



PARISH NEWS

APRIL/MAY 2018

MIDDLETON, NORTH RUNCTON & EAST WINCH



CENTENARY OF THE END OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR

Sunday 11th November 2018 will mark the centenary of the 1st WW armistice and I am very keen that the Parish of Middleton should mark this occasion.

I suggest that a committee of interested people is formed to pool ideas and work towards an appropriate recognition of the sacrifice of the 30 men of the parish who lost their lives.

If you are interested, please contact me at christopherjdixon@gmail.com, or phone 01553 841409.

Of course, this may already be under way! If so, please let me know.

Chris Dixon

MIDDLETON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Middleton Parish Council will be holding their Annual Parish Meeting at **7pm on Wednesday, 4 April in the Village Hall.**

This is not a routine Parish Council meeting, but rather an opportunity for all residents to find out what the Parish Council and other organisations have been doing on your behalf and to ask questions. **Please come along to have your say on local issues.**

Can you please help distribute the Parish News in North Runcton?

We need help urgently distributing the Parish Magazine in North Runcton. After delivering 80 copies of every issue for some considerable time Mrs Leamon is no longer able to continue. We believe the best way forward is to split this large number into 3 or 4 distribution routes to make the task less of a challenge.

Do you have the time to give an hour or so 6 times a year to ensure that this valuable service continues? Perhaps if you walk a dog in the village you might consider combining the exercise with delivering magazines.

If you can help please contact either Mrs Leamon on 761892 or Gillian Boon 840320.

A Huge Thank you from All Saints' Church

North Runcton PCC wish to say a very big thank you to everyone involved in making the BINGO NITE, held on Thursday 8th February, such a great success. Successful, not only for the absolutely amazing £756 raised, but also because the large number of folk who supported the event made it very enjoyable.

Ken Matthews, Churchwarden

Harvest Supper at Middleton - Can you help?

After many years of celebrating Harvest with a supper, last year we were unable to do so because of lack of help to provide for the catering. Many people said how sorry they were that this happened and wanted to find a way to continue to organise this event.

It is for this reason we are discussing Harvest in the Spring! If you would be interested in helping to arrange a Harvest Supper in October 2018 please could you let Gill Boon know on 01553 840320. We will then hold a meeting for everyone interested to consider options of venues, menus, timing etc and hopefully put a team together.

If you have enjoyed our meals in the past please consider if you could be part of the team.

Community Hour Together To Know and Share

The next Community Hour Together will take place at:

**4pm on 19th April
West Winch Primary School**



QUIZ SUCCESS & NEXT EVENT

The Quiz and Hog Roast on Saturday, 3 March raised an impressive £1,600 for the Magpie Centre.

Next up is an **Equestrian Table Top Sale**, to be held in the indoor school at Wallington Hall, PE33 0EP on

Saturday 28 April from 11 am to 1.00 pm.

Admission £1.00, children under 12 free. No dogs allowed, except service dogs. To book a pitch, £7.00 each, call 01553 828935 or email c.dudley@success-in-english.co.uk.

There will also be a BBQ, offering locally-sourced produce, plus tea, coffee and cakes available all day.

Good Friday Family Service St Mary's Middleton 11.00am

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Middleton Parish Council Chairman's Report

By Mick Porter

At the February Parish Council (PC) meeting there was a discussion regarding the bus shelters in the parish. In the February/March Parish News I asked parishioners for their opinion whether the bus shelters be removed or refurbished. Four parishioners took the time to reply to the Parish Clerk and the general opinion was to refurbish rather than remove. At the March meeting of the PC it was agreed to obtain estimates for repair/refurbishment and also to obtain estimates to replace the bus shelters with ones built of brick.

The road at the junction of Fair Green and the A47 is very bad, it has been reported to Highways on several occasions but the PC have now been informed that at the moment the repairs to the bridge at Saddlebow take precedence.

The PC has received a complaint from a parishioner regarding litter in Hill Road and Fair Green. It appears that although every effort is made to pick up the litter in the area stated sometimes it is hidden by long grass or is in the undergrowth. The complainant will be asked to provide photographs of the litter and its location so that it can be collected.

The PC is confident that the litter collection is undertaken to a very high standard also the PC has often received praise for the litter collection throughout the whole Parish.

Historic England had recently contacted the PC regarding ownership of the War Memorial. They have been informed that the PC does not own the War Memorial as it was erected by public subscription.

It appears that dog fouling in the play area is still an issue even though signs have been erected at the entrance to the playing field. The fouling is more prevalent in the picnic area and in one instance at the gate way into the junior play area. It should be noted that exposure to dog faeces can cause Toxocariasis which results in blindness. Hopefully the dog owner who is allowing their dog to foul the play area reads this

and acts accordingly, there is a dog waste bin at the entrance to the playing field.

The Parish now have a Speed Watch team in place and they should soon be operating within the Parish.

The Parish Clerk formally informed the PC of her resignation in order that the position can be advertised.

What can change the world!?

You may be reading this Parish News, in Holy Week or may be Eastertide. I would like you to reflect on what can change this world?

Before thinking towards changing this world, I may refer the story of the Cross and resurrection of Jesus Christ, which is the great story of renewal and new life coming from sacrifice.

It is a story for everyone. Especially at this time it is a story of ourselves, our political and religious leaders.

