

Mortimer Village Partnership Newsletter

June
2012

MORTIMER FUN DAY

10:30am - 11:00pm

MORTIMER FAIRGROUND

Sat 7th July

FREE
ENTRY



Budgens

BEWLEY
HOMES PLC



MVP is excited and proud to be bringing you the 4th Mortimer Fun Day. We have again teamed up with Burghfield & Sulhamstead Scouts and Together in Mission to bring you lots of new exciting activities, arena events and stalls for your enjoyment together with all the old favourites...

Mortimer Fun Day Team Sends You a Message

Mortimer Village Partnership's aim for our Fun Day is to create a fun-filled, affordable family event that involves the entire community - local businesses, clubs, groups and individuals. If we make a profit from this event we aim to divide it between groups and organisations that have an impact on our community and its inhabitants. This year the beneficiaries of any profits will be

- ❖ Burghfield & Sulhamstead Scout Group for their hut extension
- ❖ Mortimer St John's School for the purchase of a Redcat System for the hearing-impaired children at the school
- ❖ Royal Berkshire Hospital's Robbie the Robot appeal, a leading-edge medical robot that allows surgeons to perform advanced key-hole surgery.

We also want to help other groups by encouraging them to run stalls or activities at the Fun Day for their own benefit.

What to see.....

This year there is so much to see, you will be enthralled all day long. Your July edition of The Village Eye (bring it along with you on the day) will have the exact programme of arena and music events but here are some of the highlights:



New arena attraction Gamegoer: dogs, harris hawks & ferrets working together
Mortimer Fire Rescue display

All Stars Theatre Academy Dancing Group

Gasp at the speed & agility of the Kennet Flyball dog display

Be amazed by TPAI Dancing Group and Tilehurst Gymnastics Club displays

Watch wood craft demonstrations and Village Eye's balloon release

Let Beenham Wind Orchestra, Achoired Taste choir, Gael Music and The Rag & Bone Men entrance you musically



Dog Show – join in by entering you own dog or just watch the fun

Doggy Obstacle Course (Pets in Practice)

Punch & Judy, puppet show, juggler and magician

Vintage tractors and lots more..



What to do.....

We hope everyone has plenty of energy because there are activities to suit all ages and tastes all day. Here are some of the things you will be able to do:

Super thrills on Zorb balls & 4-in-1 bungee trampoline

Spring into action on the assault course & bouncy castle

Test your strength and tactics by entering a team in the tug of war!!!

Join in Gael music and Steve Thomson Juggling workshops

Market row stalls with everything from crafts to cards, plants to pet portraits, jewellery to jam, ladies clothes to babies' keepsakes



Try your luck on Tombolas and raffles

Golf and football skills activities

Relax in Wokefield Park's mini spa



Children's Fun Zone with loads of activities for no more than 50p

Face painting & glitter tattoos to make your child look extra-special!

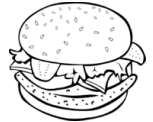
Have a go: skittles, Unique Outdoors laser guns, Wokefield Park golf games

Get rid of your frustrations on our smashing crockery stall

Spratley's are sponsoring the lucky programme again – take the July edition of the Village Eye along to the Beach for a chance to win £100!



We don't want you to be hungry or thirsty so refreshments include a licensed bar, Burghfield Scouts burger stall, hog roast, Indian food, baked potatoes, doughnuts, ice cream, candy floss, 2 "real"



coffee vans, and, by popular request, for those not wanting anything too fancy, ladies in the main marquee will be selling 'a simple cup of tea and a cake'.

So come along and enjoy the day – bring everyone and make a day of it – and when the sun has set, let the Burghfield & Sulhamstead Scouts entertain and feed you at the **Summer Hoedown** which runs on immediately after the Fun Day. Tickets are available in advance from Rachel on 0870 863 6194 or at the Scouts burger stall on the day itself – but hurry, tickets sell fast!



And the fun doesn't end then. On **Sunday 8th July Together in Mission** are holding **Mortimer Fun Day Continued**: A free afternoon of Trickery, Mystery and Juggling - fun for all the family, featuring Steve (the Magician) Legg and Steve (the Juggler) Thomson. 2.00 - 4.30pm in the big marquee!

