



Morton Messenger

Produced by Morton Parish Council - Winter 2016



**Morton War
Memorial awarded
Grade II Listing**

mortonparishcouncil.org.uk

Vice Chair's Report

First of all, a warm welcome to all our readers. We hope you have enjoyed the Summer Gala and the Fireworks Display, and are looking forward to Christmas and the New Year.

Parish Councillors

Since the last local elections in 2015 it has certainly been an interesting time for the Parish Council. Ten councillors were elected in May 2015 and since then 5 have resigned and 2 new members have been co-opted on to the Council: Louise Rogers and Alison Dean. This still leaves 3 vacancies to fill.

We also have a new parish clerk, Tina Frost Morris, who is doing an excellent job getting everything organised. In September this year, the Chairman also resigned after 6 years of service, so as a temporary measure the Vice Chair has been appointed Chairman until May next year when re-elections will take place.

At this point we would like to thank Mr Andrew Coates for his excellent service to the community during the last 6 years.

Community Grant Scheme

Following the installation of the new Solar farm at Averill Farm, the Parish Council will receive an annual grant of £4,995. This has enabled the Parish Council to introduce a Community Grant Scheme which is available to support any initiatives planned which will benefit the village. So far £1,500 has been given to various organisations including the football club, dance and fitness classes and the Events group.

Following feedback it became apparent that the current application form is difficult to complete, so this will be simplified to make things easier.

We really do want to support initiatives which will benefit the Community, so be imaginative and

make your application ... forms are available from the Parish Clerk.

New Housing

As everyone knows, a planning application has been made by Harron Homes to build another 81 homes adjacent to the current estate at Oakview Gardens. The Parish Council has registered our objections and notified the Planning Office of our concerns. Further details of the planning application and progress can be found on the NEDDC Planning Applications website.

War Memorial

Notification has been received from Historic England that the war memorial has been listed at Grade II. This is something we should be proud of and recognise the sacrifice made by our villagers during this period. The official guidance upon the cleaning and maintenance of the war memorial recommends that a professional conservation cleaner be engaged, but that cleaning should not be undertaken too frequently.

Village Organisations

Across the village, a number of organisations operate and everyone is encouraged to go along and find out what is happening and support your local Community.

Various contact details can be found at the back of the newsletter.

On behalf of all the Councillors we would like to wish everyone a Happy Christmas and New Year.

John Funnel
Vice Chair
Morton Parish Council

Morton Village Hall Update



It seems a long time ago when this all started, going back to 2003 when the first meetings took place. Activity has increased in the last twelve months with the Open meetings, Walk-In sessions and regular meetings with the steering group taking place.

The main focus for the Big Lottery fund was the issues the village is facing and how the improvements will help to benefit the residents. Feedback received from residents identified social isolation, disabled access and the lack of youth activity as key issues.

After successfully completing our Stage One application we have been invited to submit a Stage 2 application which was made at the end of September. We should have some feedback in January 2017.

Progress to date

1. Big Lottery stage one and two applications submitted.

2. The strip of land adjacent to the hall which will enable the hall to be widened is being gifted to the village by the owner of Morton Manor.

3. A planning application has been submitted to remove the yew tree next to the hall. This has been approved subject to planning approval for the village hall.

4. Fund raising is progressing well and to date we have collected over £1,500 with donations from various sources including Kevin Gillott, the County Councillor, Morton Cricket Club and over £500 from Easy Fundraising. Other fundraising events are being planned for 2017.