At the trial of Jesus there is a political leader willing to engage in word games and to wash his hands of responsibility in order to please his masters.

At the trial of Jesus there are religious leaders willing to sacrifice an individual in order to protect their institution and its privileges.

At the heart of the story there is Jesus. He is a servant leader, open and vulnerable, unable to deny his own integrity. Willing to suffer; willing to give himself completely.

In the Good Friday and Easter story there is a challenge to all our political, social and religious institutions.

And in the story of Jesus we see that renewal begins with openness, vulnerability, and a willingness to sacrifice institutional privilege in order to give and serve without heed for self.

It is the message the Church proclaims at this Easter time. But it is also the message the Church needs to hear again and again, if it is to renew its influence in the modern world.

And in an age of "spin" we need to take some inspiration from the selfless, servant leadership of Jesus.

Indeed self sacrifice and giving can still change the world.

He is Risen Indeed!

Rev'd Riaz

POSTCARDS FROM THE PAST

In the last issue of the Parish News I asked readers to get in touch if they had any local photos that they would be happy to see published in these pages. Local resident, Rob Indge, very kindly contacted me to say that he had a collection of old postcards depicting various scenes of Middleton.

Here are two of postcards from Rob's collection which feature Middleton Hall Lodge with what is now the A47 to the right. How times have changed!



Many thanks to Rob for providing these photos and I hope that with his permission we will be able to publish other images from his collection in future issues. If you have old postcards or other photos you would be happy to see published, do please contact the Editor.

NORTH RUNCTON ART GROUP



If you are looking for a relaxing and enjoyable afternoon come and join our friendly and sociable group. Our members are all of mixed artistic abilities and creative in their own way using a variety of mediums and always willing to offer advice and help if needed.

Sounds like what you have been looking for? So why not give us a try and have a free taster session.

The Village Meeting Place
The Green, North Runcton Village, PE33 0RB
Wednesdays 1.30 – 4.30pm or
Thursdays 2.30 – 4.30pm
Membership £18 paid quarterly in advance
For more information please contact
Denise (Organiser) 07526 549454 or Janet
01553 841514.

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IRRESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERS

Dear Editor

I live in North Runcton and am becoming increasingly annoyed about discovering bags of dog poo thrown into the garden or left hanging from fences or trees. There are 4 bins in the village where the poo can be disposed of safely. The dog owners might be placing the debris in bags but anyone can work out that if the bags are biodegradable, that eventually the contents will drop out. I appeal to all dog owners to dispose of the dog poo properly and not leave it to become a serious health hazard.

I gather that this has been an ongoing issue in the village for years but it has become so bad in Cedar Grove of late that I decided I had had enough. I am not in the least anti dog, although I don't own one and I am sure that the majority of owners are being let down by the few.

(Name and address supplied)

Middleton Coffee Mornings

With the coming of warmer weather (we hope!) St Mary's Church, Middleton will recommence the Coffee Mornings held on the first Saturday of the month. These will run for 5 months and the first will be Saturday 5th May 2018

Please come and join us to meet up with friends, have a coffee, buy Eileen's delicious home made cakes and preserves, rummage through John's Bric a Brac, seek out plants for your garden and help to raise funds to keep our ancient church building safe and dry!

NORTH RUNCTON PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

Copies of the minutes from North Runcton Parish Council meetings are available on the website:

www.northrunctonpc.norfolkparishes.gov.uk

However, if you would like a paper copy sent in the post then please contact Rachel Curtis – Clerk to North Runcton Parish Council
Tel: 01553 673043.



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Village Sports Report

Rural Community Games 2017

I'm delighted to say that the GLEAM team (parishes of **G**ayton, **L**eziat, **E**ast Winch, **A**shwicken, **M**iddleton) came a brilliant **2nd place** in the 2017 Rural Community Games, as announced at the Local Hero Awards at the Corn Exchange in January. Final positions as follows:
Joint 1st: Downham Market & Terrington St Clement
2nd: GLEAM team
3rd: The Walpoles

Plans for 2018

So now it's time to start thinking about teams for this year's Rural Community Games. The draft plan is currently as follows:

Archery – Sunday 22 April, 10am at Lynnsport Barn. Team of 3 adults (aged 16+) and 3 juniors (aged 8-15).

Netball – Friday 8 June, 6pm at Lynnsport Barn. Adult team (aged 16+) and junior team (aged 12-15). Teams of 7 players with a minimum 3 males. Up to 4 subs per team.

Rounders – Friday 20 July, 6pm at Downham Market Memorial Field. Combined senior and junior team of nine players (minimum of 6), comprising a minimum of 5 juniors, at least 2 of whom should be under 12.

Table Tennis – Wednesday 12 September (date tbc) at Lynnsport table tennis centre. Adults & juniors to take part. Adults (aged 16+) must be a mixed team of doubles. Juniors (aged 8-15) can be mixed doubles, all male or all female.

Badminton – Friday 12 October at Terrington St Clements High School. Adults (aged 16+) and juniors (aged 8-15 years) to take part. Individual competitions and males and females will play against each other.

If you live in one of the GLEAM parishes and would take part in any of the above events, please let me know!

Sarah Byatt, Village Sports Co-ordinator
villagegames@hotmail.co.uk
TEL: 07913 439222

West Winch Bowls Club

April is now upon us; British Summertime is here, those long cold winter nights now begin to fade into oblivion.

