



Winter Newsletter No 80 - 2015

www.mortonvillage.org.uk

On Saturday I helped Rhona Emmott and Kathy Myers sort out paperwork and memorabilia at Florence Bramall's home. Florence was meticulous and (as we now know) never threw anything away. It was quite difficult being disciplined about it and we decided to separate things out - Rhona taking general historical (the largest by far), Kathy papers relating to the Gala and I now have all Florence's church paperwork and music. As she had lived in the village all her life there was a lot. Florence used to visit the school with Doris Beanlands, as did Eric Brunton and Wilf Vickers and the children enjoyed talking to all of them, especially about the past as they had so much to share. They really loved Wilf's stories about being evacuated to Keighley during the war.

We are very lucky here in East Morton to live in such a thriving community, one with long memories, hopes and aspirations.

Following the death of Florence Bramall, her family has advised us that they would be willing to sell her stair lift, only two years old, to a resident of the village for £300. Is there anyone out there for whom this would be a benefit? You can ring 01274 567456 for any further information.



Have you seen the superb refurbished Doris Beanlands Room available for hire in the Institute

Village toilets

The village society committee are presently trying to decide the future for the public conveniences when they are no longer under the BMDC umbrella in the spring. A team of local residents has opened the toilet block on a daily basis for some time now enabling it to remain open when many others have had to be closed. Keighley Town Council has offered to pay the costs of upkeep – bills, rates, repairs and overheads in general, including the costs of cleaning materials. A condition of this offer is that the opening and closing are to be the responsibility of the VS plus any costs of cleaning should it be decided to take it on. At the time of writing we have had one volunteer to clean but no one to lock up.

It would be really helpful to have some response from you regarding the spending of Society income, mostly raised from the Lottery, to meet the cleaning costs. **A meeting is to be held at 7pm on Friday 27th February in the new meeting room in the Institute.** Please come along and let us know your views so that a correct decision can be taken and a response made to KTC at their meeting on 2nd March.

Christmas lights

A big thank you to Steve Foster for once again attending to the lighting of the Christmas tree. Unfortunately some of the lights ceased to work during December and it may be that a further set will be needed for 2015.

Burglaries in village

In November there was a burglary and some attempted burglaries in the village. Please be vigilant and make your property secure. Make things as difficult as possible to deter those wanting to break in. The Police did visit to advise those residents concerned in November.

Best Kept Garden competition

Would you like to be the anonymous judge for the Best Kept Garden this year? Last year we were unable to find a judge and it would be good to have this "competition" take place again this year.

Spring Fundraising



Coffee morning and stalls
Saturday 28th February 2015
10am-12noon
Morton Institute



Saturday 18th April 2015
East Morton Institute
"Eyes Down" at 8pm
Tickets £10
Inc 6 games & supper (bring own drinks)
**** CASH PRIZES ****



Tickets: Rhona 07777637363
rhona@mortonvillage.org.uk

SEE INSIDE FOR THE MANY EVENTS TAKING PLACE IN THE INSTITUTE

Christmas lunch

The morning of December 18th was a particularly wet and very windy one but hurrying through the Institute doors, we were immediately enveloped in warmth and Christmas cheer. Coats taken by a smiling Martin, we were then ushered in the direction of a welcoming drink, alcoholic or soft as preferred. A very pleasant hum of conversation punctuated with bursts of laughter greeted us as we entered the hall, already half full of people, some seated and others standing but all talking! By now, you will have got the picture – everyone was there to enjoy the Christmas lunch and the company. I think it might have been the fourth such occasion, and each time would seem to have been even better than the previous one, and with not a spare seat to be had.

A wonderful turkey/vegetarian lunch was prepared, cooked and served by Stephanie and her team, accompanied with wine and followed by mince pies with custard/cream and then coffee. It was absolutely delicious. She was thanked and presented with a bottle of the very best champagne.

East Morton school choir entertained then, this time with a pianist lending an extra something to their performance. Their teacher, Mrs. Murdoch, gave some information about the content in between songs and carols. As ever, a very accomplished group of children and the applause reflected the audience's appreciation.

