

# Mortimer Village Partnership

## Newsletter

February 2013

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



## Forthcoming MVP Events

### **1<sup>st</sup> March – Heartstart Training**

Free 2.5 hour hands-on course in Life Saving Skills  
Mortimer Scout Hut, Birch Lane

MVP has booked this free course to take place in Mortimer. It includes how to approach an emergency, dealing with an unconscious person, CPR (breath and chest compressions), choking, and severe bleeding. It will give you the confidence to help someone until the emergency services arrive. Everyone who came on the first course we ran in November was very positive about its benefit and also said it was fun! It has to be good for the village for as many people as possible to have this experience.



There are 30 spaces available – book now by sending your name and phone number to [mvp@morsley.me.uk](mailto:mvp@morsley.me.uk) or phone 0118 9332620. This course is suitable for anyone over 11. MVP will be providing free tea/coffee and hope that attendees will make a small donation to Heartstart towards the fund-raising they do for equipment used and to Mortimer Scout Group for use of the hut.

### **17<sup>th</sup> March – Spring Clean Mortimer Day**

Let's make Mortimer look its best! Come and help spring clean the village on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March from 1 – 4pm. We will be set up in the Horse & Groom garden with all you need to spruce up the open spaces, footpaths and roadsides – litter pickers, gloves, bags. Make it a family walk with a difference – see what rubbish you can find!!



### **18<sup>th</sup> March - Bags2School**

Bag2School has been collecting your unwanted clothes for a number of years now and a HUGE THANK YOU to everyone who has left something in our blue bags. Your old clothes and bedding really can make a difference to your community. In 2012 we collected an amazing 5.7 tonnes and raised a fantastic £2863 that was shared equally between MVP, Mortimer St John's School and Mortimer St Mary's School.

So get clearing out your wardrobes now...you will receive your next Bag2School blue bag in early March and our collectors will be driving round the village at 9am on Monday 18th March collecting all your filled bags. Help us to make this year even more successful than last; dig out those old items that have been sat in the back of your wardrobe for years, put them in your next Bag2School bag and help your local community. The more we collect, the more we raise!



Bag2School collect the following items for Re-use: Clothing, bedding, soft toys, paired shoes, hats, belts and handbags - NO BRIC-A-BRAC PLEASE!

**2013 dates: Mon 18th March, Mon 18th June and Mon 15th October**

If you'd like to get involved and help either delivering bags or driving around helping with the roadside collection please email [bag2school@analytics.co](mailto:bag2school@analytics.co).

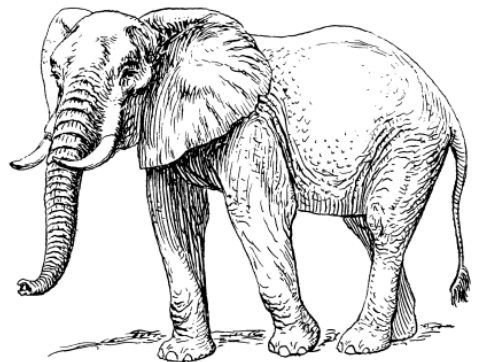
### ***27th March – MVP AGM***

The MVP AGM is at 7:30pm on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March in Mortimer Methodist Church. All are welcome to attend this meeting; we will be electing officers for the next year and presenting short reports on the last year of activity. If you would like to become involved with the MVP or want to find out about the Committee, then please contact [juliecarter396@btinternet.com](mailto:juliecarter396@btinternet.com) , or ring Julie on 07767 266970. The key roles within the Committee are:-Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Affiliates/Associate members Co-ordinator, Communication Coordinator. Full details of these roles will be found on our website from 1st March. [www.mortimervillage.org.uk](http://www.mortimervillage.org.uk) The AGM will be followed immediately by a meeting of the MVP committee.

### ***24<sup>th</sup> April - Travelling Theatre – In Praise of Elephants***

7:30pm St. John's Village Hall, West End Rd.