The good news is that the West Winch Bowls Club throws opens its doors to its members, prospective members and to those who would wish to discover the convivial joys of green bowls on **Saturday, 14th April at 2pm**. A social and informal Roll Up will then take place on our wonderful Green.

This is an open invitation to those who would wish to give the game a try. All equipment, including tuition will be provided. All we ask is that you turn up with flat soled footwear that does not have a heel. The club is keen to expand its membership. We have a first class Green, a comfortable pavilion, but most of all, we are a friendly bunch just keen to promote the game and to encourage people to come along and give it a try, and hopefully get "hooked" and become a member.

We are fortunate to have one of the best Greens in West Norfolk – all at your disposal. Membership is now due for the forthcoming season. It costs just £16 per annum. For this one has unlimited use of the Green, the opportunity to play competitively in five different leagues (if they wish), and to take part in all the social events that are organised by our proactive committee throughout the year.

Should you require any further information, please don't hesitate to contact David (KL 840339) or contact any member of the committee.

COFFEE MORNING **Friday, 18th May 10-12pm** **16 Cedar Grove, North Runcton**

We are holding a Coffee Morning to raise money for All Saints Church North Runcton.

Come and enjoy homemade cakes and chat. Donations of raffle prizes and cakes would be appreciated.

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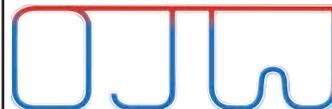
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GATE INN UPDATE

The Gate Inn is now closed on Mondays. Food service times are 12 to 2pm and 6 to 9pm Tuesday to Friday, 12 to 2pm and 5 to 9pm on Saturday and on Sunday 12 through to 7pm. A Sunday menu has been introduced with four roasts and a vegetarian alternative.

There are now four pumps serving real ale and a guest lager pump will soon be in operation. Angie & Ray are planning some summer barbecues and live music monthly on a Sunday afternoon starting in May. **India Night will be Thursday 10th May** with traditional Indian food and music - £17 per head - please book in advance.

There may be a Chinese night in April depending on the arrival of the Terracotta Army soldiers. There are also plans for a Bollywood night with traditional Indian dance later in the year.

The Gate Inn is on Facebook for updates on all dates and events.

FLOWER FESTIVAL

**All Saints Church North Runcton
CREATION OF THE CROSS
Friday 1st June - Monday 4th June
Church open 10-5pm**

Friday: 7pm Concert at church followed by supper at VMP

Saturday & Sunday: Stalls in the churchyard, including bric-a-brac, tombola and raffle. Refreshments and light lunches available in VMP

Sunday: 6pm Songs of praise in church

We are looking for help Friday - Monday to help in the church and on stalls.

Wednesday 30th and Thursday 31st May we will be working in the church from 10am. All help welcome regardless of skills. If anybody has greenery available in garden please bring to church.

If you can help in any way, please ring Lynda 840553 or Ken 842265.



NORTH RUNCTON VILLAGE

**YARD SALE AND
"SPONSOR A TILE" EVENTS**

**EASTER SATURDAY
31st MARCH
8:30am – 1:00pm**

Come and pick up some real bargains from any one of the many yard sales.

At the same time visit the beautiful Grade 1 Listed church and "Sponsor a Tile" to help fund a new roof.

Then enjoy some refreshments in the Village Meeting Place.

East Winch Church News



Following several funerals last summer when it was difficult to hear the speakers, members of East Winch United Charities got their heads together and decided to pay for the installation of a sound system in the church. The system was installed and tried out at the beginning of March. Church members are absolutely delighted with the result. Thank you so much!

As you pass the church gates, look in and enjoy the daffodils planted round the elm tree by Mr Bland.

EAST WINCH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING, 5 MARCH

By Nell Steele

The chairman was ill, and the meeting was chaired by the deputy, Keith Harrod.

He reported that this year it has been arranged that the playing field will be mown every three weeks by the Borough Council and a private contractor alternately. Also, the salt bin in Church Lane was nearly empty. It was discussed whether the Station Rd salt bin should be moved to a more convenient place. Highways to be contacted.

Sibelco are about to apply for planning permission to start work on Min 40 and an exhibition was to take place on 20th March.

It was noted that, while unwanted signs had been removed, the signs which remain, and which need maintenance, had not been touched. To be followed up.

The Council's contribution to graveyard maintenance (East Winch and West Bilney) is to be increased to £1250.

The next meeting is to take place on **Thursday, 10th May. Annual Parish Meeting 7.00 and Council meeting at 7.30.**

KING'S LYNN WOODTURNERS CLUB

The club meets in Middleton Village Hall on the **second Wednesday of each month at 7:30pm**. The club welcomes new members and if you would like further information please call them on 01553 841294.

If you like other arts and crafts, why not give woodturning a go?

“Thy Will Be Done”

Worship in Holy Week with the songs of Taizé

Wednesday, 28th March, 7.30pm,

St Mary's, West Winch, PE33 ONP

All welcome

Nar Valley Ornithological Society (NarVOS)



Indoor meetings at the Barn Theatre, Sacred Heart Convent School, Swaffham.
Access and parking from Sporle Road.

