



# Spring Newsletter

No 69 - 2011

[www.mortonvillage.org.uk](http://www.mortonvillage.org.uk)

Looking back, March was drier than we normally expect, bringing the spring and some pleasantly warm days for the time of year. The ice cream van has been a regular visitor!

## Morton Meet

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May is the first anniversary/birthday of the Morton Meet. The Meet pays for the cleaning of the hall but also buys items along the way including new bins for the kitchen and toilets, a new Christmas tree, a new clock, fabric for the wall panels, printing and promotion for hall fund-raising activities, wine for the Christmas meal and the charitable donation to the Japanese Earthquake Relief Fund. Rhona says "I would like to thank the group of kitchen volunteers who do all the real work - and mean that in the whole year I have yet to make a cup of tea or wash a pot."

Editors note - maybe no tea making Rhona but your cake making expertise has certainly been enjoyed and probably waistbands eased during the past year!!

Here are some of the comments from some of those attending

during the weeks prior to that date when asked what they would like to say about it.

The company - we missed the shop - **Kathleen**; Very friendly and well organised - **Mollie**; The nice cakes - **Enid**; Rhona's fruitcake! - It's nice to have somewhere to go on the doorstep and it was a good idea changing from 1pm - 3pm to 2pm to 4pm to accommodate the Mums with school age children - **Kathy**; All the charming ladies, and the cakes - **David**

Helping is the best thing I've done in the last ten years, meeting old friends and doing something useful for the village - **Joan**; The nice surroundings - **Kathleen**; Well-done Rhona for having the idea and putting it into action. Not only the older residents enjoy it but an increasing number of younger Mums, babies, toddlers and school children - **Bob**; It's good to have a strong sense of community - **Jane**; Catching up with the news - **Nancy**; A good cuppa - **Harold**

Funds raised at the session on 17<sup>th</sup> March and the art class held that morning were donated to the Japanese Disaster fund-raising effort. People gave generously



and £135 was donated through Elizabeth and Simon Lineacre, residents of East Morton who, in the late 1990s, had lived and worked in the area of Japan affected by the earthquake and tsunami. A friend of theirs runs two kindergartens there and the money raised will have helped make essential repairs to the kindergarten and support other residents desperately in need of help.

## Craft Fair

Never has the Institute looked more colourful than on Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> April, the day of the Charity Craft Fair. There were 23 stalls with toiletries, accessories, home wares, clothes, baking, massage, photography, candles, cards etc.



£852.50p was raised - thanks from the organisers to everyone for their time, cakes, gifts and money! Stall-holders were local and for anyone who did not go, be assured there are some very talented locals around here! Hopefully the photographs will give a flavour of the event which was very well attended.





# Morton Women's Institute

Each year as the days start to lengthen, and hopefully the weather improves, the members of Morton WI treat themselves to a meal at a local hostelry - usually in Keighley or surrounding villages. This year we decided to support our village pub and on 17 March, 21 of us went along to the Busfield Arms, where we received a warm welcome and excellent food.

The following evening two teams, plus helpers attended the Federation Quiz night at St Chad's Church Hall in Headingley. We didn't win but everyone enjoyed this brilliantly organised evening.

Morton is a member of the Aire Gap Group of WIs and on 9 April we participated in our Spring Show at West Lane Baptist Church, Haworth. This is a competition, testing cooking, crafts of all kinds, and presentation. The range of skills in the Group is amazing and individual WI scores are very close. Our Group summer outing in July will take us to Port Sunlight.

Besides enjoying some interesting and amusing speakers at our monthly meetings, we can participate in a wide variety of activities. In January some of us spent a very interesting day at the British Library, and later this month we visit Menwith Hill Listening Station.

Also in May we will be spending a day at Northern Ballet where we will see behind the scenes, hear 4 talks on different aspects of running a company and staging a show, and after lunch we will watch the matinee performance of "Giselle".

The more energetic of us joined the Spring Rambles of 3, 5 or 8 miles; and later this year we can try our hands at archery.

In April we joined members from across West Yorkshire for afternoon tea and a flower arranging demonstration. In October, in association with the Royal Horticultural Society, we are hosting an afternoon tea at which Bunny Guinness (from BBC's Gardener's Question Time) will be the speaker.

At the moment several members are on a WI holiday in Scotland and in the Autumn a group is off to Canada.



