

## Battered but not broken!

Great to see a familiar landmark back! Sixteenth months after the eighteenth century milestone at the top of The Slough was smashed by a lorry in the middle of the night, it has been restored and re-sited by Derek France Masonry Ltd on The Green, several yards from the road. It looks as though it has been in the wars but not nearly as sad as when it was in twenty pieces of smashed stone.



The pieces have been skilfully re-assembled and the whole milestone has been strengthened with stainless steel rods. It is now set on a concrete base about a metre below ground and for additional strength four holes in the bottom base of the milestone are located on to four steel rods set in the concrete base.



Thanks largely to the determination of the parish council the necessary permissions were obtained to restore the Grade 2 listed milestone and a specialist mason found who was able to take on the task of restoring it. The cost of restoration and re-locating the milestone was met by Carillion Morgan Sindall Joint Venture, A1L2B, and, through the good offices of the late Councillor Michael Heseltine, by a grant from North Yorkshire County Council's Locality Budget.



The milestone has had a chequered past. It was probably originally sited just south of Scotch Corner. When work was taking place on the 1960's upgrade of the A1 and a roundabout being installed at Scotch Corner, the overturned milestone was spotted among other rubble due to be crushed. Re-installed at the top of The Slough, it became a well-known landmark but was a bit of a puzzle to many who did not know of its previous narrow escape because the distances shown were clearly not accurate from its 'new' position.

Now, looking somewhat battered but definitely not broken, let's hope it will survive many more centuries in its new location on The Green.

## MIDDLETON TYAS VILLAGE SHOP NEWS

Tel: 377198 Open Monday to Friday 8.00 – 2.00, Fridays also 5.00 – 7.00, Saturday 8.30 – 1.00



Just before Christmas District Councillor Angus Thompson cut the ribbon opening the new entrance to the Village Shop and Post office. This marked the completion of the first stage in the major refurbishment of the shop and post office since it opened. As well as a smart new door and better signage, easily visible from the road so hopefully attracting passing trade as well as regulars, we now have much more wheelchair-user friendly access and - something to look forward to in the coming months - a very attractively re-vamped garden and an extended patio area. Once outdoor tables and chairs arrive in the spring this will be the perfect spot to enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and a chat or a quiet few minutes reading the paper in the sunshine.

Next up is the complete refurbishment of the post office, involving changes to the infrastructure, communications and security systems and equipment to bring the post office up to the latest standards.

**This will take place during the week 6 – 10 February and it will mean that the post office is closed for the whole of that week.**

The shop will be open and can help out with items such as stamps and cash back up to £50 if you are using your debit card for purchases of over £5. It will all be worth the inevitable hassle and the fact that the The Post Office Community Fund, The Big Lottery and Richmondshire District Council have been willing to stump up with grants

for the whole project is a vote of confidence in our shop and post office.

Come and celebrate at the latest **Big Man's Breakfast** on Saturday 11 February, 9.30 – 1.00. Regulars will know that this is the best traditional Yorkshire Breakfast for miles around, when the people who usually do the cooking in most households can sit back and be cooked for by the flower of Yorkshire manhood!



*Some of the chefs getting in some practice ahead of the big event*

They also run an irresistible cake stall. All their own work..... or so they say! Any help with man-made cakes and raffle prizes would be very welcome.

The best male cooks in the village will be in action, the breakfast is totally delicious and, at £5 for adults and £2.50 for children, it's brilliant value for money. (I'm not sure why it is always so hilariously funny too but it always is! Come and see for yourselves.)



## **MIDDLETON TYAS POST OFFICE**

**Telephone: 339111**

**Opening hours: 8.30 – 1.30, Mondays,  
Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays**

**Closed for the week from 6 – 10  
February inclusive for refurbishment**

## **A note from the shop**

### ***Christmas raffle***

Thank you to everyone who took part in our Christmas Raffle and well done to the winners (sadly, not me!). Fundraising like this is crucial to the survival of our community shop, so on that note, also a big thank you to Mary Parvin who made and donated the beautiful Christmas cake that was one of the prizes, and also to whoever it was donated the bottle of whisky (but due to my appalling memory, I've forgotten your name. - Sorry!).