The Wildlife of East Anglia with Dr Kevin Elsby Tuesday 24th April, 7.30pm

Amazingly, Dr Kevin Elsby has combined a career as a Norfolk family doctor with a passion for wildlife and photography. He is an award-winning photographer, tour guide, lecturer and Fellow of the Royal Photographic Society. Kevin often gives talks about far-off places but this one is from our own backyard – East Anglia. Please come along for some brilliant photography from a first-class speaker.

The Good, the Bad and the Ugly – in the world of Fungi with Dr Tony Leech Tuesday 29th May, 7.30pm

Dr Tony Leech is Norfolk's Fungi expert and county recorder. Tony gave NarVOS a really fascinating talk six years ago, so we welcome him back to give us a different but, I am sure, equally entertaining and informative talk. Indeed, you may have met Tony as leader of some excellent Fungus Forays around the county. Come along and share Tony's infectious enthusiasm for his subject.

Visitors most welcome at these meetings. Admission £2 on the night if you are not a NarVOS member. For more information about these meetings or NarVOS call Ian Black on 01760 724092.

CONTRIBUTORS NEEDED

The Parish News is **YOUR** magazine and we welcome contributions from readers.

Articles on any subject likely to be of interest to local people (e.g. travel, cooking, wildlife, gardening, technology, hobbies of all types) would be welcome. If you would like to contribute on a regular or occasional basis, please contact the Editor.

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

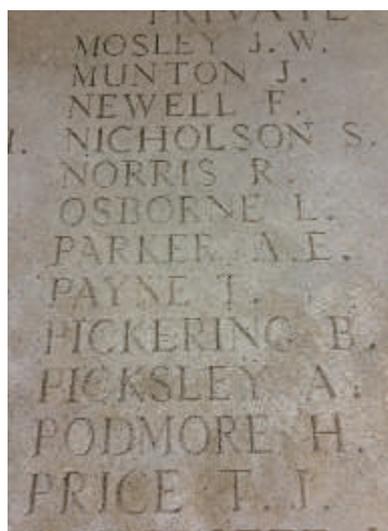
By Chris Dixon



Arthur Edward Parker

Born in 1896, Arthur was the son of Arthur Parker, a groom and gardener, and Helen, living in Lynn Road, Middleton. On leaving school he became a farm labourer. It is not known when he enlisted, but he went to France with the Norfolk Regiment and later transferred to the 2nd Battalion, Lincolnshire Regiment.

After their 1917 treaty with Russia, the Germans were able to bring their Eastern army to the Western front; well over a million men and huge amounts of artillery. This would give them a last chance of victory before the Americans arrived in force. The allies knew what was coming and that they would be sorely stretched.



On 21st March 1918, the Lincolns were in the front line, north east of Peronne and bore the full brunt of the German attack. Over the next few days they made a fighting retreat, but by then Arthur was dead. He is commemorated on the Pozières Memorial to the missing, France.

Thomas (Bertie) Mack

In the early 1900s the Mack family moved from East Norfolk to Lynn Road, Middleton. Thomas worked for Mr de Pass of Middleton Hall, then enlisted in the Royal Artillery in May 1915. He was at the Battle of the Somme, and was awarded the Military Medal on 31st July 1917 at Passchendaele for bravery in the field. The citations says that he maintained lamp signal contact back to his battery for twelve consecutive hours, under fire, to ensure that they could remain in action.

When the German advance began through a gas barrage and thick mist on 21st March, Thomas' battery was in reserve and they were rushed forward, about seven miles east of Peronne, but were soon in full retreat. Over the next two days they inflicted heavy loss on the densely packed enemy, but were forced further back before Thomas was wounded and taken to the 43rd Stationary Hospital in Amiens, where he died on 24th March.



His step brother Herbert had been killed in 1915 and his elder brother Ernest in 1917, at which time his mother had also died.

Harry Griggs

Harry was born in 1886 and lived in the Alley, Blackborough End. On leaving school he worked as a general labourer before becoming a gardener. In 1914, just before the start of the war, he married Mary and they moved to Church Row, Middleton.

He enlisted in the Bedfordshire Regiment in May 1916 before being transferred to the Machine Gun Corps. He saw many months of service in France and was then sent to Italy, spending 4 months fighting the Austrians, north west of Treviso. On the train journey back through France, two men of his Battalion were killed and 7 wounded in a train accident.



PRV. H. GRIGGS, M.G.C., of Middleton; killed on April 9.

After some rest and training, on 23rd March the Battalion was sent to Bapaume, on the Somme, in a desperate attempt to stem the progress of the German attack. They spent 9 days in a fighting retreat before being sent north to the

Ypres sector. On 9th April, the Battalion were coming out of the line during a quiet period when Harry was killed.

Edward Tinker

Edward was born in 1887 and lived with his family in Exton's Road, King's Lynn. After his father's death, they moved to Wormegay Road, Blackborough End. The three brothers, 42, 36 and 34 were all single and bricklayers, working for Foreman & Son. Their sister, a cook, also lived at home, along with their 73-year-old mother.

Edward joined the 10th Battalion, Sherwood Foresters in 1915 and, taking part in most of the major battles of the war, he was wounded twice. He spent some time at home at the beginning of 1918, on sick leave. In March the German offensive began and Edward's Battalion spent more than two weeks in retreat before the attack was held near the old 1916 Somme front line.

