MIDDLETON MESSENGER

The Newsletter for Middleton on the Wolds Issue No 68



MARCH 2025



Please submit all articles and adverts to Elizabeth Naylor before the next copy date, for inclusion in the next issue.

middletonmessenger@yahoo.com

Cover Photo

Thank you to Liz for capturing the snowdrops along Warter Road.



Have you captured a great image of the village? Drop it to us in an email for consideration for the cover!

Middleton on the Wolds Coffee Morning

The Village Hall—Saturday 15th March 2025

10.00am to 11.30am

'Hull Hospitals Baby Loss Support'



Tea/ Coffee and toasted teacakes or biscuits £3.50

In addition, there will be a raffle



Editorial

My last editorial has caused a bit of a stir and a couple of issues have emerged. Firstly, that I was being 'too political' — whatever that means; and secondly, that although people have complained about my editorial, they haven't complained to me.

I have said several times in the past that responsibility for the content of the Messenger rests with the editorial team, and that responsibility for the editorial is mine alone. The parish council has no say in what appears in the magazine, other than the parish council section, of course. So, if you have any problems with the Messenger, you should talk to one of the team or, at least, send us an email.

So that's the process bit out of the way, what I find difficult to get my head round is why people should want to complain about something they've read. I understand that people might not agree with me, that they might have a different take on a subject. Well, I've had my say; if you disagree with me, you can always put forward your own argument. Or does having a different point of view mean that I shouldn't express it?

To sum up, if you have anything to say about what you read in the Messenger, say it to someone who produces the Messenger. Most of what we publish gives information about what is happening in Middleton, the only potentially controversial bit is, of course, my editorial. If you disagree with it, write in and we will print your argument, we will even withhold your name, if you think it necessary. However, we will not print anything submitted anonymously.

This is your magazine; if there is anything you want to share with the village, let us know by email at middletonmessenger@yahoo.com

- Mike

If you have any ideas, comments or complaints (especially complaints) you want to share then please email:

middletonmessenger@yahoo.com

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



Thanks to everyone who supported the race night! We made a tremendous £2200. We would like Mike and the Robin Hood for hosting a great evening!

Our indoor nets start on March 2nd for 5 Sundays at Driffield Leisure Centre. We are always looking for new faces. Please contact Harry on 07716682884 for more details!

- MOTW and North Dalton Cricket Club



Email

Beverley Road Footpath: Some twelve years ago two sinks were installed on Beverley Road, Middleton on the Wolds to

alleviate the problem of flooding on Beverley Road and the associated footpath. The footpath continues to flood with water and soil run off leaving the path hazardous to use when wet.

Several people have been injured in recent years, yet East Riding Highway Department does not consider that there is a problem. However, Street Scene Hub have given this footpath a reference number, presumably to collate accidents here.

I urge anyone who uses the footpath on Beverley Road and have slipped or fallen to contact the Clerk to the Parish Council and register their complaint. In this way we may eventually influence East Riding Highway department to act.

- Chris Atkin

Thanks for this, Chris. The state of the footpath on Beverley Road has been unacceptable for years and, as we discussed at the last meeting, the parish council has been in frequent contact with East Riding of Yorkshire Council (ERYC) to try to find a permanent solution. This has led to some work by them which, unfortunately, ended up being more cosmetic than practical, in

the longer term. Any way that pressure can be brought on the county council to effectively resolve the problem and you are right to encourage anyone affected to write a complaint. However, it would be less effective to send these to the parish clerk than to send them directly to the county council. As we have seen in past dealings with ERYC, if 10 individuals complain directly to the county council, they will record 10 complaints. On the other hand, if those complaints are sent to the parish council to be forwarded en bloc, ERYC will only record one complaint. Therefore, if anyone would like to comment on the condition of the Beverley Road footpath, please write to ERYC directly, using the link below.

- Mike Kelly, Chair MOTW Parish Council

https://www.eastriding.gov.uk/environment/roads-streets-traffic-and-parking/roads-pavements-and-traffic/drainage-and-flooding/

Middleton Book Group



The next meeting is on Tuesday 11th March 2.00pm in St Andrew's Close.