### ***100 Club***

The shop's 100 Club runs from February every year, so we are currently taking renewals and new members. It costs £24 for the year (just £2 a month!) and is part of our vital annual fundraising to help keep the shop open. Prizes of shop vouchers worth £30, £20 and £10 are given to the lucky winners every month (but sadly, apparently, never to number 18!). Join or renew now by cash, cheque or card."

*Helen Foulds*

*Assistant Manager*

### ***New freezer***

One of our shop freezers recently reached its sell-by date and had to be replaced in a hurry.

Fortunately, the Friends of the Shop very kindly stepped and funded the replacement and the management committee would like to express a big thank you for covering this cost. The Big Man's Breakfast this month will aim to top up the Friends' account!

*Steve Hill – Chairman*

## **News from the parish council**

### ***Surface Water Management***

There is currently a lot of work ongoing in respect of surface water management much of which is not visible but is nonetheless significant. Physical

work at the moment includes an initial archeological survey of the field below Scotch Corner which has been commissioned by Landteam to establish if a full archeological survey will be required before construction of an attenuation pond.

Elsewhere in the village NYCC have initiated work to survey the large culvert which runs from outside Kneeton Park through to and down The Slough. The object of the exercise is to establish if there are any blockages. Unseen work includes ongoing design work for the planned diversion of water from the Slough into Cow Pasture.

### ***Middleton Tyas Community***

Residents will be interested to learn that the Parish Council now has a Facebook page. You can find it by searching for "Middleton Tyas Community" from your Facebook search engine. Do check it out, and like our page if you can. In the meantime, Josephine Collis, who is looking after the page on our behalf, would love to receive items of human interest which can be posted onto the site. These should be short, contain a photograph if possible, and be sent to her direct at [josephinecollis@icloud.com](mailto:josephinecollis@icloud.com).

### ***Play Park***

Unfortunately, we are unable to open the Play Park as it is not yet deemed safe. We continue to work with RDC to get the necessary improvements made, but in the meantime, it will remain closed. Please be assured that we are as anxious as all village residents to re-open this important facility and will do so just as soon as we can.

When we are able to re-open the Play Park, a bonus is that there should be somewhere comfortable for people to sit and keep an eye on the children. When a summer picnic on The Green was held to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in 2012, the organising committee agreed that any money raised from the picnic would be held in trust by the Parish Council until such time as something suitable could be bought for the playing field. (At that stage we didn't own the field but were negotiating with RDC so we couldn't be more specific about exactly what might be appropriate.) The stipulation was that the money should be spent on something physical - such as a bench - which would bear a plaque stating that it was in celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. .

## News from the parish council

### **Next meeting**

There is no parish council meeting in February. The next meeting will be on Thursday 9 March.

## **Moulton matters**

### **Books in the Bus Shelter**

The sale of books, CDs, files, plants and produce in the bus shelter during 2017 raised the terrific total of £419.50. Thanks to all who have supported the village. Good quality fiction books are always welcome. Please leave them in the bus shelter. All proceeds will go towards Moulton Village Association funds.

### **Community Defibrillator**

We are awaiting the delivery of the Community defibrillator and once installed, an awareness session will be organised.

### **Highways Maintenance**

The potholes adjacent to St Andrew's Church have been repaired once again. NYCC Highways has been asked for a detailed assessment of Hall Road through a Freedom of Information Request. Indications are that Highways only plan to patch the holes, as in previous years. The MVA has agreed to fund a replacement MOULTON sign for the Cowtons road entrance.

A request has been made to NYCC to refurbish the rumble strips on Scurragh House Lane and the Cowtons road.

