



Spring Newsletter

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www.mortonvillage.org.uk

I was asked last summer if I knew anything about the Gala roundabout. With spring here and summer approaching, I was prompted to make enquiries and the following information was gathered from talking to Doris Beanlands who was associated with the Gala for many years, and most importantly, from the beginning. Doris, and Florence Bramall, have a wealth of information on all things to do with East Morton, and I really enjoyed hearing all about times past. As is so often when looking back, conversation very pleasantly veered off into many associated directions!

First, a bit of background. Prior to the Gala, Morton Old Peoples Welfare held an annual garden party day which took place in the field below Dimples Cottage, which at that time belonged to Tom Pearson. This annual event was usually attended by the brass band from Prince Smith's in Keighley. In due course Mr Pearson left the village and the garden party moved to High Point, the home of the Duxburys in Street Lane. A further move, this time to the field in front of St Luke's Terrace and a change of name to a "Field Day". When that venue was needed as the village cricket pitch the final move was made to the Recreation Ground. This proved to be too big for the committee to handle and following an over the garden wall discussion between Florence and Cyril Hood the then Headmaster of the school, a meeting of all the village organisations was held and it was agreed that it would be a good idea to replace the Welfare Field Day with a village Gala. Understandably, the Welfare committee were concerned as the event generated their biggest annual source of revenue, about £45 on a good year. It was agreed that the Welfare should run the tombola and take the proceeds raised, but there were complaints about this and so the practice had to cease and they

received a decent donation instead. So, in 1962 Morton Gala was born and happily, thanks to the dedication of successive committees and the continuing support of the village, it continues to flourish.

One of the first committee members was Mr Donald Spoor, a local dentist and fairground fanatic of especially fairground organs. He subscribed to a fairground publication and had seen a roundabout advertised, Doris thought at about £25. I wonder what that would equate to now? For those of you who can remember, the roundabout used to stand in Morecambe on the beach in front of the promenade railway station and Doris remembers riding on it as a child. It was used immediately it arrived and has been repainted twice in its time here. It provided a focus in the Gala field, looking very colourful and exciting and East Morton was unique in having such a piece of equipment. In the early days many requests were made to loan the roundabout and it was hired out for £7, but soon it was decided that this piece of history was too precious to leave the village.

Those of you who may have turned the handle in the early days and were taller than about 5ft. 6 inches (sorry can't convert!) will remember how much your back ached afterwards and that you had

developed a most unattractive stoop! It was many years before someone came up with the (what now seems obvious) idea of digging a hole for the "turner" to stand in. Prior to this, it was a regular occurrence for a new committee member, or one who was absent or late from a meeting, to be given the prestigious task of turning the roundabout handle. Definitely the short straw!

When you see the roundabout this year remember you are looking at a bit of fairground history. We are very lucky to have it.

Keighley Neighbourhood Forum - 8th March

Follow up from last meeting on Road safety -

- meeting on 10th March with senior highway engineer to look at 20mph scheme, with a view to any future action
- include safer routes to school within the Urban Village initiative programme
- speed adviser signs have had little long term effect and if traffic continues to speed up will become an enforcement issue - suggestions for flashing 20mph/slow down sign, or non visible detector made

Re-cycling - more interest in this issue authority wide



See inside for more pictures of the snow

· although no recycling bins in Green End Road yet, in time everyone will come on line, maybe with the green boxes presently being trialled in Keighley

· a community re-cycling resource may be in the future - any ideas on location?

Crime & Community Safety issues

Scott Ritchie is the new Community Support Officer and reported that four speed watches had recently been carried out in the village between the Post Office and Busfield Arms. In one hour, over 30 vehicles were travelling over 26mph. Warning notices are sent out by the DVLA. It was suggested trying a speed watch between Fardew Golf Club and the mini roundabout where it was said that many cars were speeding. Crossing the corner of Carr Lane where it joins Swine Lane was not easy, when alighting from the Bingley bus. There were no other issues.