These are just a few of the opportunities available. Most are open to non-members. Partners and friends are usually welcome to join us. Our group continues to grow, but we hope to expand further. If you are interested in anything mentioned or are thinking, "I didn't know the WI did that", then why not find out more. Come along on the second Tuesday of the month at 7.20pm. We are a friendly group and you will find a warm welcome waiting for you.

## Junk Mail

There have been lots of queries about the amount of junk mail we are all receiving through our letter boxes these days via the Royal Mail. A few facts - since increasing use of the internet and resulting decline in using the postal service, delivering this mail has grown to be a significant part of Royal Mail's business. If it was not delivered by them, we would still be receiving it but through the services of one of their competitors. When putting the junk mail in the recycling, reflect that it is probably better to receive it through the recognisable Royal Mail postie rather than by an unidentifiable deliverer.

## Vandalism

On Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> March, the newly-planted containers by the bus shelter were vandalised and plants and bulbs scattered about. There were even bulbs on the roof of the shelter. We are fortunate to live in very pleasant surroundings, made more so by the efforts of a few local residents, one of whom replanted the pots, our thanks to Angela. Another similar event happened one afternoon during the following week when Mollie Whitcombe noticed a group of lads possibly in their early teens passing her home on Carr Lane, one of whom was deliberately treading on the daffodils planted alongside the footpath. She challenged him - he was abusive towards her, continued his destruction of her bulbs and then the group went on. They were followed by Mollie in her car and she caught up with them in Waterside Fold. Clearly alarmed by this, the culprit ran off. The others said they had tried to stop their friend in his actions, but predictably declining to give either his name or address. These sort of events happen too often and most of us cannot understand why. A plea then to those who have spoiled our surroundings to think before they carry out such actions again and to all of us to keep our eyes open and perhaps be as brave as Mollie in speaking out.

Another polite request to anyone whose property borders a footpath. Please be aware of pedestrians if you have shrubs or overhanging trees, allowing plenty of room for passage.

## School Corner

Over the last couple of terms, governors, staff, pupils, parents and community members have revisited the school's mission statement and vision for the next five years. Our new strap line is: Everyone, Every Chance, Every Day.

Our new mission statement is: "We will meet the needs of each school member allowing them to fulfil their potential and prepare them for their future by providing a safe, caring and stimulating environment where all individuals are valued and respected and by working in partnership with parents, St Luke's and the local community."

This work is ongoing and anyone with any thoughts or ideas for the school should contact Mike Isaac or Louise Dale through the school office.

## World Book day and Comic Relief

The children always love an excuse not to wear their uniform to school and this term they have supported a number of fund-raising events by dressing up and dressing down! For World Book Day which supports Book Aid International, the children and staff dressed up as their favourite book character and for Comic relief came to school in their pyjamas. Children in Y5 also organised their own bun sale raising £150 for the Japanese earthquake and tsunami.

Friends of Morton event...Plant Sale - Saturday 21st May, 10am -12pm



# Institute Corner

## Institute goes quiet in the summer holidays

Most of the regular clubs and activities at the Institute take a break over the summer holidays, but children still need entertaining and the sun doesn't always shine. So...don't forget the hall can be hired at short notice. We can offer a special simple holiday rate of £20 for half a day, either morning or afternoon - great value if you can gather just a few friends together. Simply contact any of the team of institute volunteers to arrange access - there will be a special holiday contact details poster on the notice boards, and in the institute window during August. It would be wonderful to see a series of planned activity days - art, drama, dance or craft. Whatever your skill, why not share it with a group of friends and their children - we have space and facilities - so why not arrange your own informal summer club and share the childminding to give each other a break!

## Institute obtains further funding

The institute has acquired an £1800 grant from Bradford Metropolitan Council's Department of Environment and Sport. The grant is through the Keighley Area Committee Funding project.

The committee is very grateful for this allocation of funds which will be used to improve the entrance to the building. An internal entrance lobby is to be constructed which will separate the main entrance doors from the entrance corridor. The purpose is fivefold in that it will:

Reduce the impact of cold weather by having an intermediate construction between the main doors and the internal of the premises i.e. eliminating cold and draughts. Provide a safer environment for children who will no longer have direct access to the main front doors. Child safety features are to be installed to the new inner doors. Reduce energy consumption by reducing lost heat. Provide additional security. Improve the visual presentation of the access and corridor. Mick Craven - Treasurer

## Volunteers required!

The Morton Village Lottery remains the only significant source of income for the Village Society. However, its administration and management does require time and effort of some of the committee. For example it involves:

- On-going recruitment to replace leavers (house movers etc.).
- Following up of those members whose annual subscription is due through payment by cheque or cash.
- Undertaking the monthly draw itself.
- Notifying winners and issuing the prizes.

