

Mortimer Village Partnership Newsletter

June 2019



Mortimer Village Partnership
Enriching Village Life

*All this and more available on
our website*

www.mortimervillage.org.uk



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

Facebook, Twitter and all that


As someone who is unapologetic for his dislike of social media, I have to somewhat reluctantly accept, that over the past couple of months, it has proved to be very useful. In the run up to the MVP 10th Birthday, we posted a series of 10 key facts on our Facebook page and got some excellent feedback. Although people are generally aware of some of the things we do, it was good to remind everyone and we hope will persuade more people to volunteer. This campaign was posted simultaneously on our Twitter account, which is steadily growing, although a long way short of our +3,500 Facebook members.

We then saw lots of activity on both Facebook and our website as we approached the local Parish and West Berks Council elections. For some reason this year it seemed the community was far more engaged in who was seeking election (I'll leave you to contemplate the reasons for that). Given the strict rules and regulations around advertising profiles, MVP provided a real service to candidates and the electorate alike. Indeed our website pages with the candidate profiles saw some of the highest number of "hits" since we started the website 10 years ago.

So, at last social media seems to have added some value to the village, beyond the ever tedious reporting of dog poo and speeding... and I'd have to add as a new first time Grandparent, I have dipped into the fantastic *Buy Nothing Mortimer* to stack up on toys for our visiting granddaughter.

Social Media.... am I converted... well almost!

Doug Overett
MVP Chairman



Did you know the Mortimer West End & District Annual Show has been a regular fixture in the village calendar for over 100 years?

There are categories for everyone, not just the vegetable growers, so whether you are a crafter, photographer, artist, florist, wine maker or baker, there will be a class (or several) for you to enter. There are children's classes for up to 5 and 6 to 12 years old too, so have some fun in the summer holidays creating an entry.

There is a small fee per entry (from 40p) and **prizes to be won!**

Schedules are free and will be available from various village shops from mid-June to give you plenty of preparation time.

Even if you are not showing, please come along from 2.30pm and enjoy the afternoon, see what the talented locals have produced, enjoy tea & cake in the garden and join in the fun!

MORTIMER WEST END & DISTRICT ANNUAL SHOW PRODUCE, ARTS & CRAFTS

SATURDAY 24TH AUGUST – 2:30PM

MORTIMER WEST END

VILLAGE HALL

Nick Munson
Chairman, Mortimer West End
& District Annual Show

More from MVP

Birthday Cake Makes the AGM Sweeter

At our AGM this year we celebrated the 10 years of MVP with a fabulous birthday cake to sweeten the proceedings. Chairman, Doug Overett, talked about many of the achievements of the past 10 years and invited Rebecca Barker as one of the original founders of the MVP to join him in cutting the cake. It was great to see a lot of new faces at the meeting, many of whom have never attended an AGM or indeed MVP meetings but were made most welcome, and learnt a little of what goes on. The officers for 2019/20 were elected, full details can be found on the MVP website



Keep Mortimer Tidy



Although Mortimer has been running a Spring Clean for many years, this is now a National initiative called the Great British Spring Clean, which is supported by West Berks Council (who lend us some of the litter picking equipment). This year many individuals and families as well as local groups including the Brownies, Scouts and the Cricket Club made up the 100 plus people who support us.

St John's School Eco Warriors, were present, signing up volunteers to clean their own street once a month for a whole year. Whilst every year we hope that this event won't be necessary, anyone who saw the piles of rubbish collected, will know that some members of our community still don't seem to be getting the message. Please, if only for the sake of St Johns "Mini" Eco Warriors, don't drop litter!

MVP Theatre Trips

In May 40 theatre goers from the MVP theatre group went to see the Mousetrap. Many had plans in place for a relaxing meal before the show after the usual smooth journey to London. But you know what they say about the best-laid plans... safe to say that after multiple incidents our plans changed. Thanks to some great thinking from the team at Stewards Coaches we did arrive in time...just!



The Mousetrap was great, like all good Agatha Christie's the identity of the murderer kept us guessing right to the last moment and indeed we have all been sworn to secrecy, so you will need to join the mailing list and wait until

the trip is run again (or go yourself, of course) to find out who did it. Despite the mishaps of our evening it was a good night out with minimal effort on our part which is one of the best parts of the MVP theatre trips.