We will be discussing:

Wintering by Katherine May & The New Couple by Alison James

For more information contact: Lyn 219500 or lyndennis456@gmail.com

QUIZ

- 1 What is the largest county in the UK?
- 2 Who invented concrete?
- 3 What colour is a Maltese dog?
- 4 Who was the author of Dracula?
- 5 What was the name of the ship found floating without a crew?
- 6 What is loam?
- 7 Which country did Volvo originally come from?
- 8 Hue Imperial City is located in which country?
- 9 What is the name of the current Pope?
- 10 Does it ever snow in the Sahara?

Quiz set by Rowland Wooldridge

SUDOKU

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All answers on page 18



Burn's Night

A big thank-you to all who supported the Burns night in the village hall.

A very enjoyable evening was held with the ceremony of the address of the haggis with poems, traditional Scottish fayre and live music and dancing. A grand total of £587.91 was raised for Middleton church maintenance.









Have children under 5? Did you know they can receive a FREE book each month, through the post, thanks to EYRC's partnership with Dolly Parton's Imagination Library?

https://imaginationlibrary.com/uk/affiliate/EASTRIDING/

Local Birds & Wildlife

The snowdrops are out, the birds are starting to sing at about 7am. (It will be earlier by the time you read this!) and the shelves of Easter eggs in the shops feel just slightly more forgivable than they were just after Christmas.

With spring on the horizon, I have been getting excited about getting more plants in my new pond, and perhaps even attracting dragonflies to lay their eggs there. Probably no frogspawn this year, though I did see one frog once, but "build it and they will come" as wildlife campaigners say. I bought in several types of water snails last year, and they seemed to be increasing in numbers, so all good up until yesterday, when a pair of mallards arrived. Now, many years ago, with our old pond, a pair turned up and my husband and I were very excited; we kept back from the windows and did nothing to disturb them: "Perhaps if they like it here, they might stay!" "We might get ducklings!" but when we next ventured up the garden all our illusions were shattered — the pond was just a muddy mess, all fish, snails and plants gobbled up (we had quite a lot of fish then). So, this year I am less starryeyed and sure enough the pond had been trashed by the time I checked.

So, this is a bit of a dilemma: I feel bad about not welcoming in wildlife, but it feels like the equivalent of establishing a deer park and then introducing a grey wolf rewilding scheme (or that's how it must have felt to the snails).

Anyway, Barry and Janny have been having happier times:



"The last fortnight has been fairly busy for us at Tophill Low. This month all our pictures are from there. It's amazing how many ducks and waterfowl are there on just one reserve.

Just lately every time we have been there, we have seen at least two foxes (photo 1) and some days we have seen up to eight roe deer comprising two

different families (photo 2). When walking down one of the paths we came across three tree creepers in one tree (photo 3), don't very often see this but most welcome. It was great to see the not so common ducks. Female scaup (photo 4), also a male scaub (photo 5) and a pair of redcrested pochard (photo 6) and lastly the smallest member of the sawbill family, male and female smew (photo 7).



More sea birds are coming back to the cliffs at Bempton; numbers are swelling every week. The dolphins have been showing really well this week almost every day. Our friends have got some great pictures of peregrines in action hunting the cliffs. Won't be long before the puffins arrive!"

It's lovely having Barry and Janny out in the field hunting out and photographing the wildlife, I should have said before how much I appreciate them!

Finally, several people have mentioned seeing white pheasants around the village and particularly on The Paddocks. There are definitely two up there, but not a pair; it required detective work to establish that they have been seen at the same time in different gardens. Apparently, they are bred intentionally and used as 'marker' birds to make the flocks of pheasants easier to spot (I wonder if the gamekeepers use drones?) and according to the internet anyone killing one on a shoot has to pay a fine, which some shoots use as a charity fund-raiser. I would love to hear more about this, if any gamekeepers would like to get in touch! Incidentally these are not albino birds – if you see one, gaze into its eyes and if they are not pink then it is a commercially bred one.

Well, that's it for this month, do get in touch (even if you are not a gamekeeper) with anything interesting you have come across.