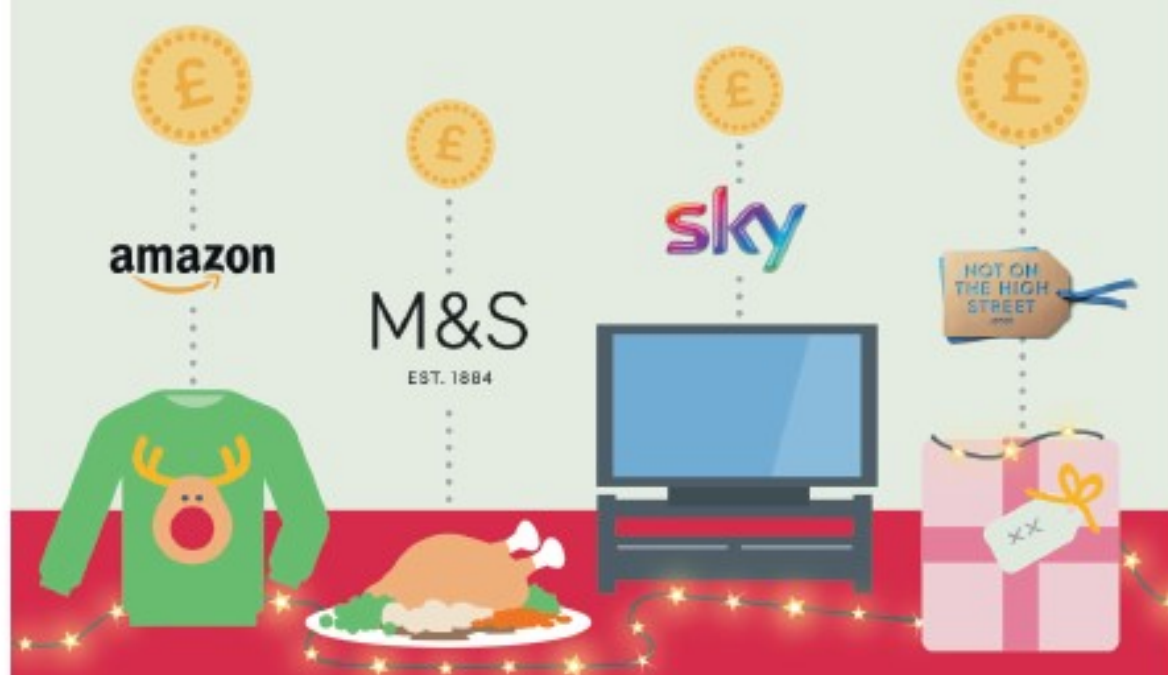
5. A new 25-year lease has been agreed with the Parish Council and the Village Hall Management Committee.

The Village Hall itself continues to be used by its regulars but would certainly benefit from other activities taking place. Anyone interested in getting involved should contact any committee member.

Village Hall Fund Raising



Remember to raise this Christmas



Find out more and join:

[easyfundraising.org.uk/Morton Village Hall Development Plan](https://easyfundraising.org.uk/Morton%20Village%20Hall%20Development%20Plan)

mortonparishcouncil.org.uk

County Councillor News



Being a local councillor has become harder over the last few years. Government-imposed cuts to the County Council's budget mean that getting things done now takes much longer than it used to. I also find myself having to say "no" to many more people than in the past.

But it's not all doom and gloom. I spent the summer knocking on as many doors in the village as I could. I received a warm welcome and I'd like to thank everyone who gave me a few

minutes of their time. I've tried to get the potholes repaired, hedges cut and gullies cleaned along with dealing with the many other issues people raised with me.

What came over time after time during my many conversations, was how happy people are to live in Morton. One reason for this is due to the work of the many community groups in the village and to the volunteers who run them. Only recently, we've seen the annual firework display, as well as the many scarecrows that popped up all over the village. That's why I've been pleased to help many of these organisations with small cash grants from the pot of money given to me by the council. Amongst the groups I've been able to help this year are the summer gala, Morton Monkeys, the village cricket club youth team and the parish church. I still have some funding left, so if you belong to a group in the village that would benefit from a small grant, do get in touch.