Watch out for the next trips to be advertised on the MVP website or join the mailing list mvptheatretrips@gmail.com. I'm looking at **Fiddler on the Roof**, **Tina**, **The Prince of Egypt** and I'm also going to try some less mainstream shows at provincial theatres in the area. Rebecca Barker

MVP Lunch Club

Lunch Club now in its tenth year continues to thrive. With the support of volunteers in our community and local businesses such as DeVere Estates (Wokefield Park), Budgens, The Elm Tree at Beech Hill, DJ Travel we continue to provide a twice monthly opportunity for older people in our community to get together for a chat and a lunch. If you know of anyone who you think might benefit, then please speak to Cindy on 07946 585935. Or if you are able to help out - we need drivers and someone (or two people) to help manage the running of Lunch Club - please email Rebecca on bbarkerdg11@gmail.com



Scarecrow Trail



This year is the 10th anniversary of the Scarecrow Trail and to mark the occasion, the theme will be "*Anything Goes*! So, get creative and use your imagination to begin planning your 2019 Scarecrow!

You can choose anything from your favourite film, TV or book character to your favourite athlete or other real-life role model!

As in previous years, the Scarecrow Trail will be taking place in the autumn half-term holiday (Sat 26th Oct - Sun 3rd Nov) and the closing date for entries will be in late September, so what better way than spending the long lazy days of summer creating your *Anything Goes* scarecrow for a chance to win one of the 10 prizes?

Your *Anything Goes* character can be reserved by completing an entry form and paying the £10 entry fee. Entry forms and Scarecrow Trail guidelines will be available from 22nd July on the Mortimer Scarecrow Trail Facebook page or the MVP website - www.mortimervillage.org.uk. Don't forget that duplicate characters are not allowed so get your entry in early. For further information contact Keeleigh Field on 07907 272821

Go on, Build a Scarecrow and Join in the Fun!

Christmas Panto 2019 - Goldilocks

Hold the date **December 14th 2019** for an all-new production from Gary Starr Pantomimes, although I can't guarantee the Baby Shark won't reappear after everyone went crazy last year!

For early info join MVP VIP Mail List, please send your details to Boxoffice@mortimervillage.org.uk with "VIP PANTO" in the subject line.

MVP Affiliate News

South Berks Concert Band

Where does time go? This is the sixth year the band has been based in Mortimer and began with an exciting concert in March at St. John's Church. Since then we have performed at Bradfield Mayfayre, been on tour in Europe over the late May bank holiday week and are now finalising details for our summer concert.

This year we are extending our horizons a little, reaching out to nearby places as our summer event is being performed at The Link, Tadley & District Community Centre on **Saturday 22 June**. There will be a family concert from 3:30pm, with a free, bookable "have a go" instrument session for ticket holders before the performance. Tickets are available from the Baobab in Mortimer and we hope some of the Mortimer music lovers will come along and support us. The music selection will feature James Bond, The Incredibles, and Harry Potter, and more items to suit the whole family. The afternoon will be a great opportunity to meet with family or friends from around and beyond the Tadley area, as you can have a chat over a cuppa and cakes before listening to the concert. Please have a look at our posters, check our website, or follow us on Facebook/Twitter for more details as we release them closer to the event.



We will be back home in Mortimer for a concert on the 7th December at St. John's Church.

Mortimer West End Village Hall

We have lots of events lined up for the coming year, so do make a note of these dates in your diary:



WOODLAND WALK AND BARBECUE - Sunday 30th June
(Please note this is an earlier date than usual). Start your walk any time between 11:00 am & 1:00 pm. 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. There are prizes to be won,

and drinks and burgers at the end! If you don't fancy a walk, just come for the BBQ! Entry is £6 per team.

We will also be raffling a wonderful wooden owl to beautify your garden, carved by our local artist, Nick Speakman (<http://nickspeakmandesigns.com/>) It's worth coming along to the hall just to buy a ticket for that!

MORTIMER WEST END PRODUCE SHOW - Saturday 24th August. Viewing from 2:30 pm - 4:00 pm (more info inside front cover)

QUIZ NIGHT - Saturday 19th October 7:30 pm. Tickets £8.50 including a ploughman's supper.

PILATES CLASSES - Mondays 9:30 am and 10:45 am

INDOOR CYCLING CLASSES - Mondays 7:15pm and 8:15 pm

CALLEVA WI - 2nd Tuesday of the month 7:30 pm - 10:00 pm

More information visit us at: www.facebook.com/mwevillagehall or contact: mwevh@outlook.com or 0118-970-0001

RNLI



We took advantage of the School's May Fair and held our annual plant sale on the Fairground opposite the entrance to St John's School on the same day.