On 21st April, just north of Albert, a section of the Foresters were holding an outpost on the railway bank when they were attacked. Their telephone wires were cut and SOS flares not noticed before a messenger got back. Over the next two days many efforts were made to restore the situation before the post was secured. Edward was one of the 218 casualties of this encounter.



Harvest Joseph Steward

Harvest was born in King's Lynn in 1892. Little is known of his early life, but his parents lived at Hardwick. He worked as a labourer at Boam's sandpit and when his conscription papers arrived, his appeal for exemption was turned down. He married Margaret Mott and during the war they had a daughter.

In 1916 he joined the 34th Battalion Royal Fusiliers and was promoted to Lance Corporal,

then transferred to the Labour Corps with the rank of Corporal. He spent two years in France, working on road and railway building and the myriad manual labour tasks that the huge army required. On 13th May, at a quiet time, his Company was laying telephone lines on the Somme front when they suddenly came under a German artillery barrage, including gas shells. He was taken to the British hospital centre at Rouen, where he died of the effects of gas poisoning on 15th May. Harvest is also commemorated on the North Runcton War memorial.



CORPORAL H. J. STEWARD,
Labour Corps, of Friars'-street,
Lynn; died from gas poisoning.

William Henry Thistle

William was a child of William J Thistle, head teacher at Middleton School and his wife Elizabeth. They lived in the school house. Before enlistment, William was unmarried and a self-employed gardener, working from home. Being 36 when he died, he was probably conscripted in 1916, being sent to the new and rapidly expanding Labour Corps.

It is not known where he died, but it was probably during the third phase of the German final attack. Labour Corps men were often working close to the front and were called on as extra infantry in emergencies. He is commemorated on the Loos Memorial to the Missing.

Joseph Newman

Private, 11 Battalion, Suffolk Regiment. Buried in the Suffolk Cemetery, La Rolanderie Farm, Erquinghem-Lys

Joseph Newman lived at Magpie Cottages, West Bilney, he was married and aged 36 when he died on 19 April 1918.

[Editor's Note: This information is taken from the East Winch & West Bilney Community Project web-site.]

News from North Runcton Parish Council

The quiz evening on Friday 23rd February was a well-attended and enjoyable evening with a great quiz prepared by Nick Malby. Thanks Nick - and to the team of Amanda, Kerry, Rachel, Sam, Rick and Anna for organising the wine and cheese. Along with the raffle we raised £370 for the VMP – which will go towards running costs and paying off the loan we borrowed to do the renovation last year.

Everyone agreed it was a good community gathering and we plan to make the quiz an annual event. But it was agreed we need more community events like this – whether it be quizzes, talks, music or other ideas. What else would people like to attend? Would any one like to organise an event? Please get in touch with Rachel Curtis, the Parish Council Clerk, if you have ideas. Contact details for Rachel are on our web site.

The Parish Council has discussed a number of letters from residents regarding the increasing problem of roadside litter – and also the perennial problems of dog fouling and fly-tipping. There is not too much the Parish Council can do about these matters – except ask all parishioners to be considerate and, where appropriate, be prepared to report incidents they might see.

- If you see an incident of flytipping, **report it** to the Police or Borough Council. Conviction can result in heavy fines or a prison sentence. It is also worth noting that if you employ a trades person to undertake work for you (cutting down that leylandii hedge or stripping out that old kitchen) you are responsible for ensuring they will dispose of the arisings legally. If tipped waste was traced back to your property – it might be you who gets fined as well!
- If you find fly-tipped waste – **please report it** to the Borough Council. Details are on the Parish Council website. If tipped waste is on public land BCKLWN generally clear it within a few days of it being reported.
- If you find dog mess is becoming a regular problem – please try to identify the culprit(s). This information can also

be reported to the Borough Council. We should not be afraid to name and shame!

- Similarly – report incidents of littering. And if you are out walking – perhaps take a bag and pick up a few pieces of litter.

If we all work together we can keep our Parish clean – but we do need some ‘self help’!

At the meeting on 13th March a local resident had written to the Council asking for clarification on the grazing rights on North Runcton Common. The Common Reeve explained that in theory, the grazing rights are for 24 hours a day, 365 days a year and consequently the gates to the common can be closed at any time of the year. It is up to the common rights holders to agree the length of time the land is grazed – and issues defining that might include care of the pasture, hay production and nature conservation. The Parish Council are common rights holders and if residents have concerns about the commons they could direct them through the PC. But commons management is ultimately agreed by all rights holders. More information about the North Runcton Commons can be read on the Parish Council website. Our new Lord of the Manor, Peter Lemon, has agreed to put up new information signage explaining some of the history and management issues relating to the commons – and this will be erected later this spring.

The verges around North Runcton have taken quite a battering with the wet weather and the number of vehicles using the roads due to building development. Would you be willing to tidy up the verge outside your property if it needs a bit of a clean-up? The Council would also like to remind all residents to please not use any pavement area as a car park. There has been an increase in the number of drivers who park half on the pavement and half on the road and, whilst recognising that some of our roads are quite narrow, the pavements are for pedestrians, not vehicles. It would also be really helpful if you could ask your visitors to avoid parking on the pavements. Thank you!

North Runcton Parish Council’s annual meeting with residents will be on Tuesday 15th May at 7.30pm in the Village Meeting Place.