Finally, with Christmas now approaching, I'd like to wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Kevin Gillott

County Councillor, Derbyshire County Council

What's on in Morton Village Hall

The following activities in the Village Hall are open to all:

Community Fit Club - Tuesday 7pm - 8pm

Dance Exercise Class - Wednesday 6pm - 6.45pm

Morton Monkeys for Babies and Toddlers - Thursday 9:30am - 11:30am

Yoga - Thursday 6:30pm - 8pm

Meditation - Thursday 8:10pm - 9pm

Chair Based Exercises - Friday 10am - 11am

Bowls - Friday 7:30pm - 9:30pm

mortonparishcouncil.org.uk

Morton War Memorial



Historic England

The Secretary of State for Culture,
Media and Sport adds
Morton War Memorial
to the List of Buildings of Special
Architectural or Historic Interest

**Morton War Memorial has been
assessed for listing as part of
Historic England's First World War
Commemoration project and is now
listed at Grade II.**

The aftermath of the First World War saw the biggest single wave of public commemoration ever with tens of thousands of memorials erected across England, both as a result of the huge impact the loss of three quarters of a million British lives had on communities and the official policy of not repatriating the dead, which meant that the memorials provided the main focus of the grief felt at this great loss.

One such memorial was raised at Morton as a permanent testament to the sacrifice made by the members of the local community who lost their lives in the First World War. Morton War Memorial was paid for by public subscription and the land on which it stands was donated by Miss Gadsby who lived at Church Farm, adjacent to the site.

The memorial was sited in a raised paved semi-circular enclosure defined by railings and a low stone wall, mapped on the 1938 Ordnance Survey map. In 1953, money raised at Coronation festivities in the village was donated to the Memorial Committee to provide entrance gates to the memorial's enclosure with stepped access.

A bronze plaque which carries the inscription might also have been added then as it carries the Second World War names, and contemporary photographs reveal that the inscriptions were originally incised into the stone plinth. In 2012 the memorial and railings were repaired with the help of grant aid from War Memorials Trust.



Morton War Memorial is an elegant example of the Latin cross type of war memorial displaying a high level of craftsmanship with a Sword of Sacrifice carved in relief onto its front face. The memorial has a distinctive architectural quality and serves as a striking and evocative memorial to the fallen local men.

The List entry for this building, together with a map, has now been published on the National Heritage List for England, and is available for public access.

Listing helps us to mark a building's significance and celebrate its special architectural and historic interest. It brings specific protection so that its special interest can be properly considered in managing its future.

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Morton Remembers



Remembrance Sunday 13 November 2016



This year's Remembrance Service included the 100th anniversary of the Battle of the Somme in 1916. The service was led by Rev John Wood at Holy Cross Church and afterwards at the War Memorial in Morton.



The prime minister said the day is not only about honouring the dead but also for paying tribute to those members of the armed forces currently on active service combating so-called Islamic State.

Mrs May said, "The way of life we enjoy today depends upon the service offered by members of the armed forces and their families. Across generations, and in every corner of the UK, today we remember those who gave so much for our values, our democracy, and our nation."



Remembrance Sunday always falls on the second Sunday of November.

The artificial poppy was adopted and popularised in 1921 by Douglas Haig and the Royal British Legion.

In 1947 it was agreed that both World War One and World War Two would be remembered on just one national day, Remembrance Sunday.



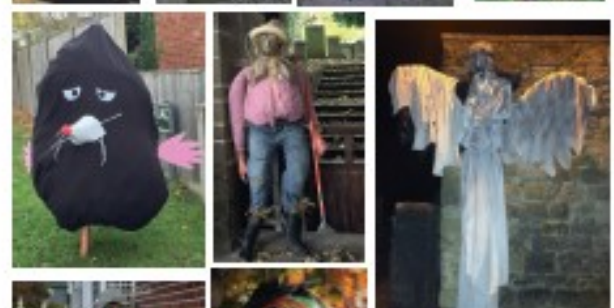
Morton in Bloom

This summer the planters were looking spectacular around the village and with the extended summer weather we were able to enjoy them for even longer!



Morton Scarecrows

There were many fantastic scarecrows throughout the village and the judging took place on 31 October. Prizes were awarded for first, second and third places. Many thanks and well done to all involved!



Morton Scarecrows

It was a difficult decision to decide on the first, second and third places in the Scarecrow Competition - there were some very creative and scary scarecrows to choose from!

