

# Mortimer Village Partnership Newsletter



Mortimer Village Partnership  
Enriching Village Life

June 2017

All this and more available on our  
website [www.mortimervillage.org.uk](http://www.mortimervillage.org.uk)



**The Queen's Award  
for Voluntary Service**

## The Fun Day Is Here Again!

Only a few days away from Mortimer's favourite day out and this year the team has pulled out all the stops. Inside this issue of the newsletter you will find lots of information about what's on and when, but I know you will be *galloping* along to see our "mane" attraction and *juggling* your time to make sure you see everything (Ok, that's enough clues; now look inside for more details). We hope by now you have already booked your flight high over Mortimer in our hot air balloon and, perhaps more importantly, done everything you can to ensure fine weather so that we can actually take off this year!

My hope from last year that we would not need to organise another Village Spring Clean, did not materialise. Sadly, the pile of rubbish collected was as high as in previous years, but on a positive note again we had a great turn-out, with groups of people of all ages doing their bit to prepare Mortimer for summer. The AGM afterwards unfortunately clashed with the England v Scotland rugby match, a mistake we won't make again. Nevertheless, the entertainment from Achoired Taste was lovely, as were the teas and cakes.

As an update from the last Newsletter, I am sure everyone will have now seen the three defibrillators sited around the village, funded by MVP with support from Tadley Community First Responders. This is the one thing MVP has done that we sincerely hope no-one will ever have a need for, but it is a comfort to know that the equipment is available should the worst happen.

Lastly, the Village May Ball at Wokefield Park proved to be a great success. It was a lovely warm evening, so everyone enjoyed drinks on the terrace, a very nice meal and some serious dancing, right until the coach returned everyone to the village. I hope you find this MVP Newsletter informative, and a big thank you to the team who put it together and deliver it to your door.

**Doug Overett**  
MVP Chairman

## Friday Afternoon Club



Five of our members make items to sell at the Duchess of Kent Hospice and they, along with another group of contributors, were invited to have afternoon tea with Hospice staff as a thank you at the beginning of February. The two groups between them had raised over £1000 with which the Hospice will buy materials for use in day therapy. It was a pleasant and informative visit in which we learned more about the work they do.

[www.sueryder.org/care-centres/hospices/duchess-of-kent-hospice](http://www.sueryder.org/care-centres/hospices/duchess-of-kent-hospice)

A few others have been hand-sewing quilts for the Linus Project, bringing comfort to sick children in hospital. One of our members made cushions from donated material which she and another member sold in Budgens one Saturday morning. We are very grateful to the store for giving us the space to do this. Over £200 was raised with which to buy material for more quilts. [projectlinusuk.org.uk](http://projectlinusuk.org.uk)

Along with all this, we continue to work on a variety of crafts – and enjoy a cup of tea! We meet on the first and third Fridays each month from 13:30 to 15:30 in the Methodist Church Hall, West End Road. Whatever you enjoy doing, or even if you would just like some company, you are very welcome to come and join in.

## Mortimer Walking for Health Group (sponsored by West Berkshire Council)

We have two free walks every Tuesday, come rain or shine, starting from the community centre car park opposite the Horse & Groom and meeting back at the pub for coffee. At 09:45 we have a longer walk of around five miles that takes 1¾ to 2 hours, or at 10:00 is our regular walk of around three and a half miles lasting about 1½ hours.



Each walk is led by trained volunteers and are designed for people of all abilities, offering an opportunity to meet new people and explore the beautiful countryside around the village. The walks are extremely popular and regularly attract over 50 people from as far afield as Basingstoke, Newbury, Thatcham, Baughurst and Tilehurst, as well as the closer villages. It's easy to start walking with us; just turn up 10 minutes before the start and speak to one of the walk leaders (in florescent waistcoats).

For those keen to get fitter but who want to start gently, we are looking to introduce a shorter walk of up to an hour later in the year and will be canvassing your views at our stall at Fun Day, so why not come and see us for a chat?

We are a very friendly bunch and make newcomers welcome – each year we also have a Christmas lunch and a summer barbeque. We look forward to meeting you and welcoming you to the group.

Walking for Health overcomes a recognised barrier to becoming more active by providing opportunities for social contact. It has been shown to improve self-esteem, relieve symptoms of depression, anxiety, and improve mood.

Walking has been described as the "nearest activity to the perfect form of exercise" - it benefits both physical and mental health. Regular walking has been shown to reduce the risk of heart disease, type 2 diabetes, asthma, strokes and some cancers. Walking counts towards the recommended 150 minutes of physical activity people should be doing each week.

## **Mortimer Netball Club**

Have you thought about playing netball? Not played for a good few years? Mortimer Netball Club is looking for new members to come and join us for the coming season. All ages over 16 and abilities welcome.

We train at the John Madejski Academy on a Monday evening from 19:45 to 21:15. Please contact Steph ([sjkape@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sjkape@hotmail.co.uk)) if you would like to come along. We have four competitive teams in the Reading League and compete in fun tournaments. This season the Club has organised two foreign trips, one to a tournament in Copenhagen and one to La Manga in Spain, for some international action.



Mortimer Netball

We will have a goal shooting competition at the Fun Day for adults and children, so come and see if you can win a prize!