All the plants for sale were donated by RNLI Supporters and the sale raised over £600, thanks mainly to Mrs Amoret Tanner, who again bought the bulk of the plants she had raised during the year.

As the diminishing committee have decided to close the Branch at the end of the year, after over 40 years of fund raising, this was our last plant sale. If any other local organisation would like to run a similar event in future years and take advantage of Amoret's generosity, please call John on 9333741.

Belle Canto

Music lovers in the area may be interested to know that each month you have the opportunity to enjoy two concerts in one weekend.

On the **first Saturday** of each month, St Mary's Shinfield hosts "Music at St Mary's" (@stmarysshinfield). This consists of a 45 minute to 1 hour concert, starting at midday, followed by a light lunch. Entry is free, but donations for the church are gratefully received.

On the **first Sunday** of each month, Old Bluecoat School, Thatcham hosts "West Berkshire Chamber Music Concerts" (@westberkshirechambermusicconcerts). Here you start with tea and cake at 3:30pm, with the concert running from 4:00 to 5:00. Tickets are £10.

Both venues boast a wonderful variety of musicians, to suit all tastes.

I'm afraid you've missed Belle Canto's very successful "Songs to Love" concert at Thatcham (which was on 7th April). But you can enjoy our new "Fabulous Fifties" programme at Shinfield on 3rd August. And then we'll be singing even more of your favourite songs from the 1950s at Silchester church at 7:30 on 7th September, where we'll be singing two sets of 45 minutes.

You can find out all about us at www.bellecanto.uk and @bellecantotrio on Facebook. We look forward to seeing you!

Hurst Singers - Bring Harmony back to Mortimer!

We could not keep away! After a brief sojourn in Tadley, Hurst Singers are back in St John's Hall on Thursday evenings (7:30-9:30pm). Why not join us?

Fed up with boring repetitions in the gym? Singing is a good workout for both body and brain: it improves lung capacity and gets more oxygen into the blood; it uses both 'right' and 'left' brain functions; and increases the flow of feel-good hormones to improve mental health - not to mention the social aspect...

The Hurst Singers are a mixed voice SATB choir (soprano, alto, tenor, bass) whose main aim is to have fun singing and making a good sound together. New members with any kind of singing experience are welcome. No audition is needed just plenty of enthusiasm, commitment and a passion for singing and entertaining others with our music.

Our next concert will be at **St Mary's Church, Silchester** on **Saturday 29th June** in aid of church funds. We will entertain you with an eclectic mix of music, including extracts from our own Len David's 'Indigo Requiem'.

If you are interested, please come along to meet us and find out what we do at any Thursday night rehearsal. For more information please contact Cath cathcooper48@gmail.com or Mari 0118 933 2805/07882 404337.



Stratfield Mortimer Fairground Charity

The Stratfield Mortimer Fairground Charity owns the Fairground, which is to be used as a public recreation ground and events space for the village. The Parish Council lease the Fairground from the Charity and do an excellent job of operating it in accordance with this purpose, managing and enhancing this valuable facility for the benefit of all.

The modest rent received by the Charity from leasing the Fairground is used to make grants to a number of local bodies whose work supports those residents of Stratfield Mortimer who might be in need of a little extra help. Recent donations made by the Trustees include the local Age Concern coffee mornings, the MVP Lunch Club, and Together in Mission.

Please get in touch should you want to know more about the Charity, or if you have any suggestions about other ways in which we could support the local community. Contact: Gemma Matthews, Secretary
gemma.melza@gmail.com

Made in Mortimer

Made in Mortimer had a great start to the year! We had a fantastic time supporting the Mortimer Pre-School Easter Egg Hunt by holding our Spring Fair on the Fairground together with the hunt over the Easter weekend. The sun was shining and it was lovely to see so many families out and about enjoying the village event and atmosphere.



Our library craft mornings are going from strength to strength and are proving very popular! This is a free, drop in crafts session run on the **2nd Saturday of the month** from 10:30 - 12 at Mortimer library, for children aged 3 - 11. No need to book, just turn up and join in!

If you would like to be kept up to date with details of any of our events, please 'like' our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/MadeinMortimer, email us at made.in.mortimer@gmail.com or give Emma Vidal a call on 0118 933 1623. Also check the MVP website where dates are posted once confirmed.

