MIDDLETON MESSENGER

The Newsletter for Middleton on the Wolds

Issue No 63

SEPTEMBER 2024

NEXT COPY DATE

14th September

We were all very sorry to hear of the death of Geoff Wisher. He has given us over 60 interesting articles on local history since the first edition of The Messenger in January 2019. Our condolences go to his wife Pauline and daughter Annette. Annette has been helping Geoff with the typing recently as his health deteriorated and she will continue to send me some of his work which he had already prepared.

I have known Geoff since we moved into The Paddocks nearly 19 years ago and will miss his friendship.

Please send in your contributions by the end of the copy date. If I don't acknowledge them please get in touch to make sure they have arrived.

Thank you

Lyn

4 The Paddocks 219500 lyndennis456@gmail.com

If you have any ideas, comments or complaints (especially complaints) you want to share then send an email to middletonflyer@yahoo.com.

Remember, we can't respond unless we receive your message.

Prescription Collections

The Driffield Medical Centre have advised that prescriptions will no longer be available for collection from the doctor's surgery for delivery to Middleton post office for collection by residents .

We would like to thank all volunteers who for over twenty years have collected prescriptions each week for our community. In particular a big thank you to our post office for managing this service in the village.

EDITORIAL

I can't not start, this month, by talking about the riots of early August. Without going into the ins-and-outs of immigration, how can the kind of behaviour we saw on our screens be in any way acceptable in what is supposed to be a liberal, Western democracy? What part do shoplifting or looting have in (and I don't use this phrase accidentally) 'making Britain great again'?

Yes, there is net immigration into the UK and, yes, some of it is illegal, but is that a bad thing? Are we being 'swamped'? Is the NHS at breaking point because of the extra load? Most of all, are they taking all our jobs? I would suggest that the answers to these questions are:

- There are good and bad effects – there is some evidence of ghettoisation in immigrant communities, but without migrants from India and Nigeria the health and care sectors in this country would collapse;
- No, according to the Office for National Statistics net migration for the year ended June 2023 was 672,000; (https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity)
- Yes, but not because of immigration – the NHS isn't coping because of years of under-funding by consecutive governments of both colours, not because of more, allegedly, people using it. And I refer you to my first answer, above, if we can't recruit and keep UK qualified nurses and doctors, where are we to get them? and
- No. Legal migrants are allowed a visa purely because employers cannot fill vacancies from the national workforce. If people don't want to work, what are they supposed to do?

So why did so many people take to the streets, and why did their protests have to turn into violence, arson and theft? You can't tell me that nicking a tray of pies from Greggs is going to solve the problem. Or maybe you can; I'd be more than happy to debate it with you.

Still, if you're happy to use the drivel fed to you by unscrupulous politicians and sensationalist newspapers to justify setting fire to a hotel full of children, what need do you have of facts?

On a more local note, check out what the Green Group have been doing to create a Heritage Trail for the village. They have secured funding for the project but now need your help. They are looking for any memories of Middleton in years gone by, including anything about WW2 and the railway, and of your hopes for the future of the village.

If you have a contribution you can contact them on 07568 775987 or email karenkaye@gmail.com.

Cheers,

Mike

QUIZ PAGE

1 What does a Kleptomaniac compulsively do?

2 How many lines are there in a limerick?

3 In motoring what does MG stand for?

4 How many numbered compartments are there on a roulette wheel?

5 What was the name of Roy Rogers' horse?

6 What breakfast cereal was advertised as central heating for kids?

7 Which school did Billy Bunter attend?

8 Who assassinated John Lennon?

9 Who sang the theme for the Bond film From Russia with Love?

10 Who was the first queen of England?

Quiz set by Rowland Wooldridge

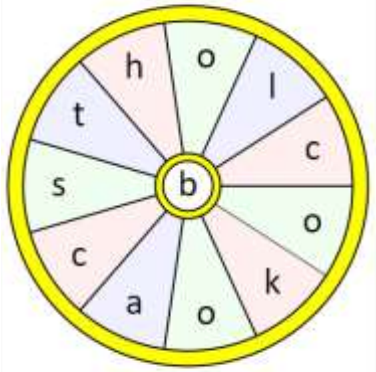
SUDOKU

		1				9	4	
4		7	8	3		2	1	
9		6	5			8		3
8			6					
				2		1	3	
					3	5		
5	7				2	4	8	
1	6			9			5	
			4	1				7

