



The Middleham Herald

February 2019

New Councillor

There has been a change in our councillors in the past few months after John Kirkbride stood down after many years of service to the town, for which we thank him. He is succeeded by Greg Fortune who was co-opted at the January meeting.

Many thanks also to Councillor Simon Wheeler for all his hard work with the Christmas lights and tree, the town looked very festive.

During the Festive Season, two annual events took place in the Key Centre, the seniors' Christmas Luncheon and Santa's Grotto for the juniors. These were very much enjoyed by all who took part and many thanks to all who gave their help.

Looking forward, 'The Great British Spring Clean' is scheduled to run from 22nd March to 23rd April. It would be good for Middleham to take part in the country's biggest ever mass action environmental campaign.

Let's become Litter Heroes and clean up our town and surrounding areas. More information will be published nearer the time.

Safety for horses on the roads in Middleham

Many of you will know or have seen that the road surface in Middleham, especially leading up to the Low Moor, has become increasingly 'polished' and more slippery for

shod horses to use. The Town Council and Middleham Trainers Association are working together to persuade North Yorkshire Council to treat the roads to improve traction and grip. For a longer-term solution, we are also working with two major universities and other organisations to see if a better road surface mixture can be developed that will give horses more grip and last longer. This is very early days but we will keep you posted on any progress.

Stables Open Day

The annual Stables Open Day will be on Good Friday, 19th April. It is being organised by Sarah Fanning and Gail Burton-Pye of Racing Welfare.

12 yards at Middleham, Thorngill and Spigot will be open from 09.30 am to 1.00 pm

Our own Household Cavalry horse, Trooper Middleham, will be here, round the town and in Barry Keniry's Warwick Lodge stables.

Activities in Middleham will include:

- Food & Gift Stalls on Middleham Market Place.
- Racing Industry Trade Stands featuring mechanical horse demonstrations with a BHA accredited Jockey Coach.
- Swimming Demonstrations throughout the morning at Mark Johnston's Kingsley House yard.
- Craft Fair in Middleham Key Centre

Some of the timings are:

- 11:00 Parade of Bedale West of Yore Fox Hounds through Middleham.
- 11:30 Jumping demonstration and showing of two-year-olds at James Bethell Racing
- Afternoon activities: 13.30 – 16.00 on the Low Moor including:
 - Inter-yard show jumping with Bedale Pony Club showing the jockeys how!
 - Donkey Derby
 - Retrained racehorses' musical ride.

Tickets are already on sale £12.50 per adult, £8.50 seniors (over 60 yrs) and children under 16 years can attend free of charge with a paying adult.

For more information and to buy tickets:

Online: www.middlehamopenday.co.uk/

Phone: 01638 560763

Email: info@racingwelfare.co.uk

Richard III Festival

This year's Festival, will take place from Friday 5th to Sunday 7th July. We aim for the weekend closest to the anniversary of King Richard's Coronation on 6th July 1483. The Festival will take place entirely within the castle making it more manageable for our small band of volunteer helpers and also helping to keep costs down as we aim to be self-financing. The 2018 costs meant that we had to dip into our Festival savings, which had been carried forward from previous years. This is why we have decided to reduce the scope of activities whilst still providing an interesting and entertaining event that people want to come to. The Friday will continue to

be an educational day for local school children. We are grateful to the Richard III Society (Ricardians) who generously pay for the coaches that bring the children here.

The Festival is run by a (very) small group of town councillors, residents and Ricardians. We really do need a couple more volunteers, some who would be willing to help for a morning or afternoon during the weekend. The pre-planning, media and online promotion, together with the running of the weekend itself, provides really good experience of how to run an event, and work with District and County Councils for their support and help and meeting insurance and other requirements. This experience could be very useful if you are looking to organise events for your own community group or to broaden your CV. If you would like to know more, please get in touch with either the Town Clerk, David Keep, (01969 625225) or Cllr. Honor Byford, (01969 625304)

Safety for dogs in Middleham

There have been two recent incidents of dogs attacking, injuring and killing sheep around Middleham. This has resulted in two dogs being shot. No matter how obedient and good natured your dog is usually, it can very easily revert to its instinct to chase other animals. Farmers are legally entitled to shoot any dog that is chasing or attacking their livestock. Particularly at this time of year, with lambing coming up, please, please keep your dog safe by keeping it on the lead whenever you are in or near a field containing sheep or other livestock.