Community First Responders

Wokefield Park Golf Club, under the Captaincy of Andy Clark, have raised an incredible £4000 for South Central Ambulance Community First Responders (CFR). In addition, a generous £332.97 was collected by Staff and Managers at Wokefield Park. The Burghfield and Mortimer CFR team along with South Central Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust (SCAS) Paramedic and Community Engagement and Training Officer, Ben Westley, joined Andy Clark and Jamie Anton at the Wokefield Club on 28th April to receive the cheque.



Speaking on behalf of the Club, Andy said 'we were thrilled to raise such a significant amount this year to support the Burghfield and Mortimer Community First Responders. The sum pledged was to fund the purchase and installation of an upgraded Terrafix Communication System in the CFR Response Vehicle. The unit was fitted last autumn and is already making a significant difference to the volunteer team assisting with mapping and communications with ambulance control. It is a pleasure to see the unit in use today'.

Mortimer Walking Group: West Berkshire Walking for Health

If you would like to enjoy the great outdoors, improve your health, fitness and explore the many footpaths and countryside within a 2 - 3 mile radius of the village, why not join us on one of the 4 walks below.

Monday:

19:00 a walk of approximately 4 miles lasting about 1½ hours (this walk will continue until 30th September).

Tuesday:

09:45 a walk at a quicker pace of approximately 5¼ miles and lasts about 1¾ hours.

10:00 a walk at normal pace of approximately 3½ miles lasting about 1½ hours

10:30 a slow-paced walk mainly over flat terrain of approximately 2 miles lasting about 1 hour. This walk is designed especially for people who are usually inactive or do little physical activity, would like to start walking, returning from illness, injury or joint replacements

Walkers of all abilities are welcome and all walks are free of charge. If you are interested in joining one of the walks just turn up 15 minutes before the start of the walk and introduce yourself to one of the walk leaders, identified by their fluorescent jackets. All the walks start and finish at the Community Centre car park opposite the Horse and Groom pubic House.

To keep up to date on all our walks for 2019 please refer to the calendar on the MVP web site.

For more information on the benefits of Walking go to <https://info.westberks.gov.uk/wfh> or www.walkingforhealth.org.uk.



Parents and Friends of Mortimer St. Mary's

This year the fantastic team of volunteers that make up the Mortimer Village Partnership decided that they needed a well-deserved year off from running what is now a renowned 'Fun Day'. Therefore, they kindly offered the date of Saturday 6th July to the Parents and Friends charity at Mortimer St Mary's Junior School to give us an opportunity to run a fundraising event for the whole village to enjoy - **in 2019 we bring you the Mortimer Summer Festival** - a jam-packed day of games, sport, food, drink and live music at Mortimer Fairground. It promises to be a super active and enjoyable day out for all the family! Turnover to find out more...



Come and support **Mortimer St. Mary's Junior School** **On Saturday 6th July**

Day Schedule

10:30. The day will commence with a **3k family fun run**. Pick up an entry form from the school office or email mortstmarys@gmail.com. If you don't fancy a run, then just come and join us for bacon bap or a cup of tea.



12:00 – 15:00 Try your hand at **a variety of games** provided by local sports clubs including golf, netball, football, rugby, cricket, boxfit and kettle bell classes—a great way of trying out a new healthy activity. (If you run a local sports club and like to get involved please contact mortstmarys@gmail.com to find out more). Come along to this part of day in your trainers and sports gear and get active – suitable for all abilities and ages

14:00 – 16:00 If relaxation is more your style, come and join us in the refreshment tent and enjoy an **afternoon tea with a glass of bubbles**. There will be lovely homemade produce and **craft stalls** hosted by the talented people of Made in Mortimer. Plus, music provided by local acoustic performers.



16:00 Tug of War – Just for fun! Enter your Team!

Come and have some fun and pitch your strength against the best Mortimer (and surrounding areas) have to offer!! We are looking for teams of 6 to enter - we would really love to see teams from all our wonderful local businesses and groups challenge each other. Entry forms can be found on our Facebook page or by emailing mortstmarys@gmail.com. We do hope you'll support the day by entering a team.



Food & Drinks



Ice Cream van
Fish n' Chips
BBQ (inc. veggie options)



Afternoon Tea
Speciality Gin & Fizz Bar
Fully licensed bar
(12:00 to 23:00)



On Mortimer Fairground

Bouncy Castle Raffle Fish n' Chips

Tug of War Refreshments Music Games

Evening Schedule

We have a fantastic evening of **free entertainment** lined up for you, from 16.30 – 23.00. Including, but not limited to, the following acts:



Reading Rock Choir – more than just a choir, this fantastic group perform a variety of hits including rock and pop classics such as Queen, ELO, One Direction, Amy Winehouse

Shine (90's cover band) – with the lead singer heralding from Mortimer, Shine promise to deliver a wealth of 90's Britpop and indie rock hits including Oasis, Primal Scream, Blur, Stone Roses and much more – come relive your youth singing along to these classics!

