



# Winter Newsletter

No 68 - 2010/11

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

The beginning of last year's winter newsletter could well have been used for this one, except this year it was probably even colder! Who would have imagined that there would have been snow on the ground for two consecutive Christmases? I bet there would have been good odds on that last July.

"Carols around the village" was nevertheless well attended and enjoyed by many residents, lots of children again, and finishing with mulled wine etc. in the Busfield Arms. The Christmas tree, quite a weedy specimen when first planted, is now reaching for the sky and our thanks to Steve Foster for attending to the lighting. I don't know how he got the lights to the top!

Thanks are quite a theme in this newsletter - East Morton is very lucky in that there are residents who give willingly of their time, expertise and care to make the lives of the rest of us more comfortable and pleasurable.

## Morton Institute

It has been a good year for the village with the opening of a refurbished Institute resulting in an increase in quality bookings. This has confirmed Treasurer Mick's hopes that it would be self financing and moving confidently into the future. A wider variety of activities and events are now taking place within the building, none more appreciated than Thursday's Morton Meet. If you have not visited it yet, please do. As well as good company, there's usually a very tempting selection of biscuits, cakes etc. - sometimes soup, maybe a cool option for a hot afternoon and always plenty of tea, coffee and cold drinks. MM caters for everyone from the youngest to the oldest and there is always lots of laughter. There are even regular passers-by! All those who have ever been will be aware of the enthusiasm of Rhona Emmott. She set up a rota of volunteers

who keep things ticking over on a weekly basis. The village truly has something to be very proud of.

## Christmas Lunch

A highlight must be the Christmas Lunch, a triumph of organisation and really, really enjoyed by everyone who attended. Welcoming drinks preceded a tasty lunch with chicken, roast potatoes, vegetables etc. followed by mince pies and cream, tea or coffee. There was wine on the well decorated tables and a gift for everyone. Carols were sung and the school choir entertained with a selection of seasonal carols and songs - including Silent Night with one verse in French, one in German and the last in English with sign language, they sang beautifully.

Rhona was thanked by Nancy Gore, David Miller and Rev. Mike Cansdale and she was presented with a basket of Christmas flowers.

## Thank You

Grateful thanks go to David and Elizabeth Heaton for the seat they have placed on Carr Lane affording a lovely view across the valley towards St Ives. The view from the seat further along the lane has become blocked by the trees, although it is still a popular resting place for walkers.

Also, thanks to Eric Brunton for the new seat on the Green, in memory of his wife Muriel and his sister Alice. There will be plenty of seats now for the walking groups who often stop there for lunch.

Two new volunteers have joined the rota for opening up the public toilets in the morning - a big help.

Last but by no means least, our thanks to David Bradley for volunteering to spend some of his "spare" time tidying in the graveyard. It is hoped to have a new gardening contract soon, alongside local help, and David's efforts are much appreciated.



## Best Kept Garden 2010 - results with judges comments.



1<sup>st</sup> Prize Dave & Elizabeth Baker, 'Stonehaven' - Laythorp Terrace - A garden with the 'wow factor' and a touch of the exotic! - Photograph shows them in their garden.

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize Mr & Mrs Atkinson, 13 Cliffstone Terrace - Small but perfectly manicured. Well stocked and very attractive.

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize Mr & Mrs Pounder, 4 Otley Mount. Pond and a water feature! Altogether a charming corner of tranquility.

### Frontage – pots, planters etc.

1<sup>st</sup> Prize Mr & Mrs Beetham, Manor Farm, Horners Fold - Busy lizzies

and begonias clearly thriving here. Flower pots and tubs galore!

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize Mrs. Hanson, The Old Post Office – 5 Otley Road - Spectacular petunias, tumbling out of huge hanging baskets. Lots of attractive pots.

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize Ann Preston, Laurel Barn – Back Lane - Attractive and colourful. Well presented.

Congratulations to the worthy winners and thanks to the judge. It must be difficult to make a decision when there are so many lovely gardens and frontages in the village.



