

MIDDLETON MESSENGER

The Newsletter for Middleton on the Wolds

Issue No 79



MARCH 2026



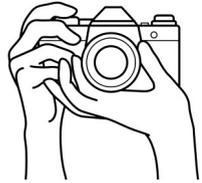
Please submit all articles and adverts or, if you have any comments or complaints (especially complaints!) you would like to share, email them to Mike Kelly, before the next copy date, for inclusion in the next issue.



Cover Photo

Many thanks to Pete Fairbairn for this month's cover photo.

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



Thank you

from Karina and Tanya to everyone who helped and supported the fundraiser in aid of Action for Pulmonary Fibrosis before Christmas which raised over £550, in memory of Tony Smethurst

. WINNER OF THE CHRISTMAS HAMPER

Congratulations to Mrs Christine Brent who won the Christmas Hamper competition which was in the Post Office throughout December. The winning square being number 9.

Many thanks to all who took part, for which the sum of £65 was raised for St Andrew's Church Tower Restoration

And this from Chris Brent:

Coming 11 April
In church

FABBA LIVE
Abba tribute duo

Interested ? Contact Chris on 07766162743
Further details and tickets available soon

Editorial



This month, I was going to talk about a government and Prime Minister under pressure. Headline shouting about pubs closing, migration soaring, budget deficits and cancelled elections. Not to mention Peter Mandelson. Well, at least we got our elections back but all of the above paled into insignificance this morning when the news broke of the arrest of Andrew Moutbatten-Windsor on suspicion of misconduct in public office.

This allegation has emerged from the fallout from the release of the Epstein files and, it might be said, possibly the least damaging of the former Prince's appearance in those files, although it may prove more difficult to defend. Andrew Mountbatten-Windsor has consistently denied any wrongdoing in his relationship with Epstein.

Whatever the outcome, this is a huge moment in the relationship between the royal family and the rest of British society. The brother of the monarch has been suspected of illegal activity and, and this is the important part, has been arrested on that suspicion.

Now, I'm not a monarchist, but neither am I a rabid republican. The monarchy is a fundamental element of the constitution of the United Kingdom and as Head of State, forms part of the checks and balances on the government. The alternative would be an elected president, that is to say another career politician. Look around the world at current presidents; what would you prefer?

On a lighter note, haven't the Winter Olympics been fun? It has, of course, helped that we are almost the same time zone, which makes following them much more convenient but the television coverage, this time has seemed to be much more varied. The BBC's coverage has been refreshingly clear, even though very relaxed. And the experts have been able, for once, to explain clearly and simply just what is going on in everything from Big Air snowboarding to the double luge (which must, by the way, lead to the best of friendships – or make the worst of enemies). I've particularly enjoyed Chemmy Acott's knowledge and enthusiasm – I will never forget 'knuckles to buckles'. But the winners for me have been Ed Leigh and Tim Worwood commentating on the freestyle skiing and snowboarding. Total madness!

Cheers,

Mike

QUIZ

- 1 Where is England's oldest seaside resort?
- 2 Abba Voyage is held where?
- 3 In what year was the first human space flight?
- 4 What sub species of tiger is native to Nepal?
- 5 How many US Presidents have resigned?
- 6 Where will you find The Laxy Wheel?
- 7 How many Knights were at the round table?
- 8 In snooker how many points is the pink ball worth?
- 9 Which group sang 'Every Little Thing She Does Is
- 10 In The Bible how many Gospels are there?

SUDOKU

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QUIZ		7			2	8	9	
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	5				9		8	3
	8			2			7	

Middleton Book Group



The next meeting is on Tuesday 10th March 2.00pm
in St Andrew's Close

Poetry & Prose Month

Bring along pieces that have given you pleasure at any time in your life

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



Our Heritage - Archaeology Before Building: Unearthing Middleton's Hidden Past

Before the foundations of the new housing development in Middleton on the Wolds are laid, the land is receiving a different kind of attention. During January and early February 2026, a team of archaeologists led by Kylie have carefully excavating the fields where construction will start. This important step ensures that any traces of Middleton's earlier history are identified, recorded and protected before modern homes take shape. Archaeological work like this often reveals surprising details, from old field boundaries, pottery fragments, evidence of early farming, or even the foundations of buildings long since gone.

The Green Group made contact through one of our excellent Volunteers and the archaeologists have already expressed great interest in our Middleton on the Wolds Heritage website.

Once their official report is complete, possibly mid-2026, they plan to share a copy with the local community so we will ensure to add any discoveries to the village's growing heritage website. How exciting!!!

