



Winter Newsletter No 55 - 2006

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Memorial Institute

It is hoped that 2007 will see the commencement of work in the Institute to improve the area presently occupied by the bar, with storage behind. The Institute Committee have successfully applied for £10,000 from the Urban Village Initiative (£50,000 funding allocation for East Morton & Riddlesden for the financial year ending in March 2007) and plan to remove the bar which is not used any more. The bar area will be cleared and together with the storage space behind the bar, a small meeting room created. There is certainly the need for additional meeting space in the village and this plan will utilise the facilities in the Institute more fully.

Some residents will remember that prior to the area housing bar facilities, it was indeed a meeting room and on Friday evenings, a small but well used lending library. Then the library was closed and the mobile library visited the village on Fridays, dances in the Institute became very popular, and the bar was installed. Regrettably there has been no interest in dances for some time, but recently pressure for more meeting space!

Remembrance Day

Jill Gaunt and Joe Boardman lay the wreaths at the Remembrance Day Service on 12th November.



Following the service, which as usual took place in the Congregational Chapel, refreshments were served in the Institute

Graveyard

Plans are in place to improve the graveyard in Green End Road, which belongs to the village. An inspection at the beginning of September revealed it badly in need of attention, with one of the rowan trees grown really tall. The trees are subject to a Tree Preservation Order and before any work can be done, application has to be made to the council to reduce the height of the trees. This may take some time! The hedge needs reducing and the whole area tidying up. It is hoped to put in a picnic table and bench and create a pleasant sitting area for residents and walkers. It has been suggested that a plaque be placed on the wall advertising that it is a public space to be enjoyed.

Village Green

As advised in the last newsletter, clearing has taken place on the shrub border at the back of the green, and some of the beds. New plants and shrubs have been planted and will provide additional colour in years to come. We can look forward to springtime when lots of bulbs, pansies and primulas will make that area really attractive.



Committee work since the annual meeting

- The wall belonging to the Busfeild Arms where it adjoins the bus shelter has been repaired after contact with Mitchell & Butler who own the pub.

- A locking post has been inserted at the top entrance to the Recreation Ground to prevent unauthorised access by vehicles.

- To celebrate the Society's 25th anniversary, a donation of £250 was given to the school for their new garden

Village Society 'Surrounds' School Garden

Donation enables shrub planting

As part of the celebrations for its 25th Anniversary the East Morton Village Society kindly donated £250 to the East Morton Primary CE School to spend on its garden.

So when you next walk past have a look over the wall and appreciate what's been planted!

There is a line of box hedging which runs along the footpath entrance - to be trimmed in the future to create a

formal entrance. Beside the edge of the playground to create a windbreak is a line of flowering currants, and lean over the wall and you will see many different flowering shrubs to give colour and texture throughout the year. Finally there is a small bridge nearby to allow the children to pass over a small pebble "stream" which has a make-believe crocodile hiding beneath!

"We are very grateful to the Village Society for its generosity which has enabled us to create such a lovely planting structure. The children go in there everyday to walk around the paths exploring, or just sit quietly and talk to their friends" said Headteacher Mrs Louise Dale.



30th Anniversary

The new school building was opened in January 1977 and on Friday 23rd March they are celebrating its 30th anniversary. The school is looking for anecdotes from past pupils, any old displays/photographs or anything of interest that you might have relating to the school's history. Please contact the school on 01274 569447.



'School is out for East Morton Gran' The Staff, children and Parents would like to thank Edna McMann for the many hours she has given to the school to come in and hear children read. This is a very valuable job and the children looked forward to her visits. She will be missed in the school, but we all send her our very best wishes for the new life she is taking in Bolton.



Many thanks The staff, parents and children would like to thank the Womens Institute for their very kind donation of £140 to buy shrubs and plants for our School Garden. They can be assured that this money will be carefully spent in the garden to provide colour for many years. The children enjoy their 'gardening' and are looking forward to the Spring when we will again be planting flowers and vegetables in the raised beds. Please feel free to come and walk in our Garden and if you feel able to do a bit of weeding!. Thank you very much.



Quiz Night Another successful Quiz night was held on 16th November. Judging by the feedback, everyone enjoyed the evening and felt there was a real community feel about the event. £166 was raised for Institute funds and from twelve teams, winners were the 'Sunday Singers'. Thanks go to Jack Doyle, Question Master, who was ably assisted by Nancy Gore. Special thanks to Doris Beanlands and Florence Bramall for their hard work in the kitchen preparing the pie and pea supper. Here's to next year!

