

VILLAGE PUMP



Sept 2020

No. 473

Spotted: Unicorn



A multi coloured unicorn has been spotted In North Middleton in the garden of Citizen Terry Houghton. More will be revealed in the next issue.

Bin Days

Blue bin/green bin:

7th /21st September and 5th

Grey bin:

1st /14th /28th September

The Food Bin is back to weekly collection.

The Council has not been able to distribute Biodegradable bags this spring. Either put food directly into the bin and wash it out afterwards or use biodegradable bags which comply with EN 13432. You can buy them on ebay.

Green Bin collections resumed on 1st June and are continuing.

The crews will try to take recycling side waste where possible - please check how to present excess recycling at www.derbyshiredales.gov.uk/excessrecycling

Applications Invited for Historic Matlock Grant

Worthy causes in the Matlock area are being invited to apply to Derbyshire Dales District Council for funds from the historic Ernest Bailey Charity.

The District Council is Trustee of the charity, which makes an annual grant from interest on a fund set up by local benefactor Ernest H. Bailey.

Bailey, born in 1870, owned Bailey's Flour Mills in Lumsdale and in 1924 founded the former Ernest Bailey Grammar School in Matlock's New Street.

As Trustee, the District Council administers Bailey's fund "for the general benefit of the inhabitants of Matlock and district" in one or more of the following ways:

- for the relief of the aged and poor,
- for the relief of distress and sickness,

- to support facilities for recreation and other leisure time activities,
- to support educational facilities or
- in such other way as the Trustees think fit.

The District Council welcomes applications from organisations and individuals who meet the criteria and it's now easier than ever to apply online at www.derbyshiredales.gov.uk/ernestbailey

The closing date for completed application forms is Monday 26 October. Further information and a paper application form can be obtained by email to grants@derbyshiredales.gov.uk or write to Emma Mortimer, Community Development Officer, Community & Environmental Services Department, Derbyshire Dales District Council, Town Hall, Matlock, Derbyshire, DE4 3NN, or phone 01629 761392

Weather - June - Cloudy and Wet But Hot Spells

There were periods of cool, cloudy and wet weather during June punctuated by short warm or hot spells with enough warm weather to lift the mean temperature to just above the 30- year average.

The maximum temperature of 27.7c on the 25th was the highest in June since 2017 and the minimum of 16.8c the following night was the second highest on record for the month. At the other end of the scale the minimum of 4.9c on the 6th was the lowest in June since 2015.

Although not as wet as June 2019 it was the 12th wettest June in the last 43 years and 22 rain days was

the most for the month since 2012. The rainfall total for the first half of the year stands at 520.6 mm which is 4% above the 30-year average despite the driest spring on record. Thunder was heard on 6 days, the most in June since 2016, which also recorded 6 days. It was the foggiest June on record, with all the fog concentrated between the 11th and 20th, including 37 hours of continuous fog from the evening of the 11th until the morning of the 13th; the longest period of continuous fog on record in June.

Although the mean wind speed for the month was close to average there were several windy days and a gust of 53 mph was recorded on the moor on the 28th.

June		Diff' from, or % of, average	Date	July	Diff' from, or % of, average	Date
Mean maximum temp	17.8 C	+0.5 C		17.9 C	-1.7 C	
Mean minimum temp	9.8 C	+0.6 C		10.7 C	-0.6 C	
Highest maximum	27.7 C		25th	30.9C		31st
Lowest minimum	4.9 C		6th	7.0 C		21st
Total Rainfall	107.3 mm	131%		94.7 mm	134%	
Wettest Day	18.2 mm		17th	22.5 mm		8th
Days with rain	22			18		
Total Sunshine	127.4 hrs	88%		120.8 hrs	77%	
Sunniest Day	14.7 hrs		25th	11.1 hrs		12th
Days with no sunshine	6			3		

Weather - July - Mostly Cool & Cloudy

It was the coolest July since 2007, and the first this year that was colder than the average. The month ended with one hot day - the 31st recorded the third hottest July day on record and the 5th hottest in any month. At the opposite end of the temperature scale, the 8th was the coldest July day since 1993 with a maximum of only 12.0c and the night of the 21st was the coldest in July since 2015.