## **Save The Children Kennet Branch**

### **Jazz Evening with Clive Fortune Big Band**

Our Jazz Evening returns for its thirteenth year on Saturday 24th June. In a beautiful garden setting at Little Manor, Burghfield Village, live music, including jazz standards, big band classics and contemporary arrangements will be supplied by the Clive Fortune Big Band. We defy you not to dance! A hog roast and bar are available or bring your own picnic. Tickets are £10 in advance or £12 on the night, accompanied under 16s go free. 18:30 start. For tickets please call 0118 9832569.

### **Jumble Sale**

The 'check out' Jumble Sale returns 10:30 on Saturday 9th September at St. Johns Hall, West End Road. All items 40p or 3 for £1. Tea and coffee available and donations welcome from 09:00.



**Save the Children**

# 1<sup>st</sup> Mortimer Baden Powell Scout Group



Thanks to a very mild winter, our Cubs and Scouts have made far more of the great outdoors than normal, tracking, fire lighting and cooking, wide games in the woods, and scavenger hunting being just a few of the activities they have enjoyed. Our Cubs held the annual November activity camp in our HQ, which we also shared with several other Cub packs from our area.

With the arrival of Spring and the lighter evenings, the Cubs prepared for the first camp of the year over the second May bank Holiday, held at the Paccar Scout Camp at Chalfont Heights in Buckinghamshire. The theme of this year's camp was Native Americans and a packed programme was planned, guaranteed as great fun for all. For several of our Cubs it was their first sleep-out in a tent and so a great adventure.

Our Scouts have also been very active. They completed a 4-day cycle tour of Normandy over the Easter Bank Holiday, travelling some 125 miles from the Port of Caen to Cherbourg, carrying all our tents and equipment, and visiting museums, war cemeteries and other places of interest along the way. The expedition was a great success and we will have some pictures on our stand at the Mortimer Fun Day, so please come and take a look.

As usual our Scouts will be manning the car park and providing support services largely unseen, but fulfilling the Scout Promise of Service to the Community. If you have a son or daughter who would like to join us and enjoy the fun, come and talk to us on our Fun Day stand, contact us on the number in the affiliates list or by using the contact details on the MVP website.

## Music For Mortimer

Our April show "A Pirate's Tale – the Real Boats that Rocked" at the Community Centre, was a sell-out success. Budgens' own Richard Swainson told captivating and amusing tales of his time aboard the Radio Caroline and Radio London pop radio ships, interspersed with relevant music. Compere Nick Carter told of his journey via a café in Belgium to fulfil a dream of being a Radio Caroline DJ 30 years ago, and Roger 'Twiggy' Day, Radio Caroline legend and *real* music DJ, came from Kent to bring us his entertaining look back at a varied and successful career in "50 Shades of Day". With excellent audience questions from a diverse group of villagers and radio fans from afar, the event raised £554.61 for Prostate Cancer UK. For photos and more see [www.MFM.life](http://www.MFM.life) or [www.facebook.com/musicformortimer](http://www.facebook.com/musicformortimer). Thanks to volunteers Richard, John, Roy, Lynn and Sue for making it possible, and to Adrian Smith for his support.

Our next event is Kingsclere Guitar Society, who are delighted to be supporting the South Berks Concert Band's annual post-Fun Day concert. It's on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July from 16:00 on Mortimer Fairground. For more details, see their article and separate posters.



## **Mortimer West End Village Hall** ([www.facebook.com/mwevillagehall](http://www.facebook.com/mwevillagehall))

### **CAR BOOT & TABLE TOP SALE: Sundays 4<sup>th</sup> June, 6<sup>th</sup> August, 1<sup>st</sup> October 08:00 – 11:00**

Thanks to all those who came along to our car boot sales last year, and to our first one of the season in April. Now that the warmer weather is here we will hold Car Boot Sales on the first Sunday of alternate months. Entry is free and pitches are £5. Not only can you grab some great bargains, but you can also enjoy a steaming cup of tea and a hot bacon butty!

### **WOODLAND WALK AND BARBECUE: Sunday 16th July 11:00 – 13:00**

Starting and ending at the village hall, the walk offers adults, children and furry friends an opportunity to enjoy the beautiful woodland in our area. On the way round you can find treasure and solve puzzles, with prizes to be won and treats to collect. You can relax afterwards with a drink and a burger or two. If you don't fancy a walk, you could just come for the barbecue. Entry is £6 per team.

### **QUIZ NIGHT: Saturday 7th October 19:30**

With a trophy at stake, pit your wits against the best in the village at the annual quiz night. Tickets are £8.50 including a ploughman's supper. Put together your own unbeatable team, or come on your own and make some new friends. Bring your own drinks and snacks.

### **PHOTO SESSION: November**

Wondering what to give the grandparents for Christmas? How about a beautiful photograph of the family? Come to Mortimer West End Village Hall for a photographic session. Full details will be available nearer the time on our Facebook page (above).

For further information about any of these events, to buy tickets or to receive regular updates please contact [mwevh@outlook.com](mailto:mwevh@outlook.com) or 0118 970 0001 or take a look at our facebook page which also includes some great photos of some of our latest events; an Easter bonnet competition run by TiM and a concert by the Blackheart Orchestra.