Medium 1

SEASONAL WORD WHEEL

Try to find the timely 3 words and then create as many words possible with the letters in the word wheel. You can only use each letter once and every word must include the letter in the centre of the wheel.



All answers on page 17

MIDDLETON VILLAGE CHARITY COFFEE MORNINGS

At The Village Hall Saturday 21st September
10.00am to 11.30am

In aid of

And

In aid of

SightSupport Hull & East Yorkshire CELEBRATING 160 YEARS

Hearing Dogs for Deaf People

Tea / Coffee & Toasted Teacakes £3.50
In addition there will be a Raffle

MIDDLETON VILLAGE LUNCH

At The Robin Hood
Monday September 9th
12.00pm

'The Village Lunches' take place on the second Monday of the month the following lunches being 14th October and 11th November.

Anyone wishing to join us for the first time please ring Lynn Wooldridge to book or leave a message. Any regular person unable to attend please ring to cancel in advance.

Mobile number: 07790 230174 (please note that old landline number 217457 is no longer available)

Village Hall

Village Wide Garage Sale

Saturday September 14th 2024

10-3pm

£2 donation to the village hall to appear on the map

Please contact Emily to book your place

07847101413

emily.headley@yahoo.co.uk

POSTER MAKER

Yorkshire Countrywomen

Thursday 19th September 7.30pm

in The Village Hall

Speaker: Marion Gamble

"Antiques & Vintage Quiz"

Non members welcome £5 admission

For further information contact Christine Johnson 01377 217374

Middleton on the Wolds Village Hall

Venue for

Common Ground

Wednesday 11th September – 7pm

Rambling and our rights of way. Join Mikron on a 'hill-arious' ramble through the history of land access in England.

From ze Norman Conquest to loitering in lockdown, via The Mass Trespass at Kinder Scout.

The Pendale and District Ramblers are looking forward to celebrating 'in stile' on their 50th anniversary walk, but the path has been blocked by the landowner. How will they find their way through? Their quest for freedom and fresh air won't be easy, as they navigate bulls, beavers, and wandering sheep. Grab your boots and waterproof for a meander with Mikron on a hike through history.

Tickets - £7 per person All tickets are non-refundable

To book the tickets through Bridlington Spa

https://www.bridspa.com/whats-on/events/?entry=13-CGMOTW24

Tea & Coffee will be available to buy on the night.

MIDDLETON ON THE WOLDS CE VC SCHOOL

Executive Headteacher: Mrs E Harros
Station Road, Middleton on the Wolds, Driffield YO25 9UQ
E-mail:middleton.primary@eastriding.gov.uk Tel: 01377 217323

Middleton Minis

Parent, Carer, Baby and Toddler Group
from 1:30 to 3:30pm
in the **school hall**
at **Middleton School**

Minis is changing slightly, we are running our toddler group now 1 afternoon each half term. The dates are:

1st October 2024
3rd December 2024
4th February 2025
25th March 2025
13th May 2025
1st July 2025

Each date will be themed such as Harvest, Christmas, Easter. Beverley Children's Centre will join us on these dates.

For further details please contact Mrs Johnson or Mrs Stone on 01377 217323
Come for the full 2 hours or drop in at any time to suit.

On-going Collections

On-going Collections – We collect used stamps and used batteries.