The judges walked around the village to see all the entrants, and they decided on these:



Tel: 01246 251330

Email: info@tiddlersnursery.com

www.tiddlersnursery.com

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Our spacious Nursery provides all the educational and fun facilities needed to help your children's development right the way through from being babies to the day they are ready to start school. We deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum which provides for the continuous development of our children from 0-5 years.

We were recently chosen to participate in a "Play and learn with the Teletubbies" promoting good practice within key areas of development. The training video is available to view on our website www.tiddlersnursery.com where you can also watch our own video which aims to help you get a better visual impression of what we have to offer.

Tiddlers is laid out on one floor (no stairs) and has two spacious car parks providing plenty of safe off-road parking easily accessed from the A61 in Stretton. We have ample secluded gardens with fantastic views of the Amber Valley and a proximity to nature that all of our children love.

We have two all-weather play areas, together with a sensory garden, an aviary where our hens and birds live, and of course our fully-serviced Gingerbread House.

So, whether the children are picking fruit, being fascinated by our birds and hens, looking for the three bears and fairies, or just enjoying the play areas and sensory garden, there is always plenty for them to see, do and learn at Tiddlers.

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Halloween Ghost Hunt

The Halloween Ghost Hunt took place on 31st October and what a 'Spooktacular' event it was. Witches, vampires and ghouls descended on the Rectory Room to join the hunt for pictures of more fiendish Halloween friends that had been positioned around the village, with just a map, a glow stick and lots of courage to get them through the ordeal.

There was a fright in store on the cricket field as one of the scarecrows seemed to have come alive and was scaring the living daylights out of anyone that passed by. Luckily everyone made it back ok and there was a certificate and sweets waiting back at the Rectory Room for all the successful ghost hunters.

There were hot dogs, burgers, bacon butties and popcorn on sale for those ghouls in need of some refreshment or just a sit down and a cuppa to recover from the fright. The weather was very kind and everyone had a brilliant evening, but all too soon it was time to gather up the broomsticks and head home.

organised the event and manned the stalls on the night.

If you would like to help in organising the events or have any suggestions for future events, we would love to hear from you. You can email us on events@mortonvillage.org.

Tina Frost Morris
Treasurer, Morton Events Committee



Thank you to everyone that came to the Halloween Ghost Hunt, it was great to see so many faces and we do appreciate you supporting our events. Big thanks to Mark Smith from Village Games and to Morton Events Committee who



Village News

All Change at Sitwell Arms



As many of you will be aware, on 17 October 2016 the licensee of Sitwell Arms changed, Suzanne Sturman left and the Sitwell was taken over by Paul Lightwood and his partner Russ Martin.

Paul and Russ have many years' experience in both the licensing and catering trades.

Their plans for the Sitwell Arms involve reopening of the kitchen to provide home-cooked, affordable meals with the majority of main courses being £7.95.

Sunday Lunch

Adults £6.95

Children £4.95



They are also looking to provide a Christmas Fayre menu on the build-up to Christmas:

3 Courses for £16.95

Along with redecoration of certain areas of the pub, Paul and Russ are looking to create a venue that will be an asset to village life and the centre of the community.



Opening Times/Food Times

Sunday	12pm - 12am	Food Served 12pm - 3pm
Monday	4pm - 12am	No food served
Tuesday	4pm - 12am	Food served 5pm - 9pm
Wednesday	12pm - 12am	Food served 12pm - 9pm
Thursday	12pm - 12am	Food served 12pm - 9pm
Friday	12pm - 1am	Food served 12pm - 9pm
Saturday	12pm - 1am	Food served 12pm - 9pm

All occasions catered for. For Bookings or Enquiries call 01773 270432.

PCSO Retirement

Gary Green to retire from Derbyshire Constabulary next year

Gary has worked in the Morton area for around 10 years as a Police Community Support Officer but has had different roles before this one, including being a Special Constable and Property Officer, and has worked for the force since 1992.