Lucca Bernardi – An eclectic collection of soulful and thought provoking original tracks and some beautiful covers like below. Lucca is destined for great things which we're sure you will agree once you hear her talent.

Mortimer St John's & St Mary's School Choirs – the children from these choirs have performed at Madejski Stadium and recently entered national competitions. The Mortimer Summer Festival gives them another great opportunity to entertain and bring a smile to the faces of our community.



Charlotte Pattenden – Another fab local act, this time from Burghfield, Charlotte will perform some solo spectacular music from the movies plus her own compositions

So far, the brilliant People at **Parkers**, **Budgens** and **Spratley's** are sponsoring, and **MVP** kindly supporting this event. If you're a local business and would like to sponsor us, donate a raffle prize, or are a vendor and are interested in coming along to the day please e-mail mortstmarys@gmail.com. Thank you!

Follow all the news on: www.facebook.com/MortimerSummerFest

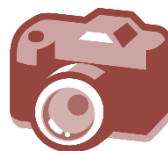
Budgens



parkers

Burghfield Camera Club

We continue to have a varied and interesting programme of events, which has recently included a Travelogue evening by one of our members talking about a trip to South America and showing a variety of travel images; external speakers giving presentations on subjects such as Macro photography, local photography, wild life in Botswana and delivering excellence images.



One of our members ran a workshop on how to take better portraits just using home domestic lighting - a very successful evening.

Walks have also been organised in Winchester and in London around Spitalfields.

Why not come and join our friendly group, full details can be found at www.burghfieldcameraclub.co.uk

Mortimer Pre-School

Mortimer Pre-School have had a cracking Spring term finishing with the highlight of the Mortimer Easter Egg Hunt brought to you by the parents and families of Mortimer Pre-School. Thank you to all the volunteers that made the day so special and helped us raise over £1600 for the Pre-School.

We continue to spend the money on dancing and PE classes and we have just invested in a lovely new dressing up trolley, so our Pre-Schoolers can dress up as "people who help us", which is one of our on-going topics.

Talking of people who help us, this term, our Pre-Schoolers will be meeting the Guide Dogs, Police and the Fire Brigade as well as trying out their archaeology skills!

If you'd like to know more about Mortimer Pre-School, then please drop us a note at info@mortimerpreschool.org.uk, or visit our website! We'd love to hear from you



B&M Volunteer Bureau

Thanks to the MVP Volunteer meeting in November 2018 the Bureau recruited two new drivers. Which was excellent news as unfortunately in September and October we were unable to assist several clients to get to their appointments.

Sadly, we have also lost some drivers so please, if you have some spare time and can be a Volunteer Driver, do get in touch on 0118 9831814.

We average around 6 drives per weekday taking clients to their appointments and they are so grateful that we are here to help them. Many of our drives are

local and it is the time given and friendly smiles of our drivers that makes their trips to their appointments as stress-free as possible.

We continue to have new clients register for our service so please, please, call us if you can join our Volunteer Drivers. Fuel costs are reimbursed. For more details do call the Office, number above or email bureauvolunteer@gmail.com

Bag 2 School

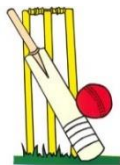
Thank you to everyone in our community that helps support our local schools by recycling all your unwanted but good quality clothes/shoes/soft toys/bedding.



Our next village collection will be on **Monday 24th June** and from St. Mary's and St. John's schools on **Tuesday 25th June**.

URGENT help required. Is there a van driver out there who could donate an hour of their time on Monday 24 June to help collect the Bags2school from around the village? If you can help (or even better still if you have a van too) please can you contact Tracey on traceyofmarlow@hotmail.com. Also contact Tracey if you can help deliver the bags or collect them from the roadside when they are full.

Mortimer Cricket Club



MORTIMER Cricket Club has enjoyed an encouraging start to the season and continues to go from strength to strength.

The club now boasts three sides - a Saturday league team, a Sunday friendly team and a midweek league team - and has attracted a host of new members over the winter.