Barbara 0777 192 7868 or lavenderbarbara97@gmail.com

St Andrew's Church

Services for March

Sun 2nd	10.30am	Morning Prayers	Richard Summers			
Sun 9th	10.30am	Holy Communion	Rev. Jane Anderson			
Sun 16th	10.30am	Holy Communion	Rev. Canon Kate Goulder			
Sun 23rd	10am	Holy Communion at St Mary, Kirkburn or Morning Prayer at Kilnwick				
Sun 30th	10.30am	Benefice Service - All Saints, North Dalton				

The Wolds Methodist Church, Bainton

Services for March

Sun 2nd	10.30am	United in Bainton Parish church		
Sun 9th	09:00am	Breakfast Service	Hector Robinson	
Sun 16th	10.30am	Service held at Wetwang Chapel	John Gleaves	
Sun 23rd	10.30am	Service at the Wolds	John Gleaves	
Sun 30th	10.30am	Service at the Wolds	Rev. Bill Anderson	

WEDNESDAY 5th MARCH

The Wolds Methodist Church, Bainton

Ash Wednesday Service

All Welcome

St Andrew's Church Middleton on the Wolds



Invite you to come along for Coffee & Cake



On Easter Bank Holiday Monday (21st April)

10.30am - 12 noon

To see the church decorated with beautiful flowers for our Easter Celebrations



Village Hall

Are delighted to welcome back



Presenting 'That'll Learn em!'



Saturday 15th March

Doors open 7pm for 7.30 start

£8 a Ticket available from

Middleton Post Office

Email motw.villagehall@gmail.com

Text 07840150296

Bring Your own food and drink and enjoy trying to work out "Who dunnit" Charity Number 1085309

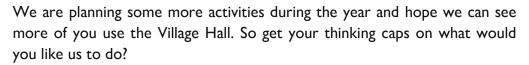
Village Hall

CAN YOU SOLVE THE MURDER?

Come along and try on the 15th March.

Tickets available:

- at the Post Office,
- on Thursday afternoon 2pm 3.30pm in the Village Hall
- at the Charity Coffee Morning on the 15th
- or email <u>motw.villagehall@gmail.com</u>



- Marie Ley

Charity Number 1085309

Yorkshire Countrywomen



Thursday 20th March 7.30pm in the Village Hall "The Cone Exchange"

Chris Powell alias Captain Rummage



"Waste not, want not"
...precycle, recycle, upcycle, reuse, donate, swap...
The Cone Exchange is the flagship community project
of Bettys and Taylors of Harrogate.

Non members welcome £5 admission

For further information contact Christine Johnson 01377 217374

What's on in Middleton on the Wolds March 2025

1	
2	Morning Prayers with Richard Summers 10.30am St Andrew's Church
3	Pilates 5pm Village Hall Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm Village Hall
4	Tarish Council recently (7.50pm) Timage Flam
5	Line Dancing 7.30pm Village Hall
6	Middleton Movers 2pm Village Hall
7	
8	
9	Holy Communion with Rev. Jane Anderson 10.30am St Andrew's Church
10	Village Lunch 12pm The Robin Hood Pilates 5pm Village Hall Village Hall Committee Meeting 7pm Village Hall
11	Middleton Book Group 2pm St Andrew's Close
12	Line Dancing 7.30pm Village Hall
13	Middleton Movers 2pm Village Hall
14	Middleton Messenger Copy Date for April issue
15	Charity Coffee Morning 10am - 11.30am Village Hall Murder Mystery 'The Deadly Dozen' 7pm Village Hall

16	Holy Communion with Rev. Canon Kate Goulder Anderson 10.30am St Andrew's Church
17	Pilates 5pm Village Hall
18	
19	Line Dancing 7.30pm Village Hall
20	Middleton Movers 2pm Village Hall YCA speaker 'The Cone Exchange' 7.30pm Village Hall
21	
22	
23	Middleton Womblers 10am Lime View, Station Road
24	Pilates 5pm Village Hall
25	Parent, Carer, Baby and Toddler Group 1.30 to 3.30pm Middleton School
26	Mobile Library 3.35pm to 4.15pm near the school, Station Road. Line Dancing 7.30pm Village Hall
27	Middleton Movers 2pm Village Hall
28	
29	
30	
31	Pilates 5pm Village Hall

Make a Difference in Your Community Become a Community Speed Watch Volunteer!

Do you care about the safety of children and your community?

We are looking for enthusiastic volunteers to join our Community Speed Watch team and help make our roads safer, especially for children and the vulnerable.

What will you be doing?

You will be trained in using a speed detection device to monitor traffic on Station Road near our school, on Front Street and on Church Hill Road.

You would work alongside other volunteers in short shifts to record the details of vehicles exceeding a set speed.

This data is then passed on to the police who will take appropriate action, such as sending warning letters to drivers.

