



PARISH NEWS

AUGUST & SEPTEMBER 2020

MIDDLETON, NORTH RUNCION & EAST WINCH

CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

This is the third edition of the Parish News produced against the backdrop of the worst public health crisis for some 100 years.

The April/May edition was printed, but distribution was limited by the imposition of the lockdown. The next edition was available only online via the Parish Council websites. This time, we are back in print but distribution will again be affected by the ability of our fantastic volunteer distributors to make their deliveries bearing in mind the importance of protecting their own health and that of their loved ones.

For those who do not have a magazine delivered, copies will be available in the Post Offices at Middleton and East Winch for their customers to pick up for themselves and perhaps for neighbours. It will also again be available online via the Parish Council websites.

Several of the articles in this edition provide an insight into the profound effect that the "lockdown" and coronavirus pandemic has had on all our lives. Whether it is making Scrubs for the NHS, communities keeping in touch with each other or organisations finding new ways of working, they all illustrate local determination to "keep calm and carry on".

Stay safe.

Chris Hudson, Editor

All Saints' Church North Runcion



Please note:
Covid-19 regulations permitting!!
The 2020 Churchyard "Tidy Up"
is planned for:
Saturday 10th October, 9:00am - Noon?

The hard work put in over the last four years means there will only be a limited amount of bulky trimming to be done. The main area of work will involve a general tidy up plus dealing with the ever present ivy and other plant growth round the church, boundary walls, graves and yew trees!

During the morning, a range of excellent refreshments will be served, providing a welcome break and the opportunity for a "mardle" with other folk.

Many thanks for making the churchyard a wonderful setting for All Saints'.

If you are able to help, please give Churchwarden, Ken Matthews, a call on:
01553 842265

COMMUNITY CAR SCHEME FACES CLOSURE

The Community Car Scheme urgently requires new drivers if the scheme is to continue to operate. The scheme has for many years provided a vital service to local people who need transport to get to various health care appointments with doctors, dentists, opticians and at the hospital.

The scheme depends on a supply of local drivers willing to give up some of their time to help their neighbours get to and from these important appointments. A mileage allowance is paid.

If you can help, you will be making a huge contribution to our local community. For more information about what is involved, please contact Colin Skipper on 01553 842448. Thank you for your support!

MOBILE LIBRARIES

At the time of going to press, the mobile library service remains suspended. If you are a mobile library customer with books on loan, they will be automatically renewed until further notice. Mobile library customers can use local libraries which have now re-opened.

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
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Middleton Parish Council Chairman's Report

By Mick Porter

As with many organisations, because of Coronavirus the PC has not been meeting on a regular basis. Using the zoom facility the PC has held meetings in June and July.

Now that the majority of the PC can use zoom as from September the PC will once again resume meetings on the first Wednesday of the month. If any parishioner wishes to bring up an issue with the PC, they should contact the Parish Clerk so they can be included in the meeting at the fifteen minute open forum. This can be either by zoom or telephone.

The PC was approached by a resident of Hill Road to ask for its support in the proposal to number the properties on that road. The PC felt that it was up to the individual residents on Hill Road if they wanted their properties numbered therefore the PC agreed that it could not support this request.

The owner of the land adjacent to the allotments will be asked to use the entrance off Sandy Lane as agreed that once the water supply was connected to the field.

The bus shelter at the Middleton Steak House, previously The Crown Public House, needs some repairs but because of coronavirus there has been some delay in getting estimates for the repair.

The PC received a letter from a resident in Blackborough End regarding the provision of speed bumps in the village. Norfolk County Council informed the PC that speed pumps are not suitable in Blackborough End.

It was reported that a shrine has been erected at Sandy Corner in respect of the teenager killed in a road traffic accident earlier this year. A member of the public felt that it was a distraction at this corner and could result in another accident. Highways were approached regarding its removal but the PC were told that because of the sensitive nature of the shrine they would not be taking any action.

The play equipment at the playing field should not be used because of the coronavirus but, in spite of notices to this effect, people are still using some of the equipment. This is risky as it could help to spread the virus, something we should all be avoiding.

Stewart's Marathon Challenge

Earlier in the year I wrote in the Parish News that I was training for the London Marathon. That was before Covid-19.



My training schedule was severely disrupted by the lockdown and again when the London Marathon was postponed from April to Sunday 4th October. But I am now back in the swing of things and I look forward to running the 26.2 miles. If the London Marathon ends up being cancelled, which seems likely in the circumstances, I shall run my own personal Marathon instead – locally, along Peddars Way.