After the resounding success of the first two theatrical productions (Upper Little Downing from Farnham Maltings and Puppet in a Pickle from Strangeface) promoted by MVP, we are trying something a little different this time. Still suitable for all the family from 7+, this is less comical, more thought-provoking about things we all face in everyday life. Touring from the Farnham Maltings Arts Centre; all the plays from there are written especially for village halls. This is what they say:



*'In Praise of Elephants' is both a celebration of the greatest animal on the planet and a touching story of a quiet man turning 60 trying to make sense of the world.*

*Aubrey lives at 34 Mimosa Crescent Aubrey with his sister and niece. Every Thursday afternoon he prepares biscuits made with an elephant-shaped cutter. And even though he has never been to Africa, he knows all about the huge, lumbering beasts who can hear with their feet and communicate with their stomachs.*

*This is a play made especially for village halls. A play full of surprise, music and biscuits; about dignity and how the world will be a poorer place when some things are gone.*

Tickets (£9 adults, £6 under 18) will be on sale at the beginning of March by calling 9332620; look out for more information on the website and posters.

## **May 18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> - Mortimer & Area Sports Event 2013**

Mortimer Sports Weekend - Back for 2013!

After the fantastic success of the Mortimer Sports Weekend in 2012, we're pleased to announce that it will be running again this year.

On Saturday 18th and Sunday 19th May, sports clubs and organisations from across the local area will be offering you the chance to try something new. The concept will be the same as last year – buy a "Sports Passport" for a pound or two and then choose from a wide range of activities – most for FREE! And, if you try three or more activities, there may even be a prize!



This is a wonderful opportunity to get out and get active with friends and family.

And if you know of a sport that is organised locally that you'd like to try, send us an email and we'll see what we can do.

Contact: [mortimersportsweekend@gmail.com](mailto:mortimersportsweekend@gmail.com)

## **6<sup>th</sup> July - Mortimer Fun Day 2013!!!**

**COME TO MORTIMER  
FUN DAY**

make this event happen - volunteering to man a stall, or an activity on the day,

This year's Fun Day is on Saturday 6th July. If you would like to take part in the Fun Day, Rebecca Barker would be very glad to hear from you. There are many tasks to be completed to

making cakes for our cake stall, or helping set up and/or clear up after the event are just a few. Even a small amount of your time would be very much appreciated. Please email Rebecca on [bbarkerdg@sky.com](mailto:bbarkerdg@sky.com)

More details regarding the Fun Day will appear on the [www.mortimervillage.org.uk](http://www.mortimervillage.org.uk), in the monthly ebulletins (sign up here from the link on the front page of the website) and in the next newsletter.

## **6<sup>th</sup> July - Your Trash, Our Treasure!**

In case you are having a New Year clear out please bear in mind the Fun Day tombola stall and raffle. Although the hot - fingers crossed - lazy, hazy days of July seem a long way off we always struggle to collect enough items for the tombola stall and raffle so thought a little reminder, now, may give you a useful outlet for any unwanted Christmas gifts or bits and bobs that have been taking up space in your cupboards. Really anything goes but if you need an idea of what to donate here is the type of thing that has been given in previous years:



- Unwanted gifts.
- Nic nacks in good condition.
- Toiletries - single items or sets.
- Tins, jars or bottles of food - please check the use by date is after 06/07/13
- Alcoholic or non-alcoholic drinks - again, if relevant, please check the use by date is after 06th July, 2013.
- As new books, games and puzzles.
- Jewellery items and accessories - unfortunately we cannot accept pierced earrings for hygienic reasons.
- Unused address and birthday books or little memo books.
- Anything else that you feel maybe suitable.



Any donation, no matter how big or small, is always much appreciated. To arrange delivery or collection please call Lynn Hannawin on 9332577 or email her at [lynn@i-next.co.uk](mailto:lynn@i-next.co.uk). Thank you in anticipation.

## **Other MVP Activities**

### ***Storage needed!***

Do you have a secure and dry garage that you do not use? MVP is looking for more storage space for all the many pieces of equipment that we have gathered to enable us to run all these village events. If you can help then please call Rebecca Barker on 9332008.

