



Mortimer Village Partnership **Newsletter**

Spring 2012

www.mortimervillage.org.uk

We have loads of fantastic events planned for this year:- a travelling theatre group, netball tournament, sports weekend as well as one of our major village events, our Fun Day.

MORTIMER FUN DAY - Saturday 7th July. Again being supported by *Burghfield and Sulhamstead Scouts, Together in Mission* and local businesses & organisations in our community. There will be *new* exciting activities and rides for young and old alike so make it a date and join in with the fun!!



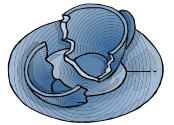
This event does not run itself. **We need an army of volunteers** – so if you would like to give some time then please contact Rebecca Barker on 9332008, bbarkerdg@sky.com who will be delighted to hear from you! It is very satisfying looking out over the field on the day and to know that you helped make it all happen, **so if you can spare the time please come and give us a hand.**

Market Row - If you run a local business or enterprise and would like a stall in our Market Row, please contact Julie Carter on 9832586 or juliecarter396@btinternet.com.

Local special interest groups/clubs are also welcome please contact Danusia Morsley on mvp@morsley.me.uk We will also be running a **Tombola**, so are looking for your donations – please contact Lynn Hannawin at Lynn@i-next.co.uk or 9332577, we can arrange to collect.

We intend to have a 'Smashing Time' so are looking for your old crockery and china (no glass please)

We can arrange for collection – contact Doug Overett – Doug.overett@tiscali.co.uk 9333285



Sports Weekend - 26th/27th May

MVP has teamed up with many local clubs/groups and organisations that run sporting activities to create a 'sporting weekend' where everyone - both children and adults - have the opportunity to try out the many different activities that are available in our area. Keep this weekend free - we hope to have events from open water swimming, to rugby to pilates to zumba, from cricket to football to tennis and yoga.... and more!.

Watch out on the village website and notice boards for further details.



Bag2school

Collection dates for your diaries.....

Monday 19th March, Monday 18th June and Monday 15th October

Once again it's time to look out unwanted clothes for St John's and St Mary's schools and the MVP second hand clothing collection fundraiser. Areas of the village will receive bags the week before. You can include handbags, belts, shoes, soft toys, linen, curtains & blankets (no bric-a-brac, duvets, pillows or material off cuts please)

*A big thank you to everyone who contributed to the last collection - we raised over **£600** which was divided equally between the two schools and the MVP. **YOUR COMMUNITY directly benefits** so please do have a good clear out!*

Village Spring Clean - Saturday 14th April

We are all proud of our village, so come and give a hand at our annual 'Spring Clean'. Held on Saturday 14th April, it's a great opportunity to make a difference and meet other families.

Look on the village notice boards and on the web site www.mortimervillage.org.uk for more information nearer the day!





"Latest News" - We hear that Mortimer is to have a **coffee shop** in the place where Supreme Flooring has just vacated on West End Road. Due to open in the Spring, 'Mortimer's Crafty Coffee' will be a handy drop in place for young and old alike - and for all of you talented people out there we understand there will be an opportunity to display your crafts in this new shop. **Another 'new' in Mortimer** is the **pre-school group** that is due to open in the **Scout Hut at Easter**. It's great to see this hut getting more use. The MVP would like to wish both these new ventures success in their endeavours.

Mortimer Film Club offers a great opportunity to enjoy an evening at the cinema without travelling out of the village. From early beginnings in St. John's School Hall it is now establishing itself in the **Community Centre**. Comfortable chairs, use of a brand new projector, tea, coffee and home cooked goodies make for a friendly and enjoyable evening right here on our doorstep. We welcome new members - £30 for a full year's membership (10 films), or £5 per film if you come as a guest. There is a showing every **third Wednesday** of the month between September and June each year. Details of forthcoming films can be found on: www.mortimervillage.org.uk and on posters around the village. Our next events are:-



March 15th 2012 'LES CHORISTES' (The Chorus). A drama about a teacher reaching out to troubled students to influence their lives positively through music. Directed by Christophe Barratier

April 18th 2012 'A GOOD WOMAN'. Directed by Mike Barker. A film based on Lady Windemere's Fan. Whilst retaining her secret identity, Mrs. Erlynne saves Lady Windemere from making a grand social faux-pas with the scoundrel Lord Darlington.

For membership details contact Nazely on 9331580 or email: mortimerfilmclub@hotmail.co.uk



RNLI Book Clearance Sale – Saturday 17th March – St John's Hall

The RNLI Mortimer & District Branch are holding a Book Sale on Saturday 17th March from 9.30 to 3.30, so come along and see what masterpieces you can find!