- Printing of members and winners lists.
- Maintaining records of all the members, their addresses and payments.

Mick Craven helps in the running of the lottery and is also the treasurer of the Institute. As the institute is becoming more popular the workload is increasing he is finding it difficult to cope with both tasks.

Consequently, after seven years of assisting with the lottery, Mick has decided to hand over the administration side to another party. The thing is, as yet, there isn't another party... so we are looking for a volunteer to come in and take over the role. This is mainly the upkeep of the records and figures. It is all computerised (using Excel) so it would suit someone who is familiar with Excel or spreadsheet systems.

So, if you want to get more involved in village life and help raise funds for it - this could be the job for you or if you simply want to help in other ways with the lottery we can always do with extra hands! Please ring Mick on 01274 510667 if you are interested.

## Lottery - missing addresses

The lottery has a number of members who have sent in payments but have not provided us with their address. Are you one of them or do you know of them? If so please let us know so we can get our records up to date.

The names are: J & R Ashton; DA Hastie; S Wood; SJ & JM Jones; ME Hill; Angela Farnhill; PC & JL Crossley

## Art classes

This winter saw the launch of art classes in the Institute which were a tremendous success. With a great teacher and a full class we all enjoyed two hours a week of tutored practical art with even home baking and coffee. We worked in a variety of media learning many different techniques; in fact we couldn't believe just how much we'd got through in the 14 weeks.

We hope to have a display of some of the work on show at the gala, so do come and have a look. We will be enrolling again shortly for classes starting in September, through to Easter. The classes are tailored to individual needs from those who are just beginning to those with greater experience. If you are interested, please email me with which days/evenings you are free so that we can try to arrange classes to suit the most people.

## Art on Saturday

Through the summer I hope to organise a couple of Saturday art classes which will be about four hours long. Let me know if interested

and if any preferred discipline. Contact; karenredhead@hotmail.co.uk or tel 01274 560279 or drop a note in at the Institute.



## New Rainbows Unit opening September

A branch of girl guiding open to girls (aged 5-7) is opening its doors this September. Meetings will take place once a week on a Monday night from 5 until 6.15pm at the Village Institute.

This is a great opportunity for the girls to learn new skills, make friends, and play games in a safe environment. We only have a small number of spaces left for September and have a waiting list for under 5's so please don't leave it too long if you want to ensure your daughter has a place. Leaders are CRB checked. For further information, please call or email Julia or Katrina on 07887 765333/07866 900792 or email jfikkert@sky.com or a\_bastow@sky.com

**Wine Tasting Evening**  
East Morton Institute  
Friday 23rd September  
at 7.30pm  
Good wine, cheese & conversation ...  
The evenings "true or bluff" wine tasting hosted by Ray of Booths, Hkley  
Tickets £10 from  
Rhona 551067  
Barbara 567345

**EAST MORTON INSTITUTE PROUDLY PRESENTS**  
In association with  
*The Leeds Library Theatre Company*  
**WIND IN THE WILLOWS**  
A live stage musical performance  
for children of 5-10yrs & their parents  
SUNDAY 2ND OCT 3.00-4.30PM  
Tickets £4  
Call Rhona on 551067

To purchase tickets for any event contact:-

Rhona Emmott 01274 551067 · email [bookings@mortonvillage.org.uk](mailto:bookings@mortonvillage.org.uk)  
or Karen Redhead 01274 560279 · email [karen@mortonvillage.org.uk](mailto:karen@mortonvillage.org.uk)

Alternatively there is now a secure postbox where you can place envelope with cheque made out to Morton Institute with your name, contact details, which tickets you require and a stamp addressed envelope. This postbox is located on side of the Institute.



Lee Senior advises that Morton-in-Bloom have been particularly active over the past month, despite not entering this years Yorkshire-in-Bloom competition.

We think everyone will agree our village entrance spring display looked stunning, with a profusion of daffodils and spring colour.

On the village green we have recently planted out a wheel in the centre, out of sempervivums. This will be a permanent feature that will look great and be virtually maintenance free. Prior to that we planted up the beds with primroses, for a lovely spring display.