The Saturday team under Craig North's captaincy has won its first two games - both at home - in the Berkshire League and proudly sits top of Division Three.

We hope to keep this winning run going, but the most important part is we play the game in the right spirit and enjoy it.....followed by a couple of drinks afterwards.

With that we must thank our long-term sponsors the Horse & Groom and also new sponsors The Hatchgate, Burghfield, plus Berkshire Hampshire Heatpumps Ltd - your support is greatly appreciated.

We will once again be holding free cricket coaching for pupils (boys and girls) at St Mary's School, starting soon. If your child takes part - we hope they have fun!

Events coming up this summer, include our hugely popular 'Mortimer 6s' tournament and fun day on Sunday, June 30. There will be a bar, bbq, plenty

to occupy the children with and, of course, lots of action on the pitch - so pop in for a drink if you can!

Later this summer we will also be going on tour to Chester and North Wales where we will fly the flag of Mortimer CC with pride.

Finally, we are very much volunteer-led and none of this would happen without the hard work of club members. We are always looking for more members or anyone able to lend a hand - be it cutting the grass or a spot of umpiring or scoring. If you would like to get in touch, please call chairman Adrian Smith on 07710 006628

1st Mortimer BP Scout Group

Tucked away in the corner of the Alfred Palmer Memorial Field sits the Headquarters of the 1st Mortimer BP Scouts. Founded in 1910, the group is one of the oldest in the country, this year celebrating our 109th Birthday! We take pride in living up to our motto of Service to the Community, helping wherever we can.



Here are some of the things our Cubs and Scouts have been up to over the past year:

- attended an International Scout camp attended by over 22 countries,
- completed a 4 day cycle tour of Normandy
- hiked by day and night, learnt to cook over an open fire, learnt some survival skills
- learnt about our environment and ways to protect it, learnt about renewable energy
- visits including the escape rooms, local farms and Reading wind turbine
- we have also had visits from several local organisations including Plastic Free Mortimer, the Thames Valley Police and learnt lots of new skills.

Many of you will have seen our group leading the Mortimer Remembrance Parade in November every year. This is always a special occasion for us as many of the names on the memorial belong to former members of our group. There will be added significance this year as it marks the 75th Anniversary of the D Day landings when we will also take time to remember our Life President Peter (Skip) Johnson who passed away earlier this year after being a member of the group for some 86 years.

In September we will have some spaces in both our Cub and Scout sections so if you have a Son or Daughter who would like to join in the fun please get in touch. Neil Johnson 1stmortimercubs@gmail.com Or 01189 332147. You can follow us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/1st-Mortimer-BP-Cubs-Scouts-608657075923275/>

Mortimer Tennis Club

The Summer season has started! We play on Tuesday and Thursdays from 6pm and on Sundays from 4pm. These are social tennis sessions for anyone wanting to get on court. Come along to your first sessions for free and try us out.

Our club really needs some extra volunteers. You don't have to play amazing tennis you just need to be willing to get involved. In particular we are looking for locals willing to organise a junior tennis session. If you or someone you know might be interested, please do get in touch.



We know there has been interest in opportunities for younger members of the community to play tennis and we're delighted to welcome Tony Williams from CTC Tennis, a fully qualified Level 3+ coach, who has been coaching for Shinfield Tennis club for some years. He can offer 2 after school sessions on a Tuesday as well as some individual coaching, so if you have little ones interested please get in

touch. See our website for more information on this and our club in general: www.mortimertennisclub.co.uk

Mortimer 2012 WI

We invite all ladies in Mortimer to come along and give us a try. We meet at 7:30pm on the first Wednesday of the month at the Mortimer Community Centre. Our 2019 speaker program can be found in the MVP website calendar.

In addition to our monthly meetings we have associated reading and walking groups and a lunch club. We have trips organised to The National Needlework Archive, Mapledurham Watermill and the garden at Old Camps, Thatcham coming up later in the year and our garden party in August will be a bit special as we celebrate Berkshire Federation of Women's Institutes centenary. Also new for 2019 we're pleased to offer members instructor-supported walking netball sessions at Willink Leisure Centre as part of a partnership between England Netball and the National Federation of Women's Institutes.

Mortimer 2012 Women's Institute have several 'open meetings' a year where non-members of both sexes are welcome along to hear our speakers. The next open meeting is **4th of September** at which Margaret Finch will present 'Autumn Plants'.