Mortimer Scarecrow Trail 2011

The Crows Stayed Away but the Crowds Just Kept Coming

October half term holiday saw Mortimer's second Scarecrow Trail. Blessed with mild dry weather – for most of the week anyway – trail followers were in store for a treat as they walked, cycled and drove their way around the trail. In total, going via the most direct route, the trail was 5km long!



Forty scarecrows took part and the variety of the scarecrows, from the more traditional type such as Chris Evans and Harry Hill to the more contemporary styles of Big Bird and Mr Strong, made for an entertaining and interesting trail and you were never quite sure what was going to be waiting for you just around the corner.

With nearly 800 maps sold, it's anyone's guess as to how many people actually completed the trail but you can get some idea by viewing a short video of **"What the Dalek Saw"**, which can be found at the following link: http://www.mortimervillage.org.uk/modules/calendar_events/MVPeventlink.htm - make sure that you have the sound turned on. Under the same link, there is also a short report announcing the competition winners and photographs of all the scarecrows that took part.

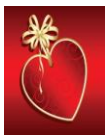
Many people commented on the "community spirit" of the event and our thanks to everyone who enabled it to happen: the **families, organisations and businesses** who built the scarecrows; **Spratleys** and **Parkers** who kindly sponsored the prizes; **Budgens** and **McColls** who sold the maps; **Burghfield Camera Club** who took the official photographs; **Greenham Common Trust** for printing the maps; **Mortimer Library** for collecting the 400 odd voting and competition slips and last, but by no means least, all of the **trail followers** – a real community event indeed!

Proceeds from the Scarecrow Trail, 2011 have been offered to the Parish Council to help fund the children's entertainment at **Mortimer's Diamond Jubilee** celebrations. Plans for the 2012 Scarecrow Trail are already underway. Further details, along with entry forms, will be available at this year's Fun Day when it is also hoped that some of the scarecrows, from 2011, will make a guest appearance!.

We are sure you will have noticed MVP Christmas cards on sale in the village again this year. We would like to say a big thank you to both Celia at **Budgens** and Jonathan at **Amicus** for agreeing to sell the cards on our behalf. 329 packs of cards, with lovely images of Mortimer kindly donated by **Jason Smith**, were sold in total and a profit of £194 will be ploughed back into future village events. Thank you to those of you who purchased them!



Stratfield Mortimer Relief in Need Charity



Are you in need of Assistance? If so we may be able to help.

We are a local charity covering the Parishes of Mortimer, Mortimer West End, Stratfield Mortimer & Wokefield and our mission is to provide **Relief for those in Need**. If you are an individual, family, group or organisation that requires funding for purchase of equipment, conversion of a building, running your organisation or the purchase of fuel for heating we may be able to help.

We are keen to support the giving that currently occurs within the community and are happy to consider applications from friends and families who believe others are in Need and would welcome some assistance. We consider all applications quickly and in complete confidence. Please do not be shy in coming forward.

Please write to Mrs VJ Glanville, Park Farm, Bramley Road, Silchester, Reading, Berks, RG7 2LJ or call 01256 881238.

!!!Stop Press!!!! !!!Stop Press!!!! !!!Stop Press!!!!

Travelling Theatre Group to visit Mortimer - 21st March - St John's Hall

The MVP has just booked the professional **Little Bulb Theatre** to bring their currently touring performance - *The Marvellous & Unlikely Fete of Little Upper Downing* to Mortimer on **21st March**. This is a new production specifically for rural touring and tells the tale of the unique charms of village life and the people who live there with hilarity, live music and vibrant visuals. It will be in the evening at **St. John's Hall** and is suitable for everyone from the age of 8 upwards. **Look out for posters or look on www.mortimervillage.org for details of how to get tickets.**

In this 'tale of two villages, different... but strangely similar' - the fictitious but recognisable rival hamlets of Little Downing and Upper Downing - LB take their deceptively chaotic cues from Shakespeare's 'Romeo and Juliet' to create a pastoral that is anything but idyllic.

★★★★★ credit Venue magazine



Jonathan Crawley

The entire committee of MVP was very saddened to hear of the death of Jonathan Crawley over the New Year. Jonathan has been a staunch supporter of MVP and our community activities from the outset. His enthusiastic support for our Christmas cards, a sponsor for the children's activities at the Fun Day, a guide for our calendar project and a promoter of MVP theatre trips, made him a much valued and welcome 'honorary' member of MVP. Our thoughts and sympathy are with his wife Mary and our condolences go to his family and friends

MVP Theatre Club



Fancy going to the theatre but don't want the drive and parking hassles?