We also offer:

### **PILATES CLASSES: Mondays 9:30-10:30 and 10:30-11:30**

Please contact Wendy on 07961 102535 or [WendyGill44@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:WendyGill44@yahoo.co.uk)

### **INDOOR CYCLING: Mondays 18:30 – 19:30 and Tuesdays 19:45 – 20:45**

Please contact Craig on [CraigSmithIndoorCycling@outlook.com](mailto:CraigSmithIndoorCycling@outlook.com)

### **WOMEN'S CIRCLE: 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday 19:30 – 21:30**

Please contact Samara on 07530 016398 or [SamaraJacobs86@gmail.com](mailto:SamaraJacobs86@gmail.com)

### **CALLEVA WI: 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday 19:30 – 22:00**

Please contact Carole on 0118 970 0714 or [CaroleWood@live.co.uk](mailto:CaroleWood@live.co.uk)

### **EGG CRAFT: 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday 10:00 – 15:00**

Please contact Jenny on [moss.j7@sky.com](mailto:moss.j7@sky.com)

## South Berks Concert Band



The band is delighted to be partnering with **Save the Children Kennet Branch** for 2017, with the aim of creating further awareness of the important work Save the Children do locally and nationally, as well as bringing more people together to enjoy live music and raise funds for this charitable cause. The first time you will see us this year is when we join you at the Mortimer Fun Day where once again we will be giving all visitors to our stand the opportunity to try out different brass, woodwind and percussion instruments. The following day, Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July from 16:00, the band will perform a varied program of music based on "Heroes and Villains". The concert will be in the marquee on the Fairground. As with each of our summer concerts we like to include another group from the community, and this year we are pleased to announce that the **Kingsclere Guitar Society** will be performing. As well as the musical entertainment, there will also be a number of activities for the children run by our friends from **Save the Children Kennet Branch**. Do watch out for more information on our website, Facebook page, posters and the leaflet that came with this Newsletter. So do put these dates in your diary, tell friends, family and work colleagues and we look forward to seeing you all at one of these events.

Tickets for our July concert are available from Dads Shop in Mortimer and Wellers the Fruit Shop, Burghfield, and you can also book by email on [SBCB\\_Music@yahoo.com](mailto:SBCB_Music@yahoo.com)

## Mortimer St Mary's PTA

Support your local Junior School, Mortimer St Mary's, by visiting our Summer Fair on 17<sup>th</sup> June from 12:00 – 15:00, for tombolas, stalls, games, and the chance to win fabulous prizes and days out for the family in our raffle, silent auction and lucky dip. This year we will feature a creative area where children can enter our 'Vicious Veg and Glorious Gardens' competition. A barbecue, licensed bar, and tea & cake will be available throughout the event. We will also be running a stall at the Mortimer Fun Day on 1<sup>st</sup> July where you'll be able to play 'Spin to Win', and we'll be offering nail painting and tattoos - animal themed this year in line with the 'Farm Yard' children's area. All proceeds will go to benefitting children at the school. As all local schools find themselves under increasing funding pressure, your support at these events will be hugely appreciated.



## Burghfield & Mortimer Community First Responder Group

We are pleased to affiliate to MVP on this, our 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year. We are VOLUNTEER residents, trained and supported by the NHS Ambulance Service to attend 999 life-threatening emergencies within Mortimer, Burghfield, Wokefield, Grazeley, Sulhamstead and the surrounding village areas. We



are entirely voluntary, funded by our local community and associations such as MVP. We seriously need more members to help us respond & to support our fundraising efforts. Please contact David Gregory at [davidgregory2000@gmail.com](mailto:davidgregory2000@gmail.com) or 07595 959 479 to find out more. Alternatively, please visit [sca-charity.org.uk/burghfield-cfr/](http://sca-charity.org.uk/burghfield-cfr/) Come and meet us in the Emergency Vehicle section of the Mortimer Fun Day to find out more about what we do and how you can help.

## 1<sup>st</sup> Burghfield & Sulhamstead Scout Group



Having completed their Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh Awards, Stephen Gomm and Emily Pickett from the 1<sup>st</sup> Burghfield and Sulhamstead Scout Group have now achieved the Gold Award.

To achieve this, both volunteered as young leaders for 12 months, working with younger children; Stephen was a young leader with a Cub Pack (ages 8-10) whilst Emily was a young leader with a Beaver Colony (ages 6-8). Since completing their awards, both have now become full adult volunteers with the Scout Association. To complete their physical section, Stephen trained regularly to compete in national downhill mountain biking competitions, whilst Emily set herself the challenge of training for the Reading half marathon, ultimately completing the race in under 2 hours. Both had to learn a new skill and they chose to learn to drive; they have both passed their driving tests.

To achieve the Gold Award, Emily and Stephen also had to complete a residential challenge. Emily chose to travel to Uganda as part of an expedition with Berkshire Scouts, completing community work at two schools, building new classrooms and decorating others. Stephen learnt how a scout activity centre is run, as well as helping with site maintenance during his 5-day experience.

Finally, Emily and Stephen were part of a team that trained for, and completed, a 4-day expedition in Snowdonia covering over 75 km and even climbing mount Snowdon on their last day.

Both had their awards presented by Berkshire Scouts' County Commissioner, Nigel Bevan and are now waiting for an invitation to attend a special reception for Gold Award holders at St James's Palace in London. By completing their Gold DofE Award, the two Scouts are now in the final stages of their Scout training and are hoping to achieve Scouting's top award, the Queen's Scout Award in the near future.

## Mortimer 2012 W.I.



Mortimer 2012 WI meets on the first Monday of every month in the Community Centre. We have a wide variety of speakers and events including planned visits to Stratfield Saye House and Bletchley Park where the Enigma Code was broken. We will have our usual stand at the Fun Day selling our delicious home-made cakes and biscuits, so do come and visit us.