Urban Village update

Extensive consultation through the autumn and winter, and good response from the Have Your Say forms. A range of ideas and suggestions have been looked at and a spending plan drawn up. The Mother & Toddler group playground initiative was on track and they were waiting for tenders to come back. It was hoped to have a special opening ceremony on completion. A fashion show was being held jointly by the WI



Well deserved appreciation

Doris Beanlands enjoying her visit to Buckingham Palace with Florence Bramhall as her guest to attend a Garden Party in recognition of the work she has tirelessly performed for many different organisations in our village

and Mother & Toddler group to raise additional funds, which would take place on 20th April in the Institute. Ian Hutchinson, representing the school Governing Body, gave information about the dedicated sports facility which was to be put on the school field above the bungalow. The expansion of the school to accommodate the 10 and 11 year olds had effectively reduced the playing out area and better and increased sporting facilities were needed. The facility would be a fenced area about 36m x 18m and would be a tarmac surface on which football, netball and tennis could be played. If improved to an Astraturf surface, and floodlit, other sports could be played. The school were keen for the community to use the facility. £70,000 was the project cost before floodlights and £90,000 if floodlit. Planning proposals had been submitted in May 2005 and at the end of the summer planning permission given. Construction work should begin on 10th April. Fundraising activities from the Friends of Morton (parent support group) and through local businesses, together with input from the school budget had realised about £45,000 and they were now in a position to apply for grant funding. Written testimonials from village organisations or residents who would use the facility would be welcome and used to support any grant applications.

Bradford Community Accord

Olau Thomassen, Project Manager, spoke about this mediation service which was free and confidential. 01274 437452 is the number to call if you would like help to resolve any neighbour problems.

Setting the Scene for 2006

A list of ideas, under four headings, was drawn up and would be looked at when allocating funding and resources under the action plan 2006-8. Our views count!

Best Kept Garden Competition

Get those pots planted up, and keep mowing and weeding. We are holding our Best Kept Garden Competition again this year and the judge will be walking around the village in the late spring and summer to look for some winners.



Pictures taken by Trevor Appleby on Saturday 18th March

Morton Village Lottery

Latest winners:

December

£75 No 301 J M Dix

£60 No 14 J Stentiford

£30 No 159 Pounder

£20 No 199 Derek Nowell

£10 No 110 M Millar

January

£60 No 148 Helen Howarth

£30 No 31 AR Wilson

£20 No 346 Mr & Mrs Burrell

£10 No 20 CS Mott

February

£60 No 66 M Craven

£30 No 130 M Millar

£20 No 74 A Brown

£10 No 273 S Barraclough

March

£60 No 88 S & K Myers

£30 No 208 N & T McIntyre

£20 No 342 Frank Whitfield

£10 No 248 Sarah Winder

A big thank you to the recent new entrants from the Swine Lane developments. We have undertaken some recruitment in that part of the village and the response has been great. We do want to ensure that occupants of the new houses integrate well into the village community and asking you to support the village draw is one way. Once again - thank you.

We are now not far short of 350 allocated numbers. If we could get to 500 then we could be raising around £3000 a year to assist the village with improvement of its amenities. So the more of you who join - the bigger the prizes and the more the village will benefit. If you are not yet in the draw you can get the necessary form from the village shop (The Pantry) or from Karen Redhead (560279) or Mick Craven (510667).

Next draws at the Busfeild are on: April 19th, May 17th, June 21st, July 19th (On Gala Day there is a £150 bonus draw- at the gala field).

Living at Waterside Fold

by Tracey Paul & Dawn Howarth.

Being part of Morton Village was one of the main attractions of living in Waterside Fold. Our previous homes have been within large busy towns and this move was a location move, feeling part of a small village community where our families could grow and feel 'part of' was so important to us. Where neighbours know each other and where within just a few minutes walk the feeling of open space and countryside is priceless, sounds simple but means so much.