## **MVP Theatre Trips**

The MVP Theatre Group continues to thrive; we now have over 200 people on our mailing list and in the past year have been to The Royal Choral Society Christmas Carols at the Royal Albert Hall, a tour of the Houses of Parliament, local theatre such as the Watermill at Newbury and The Theatre Royal Windsor. This year's trips include Top Hat and We Will Rock You at London Theatreland.

If you would like to join the mailing list to get advance notice of future events please email Rebecca Barker on [bbarkerdq@sky.com](mailto:bbarkerdq@sky.com)



## **A Mortimer Calendar**



MVP is working with Dara Portraits, who have recently moved to Mortimer, to produce images of Mortimer for a 2014 calendar. The plan is to produce images that are immediately recognisable of Mortimer or of things that happen in Mortimer which we hope will make both terrific gifts and keepsakes showing what a vibrant village Mortimer has become.

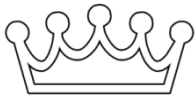
Budgens have kindly agreed to support us in this activity and they will be selling the calendars in (fingers crossed!) their new shop in the Autumn.

## **MVP Lunch Club**

The MVP lunch club for the elderly continues to look out for new members to join us for soup and a chat twice every month. We are supported in this venture by De Vere Venues Wokefield Park and ISS who provide the catering services at our two schools. De Vere Venues very generously invited the lunch club member to Christmas lunch at Wokefield Park just before Christmas. Everyone was whisked from their homes by the staff of BMW in their gorgeous cars. We all felt like royalty! If you know of anyone who you feel might like to come along please contact Cindy Kimber on 0118 9331767

## **The Queen was delighted!**

You may remember that the winning entry chosen by adults in the Scarecrow Trail was the Queen parachuting into the Olympics entered by the Local History Society. A Mortimer resident wrote to the Queen, telling her about the Scarecrow Trail and the winning entry and included a photo. A response was received to say she had been delighted to see it and included thanks for the kind message to her and Prince Philip.



## **Welcome to the new MVP affiliates!!!:**

Mortimer Cricket Club  
MortimerMusicLIVE  
Mortimer Community Centre

Any other groups interested in affiliating contact Michelle Goulding  
[m.goulding@sky.com](mailto:m.goulding@sky.com) 9333945

## ***Christmas Fayre & Santa's Grotto***

The Christmas decorations have been tidied away, the tree put back in the loft for next year. Christmas maybe over but the memories are still very much alive. For the children of Mortimer and the surrounding villages it was an opportunity to meet the man himself, Santa in his very own Grotto in St. John's Hall. For some it was a first, for others another opportunity to have their wish list read once again, even the parents who visited the Grotto with their children



found it a magical experience and took them back to their own childhood memories. Over 70 children visited Santa on 8th December which raised funds for Operation Christmas Child. Also laid on by MVP was a Christmas Fayre which included stalls selling cakes, table decorations & door wreaths, cards, jewellery, clothes, bags, accessories, baby gifts and a fantastic raffle with prizes kindly donated by the stallholders. Visitors were able to enjoy a drink and sample

home-made cakes while taking in the festive atmosphere. Our thanks go to out to the many volunteers and stallholders who made this inaugural event such a success. He will be returning again this December.

## ***Christmas Cards***

Many thanks to Budgens for marketing the MVP Christmas cards this year. We raised a total of £210 which will go towards future MVP events. Budgens continues to support MVP in many ventures such as the Mortimer Fun Day and providing supplies throughout the year for the lunch club for the elderly.

## **Mortimer Village Communications**

Yet another channel of communication is coming to the village very soon— check it out!

### **Our very own MVP noticeboard next to Budgens**

You already have:

**Our website – make it your website by using it and contributing to it!** [www.mortimervillage.org.uk](http://www.mortimervillage.org.uk)

**Our e-bulletin - a monthly electronic bulletin to keep you up to speed with what is happening in Mortimer. Go to [www.mortimervillage.org.uk](http://www.mortimervillage.org.uk) and follow the link on the left of the front page to subscribe to this and you will find out about dates and opportunities sooner!!!**

**Our Facebook group – Mortimer Village Partnership - join in the lively exchange of useful local information**



# Clubs, Charities and Other Local Things

## Bonfire Night Plea

CALLING ALL FARMERS! Does anyone have a field they'd be happy for us to use for the next Mortimer St John's bonfire night? The date will be Saturday 9th November. If you can assist, please contact [Fran.Hambly@gmail.com](mailto:Fran.Hambly@gmail.com) Thank you very much!