## Together In Mission (TiM)



TiM provides opportunities to support the local community. Come and meet us at the Mortimer Fun Day.

Our popular café at the Burghfield Methodist Church Hall is now open all day on Mondays and offers a free IT drop-in clinic between 10:00 and noon, as well as personal prayer on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month. We welcome anybody wishing to start a bridge, backgammon or Scrabble club or those wishing to spend time with our selection of board games and puzzles. Wednesday mornings we're open 09:00 - noon. There is disabled access, tables outside, a safe play area for toddlers and free wifi. We guarantee a welcome and a smile to all our customers. If you would like to join our team or get involved in any aspect of Café B then please contact Deborah Griffiths on 07857 252 187, or [deborah@togetherinmission.org.uk](mailto:deborah@togetherinmission.org.uk)

Our TiM Friends volunteers aim to provide a warm and caring presence for those in the community who don't get out as often as they would like. Volunteers are trained and DBS cleared before they are carefully matched with a suitable client. Here is one volunteer's experience of befriending:

*"Every week whether I am taking my friend 'D' out for a short stroll to the local coffee shop, or to the 'Singing for the Brain' afternoon, or going for a drive to the Wharf Canal-side car park to watch the barges and swans sail past, it is without fail that her smile brightens her surroundings. We have been to a craft group, watching people crochet, sew, create wonderful patchworks and tapestries as well as visited farm shops with farm animals to watch. 'D' especially loves watching other people having a good time and loves to watch mums with children as they all laugh and run around. I am privileged to be part of TiM and to have 'D' as a friend who makes me smile too!"*

Do you know someone who would appreciate a volunteer to give them company? Could you bring a smile into someone's day? Would you like to join our Silver Sunday event on 1<sup>st</sup> October? Come and see our TiM Friends Coordinator, Bev French, at the Mortimer Fun Day or contact her on 07748 686 615 or [bev@togetherinmission.org.uk](mailto:bev@togetherinmission.org.uk)



School Pastors would like to give thanks to the residents of Mortimer who have been amazing in their support and enthusiasm for the youth in our villages. One of these supporters is pictured here - Brenda Baldwin - of Mortimer West End Chapel. Come rain or shine, Brenda never fails to engage with students and staff at The Willink with a cheery smile. She is a dedicated and steadfast School Pastor with her gentle encouragement, hard work, and passion for all things youth related. If you see Brenda in the next few weeks, give her a smile (she loves collecting them) and pass on our thanks. Look out for Brenda at the Mortimer Fun Day, together with our School Pastors Coordinator, Libby, or make contact with Libby any time: [libby@togetherinmission.org.uk](mailto:libby@togetherinmission.org.uk), [www.facebook.com/TiMSchoolPastors](https://www.facebook.com/TiMSchoolPastors), [www.twitter.com/TiM\\_Pastors](https://www.twitter.com/TiM_Pastors)

We are grateful to the generous funding from Stratfield Mortimer Relief in Need and for their continued support in the Mortimer and Mortimer West End areas.



## **Pull-Out Programme**

**Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July**

**11:00 a.m. – 17:30 p.m.**

**FREE ENTRY**



It's here again, the must-do event of the year: the Mortimer Fun Day. If you are new to Mortimer, then welcome! Come and join us on the fairground for a great day out.

We're pleased to say that, yet again, IT'S FREE and brought to you by the Mortimer Village Partnership supported by businesses, associations, clubs & organisations from Mortimer and the surrounding communities.

Our headline attraction this year is billed as galloping razzle dazzle... what's not to like? We are delighted to have an equestrian main attraction this year, a reminder to many of the gymkhanas and fairs of 20 or 30 years ago, but with a bit of added circus.

Shane & Alex will bring their unique brand of humour and juggling to entertain us all with some genuine award-winning variety.

Our fingers are crossed for fine weather this year. Given zero turbulence and a skilled pilot, the Spratley's and the Village Eye team will be running scheduled tethered hot air balloon rides high over Mortimer.

This year our Kids Zone will be taken over by the fantastic Miller's Ark mobile farm who will bring some of their animal friends from the farmyard. There will be lots of chances to have a cuddle with your favourite farm animals, unless that is, you are a fan of crocodiles 😊

Our great friends at Budgens will be supplying the teas and cakes in the MVP Refreshment Tent, along with our catering partners Mortimer Sausage Company, The Hatchgate Indian and Arborfield Hog Roast, who will be cooking all day.

Layne & Dick's, the best Pop-Up Pub for miles around will have the beer flowing and the Pimm's on ice with live music to round off the afternoon from the now famous Beer Tent Band.

As always and big thank you to our generous sponsors who help fund the event, which then allows local charities, clubs and organisations to use the event to raise funds for their own projects.

Don't forget to invite your friends, family, people you meet on the bus, indeed anyone to the Mortimer Fun Day... see you all on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July at 11:00.

Doug Overett

**MVP Chairman & Fun Day Project Manager**

## What's on in the Arena this year?

<b>12:00</b>	Totally Smashed It Box Fit
<b>12:30</b>	Galloping Acrobatics
<b>13:00</b>	The Rock Project Reading
<b>13:30</b>	Shane & Alex
<b>14:00</b>	All Stars Theatre Academy
<b>14:30</b>	Reading Operatic Society
<b>15:00</b>	Virtue School of Gymnastics
<b>15:30</b>	Galloping Acrobatics
<b>16:00</b>	Mortimer Fire Fighters
<b>16:25</b>	Winners' announcements
<b>16:30</b>	Reading Scottish Pipe Band

### **Totally Smashed It Box Fit**

A demonstration of box fit. Steve Buchanan will wake up our audience with some great exercise.