Here's a taster of what the archaeologists have been up to:
Evidence of foundations of buildings
Site Map showing what has been found



To follow Middleton's heritage story, visit:



<https://middletononthewoldsheritage.co.uk/>

If you have any feedback, suggestions or additions, please contact the team through the website contact page.

GREEN GROUP PLANNING SESSION

 **PUBLIC MEETING Monday 16th March 7:00pm**

Middleton on the Wolds Village Hall

An interactive planning session with:

-  **Idea generation**
-  **Community planning**
-  **Refreshments provided**

**Help us support and protect
our beautiful village.**



Facebook link



**Not-for-profit since 2021, we are coming together
to review progress, shape future plans, & welcome
new members who want to make a difference.**

Green-fingered to newbies... we need your help!

I like to Move it, Move it Walking Workout

**Free to join in 9.15 – 10.15 am
Middleton on the Wolds
Village Hall
Tuesday
17th March 2026
followed by**

Coffee Morning

10.30 – 11.30am

*Fundraising for the Village Hall
during Village Hall Week*



*Tea, Coffee, Squash
Biscuits and Cake*

Please come along to support your Village Hall

Middleton Village Hall Committee
Charity Number 1085309



The Sunshine Squad presents

EASTER BREAKFAST

EGGSTRAVAGANZA



Saturday 28th March

Breakfast 10-11.30 am

At Middleton on the wolds
village hall

visit from the easter bunny

£7 a child will include breakfast
and a present.

COLOURING FOOD FUN

Meet and have Pictures with the Easter Bunny

Refreshment will be available to
buy for adults.

Please book in advance

Contact karina 07860235894 or Danielle
07788932682



MIDDLETON VILLAGE LUNCH



**At The Robin Hood
March 9th 12.00pm**



‘The next Village Lunch’ will take place on Monday 9th March 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

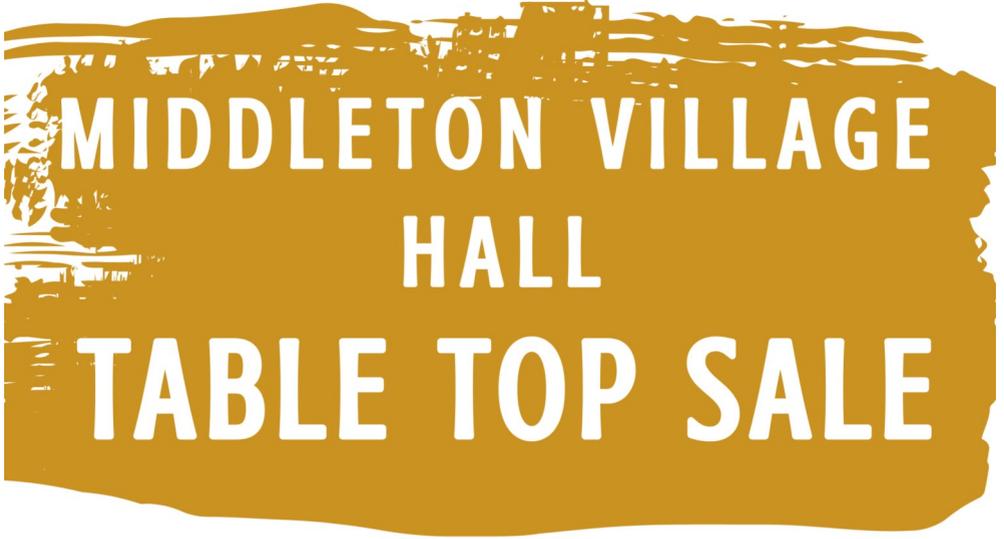
VILLAGE HALL NEWS

Hope the New Year has got of to a good start for you all, and fully recovered from Christmas.

We are planning on having a busy 2026 in the hall and would love to see as many of you as possible come to our events. The hall is there for all of you so put on your thinking caps, what would you like us to do, is there any activity you would like, or you would like to run, or know someone who would like to hire the hall regularly. Just let us know.



This Shrove Tuesday we are going to take over the baton from Roger and Betty and are have a pancake day starting with soup bread rolls pancakes with accompaniments and drinks. Hurrah Please see the poster in this edition. It will be good to see you there.