Middleton on the Wolds Nursery
At Middleton on the Wolds CE (VC) Primary School

Places are filling fast for September & January

- Providing education for 2, 3 and 4 year-olds Monday - Friday.
- We accept the Government's childcare vouchers for up to 30 hours of free provision for 3 year olds (conditions apply)
- Additional sessions can be purchased for £13.50 per session for 3 year olds and £15.75 for 2 year olds.
- Lunchtime sessions are £1.75 (free if children attend for the whole day) with the option to purchase a school meal for £2.60.
- Children are welcome in the term after their 3rd birthday for funded places.
- We also take children who have turned 2 for either paid or funded places.
- For further details, please contact: Sharon Stone or Rachel Johnson to arrange a visit and meet the staff.
- Email: middleton.primary@eastriding.gov.uk
- Tel: 01377 217323

School re-opens for the Autumn term on Tuesday 3rd September

JOIN US FOR OUR

Family Fun Day

SATURDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER

12.00 - 5PM

FREE ENTRY

BBQ
Bar
Saxophonist
Bouncy Castle
Face painting
Games
Raffle
Tombola
Car Boot

PITCHES TO BE BOOKED BEFORE THE DAY! £6

EMAIL: MOWSA@MAIL.COM
TEL: 07900 675441

MIDDLETON ON THE WOLDS
RECREATIONAL SPORTS FIELD,
YO25 9UA

LOCAL BIRDS & WILDLIFE

Pygmy Shrew

First of all, many thanks to Barry and Janny for taking over the page for me last month. I was very sorry to hear from them that since then their birdwatching has been disrupted in a very painful way:

"Janny had a bad fall on the steps outside our back door last weekend, and now she is nursing a fractured clavicle in her right shoulder and torn ligaments in her left leg. Which is temporarily stopping our bird watching any further than our back garden.

"We had a surprise visitor to our garden recently, a tree creeper – haven't seen one in the garden for several years (photo 1). At Bempton last time we were there we saw several dolphins but didn't manage to get any decent photos, they were far too far away. We did see a well-grown juvenile white throat (photo 2) with other members of its family, but the real rarity of the day was the Arctic skua (photo 3), do not see these every day!

"And lastly one from earlier on this year at Leighton Moss, the nuthatch which is one of our favourite birds (photo 4). We will try and get some more pictures for next month, but no guarantees at the moment."

Let's hope for a speedy recovery for Janny, I know everyone who reads this page always enjoys the wonderful photos you both send every month. Actually I have just realised that sounds very pragmatic and coldhearted, I am sure we all just hope you will soon be back to enjoying life to the full again.

I haven't been seeing much out in the countryside recently – it's been too hot for me, so I've been rather lazy – but in the garden I have been lucky enough to see red kites and buzzards overhead, and it's good to see the greenfinches and goldfinches on the sunflower seeds. Years ago I never saw goldfinches in the garden, so niger seeds were introduced as a sure-fire way of enticing them

in and it worked! Well, it worked in that they duly appeared, but I never saw them actually eat the niger seeds, they went straight for the sunflower seeds, while the niger seeds blew out of the special feeder and away. My guilty conscience about not clearing up a bit after 'no-mow May' (and June and July and quite a chunk of August now) was slightly assuaged by the appearance of a female bullfinch feeding on the seeds from a dock, and a few days later by a male bullfinch pecking at the seeds of unidentified weeds I had actually pulled up but left on the lawn to dry before putting in the brown bin.

I have also had a bit of mammal activity; a small brown grey squirrel has starting visiting; it carefully lifts the lid on the sunflower feeder and inserts itself into the top, tail hanging out, and nibbles away. No damage to the feeder, the lid usually slipped back into place – definitely a better-brought-up squirrel than the usual visitors! The exciting sighting though, was a pygmy shrew who emerged from under the comfrey on one side of the lawn. I have had shrews in the garden occasionally, and they are generally not too big, but this one was absolutely tiny, so I am confident of it being a pygmy one. Not that rare apparently, but not often seen. They only live for about a year, so I don't know if I will see it again, but that means the comfrey is yet another no -weed area for now. (Any excuse you might think!).