Want to go to see a show but don't want to go alone?

Why not join the MVP Theatre Club? We have organised, escorted trips to

London Theatre land and regional theatres. Email Rebecca Barker, on bbarkerdg@sky.com if you would like to be put on the mailing list; alternatively look out for further events on the village notice boards or the website.

We have a few tickets remaining for *House's of Parliament* on 29th May and *Of Mice and Men* at the Watermill Theatre on 25th May. Contact Rebecca Barker on bbarkerdg@sky.com or 9332008 for more details. Places limited, so book now!.....

Green Group – Champions needed!!

Are you interested in the green issues in our village? Is it important to you that we recycle our waste? Are you keen to see the survival of our community gardens? Do you care about our environment? Contact Pete Blagden – pete.blagden@btinternet.com (9332546) if you would like to promote green issues in Mortimer.



MVP Lunch Club



A great time was had at our **two** Christmas meals. One at Wokefield Park, where a fleet of cars kindly supplied by **BMW** whisked 30 lucky members to a free meal courtesy of **DeVere Venues**. We also combined with Mortimer Age Concern and 45 people sat down to a Christmas Buffet at the Community Centre where we were serenaded by Acer Minor and entertained by **Louisa Collins & Rhiannon Wijeratne**, with a Christmas dance, much to the delight of everyone.

Do you know of an elderly person who would like a little company? The **MVP Lunch Club** is kindly sponsored by **DeVere Venues Wokefield Park** and the school caterers **Dolce**. It meets twice a month on a Thursday for soup and a roll and a chance to meet old friends and make new ones. Transport can be arranged.

If you would like to join in please call Cindy Kimber on 0118 9331767.

Would you like a rewarding volunteering opportunity?

The MVP is looking for people to help at the Lunch Club.

If you would like to join our team please email Rebecca Barker on bbarkerdg@sky.com



Youth Club

Mortimer Youth Club takes place every Thursday evening 7-9pm at the Community Centre. The club is open to all year 7's upwards, you can come along to any session without prior arrangement.

Duke Of Edinburgh Awards - Wednesday 29th February 7.30pm

Mortimer Community Centre

If you are interested in doing the **Duke of Edinburgh** awards programme or would just like to find out more, Mortimer Youth club is holding an information evening for young people and parents. You do not need to be a member of the youth club but you do need to be in year 9 or above at school. There is no need to book, just come along.

If you want to know more beforehand you can look at www.dofe.org or contact Ali Richardson on 0118 933 3256, Alison.richardson1@virginmedia.com

Help is at hand to switch to digital TV

You are eligible for the Help Scheme if you are aged 75 or over, or live in a care home (for six months or more), or receive (or could get): Disability Living Allowance (DLA), or Attendance or Constant Attendance Allowance, or Mobility Supplement, or are registered blind or partially sighted



The Switchover Help Scheme has helped hundreds of thousands of people to switch to digital. For more information, call **0800 40 85 900** or visit www.helpscheme.co.uk.

Perhaps you know someone who needs a helping hand at Switchover time? If so, please contact **Sarah Ward at The Community Council for Berkshire** sarah.ward@cberks.org.uk Telephone **0118 9612000**



Mortimer Netball Club is affiliated to England Netball

We love the game of netball **plus** we are a friendly bunch who love to socialise. In our first year our social and fixture packed our calendar full with events including fitness sessions with other clubs, friendly matches, Skittles & Meal night, Pub quiz night, Fiesta night, Our 1st Birthday Party, a Christmas party extravaganza at Trunkwell Mansion, a New Years Dinner at TGI Fridays, a night out watching Surry Storm Vs Loughborough Lightning at Surrey Sports Park in Guildford and social evenings meeting other local sports people and clubs.

Support for our teams at their matches is greatly appreciated. Don't forget your bright pink pom-poms!

