



The Middleham Herald

Summer Edition August 2022

Message from the Mayor

Well, 2022 will probably be a year that's remembered for some of the highest summer temperatures on record.

It will also be remembered as the year that HM Queen Elizabeth II reached her Platinum Jubilee Anniversary and the celebrations that took place. Here in Middleham we had a great weekend celebrating this unique event.

The Town Council managed to secure some funding which enabled us to organise a number of events to cater for all members of the community.

Many Thanks to all the volunteers who helped to make this event a success and many thanks for other generous donations which contributed towards financing the events.

Our Seniors Outing to Whitby in July was another successful event enjoyed by all on a lovely sunny day.

Cllr Sue Fairhurst, Mayor

Parking in Middleham

A letter to remind everyone about parking within the town centre is coming with this edition of the Herald: households directly adjacent to the Town Wastes will have received this already. Now that the school holidays and summer visitor season are in full swing, please be considerate when parking on the Town Wastes in the town centre

and West End. Although it gets busy, especially on sunny days and weekends, there is almost always room for everyone to park somewhere. Parking is on a "first come first served basis" for everyone, resident or visitor. Nobody has any special rights e.g. to park outside their own house. Nobody should be putting cones, benches or planters out to try to keep communal space just for themselves nor parking badly to try to occupy two spaces.

We have looked at any and every possible place for additional parking and there is nowhere available. We cannot magic up extra land within the town for a car park so it really does need everyone to be patient and polite and share the space there is, please.

Cllr Honor Byford, Deputy Mayor

From the Town Clerk:

Town Councillor Vacancy.

If you would like to play an important role in our community, please send a written expression of interest to the Town Clerk (either by letter to the Key Centre or email to:

office@middlehamtowncouncil.co.uk) by midday on Wednesday 31 August 2022. The vacancy will be filled by co-option at the council meeting at 6.30pm on Wednesday 7 September 2022 where candidates may say a few words about themselves. To find out more about the role and the selection process, please look at the Council's

website or speak to a Councillor or the Clerk (email above or 07531 580499).

New waste Bin.

You may have noticed that last week a new bin was installed near the school close to the junction of Park Lane and the Springs. It's a combined general waste and recycling bin and was purchased by the Town Council following residents feedback that an additional bin in that area was needed. The District Council will empty the bin.

From Middleham Key Centre Trustees

Future of the Key Centre

Earlier this year, after the Key Centre Trustee Board stood down, 5 of your Town Councillors came forward to ensure continuity. The initial priority for the new trustees has been to carry out a business review and, whilst this is not yet complete, it has become clear that following Covid, demand for business office space in rural areas and use by community groups has significantly reduced. As things stand, the Key Centre spends more money than it currently earns and whilst, fortunately, there are no debts, this position is clearly unsustainable and at some point, funds may run out.

The Trustees have successfully renegotiated contracts to reduce outgoings and continue to let function rooms to residents and others alongside our current regular groups. A more radical solution however is required to ensure longer term viability and the Trustees and Council are exploring all options, including potential for sharing use of the building. These investigations

are at an early stage – please be reassured that the aim is that these will continue to include a community space, albeit a smaller and hopefully more sustainable one.

The Key Centre is Middleham's community centre. Council and the trustees intend to share their thoughts and plans and seek feedback from residents, current user groups and potential users. Feedback may be sought in the form of a questionnaire. It is also planned to organise a town meeting; many residents will remember the very well-attended public meeting 5 years ago to discuss the future of the playing fields which lead to a rejuvenated Sports and Community Wellbeing Association.

Further announcements will be made when there is more to report and the Trustees and Council are in a position to recommend a plan.

In the meantime, the Key Centre is mostly run by volunteers: are you able to give up some of your time to, for example, maintain the front garden, help with laying out chairs and tables for events? If you are able to help, in any way, please contact Pam Avison (01969 624002) Sue Fairhurst (07896321348) or Honor Byford (07849918215) for an initial chat.

Honor Byford

Chair of Trustees

Middleham Twinners Association

After a great summer BBQ enjoyed by all, the group is sending a warm invitation to all interested families, as well as existing members to their September event 'Let them eat Cake'.

This will be held in the Key Centre, 17th September from 3pm until 5pm. Admission is only £5 pp or £10 per family and includes a slice of cake and a glass of fizz. Refills and a raffle will be offered to help raise funds to host our next visitors from Azincourt.