The reason for putting my 72-year-old body through all this effort is to raise money for Kidney Research UK. Their work is vital as there is still no cure for kidney disease. There are 3 million kidney disease sufferers in the UK, including 5,000 on the kidney transplant waiting list. Hundreds died last year, while waiting forlornly for a transplant. From our own experience we know the misery this illness can cause as both our sons have had kidney failure. I donated a kidney to Joel in 1999 and Oliver had a transplant in 2002.

I am truly grateful to those of you who have kindly supported my fundraising already. If any more of you wish to sponsor me please contact me on 01553 841267 or email stewart.ali@btinternet.com or go to <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/StewartSouth>

Thank you, *Stewart South*

EAST WINCH NEWS

By Nell Steele

East Winch's unhappy relationship with the "improvements" on the A47.

Everyone was very happy when we were told that Highways England would be putting in new railings at the junction of Gayton Rd and the A47, creating a pedestrian crossing, and reducing the speed limit to 40mph.

There is no problem with the speed limit - provided it's observed - but the pedestrian crossing turned out to be a dip in the pavement with a special bobbly paving stone to alert blind people, and one end of it ends up in someone's driveway! People had expected a crossing with traffic lights, and were deeply disappointed.

The railings have been a disaster. They follow the curve of the path, and to a driver emerging from Gayton road they blend together so that it is impossible to see through them. They are so high that people in ordinary cars can't see over them either. So you take your life in your hands every time you turn onto the A47.

The Parish Council and many individuals in the village have emailed Highways England to complain, but their response has been that the safety audit was unclear and that the police approved the railings! Please will everyone driving towards Swaffham be very conscious that there may be a hidden driver trying to get out onto the road. Please don't exceed the speed limit and keep alert!

Our phone box library

Thanks to Mr Bland and his family, the phone box library has been a great success. People use it, and value it. Mr Bland takes a lot of trouble to plant pretty flowers around it. So it has been very upsetting that since it was opened, it has been vandalised three times. The people who think it's funny to throw the books around in the road should remember that it has been really kind of the Blands to do this for us, and that you aren't just showing you think the village is a lousy place to be, but also actually hurting a person.

SEND A CARD

By Heather Berry

Angela Clarke's painting featuring a rainbow, was inspired by both the pandemic and Christian Aid and was produced when she undertook a sponsored painting session during Christian Aid Week in May.



Angela is a member of the King's Lynn Christian Aid Group. The group decided to have cards printed from the painting she produced and they are for sale in support of Christian Aid. The cards are blank in the centre for a message and approximately quarter A4 in size. Packs of five cards with envelopes are available for £3 - though people can donate more if they wish!

If you or your organization would like some of these cards, please contact Heather Berry on 01553 764098 or by email: revberry2019@gmail.com

If you are happy doing things online, one way of making your donation is via www.justgiving.com/fundraising/kingslynnchristianaid

Most of Christian Aid's income from donations is usually received in Christian Aid Week but because this year it had to be a virtual Christian Aid Week, much, much more money is still needed. The needs of people, who were already poor and vulnerable before the pandemic, are even greater now as they struggle to obtain water to wash their hands and to social distance in difficult conditions.

Any help you give is really important and will be greatly appreciated.

“SCRUB HUB” IN NORTH RUNCTON

The people of this country always respond well in a crisis. And there can be no doubt that the coronavirus pandemic has posed the biggest threat to the life and prosperity of this country since the Second World War.

There have been many stories in the national and local media about the amazing actions that individuals and groups have taken to raise money for charity, support neighbours or supply food and other necessities to those in need.

At the height of the crisis, there was a desperate shortage of Personal Protective Equipment for health and care workers. Sally Pryke, who lives in North Runcton, saw a request on the local news from the Norfolk Scrubs Volunteers Group seeking volunteers to make scrubs.

Sally said “I contacted the group and in turn was contacted by one of the Admin Volunteers. I was asked to make laundry bags and Scrubhats whilst waiting for a delivery of fabric. Neighbours responded very generously with donations of sheets, pillowcases and duvets for me to make bags and I made some masks from my own ‘fabric stash’!



Once my local area had identified a Volunteer to act as an ‘Area Lead’ I received my first delivery of fabric to make into Scrubs. There was amazing support and help available online from the Norfolk Scrubs Volunteers

Group, in particular from our own local Facebook Group, with any queries I had. My sewing experience was somewhat limited, so the first ones made were very challenging!

Fabric was supplied from financial donations to purchase the fabric or actual donations of fabric. I believe some people, early on, did supply their own fabric.