MIDDLETON VILLAGE HALL TABLE TOP SALE

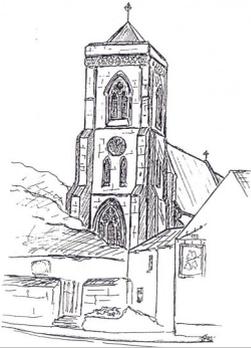
**SATURDAY, 7TH MARCH, 2026
2:00 PM – 4:00 PM**

£6 MEDIUM TABLE
£8 LARGE TABLE
BOOKING THROUGH SHAZ
07976926855

**CLOTHES, FURNITURE,
DECOR, CHILDREN'S
ITEMS, TOYS, AND MORE!**

REFRESHMENTS, BISCUITS &
HOTCROSS BUNS WILL BE
AVAILABLE





St Andrew's Church

Services for February

Sun 1st	10.30am	Morning Prayers	Richard Summers
Sun 8th	10.30am	Holy Communion	Rev. Jane Anderson
Sun 15th	10.30am	Holy Communion	Rev. Canon Kate Goulder

Easter Crafts & Easter Egg Hunt



St Andrew's Church
Easter Saturday
4th April

10.30am - 11.15am

Numbers are limited - to book please contact
Rev Jane by Friday 27th March
(bookings will not be taken after this date)

revjaney@talktalk.net

01 377 219471

* fantastic sketch (above) of the church drawn by Janet Richards, published in the Beverley and District Ringing Society 75th Birthday Booklet in 2021.

Clogs and Collieries

A few weeks ago John and I visited Beamish – 'The Living Museum of the North'. This open-air museum was founded in 1970 by Frank Atkinson. Frank had seen the decline and disappearance of the industries which had been the life blood of the North East – coal mining, shipbuilding and manufacturing, along with the communities that served them. He wanted to preserve, for future generations, the everyday ways of life in that area along with its traditions, customs and dialect.

It is a fascinating place to visit. The site is divided into different eras from the 1820's Pockerley Hall to the 1950's town. To get around you can walk or catch a tramcar, built in the early 1900's, a motorbus or steam train. In each of the villages or towns you will meet guides, dressed in period costume who share their obvious enthusiasm for the era they represent. Beamish employs over 450 people and also has over 300 volunteers. On the second day we visited there had been snow overnight so the staff arrived early to clear all of the foot paths and tram lines. There is a real sense of pride in their heritage and a passion to share that with the visitors.



followed by an opportunity to join in. The miner's cottages, also relocated from HLH, comprised of six homes representing different families who would have lived there just before WW1. Along with the school, which originally opened in 1892 there is also a fine Wesleyan Methodist Chapel which would have been a focal place for the community and used for religious and social occasions – including Magic lantern shows which were very popular in the early 1900's. The chapel is still in use today for celebrations. There is also a simple brass war memorial to the men from that chapel who were killed during both world wars, it is good that their families have a place to visit where their loved ones are recorded.



Having grown up in the 1970's and 80's in a northern industrial town (cotton and coal) it was moving for me to listen to the staff talking not only about what it meant to live and work in the pits in the 1900's but also what it meant to them, personally, because their own families lived through the closure of the collieries. And how that has affected community and family life and continues to do so today.

Beamish is much more than a museum, it not only preserves the heritage of the North East for us and future generations it also supports local communities through employment opportunities and its health and wellbeing work, including dementia support groups. And it also works creatively with schools. It is a self-reliant charity and depends for 95% of its income on visitors. I thoroughly recommend this wonderful place.

Jane

What's on in Middleton on the Wolds

March 2026

1	Morning Prayers with Richard Summers 10.30am St Andrew's Church Middleton Wopmblers 10.00 Lime View, 24B Station Road	
2	Parish Council meeting 7.30pm Village Hall	
3	Village Hall Committee meeting	
4	Craft, Games and Chat 1pm-3pm Village Hall Line Dancing 7.30pm Village Hall	
5	Middleton Movers 2pm Village Hall	
6		
7	Table top Sale\ 2.00PM Villahh Hall	
8	Holy Communion with Rev. Jane Anderson 10.30am St Andrew's Church	
9	Village Lunch 12.00 Robin Hood	
10	Book Group ! 2.00PM St Andrew's Close	
11	Police Scam Awareness presentation 1.30PM \ Village Hall Line Dancing 7.30pm Village Hall	
12	Village Lunch 12pm The Robin Hood Middleton Messenger Copy Date	
13	Middleton Book Group 2pm Village Farm	
14		
15	Holy Communion with Rev. Canon Kate Goulder Anderson 10.30am St Andrew's Church	