Song and carols to Keith Thompson's piano accompaniment brought a very happy community occasion to a close, together with the drawing of the raffle. On behalf of all who were there I would like to record thanks and appreciation of a lovely event in every respect.

And then it was out again into the cold, the rain and the wind!



Institute Annual General Meeting

Free Guinness on St Patrick's Day, have your say, please come along to the Village Memorial Hall Annual General Meeting on March 17th 7.30-8.30pm.

Join us for a free glass of wine or beer

We have a wonderfully refurbished building that is very busy with regular classes, social events for villagers and private functions. Why not get involved? We are always looking for people to help. Even a few hours a year is a help (possibly helping to set up an event, wash up or clear up) Or if you can spare a little more time why not consider putting your name forward for the committee or a sub-committee? It's a great way to meet new people and get great satisfaction from doing something of value for others

Positions on the committee required to be filled this year; Chairman and Social Organiser

DON'T PUT THIS AWAY and THINK... ANOTHER TIME. GET INTO TOUCH: GET INVOLVED

For more information or if you have a skill that may be of use to us or to volunteer, please speak to Karen Tel 07718 763309 or email karen@mortonvillage.org.uk - closing dates for nominations March 8th



Tower of London poppy

The Village Society purchased a poppy from the Tower of London, hopefully will go on display with the Memorial plaques that are on display in the newly refurbished Doris Beanlands Room.



Christmas lights



The total raised for Manorlands was £356.50 and I would like to thank every one who donated at the switch on of my Christmas lights and through December. John Crowther

Remembrance Sunday 2014

The Collection at the Congregational Chapel with choir and congregation from St Lukes raised an impressive £325 for the Royal British Legion.

Village Green

Work has been carried out on the Village Green, pruning shrubs and trees and reducing the height of some trees where applicable. Also the path has been treated, to get rid of the algae and make it less slippery. The VS has funded this work for Morton-in-Bloom. Also it is hoped to make improvements to the path between the trees at the bottom of the Recreation Ground - a mud bath at present - in the not too distant future.

Rhythm Time quality music sessions for babies and toddlers

Where? East Morton Institute. When? Wednesdays. Baby class 1.00, toddler class 1.40



Rhythm Time offers fun, quality music sessions to help develop your child's innate musical ability from the earliest age. Written by

a music teacher, and delivered by early years music specialists, all of the course activities are designed to help with speech development, balance, coordination, social skills, listening and a personal response to music.

Babies absorb sounds from the moment their ear develops in the womb, and in Rhythm Time classes this is gently nurtured through exploring sounds, playing instruments, singing catchy songs and rhymes, and lots of other exciting multisensory activities using equipment such as scarves, bubbles, mirrors and balls.

If you'd like to arrange a free trial session, call Lynne on 07789 895894 or book online at www.rhythmtime.net Our classes start from birth so new babies are welcome, as are Mums, Dads, Grandparents and all carers!

East Morton goes to War

We arrived at the Memorial Institute on the afternoon of Saturday 8th November 2014 to find ourselves transported back in time one hundred years to the early weeks of the First World War. As we entered the 'restaurant' to partake of our afternoon tea we experienced the authentic atmosphere of the dining tables beautifully laid with the china tea services provided by Stephanie who, with the help of Barbara and Karen, had prepared the excellent food we were soon to enjoy.

Tea consisted of a range of beautifully cut sandwiches of the day, a marvellous selection of freshly baked cakes and a limitless supply of tea supplied by the efficient team of waiters and waitresses. The whole experience was one not to be missed!

As tea drew to a close our 1914 concert party, which closely resembled our church choir, took to the stage. Ably led and conducted by their captain, Sally Dow, who happened to be carrying an authentic war wound of her own, and compered by that inimitable master of ceremonies, David Flaherty, looking every inch a General Haigh, we were treated to a good selection of the songs of the day and readings from wartime letters and poems. When the songs were familiar the assembled tea party joined in lustily, thereby providing a clue as to their ages.

All too soon the entertainment and the tea came to an end but this provided an opportunity for us to visit the impressive First World War exhibition in the adjoining and newly-refurbished Doris Beanlands room. We could happily have whiled away a few hours there but our particular memories are the stories of the brothers in the village who volunteered to fight in the armed forces and the fascinating story of the isolation hospital on the East Morton/Riddlesden boundary which served as the major military hospital during and after the War.