I sewed continuously for 10 weeks, only being able to do so, because of the support from my husband, who kept me fed and watered! I have had a short break for a couple of weeks as all fabric has been made up and Norfolk



have managed to complete all their orders. The group now await some special Rainbow fabric, designed for Noah Evans, (son of Chris Evans), who slept outdoors for 28 nights to raise money for Scrubs fabric, to make up some more.

As a retired Nurse it was nice to be able to help others in some way during such a difficult time.”

By the time she had finished, Sally had completed 30 trousers and 35 tops and a further 20 bags and 10 scrub hats that were rapidly distributed for use by the NHS staff including ambulance staff and carers across the county.

Reflecting on her mother’s achievements, daughter Eloise commented “I and all the members of our family, together I’m sure with everyone who knows her here in North Runcton, just want to say how proud we are of her.”

Well done Sally from all readers of the Parish News. Please contact the Editor if you know of other local people who deserve recognition for their efforts during the crisis.

WEST WINCH BOWLS CLUB



The bowls club now have the required paraphernalia in place to comply with the Covid -19 requirements as laid down by Central Government and Bowls England. Members have started with Roll Ups, playing against each other and managing to adhere to the social distancing requirements.

A committee meeting was held on 6th July. The secretary Kevin Evans stated that it could be possible to use all six rinks. He said that he was in contact with other clubs, and the club policy towards the coronavirus appears to be comparable to most other clubs. The Social Secretary Wendy Bull thanked David Thompson for the internal decorations and Ken

Manning for supplying the new carpet. Wendy said that there would be no formal club dinner this year due to the present pandemic.

Ken reported on 'the Green': he thanked all those who had worked on it. Paul Plume had apparently cleaned out the ditches. A wetting agent now needs to be applied before scarifying operations are commenced. The rotted boards in the ditches have been replaced and the existing ones have been sprayed. The rink numbers have been repainted.

In AOB, Ken stated that 28 members had placed their name on the list for the Club Pairs competition. He also suggested holding another pairs competition where pairing is changed at the end of each game. Jim Grant mentioned that many of the new players had been playing on Mondays and Fridays.

Finally, membership fees have been 'rolled over' until next year. The club is still looking for new members so do contact any member of the committee for further information.

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Reopening of Churches in The Benefice of Middlewinch

The following key points were agreed at a meeting on Wednesday 15 July to discuss reopening of churches, schedule of services, and services to be offered.

Reopening of Churches

- Both East Winch and North Runcton churches had welcomed people for private prayer which was encouraging and positive. However, the exact numbers were unknown.
- For online prerecording, the members have been informed 92 subscribers to the on-line service with almost 100% positive responses and all agreed that the weekly on-line services should continue for the time being, with numbers being reviewed.
- North Runcton would like to continue with a private prayer for the time being, as this was a relatively new initiative, and not everyone was aware of it. Further advertising would help.

Schedule of Services

- All agreed it was important to open one church in the Benefice for public worship. At the suggestion of a member of Ministry team, the Middleton church was chosen as it was the largest and could be adapted more easily for social distancing (i.e. one-way system) and accommodate more people. There was also better parking, reasonably flat access, together with handwashing and toilet facilities.
- Although the Rev. Riaz and his family had made a start on cleaning and preparing the church, further work would be required.
- A suggestion was made to have a combined PCC to oversee the services. The Rector said he would discuss this further with Diocesan Officers and report back.
- For future weekly on-line services, it was hoped that representatives from each of the parishes would take part. From West Winch, two members had expressed their interest and the churchwarden of NR

would check out volunteers from North Runcton.

- It was agreed to continue to follow the Lectionary readings and that the content needs to be kept simple and concise. Shaun (churchwarden EW) said that all content has to be received by Friday each week. It was agreed to number the services for reference purposes.
- Thanks were expressed to Shaun (churchwarden EW) for all the hard work involved in putting this together.

Services to be offered in Middleton Church

Sunday 16 August at 10.30 am. Morning Service

- Short, 30-minute service. No singing allowed but could use CD player. It is possible to have a one-page service sheet placed in the pews in advance, with members of the congregation instructed to take it away with them at the end of the service. No refreshments available. Names of those attending should be recorded. Further discussion is required on service content.
- **Sunday 6 September** – Harvest Festival with Holy Communion.
- **Sunday 27 September** – on the theme of St Michael and all angels
- Special Note: On each of these Sundays i.e. 16th August, 6th and 27th September East Winch and North Runcton would not be open for private prayer and would change this to a different day, possibly Saturday. East Winch could move theirs to the Wednesday.
- The on-line service would continue to be produced for these Sundays as it could be viewed at any time.