Please let me know of any interesting activity in your gardens, or out and about, and of course it's always lovely to get photos. Also if there are any wildlife queries I might be able to find answers to, please get in touch the usual way: lavenderbarbara97@gmail.com, or text 0777 192 7868.

Finally I would just like to say how sad I was to hear of the passing of Geoff Wisher; he will be very much missed, and the Messenger will not be the same without his history page.

Barbara

Reed Warbler

Lesser Whitethroat

CORRECTION

My apologies to Janny and Barry for mixing up the photos last month.

To clarify here again are their photos of a Reed Warbler and a lesser Whitethroat.

Lyn

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH

Services for September

Sunday 1st	10.30 am	Morning Prayers Richard Summers
Sunday 8th	10.30 am	Holy Communion Rev. Jane Anderson
		Followed by a Bring and Share Harvest Lunch
Sunday 15th	10.30 am	Holy Communion Rev. Canon Kate Goulder
Sunday 22nd	10.30 am	Morning Prayers Church Wardens
Sunday 29th	10.00 am	Benefice Service

THE WOLDS METHODIST CHURCH BAINTON

Services for September

Sunday 1st	10.30am	Harvest Festival Service at St Andrew's Church Bainton Followed by a Bring and Share Lunch
Sunday 8th	10.30am	Harvest Festival Service at the Wolds Methodist Church. Pastor John Gleaves. Followed by a Bring and Share Lunch
Sunday 15th	9.00am	Café style worship at the Wolds Methodist Church. Pastor John Gleaves.
Sunday 22th	10.30am	Harvest Festival Service at Wetwang Methodist Church. Rev Barnett
Sunday 29th	10.30am	Service at The Wolds Methodist Church. Mr Peter Rogers

This month's article contains some more of Pam Linford's recollections. To recap, Pam was born in 1946 and grew up in the village. Her childhood memories include seasonal festivities which would be common to many children with a rural upbringing and historic occasions.

SPECIAL OCCASIONS

CHILDREN'S ENTERTAINMENT - Christmas was a very happy time for children because there were quite a lot of parties:

Christmas Parties

School - Tea and games

Sunday School - Tea and games. Miss Parker gave a series of parties in her caravan at the bottom of her garden. As space was restricted Miss Parker gave a party for each class.

W.I. - Tea and games

Mrs Harland's - Tea, a few games and a film show (usually a short Laurel and Hardy, followed by a full-length film which seemed to be *Stagecoach* every time, but I don't think it can have been). After the film show Mrs Harland [The Harland family who people considered to be at the top of the village hierarchy lived at Parklands. Mrs Harland was from the Owbridge family who manufactured cough mixture] made her appearance in front of all the peasant children, and wandered amongst us smiling regally, but saying very little. Finally, Mrs Harland's cook, Olive, arrived with a large barrel of individually wrapped fudge bars which, I presume, the poor woman had been forced to make. Olive wore a black dress, white apron and some sort of white cloth tiara and duly handed out the fudge bars. We also received a small gift e.g. a jigsaw which had an Owbridge cough mixture bottle on the table in the sitting room where a party was taking place. I think most of the gifts probably came from her family's firm. The party was enjoyable, and it was kind of Mrs Harland to provide it, but I never felt any warmth coming from her. Before I left for this party my mother always told me that I must thank Mrs Harland personally. This instruction took the edge off the party somewhat as I was frightened of Mrs Harland because she was

the first person I had met who had blue hair. Therefore, I had to "screw my courage to the sticking point" in order to fulfil this task – it never occurred to me to lie to my mother!

FANCY DRESS PARTIES I can't remember who organised them, but we always enjoyed them.

ANNUAL VILLAGE TRIP TO SCARBOROUGH - There was a Children's Trip committee who held fund raising events throughout the year in order for this to take place. We all looked forward to this very much, and it was always a great day out for mothers and children (fathers were all at work). The day before the trip we all went to my Grandma's house to collect our three shillings spending money (a veritable fortune to a 50s child). Beforehand I always asked my Grandma if I could have the money in sixpences as it looked more. We travelled to Scarborough (with packed lunches) in a fleet of three or four coaches. A great day out.