Why should you join?

Play a vital role in keeping your community safe, especially children walking to and from school.

Make a positive impact on your neighbourhood by deterring speeding motorists.

Gain valuable experience and contribute to a worthwhile cause.

Meet new people and be part of a supportive team.

Requirements:

Must be 18 years or older.

Good observation skills and attention to detail.

Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.

Team player with a positive and enthusiastic attitude.

If you are interested in making a difference and becoming a Community Speed Watch volunteer, please contact Peter Roe at **peter.roe.motwpc@gmail.com**

MIDDLETON VILLAGE LUNCH

At The Robin Hood March 10th - 12.00pm

The next 'Village Lunch' will take place on Monday 10th February 2025.

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.

Phone: 07790 230174

MIDDLETON-on-the-WOLDS PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL ELECTORAL ROLL

Every five years, by law, the Parochial Church Council (PCC) have to prepare a new Electoral Roll Register. (This also includes those already on the Electoral Roll.) Therefore, if anyone is interested in joining/rejoining the PCC Electoral Roll, the necessary application form can be obtained from Margaret J Woolston Electoral Roll Officer, by no later than Friday $21^{\rm st}$ March 2025.

Address: 25 Greenfield Road

Middleton-on-the-Wolds

Driffield

East Yorkshire

YO25 9UL

Telephone: 01377 217699 / 07969 094116

Email Address: tmwoolston74@gmail.com



Come along to the Coffee Morning on the 15th March in the village hall to see a heritage display and chat to the Green Group volunteers to learn more about the trail.

QUIZ PAGE ANSWERS

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History on your Doorstep

This is just a taster of things to come. As reported last month – Pauline and Annette Wisher have been invaluable in letting us use Geoff's work. Notwithstanding his wonderful words, we would also like personal memories if you have any stories and photographs that you would like to share, please contact Elizabeth (07787 483498) or Karen (07568 775987).



The pond originally reached the roadside and in 1953 the side near the road was grassed over and three seats provided.



The old school in Front Street (now dwellings), was built in 1872 and closed in 1968 when the new school on Station Road opened.





The village had a couple of windmills – if you can remember please let us know where in the village they were located.



The Robin Hood pub's car park is the site of an ancient Manor House Farm.









MIDDLETON ON THE WOLDS PRIMARY SCHOOL PRESENTS





WEDNESDAY 2ND APRIL 2025 DOORS OPEN 6PM EYES DOWN 6.30PM PROMPT

TEA, COFFEE, CAKES AVAILABLE PLUS RAFFLE



6 BOOKS £10 3 BOOKS £5

INCLUDES FLYER

TO BOOK, CONTACT: RACHEL BRENT: 07900 675441 KARINA TAYLOR: 07860 235894









Executive Headteacher: Mrs E Harros

Station Road, Middleton on the Wolds, Driffield Y025 9UQ E-mail:middleton.primary@eastriding.gov.uk Tel: 01377 217323

March 2025

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:

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.

> MOWSA Easter Bingo – 2nd April at Middleton School 6.30pm-8.00pm.

On-going Collections

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

If you have a child starting school September 2025, please do not hesitate the school office to arrange a visit to look round and meet the staff.

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

From September 2025 children who turn 2 during the Summer Term will be entitled to 15 hours of nursery funding.

(If both parents meet the criteria, you may be entitled to an additional 15 hours a week.)

- Places are filling fast for Summer Term and September 2025
- We accept the Government's childcare vouchers for up to 30 hours of free provision for 2- & 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 £2.65.
- Children are welcome in the term after their 2nd birthday for 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

ADVERTISING COSTS for the Messenger

Rates	Month	Year
Whole Page	£25	£150
1/2 Page	£15	£100
1/3 Page	£10	£60
Back cover (1/2)	£20	£120

Contact: Mike 07713 620912, middletonmessenger@yahoo.com

Advertisement

Private Tutoring

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Over 10 years teaching experience ranging from EYFS to year 6.

Support with KS1 and KS2 SATS preparation or any area of the primary national curriculum.

KS3 students welcome for consolidation work.

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Is your kitchen looking tired and in need of a make over?

Is your dated bathroom no longer a place of relaxation?

Is your 'To do' list just getting longer?