Sponsors

We could not put on such an event without the help of our sponsors – despite hard times for all, each and every one of these local organisations have dug deep into their pockets to support us once again. MVP sincerely thanks the following for contributing towards the costs of:

DeVeres Wokefield Park

Budgens

Unique Outdoors

Bewley Homes

Rob Kenton at Triangle Travel

Liz Telling at Dads Shop

Charles French at Kestrel Windows

Lynn & John Hannawin at I-Next

Val Pickett at the Post Office

The Zorb Balls

The 4-in-1 Bungee Trampoline

The Assault course

Hire of the main marquee

Publicity and advertising

First Aid

PA system and walkie talkies

Security

Beenham Wind Orchestra

Please do show your appreciation of all these local businesses by supporting them in return – some will have stalls at the Fun Day, the others well you know where they are. It is because of their generosity that we are able to create this event without charging for entrance and keeping other prices at their current levels.

The Fun Day has also benefitted from generous grants or donations towards the following:

Sovereign Housing Enthralling Gamegoer dogs, ferrets & hawks in the arena
Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council The hire of toilets and the Fairground hire
Together in Mission The magician and the juggler
Greenham Common Trust for match-funding much of our sponsorship through the Find me a Grant scheme

Other Thank You!!!

The Fun Day only happens with loads of help so there are loads of people, local groups & businesses that deserve a HUGE thank you. These include:

Mortimer BP Scouts for managing the car parking on the day and lending equipment,

Eric Howell of **Mould's** for yet again donating a skip for all the rubbish
St Mary's and **St John's schools, John West, the Methodist Church and Mortimer West End Chapel** for the loan of tables, chairs and equipment

Nick Collins, CTS for the trailer which will be our music stage this year

All the local **musicians** who are donating their skills to entertain us

Burghfield Scouts for running the bar and lending equipment and expertise

Harvey Crocker for the loan of haybales

Hellen Baird at **Village Eye** for producing the artwork for our advertising and the programme in the July issue of the Village Eye

St Mary's & St John's PTAs & Toddler Group for running the 50p FunZone

Annette Saunders and the **staff from BMW** for the supply of cakes

All the many many **volunteers** too numerous to name that have offered their time to run stalls, help set up, pick up equipment, sell raffle tickets etc

A BIG THANK YOU to all – we could not do this without you!

Before the Fun Day....

You will be receiving this newsletter a couple of weeks or so before the Fun Day. We still need your help!! Can you help with any of the following?

- **Cakes** that could be served with tea would be very gratefully received between 5 and 6pm Friday 6th July in St John's Church vestry



- Our aim is to collect 400 items for the **tombola and raffle**. Have you got any of the following that you would be willing to donate:
 - unwanted gifts
 - unwanted knickknacks in good condition
 - tins or jars of food (please check the use by date is after 07th July)
 - bottles of alcoholic or non-alcoholic drinks
 - unwanted toiletries
 - any **other suitable items that you no longer require** Contact Lynn Hannnawin 9332577
- Save yourself time on the day by buying your **raffle tickets** outside McColls or Budgens on the two weekend mornings before
- **Old crockery** for our smashing stall - contact Doug Overett 9333285
- Consider **volunteering** a couple of hours of your time at the Fun Day to help – Rebecca Barker will be delighted to hear from you on 9332008
- Don't forget to bring your **July copy of The Village Eye** with you – it will have the timings for the arenas etc. and you can take it to Spratley's stall to enter in the lucky programme draw.
- Download an entry form to **win a week's holiday accommodation** in Portugal donated by Perfectalgarve at www.mortimervillage.org.uk and bring it with you on the day.

Forthcoming MVP Events

Don't Miss Them – Put them in Your Diary Now!!!

The Scarecrow Trail, 2012

is planned for the Autumn half term. Further details and 2012 entry forms, will be available at this year's Fun Day where some of the "stars" of last year's trail will be also be present. So come along on the 7th July, meet them close up and pick up your entry form. Alternatively, watch out for further information in the MVP newsletters or on the website www.mortimervillage.org.uk.



Bags2School

This effort is raising worthwhile funds for our two schools and MVP; we will next be collecting your old clothes etc. on **15th October**.