One of our volunteers has been in touch with the local school and we are to run a miniature garden on a tray competition, which we will judge on gala day on our MIB stall. We hope to sell surplus plants and gardening sundries on the day too.

We are also planning a wildlife garden area within St Lukes church, which we will be starting on shortly.

So all in all- we are continuing to make our mark on the village, for the good of all. Any comments, suggestions or offers of help, especially with watering are most welcome.

Contact Lee on : seniorlee2000@yahoo.co.uk

## St Luke's Church

Life at St Luke's continues to be full and varied. In the New Year we started a process of consultation to develop the vision for the church and we continue to build on this. Do let me know your thoughts on the part St Luke's can play in the community of Morton? (you can phone me on 01535 603419 or email me on michael.cansdale@bradford.anglican.org)

We continue to develop ways in which St Luke's supports and contributes to East Morton School, with church members taking regular assemblies, actively involved in the strategic plan for the school and with regular visits to church. Highlights for me recently were the *Royal Wedding* I conducted for Reception and Year 1 and the opportunity I had to welcome each class to spend time in the church experiencing the Easter story. As a church over this Easter period we have had some meaningful services and gatherings to remember the story of Jesus dying for us and rising to new life.

This year, 2011 marks the 160<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St Luke's church and we have plans to celebrate this over the first weekend of July. The church will be open with displays of village groups and organisations. There will be a family fun day on the Saturday and then special services of celebration on the Sunday. Do look out for more details nearer the time and feel free to come along to join us at any other time. Our main Sunday service is at 10am. Our Family Services for the next few months will take place on 19<sup>th</sup> June, 10<sup>th</sup> July, 14<sup>th</sup> August and 11<sup>th</sup> September and our Sunday school usually on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of each month. Revd Mike Cansdale

### Art class

Water colour art class for beginners and improvers with Jeremy Taylor a popular local professional artist and lecturer. On Saturday 6th August from 10am to 3.30pm; £20 including lunch, please send a cheque payable to Morton Institute and a SAE to reserve place before 15th June.

### Pilates class

I hold a pilates class, in the Institute every Wednesday 9:30 - 10:30am contact Liz Walker on 07989 378757 or email: lizwalker@aol.com as other venues times and days available.

## Annual General Meeting

Monday 25th July at 7.30pm in the Institute

# Morton Village Society

Aiming to preserve your village

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# Gala Sunday July 10<sup>th</sup> 2011

It is just three months to the East Morton Gala and we have a number of new attractions which will make the 50th Gala especially memorable.

The first Gala was held in 1962 making this year's the 50th gala. Those bright sparks amongst you will realise that NEXT year - 2012 - will be the 50th anniversary but we could not let the 50th Gala go by without celebration!

So there are no prizes for guessing that the theme of this year's event will be the 1960s! Whether you are old enough to remember the first Gala, the swinging 60s or just enjoy joining in the fun we hope you will all get in the "rock and roll" mood on Sunday July 10.

Each year we try to plan a mix of well known attractions with something new. We are not letting you in on our secrets just yet but we are always open to ideas for continually improving the Gala...so let us know your suggestions.

We are a very small committee which meets once a month from February leading up to the Gala. We all have our own day time jobs and each have special responsibilities for the Gala too. Much as we try, we cannot do it all alone and this year we are appealing for helpers both on the day and new committee members - if you can, please call us.

Old Photos? Happy Memories? You may already know we are planning an exhibition to celebrate the 50th Gala. We aim to show the history of the Gala through the last 50 years with the help of reminiscences and photographs. Please check out your loft, cellar or the back of the drawer - for any old photos we might use...and if you just have memories we would love to hear them!

The exhibition will be on show over Gala weekend in the Memorial Institute and should prove to be an interesting recent history of the village...further details in the next newsletter.

Remember - to call Kathy Myers 01274 567174 or John Foster 01274 512838 if you have anything of interest for the exhibition, can help on the day or would like to join the committee.

East Morton Gala is 50 years old this year. Have you ever been a Gala queen since it started in 1961? Maybe you know someone who has! The Gala committee would like to find as many of the retired gala queens as possible to help the Gala celebrate it's history. There will be a commemorative sash for each Queen who attends on the day. Please contact Yvonne Rowlan before the 13th June if you can attend either on her mobile 07900 493080 or via email on ys.j@talktalk.net

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