Gary is a fantastic officer who has worked so hard to build relationships within all the villages he covers and is a fountain of knowledge - he will be a huge loss to the constabulary.



Gary will be retiring from the force in March 2017 and we all wish him well in his future retirement!

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Morton Grange

On Monday 17th October, we were visited by the Wildlife Workshop. It gave us a chance to get up close to some traditional domestic pets, including rabbits and guinea-pigs, and some more unusual creatures, including lizards, snakes and even some giant cockroaches.



As well as handling the animals, we also learnt more about them and how they behave in their natural environment. All of the animals had been rescued and seemed to enjoy the attention!

Amanda Longden
Administrator, Morton Grange



We are currently looking for caring individuals to join us here at Morton Grange.

We have job opportunities for care assistants, senior carers and nurses currently.

Call in at Reception for an application form or download one from our website www.mortongrange.co.uk



**INVESTORS
IN PEOPLE**

Morton Grange

Thanksgiving – Thursday 24th November 6-8pm



Join us in celebrating
Thanksgiving with a
carvery treat.
**Advance ticket purchase
essential**
£5.00

Christmas – Thursday 22nd December 6-8pm



Join us in our festive
celebration

Thursday 22nd December
6-8pm
Tickets £5.00

“Music through the decades” Quiz Thursday 12th January 6-8pm



Why not test your knowledge of
all music back to the 50s through
to now.

£5 to play with food provided and
a prize for the winner

Morton Monkeys



Morton Monkeys is a toddler group for children from birth to 5 years.

Please come along and be assured of a warm welcome for you and your little monkeys. We plan regular activities to engage young minds and little hands, including themed parties throughout the year such as Christmas, Easter and Halloween, and occasional day trips out. Every week, as well as the toys, there is a craft activity to get involved in.

There is a designated baby area away from the main toddler area to provide a more relaxing environment for mums with small babies.

£1.50 entry includes a drink and snack with a drink for the grown ups too.

We look forward to meeting little monkeys and their parents/grandparents or whoever is looking after them that day.

Each Thursday during term time, 9.30am to 11.30am at the Village Hall.

Contact details:

 [facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/MortonMonkeysBabyandToddlerGroup)

MortonMonkeysBabyandToddlerGroup

Louise Rodgers: 07806 608277



mortonparishcouncil.org.uk

The Queen's 90th Birthday



There was a fabulous get together on Saturday 4th June to celebrate the Queen's 90th Birthday which took place in the Village Hall, Morton and was free for anyone in the village to attend. There was a delicious buffet lunch provided, including some amazing home-made cakes, sandwiches, sausages rolls, pork pies and pots of tea or coffee, plus music, children's activities and a celebration coin for every child to take home. There was a wonderful atmosphere and people from all over the village, both young and not so young enjoyed a lovely day celebrating our Queen's special birthday with a traditional tea party.

Thank you to everyone that contributed to the buffet, and helped on the day including helpers from Morton Church and Morton Events Committee. Thanks also to Morton Parish Council who helped to fund the event by means of a Community Grant.

Tina Frost Morris
Treasurer, Morton Events Committee



From Revs John & Chrissie Wood

Dear Villagers

We are very pleased to have been asked to write something for the Morton Messenger regarding our recent time in Kumi, Uganda. We travelled on Saturday 24th September and returned on Saturday 8th October. Our flights were from Birmingham via Schiphol to Entebbe and the same in reverse. We landed late at night and stayed overnight at Banana Village which is a very attractive complex with accommodation in individual thatched round houses. Monkeys roam around the complex and this time we saw Mongoose on the site. The following day we waited for other members of the team who after some delay arrived at Entebbe. We travelled by bus with our regular driver, Alex, to an overnight stay in Jinja which is at the source of the Nile where it flows out of Lake Victoria. In the morning, we were able to have a short boat trip to the marker which says, 'you are at the source of the Nile'. There was a large number of birds including cormorants and five varieties of kingfisher. The most common was the pied but the malachite and pigmy were both beautifully coloured kingfishers. We then completed the journey to the Green Top Hotel in Kumi where, as always, we were greeted with great warmth and affection by the hotel staff. Some of the team were involved in building projects, in particular this year the construction of two classrooms and boys' and girls' toilet blocks at Akubui School. The classroom I helped to build last year had been completed and looked excellent. Although I was not involved in the building work this year I went down one afternoon to meet the head teacher at the school, Samuel. He was so welcoming, and all his family as well as other children came to see me. What struck me was this: so often in this country we see pictures of starving children in fund-raising adverts. What he said was less shocking but more profound. He said the rains had not come between April and September. This had meant the crops had failed. There was no surplus for families to sell. Consequently, there was no money for school fees and therefore the children could not come to school. The classes were smaller and the money available to pay teachers was less. It seemed a world away from our talk of pressure on finances.