The garden is a real asset to the School and has added so much to the street scene at the crossroads in the Village. The gift will be marked by a plaque, kindly donated by a committee member.

- A request was made for the verge to be cut below Micklethwaite Lane, above Alma Terrace. This was done and it was hoped that next year there would be funding for more frequent cuts to keep this approach to the village tidy.
- The Community Constable was contacted after reports of teenagers abusing the new children's playground, not designed for their age group. Visits were promised.
- Contact was made with the Rights of Way Officer about the condition of the footpath from East Morton to Micklethwaite – dangerous at the East Morton end. Work is now scheduled to improve this area.
- Request to the Council to replace the flags outside the Institute extension to make the area safer and more attractive. This grant from the Urban Village Initiative has now been approved.

Morton Gala

Following a second successive Gala, the committee decided to host "A Christmas Celebration" and build upon the sense of community that has been a permanent feature of Gala Day in East Morton since it began.

The Busfeild Arms generously provided the food and St Luke's Church choir sang some seasonal music. From 4pm to 6pm a free disco was held in the Institute for the children. Santa was about and there was also a free raffle. Although the under 5's were required to be accompanied by an adult, many parents were able to take advantage of their time off to enjoy the carols and good cheer on offer at the Busfeild. The Institute was lit to add more sparkle to the centre of the village and complement the Christmas tree on the Green.

The Gala Committee hope to build upon this co-operation between other organisations and bodies within the village and hold other events in future. This young, enthusiastic committee deserve our active support in their bid to ensure that East Morton has a sense of place and retains its identity. It would be wonderful if the sense of community that is so evident on Gala Day could spread throughout the year – we would be the better for it.

Enjoy the pictures on the next page and back cover of this year's Gala which was on such a nice sunny day.

Morton Village Lottery

Latest winners:

September
 £75 SA Barrclough
 £40 S Gorman
 £25 AS Cam
 £10 S Myerscough

October
 £75 M Halliday
 £40 E Batley
 £25 J Bussey
 £10

November
 £75 A McCallum
 £40 J Gokhale
 £25 D Pounder
 £10 McCormack

We know, from the feedback we get, how many of you intend to join in with the fun of the Lottery and support the causes it benefits. We also know that it is not really top of most people's list of priorities and, unsurprisingly, joining in gets put off or forgotten about. This is the reason we call around the village from time to time promoting it. And that's when we hear you say – "I'm glad you called, I've been meaning to get round to joining for ages!"

By now, we have visited every home in the village. We have missed quite a few of you for one reason and another but we are now having a second go! So, if we're down your way over the coming months, no hiding behind the curtains, please consider joining in! The lottery is now virtually the only way the Village Society raises funds. And don't stop there, if you see any black spots in the village which you think need attention or tidying up, let us know because we do want to ensure we continue putting the funds to good use.

Next draws at the Busfeild are on: December 20th; January 17th; February 21st; March 21st

Out and about

Now is as good a time as any to get out in the fresh air, and there may be many of you who have not had either the time or the inclination to explore around the village.

The walk begins outside the Institute. Walk up Main Road, past the Busfeild Arms, up the hill until you reach the junction with Green End Road on your left. **(1)**

Go up Green End Road until the track (Upwood Lane) appears on your left, before the bridge. **(2)**

Proceed up the rising track, which also goes to Moorlands Farm, but turn right behind Morton Hall. You will see the farm up on your left.

Keep on the track with fields opening out on your left and right until a gate is reached. **(3)**

Go on through the gate and the fenced dam wall of Sunnysdale Reservoir soon appears up ahead of you. Do not cross the bridge at this point but bear left up the track and cross the little bridge over the outflow and onto the dam wall. The path continues along the wall and into the wood at the far end. **(4)**

some friendly faces seen en route!



Bear right here and walk through the wood with the path dropping down to the track again. This short section can be a bit indistinct and soft underfoot.

Turn right onto the track and cross the lower bridge over the stepped outflow.

Retrace your steps back to the gate. Instead of using the path, walk down through the field, glancing over the wall at the dam and the roof tops of Upper Mill Row. This dam used to power one of the many mills in Sunnysdale. **(5)**

Keep on down the field keeping the field wall adjacent to the house to your left.