Next Steps

- A working party would be required to prepare the church for the services. It would be helpful to have two volunteers from each parish making 8 in total. Half to prepare beforehand and half afterwards. A meeting was arranged for 3:00 pm on Saturday 15 August.

Continued on next page ►►

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- The Rector requested that for any matters relating to Middleton Church he should be contacted and members were asked to remember Middleton Parish in their prayers.
- Details would be placed in the Parish Magazines and Ken suggested including something in the Lynn News.

Any Other Business

- Amanda Hart (EW) would like to include something for children on the YouTube service. Her suggestion was for a colouring sheet for the children in East Winch, with the best one being featured. The children could then access YouTube to see the chosen picture. The colouring sheets could be left for collection at the local Post Office. All agreed this was a good idea.
- The Rector suggested a story writing challenge for young people. This could be the Bible or Christian-based or from any point of view. This would help to maintain contact with them.

Rev. Riaz (Rector), the Ministry Team, churchwardens and PCC members.

THANK YOU TO THE RESIDENTS OF PAUL DRIVE

Throughout the period of the Coronavirus 'lockdown' it has been very cheering, for those of us taking the Hill Road / Arlington Park circular walk short cut, to walk through the middle of their daily, socially distanced, coffee mornings held by many of the Paul Drive residents.

The friendly greetings and the odd bit of banter have been really heartwarming...so a big thank you to all of you!

Name and address supplied.

HOW TO REPORT FLY TIPPING

The Borough Council is responsible for dealing with fly tipping and have a new on-line reporting system. To report an incident of fly tipping, please use the following link:

<http://www.west-norfolk.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=21512>

Competitions for children in the Benefice of Middlewinch!!!

Are you going to be bored in the school holidays? Rev'd Riaz and his team have arranged competitions for all ages.

Colouring competition: This is for ages 5-8 years. Please contact one of the people in the list below to obtain the picture to be used.

Drawing competition: Ages 8-11 years. Please choose a subject with a Christian perspective, based on or related to a bible story or the coronavirus pandemic.

Entries for both the colouring and drawing competitions must be emailed to one of the people in the list below by **10th August**. The winners of the competitions will be announced on 16 August at the 10.30 service in Middleton Church.

500 Words Story Writing Competition: Age 11-16 years. The story must be based either on a Bible story or else be something to do with the coronavirus pandemic. Whichever you choose to do, it should be written from a Christian point of view.

Entries for the 500 words story writing competition must be emailed to one of the people in the list below by **20th August**.

1. Ken Matthews.
kennethmatthews1@btinternet.com
2. Sue Cook.
rcook456@btinternet.com
3. Jackie Ramsay.
jackram48@gmail.com

All entries must include the following information:

Name, Age, Email and telephone /mobile numbers and postal address.

This information will be kept confidential and will be used only for the purpose of the competition.



The winner of the 500 words writing competition will be announced on 6th September at the 10.30 service in Middleton Church. There will be prizes!

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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
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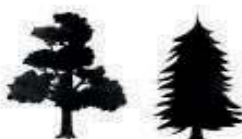
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PARISH CONTACTS

CHURCHES:

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

Middleton St Mary's

Churchwarden: Vacant

PCC Secretary: Vacant **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: Mr S Dale 630167 and Mrs W Smith

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

PARISH COUNCILS:

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

Clerk: Elaine Oliver Tel: 630655 E-mail: middletonparishcouncil14@gmail.com

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

Mrs M Applegate; Mrs E Barclay; Mr C Samuels; Mr R Smith; Mr J Tolley; 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;

Mr J Fuller; Mrs L Gunn; Mr B Houchen; Mr L Stevens; Mrs K Williams; 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; Mr M Place; Mr N Velzeboer; 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: Simon Nash (01553 811200) & Peter Gidney (07885 258450). Gayton & Grimston Ward: Michael de Whalley (07770 273903) & Colin Manning (07885 258392)

Other Contacts:

Badminton Club	James Williamson	01485 600946
British Legion	Gerry Tann	01553 674953
Car Scheme	Colin Skipper	01553 842448
Carpet Bowls Club	Peter Wall	01553 840471
East Winch Village Hall	Amanda Hart	01553 841236
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.

Advertising Manager: David Gager; E-mail: parishnewsadverts@gmail.com or call 01553 278402.

Views expressed in the magazine are not necessarily those of the Editor. **The deadline for the next issue (October/November) is Friday, 11 September.**