### **Plant Sale 2017**

The Plant Sale will be held on Saturday 6 May. Please remember to plant a few extra seeds for the Sale. We will also be happy to receive garden paraphernalia such as pots, tools, feeders, machinery and children's garden toys. Thank you.

### **Church Cleaning:**

Thanks to all who have volunteered to clean St Andrew's.

February: Mrs Osbaldeston

March: Mrs Atkinson and Mrs Vaux

## **School report**

Keep up to date with all that is happening at the School by signing up for weekly newsletters that will be emailed to you.

Please go to the school web site which is <http://www.ef-mtschoools.co.uk>, then News and

then Newsletters and sign up for the weekly Newsletter.

You can also keep up to date by using the links below:

Blog - [www.blog.ef-mtschoools.co.uk](http://www.blog.ef-mtschoools.co.uk)

Facebook - [www.facebook.com/efmtschoools](https://www.facebook.com/efmtschoools)

Twitter – [www.twitter.com/ef\\_mtschoools](https://www.twitter.com/ef_mtschoools)

## **Catching speeders**

We all know that a number of drivers drive dangerously fast through Middleton Tyas. Mobile devices for monitoring vehicle speed, operated by volunteers, are making a valuable contribution to persuading drivers to change their ways, at least while they are on the patch being monitored.

RDC Councillor Angus Thompson informs us that there is a distinct possibility that Middleton Tyas would be eligible for the use of such a device if we can produce the volunteer teams to use it.

We need people who would be prepared to work in a team of three – one to point the camera, one to record the vehicle registration number and one to record the speed. Training, which only takes half an hour or so, will be provided and you only need to volunteer as much time as you can conveniently offer. No pressure to stand on the roadside in the cold for hours on end!

Speeding drivers recorded by the mobile device receive a written warning from the police. There is evidence to show that this alone is enough to bring about a more careful attitude from drivers in particular locations. If you would like to volunteer or would like more information about the scheme please contact Angus Thompson on 07968 787880 or email him at [cllr.a.thompson@richmondshire.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.a.thompson@richmondshire.gov.uk)

## **Little White Bus**

Have you tried the Little White Bus yet? Possibly not, what with Christmas and New Year and the worst of the winter weather and everything. This month brings the first hint of spring though and you might feel it's time to take a little trip somewhere away from your own four walls. This is where the Little White Bus comes in. (The bus for our area is called the Richmondshire Rover.) How about going to Barnard Castle? Catch the bus and watch the world go by; have a quick look round the shops and a spot of lunch then come home again on the bus.

You can do that on a Monday or a Friday, leaving Moulton at 11.20, Middleton Tyas at 11.25 and catching the bus back from Barnard Castle at 13.35.

Or what about Bedale or Ripon? On Thursdays you can catch a bus from Middleton Tyas at 10.05, Moulton at 10.10, which goes via Bedale to Ripon, arriving there at 11.05 and leaving for the return trip at 12.50. You would obviously have correspondingly longer in Bedale where the bus arrives at 10.40 and calls on the way back at 13.15. *Continues on page 6*

How much would it cost? Nothing, if you have a concessionary bus pass, which you are entitled to if you are over 65. If you are paying full price, a return ticket to Barnard Castle would be £6.35. Haven't got a concessionary bus pass? Contact Richmondshire District Council and they will be able to give you one.

Where do you catch the bus? At the bus-stop outside the Shoulder of Mutton in the case of Middleton Tyas and at the bus stop in the centre of Moulton if you are getting on there. But you can get on or off at any bus stop or, indeed anywhere in the village if you wave down the driver. If you want to be absolutely certain that the driver knows where you want to be picked up, ring the office the day before to let them know that you want to travel. Telephone 01969 667 400.

The bus service is guaranteed until the end of June. After that, whether it can be continued depends on how many people are using it so this really is a case of 'use it or lose it'. If the service has to be withdrawn it would be very difficult to make a case for re-establishing it.

