

Mortimer Village Partnership

Newsletter

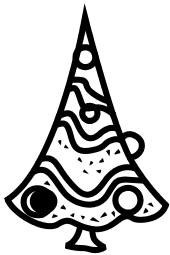
Autumn/Winter 2010

www.mortimervillage.org.uk



Welcome to MVP's Autumn/winter Newsletter. Once again our village has been buzzing with events and activities. Take a look at what is coming next....

What's coming up?



Advent Englefield Estate is once again very kindly providing a Christmas tree for the village this year. MVP is organising an event to make decorations for our village tree on Sunday 21 November in the Community Centre between 2pm and 4pm. Just drop in and make a decoration for the tree – all ages catered for.



There will also be a fancy dress competition with the winner turning on the Christmas tree lights at the TIM event on Sunday 28th November at 4.45. We will also be singing popular children's carols around the tree at this event, while the main carol singing event, organised by TIM, with local musicians will be on the Sunday 11th December at 4.45.



Wanted: Are you a musician? Would you like to do your bit for our village community? We are looking for wind instrument players to play simple 4 part carols (instruments to cover the bass part particularly welcome e.g. a tuba) for the Together in Mission (TIM) carol singing event around the village Christmas tree on the 11th December. If you think you can help please email chris@morsley.me.uk

Storage Both MVP and TIM are very much in need of somewhere to keep equipment we are gradually acquiring. Do you have a garage or something similar where we could store cabling (used on the Fun Day), gazebos, chairs etc? Please contact mvp@morsley.me.uk if you have somewhere to offer



Xmas cards - Send your friends beautiful Christmas cards of Mortimer scenes, images kindly donated by Jason Smith and produced by the MVP. Available from Amicus from the 1st November or directly via any committee member (see below) You can see the pictures that are on the cards on the village website.

Website Please keep looking at the website www.mortimervillage.org.uk . We have just added a Forum where we hope to hear from you – the first sections are General, For Sale and Wanted – more will be added as demand requires. Please make this a busy part of the website and use it sensibly. We are continually updating the website and are always happy to include your events in the calendar or put new information in the directories. If you have any photos of Mortimer or events in the village (any date) that you would like to share, please follow the instructions on the website for sending them in.

Further details of all the above events and indeed many more can be found on the village website.

What has been happening?

Fun Day Cheque Presentations. On the 24 October Together in Mission, TIM, presented the proceeds from this years Fun Day to its chosen charity and two village groups. David Hickman from Alexander Devine Children's Hospice received £2000, Mr Julian Earl received £500 on behalf of Mortimer Youth Club and Mrs Rebecca Barker together with Mortimer Lunch Club members also received £500 on behalf of their club. TIM and its partners Mortimer Village Partnership once again would like to the sponsors and all the volunteers who helped make this event such a success.

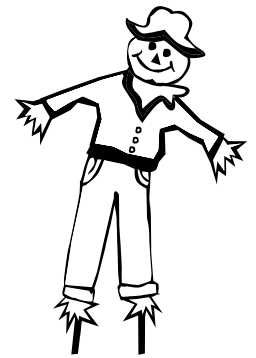


Next year's Fun Day will be on **Saturday 2 July 2011**

If you would like to be part of the group who will be organising this event please contact Rebecca Barker on bbarkerdg@sky.com for further details. To relive some of the moments from this years Fun Day take a look at the following: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CcsjdvTT5uU>

Scarcity of Crows in Mortimer! The weekend of the 09th/10th of October featured the start of Mortimer's first ever Scarecrow Trail. The glorious weather and higher than average temperatures, saw a steady stream of trail followers, who met the likes of Mr Tickle, Chimney Sweep Tom and The Tooth Fairy.

The Scarecrow Trail certainly seemed to capture everyone's imagination both within the village and with visitors to the village – there were even some people from Scotland on the trail, although we are not sure that we can claim that they travelled all this way just to see Mortimer's scarecrows.