ANNUAL SUNDAY SCHOOL TRIP TO BRIDLINGTON - We travelled by train, and Miss Parker provided the packed lunch which was very generous of her. I think, perhaps, the mothers brought food as well otherwise it would have been rather hard on Miss Parker. Again, another happy day out.

Travelling fairs sometimes came and set up where the turkey factory is.

There were garden parties at Parklands in the summer.

THE CORONATION – When the King died Middleton school sent a letter of condolence to Buckingham Palace. A short while after Mr Hogarth brought a black edged envelope into assembly, opened it, and read the contents. It was a letter of thanks from the Palace and seemed quite amazing to all of us. We were allowed to look at the letter, but I don't remember touching it.

We, like many families, didn't have a television, and so we went to watch the Coronation along with a number of other families at Mrs Walker's house. I only remember the mothers and children – all the men at work, I suppose. My father had told me to watch the coronation very carefully because there would not be another one for a long time. I expected it to be totally absorbing, but I found it very tedious, and all the children went out to play after a while. We were called in for the crowning which I did enjoy as there

was far more going on.

I remember receiving lots of Coronation souvenirs – beakers, dolls etc., but I can't find any of them now. There was a Coronation party in the village hall, and I wore a white dress with very tiny red and blue dots!

I don't remember the pond reaching the pavement, but I do remember what is now the Green being covered in cindery material. I also remember going to a bonfire whilst the cindery material was there. It was not until Coronation Year that the Green was grassed over, a central circular garden was planted as were trees and shrubs around the perimeter. Three seats were put in place each with a brass EIIR in the middle of the backrests. A fourth seat was positioned opposite the Green where there is still a seat. People sat on the seats more than they do today – in the summer the seats were always full of elderly men chatting and putting the world to rights.

Geoff Wisher

Geoff Wisher passed away on 7th August 2024 aged 85.

To his family he was a loving husband and father. To Middleton-on-the-Wolds he was a long-time resident, Parish Councillor and keen local historian.

MOWSA

Thanks

Karina, Tanya and families would like to thank everyone who supported our recent fund raising event in the village hall. Thanks to everyone who donated raffle and tombola prizes, bought tickets, baked, made donations, helped on the day and to everyone who came to support us on the day.

We made a massive £725 which has been donated to Action for Pulmonary Fibrosis in memory of Tony Smethurst.

Thanks again!

MIDDLETON BOOK GROUP

August Meeting

The Whalebone Theatre Joanna Quinn

A family story set in a large country house just before the second world war. The three children really bring up themselves in this dysfunctional family but seem none the worse for it. A whale is washed up on their beach and Christabel eventually uses it as a setting for a theatre that they all take part in. When WW11 comes they all play their part in their own way. Christa and Digby do under cover work in France. After the war Christa puts on a play to celebrate. To find out what happens to Flossie and Digby read it for yourselves !

Wait For Me Santa Montefiore

Based on a true story it starts in Cornwall in 1944 and is about families enjoying each others company through the summer with outings and tennis parties. World War 11 breaks out and one of the main characters, Rupert Dash is killed. His wife will not accept that she will not see him again. It then switches to London 1988 and Max who is having nightmares about being in a battle in World War 11. He does a lot of research and starts to believe he was Rupert Dash in a previous life. He contacts Rupert's wife who lives in Australia. Do read this book and it is for you to decide if it is truth or fiction.

Judy

New members are always welcome to our friendly and informal meetings where we discuss the chosen books, plus others we are reading, while enjoying coffee, cake and a chat. Meetings are usually on the second Tuesday morning in the month at the home of one of the members or in a village hall. Please get in touch to check.

Lyn 219500 or lyndennis456@gmail.com

The next books for discussion are:

"The Muse" by Jessie Burton

"Theatre of Marvells" by Lianne Dillsworth

THE GREEN GROUP

Can you help our exciting new project?