The Little White Buses, including the Richmondshire Rover, are a community service and are not funded by NYCC. They are dependent not least on volunteer drivers. If you are aged between 24 and 80 and have a clean full driving licence including Class D1 (up to 4.2 metric tonnes) you would be able to drive a 16-seater minibus. As a volunteer driver, you could do as much or as little as you wanted to and a full day's training (which includes a delicious buffet lunch!) would be provided. If you think you might be interested, talk to Angus Thompson, who is already a volunteer driver (Tel: 07968 787880 or

email [cllr.a.thompson@richmondshire.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.a.thompson@richmondshire.gov.uk)) or contact the Little White Bus Company office on 01969 667400 or email [umco@btconnect.com](mailto:umco@btconnect.com)

## **Police Report**

### ***Borderwatch***

**Can I draw your attention to BORDERWATCH? For those of you who don't know that it is, we have volunteers who give up some of their free time to come out at night in their own vehicles for a few hours to observe and record any suspicious vehicles or people around the Richmond rural area. This includes Middleton Tyas and Moulton. In December Borderwatch volunteers jointly gave up 18 hours of their time to help keep our communities safe by reporting suspicious vehicles and activity to me whilst out in the Richmond Rural area. If you would like to be involved in Borderwatch please contact me on 07966 973023**

***PC 1908 Mark Wood***

## **Claiming Dates**

### ***March***

Thursday 9 March 7.00 Parish Council meeting

Saturday 11 March 11.30 – 1.30 Homemade Soup and a Roll Lunch

### ***May***

Saturday 6 May Moulton Plant Sale

### ***June***

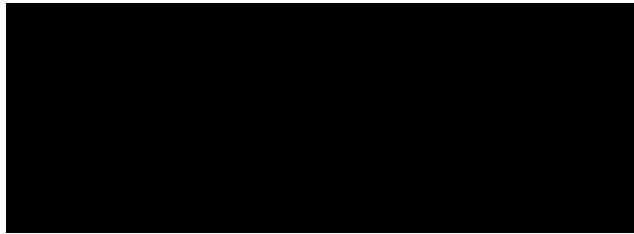
Sunday 25 June 2.00 – 6.00 Open Gardens Great and Small 2.00 – 6.00

## **Editor's Corner**

Thank you so much to all the kind people who have donated towards the running costs of the Village News. If this is still on your to-do list, it isn't too late! I'll be very happy to accept cash or cheques made payable to Middleton Tyas Village News. (Sorry, Moulton! It's nothing personal, just an anomaly of the VN bank account being set up years and years ago and, frankly, life seems too short to go through all the hoops required by the bank to change the name of the 'business'. Your donations will be as welcome as anybody's!

**I'm going to need copy for the March issue early this year so please could I have it by 17 February, earlier if at all possible.**

Black Bull ad



Middleton Lodge and The Coach House  
Upcoming Events....

Middleton Lodge Supper Club  
Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> February from 7pm  
The Middleton Lodge Supper club is swinging its doors open once again for another delicious experience. Perrier-Jouet Champagne on arrival, five course dinner - £75pp  
Dinner, bed and breakfast from £270 (based on 2 sharing)

Valentine's Date Night at The Coach House  
Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> February - Tables available from 6pm-9pm  
Gareth Rayner's set menu has been specially designed with the romantic evening in mind. Five-course set menu and Perrier-jouet Champagne on arrival - £60pp

Mother's Day at The Coach House  
Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March  
12pm - 4pm  
Join us on Mother's Day for Gareth's traditional Sunday Roast  
Two course for £28, three courses for £35 and our normal children's menu (We'll include in a little present for mum!)

Coach House Vouchers  
The Coach House vouchers make the perfect gift and are available to buy from our Treatment Rooms shop.