### **Galloping Acrobatics**

Two performances from our star attraction of the day: gymnastics, acrobatics and equestrian skills combine in a breath-taking, razzle-dazzle show.

### **The Rock Project Reading**

The UK's premier school of rock and pop for young people aged 7 to 18.

### **Shane & Alex**

Local double-act performs the show that won them Britain Does Variety 2016.

### **All Stars Theatre Academy**

A variety of dance styles from our Reading-based dance & theatre group.

### **Reading Operatic Society**

Joining us for the first time and performing hits from beloved musicals.

### **Virtue School of Gymnastics**

Showcasing their range of gymnastic skills through a variety of routines.

### **Mortimer Fire Fighters**

Our local heroes will demonstrate the skills required to keep us safe.

### **Reading Scottish Pipe Band**

Formed 60 years ago and back for their fourth year running by popular demand, they perform our grand finale.

## PETS IN PRACTISE

Pet Problems Solved  
& Dog Training Offered



### Bring Your Dog to the Fun Day ([petsinpractise.co.uk](http://petsinpractise.co.uk))

Pets in Practise is kindly sponsoring the dog show in the Pets' Arena from 12 noon to 4pm. Entries can be made on the day at the Pets in Practise stall no later than ten minutes before your chosen event.

- ♥ Midday: Cutest Puppy (under 12 months)
- ♥ 12:30pm: Waggiest Tail
- ♥ 1:00pm: Best Family Dog
- ♥ 1:30pm: Dog Most Like Their Owner
- ♥ 2:00pm: Best Child Handler (under 14 yrs)
- ♥ 2:30pm: Most Appealing Eyes
- ♥ 3:00pm: Prettiest Girl
- ♥ 3:30pm: Handsomest Boy
- ♥ 4:00pm: Golden Oldie (8 years +)



Rosettes and prizes will be awarded for 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> places. Entries cost just £2.50 per dog per class.

### Kids' Zone

The theme this year is The Village Farm. We will be joined by our friends at Miller's Ark who will bring a range of animals, which may include sheep and lambs, goats and kids, piglets, rare breed poultry, ducks and geese, hens and chicks, giant rabbits, guinea pigs and a farm dog. There will be lots of opportunity to feed and pet the animals to connect children with their rural surroundings. There will be farm-themed games, a tractor and (we hope) a scarecrow who will tell us the secrets of the farmyard.

### Tea Tent

Time for Tea? Come and visit us for some well-earned refreshments: tea, coffee, soft drinks, cakes and snacks. Why not join in with our just-for-fun food related quizzes (children and grown-up versions) whilst enjoying the fayre. Our thanks go to Budgens for their generosity in supporting the tea tent.

# MORTIMER MUSIC LIVE ▶

Following the sell-out sensation of Take That at last year's Fun Day, MML is pleased to present Planet ABBA! Honey Honey, unleash your inner Dancing Queen and take yourself back to the Super Trouper ABBA age! Mamma Mia, it's going to be a great night!

Join us from 20:00 (doors open 19:30) in the main marquee on Mortimer Fairground to catch the support from local artists. We have all new food stalls, a fully licensed bar and a brand-new cocktail bar. Tickets are on sale for £15 from Baobab, Budgens, Dad's Shop, The Fruit Shop (Wellers) and online at [www.mortimermusiclive.co.uk](http://www.mortimermusiclive.co.uk).

The previous three years have been complete sell-outs, so buy now to avoid disappointment. Please don't bring food, alcohol or chairs. Limited seats, tables and a disabled section will be provided. This year's bar will run on a token based system, with tokens available to buy on the gates with cash or card.



# PLANET ABBA

[WWW.MORTIMERMUSICLIVE.CO.UK](http://WWW.MORTIMERMUSICLIVE.CO.UK)  
FACEBOOK: MORTIMER MUSIC LIVE

## Laney & Dick's Place Bar



Laney & Dick's Place Bar is back this year to keep you refreshed throughout the day, with lager & cider on draught, beer from Wild Weather Ales, a selection of wines and, of course, plenty of Prosecco & Pimm's as the sun will be shining. Our highly professional bar staff will do their best to keep you entertained and keep your glasses filled.

## Hot Air Balloon Rides

One of the major attractions at the Mortimer Fun Day this year is the hot air balloon, sponsored by Spratley's and Village Eye. A £20 donation (plus £1.83 handling fee) will reserve your 5-10 minute tethered flight up to 100 feet (conditions permitting). Flight time slots will sell out quickly, so visit [villageeye.co.uk/Villageeye/](http://villageeye.co.uk/Villageeye/) to reserve yours now.



## **Mortimer Local History Group**

Come and visit our gazebo at the Mortimer Fun Day. Last year we took you on a walk from Beech Hill to Mortimer through Great Park Farm with photos from the 1930s to the 1960s. We showed you maps of Mortimer back to the 19<sup>th</sup> century with associated historic photos and we paid tribute to the men of Mortimer who died 100 years before in 1916, during the Great War. This year we'll be showing you how people shopped 'til they dropped in the Mortimer of years gone by, showing you Mortimer's connection with Royalty through the ages and getting you to pit your wits in a picture quiz with fabulous prizes (bearing in mind our limited resources...). We'll again pay tribute to the men of Mortimer who died 100 years ago during the Great War in 1917. Come along and bring along any old photos – nostalgia is as good as it ever was!