## Festival of Remembrance

This year's service was held in the Congregational Chapel as usual and the poppy wreaths placed on the plaques outside the Institute. Warm thanks are due to Michael Millar who cleaned the plaques which had been removed when the Institute refurbishment work was done. It is a specialised job and it is fitting that they should be returned to their original fine state. Thanks too to Rhona Emmott for painting three new poppy friezes which were placed in the front windows of the building. The originals of these had been mislaid during the building work but have since been found!

## Quiz Night

Another successful evening was had at the Institute Quiz. Thanks go to Jack Doyle - ably assisted by Nancy Gore - for doing such an interesting and well thought out quiz. It takes a lot of hard work but it is much appreciated.

Thanks also to those in the kitchen who served the pie and peas, followed for the first time by puddings - they were a great success.

We had new winners "Stepping Stones" (David Bell, Jenny Halliday, Margaret Potter, Elizabeth Ramsden, Carol and David Flaherty). Well done!

We raised £318 for Institute funds but more importantly the Institute was full with people having a good time.



# Institute Corner



## Village History Night

A slide show and talk on the fascinating history of the village of East Morton, presented by Stanley Rhodes. Also Richard Walsh introduces his research into the Morton Service Men who were casualties in two World Wars.



Drinks & snacks available.

Also for sale historical aerial

photographs and village history books.

At East Morton

War Memorial Institute

Wed 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2011

Arrive 7pm for

7.30pm start.

**Tickets £ 2.50**

All profits to Institute funds.

## Morton Lottery

January' lucky winners are:- £100 Sheila Barton; £50 Trevor Benson; £25 Pat Dickerson; £15 Susie Womersley; £10 Rachel Hughes.

These prizes are to be won **EVERY** month but you've **GOT TO BE IN IT TO WIN IT**. There is also a massive **£250 prize** on gala day. The Lottery is still just £12 a number, you can take out a Standing Order or you can pay by cheque (made payable to Morton Village Society and post at the Institute side door) or ring/email for further details from the names listed below.

The Lottery is the Village Society's main source of income and we hope you will agree the village and it's amenities are improving considerably with the revenue raised from the Lottery.

## Village Walk

There will be a village walk with homemade soup and bread afterwards in the Institute, the walk will be approximately 3.5 miles (but shorter for those who don't want to walk so far) - Sunday April 17th. Tickets £3 - please book early so we have an idea of numbers. All profits to help the Institute funds.

## Kids football on the playing field

For years the field was full of young children every Saturday morning getting fit and playing non competitive games. The morning was run by a group of dads on a rota basis and it would be fantastic to see this happening again. If you want any further information with the possibility of getting a few dads together or would be willing to help, please ring Karen.

## Morton village web site

There is now a calendar for the Institute to see when times are available, you can email Rhona via the website to request a booking.

The website is also our 'notice board' for the village, if you have any events you want publicising, email on [stephen@mortonvillage.org.uk](mailto:stephen@mortonvillage.org.uk)

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.

## Bingo night

Friday 13th May

Tickets £10 each, includes a bingo card for each round plus . . . fabulous finger food, tremendous tapas and knockout nibbles.

Arrive 7.30pm, 'eyes down' at 8pm, bring your own drinks, additional bingo cards £1

## charity craft fair

20 local and creative makers offering accessories, home wares, clothes, bags, toiletries, cards and jewellery

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2011  
10am - 2pm

East Morton Memorial Institute

Tea/Coffee & excellent  
homemade cakes

Free  
Entry

Raising funds for the Parkinson's disease society and "DeBRA" supporting those living with epidermolysis bullosa.



We had a great success last year but after the last MIB meeting it was agreed by all that we will not enter the Yorkshire-in-Bloom competition in 2011. This decision was not taken lightly, however, it is based on harsh reality.

The truth is we do not have enough regular volunteers for the jobs that need doing in 2011 to enable us to do well and retain what we have won last year.