The Wind in the Willows  
Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> July  
Children's outdoor theatre at The Coach House  
An open-air production by Immersion Theatre, full of enchantment, merriment and madness, join us for the afternoon as we follow Mole in his quest for adventure  
£8.50pp for adults and children  
£30 for a family ticket (2 adults, 2 children or 1 adult, 3 children)  
Gates open at 2pm, performance begins at 3pm

The Treatment Rooms  
Treatments of the month  
Voya Detox Herbal Bag Massage 90 mins (£60)  
Voya Organic Anti-Aging Facial 75 mins (£60)  
Deluxe Pedicure (£35)

Opening Hours  
Open 7 days a week for breakfast, lunch and dinner  
Afternoon teas available Monday - Saturday  
Market menu available Monday - Saturday  
12pm - 2pm

For full details of all our events and offers please visit  
[www.middletonlodge.co.uk/offers-and-events/](http://www.middletonlodge.co.uk/offers-and-events/)  
01325 377977



## SAMPLE MARKET MENU

2 courses 15

3 courses 20

### STARTER

Mushroom veloute, crispy egg yolk, pickled mushrooms (v)  
Beetroot salad, horseradish, sorrel (v)

### MAIN

Confit duck leg, pancetta, mushrooms, fried duck egg  
Roast cod, mussels, samphire, marinere jus  
Mushroom tart, wild mushrooms, onion jam, truffle (v)

### DESSERT

Chocolate brownie bar, caramel popcorn, toasted marshmallow  
Hazelnut Mille-feuille, coffee ice cream, caramelised white chocolate

## Editor's Corner

You can phone it to me on 377311, email me at [dianahthomas@gmail.com](mailto:dianahthomas@gmail.com) or put it through my letterbox (together with envelopes stuffed full of cash donations for the VN) to 2 The Green, Middleton Tyas.

## Church News

### *The Rectory Dog , Charlie puts paw to paper*

Dear All

February brings to mind many things: the first glimpses of spring (if we're lucky), pancake day (or Shrove Tuesday) and then the beginning of Lent (Ash Wednesday). However, as I am a very handsome dog February holds an altogether different emphasis: St. Valentine's Day.

I intend to spruce and trot around with my snout held high, and my tail even higher and watch all the lovely lady doggies swoon as I elegantly strut my stuff. When I told Jenni, aka the biscuit-buyer, of my intentions, she snorted, turned heel and

walked away. I thought that this was rather cruel, so I loped behind her showing off my best saluki/greyhound/whatever-else-is-in-my-genes, moves. As I turned tail and bumped into the dining room table, knocking a chair over, the biscuit-buyer muttered 'vanity of vanities. All is vanity'.... And pattered off towards the study.

I was just about to admonish her for quoting a biblical text AGAIN, when she said, "Charlie, did you know that there are varying opinions as to the origin of Valentine's Day? Some suggest it originated from St. Valentine, a Roman who was martyred on 14<sup>th</sup>. February 269 AD for refusing to give up Christianity. Legend also states that he left a farewell note for the jailer's daughter, who had become his friend, signing it "From Your Valentine". Other aspects of the story say that Saint Valentine served as a priest at the temple during the reign of Emperor Claudius. He married Christian couples during a time when to do so was considered a crime and he was thus arrested and imprisoned. Whoever he was, Valentine



actually existed because archaeologists have unearthed a Roman catacomb and an ancient church dedicated to Saint Valentine”.....

.... That stopped me in my tracks. Not only had she hardly drawn breath to let me interrupt, but she'd actually shown some historical knowledge which was completely out of character.... Indeed any knowledge is completely out of character. I responded appropriately and completely ignored the sudden and unexpected history lesson, and went off to clear a place on the mantelpiece for all the cards I would surely receive.

As I turned to consider whether I ought to clear a space on the top of the piano as well, she crept up behind me and said, “Valentine’s day is not an opportunity to increase your vanity, Charlie, but to emphasise love: love overcoming the darkness of hate. And I think that’s more important than massaging your over-developed ego.”

As we watched the news together later that evening, it occurred to me that maybe the biscuit-buyer had a point (but please, don’t tell her I thought this). Either way, this Valentine’s Day, let’s raise a toast to love, ‘For love is the movement, effusion and advancement of the heart toward the good.