Meetings are every third Thursday in the month at the Methodist Church Hall, 20:00 – 22:00. All welcome.

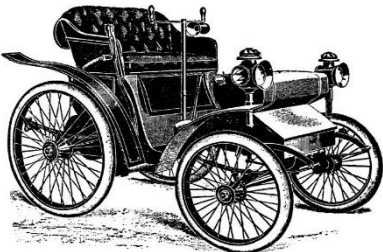
## **Upcoming MVP Events**

### **Market Row**

On this year's market row at the Mortimer Fun Day we have a wide range of crafts and activities to tempt you, from acrylic & watercolour artists, hand drawn caricatures and original photography, to fabulous fudge and artisanal, traditional and organic breads and pastries. Food stalls will include olives, Turkish delight, baklava, jams, chutneys and salad dressings, as well as local sausages. Try wine-tasting, treat yourself to some fine silver jewellery, some organic and natural beauty products, or consider some reclaimed, rustic wood home furnishings. We also have great support from local pet food suppliers.



### **Classic Cars**



Our local classic car enthusiasts will be proudly displaying their prized possessions at the Mortimer Fun Day. See how many classic marques you can name!

# MVP Support For Local Groups



Affiliated groups and contact details for 2017 are:

1st Burghfield & Sulhamstead Scouts	burghfieldgsl@outlook.com	07867 800335
1st Mortimer Baden Powell Scout Group	neiljohnson@btinternet.com	933 2147
1st Mortimer Brownies	firstmortimerbrownies@hotmail.co.uk	933 3153
1st Ufton Nerve Scout Group	cathryn@uftonscouts.com	07793 196863
Alfred Palmer Memorial Field Trust	trustees@alfredpalmermemorialfield.org.uk	
Berkshire Music & Arts	hazel@berksmusicandarts.org.uk	07802 447546
Burghfield & Mortimer Community 1st Responders	davidgregory2000@gmail.com	07595 959479
Burghfield & Mortimer Handybus	pichurch@btinternet.com	983 3694
Burghfield & Mortimer Volunteer Drivers	derekbhhh3@gmail.com	983 3341
Burghfield Camera Club	burghfieldccsec@gmail.com	
Friday Afternoon club	d.stroud2010@btinternet.com	
Hurst Singers	mariatseasons@aol.com	933 2805
Mortimer & District Branch of the RNLI	j.r.bull@btinternet.com	933 3741
Mortimer 2012 WI	Malelkin@aol.com	933 1331
Mortimer Bell Ringers	petermacnaughtan@hotmail.com	933 2200
Mortimer Cricket Club	adrsmith@gmail.com	
Mortimer Dramatic Society	tshorrock@mmerlin.com	07785 333321
Mortimer FC	mortimerfootballclub@gmail.com	07786 631027
Mortimer Film Club	pete.blagden@btinternet.com	933 2546
Mortimer Garden Club	angiephilips@btinternet.com	
Mortimer Local History Club	munsonsinmortimer@yahoo.co.uk	933 1310
Mortimer Methodist Church	amfoymusic@gmail.com	933 3689
Mortimer Music Live	jacqui.grant@mortimermusiclive.co.uk	933 3408
Mortimer Netball Club	sjkape@hotmail.co.uk	
Mortimer St Mary's PTA	mortstmarys@gmail.com	07827 719030
Mortimer Tennis Club	jean.l.thomas@btinternet.com	
Mortimer West End Produce Show	melonybennet93@gmail.com	933 1792
Mortimer West End Village Hall	mwevh@outlook.com.	933 2417
Music for Mortimer	nickcarter1@gmail.com	07446 239239
Santas of Burghfield	glyn.townsend@hpe.com	07824 623583
Save the Children - Kennet Branch	jclaredowney@gmail.com	07971 241222
South Berks Concert Band	southberksconcertband@yahoo.com	07785 311856
St John's PFA	katrinathomas@hotmail.co.uk	07788 281535
St Mary's Sulhamstead Abbots	pisumcorporum@btinternet.com	983 2491
Together in Mission	info@togetherinmission.org.uk	933 2569
West Berkshire Walking for Health	gb@atpps.com	933 1707
Willink PTA	pta@willink.w-berks.sch.uk	

## Fun Day Volunteers

Help! The Mortimer Fun Day needs more volunteers...

The 2017 Fun Day needs to find almost 200 volunteers to help at various points during the weekend of 30<sup>th</sup> June to 2<sup>nd</sup> July (typically Friday midday to Sunday midday). From raffle ticket sellers and tea tent helpers to gazebo putter-uppers, litter pickers and trouble shooters there are a range of roles from active to sitting, suitable for anyone over 16 years! If you can spare a few hours please call 07968 018162 or email [volunteer@mortimervillage.org.uk](mailto:volunteer@mortimervillage.org.uk).

