Paws on Paths

Dog walking services Middleton  
Enhanced CRB, specially adapted  
vehicle

Tel. Michael Kitching

07982806741

**Advertise here  
£2.50 per issue**

Contact

[mail@middletonvillagepump.co.uk](mailto:mail@middletonvillagepump.co.uk)

For details



**Philip Reeve  
Painter and Decorator  
Interior and Exterior  
Free Estimate  
07856045718**

**PGR  
Decorating  
Services**

### Free Range Eggs

**Free range eggs £2.00 per dozen.  
Can deliver in the village.**

**Tel. Sam Kitching 07824469219**

**CAROL  
MOBILE  
HAIRDRESSER**



Over 25 years' experience using  
traditional and modern styling  
techniques, using a wide range of quality  
products. Please call for an appointment  
01629 823276 / 07817 778630



**Green Deal approved  
installers of  
cavity wall  
and loft insulation**

**01629 824595 07802 845223**

[www.dsinsulations.co.uk](http://www.dsinsulations.co.uk)

Advertise here! Just £2.50 per issue