In the bottom corner there is a gate **(6)** and steps down into the field on your left (sometimes there are animals in here). Proceed straight across next to the wall emerging at the other side on to the drive to Moorfield.

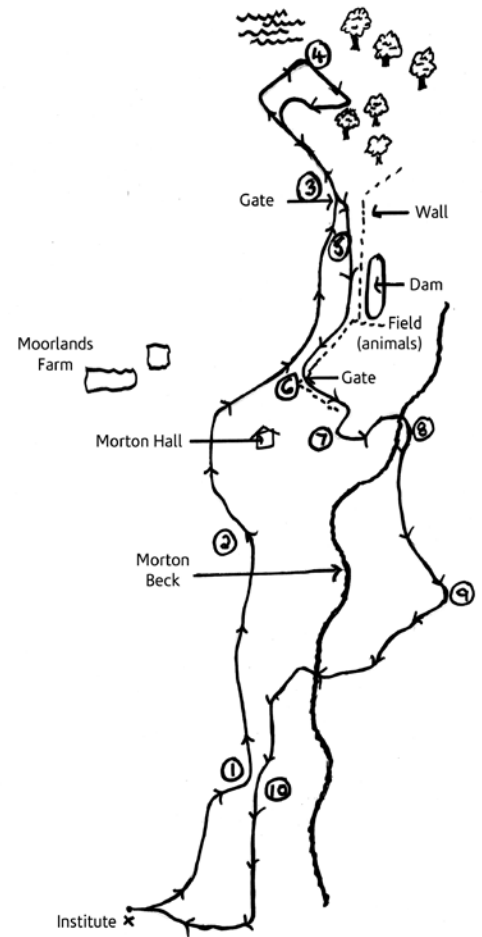
Turn right and go down the road for a short way before turning sharply to the left **(7)** and down the track, crossing the bridge in front of Providence Row.

Go up and to the right - your path is signed on the right behind the new houses and cross towards Alma Terrace. **(8)**

Take care when reaching Otley Road **(9)**, turning right back down the hill towards the village.

Choosing a safe time and place, cross the road turning left **(10)** down cobbled Little Lane. Continue on between houses and then walls, coming out at the bottom of Dimples Lane. Turn right here up Dimples Lane and return to the Institute.

Distance 2.5 miles; Total ascent 445 feet; 750 feet highest point



If you enjoy this walk, which takes in a few hidden corners of the village, and would like to find out more, you might be interested in purchasing the booklet available in The Pantry, telling some of the history of East Morton.



Use your local shop and Post Office to join the Morton Lottery, pay your membership and many other items

Membership can be sent to the Treasurer at 'Redwoods', Morton Lane or given to one of the Committee members listed below

Mrs Mary Appleby	24 Morton Grove	Telephone 567456
Miss Doris Beanlands	10 Main Road	Telephone 565420
Mr Michael Craven	5 Upper Mill Row	Telephone 510667
Mrs Florence Bramall	The Ridge, Morton Lane	Telephone 565177
Mr Stephen Brear	High Point, Street Lane	Telephone 563223
Mrs Dorothy Dennis	6 Dimples Lane	Telephone 567222
Mrs Jean Duckworth	Otley Mount	Telephone 564924
Mr Stephen Duxbury	Redwoods, Morton Lane	Telephone 567842
Mr Stephen Foster	19, Elm Crescent	Telephone 568349
Mrs Dawn Howarth	6 Paslew Court, Waterside Fold	Tel 01535 667457
Mrs Irene Holdsworth	Moor Cottage, The Butts	Telephone 563985
Miss Stephanie Holt	10 Silk Mill Drive	Telephone 567407
Mrs Pauline Horne	Cliff House	Telephone 567134
Mr Ian Kirkbride	35 Roedhelm Road, Waterside Fold	Tel 01535 663272
Mr David Miller	4 Cliff Mill Fold	Telephone 569286
Mrs Tracey Paul	14 Branby Avenue, Waterside Fold,	Tel 01535 680502
Mrs Karen Redhead	Manor Barn, Green End Road	Telephone 560279
Mrs Joan Sampson	3 Elm Crescent	Telephone 566443
Mr John Stentiford	7 Providence Row	Telephone 560676



Morton Village Society

Aiming to preserve your village