---

## Alfred Palmer Memorial Field Trust

Registered Charity: 300207

The Alfred Palmer Memorial Field Trust is responsible of an area of land to the west of the village that is used as a sports field and is available for community use. The trustees are looking to recruit five volunteers onto its management committee. The management committee oversees and actions the day to day running of the field and its use.

The five posts are

- Secretary: working with the trustees and generally providing administration for the trust
- Treasurer: managing the accounts and monetary transactions for the trust
- 3 x field maintenance: overseeing the general maintenance of the ground. Organising working parties and activities to benefit the trust

If you are interested please email:- [graham.puddephatt@btinternet.com](mailto:graham.puddephatt@btinternet.com) or ring 0118 9333710

---

## Mortimer in the National Youth Orchestra!

Mortimer's 13 year old bassoonist Helen Fraser plays in The National Youth Orchestra. The next London concert will be on 13 April at 7.30 at the Royal Festival Hall; it is part of the festival *The Rest is Noise*, celebrating the history of the 20th century, with its massive social and political upheavals, through concerts, performances, films, talks and debates. The programme is music of 1930s and '40s Hollywood by Korngold, Stravinsky, Schoenberg, and Rachmaninov, conducted by Simone Young. Prices from £26 to £6, (Concessions 50% (limited) all seats £5 for under 25s)

[ticketing@southbankcentre.co.uk](mailto:ticketing@southbankcentre.co.uk)

**National  
Youth Orchestra**  
of Great Britain



Perhaps some Mortimer residents might like to support this?

---

## Mortimer Youth Club News

Following the Christmas break Mortimer Youth Club is back at the Community Hall on Thursday nights, 7-9pm. We will be meeting every week, apart from half-term (21 Feb), and the last session before Easter is on 28 March. At the moment we have two visits to the Willink planned where we will be playing unihoc, badminton, basketball, football.



If any of the adults in the village have a skill or hobby that they would like to share with our young people at Youth Club then we would love to hear from you.

We would also appreciate more volunteer helpers. If you can spare any time, from as little as an hour a month, then please contact our Youth Club Leader Beth Davies on 07824 317 331. Beth is also looking to hand over her duties as Leader so if you feel that you might be able to fill this role please give her a call.

---

## Mortimer Gardening Club

Start your 2013 gardening by trying out Mortimer Gardening Club - it's a great local club that meets every 4th Wednesday of the month in the Community Centre from 7:30 – 9:30pm. Our meetings include everything you might want about gardening: talks or demonstrations by guest speakers, competitions, a summer BBQ, Christmas Party, not forgetting tea or coffee and a raffle!. And plenty of opportunities to exchange gardening tips and ideas. Throughout the year we also have visits to places such as Wisley.



You don't have to be a member to try us out. We have an entrance fee of a minimum of £1 (depending on speaker) to help cover costs. Once you've given us a try you can take up an annual membership on a family or single basis. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call John on 9333040 or email him on [wireman.jc@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:wireman.jc@tiscali.co.uk)

You can find even more exciting things about us at [http://www.mortimervillage.org.uk/modules/calendar\\_events/gardeningclub.htm](http://www.mortimervillage.org.uk/modules/calendar_events/gardeningclub.htm) and every month on the village notice boards – there is no excuse for not knowing what we are up to! We look forward to seeing you at a meeting.