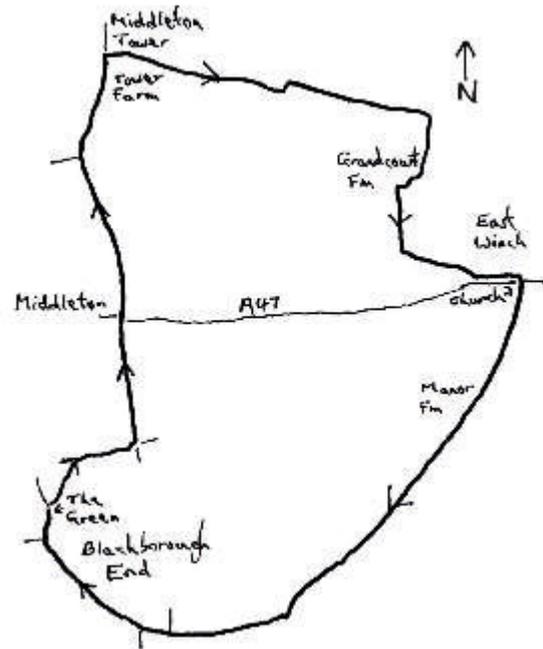
Make My Run Your Walk

by Stewart South

In the last Parish News I mentioned my running efforts to raise money for kidney research. Please see the end of this article to find out how you can help. Meanwhile, I would like to share with you part of one of my runs, in case you would like to walk it.

Circular Walk Blackborough End, Tower End and East Winch, 6.5 miles and it is all public access. Ideally, walk it when ground is dry. Enjoy it.

Start at Blackborough Green (or any part of the route to suit you). Take East Winch Road to top of hill and at intersection take left turn, north, on to lane (not the right hand road). Proceed along Juggins's Lane, past Mill Farm (where the Juggins family used to live). Cross A47 with care, and along another track, Mill Row, until you join Station Road on a sharp bend.



Proceed north along road to Tower End. Immediately after Tower Farm (right) take Tower Lane on the right. Sign says it is a private road, but it is a public footpath. After passing cottages on your right, look back left for a splendid view of Middleton Tower. Follow track and signs, east, and you will come across some yellow barriers, which are to stop you being run over by the huge sand trucks rushing back and forth from the quarry. Press the button to open the barriers. Follow track east, with high ridge of sand on your right, followed by open fields. Continue straight until you cannot go any further, then turn sharp right, south. Follow path as it meanders, until you pass outbuildings of Grandcourt Farm on your right. The grassy path emerges onto a sandy track. Turn left, north, towards A47. After a short distance up the track, there is a bungalow on your right. Turn left here at the signpost and take an indistinct path across a field, aiming for East Winch Church ahead of you. Continue into next field where track is a bit more defined until you get to edge of A47. Go east through metal gate and take footpath alongside the main road. At the end of this path, cross A47 with care into Church Lane, past the church on your right and former school on your left. As you reach East Winch Manor Farm the tarmac runs out and it becomes a track. Go over/past two cattle grids and past cottages on your right and through the gate next to Pennygate Cottage, but no payment is required to walk on by! Continue past lakes to your left and right and through another gate. Once through the gate proceed past house, woodland and treatment works, all on your left. As you reach the road, with Blackborough Priory Farm on your left go straight ahead, west, and straight again a few yards further on. You are now coming into Blackborough End. Keep right at right-hand bend and finish at The Green.

My Running and Fundraising. At 70 I'm running **7 key events** in 2018 to raise money for two kidney research charities, because both our sons had kidney failure. I donated a kidney to Joel, and Oliver received a kidney from an anonymous donor. My events are the Norwich Half Marathon on 15th April, King's Lynn GEAR 10K on 6th May and the 26.2 miles of the Edinburgh Marathon on 27th May, then even more events until I run the Amsterdam Marathon in October. Up to 14th March I have run 5 parkruns (my target is at least 7) and I have run a total of 148 training miles (238K), with my target for the year being 431 miles, namely 700 kilometres.

My two brilliant kidney research charities are **Addenbrooke's Charitable Trust** and **Kidney Research UK** and I'm trying to raise £1000 for each charity. I should be truly grateful if you feel you can sponsor me - thank you so much to those of you who have already done so. To sponsor me please call me on 01553 841267 or email stewart.ali@btinternet.com or to make an online donation simply go to <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/StewartSouth> Also, follow me on Facebook.

Thank you, Stewart

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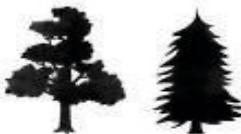


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Leziate, Ashwicken & Bawsey Women's Institute



We meet every 3rd Tuesday of the month from **2 - 4.30pm at Leziate Village Hall.**

At our meetings we have guest speakers who inform & entertain us on a variety of interesting topics or we have social activities such as games, quizzes, competitions & lunches.

Report of February Meeting

We welcomed Mrs Maureen Rispin to our February meeting who portrayed Mrs Alfred Watt, a Canadian lady who brought the WI to the UK.

Following the death of her husband in 1913, Mrs Watt brought her two sons to England to complete their education. At the outbreak of World War 1 she realised what a benefit a rural women's organisation could be to England by doing work on the land and increasing the food supply. Mrs Watt started the first WI at Llanfair PG in Wales and continued to form WIs throughout the country. By the end of World War 1, the movement had increased the food supply from 35% to 60% of the country's requirements.