We returned to the Institute in the evening to enjoy the fascinating and interesting talk given by Ian Dewhurst which gave us an insight into Keighley at war. We have attended a number of Ian's talks over the years and have always been thoroughly entertained. This was no exception. As usual he gave much more than a talk, he shared an experience. As often happens Ian's enthusiasm for his subject caused him to overrun but no one minded!

So the curtain came down on a thoroughly enjoyable and interesting day. Occasions like this don't just happen. They involve an awful lot of planning and hard work. Our heartfelt thanks go to everyone involved; to Rhona, Stephanie, Barbara and Karen, to Sally, David, and the choir, to Richard Walsh for assisting Rhona in arranging the exhibition, and to Ian.

Stella and Mike Isaac

Institute Corner

Bingo

April 18th - one of our most popular events and great fun. Just £10 to include finger buffet and your bingo cards. CASH PRIZES.

Quiz night

Annual quiz night on June 6th, just £6 including pie 'n peas. Maximum in a team is six. Sadly our quiz master has retired this year so we are looking for a new person. Could you be that person?

Cheese & Wine Tasting

October 3rd in the Institute - just £12

CobraFit

CobraFit is a 45 minute class using a weighted bag (cobra), suitable for all levels as cobras come in a variety of weights. Wednesday evening 8-8.45pm: Peter 07921 854753

Ballet

Ballet classes on a Friday evening, contact Charlotte on balletnorthuk@gmail.com or tel 07437 182666,

How to book

For more details, check availability and to book - ring Karen 07718 763309. For tickets simply send a cheque to (Morton War Memorial Institute) with name, tel, what tickets you require and an SAE.

Christmas Card design competition

We are looking for a design/drawing/painting for this year's Christmas card, seems a long way off yet, but we do need your entry by end of June!

Florence Bramall 1925-2105

Florence was born in Upper Mill Row, her mother was a Micklethwaite girl, one of 14, she won a scholarship to Bingley Grammar School, after which, she joined the Tax Office. Marriage came late for Florence, and she was in her fifties when she and Laurie wed. Always seen out in a hat, and at funerals in a big red coat, Florence was known by all. The children at the school would call "Hi, Auntie Florence" as she passed, and she loved to talk - many a person emerged an hour after going in for a five-minute chat! She was a caring and generous woman.

Along with other village stalwarts, including Doris Beanlands, Eric Brunton and Kathleen Atkinson, she took an active part in village life, helping to establish several groups. She and Doris set up the meals-on-wheels service in Morton, one of the first in the country, and, together, they helped regenerate Morton Gala. Their dedication was formally recognised when they received an invitation to a Buckingham Palace Garden Party, some ten years ago.



School Corner

School was extremely busy during the run up to Christmas. Reception and Key Stage 1 children performed a wonderful 'Wriggly Nativity' and Years 3 and 4 led the rest of Key Stage 2 in telling the Christmas Story during the school's Christmas Service at St Luke's Church. The School Choir had a very hectic schedule, singing at the school Christmas Fair, Carols in the Barn at Riddlesden Hall, Morton Close Residential Home, the Carol Service and the Village Christmas Lunch.

The end of the Autumn term is one of the busiest times of the year for Friends of Morton, as they organise several events in a very short time. Their Christmas Fair, held at the end of November, was a great success and we would like to thank everyone in the village who supported this event. In the run up to Christmas, Friends held 'Santa's Secret Room', where the children visited a festively decorated room full of wonderful gifts; it was lovely to watch the children carefully selecting the perfect presents for their family members. Finally, in the last week of term, Friends held Christmas discos for the children, complete with glow sticks and bubbles!

We very much appreciate all the hard work that Friends of Morton put in to raising funds for our school throughout the year, and the support that parents and villagers give to the events they organise. Just before Christmas, the Chair of the Friends Committee, Becca Ashton, was able to present Headteacher Katie Savage with a cheque for £11,404.48. Thanks to this generous donation, we now have an amazing range of new musical instruments in our music room and have been able to revamp the school library with bright new furniture and brand new books, selected by the children themselves from a roving book shop which visited school in November. The library was launched at a special Story Night, organised by Friends, on 23rd January. Forthcoming Friends events, which all villagers are welcome to attend, are the Annual Quiz Night on the evening of Friday 27th February and the Mothers' Day Cake Stall which will be held at the end of school on Friday 13th March. We hope to see you there.