Also look out for our refreshment stop on the Scarecrow Trail



Mortimer Methodist Church

Services are held every Sunday, starting at 10:30am, with communion approximately once a month. Everybody welcome! Have a look at the notice board at the entrance to the church car park for more details. Many other activities are held on the church premises, including; Bric a Brac sales on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month - come and browse the wide selection of household items, ornaments, jewellery, toiletries, toys and jigsaws, CDs and DVDs (and cakes on the 1st Saturday of the month). Faith & Friends sessions, for pre-school children and their carers, which take place on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month (9:30 - 11am). Other regular activities/societies include Art, Toddlers, Moo Music, Brownies, Pilates, Mortimer Village Partnership meetings, Age UK coffee mornings and History Society meetings, The Hall can be hired for private functions - contact Anne & Tim Proctor, aproctorartist@yahoo.co.uk or 0118 9332840.

Together In Mission



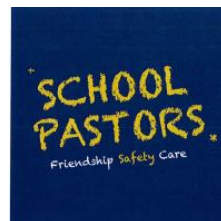
TiM Friends celebrates 6 years serving our communities.

Our Easter tea party at Sulhamstead Village Hall for clients and volunteers was an afternoon to remember with our youngest client leading the sing-along.

If you wish to know more about our service or would like to become a volunteer, please contact Bev French, TiM Friends Coordinator, 07748 686615 bevrench6@gmail.com

New School Pastors needed!

- Have you got an hour a week to spare?
- Have you got a heart for teenagers and young people in the area?
- Are you a Christian and 'plugged into' some form of Christian community?



If so, we need you!

We have three volunteer School Pastors at the Willink and would like a few more. We particularly need men, but we need women too. You can get involved in lunchtime patrols, library visits, craft sessions, Year 6-7 familiarisation visits, social media updates, and visits to local churches to share our news. All training provided. Find out more from Libby.

We can't continue School Pastors without more support.

Libby Hawkness-Smith, Burghfield and Area School Pastors Coordinator,
0777 891 1182, libby@togetherinmission.org.uk
www.facebook.com/TiMSchoolPastors www.twitter.com/TiM_Pastors

Plastic Free Mortimer

What is Plastic Free Mortimer?

Plastic Free Mortimer, a small group of volunteers, came about through a nationwide initiative by Surfers Against Sewage, to extend their original focus on clearing up plastic pollution on our coasts, by encouraging inland groups to set up plastic free communities

Whilst our focus is on the avoidance of single use plastic, we support recycling initiatives too, specifically locally that organised by Ali Chaney and the Baobab. We meet in the Horse and Groom on the last Wednesday of each month at 8.30pm. You'd be very welcome to pop along

The "Mass Unwrap"

In March, we were proud to be one of a few West Berkshire villages to take part in Surfers against Sewage's "Mass Unwrap", aimed at highlighting the high level of avoidable single-use plastic used by supermarkets. We ran two unwraps, one in Tesco Express Burghfield, the other in Budgens Mortimer. At this family-friendly event, fully supported by the shops, we chatted to shoppers about the content of their trolleys and pointed out needless plastic



Eco bricks

We were delighted when Lesley Ravenscroft, who co-runs an award-winning community shop in Hampstead Norreys, ran an Eco brick making workshop in the Horse and Groom in March. **Ecobricks are made by stuffing** a plastic bottle with cut-up waste plastic to make a reusable building block. Ecobricks can be used to make furniture, garden spaces and even full-scale buildings

How can you help?

1. Try to avoid using "single use" plastic, for example by using plastic-free alternatives and taking your own bags/containers when food shopping. Loon Tin and Cinnamon Tree fully support 'bring your own bag' when ordering take aways.
2. When it's not possible to avoid plastic, try to re-use it.
3. When re-use isn't practical, try to recycle.

More information

Here's where you can get full details on what we do, the events we've mentioned, a list of plastic-free alternatives and Ali's Local Recycling Information (also displayed outside the Baobab):



facebook.com/PlasticFreeMortimer



www.Mortimer.Life



andreakimroach@gmail.com



twitter.com/MortimerFree



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Save the Children - Kennet Branch

Save the Children - Kennet Branch would like to thank everyone for their support.

Call now on 0118 9832569 to book tickets for our **Midsummer Music Evening** on **Saturday 29th of June** in the beautiful garden setting of Little Manor, Church Lane, Burghfield Village, RG30 3TG. Live music, including jazz standards, big band classics and contemporary arrangements for big band will be supplied by the Clive Fortune Big Band. Interval entertainment will be provided by our friends and Burghfield locals Shane and Alex and we're very pleased to welcome female barbershop quartet The Tonyx for the first time this year. 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. 6:30pm start. Bring a chair or rug and discover the best way to spend a summer evening. Call now on 0118 9832569 to book tickets for this unique event.