Mortimer Jets: Division 3 Reading & District Netball League matches. Their games are played at Theale Green School on alternate Saturday mornings. See league fixtures and results at www.rdnl.moonfruit.com

Mortimer Dream Team: Basingstoke Netball League - Division 5. Matches are played on a Monday or Tuesday evening at the Russell Howard Netball Centre in Basingstoke. See league fixtures and results at www.basnetball.co.uk



TOURNAMENT – Saturday 28th April – 9am – Theale Green Community School

We are hosting a netball tournament with a social, family friendly theme. Food and drink stalls provided. **Up for grabs is the EITC Cup! The mixed rally in the morning is open to all!** The MVP has put a team together – so come and challenge them!! £20 per team, with 10% of the profits donated to a local charity. Whether your thing is rugby, football, tennis or history, it does not matter. Groups from work can enter for fun! It's family friendly too (minimum age 16). Get your mixed team together consisting of a minimum of 4 ladies + 3 men and substitutes. The ladies rally in the afternoon is also open to all, but the general level of play is suited to teams from lower divisions (divisions 3,4,5). Ladies teams must provide a C-grade umpire or higher. Please let us know if you need help in finding a qualified umpire?

For more information and to enter email us at: fixtures@mortimermumsnetball.co.uk

We are open to the public. You are welcome to join us at training on a Monday evening at The Willink Leisure Centre in Burghfield Common from 19.30 to 21.00. You can join us to play netball and to have fun on a social level but we also welcome volunteers who are willing to help out and make sport happen even if they do not want to play netball. We need helpers at the Tournament and we also need a hand in the running and administration of the club. If you are available and willing, please let us know.....

M: 07787143280

E: info@mortimermumsnetball.co.uk

WWW: [mortimermumsnetball.co.uk](http://www.mortimermumsnetball.co.uk)

Our website is continually updated with new events – www.mortimervillage.org.uk

If you have any dates, information or photos you wish to share with your community and include on the website, please email danusia@morsley.me.uk Be part of it and use your village web site.

The MVP Committee is a group of people who have come together to make the community actions in the Parish Plan happen

Brian Baldwin	brianbrendabaldwin@talk21.com	9332569	
Rebecca Barker	bbarkerdg@sky.com	9332008	
Pete Blagden	pete.blagden@btinternet.com	9332546	
John Bull	spectrumpm@btinternet.com	9333741	
Julie Carter	juliecarter396@btinternet.com	9832586	
John Foley	johnfoley@vellinder.co.uk	9333420	
Lynn Hannawin	lynn@i-next.co.uk	9332577	07740 841412
Jane Hodgson	hodgsons4@btinternet.com	9333553	07884 395144
Dave Kilshaw	david_kilshaw@hotmail.com	9332065	07919 911058
Chris Morsley	chris@morsley.me.uk	9332620	
Danusia Morsley	danusia@morsley.me.uk	9332620	
Doug Overett	doug.overett@tiscali.co.uk	9333285	
Ali Richardson	alison.richardson1@virginmedia.com	9333256	
Carl Whistler	carl.whistler@btinternet.com	07766 330248	

AGM – St John’s Hall – 17th March – 5pm

MVP are pleased to invite all in Mortimer to attend our AGM at St. John’s Hall on **Saturday 17th March from 5 - 6 pm** (*immediately after the Lifeboat Book sale!!*) **As well as cake and tea**, you have the opportunity to meet the committee and see whether you would like to join us in our efforts at taking ideas for the community and turning them into reality! Maybe you have some ideas of your own to bring to us? Being part of the MVP is open to everyone who lives or works in the village - we welcome nominations for Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer - please send your name, address, telephone and email contact details with a brief statement of why you would like to be involved, or take on a particular position, to our current secretary Lynn, lynn@i-next.co.uk . The applicant’s names will be made public at the AGM before an election by all present. **I LOVE MORTIMER!!! car stickers** will be given out at the AGM - for FREE!!

Affiliated Groups You can find out more about these groups on our website www.mortimervillage.org.uk

1st Mortimer BP Scout Group	neilpj@1st-mortimer.org.uk
1st Mortimers Brownies	firstmortimerbrownies@hotmail.co.uk
Book Club	danusia@morsley.me.uk
Burghfield Camera Club	ken.addison@burghfieldcameraclub.co.uk
Mortimer & District Branch of the RNLI	j.r.bull@btinternet.com
Mortimer & District Flower Circle	meferguson@btinternet.com
Mortimer Dramatic Society	woodrowj@clara.net
Mortimer Film Club	pete.blagden@btinternet.com
Mortimer Local History Group	g nicholls@idsgrp.com
Mortimer Netball Club	info@mortimermumsnetball.co.uk
Mortimer Tennis Club	helen@glyntech.com
Mortimer Toddlers	tamzinashcroft@hotmail.com
Mortimer (St Johns) Village Hall	j.r.bull@btinternet.com
Mortimer Youth Club	daviesw617@aol.com
St Oswalds	Greg.Vickers@englefield.co.uk
Mortimer Gardening Club	pete.blagden@btinternet.com

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