---



---

## Café B, Reading Road, Burghfield Common

Following the resounding success of Mondays at Café B (it is always packed with people enjoying the great coffee and brilliant atmosphere) it will now also be open on Wednesdays, initially from 9am – 12 noon. Monday opening hours remain 9am – 1pm

---



## Burghfield Mortimer & District Food Bank progress report

Many thanks to all those local people who have supported the Food Bank so far. From the launch of the Food bank on 5th November 2012 until 11th January 2013:

- 23 Food Parcels have been given out
- 11 parcels went to Burghfield Common addresses
- 5 parcels went to Mortimer addresses
- The remainder went to addresses in Ufton Nervet, Woolhampton, Beech Hill and Mortimer West End

Food donations from Churches have been sufficient so far with help from the Radio Berkshire appeal, Reading Fire and Rescue and individuals in the villages who have given food or cash. It is expected that by the end of January stocks of food will be running low. If anyone wants to give food there are collection boxes in local Churches. Thanks to Rachel, a food collection box is now permanently kept in Mortimer Post Office. For cash donations – to help with the purchase of fresh food - please contact the Food Bank using the number below.

Churches have been contacted in Theale and Beech Hill with a view to incorporating those villages into the scheme and staff at the Willink school have expressed an interest in supporting food collection and fundraising. We will be formalising with the school the means by which families in need of a food parcel are referred to the Food Bank.

Food Bank number 07770 56 56 25 Email

[burghfieldmortimeranddistrictfb@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:burghfieldmortimeranddistrictfb@hotmail.co.uk)

---

## Oil Clubs

Hopefully everyone knows about the option of getting a cheaper price for heating oil through our local Mortimer Oil Syndicate run by Colin Lacey [colin.lacey49@btinternet.com](mailto:colin.lacey49@btinternet.com) 9332512.

CCB (Community Council for Berkshire) also run an oil club; it is more expensive to join (£20) but until 31<sup>st</sup> March grants may be available for those in difficult circumstances (elderly esp. those frail and living alone, young families, fuel poor) to cover the joining fee. More information about the grant from Gemma Pearce, CCB Oil Club Co-ordinator on 0118 9612000 or [oilclub@ccbcrks.org.uk](mailto:oilclub@ccbcrks.org.uk) ; the scheme in general at [www.ccb-oil-club.org.uk](http://www.ccb-oil-club.org.uk)

---

## Mortimer Netball Club

Mortimer Netball club has made a good start to 2013, despite the weather! Both the Pinks and the Blacks have continued their winning run in RDNL Div 3 and 4. The Mortimer Aspire team is still struggling in the harder Div 2 Saturday league, but it's all good training for next season. The Christmas party was a great night, with club member Jo Paterson-Nield's band 'Within the Blood' providing the entertainment. They are highly recommended! The club has expanded in the last few months and an active, successful friendly team is snapping at the heels of the Blacks for squad places. The club is still actively recruiting, so if you fancy playing (even it's been a long while since you last played) we'd love for you to come and join us, on Monday evenings at the Willink, 7.30-9pm, or email [info@mortimernetballclub.co.uk](mailto:info@mortimernetballclub.co.uk) for more information.

Stephanie Kape

---

## Mortimer Tennis Club

You might think at this time of year Mortimer Tennis Club members have put their racquets away and are waiting for the sun to shine again. You would be wrong! Mortimer Tennis Club, who play on the courts at the Recreation Ground, enter five teams in the Basingstoke Winter league (two Ladies, two Mixed and a Mens) and over the winter months they venture out in all weathers to play competitive tennis. Most play starts again in February and continues into the Spring. MTC, now with over 50 members, offer two fun social play nights on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, and plenty of opportunities, if you want, to play League tennis. We're always looking for new members; attitude is more important than ability and although the standard is quite good, Club nights are more about having fun than anything else.



If you'd be interested in joining or coming along and having a knock about then contact the Club Secretary Helen Townsend ([helen@glyntech.com](mailto:helen@glyntech.com)). Club; play will start again when the clocks go back and the evenings

---

## Village Shop Opens in Beech Hill

On 16<sup>th</sup> February Beech Hill opens its Village Shop in the Church. It will be open from 7:30 – 18:00 Monday – Fridays and 7:30 – 12 on Saturdays. It plans to stock a small range of basic products, a good range of local fresh produce, other daily essentials such as newspapers, and to serve light refreshments. More information at <http://thevillageshopatbeechhill.co.uk>

---

## Come and Play Cricket!

Mortimer Cricket Club  
1890–2012

Mortimer Cricket Club cordially invites you to join them for winter nets at the Willink School starting at 9.30am to 11.00am, every Sunday from Sunday January 13th 2013.