## Fun Day Tombola

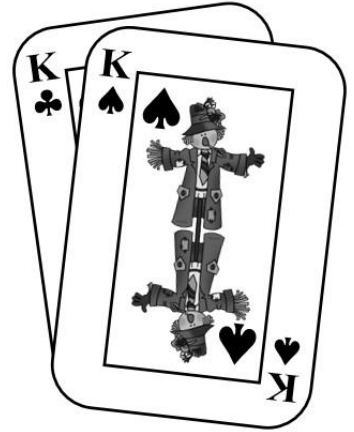


It's that time again when we make a plea for donations for MVP Fun Day tombola prizes. As usual there will be two stalls, one for adults and one for children. Please save any suitable items during your annual clear out. We can collect or you can drop items off in the plastic tub to the right of the front door at 30 Briarlea Road, RG7 3SB. Thanks!

## Mortimer Scarecrow Trail

'One of a Pair' is the theme for this year's Scarecrow Trail – now, believe it or not, in its 8<sup>th</sup> year!

What famous and infamous pairs can you come up with? Batman and Robin, Beauty and the Beast, Henry the 8<sup>th</sup> and Anne Boleyn, David and Victoria, Bonnie and Clyde and so on and on and on! You only need to make one of the pair as the name of the other one will form part of our ever-popular trail competition.



Of course, the Scarecrow Trail won't be taking place until the autumn half term holiday and the closing date for entries won't be until late September, but what better way to spend the long lazy days of summer than in creating your 'One of a Pair' for a chance to win one of the 10 prizes?

Your 'One of a Pair' character can be reserved by completing an entry form and paying the £10.00 entry fee. Entry forms and Scarecrow Trail guidelines will be available at the Fun Day on the 1<sup>st</sup> July, from the information tent or online from the 24<sup>th</sup> July, from the MVP Scarecrow Trail Facebook page or our website: [www.mortimervillage.org.uk](http://www.mortimervillage.org.uk). Don't forget that duplicate characters are not allowed so get your entry in early. For further information contact Lynn Hannawin on 0118 9332577 or by emailing [scarecrow@mortimervillage.org.uk](mailto:scarecrow@mortimervillage.org.uk).

Go on, build a scarecrow and join in the fun!

## Christmas Panto



After wowing the audience with their performances of Dick Whittington last December, we are delighted to announce Gary Starr Pantomimes are returning to Mortimer with Beauty & the Beast!

This year's production will be held on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December with just 2 shows at St. Johns Hall Mortimer, starting at 14:00 and 17:00.

To make the shows more memorable this year, we will be offering a meet and greet, including photo opportunities, with the cast at the end of each performance.

We are expecting tickets for this event to be in high demand. Email us at [boxoffice@mortimervillage.org.uk](mailto:boxoffice@mortimervillage.org.uk) to join the PANTO VIP CLUB and be the first to hear how you can bag your family's tickets. More information will be released after the summer.

## Recent MVP Events

### Spring Clean & MVP AGM

On 11<sup>th</sup> March Mortimer held its annual spring clean followed by the MVP AGM. The spring clean was again a busy affair with a very good turn out from people of all ages, some in family groups, some on their own, and even a couple of groups of teenagers who came to volunteer; who says we don't have great kids in our village? Mortimer was buzzing with Hi-Viz clad people waving litter pickers. We gave the Wombles of Wimbledon a good run for their money!

Following the spring clean, the MVP's annual general meeting held in the Community Centre was kept brief, but included an update by our Chairman, Doug Overett, on the past year's MVP activities. In addition to mentioning all of the events and the hard work of our volunteers and committee members, it was noted that the MVP was especially proud to have been able to make significant contributions to two major projects. The installation of three defibrillators across the village is now complete and a mains electricity supply will be located in the centre of the fairground, which will prove invaluable for all events held on what is probably the village's most treasured asset.

After the election of MVP officers, the afternoon was concluded with tea and cakes, and some light entertainment from local choir, Achoired Taste. We would like to remind people that the AGM is open to everyone who might be interested in the activities of the MVP and we hope to see more people attend next year.

**ANNUAL  
GENERAL  
MEETING**



## **Other Local News**

### **Mortimer Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) Referendum**

On 22<sup>nd</sup> June Mortimer residents will have the chance to accept or reject the NDP, which has been put together by local villagers over the last 3 years. West Berkshire Council has stipulated that Mortimer must allocate land for 110 new houses; we have no choice in this matter, however we have had a chance to stipulate where those dwellings will be, what they will look like and what is important to us in Mortimer. The NDP has been put together as a plan, rather like a design document, from ideas and suggestions of local people that a developer must follow. The policies in it will apply to any future planning application. Our referendum allows us the chance to agree or disagree with this plan. If a majority agree, it will become part of our planning law straight away. If rejected, West Berkshire Council will put together a new plan themselves. Whatever your thoughts, please vote!

To find out more, visit the NDP website: [www.mortimer-ndp.org.uk](http://www.mortimer-ndp.org.uk) or the WBC referendum page: <http://info.westberks.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=33860>

### **Cold Ash Brass Concert**

Save the date: 17<sup>th</sup> June. Cold Ash Brass will perform music from stage & screen in St Mary's Church, Mortimer starting at 19:00.

Tickets are £10 on the door (free for under 18s) and includes a glass of wine or juice and nibbles. For further information call: 0118 933 2764 or text 07719 886 694.

## **Fun Day Thanks**

The 2017 Mortimer Village Partnership Fun Day team would like to express our heartfelt thanks to everyone who is taking part this year, in particular an advanced thank you to all of our volunteers and sponsors.