Fortunately the weather held for us on our first Apple Day held outside in the community orchard last November. An active day it was too because it was also one of our monthly working sessions and we were installing two rustic benches in the middle of the orchard. Visitors to the marquee were treated to some fine homemade soup, bread and cakes, and, most importantly, freshly squeezed apple juice and the spectacle of the apple press being worked. All this to the background sound of smoking electric drills, hammering and grunting as the hefty benches were put in. Well who needs reality TV when you can have this?

Thank you to all those who came to the event and supported us. For those unable to make it you may have seen the photo feature in Keighley News and now on the notice board in the Institute.

Work on the benches is not complete. When we can raise more funds we will install a third bench to match the first two - Alder wood is naturally rot resistant but also treated, and looked after well, will last many years. The third bench will complete a horseshoe arrangement that will complete an outdoor classroom, a place for social gatherings, or somewhere to just sit and reflect and absorb the views.

The orchard is maturing well and in February we will start our monthly work sessions to tidy up, assess how the trees have fared over the winter and do some initial pruning depending on the weather. This will be on the 15th so why not join us for a session? We meet at the orchard on the third Sunday morning of each month around 10am.

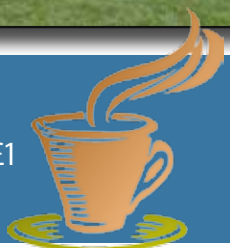
There is much that needs doing ahead and we need to pace ourselves in order to enjoy the journey. Having more people involved would help whether for planning, fundraising, practical help, expertise, communications or even writing pieces for the newsletter! We are planning an information board, permanent labels for the trees, and hope to eventually manage the area of the orchard as meadow with wild flowers.

Do enjoy a good sit down when you next visit the orchard! For further information Contact Anne Holden 01274 511618



The Morton Meet

Every Thursday 2-4pm · Tea/coffee and cake £1
Everyone welcome



Morton Village Society
Aiming to preserve your village

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Morton Gala

Sunday 12th July



New plans for this year's Gala...all new dog classes

East Morton loves its dogs, so this year we are working on several classes which will appeal to doggy owners. All in the early stages yet but we think the "Dog with the Waggiest Tail", "Smiliest Face" & "Cutiest Pup" are great contenders...what do you think? The revamped dog competition is just one idea we have for adding to attractions at the Gala.

As you know each year we try to introduce something new as well as keeping some favourite attractions. We are always open to suggestions so if you have visited a fair, show or gala and liked a stall, game or arena entertainment you think would work for us, please get in touch.

We are particularly keen to have activities for age groups from 10 years up. Sadly it looks likely the climbing wall might not be able to come this year so if anyone knows of an alternative please call.

We are also looking for helpers with some events on the day. So if you have ideas for attractions or might be able to help for half an hour on July 12 please call Kathy on 01274 567174.

Gala Programme

The subcommittee is planning the next issue of the Gala programme which is delivered by hand to all the houses in East Morton just before Gala day. It is a glossy A5 publication and not only tells you all about the day itself but is packed with information about local businesses. For the last two years we have also included editorials highlighting village organisations too...a great keepsake. Would you like to advertise? Full, half or quarter pages available...please call Chris 01274 511647

Programme Cover Competition - The programme cover competition, entries for the Gala Queen and attendants will all be announced soon. They will posted on the East Morton Facebook Page and entry forms will go out through the school so keep your eyes open for these in the next few weeks. Remember to get in touch with your ideas for Gala day!



Website

When did you last look at our website? The site has had a number of updates recently.

You can now pay your lottery using our PayPal account. The calendar for the Institute is now live and shows bookings, also you can download a booking form. We have also started uploading some archive items to look at, much more to follow. If you want anything to add, amend or post some news please send email to stephen@mortonvillage.org.uk