In 1919, Mrs Watt was invited by Queen Mary to form a WI at Sandringham and Queen Mary became President until her death in 1925. The tradition was continued by Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother. Our present Queen became a WI member in 1943 and is now President, visiting Sandringham WI for their January meeting and signing the minutes as her role as President.

After a most interesting talk, refreshments were served by Betty R & Margaret. The competition for an item beginning with 'B' was judged by

members placing a coin by the item of their choice. Margaret, Ann R, Joan and Ali all drew for first place.

Happy Birthday wishes and a gift went to Ann R and Sylvia.

Future Meetings

17 April: Kath Dentten - My time at a London Fashion House followed by refreshments.

15 May: Resolutions Meeting - "Mental Health Matters" - discussion on this resolution to be taken to WI National Meeting in Cardiff in June followed by refreshments.

19 June: Michael Upton - "The work of the Samaritans " followed by refreshments.

We would love you to join us for a "taster - afternoon" and if you like us perhaps consider joining our very friendly & informal group for future meetings.

For further information please call Jan 01553 841514 or Ali 01553 841267.



Needleworkers Circle

Fancy joining a sewing/knitting/craft circle? We are a very friendly & sociable group who would love for you to join us.

Where: Leziate Village Hall

When: **Tuesday 10 April** 10am - 1pm and then every fortnight.

Cost: £3.00

Please bring your own refreshments. Kitchen facilities are available. Toilets & free car-park. For more information please contact Joyce 01553 673949 or Jan 01553 841514.

VIEW THE PARISH NEWS ON-LINE

View the Parish News in colour on line at the Middleton Parish Council web-site. Go to the "Community" section of the web-site and you'll find the Parish News page with information on publication deadlines and downloads.

Would you like to publicise your local event in the Parish News?

If so, please send details by e-mail to: editorofparishnews@gmail.com or by phone on 01553 849725. The deadline for the June/July issue is Friday, 18 May.

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Cameo Café

Our meetings are on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month between 2:30pm and 4:30pm in Middleton Village Hall.

All are welcome to drop in for a chat, cup of tea and homemade cakes. The bowlers usually join us for refreshments. There is no charge but a contribution to running costs is always welcome.

Hilary Hickman



MIDDLETON & DISTRICT ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Our next two Evening Buffets will be held on **Wednesday, 18 April and Wednesday, 16 May** at the William Burt Social Club, Watering Lane, West Winch. Starts at 6.30 pm. Bookings required by Monday 16th April and Monday 14th May respectively please.

Please book places by contacting Lilian Fisher on 01553 841852 or by email at lilianfisher@talktalk.net. Tickets for the Evening Buffets are £6 each person and include a full buffet with a glass of wine or a soft drink. Donations of raffle prizes greatly appreciated.

Proceeds from the raffle will go to the Middleton & District Branch of the RBL.

Lunch Club usually meets on the 2nd Monday of the month at Middleton Hall Golf Club at 12.00 for 12.30pm.

For further details contact Olive Turpin 840623.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB



If you are 50+ you are most welcome to join in the activities of the Friendship Club, which meets at 2pm on the first Wednesday of the month. ***New members very welcome.***

4 April: Visit to Norfolk Lavender, Heacham. Meet at 1.00pm at Middleton Village Hall in own cars.

2 May: Meeting at Church Farm, 2.00pm

Further details, including information on venues for club meetings, from John Turtle (840280) or Pauline Crump (840053).

CARPET BOWLS



Carpet Bowls has a growing following in Middleton and the sessions are open to players from North Runcton as well. Join us at Middleton Village Hall on Tuesday evenings at 7pm. Please wear soft flat shoes.

More details from Club Secretary, Peter Wall on 840471.

Middleton Badminton Club

Play badminton most Monday evenings (not Bank Holidays) at the Village Hall from 7pm to 9pm. The club is friendly and always welcomes new members. Contact Nigel Gray (01553 841541) for more information.

Community Car Scheme

The Community Car Scheme is to help villagers who have no transport, who are elderly or disabled to attend at local doctors' or dentists' surgeries, opticians, health clinics or to keep hospital appointments.

A small charge is made to cover petrol expenses. If you require help or further information, or if you wish to volunteer help in any way, please contact Colin Skipper on 842448.

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Wednesday, 28 March

7.30pm **W Winch** Taizé Worship

Thursday, 29 March - Maundy Thursday

7.00pm **W Winch** Eucharist with Foot Washing

Friday, 30 March - Good Friday

11.00am **Middleton** Preparing the Easter Garden with Story

10.00am - 3.00pm **N Runcton** Church Open for personal meditation

Sunday, 1 April - Easter Day

10.00am **W Winch** Benefice Eucharist

Sunday, 8 April

9.30am **W Winch** Holy Communion

10.30am **E Winch Village Hall** Morning Worship

11.15am **Middleton** Holy Communion

3.00pm **N Runcton** Evening Prayer

Sunday, 15 April

9.30am **W Winch** Holy Communion

11.15am **Middleton** Morning Worship

11.15am **E Winch** Holy Communion

3.00pm **N Runcton** Evening Prayer

Sunday, 22 April

8.00am **W Winch** Holy Communion

10.00am **W Winch** Morning Worship

10.30am **E Winch** Morning Worship

11.15am **Middleton** Holy Communion

3.00pm **N Runcton** Holy Communion

Sunday, 29 April

10.00am **E Winch Village Hall** Benefice Eucharist

Morning Worship is held each Wednesday morning at 9.30 am at Church Farm. All are welcome to join us to pray for the needs of the village and then enjoy a cup of coffee.