We have secured the finances to develop a Heritage Trail around the village, but now we need your help.

We are interested in collecting memories and information about the following:-

Life in Middleton in the past: Does anyone remember any old customs? What work did people do? Can anyone recall a connection to Middleton Hall?

Wartime in Middleton: How did the war affect daily life? Were there any dances? Can anyone remember the 'English Resistance' when the Auxiliary Units HQ was here?

The Railway in Middleton. Did you know we had a station? Do you know anyone who remembers boarding a train or watching the trains pass by?

Hopes for the future. How long have you lived here and how would you like the village to change? Do you know about the orchard we are working on?

Do you know anyone we can talk to about any of the above? Maybe someone's parents or grandparents told stories..

Please contact us on 07568 775987
Or send an email karenkaye1920@gmail.com

QUIZ PAGE ANSWERS

Wordwheel

back to school

8	1	3	6	5	4	7	2	9
6	4	5	9	2	7	1	3	8
7	9	2	1	8	3	5	6	4
5	7	9	3	6	2	4	8	1
1	6	4	7	9	8	3	5	2
2	3	8	4	1	5	6	9	7
9	2	6	5	4	1	8	7	3
4	5	7	8	3	9	2	1	6
3	8	1	2	7	6	9	4	5

Sudoku Puzzle 1 Solution

1 Steal things
2 Five
3 Morris Garages
4 37 (0-36)
5 Trigger
6 Ready Brek
7 Greyfriars
8 Mark Chapman
9 Matt Monroe
10 Mary (1553-1558)

ADVERTISING COSTS for the Messenger

Rates	Month	Year
Whole Page	£25	£150
1/2 Page	£15	£100
1/3 Page	£10	£60

Private 1/4 page private advertisement - £5

Contact: Mike 07713 620912, middletonflyer@yahoo.com

Advertisement

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The King and Guy can help!

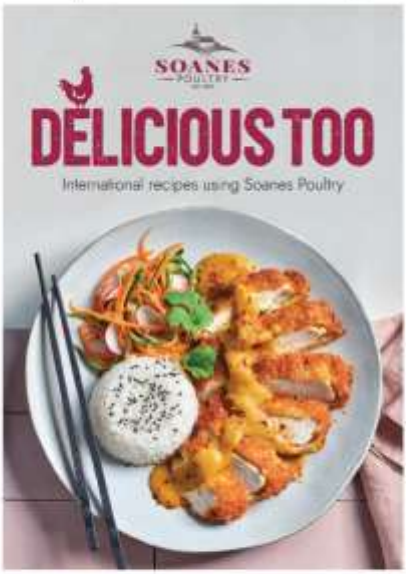
We are based in Middleton-on-the-Wolds and have 40 years combined experience in property renovation.

For a friendly, no obligation chat please give us a call or find us on Facebook, we are always happy to help.

Nik **KING**: 07887581985
GUY Oldfield: 07979432751

SOANES
POULTRY
EST. 1947

Pick up our new recipe book from the Post Office



Next time you visit the village Post Office, pick up a copy of our new, free recipe booklet. Scan the code with your phone for more recipes using our delicious chicken