Travelling Theatre



Following the resounding success of MVP's first go at theatrical promotion (read the reviews of The Marvellous and Unlikely Fete of Little Upper Downing on page 8) we have booked the professional company Strangeface to perform an extraordinary version of Pinocchio on **21st November**. This will be Pinocchio like you have never

seen before – masks, music, riveting excitement – definitely for adults but suitable for children 5 or so upwards. Tickets will be very reasonable being subsidised by Farnham Maltings Arts Centre through the National Portfolio scheme for supporting the arts in rural communities.

Santa's coming to Town!

Well not yet perhaps ... but watch out for details of when **Santa will be visiting Mortimer on 8th December**. Let your children enjoy the magic of a visit to Santa without the nightmare of a trip to town! Elves (in MVP disguise!) will be taking bookings in November. Keep an eye on the Mortimer village website for further details...



Carol Singing

Carol-singing for everyone is planned around the village Christmas Tree on the Fairground on the **15th December** – watch out for further details on the website, in the next newsletter and posters nearer the date.

Since the Last newsletter MVP have....

... Held our AGM

The AGM of Mortimer Village Partnership took place in St. John's Hall on Saturday 17th March. The audited annual accounts and a range of interesting facts about MVP, its activities and its affiliated organisations were displayed. To help you understand what MVP does we displayed some facts like this....

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

...in the last year we served 675 bowls of soup at the MVP Lunch Club?

.... MVP has to find over £1350 annually to pay for insurance?

... last year MVP printed and volunteers delivered 6000 newsletters?

... 800 maps were sold for the last Scarecrow Trail and over 2000 people walked or cycled the 5 km trail?

... in the last year MVP donated £4300 to local causes?

After brief chairman's and treasurer's reports, the following were appointed:

Co-Chairmen: Ali Richardson and Julie Carter,
Secretary: Lynn Hannawin,
Treasurer: Carl Whistler.

The AGM was not as well-attended as last year, perhaps due to the timing clash with rugby, but those who came enjoyed some delicious cakes

and received an I Love Mortimer car sticker. You may have seen some cars around the village with one in. Get involved with MVP to earn one for yourself!



... Organised the Village Spring Clean



Supported by Mortimer BP Scouts and Cubs, about 50 people helped to spruce up the streets and wooded and open areas of the village on 14th April. Among the items cleared was a box of quails eggs, 4 and ½ pairs of gloves, an old 45rpm record, several tyres, a fridge and a scooter as well as all the usual drinks can, plastic wrappers and general junk.

... Organised the First Mortimer & Area Sports Day

Fourteen sports clubs and organisations joined forces with MVP to provide a fantastic weekend of sporting opportunity for all ages on 26th and 27th May. As this newsletter went to press we were receiving reports of successful sessions from many of the venues. Thank you to all the clubs and organisations for working together with us on this. Medals will be presented at the Fun Day.

... Organised another Bags2School

Our very successful partnership with Mortimer St John's and St Mary's schools continues with the next good quality, second-hand clothes collection scheduled for the 18th June. The March collection was our biggest to-date, raising approximately £1000 which is an amazing total; so your efforts raising funds our schools and Mortimer Village Partnership are very much appreciated. We will have delivered bags to just about every home in Mortimer during half term with the collection from outside your home at 9am on Monday 18th June (or by 9am on Tuesday 19th June if you wish to deliver direct to St John's School yourself)

... Run the Jubilee Quest Quiz

With 9 days of June half term to fill, what better way of giving Mortimer residents something fun to do than a Quiz Quest! As this was primarily to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, all of the questions and/or answers had a

Royal/Jubilee theme. The questions required Quiz Questers to explore both Mortimer village and the Mortimer website - hopefully learning, in the process, something about Mortimer that they didn't know before. The event also involved spotting 10 Royal/Jubilee themed pictures, as drawn by pupils of St Mary's, that had been "hidden" around the village. In addition, Quiz Questers could have their picture taken at the "Royal" photo point and anyone, who had always dreamed of being a Corgi, could have their dream fulfilled - pictures can be viewed on the village website.



The nature of this MVP event was such that its implementation was dependent on a community effort. Our thanks, therefore, to all of the local businesses, organisations and villagers who supported the Quiz Quest and to Wellington Country Park, The Look Out Discovery Centre and Coral Reef for donating the prizes.

... Brought Professional Theatre to the Village

On 21st March the Little Bulb Theatre from Farnham Maltings played at St. John's Hall...