The group supports members to host French friends from Azincourt in France for a weekend and then the following year there is the opportunity to travel to France and spend a similar weekend immersed in French family life and events arranged by our French friends. In the meantime, thanks to the support of the 'The Two Ridings Communities Fund', a programme of local events is planned. This gives an opportunity to get to know fellow members and welcome anyone else who would like to join the group.

If you are interested in joining the group or finding out more about our links with Azincourt, please do not hesitate to contact the secretary, Catherine: lcomonaghan11@gmail.com
Peter and Jane on 07918702151.

Middleham Sports Day and Fancy

Dress

Monday 29th August

12pm Middleham Playing Fields!!

Races, Bouncy Castle, Inflatable Slide, Bar, Fancy

Dress and DJ Wilko

Races Start at 12pm

Fancy Dress will start at 6pm at the School.

If you would like to donate cakes or biscuits for Sports day, please bring them with you on the day.

Thank you from Middleham Feast Committee and MSCWA

Letter from the Rectory.

Keeping cool – Rev'd Liz

How do you keep cool when it gets hot, hot, HOT?? One way is to visit our beautiful church in Middleham. The thick walls and high windows somehow keep it pleasantly cool when 'it's cracking flags' outside. Everyone is welcome to come and cool off, maybe to enjoy the peace too and have a few moments to yourself, maybe to think, reflect, pray, or just sit. Have a little look around if you've not been in before, or even if you have. St Alkelda is buried in the church, the windows are beautiful and tell dramatic human stories from the Bible, and there is also a copy of 'the Middleham jewel' in a cabinet at the back of the church. The church is open every day from approximately 9am to 5pm, shutting a little earlier in the winter months. Everyone is welcome, and canine friends are welcome too. Everyone is also really welcome at any of our services at St Alkelda's usually at 9.30am – you might hear our glorious bells calling people to worship on Sunday mornings. Service times are in 'Bridge', on the parish website, and on the notice board outside church.

Maybe you've wondered how cool it is to try church, or what other people might think if you did. There is never any pressure to 'join' but you are welcome to come and try it out. We believe

God is kind, welcoming and forgiving and he never pressurises people into belief or action (which would not be 'cool') because he loves us.

Meanwhile, if you are of a more al fresco disposition, we are having our harvest celebration at the community garden on Sunday 25th September at 3pm and everyone (and of course their dogs) are warmly welcome.

New Bridge editor needed

Meanwhile – Bridge, our parish magazine, needs a new editor. Please contact Rev. Liz at jervaulxliz@gmail.com by the end of August if you are interested.

Enjoy the Summer – and keep cool.

Football is back in Middleham!

Everyone at AFC Middleham Town Football Club would like to say a huge thank you to all local residents and supporters from in and around Middleham for being so welcoming and supportive since the club was reformed back in April!

Chairman & Manager Arwel Carter would like to say a special thank you to everyone within the Middleham Sports Association, Sam & Harriet at The Black Bull Inn and Tony & Rachael of Central Stores - as well as S C Electrics and Catterick Laundrette for supporting the club with various ways of sponsorship and encouragement! This is the beginning of keeping permanent football in Middleham, with a bigger ambition to be competing at different levels as the seasons go by - as well as a long-term vision of perhaps

having some youth football played, and even a girls / ladies team in the future!!

Please do come across and support us on Sunday mornings - 1030am Kick Off's - hot and cold drinks as well as snacks always available!

If you would like to find out more, or would be interested in sponsoring the club, then please contact **Arwel on 07369 235564 or arwelcarter25@icloud.com**.

Who to contact for help or if you are worried for yourself or someone else:

Middleham Town Council

The Town Clerk, David Keep, is working from home, contact him by e-mail:

office@middlehamtowncouncil.co.uk

9.30am Easter Celebrat

or tel 07531 580499. This is David's home mobile and he is happy to be contacted outside normal hours.

Councillor Honor Byford, 01969 625304 or 07849 918215. shbyford@yahoo.co.uk

St Marys & St Alkelda's Church,

Reverends Liz Moody and Jeff Payne

01969 326069 or Liz, 07796 988302

Jeff, 07443 581463

Racing Welfare

Gail Burton-Pye, 07788 184140,

gburtonpye@racingwelfare.co.uk

The Middleham Key Centre, is staffed Monday – Thursday mornings 9.00 – 2.00. You can email us on office@middleham-key.co.uk or ring our number 01969 624002 and leave a message outside of opening hours. Alternatively, you can ring Pam on 07772 736006 or Honor on 01969 625304.