2019 is Save the Children's centenary and to commemorate we're welcoming the **Arborfield Military Wives Choir** to St. Mary's Church Burghfield on **Saturday 28th of September** from 7:30pm. Tickets for this very special event are £10 and include refreshments for tickets please contact jlclaredowney@gmail.com

We also have two 'check-out' Jumble Sales coming up at St. John's Hall Mortimer. To keep things simple all items are 40p or 3 for £1 and you pay on the way out. Entry fee is 20p. We very much welcome donations at the hall from 9am. Dates for the sales are 14th of September and 2nd of November. All start at 10:30am.



Other News

Clark's Education Foundation

Clark's Education Foundation provides educational grants to local schools, youth organisations and residents of the parishes of Wokefield, Stratfield Mortimer and Mortimer West End. It also owns the School House and its garden in the grounds of St Mary's school. The charity derives its income from letting the School House and an annual grant from the Stratfield Mortimer Relief In Need charity. Grants are made available to local schools to cover items not available via the Local Education Authority and to eligible individual residents in the three parishes for further education, including apprenticeships. For more information, contact Nick Carter, Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council's appointed trustee, by emailing nick.carter@stratfield-mortimer.gov.uk or phoning 07833 059500

MVP Support For Local Groups

MVP Affiliates

There are a number of benefits to being an affiliate as all these groups can tell you. Could your group benefit? If you are part of a local group and would like to find out more about affiliating to MVP or if you have ideas about starting a new group, then contact Julie Carter on juliekarter77@gmail.com or check out the Affiliate section on the website, under Main Activities→ Affiliate Support

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| 1st Burghfield & Sulhamstead Scouts & TAO Explorer Unit | Mortimer Gardening Club |
| 1st Mortimer B P Scouts | Mortimer Life |
| 1st Mortimer Brownies | Mortimer Local History Group |
| 1st Ufton Nerve Scout Group | Mortimer Methodist Church |
| Alfred Palmer Memorial Field Trust | Mortimer Music Live CIC |
| B&M Volunteer Drivers | Mortimer Pre School Parents Committee |
| Belle Canto Ladies | Mortimer St Johns PAF |
| Burghfield & Mortimer 1st Responders | Mortimer St Mary's Junior School PTA |
| Burghfield & Mortimer Handybus | Mortimer Surgery Patients Participation Group |
| Burghfield Camera Club | Mortimer Tennis Club |
| Churches Together | Mortimer Toddler Group |
| Crafters Club | Mortimer West End Produce Show |
| Hurst Singers | Mortimer West End Village Hall |
| Made in Mortimer | Plastic Free Mortimer |
| Mortimer & District Branch of the RNLI | Save the Children - Kennet Branch |
| Mortimer 2012 WI | South Berks Concert Band |
| Mortimer Bell Ringers | Stratfield Mortimer Fairground Charity |
| Mortimer Benefice | Sulhamstead & Ufton Events (SUN-E) |
| Mortimer Cricket Club | Together in Mission |
| Mortimer Dramatic Society | West Berkshire Walking 4 Health |
| Mortimer FC | Willink PTA |
| Mortimer Film Club | |

See website for all contact information

www.mortimervillage.org.uk/Affiliate-Support

MVP Contact Details

| | | | |
|----------------|----------------|--|----------|
| Chairman | Doug Overett | doug.overett@gmail.com | 933 3285 |
| Vice Chairman | John Bull | spectrumpm@btinternet.com | |
| Secretary | John Hannawin | john@i-next.co.uk | 933 2577 |
| Treasurer | Ali Richardson | alison.richardson1964@gmail.com | |
| Affiliates Sec | Julie Carter | juliekcarter77@gmail.com | 933 2265 |

MVP Committee meetings are at 7:30pm on the 2nd Wednesday of the month (except August and December) in the meeting room at the Methodist hall. 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 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 Contact Us at:*

MVP thanks Sansome & George for continuing to help the village and MVP by contributing half of the production cost of this newsletter.



www.sansomeandgeorge.co.uk

Proud to be supporting our local community
by sponsoring the MVP newsletter

Contact our friendly advisors for all your property market needs

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mortimer@sansomeandgeorge.co.uk

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