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



New Kitchens

New Bathrooms

General Maintenance

Decorating

All home improvements

Established links with all trades





Welcome to the team, Stania



We're very pleased to welcome Stania to both our team and our village. Some of you will have already met Stania, as she has wasted no time getting involved in village activities. You may have already tasted her fantastic baking too!

When she's not working, Indian national-level handball and international-level ultimate frisbee athlete Stania enjoys keeping fit, cooking and baking.

Stania has relocated from Manchester to take up the new role of Operations Quality Management and ETP (Effluent Treatment Plant) Technician, where she will assume responsibility for production specifications, label control, ETP testing and staff induction management.

Stania said: "My university studies have included an MSc in Food Science and Innovation and an MTech in Chemical Engineering so I'm looking forward to applying my knowledge in an operational setting." MD Ben Lee said: "In the last few years, we have invested millions of pounds to produce award-winning chicken, but we need good people to continue to grow. I'm delighted to welcome Stania to the team."



Scan the code to read more about the Soanes Poultry and the Clive Soanes Broilers teams.



G Williamson Garage

We carry out all aspects of mechanical work to all makes and models of cars and vans. Ranging from class 4 and 7 MOT's (up to 3.5 tons) to fitting new batteries.

Remapping available most vehicles with all mechanical work being carried out at extremely competitive rates.

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www.gwilliamson.co.uk

gwilliamsonltd@hotmail.co.uk

Williamsons At Brooklands

As an expansion of G Williamson Garage, Driffield, we have opened a car showroom with a wide range of used cars and vans for sale with finance options now available. All vehicles are sold with a 12 months MOT and service.



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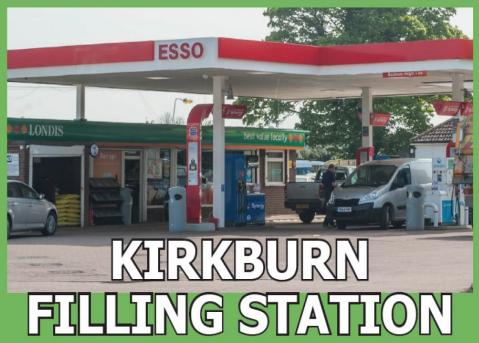
01377 253130

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www.williamsonsatbrooklands.com



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The Maha Kumbh Mela, one of the world's largest spiritual gatherings has been running from January 13th and will end on February 26th. This particular variety of Mela apparently happens once every 144 years due to a rare celestial alignment. It is deeply rooted in Hindu mythology where drops of the 'divine nectar of immortality' fell at sacred locations. One of these locations is the confluence of the Ganga, Yamuna, and the mythical Saraswati rivers. Ritual bathing in the holy rivers is believed to



cleanse sins and bring spiritual merit. The event also serves as a platform for cultural and philosophical exchange, attracting sages, scholars, and pilgrims from around the world. So far, some 500 million devotees have taken part. That's a lot of sins!



Shree Panchami, a festival dedicated to Goddess Saraswati, the deity of knowledge and creativity, was recently celebrated across Nepal. Devotees believe that worshipping Goddess Saraswati on this day enhances wisdom and intellect. Temples dedicated to Saraswati saw large crowds, especially students. Many parents introduce their children to writing as part of the 'akshararambha' tradition, a ritual in which children are introduced to writing for the first time, which is thought to

ensure educational success. The day is also considered the beginning of spring with longer days and warmer weather. Beats bathing in a river with 500 million other sinners.

Kathmandu has recently acquired some testing machines and is now conducting emissions tests on vehicles in the city. Officials say that of the around 1,050 diesel vehicles tested, including public buses, school buses, microbuses, pick-up trucks and trucks, nearly 80 percent failed emission tests. Similarly, 30 percent failed emission tests. Similarly, 30 percent government cars) among the around 150 tested, failed emission tests. Traffic police have been imposing fines on failing



vehicles and there is a proposal to ban all vehicles over 20 years old. Kathmandu can be extremely polluted and any move to clean up the air can only be a good thing.



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Low-cost, local advertising - 500 monthly copies including every home in Middleton on the Wolds.

LOCAL CONTACTS

Bell Ringing Chris Atkin 217285 Book Group Lyn Dennis 219500 **Bowls Club** Rob Bradley 217435 Country Women's Association 217374 Christine Johnson 219469 First Responders Chris Brent Line Dancing Pat Pottage 217516

Middleton Messenger Mike Kelly 07713 620912

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