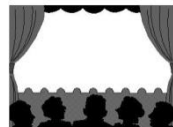
Reviews - The Marvellous and Unlikely Fete of Little Upper Downing

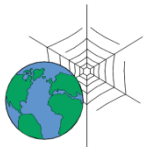
Well, what a fantastic family evening we had! It's not often that I get to go out and enjoy myself with Mum and Dad and "little" siblings too! The travelling theatre performance, at St John's Hall, was both brilliant and 'strangely' intoxicating - although only those who were actually there will understand the 'strangely!' The accents, clever costumes and simple set made this a thoroughly enjoyable night. The actors managed to involve the audience which, in fact, on one occasion became slightly over exuberant!! A very professional dramatic performance and the whole family can't wait for the next one!

Laura Hannawin – age 19

What a wonderful evening! I feel I must write to thank the MVP for arranging such a super show. My daughter 'took' me along and we were soon enjoying ourselves chatting to so many familiar faces over a glass of wine. Then the show started!! What fun, so professional, and how they managed to get everyone involved was such a surprise. The story line was cleverly linked to local village life - I'm sure I recognised some of the characters! So thank you MVP for a thoroughly entertaining evening - Looking forward to the next one already!

Marion Norton (Grandma and aged 77!!)





Mortimer Village Website

Our very own website www.mortimervillage.org.uk is becoming ever more popular and we are adding to what is on it all the time. Make sure you make the most of what is available in our village by using it as your first source of information.

- **Business directories** – look here to see if you can find the service or products you need right here locally without travelling. And if you have a business make sure it is listed (no cost!)
- **Calendar** – there seems to be something happening every day in Mortimer! This is where everyone can find out about it – so make sure your event is listed! As soon as you fix a date email us with the details so everyone can get it in their diaries.
- **Society directories** – many local clubs and other groups are already listed - make sure your organisation is! Please keep us informed if your contact details change as it is frustrating for people to try and join etc if they can't find the right phone number or email address
- **Club pages** – If your club doesn't have its own website, talk to us about how we can provide you with your own pages on our website. mvp@morsley.me.uk or via the website contact page
- **Photos** - we are always pleased to receive local photos to be shared on the website. We are building up galleries of photos of past events which many people enjoy looking at.

E-bulletin

MVP is soon going to be offering an electronic bulletin to keep you up to speed with what is happening in Mortimer. Subscribe to it on our website and you will receive information about what is coming up locally by email about once a month. We are still going to produce and deliver the newsletter but this additional method will get dates and opportunities to you sooner!!! There will be an opportunity to subscribe at the Fun Day – come to the Information Point.

BMD

It has been suggested that we create an area on the website where Mortimer residents can post notifications of Birth, Marriages and Deaths. We would welcome your thoughts on whether you would use such a service and how you think it should work. Replies to mvp@morsley.me.uk or 9332620.



Mortimer Village Partnership
MVP is now on Facebook -
Do join our group!
We are also on Twitter
@MortimerVP
Please follow us!



Clubs and Other Groups

Mortimer Lunch Club

Mortimer Lunch Club continues to thrive with approximately 25/30 elderly people coming to enjoy a bowl of soup and the company of others twice a month. Once again we are incredibly grateful to our sponsors, De Vere Venues Wokefield Park and Dolce, the school caterers, for their donations of soup and to Budgens for a reduction in the cost of all the remaining goodies which we serve. A huge thank you also goes to the Head teacher and staff of Mortimer St John's who bring groups of children over to visit the Lunch Club. Both the elderly and the children enjoy these visits greatly. Our Lunch Club is very excited to be able to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee up at Wokefield Park where a tea party has been arranged for them and their grandchildren. MVP takes this opportunity to thank all the volunteers who give their time to run this club – thank you; we couldn't do this without you! If you know of anyone who you think would benefit from an outing to the lunch club either once or twice a month please do call Cindy Kimber on 9331767 or if you would like a very rewarding volunteering opportunity please call Rebecca Barker on 9332008.