Rainfall was well above average, but it was not as wet as July 2019, although rain fell on one more day this July than last. The rainfall total for the first 7 months of the year stands at 615.3 mm, 107% of average.

It was the dullest and windiest July since 2010. No gales were recorded but the gust of 49mph on the 8th was the highest in July since 2010 when there was a gust of 59mph on the 16th.

For The Love Of Scrubs

In March of this year, a national Facebook group, 'For The Love Of Scrubs (FTLOS)' was set up by a one-time nurse. The aim of the group was to recruit volunteers who could make and supply hospital style scrubs to the NHS. The shortage of scrubs uniform arose as more staff wore them as part of PPE when the Covid-19 pandemic escalated.

As more people joined FTLOS, regional groups formed, and Derby FTLOS emerged in late March/early April. Many Derbyshire people signed up to make scrubs, including myself and the Middleton ladies. The lady who set up DFTLOS couldn't sew, so I and another lady were inundated with queries. I suggested we set up area co-ordinators and group people close to where they lived. These subgroups helped manage people and reduce the queries, as people within their area group often had answers. Matlock/Darley Dale became an area group which in turn provided a hub for the Middleton ladies.

Neither national nor regional groups had funding for fabric. It was up to area groups to organise their own means of fundraising. Local people, village and town groups, churches, councils & councillors, Facebook fundraising pages and Rotary organisations were among those who generously contributed large monetary donations in order to purchase the quantity of fabric needed. People made paper patterns and we had offers from people who could cut fabric. And finally, those who couldn't sew offered to drive for us, delivering or collecting whatever was needed.

Just as the project was beginning to get off the ground, the originator of DFTLOS announced she was leaving, followed by, "I'm closing the group down". This was a blow to everyone and people wrote posts on Facebook of their disappointment. A large number of people had bought fabric, fundraised and also scrubs and accessory items had been made. Before the Facebook group closed, I posted to see how many groups wanted to continue under a new name – Derbyshire Scrubs. Ten groups continued in addition to the pockets of people in outlying areas. Overall, there were around 100 people sewing scrubs. We picked up where we left off and Derbyshire Scrubs ran like clockwork. Each group tended to find places that needed scrubs and if any group needed help to achieve orders, other groups helped out.

I'd also secured the use of Fritchley church hall and as our project was for community support, we were not charged a hiring fee. I, in particular, was very grateful to

have the hall, especially as I'd accepted £2,500 worth of fabric donated by Virgin radio presenter Chris Evans and his son Noah who had raised funds to the tune of one million pounds. We did get some of this fabric cut for free by a Long Eaton man who was using DFS factory facilities. In addition, Parmeet and her husband Hardeep made 400 sets of scrubs at their factory that had been closed by the pandemic. Tracey, from Belper, Sue from Ripley and myself (all had been virtual friends once) picked component parts of the scrub tops and trousers, packed them and added labels, trouser tape and neck binding, ready to be put out to the scrubs teams.

The Darley Dale group, which included the Middleton ladies, made a lot of scrubs for Chesterfield Royal, Whitworth and Buxton hospitals and local GP surgeries. Across all groups, scrubs have been made for the following hospitals - Royal Derby and Burton, Ripley, Ilkeston, Babington, Belper, St. Oswald's Ashbourne and Derbyshire Community Midwives as well as for care/nursing homes, GPs and NHS dentists. A large number of scrubs, some made by the Middleton ladies, went to Barrow-in-Furness General hospital and New Cross hospital, Wolverhampton. These scrubs were delivered by volunteer motor-bikers who provided a valuable free service.

This 'journey' has been phenomenal. Many new friends have been made from a project that everyone thought would make just a few scrubs. In all, around 1,000 sets have been made by all those who have taken part. We're just waiting for the day when we can arrange a picnic so we can all meet each other in person.