Chrissie and I, together with another ordained colleague, were providing training to pastors. Chrissie also followed up her work from previous visits in providing mental health training to healthcare professionals. Care for the mentally sick is very poor in Uganda, and the Kumi district is fortunate in having an organisation, founded by a senior psychiatric nurse, Justus Cherop, which has assumed responsibility for the training of village healthcare assistants in mental health awareness. The Teso Mental Health Organisation (TEMEHO) is in the process of becoming an NGO, but is desperately short of funds (no Charity

Commission in Uganda). They have been very grateful for the training Chrissie and a colleague have been able to provide in the past three years.

The pastor training began on the Tuesday morning after we arrived. 20 pastors came together and stayed until the following Tuesday. They were all men this time although there are an increasing number of women pastors in the Pentecostal Assemblies of God Church in Uganda. In our introductions, many of the pastors said, 'I am the husband of one wife and have (however many) children.' We realised afterwards that many of them had experience of polygamy in their backgrounds. During the week we developed very good relationships with them and it was a joy to share our experience with them and to learn from them. On the Saturday, we had a day off from training and went with them to a place called Sipi Falls in the foothills of Mount Elgon. It is a beautiful place with three large falls and lovely views over the plain. For the pastors this was a first time to have a day out which was purely relaxation and they loved everything about it. As we came down from a walk around the falls with our bamboo walking sticks they did an impromptu African dance involving the sticks. Great fun to watch! Chrissie and some of the other pastors went for a walk with a local man called Julius who has his own coffee plantation and we were able to buy packs of this beautifully flavoured coffee.

On the Sunday morning, we went to a Church in a rural village. As the bus arrived we were greeted by a crowd of people singing and dancing as they welcomed us to their Church. We were left in no doubt that they were pleased to see us. Later we had a cultural evening with the pastors and members of Kumi Church. Chrissie taught them the Gay Gordons and Strip the Willow and they taught us some African dances. I let go of some of my normal inhibitions and did the 'Turkey Dance'!

Going on these short trips has been a terrific and challenging experience. The travelling can feel very arduous. Protecting yourself against mosquitoes and other insects, as well as coping with the heat, is constantly necessary. However, meeting the people of Kumi is a joy and for us makes the visit so worthwhile. We go out with an organisation called Mission Direct who work in a number of different countries in the world, mainly doing building work (www.missiondirect.org). The trips are two weeks long. Each person pays all the costs of the fortnight and Mission Direct organise all the travel and accommodation. If you would like to know more or take part in one of the trips do please make contact with us.

John & Chrissie Wood
Associate Priests in our local Villages

(John.wood1948@btinternet.com)

Community Fitclub

**Morton Village Hall
Fitness Together**

**£1
Community
Fitclub**

Join us at the Village Hall
every Tuesday at 7:00pm
to join in with our keep
active sessions for all ages.

CALL 07961 538627
TO FIND OUT MORE...
...OR JUST TURN UP!

24FIT
www.FitnessTogether24.co.uk



£1 Community Fitclub gives people the opportunity to get an hour of activity and exercise, with the active sessions modified to suit all ages and fitness levels within a friendly encouraging atmosphere.



This is a not-for-profit scheme and any monies made, after paying for hall costs, will be either put back into the Fitclub for equipment, or donated to a local charity/event.