While we have had much financial help from many quarters, in particular the Village Society and Keighley Town Council, I have regularly documented the fact we lack practical helpers, it is things like weeding, digging, planting, cutting back, picking up litter and especially watering in particular, that we have been unable to attract enough helpers for. I would like to thank those people who have helped in various capacities (you know who you are)!

We have had a tremendous two years and reached the second highest award, we are proud of our efforts and so we should be.

However, we are at a crossroads. We cannot move forward without a big influx of new help, we are not prepared to enter for the sake of it and risk going backwards. The feeling is it is not fair to keep putting an increasing burden on existing MIB volunteers, many of whom have health issues.

On a more positive note - we will continue as MIB, we will still meet monthly and we will still be active, I will still be leading the group as before. The group will not die and neither will we walk away from our commitments.

We are going to scale down our operation to reflect the small but keen group that I have. It is either this or we will all get fed up, the rot will set in and the group will end up disbanding. None of us want to see this, but this in no way reflects on each and every one of you who have helped. It is just a time to take stock, consolidate and see where we go from here.

Lee - Email Seniorlee2000@yahoo.co.uk

## St Luke's Church

New Year is that point of the year when I pause for a moment, taking a chance to reflect on the year that has past and making time to plan for the year ahead. With a backward look to the end of 2010 I want to say a really big thank you to everyone who has got involved and been part of the life of St Luke's Church. We were overwhelmed by the response to our Harvest appeal and especially with staff, pupils and families at East Morton Primary 'giving poverty the boot' we were able to send £384 to FARM Africa. We've also enjoyed some fantastic Christmas celebrations this year; our Sunday school working really hard to put on an excellent nativity play; an enjoyable and thought provoking evening of music and readings; carol singing around the village (thank you Martin at the Busfield Arms for the mince pies and mulled wine); an absolute full house for our Christmas Eve Christingle Service and again

wonderful generosity from everyone and donations of £374.50 to support the work of the Children's Society. So a busy and productive year and looking ahead to 2011 I'm really excited about all that is happening and all that God is doing. We are continuing to build up our regular activities and are developing our vision of where the church is going and how we can best serve our community. Our Family Services are on the second Sunday of each month and we now have a thriving Sunday School on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays. This year will also be the 160<sup>th</sup> anniversary of St Luke's Church and plans for a weekend of celebrations in July are taking shape. I am keen for St Luke's to be at the heart of village life and extend the invitation to all who wish, to come and be part of our growing congregation. May I wish you a Happy New Year and God's richest blessings in 2011.

Rev'd Mike Cansdale

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

It is just 6 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.

### Telephone Kiosk

There have been concerns that our remaining red telephone box may one day vanish! Under Ofcom regulations BT must consult with the Local Authority regarding removal of a kiosk if there is not another payphone facility within 400 metres. In our case therefore, consultation would take place with Bradford Council. BT have confirmed that the kiosk is presently not viable and will be included in the next rationalisation programme. It is hoped with the support of the local council, who have indicated interest, that we shall be able to "Adopt the Kiosk". This could be a future feature for Morton in Bloom.

### Pathway extension

We were delighted to learn that the Area Committee have given the go ahead to the extension of the path around the Recreation Ground, to cross to the top of Cliffstone Drive. This has been a project that we wished to come to fruition for some years and walking this route will soon be a year round possibility,

without getting extremely muddy. More importantly, it will be a safer route from the bottom of the village to the top without negotiating the narrow footpath along Morton Lane bordering the churchyard - not easy with a buggy and toddlers, the estimated cost is £3,500.

### Noticeboard

We are looking into the possibility of siting a noticeboard at Waterside Fold, probably bordering the open space in the middle. It is hoped this will happen during the coming months.

### Ellie our wonderful postie

A card received from our wonderful postie Ellie, on her return to work after being missing for a good part of the summer.

*Dear East Morton - It's so good to be back and I would like to thank all my dear customers for the lovely warm welcome I received on my return. It's really so nice to have been missed. I feel really appreciated. Ellie*

## Morton Village Society

### Aiming to preserve your village

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