So, thank you Middleton Scrub Hub - Pam Butler, Joan Cooper, Angie Corby, Brigit Edwards, Ann Oldak, Carole Sedgwick and Jennifer Turner - for your part in this great enterprise.

- Sandra Maycock, on behalf of Derbyshire Scrubs



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Middleton Parish Council Annual Report 2019-20

The following report was given to the first remote meeting of the Parish Council by Chairman Cllr Peter Slack.

"I would like to thank all Councillors for their work on behalf of Middleton over the last year. We welcome Cllr David Morris, who was co-opted in March. I would especially like to thank Cllr Olwen Wilson, who has recently stepped down from the Council, for her unstinting work to bring the Middleton Remembers project to fruition. This was recognised by the Derbyshire Association of Local Councils presenting Cllr Wilson with the "Councillor of the Year" award. Thanks are also due to our County Councillor, Irene Ratcliffe, our District Councillors, the Caretaker and the Parish Clerk.

It has been another eventful year in the life of the Parish Council which has seen the culmination of the Middleton Remembers project.

On Sunday 30th June 2019 Dedication of the Middleton Memorial took place on the Village Green. The service was led by Canon David Truby and the memorial was unveiled by Robert Shields, Chairman of Longcliffe Quarries. Four schoolchildren read out their poems inspired by WW1 workshops, also funded by the project. Other guests included Alan Woods DL, Cllrs Mike and Irene Ratcliffe and Neil Beards of Tarmac. There were approximately 150 members of the public in attendance.

The date chosen was the Sunday closest to the 100th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Versailles which formally ended World War One.

A book "Middleton Remembers" by Lucy Godfrey, commissioned by the Parish Council and funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, is available at £10 a copy or can be downloaded for free in pdf format from our website.

In recognition of her huge commitment, zest and energy in bringing the Middleton Remembers Project to fruition Cllr Olwen Wilson was presented with the DALC Councillor of the Year Award.

The Parish Council continues to take an active role in the community both within the village and beyond. It is represented on the Carsington Water Liaison Group, Cromford Quarry Liaison Committee, Middleton in Bloom and the Village Green Committee.

In 2019-20 we have given grant support to the Village Pump We continue to believe that it is an essential part of village life and something Middleton should be remain extremely proud of. Editions 424 onwards are available to download from the Parish Council website and there have been over one thousand downloads in the course of the year.

We have also given support to Middleton in Bloom with a grant of £500.

The Parish Council has been consulted on thirteen planning applications and two planning appeals.

We have continued to raise street scene issues with Derbyshire County Council. Cllr Irene Ratcliffe has funded a speed survey from her Leadership fund and met with senior officers to express our concerns.

For 2019-20 we have set a precept of £13,285, an increase of 3.75%.

HM Government restrictions in response to the Covid-19 pandemic has meant that the Council has been unable to physically meet since March.

In more normal times, the Council meets at the Village Hall at 6.45pm on the second Monday of the month and we thank the Village Hall Committee for its continued hospitality.

The aftermath of the pandemic will undoubtedly bring its own challenges and we look forward to a time when it will be safe to lift the current restrictions."

Middleton Community Primary – July School News

I don't think any of us will easily forget this year, and the challenges it has brought. Parents and staff have worked wonderfully together to support our children through this time. We've welcomed almost half of the children back to school, but have been acutely aware of the children still working at home. We are very relieved and happy that all children will be back at school in September; we want to get school back to a sense of normality and that can only start to happen if we have all the children back with us. We have missed them all so very much.

As I thought about our school news, I wanted to celebrate times before Lockdown. The school year has been as ever a very busy one, and I'd like our children, families and staff to remember all the lovely events and learning that this year has involved.

I hope you enjoy the pictures below, we very much want these special shared times back again next year.

Although we haven't been able to hold all our usual events, the Friends of Middleton have arranged some lovely experiences and 'treats' for our children – Christmas Fayre, Firework Event, Autumn and Spring Discos and special 'hoodies' for our Year 6 children who are leaving our school.