Winners of the finest scarecrows in Mortimer are Mortimer Toddler Group with their Superman and Clark Kent, winning £100, Dad's Shop with Bob The Builder winning £50 and St Oswald's Roman Catholic Church with Charlie Chaplin winning £25. Well done to everybody who took part, ALL the scarecrows were wonderful.

Congratulations to the winner of the Scarecrow Trail with the correct answer to the sentence "Go to Mortimer Library and write down the day of the storytime sessions on the bottom of your map" and the answer "Friday"


None of this would have been successful, however, without the families, organisations and businesses who made the fantastic scarecrows, the four sponsors of the event, Sansome & George, Parkers, Spratleys, and Nancy Nisbet for the Photography, the judges who had the unenviable task of picking the best three scarecrows and the local businesses who sold the trail maps on behalf of the MVP – a huge thank you to all of the above and to all of you who walked around scarecrow spotting. Plans are already under way for next year's Scarecrow Trail and for those of you who weren't able to see all of the 2010 scarecrows in real life can view the stars online at www.mortimervillage.org.uk.

Community Planning Grant MVP has just received a grant of £2500 from West Berkshire Council to purchase training and digital media (a video camera, multi media projector and IT editing software) for the village. The young people in the Youth Club will be trained in video production and presentation skills and then they in turn will pass these skills down to others in the village (very likely an older generation). This project will be a reversal of the 'normal' training/teaching model – young people will be givers not recipients. We hope that this will be another way to bridge the perceived gap between generations and encourage more interaction and greater understanding and respect. It is intended that the equipment will be available to affiliated groups (see next page) in the future.

Clubs and Groups

Affiliation. A recent new idea has been for clubs and societies in the village to affiliate with MVP. For a small annual subscription of £10, groups receive a number of benefits, for example, they are able to have posters and similar items printed and laminated at very low cost and feature as Club of the Month on the website. Please contact Danusia at mvp@morsley.me.uk for more details. The following groups have already affiliated:

St Oswalds Church	Mortimer Toddlers	Mortimer & District Flower Club
Mortimer Book Club	1 st Mortimer Brownies	1st Mortimer BP Scout Group
Mortimer Local History group	Mortimer Film club	

 **Mortimer Youth Club** meets from 7pm to 9pm Thursday evenings, open to all year 7s and up to and including year 11s. Recent events have included a charity car wash to raise funds for a future trip, a street dance session and on 2nd December we will be going sno-tubing and tobogganing. Last session of the year will be Party Night on the 9th December. If you would like to volunteer to help at the youth club as an adult or youth volunteer please contact Cheryl West at cherylwest69@talktalk.net



The MVP Theatre Group goes from strength to strength. I have over 170 people on my mailing list at present. The trips that have recently been on offer, The Railway Children, Wicked and Dirty Dancing proved to be very popular. If you want to get advance notice of future trips or have suggestions for events you would like me to run please email, Rebecca Barker on bbarkerdg@sky.com or telephone 9332008



Mortimer Book Club. Meets at members houses on the second Monday of each month and discusses a wide variety of interesting books chosen by its members. Contact Sue Pearce on sue.pearce14@yahoo.co.uk if you would like to attend – new members very welcome. (Do not worry if you are not able to host a meeting – there are others who can).



MVP Lunch Club. 32 people from the Lunch Club for the elderly have been invited by **DeVere Venues, Wokefield Park** to a Christmas lunch at Wokefield Park. DeVere Venues have been supporting the lunch club since its inception by providing the soup each month. Many thanks to Wokefield Park and also thank you to all the volunteers who give their time once a month, without you this Lunch Club would not have happened. If you are interested in joining this club and would like to go on the waiting list please call Cindy Kimber on 9331767. If you are interested in helping out or have ideas for funding to allow us to run the lunch club twice a month please call Rebecca Barker (bbarkerdg@sky.com 0118 9332008)



1st Mortimer Brownies have been celebrating our 100 years of Girlguiding. We have enjoyed activities and events with Rainbows, Brownies and Guides from all over Berkshire. Our Centenary celebrations culminated in an evening of birthday cake and camp-fire songs where we all renewed our Girlguiding Promise at 20:10 20/10/2010.