For very different reasons neither of us have any family living close by, this has meant that forming friendships has been a necessity and has been quite easy to do within Waterside Fold. Most people moving into the development don't really know anyone else so everyone has had to make an effort and for the majority of us great neighbours and friends have been found. Some may think that Waterside Fold is simply a mass of houses but once you take the time you find out that the development is full of great people, friends you have yet to meet.

Sadly as we initially tried to integrate into the village we were met with some negative comments about where we live; not really being part of Morton village hence the village sign is situated near East Morton Primary School and not where near our homes. This made us more determined to be part of the village. In January 2006 we were invited to a Morton Village Society Committee meeting where we met some lovely people and found out that any negativity was restricted to a small minority. We have since become part of the committee and hope to help Waterside Fold integrate into the village easily.

Since we started our quest we have found that our village has so much to offer: -

The Morton Toddler Group has been a fantastic way to integrate for both children and parents (yes mums and dads). The group offers play for the children and a social outlet for the grownups, which has now extended itself to evening social events. If you are at home with your children (no matter what age) and you have not tried the toddler group we urge you to give it a go.

Schools, once your children have made friends at the toddler group they are able to grow together in the local nursery then to Morton Primary School which has a fantastic reputation. The village doesn't currently have a nursery surely this would be a great asset; maybe this is something for the future?

The 'The Pantry' and Post Office. Busfield Arms Village pub for food, weekly quiz nights and drink, also offering a games room and a large no smoking area.

The Village Society Committee, you too can be a member of the Society for only £3 per year, you can help to maintain the village grounds, institute, play areas. The committee provides a quarterly newsletter to keep you abreast of village activities and also giving you the chance to have your say, as we have. You also have the chance to be part of the village lottery, there are many chances of winning and there are draws every month

Each year the village holds a Gala, the gala committee need volunteers, if you can help either leading up to the gala or during the gala day please call Kathy Myers on 01274 567174 or Steve Foster (Field Organiser) on 01274 568349.

The Memorial Institute, the village toddler group is held here twice a week, they also hold dancing lessons, tea dances, you can also hire the hall.

St Lukes - With a family service every second Sunday of the month. The Rev Rugen or Rev Tony Cullingworth conducts this child friendly service. Facilities for small children and babies to play during service are also provided.

East Morton Rec, which is situated behind the village shop. The most beautiful area for cycling, dog walking, jogging, football etc. The children's play area is to be upgraded in the near future, a real village treasure.

As you can see our village has a lot to offer and being part is a positive thing, maybe a Drama Society and Christmas Events are something for the future. We have also asked the committee to provide a village sign to be erected on Swine Lane to let everyone know that Waterside Fold is a part of the village. Within the many houses there is a lot of talent, experience and help, if you can be an active part of our village, or maybe you would like to join the committee please contact Mary Appleby, or call into the village shop. Your village needs you so please help; together we can make one thriving village.

Winter quiz

Winner of the quiz was Jane Smith - photographs taken by Diane Taylor were as follows
1 - Looking down Street Lane; 2 - Remains of mill at Sunnydale; 3 - Graveyard up Green End Road; 4 - Footpath up Sunnydale opposite Upper Mill Row; 5 - Near Moorland Farm going up to Sunnydale; 6 - Morton Beck; 7 - Viaduct off Green End Road; 8 - Back of Laythorpe Terrace; 9 - Dam at back of Botany Farm; 10 - Footpath at back of Highfold; 11, Little Lane footpath.

Yellow Bus

The Yellow Bus started serving our school in November with 12 children using the service initially, but this is increasing steadily as the service proves to be reliable and adaptable to the needs of our families. The thinking behind the initiative is to provide safe routes to school for children and to reduce congestion around school, which for us in East Morton is a particular problem. The children are collected from the bus each morning and accompanied to the bus stop each evening and I'm, always impressed by the way in which the driver greets each individual child by name.