Our Year 6 children have had a very strange end to their time with us, but we have still been able to organise

some lovely end of the year treats for them. They had a wonderful cinema visit at The Northern Lights, a McDonalds picnic and water fight on the field! And a special 'clap out' out of school on their last day is planned. The children wanted to share with you a few of their memories of their time at Middleton

My favourite memory was when we went to Whitehall. I can't pick a day, because it was all so amazing! – Daniel
One memory that stands out is the Weird and Wonderful animal workshop. There were lots of animals and there was a snake that went around the whole carpet! Daina
When I first started, people warmly welcomed me. I felt like I was at home. – Jorja

My favourite memory is the day the trim trail arrived. When it was Falcons go, everybody rushed into a queue to get one of the first goes. Everyone waited patiently, but eager to get on! - Breidi

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank our hard working and dedicated staff, who have continued to work tirelessly for our children – I can't thank them enough. I'd also like to thank our wonderful children, families, Friends of Middleton, COGS and Governors for making our school the very special place it is. We have stood together and shown great strength during this time. I very much look forward to September and the start of what we hope is a very good year ahead.
Alison Dugdale



Residents' Garden Waste Service Questions Answered

With garden waste collections now operating to schedule across the Derbyshire Dales during the continuing coronavirus pandemic, local residents are being reminded there will be a charge for the service from April next year.

More than half of all UK councils now charge residents for garden waste collections, including 39 of the 50 councils most similar to Derbyshire Dales District Council.

It will cost a discounted £35 for Dales households that subscribe to the garden waste service before the end of January 2021, generating funds to offset the increased cost of the District Council's new waste and recycling contract, which starts next month.

The cost of the contract rises by £1-million a year after Dales residents made it clear they wanted the District Council to maintain current service levels, which are the best in Derbyshire.

It means fortnightly collections of dry recycling and residual household waste continue as the new contract kicks in, together with weekly food waste collections.

A cheaper deal could have been struck by making household waste collections less frequent - but in resident surveys local people rejected this idea.

Councillors voted by an overwhelming majority at a special council meeting at the end of last year for Serco to continue to deliver the waste and recycling contract for the district and also agreed to approve the new charge for collecting garden waste.

Subscriptions open from September this year and the cost will rise to £50 from February 2021 when the discount period ends. Free garden waste collections will continue for all 34,000 households across the Dales until April next year.

Ahead of the new garden waste service launch, the District Council has prepared a comprehensive list of frequently asked questions online at www.derbyshiredales.gov.uk/gardenwasteFAQs

A District Council spokesperson said: "It's important to stress this will be an opt-in service and charging for garden waste collections was a decision councillors took reluctantly, but we have to raise extra revenue to balance out the impact of the rising cost of the new waste and recycling contract.

"The reality is that we've had to set the garden waste charge, so the waste and recycling service overall is affordable to the Council Tax-payer.

Building History

BUILDING HISTORY - An introduction to researching a Derbyshire Building.

Comprehensive detailed "booklet" compiled by Derbyshire records office free to a good home. Downsizing and hoping to move soon! Angie Corby, ph: 01629 822892

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Cllr Dawn Greatorex (Chair)	01629 356 661
Cllr Peter Slack	01629 823 359
Cllr Olwen Wilson	01629 822 701
Cllr Glynis Spencer	
Cllr Tina Taylor	
Parish Clerk: John Rowe	07717 137526

www.middletonbywirskworth-pc.gov.uk

District Councillors

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Peter Slack 31 Chapel Lane, Middleton peter.slack@derbyshiredales.gov.uk	01629 823 359

County Councillors

Irene Ratcliffe 47 Yokecliffe Cres, Wirksworth irene.ratcliffe@derbyshiredales.gov.uk	01629 823 023
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Village Hall

For bookings e: middletonvh20@gmail.com or p:07434649572
Village Hall Website: www.middletonvh.org.uk

Post Office Opening Times

At the Nelson Arms. Tel 01629 733520 / 07770 662364
Monday 2pm-4:50pm
Wednesday 2pm-4:50pm
Thursday 9am-11:50pm

Parish Council Meetings

Ordinary meetings will be held at 6.30pm on the second Monday of each month (except August) 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

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