*With love, Charlie*

#### **St Michael’s Majors**

The tea in February will be on Thursday 16. Usual travel arrangements apply.

### **Open Gardens Great & Small.**

St. Michael & All Angels Church  
**Open Gardens**  
on Sunday, 25<sup>th</sup> June 2017.

With proceeds going towards  
Church funds.

More information to follow in future  
issues of the Village News

#### **Any more Open Gardens?**

We are still looking for one or two few more kind volunteers willing to open their gardens on June 25<sup>th</sup>. From courtyards to rolling acres, manicured

to, well, pretty wild – anything will be of interest. If you would be willing to open yours or would like more information please contact Diana 377641 or Isobel 377025

### **HOME-MADE SOUP**

With a roll and butter  
And tea and coffee

**Guaranteed to warm the cockles of your heart!**

**Saturday 11 March 11.30 – 1.30**

Memorial Hall

Proceeds in aid of church funds

Adults £4, Children £2.00 Pay at the door



**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF RICHMOND AND DALES**  
invite you to

#### **AFTERNOON TEA**

On International Women’s Day  
Wednesday 8 March 2017 2.00 – 5.00  
£8.00 per person

Richmond Town Hall, Market Place

#### **Speakers**

**Esther Swalfield: International Justice Mission**  
*IJM’s work in combating modern slavery and other forms of exploitation*

**Val Thomas: Reaching Out, Changing Lives**  
*A women’s project in Kenya*

Pay on the door

*A reply indicating numbers attending by*  
**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> of March would be appreciated**  
**[christineannlunn@btinternet.com](mailto:christineannlunn@btinternet.com) or 01748 825**

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<b>CHURCH SERVICES – FEBRUARY</b>		
<b>Sunday 5 February</b>	4th before Lent	Middleton Tyas
<b>9.30 Holy Communion CW (T)</b>		Rev. J. Lane
Sidesmen	Mrs. M. Hill	Mr. S. Hill
Reader	Mr. R. Congreve	
Readings	1 Corinthians 2, 1-12 P61	Matthew 5, 13-20 P 62
<b>Sunday 12. February</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> . Sunday before Lent	Middleton Tyas
<b>9.30 Morning Prayer CW</b>		Mr. H. Swanston
Sidesmen	Mrs. E. Croft	Mrs. M. Sheridan
Reader	Dr. N. Weightman	
Readings	Deuteronomy 30, 15-20 P 63	Matthew 5, 21-37 P65
<b>Sunday 12 February</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> . Sunday before Lent	Moulton
<b>6.00 Evening Prayer BCP</b>		Rev. J. Lane
Readings	Deuteronomy 30, 15-20 P 63	Matthew 5, 21-37 P 65
<b>Sunday 19 February</b>	Second Sunday before Lent	Rev. J. Lane
<b>9.30 Holy Communion CW (T)</b>		
Sidesmen	Mrs. S. Mahaffy	Miss M Brown
Reader	Mrs. S. Vaux	
Readings	Romans 8, 18-25 P 78	Matthew 6, 25-34 P 78
<b>Sunday 26. February</b>		
<b>9.30 Morning Prayer ( CW)</b>	Next before Lent	Mrs. V. Waugh
Sidesmen	Mrs. M. Sheridan	Mrs. S. Baxter
Reader	Mr. S. Hill	
Readings	Exodus 24, 12-18 P 79	Matthew 17, 1-9 P 82

All readings are as detailed in the Revised Common Lectionary unless otherwise shown.  
 If anyone needs the services of a priest, please contact Rev. J. Lane on 01325 377918 or e-mail [jennilane2013@btinternet.com](mailto:jennilane2013@btinternet.com)

**Cleaning Rota:**

w/b February 6 and 13 Mrs Mahaffy and Mrs Donnison  
 20 and 27 Mrs Jen Smith and Mrs Weightman

**Flower Rota:** Sara Vaux will look after the flowers until Ash Wednesday when there will be no flowers in church until Easter.