Players of all standards welcome for our Sunday afternoon team and Tuesday evening T20 team.

So if you are:

- New to the area
- Have left it some time since you last played
- Wanting to play socially
- Just want to join us for a winter net
- Or can't get a game elsewhere!

Please join us at the Willink, or leave your details with Craig the Landlord at the Horse and Groom, Mortimer or call John on 07720 610540

There will also be the opportunity for juniors to try out Kwik Cricket alongside nets. We look forward to seeing you at the Willink!



---

## Get Walking!

KREW is a church-based recreational group leading walks in the Reading area. Monthly walks of either 5 or 10 miles are being planned for 2013. The first walk of approx 5 miles will be on Sunday 24th February starting from the car park opposite the Horse and Groom, Mortimer at 1.30pm. If you want to come along contact Allan at [allanmeakin@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:allanmeakin@hotmail.co.uk) Tel 9332782 or Richard at [richard.h.griffiths@btinternet.com](mailto:richard.h.griffiths@btinternet.com) 9333676



---

## Mortimer Film Club

**Your** film club, screening films **you** have chosen at **your** Community Centre. Wednesdays of week three of every month about 25 people meet for a sociable evening to watch a film chosen by the members and then vote on whether we liked it or not! The year's programme is on the MVP website [http://mortimervillage.stage.i-tarsia.com/modules/calendar\\_events/filmclub.htm](http://mortimervillage.stage.i-tarsia.com/modules/calendar_events/filmclub.htm) ten films from September until June each year. For more details call **Pete Blagden** on **9332546** or come along to our next showing on **20th February**; it's much more fun than watching the television!



# MORTIMERMUSIC live.

Following the success of Mortimer's 2012 "Proms in the Park" Diamond Jubilee event, an expanded team plans a series of musical events for 2013. The programme, called MortimerMusicLIVE, aims to deliver more local live music to Mortimer. Events will take place in multiple venues within Mortimer and plans include rock, jazz, country, blues and classical entertainment.

**The series kicks off with Johnny Marvel's Blues Groove, with support, at St. John's Hall on Saturday 23rd February from 8pm.** Other events planned include 11<sup>th</sup> May: Lex Rose, winner of VO5's 2012 Express Yourself song contest, with her contemporary take on classic country. **Tickets to both these events are now on sale at just £5 in advance or £6 on the door.**

The major event of the 2013 season is the Festival of Music & Arts on the Fairground on Saturday June 15th. This will include performers who made the Jubilee celebrations so successful, including Georgia Collins, supplemented by exciting new acts including Nicolette Street and The Revs. Adult tickets are on sale at £8 (£10 on the gate)



Tickets to our events are available via our new website, at Dad's Shop, Mortimer and Wellers the Fruit Shop in Burghfield. Just visit [www.mortimermusiclive.co.uk](http://www.mortimermusiclive.co.uk) which gives full event and ticket news. There you may also sign up to a Facebook page and follow Twitter based event news.

The team is keen to hear from performers interested to play at an event or schedule their own.

Mortimer Music Live is a Mortimer Village Partnership Affiliated Group.

## MVP Contact Details



**Volunteers to help with MVP newsletter delivery always needed – please contact Pete Blagden 9332546. Volunteers to deliver in Wokefield, Mortimer West End, and Beech Hill most welcome as well as Mortimer itself.**

**Chairman** – Ali Richardson [alison.richardson1@virginmedia.com](mailto:alison.richardson1@virginmedia.com) 9333256

**Chairman** – Julie Carter [juliecarter396@btinternet.com](mailto:juliecarter396@btinternet.com) 07767 266970

**Secretary** – Lynn Hannawin [lynn@i-next.co.uk](mailto:lynn@i-next.co.uk) 9332577

**Affiliates Secretary** - Michelle Goulding [m.goulding@sky.com](mailto:m.goulding@sky.com) 9333945

**General enquiries** - [mvp@morsley.me.uk](mailto:mvp@morsley.me.uk) 9332620

We are still receiving help from Greenham Common Trust for which we are very grateful; they contribute half the cost of printing.