St Mary's Middleton Annual Parochial Church Meeting

The meeting will be held on **Thursday 5th April at 7.00 pm at Church Farm, Middleton.**

Please come and hear reports of the work of the church and vote for your churchwardens. All are welcome.

OLD MOBILITY SCOOTERS AND WHEELCHAIRS NEEDED

Any condition, not working, old. All can be of help.

These are sent to Brighter Future Mobility (see their website) and are renovated or used for parts by their team of disabled teenagers who gain valuable skills in their lives. The equipment is then provided to change the lives of disabled people.

We will collect any you can donate.

Call Adrian on 01553 841684 for any further information.

Mobile Library Timetable

The Mobile Library timetable for our area is as follows:

MONDAYS – normally every 2 weeks. Next visits on:

9 & 23 April; 21 May & 4 June

Middleton

Village Hall 09:40 - 10.05

Fair Green

Park Hill Estate 10:10 - 10:30

Graham Drive 10:35 - 10:50

Gate Inn 10:55 - 11:10

Middleton

42 Hall Orchards 11:15 - 11:25

88 Walter Howes Crescent 11:30 - 11:45

St Mary's Court 11:50 - 12:00

East Winch

Gayton Rd - Opp Windyridge 14:20 - 14:30

Town Close 14:35 - 14:45

47 Town Close 14:50 - 15:00

Village Sign 15:05 - 15:15

Blackborough End

The Green 15:20 - 15:30

The Firs 15:35 - 16:00

TUESDAYS – normally every 4 weeks. Next visits on:

17 April & 15 May

North Runcton

The Green 10:15 - 10:35

The Foldgate 10:40 - 10:55

PARISH CONTACTS

CHURCHES:

Priest-in-Charge: Rev Riaz Mubarak 01553 841519 E-mail: rev.riaz.mubarak@gmail.com

Middleton St Mary's

Churchwarden: Vacant

PCC Secretary: Gillian Boon 840320 **Treasurer:** Mrs Christine Minister 840559

North Runcton All Saints

Churchwarden: Mary Angelina 841519 and Mr K Matthews 842265

PCC Secretary: Mrs Ann Matthews 842265 **Treasurer:** Mrs Maggie Challis 842540

East Winch All Saints

Churchwardens: Mrs J Weavers & Mrs W Smith

PCC Secretary: Mrs J Weavers 840510 **Treasurer:** Mrs W Smith 842281

PARISH COUNCILS:

Middleton (www.middleton-news.co.uk)

Clerk: Mrs Kate Senter Tel: 841387 E-mail: middletonparishcouncil14@gmail.com

Councillors: Chair: Mick Porter 841427; **Vice Chair:** Val Ward;

Mrs M Applegate; Mrs E Barclay; Mr T Hewitt; Mr C Samuels; Mr R Smith; Mr M Wiles;

Mr Z Wiles Van Dyke.

The Council meets on the first Wednesday of the month (except August) in the Village Hall at 7pm.

North Runcton (<http://northrunctonpc.norfolkparishes.gov.uk>)

Clerk: Rachel Curtis Tel: 673043 E-mail: northrunctonparishclerk@outlook.com

Councillors: Chair: Mr R Morrish Tel: 840284; **Vice Chair:** Miss K Fuller;

Mrs A Dobbing; Mr J Fuller; Mr B Houchen; Mr J Sherry; Mr L Stevens; Mr P Yallop.

The Council meets on the second Tuesday of each month (except August) at 7.45 pm at the Village Meeting Place.

East Winch (www.eastwinchandwestbilney.co.uk/parish-council)

Clerk: Bob Pannell Tel: 775724 E-mail: bob.pannell1@btopenworld.com

Councillors: Chair: Mrs N Steele; **Deputy Chair:** Mr K Harrod;

Ms S Davison; Mr M Place; Mr N Velzeboer; Mr A Wilson; Mr D Wright; Mr A Yarham

The Council meets every other month, normally on the first Monday of the month, at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

Borough Councillors: West Winch Ward: Bal Anota Tel: 07885 258442 & Peter Gidney Tel: 07885 258450. Priory Ward: Jim Moriarty Tel: 01760 755623

Other Contacts:

Badminton Club	Nigel Gray	01553 841541
British Legion	Judy Close	01553 840823
Car Scheme	Colin Skipper	01553 842448
Carpet Bowls Club	Peter Wall	01553 840471
East Winch Village Hall	Amanda Hart	01553 841236
Friendship Club	Mrs P Crump	01553 840053
Lunch Club	Olive Turpin	01553 840623
Middleton Village Hall	Mrs P Petch	01553 842149
Mothers' Union	Gillian Boon	01553 840320
N Runcton Village Meeting Place	Rachel Curtis	01553 673043

Editor: Chris Hudson; E-mail: editorofparishnews@gmail.com or call 01553 849725. Views expressed in the magazine are not necessarily those of the Editor. **The deadline for the next issue (June/July) is Friday, 18 May.**