Look out for us around the village as more options and events will be helping the local community to live a healthier, active lifestyle.



Any questions or if you require more information please contact Colin Northedge:

Email: colin778.cn@gmail.com
Mob: 07961538627



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Bonfire Night

Bonfire Night was hosted by the Sitwell Arms and a good time was had by all with the weather being dry and clear. The bonfire was lit at 6pm and the firework display followed at 7pm. A spectacular display as you can see!

There was hot food on offer along with a bar and a disco followed on after the fireworks.

Thanks to Paul and Russ of Sitwell Arms who helped to make the evening a great success.



Christmas Events

Morton Senior Citizens' Christmas Party

Followed by entertainment
This will be held in Morton Village Hall
on Saturday, December 3rd
starting at 5.15pm.

Everyone aged 60 or over is invited to come along.

To help with catering would you let us know if you will be coming
by ringing one of the following:-

Rosemary 01773 872354

Stewart 01773 872698

Ann 01246 865337



Please let us know by November 30th.



December at Holy Cross Church

Thursday, December 8th 2.00 – 4.00pm
Village Groups decorate Christmas Trees in Church

Friday, December 9th 7.00 – 9.00pm
Village Groups decorate Christmas Trees in Church

SUNDAY December 11th 10.30am
Christmas Tree Family Service

Tuesday, December 13th 12.30 – 3.00pm
Christmas Soup and Social in Rectory Room

SUNDAY December 18th 6.30pm
Carol Service and switching on of Memorial Lights

CHRISTMAS EVE, Saturday December 24th
3.00pm Crib Service

11.30pm Midnight Communion

CHRISTMAS DAY, Sunday, December 25th
10.00am Christmas for Families



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Morton Village Hall

Available for Parties, Wedding Receptions, Meetings etc.

£6.00 an hour

Includes heating, use of kitchen, cooker, fridge, dishwasher, urn, crockery, cutlery etc.

Please ring the Booking Officer for any information with regard to booking the Hall.

Members of Morton Village Hall Management Committee:

Stewart Towndrow – Chairman 01773 872698 Rosemary Taylor – Secretary 01773 872354

Ann Wright – Booking Officer 01246 865337 Louise Rodgers 07806608277

Parish Council Representative – John Funnel

Claire Kozlowski – Caretaker 01773 590171

A message from the Chair:

First of all, we, as the Village Hall Management Committee, would like to thank all of the people who use the Village Hall because, as the saying goes, "if you don't use it you'll lose it", and as we all know, this is the last thing we want to happen.

As you are all aware, the Parish Council is in the process of trying to obtain a Lottery Grant to enable the Village Hall to be enlarged and modernised, including new kitchen, disabled access etc. In regards to this the Parish Council will provide more information.

As a Management Committee we are trying to do our best to help with this extensive project, mainly in regards to fund raising, which is one of the things we are expected to do – so, in this respect, if anyone has any ideas please let any member of the Management Committee know.

Just to bring you up to date as to how the Village Hall is used, this is a list of the current regular use:-

Monday Evening Bingo every 14 days 7.30 – 9.00pm approx.

Tuesday Evening Adult Exercise Class 7.00 – 8.00pm

Wednesday Morning Tae Kwondo

Wednesday Evening Adult Dance Class – 7.00 – 8.00pm

Thursday Morning Morton Monkeys for babies and toddlers 9.30 – 11.30am

Thursday Evening Yoga 7.00 – 8.30pm

Friday Morning Chair based exercises 10.15 – 11.00am

Friday Evening Bowls 7.30 – 9.30pm

Sunday Afternoon Tai Chi 4.30 – 6.00pm.

So, from the above, you can see what a great asset the Village Hall is for the Village.

Bingo is a very popular event and while you won't win large amounts of money, as it is not 'Mecca Bingo', everyone has a really good sociable evening – and of course, the more people attend the higher the winnings; so why not come along and enjoy a very good evening. You will always be made most welcome.