MVP extends special thanks to:

**Stewart Stanley** who for many years has put together all the electrics for our event.



**Greenham Common Trust** for their continuing support for the work of MVP.

**J. Mould** for yet again providing a skip for all the waste we generate.

**J. Mould (Reading)**

**Harvey Crocker** for the loan of the hay bales surrounding our arena.

**CTS (GB) Ltd** for the loan of a van for the logistics team to move the many pieces of equipment for the Fun Day.



The many local **Churches, Schools** and other **Organisations** who lend tables, chairs and other equipment.

The local **Scout Groups** for their assistance in car parking and the loan of loads of equipment.

Finally, MVP would like to say thank you to everyone who helps on the day and on the many days leading up to it, from the people running stalls to those behind the scenes emptying bins and putting up gazebos. We really could not put on this event without you. And most of all, our thanks to each and every one of you who come to support this event whatever the weather.

## Our Sponsors

MVP couldn't hold this event without the support of our sponsors who enable us to create an affordable family event with activity prices kept as low as possible, and we are unique in the area in bringing you such a large event that costs absolutely nothing to enjoy! A big THANK YOU to all for your generous donations.

**McColls** the convenience store at the heart of the village for their generous donation.



**Spratley's**, the local, fifth generation family run car sales, service and MOT garage has supported the Mortimer Fun Day for many years. Spratley's and Village Eye are again sponsoring the HOT AIR BALLOON RIDES, so let's hope we get airborne this year!

**Unique Outdoors** is based at Wokefield Park and uses the outdoors for training and development. They provide a range of activities including archery, woodland laser combat, climbing, survival skills and an amazing high ropes course for parties or corporate events. They are loaning and running the Zorb activity to help raise money to fund the event.



**TRIANGLE TRAVEL**

**Triangle Travel** has supported the Fun Day for many years. This year again they will be sponsoring the PA SYSTEM. Rob and his team are pleased to see you at their shop on West End Road at any time to talk holidays!

**Budgens** is a long-time supporter of many MVP events and this year they are sponsoring the REFRESHMENTS, with all food and drink donated by Budgens and their suppliers.

**Budgens**



**Village Eye.** A Fun Day would be no fun without people, and Village Eye has very kindly donated the centre pages of their July issue to advertise our event to over 11,000 homes and businesses in the RG7 area for the past six years. All the unique design and colourful artwork for the posters and banners for the Fun Day are created by them. Excitingly, this year Village Eye and Spratley's are sponsoring the HOT AIR BALLOON RIDES! Visit [www.villageeye.co.uk](http://www.villageeye.co.uk) to learn more.

**Davis Tate** has been in Burghfield since 1998 and their experienced team is always delighted to speak to you about all your property needs. Located on the Reading Road, Burghfield, please pop in when passing. Thanks for your donation.



**CALOR**

**Reading Calor Centre.** The Calor Bear and his team will be in charge of the HULA HOOP this year to raise funds to help fund the event. Calor has a depot and showroom behind Mortimer Station. Pop in to speak to the friendly staff about all your gas requirements.

**Westbuild Homes** has constructed homes in the Thames Valley and Home Counties for over 50 years. They have established an enviable reputation as a dedicated specialist in its field, and take great pride in creating homes of the finest calibre that are truly houses designed to be homes. Thank you for your generous donation.



**David Cliff Agency** opened its doors in the heart of Wokingham town centre before their new office opened on Victoria Road in Mortimer in 2015, where they are perfectly placed to deliver a first class service.

**The Baobab**, our newest village shop, selling cards, gifts and a great cup of coffee; thanks to Rachel for her kind donation.



IF YOU CONTACT ANY OF THE ABOVE PLEASE DO TELL THEM YOU SAW THEIR DETAILS IN THE MVP FUN DAY NEWSLETTER!

## What Happens to the Money from the Fun Day?

The main aim of the Fun Day is to provide an affordable event for all the family, so MVP strives wherever possible, with the help of our sponsors, to keep the costs of activities low and the entrance free. The Fun Day costs a great deal to put on, but if it raises more money than required to get next year's event underway, MVP always donates it to local causes.

## **MVP Contact Details**

<b>Chairman</b>	<b>Doug Overett</b>	<a href="mailto:doug.overett@gmail.com">doug.overett@gmail.com</a>	933 3285
<b>Vice-chairman</b>	<b>Natasha O'Brien</b>	<a href="mailto:natasha@obrien.org.uk">natasha@obrien.org.uk</a>	996 2657
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Lynn Hannawin</b>	<a href="mailto:lynn@i-next.co.uk">lynn@i-next.co.uk</a>	933 2577
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Louise Strange</b>	<a href="mailto:louise_strange@btinternet.com">louise_strange@btinternet.com</a>	
<b>Affiliates Secretary</b>	<b>Julie Carter</b>	<a href="mailto:juliecarter396@btinternet.com">juliecarter396@btinternet.com</a>	933 2265

*All MVP meetings are open to participation from anyone; all we ask is that you are interested in making Mortimer a vibrant and fun place to live. We meet at 19:30 at the Methodist Hall, West End Road on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month (except August & December). We are fortunate to have many who regularly work with MVP on particular projects such as the website, Facebook page, looking after our equipment or helping to organise our annual events.*

*You are most welcome regardless of how much or little time you have to give. General enquiries can be made via:*

[www.mortimervillage.org.uk](http://www.mortimervillage.org.uk)

We are very grateful for the continuing support of Greenham Common Trust; they contribute half the cost of printing of this newsletter which is delivered free of charge to 2000 households.