Volunteers

Have you any spare time that could be spent in school hearing the children read, choosing their library book or registering children on the library computer? If you would like to help in this way, please call into the school office or telephone on 01274 569447. We should be delighted to welcome you into school.



"I use the yellow bus every day to come to school and then go home. I think it's a good idea because I enjoy coming to school with my friends and it saves my grand dad from having to drive me to school, because it's always busy and there aren't many places to park" Thomas

"I only started using the bus yesterday, but I think me and my sister will use it from now on. There was music on the bus - I never expected that and it was a nice surprise" Sophie

"Me and my sister get on the yellow bus every day, because it helps mum to get to work on time - if she brought us to school then she'd get stuck in the traffic, get to work late and not find a car park space! I like the bus because I've made new friends and the driver has a good sense of humour - he always makes us laugh" Fiona and Rory



Silvia - YMCA

Qualified Aerobic Instructor

East Morton Institute

Thursday 7-8pm
Adults only £2.50

Have fun, keep fit and meet new friends.
All fitness levels welcome.

Bring mat/towel and a drink

For more details come along or contact me at silvia.fitness@hotmail.co.uk

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 M Appleby	24 Morton Grove	Telephone 567456
Miss D Beanlands	10 Main Road.	Telephone 565420
Mr M Craven.	5 Upper Mill Row	Telephone 510667
Mrs F Bramall	The Ridge, Morton Lane.	Telephone 565177
Mr S Brear.	High Point, Street Lane.	Telephone 563223
Mrs D Dennis	6 Dimples Lane.	Telephone 567222
Mrs J Duckworth.	Otley Mount.	Telephone 564924
Mr S Duxbury	Redwoods, Morton Lane.	Telephone 567842
Mr S Foster19, Elm Crescent	Telephone 568349
Mrs A Hiley	Bay Tree Barn.	Telephone 562016
Mrs I Holdsworth	Moor Cottage, The Butts	Telephone 563985
Miss S Holt	10 Silk Mill Drive	Telephone 567407
Mr G Hook	4 Stone Court.	Telephone 563174
Mrs P Horne	Cliff House.	Telephone 567134
Mr DA Miller.	4 Cliff Mill Fold	Telephone 569286
Mrs K RedheadManor Barn, Green End Road.	Telephone 560279
Mrs J Sampson3 Elm Crescent.	Telephone 566443
Mr J Stentiford7 Providence Row.	Telephone 560676

East Morton Gala - Sunday 16th July 2006

World Cup final day has meant a change of weekend for the Gala this year! normally held on the second weekend in July. However fearing many volunteers might have their loyalties tested by having to choose between the football final, on July 9, and supporting the Gala on the same day the Gala Committee decided to move on a week to Sunday July 16.

Again the Gala will be held a little earlier in the day starting with the procession and mixing some new attractions with old favourites...watch out for details nearer the time! As last years move to a Sunday proved popular both with volunteers and participants alike, it has been decided to keep to that day of the week.

"Our theme this year will be World Day, following on from the World Cup," said Chairman Kathy Myers.

"Last years Gala was a huge success on many counts – the weather could not have been better and the move to a Sunday plus an earlier start seemed to bring out a fantastic number of people.

"We were delighted with the number of volunteers who came forward too. We aim, as last year, to make use of the Saturday before to prepare and we would of course be very please to hear from any one who feels they can help. Even a couple of hours help on the Saturday and or the Sunday makes a huge difference to the overall work load for Gala weekend" said Kathy.

Volunteers please contact Kathy on 567174 or Steve Foster (Field Organiser) on 568349. Could you offer prizes for the raffle or any of the competitions on Gala Day? If so call Pam Collett (Fund Raiser) on 569950.



Picture of the roundabout mentioned on front page taken in 2005.

Morton Village Society

Aiming to preserve your village