16	Green Group Public Meeting 7 PM Village Hall	
17	Walking Woprkout 9.15AM Village Hall Coffee morning 10.30 Village Hall	
18	Charity Coffee Morning 10am—11.30am Village Hall	
19	Line Dancing 7.30pm Village Hall Craft, Games and Chat 1pm-3pm Village Hall	
20	Middleton Movers 2pm Village Hall Pilates 5pm Village Hall	
21	Middleton Minis Toddler Group 1.30pm—3.30pm Middleton School	
22		
23	MOWSA Easter Bingo 6.00PM \ School Hall	
24		
25	Easter Breakfast 10.30 Village Hall	
26	Line Dancing 7.30pm Village Hall Quiz Night 8pm Robin Hood	
27	Middleton Movers 2pm Village Hall	
28		
29		
30		
31	Easter Bonnet and Crafts 10.30 Village Hall	

New Middleton Facebook Page

You may or may not be aware that the village Facebook page paused and due to the way in which Facebook works, it's unlikely to return.

Introducing the new Middleton On The Wolds Facebook group, with a slightly different name ... Middleton on the Wolds: Come for the pond, stay because your car broke down.



You are cordially invited to join the new the Middleton On The Wolds community page, the digital equivalent of peering through your net-curtains, but with less dust and more emojis.

We're the tiny village with the big name and that one roundabout everyone talks about. Join us for:

- Urgent Traffic Updates: Is there a tractor on Front Street? You bet your life there is. 🚗
- The Lost & Found: Mostly rogue mittens and dogs that have decided to go on a solo tour of the Wolds. 🐕
- Mystery Noises: "Did anyone else just hear a loud bang?" (Spoilers: It was probably a pheasant or a car backfiring). ✨

Estate Agent Speculation: Watching house prices like we're on Homes Under the Hammer.

The Rule: Keep it neighbourly. If you've got beef, take it to the pub, or at least wait until the next Parish Council meeting.

Village life: where everyone knows your name, your business, and exactly what time your Amazon parcel arrived.

Dec Flynn

Thanks for this, Dec. Middleton needs an on line presence so well done for making it happen. Now it's up to the rest of us to support the new page!

Mike

The Messenger



You will have noticed that there is no Local Birds and Wildlife column, this month. I want to send a big thank you to Janny and Barry for their entertaining and informative wildlife columns over the past



months. They have decided to no longer write their excellent articles. So, if there is anyone out there who would like to pick up the wildlife baton, please get in touch.

This is also true of any other kind of article. One of the reasons behind the success of the Messenger is the quality of the contributions from you, the people who live in the village. If we are going to have something more than a list of what's happening next month then we need copy. It doesn't matter what it is. Over the years, we have had articles about wildlife, local history and recipes. There have been regular contributions from the Parish Council, the Green Group, Village Hall, the Church and the Countrywomen's Association.

Remember, The Middleton Messenger is your magazine. What else would you like to read about? Hiking? Sport? Shopping? Eating out? Should there be more for the young people in the village? You pretty much have a blank canvas on this and everything you submit will be considered; at the very least I'll have a chat with you about what you have written. Your article could be about anything, but we will not publish anything sent anonymously. We can, however, withhold your name from publication if you would prefer.

The ball is now in your court; all you have to do is write in!

In a similar vein, I am still looking for people to help on the Messenger. I know it might not look it, but this newsletter doesn't just throw itself together. Much as I enjoy working on it, it does eat into time I could also spend walking Tjili, bell-ringing, looking after the grandkids, hiking, and working in the garden. So, if you think you could help with things like advertising, compositing, proof-reading, printing and delivery, please get in touch, my number is on the back of the magazine.

Cheers,

Miker

The Sunshine Squad
presents

Easter

**CRAFTS AND
BONNET MAKING COMPETITION**

£5 PER CHILD WITH BONNET AND CRAFTS ALL PROVIDED

Please join us for a fun filled easter crafting
morning.

Pop the date in your diaries

TUESDAY

31

MARCH

CREATE-FRIENDS-CRAFTS-FUN

10AM-12PM

**MIDDLETON ON THE WOLDS
VILLAGE HALL**

**CONTACT DANIELLE 07788932682 OR KARINA
07860235894**

**MIDDLETON ON THE
WOLDS
PARISH COUNCIL**

**ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT
SCAMS?**

Would you know how to spot one or what to do if you were scammed?

No? Well, don't worry...

Come and join us for a presentation by our local Police telling us all about it.