Mortimer and District Flower Circle

Ladies and, very occasionally, gentlemen from Mortimer and surrounding villages have been meeting monthly for over 35 years to watch NAFAS (National Association of Flower Arrangement Societies) qualified demonstrators, instruct and talk about their art whilst creating beautiful floral designs. Many members are content to come along to watch and listen, as many of the demonstrators are very entertaining, others enjoy putting into practice new ideas and techniques learnt by entering the monthly competition. The meetings are also a great place to make new friends. If you are interested in flowers and plants and enjoy a good night out for very little cost, do come along. The next few meetings are:

9th Jul	Wooden Wonders	Sue Scott
13th Aug	Steps Along the Way	David Martin
10th Sep	Floral Farrago	Carole Dorward
1st Oct	Workshop & Social Evening	
12th Nov	Title to be decided	Coral Gardner
10th Dec	Candlelight Christmas (Open evening ticket only event)	Ian Lloyd



11th Feb 2013 AGM

Meetings take place at St Johns Hall, Mortimer, on the second Monday of each month (excepting April and October). Entry is from 7:15pm. Annual Membership is just £20, and the cost for visitors per session is £4.50.

Report from Mortimer & District RNLI

We are grateful for the support and donations received over the years in the Mortimer district. Nationally, the support for all the branches has been declining. Originally, there was a lot of support from people who had served in the Navy and on commercial shipping with an understanding of the RLNI's purpose. Time has taken its toll of these fundraisers, and with branches closing down, it seemed that the RNLI was losing interest in supporting our efforts here. However, recently there have been changes, with offices amalgamating and the management structure changing bringing in younger and enthusiastic staff. At our recent AGM we met with our Community Fundraising Manager. She set up a meeting of several local branches, which has already shown interest in joint fundraising. The RNLI relies 100% on legacies and fundraising. They are in the process of designing and testing new lifeboats that are more efficient and will have an expected life of 50 years. As a branch, we hope continue to give the village fund raising events for it to support – don't miss the Book Sale 29th & 30th September



Age Concern Mortimer, Burghfield & District

Age Concern Mortimer, Burghfield & District are holding a Summer Fair in the grounds of Little Manor, Church Lane, Burghfield Village on Thursday the 28th of June at 10.30 am to 2.30 pm. Entry is only £1.00 to include coffee/tea and biscuits. (all monies raised are used in support of local villagers at times of need)

Stalls selling delicious Cakes and Savouries, Raffle, Tombola, Bric-a-brac, Plants and annuals, Cards and Wrapping Paper, and various craft stalls selling hand-made items such as jewellery, cards and bags. For just £2.00 a light cold lunch will also be available. A welcome is guaranteed. Ample parking. Little Manor is flat and accessible to wheelchairs.

Further information please ring 01189332418 or 0118 9833664

Mortimer Netball Club



One of our many active affiliated groups, Mortimer Netball Club, organised a most successful Mortimer NC – EITC Netball Tournament despite terrible weather on 28th April. Nine teams took part in the ladies tournament, with Team DB winning the EITC Cup. Six teams took part in the mixed tournament; the winners were Finch. A team fielded by MVP had a great time even though gaining no points! Congratulations to Mortimer Netball Club on a brilliant initiative.

A Message from the Chair

This is our first 'Chair persons' message', so we thought we would start by reminding you all of the purpose and foundations of the Mortimer Village Partnership, especially for those of you who are either unaware or new to the village.

We live in a busy, thriving community. The aim of the MVP is to bring us all together so that we are all part of that community. From toddlers to the elderly, we feel it is important for us all to be involved in our neighbourhood. We bring like-minded people and groups together, for activities, social events and entertainment, both on an occasional and regular basis.

So dig out that village spirit, see what Mortimer has to offer and take a look at all the activities available to everyone over the coming months and at our weekly clubs. Check out www.mortimervillage.org.uk - we are sure you will be impressed with the amount of information available to you. Take part and contribute! If there is something that you would like to do that is not available, contact us and we will help you make it happen.

Ali Richardson and Julie Carter

Contact details

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Chairman – Julie Carter juliecarter396@btinternet.com 9832586

Secretary – Lynn Hannawin lynn@i-next.co.uk 9332577

Treasurer – Carl Whistler carl.whistler@btinternet.com 07766330248

General enquiries - mvp@morsley.me.uk



We hope you like our new format newsletter. We are still receiving help from Greenham Common Trust for which we are very grateful. Rather than photocopying for us they are now contributing half the cost of printing.