SOANES
POULTRY
EST. 1947

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01377 253130

gwwetwang@gmail.com

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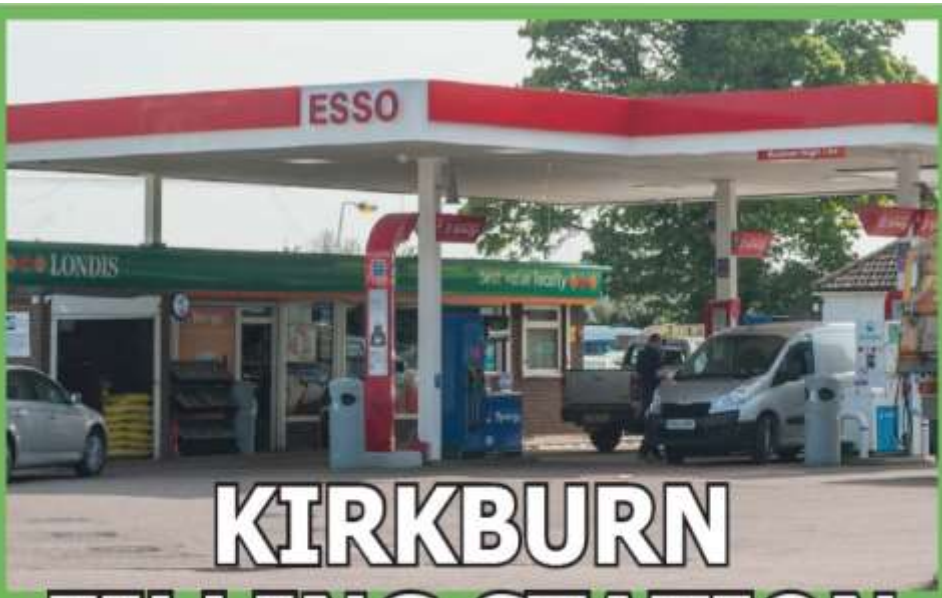

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VAST SELECTION OF QUALITY WINES

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BAFTS

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One of the success stories in Nepal of the past few years has been the revival of the Lokta paper making industry, which had almost died out due to cheap paper imports from India. Lokta paper is a traditional hand made paper made from the fibrous inner bark of the indigenous evergreen Lokta plant that grows at altitudes between 6500 and 9500 feet. The Lokta plant is harvested by cutting it at about a foot off the ground and it then regrows in 3 to 4 years. The bark is stripped from the plants and is then boiled for about 8 hours before being chopped and pulped into a paste which is then mixed with water and spread in a wood and metal frame and left to dry in the sun. Often leaves and petals from other plants are added to produce some wonderfully decorative papers.

Lokta paper is a high-quality paper famed for its strength, resistance to mould and insect damage, its luxurious texture and its longevity. It is used for Buddhist religious texts, some of which still survive after 1000 years. It is also used for all Nepalese government documents and ID cards. These days Lokta paper is often used as a decorative paper in books, wallpapers, paper lamps and as beautiful wrapping paper.

As Lokta paper production is a small-scale industry in many of the more rural and remote parts of Nepal it does ensure economic sustainability for many rural Nepalese women.

BAFTS

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REGULAR GROUP ACTIVITIES

Weekly Groups

Monday	Pilates	5.00-6.00pm	Village Hall
Wednesday	Line Dancing	7.30-9.00pm	Village Hall
Thursday	Middleton Movers	2.00-3.30pm	Village Hall

September

2	Parish Council	7.00pm	Village Hall
9	Village Lunch	12.00pm	Robin Hood
??	Village Hall Comm	2.30pm	Village Hall
10	Book Group	10.30am	Kirkburn
19	YCA	7.30pm	Village Hall
21	Charity Coffee Morning	10.00am	Village Hall
29	Litter Picking	10.00am	Lime View

LOCAL CONTACTS

Bell Ringing	Chris Atkin	217285
Book Group	Lyn Dennis	219500
Bowls Club	Rob Bradley	217435
Country Women's Association	Christine Johnson	217374
First Responders	Chris Brent	219469
Line Dancing	Pat Pottage	217516
Middleton Messenger	Mike Kelly	07713 620912
	Lyn Dennis	219500
Middleton Movers	Lyn Dennis	219500
Middleton Green Group	Liz Naylor	07787 483498
Middleton Womblers	Andrew Naylor	07825 882972
Parish Clerk	Catherine Simpson	motwpc@outlook.com
Pilates	Ian Stephenson	07973 755717
Recreation Club	Dave Newlove	07901 833784
St Andrew's Church	Rev Jane Anderson	219471
St Andrew's Church Wardens	Chris Brent	07766 162743
	Lesley Kelly	07907 451046
Village Hall	Sharon Roe	07840 150296