Wednesday 11th March, 2026
1.30pm until approximately 3.30pm
The Village Hall
EVERYONE WELCOME



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

Lots happening in March at Middleton School –

5th March is World Book Day so look out for the children walking to school dressed up as their favourite book characters

9th March we have the East Riding Family Support team in school from 9.15am – this is a free and confidential session for anyone needing any advice or support with their children

23rd March is our MOWSA Easter Bingo which is always a popular fund-raising event starting from 6.00pm in the school hall

24th March is Easter service in the school hall starting at 9.15am – all welcome

27th March school finishes for Easter holidays and will be back open on

Monday 13th April for the summer term

If you have a child starting school **September 2026**, 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 for working parents.

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

Places are filling fast for Spring and Summer 2026



SAVE THE DATE

10am-12am

LEGO CLUB

COME AND BUILD SOME FUN!

**LEGO WORKSHOP PRESENTED
BY**

THE SUNSHINE SQUAD

Wednesday

25th March

Middleton on the wolds village hall

£2 per child

For further information contact

Karina
07860235894

Danielle
07788932682





- 1, Which two colours can be mixed to make green?
- 2, What id the capital of Spain?
- 3, Which superhero is also known as the Man of Steel?
- 4, Which country gave the Statue of Liberty to the United States of America?
5. What are the five senses?
6. What plant makes up 99% of a panda’s diet?
7. What do you call the two numbers that make up a fraction?
8. What is the chemical formula for water?
9. What Pixar film series stars characters named Buzz and Woody?
- 10.What tree produces acorns?

Answers

1 Blue and yellow. 2 Madrid. 3 Superman. 4. France.
 5 Sight, smell, hearing, touch, taste. 6 Bamboo.
 7 Numerator and denominator. 8 H2O. 9 Toy Story. 10 Oak.

Answers

- 1 Scarborough
- 2 The Abba Arena
- 3 1961 (12th April)
- 4 Bengal Tiger
- 5 One
- 6 The Isle of Wight
- 7 12
- 8 6
- 9 The Police
- 10 4

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



THE KING AND GUY
— RENOVATIONS AND TRANSFORMATIONS —



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



OUR SERVICES

New Kitchens

New Bathrooms

General Maintenance

Decorating

All home improvements

Established links with all trades



More about our commitment to decarbonisation

Over the next 12 months, we will continue our commitment to decarbonisation wherever feasible and practical. As part of this journey, we will be phasing out legacy F-gas-based chiller systems across the plant and replacing them with a new, state-of-the-art and environmentally sustainable ammonia-glycol refrigeration system which will significantly reduce our environmental impact. Work will begin on the installation of the 22 new glycol coolers shortly.



Use your phone's camera to scan the QR code to read more about sustainability at Soanes



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.

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YO25 9FR



01377 253130

gwilliamsonltd@hotmail.co.uk

www.gwilliamson.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.

*Williamsons
At 
Brooklands*

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A new year begins and Nepal is preparing itself for elections on March the 5th. Following the September Gen Z protests last year in Nepal there has been a lot of political manoeuvring and new ones come, old ones go and enemies become friends. Little else changes and still the most common crime is widespread embezzlement, tax evasion and financial fraud. Nepal faces long-standing structural economic challenges, including youth unemployment above 20 percent and reliance on remittances from Nepalis working abroad for about one-third of its gross domestic product. These conditions have left many young Nepalis with

limited prospects and deep frustration. Maybe a new government in March will address that issue. Mr. Balendra Shah, pictured above, is the one to watch in the elections. He is widely thought of as a favourite to be the next PM in Nepal. He is a 35 year old engineer and ex-rapper who has been the independent mayor Kathmandu since May 2022. He has said that he will fulfil the demands of the Gen Z protestors and his corruption free record certainly sets him apart from his fellow politicians.

For those of us who have quite enough with which to concern ourselves with our own politicians and their records, Nepal is still a beautiful country, Nepalis are wonderful people and tourist numbers are going up. Tourism is a major contributor to GDP and revolves around world class mountaineering, trekking and the amazing culture to be found in the UNESCO sites in Kathmandu and neighbouring Patan. Nepal has the world's densest concentration of World Heritage sites. This January there was a strong start to adventures like trekking, rafting, paragliding, bungee jumping, mountain biking and wildlife safaris. Simply crossing the street is quite enough adventure for me in Kathmandu and getting out into the national parks and mountains is definitely the way to go.



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YO25 9TZ



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

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Whole Page	£25	£150
1/2 Page	£15	£100
1/3 Page	£10	£60
Back cover (1/2)	£20	£120
Contact:	Mike	07713 620912,

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
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
Village Hall	Sharon Roe	07840 150296