The Mortimer Gardening Club has well over 50 members. We meet at the Community Centre on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:30pm. Membership is open to anyone in the village, whatever your gardening ability. Talks this year have included not only gardening related subjects, but also the Berkshire Beekeepers Association and a future talk coming from the RSPB to help explain how to care for your garden to encourage wildlife. Anyone wishing to join, please contact Chris.dobson@oracle.com, or come along to one of our meetings and see for yourself

Mortimer Film Club MFC shows films on the fourth Monday of each month in Mortimer St John's Infant's school hall at 19.30 – coffee and cakes with the screening starting at 20:00. Details of all the films booked for this season can be seen on the MVP web site www.mortimervillage.org.uk and posters and flyers are circulated a week before each showing. Annual membership of the MFC costs £30 for all ten films with free entry each month for members - £5 for guests. Call Pete Blagden on 9332546 for membership and other MFC information

Mortimer Toddlers Meets at the Mortimer Community Centre Tuesdays 9.30 - 11.30 am Open during half-term, spring and autumn holidays too! Parents, Grandparents and Carers are all welcome with children aged from birth onwards. We now have a great webpage on the Mortimer Village website, and send regular emails to our families with group and local information. For more info please contact Di Leighton on diane_leighton@yahoo.co.uk or 07804 95 22 85.

MVP and Other Groups



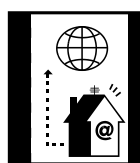
Sports Event Over the coming months there are plans to start thinking about a village sports event jointly organised by the village schools and MVP. Would you like to be involved? Contact Rebecca Barker on bbarkerdg@sky.com

Bags2school On the 19/20 October, the MVP joined with Mortimer St John's and St Mary's schools to recycle good quality used clothes, bedding and soft toys with the Bags2school scheme. Many thanks to all those people who live in Groves Lea and Strawberry Fields who left out bags for collection. Proceeds from this event will be distributed between the two schools to swell school funds and the MVP to fund future events in the village. Dates for the next Bags2schools collections will be Tuesday 15th March 2011, Tuesday 21st June 2011 and Tuesday 4th October 2011. We will be extending the collection service to include areas around St John's and St Mary's Roads and Windmill Road as well at Strawberry Fields and Groves Lea once again. Please look at the village website to see if we are collecting in your road. If we are not and you have more than 10 bags for collection please email Debbie Bale debbie.bale@sky.com one week before the event and we will collect from your house.



Community Centre The Community Centre management would like to remind everyone that the centre is an independent organisation and has no connection with the Parish Council. If you wish to make a booking please contact Adrian Smith on adrsmith@gmail.com or telephone 077 1000 6628, also Simon Beard's mobile: 0791 750 381.

RNLI The organisers would like to thank all the people who attended the RNLI book sale. The sum of £2800 was raised.



Would you like faster broadband in Mortimer? Here is a chance to help put Mortimer on the map and drastically improve our infrastructure. All you have to do is go to the BT website (racetoinfinity.bt.com) and enter your Mortimer postcode. BT has launched a new UK-wide public survey to find the UK's next fibre-optic based high-speed internet hotspots. Communities that want access to BT's high-speed Infinity network will need to contact BT, for the network provider to ascertain levels of demand for the service across Britain. BT has committed to wiring up the five exchanges that show the highest demand for fibre from the online survey.

MVP Committee



The MVP Committee is a group of people who have got together to make the community actions in the Parish Plan happen. We would welcome more people to join us. Please contact any of us for more information:

Brian	Baldwin	brianbrendabaldwin@talk21.com	Mark	Hillyer	claremark@supanet.com
Rebecca	Barker	bbakerdg@sky.com	Belinda	Hopkins	transformingbelinda@yahoo.co.uk
Pete	Blagden	pete.blagden@btinternet.com	Mollie	Lock	mlock@westberks.gov.uk
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Lynn	Hannawin	lynn@l-next.co.uk			



Once again Mortimer Village Partnership sends grateful thanks to Greenham Common Trust for printing this newsletter.