The Senior Citizens' Christmas Party this year is on Saturday, December 3rd and again this is a very well attended function enjoyed by all. Pete McCrae will be there again to entertain you and have you dancing in the aisles!!

Again, thank you to everyone who uses and supports the Village Hall which helps to keep the Community Spirit alive in Morton.

Stewart Towndrow,
Chairman, Morton Village Hall Management Committee

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Holy Cross Church

Churchwardens

Margaret Hawkins 01246 863418
Christine Clarke 01246 864901

Many thanks to all who support Holy Cross and help to keep our lovely church open for regular worship, for special occasions and for baptisms, weddings and funerals. Thanks also to those who support our social events and come along to our special events.

Everyone is welcome to come to our services. They are held each week on:
The First Sunday in the month – 10.30am Morning Praise which is not a Communion service (coffee and biscuits afterwards)
The Second Sunday in the month – 10.30am Family Communion (coffee and biscuits afterwards)
The Third Sunday in the month – 10.30am Holy Communion
The Fourth Sunday in the month – 6.00pm Table Talk in the Rectory Room.
If there is a Fifth Sunday the three Benefice Churches take it in turns to have a United Service.
Sunday School is in the Rectory Room on the first, third, fourth and fifth Sundays at 10.30am in Term Time. All children welcome.
We have Baptisms on the third Sunday in the month, either during the 10.30am service or at 12.00 noon.
If you want to arrange a Baptism (or a Wedding), please ring Margaret Hawkins on 01246 863418.

Rectory Office

The Rectory Office is now closed.
For all funeral enquiries please ring the Revd. John Epton on 01773 834153 in the first instance.
For all other enquiries please ring Margaret Hawkins on 01246 863418.

Social Events

We have lots of Social Events – keep a lookout for the posters! Everyone is invited to come along.

December at Holy Cross

See page 21 for details.

Have we got a new vicar yet?

The short answer to this often asked question is – No, not yet. The appointment of a new incumbent is unfortunately quite a long and involved process but we are making good progress.

The process involves official meetings with the Archdeacon of Chesterfield following which we have to produce a Benefice Profile and then individual Parish Profiles for each of our three churches. A "profile" is a comprehensive document describing who we are, what we can offer a new incumbent and what we in turn would like from a new incumbent (a sort of church CV). After much hard work by the three church 'profile teams' this document has now reached what is now hopefully the final draft stage and is currently with the Acting Archdeacon for his approval.

Once approved, the document will go to St John's College, Cambridge, who are our church patrons and who have very kindly offered to advertise the vacancy on the internet and in various church publications. We then wait for applications for the position to flood in and then begin the process of interviews and short-listing etc.

So – still a way to go but as the saying goes, "we are getting there".

Our thanks to all who have been and continue to be involved in this process and we will keep you fully informed of future developments.

Bernard Gratton

Holy Cross Newsletter

Each month we publish a short newsletter which is free to those who request one. If you would like one delivered to your house (or emailed to you) please ring Rosemary Taylor on 01773 872354.

Contact details

Parish Councilors

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Councillor Vacancy, Please let us know if you are interested in becoming a councillor

Contacting Parish Council

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Clerk to the Parish Council
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County Councillor

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District Councillors

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Neighbourhood Watch

Ann Randel, Station Road, 01773 872578

Walt Edson, New Street, 01773 875980

Gaynor Roberts, Main Road,
01773 590689

Michael Lawton, Church Lane,
01773 873039

Liz Taylor, Eversham Lane,
01773 873702

Betty Roe, Stratton Road,
01773 872260

Ruth McCullough, Holland Close,
07749 398297

Village Hall

Stewart Towndrow, Chairman
01773 872698

Rosemary Taylor, Secretary
01773 872354

Ann Wright, Booking Officer
01246 865337

Margaret Hawkins, 01246 863418

Claire Koslowski, Caretaker
01773 590171

Parish Council representatives:
John Funnel

Holy Cross Church

Christine Clarke, Churchwarden
01246 864901

Margaret Hawkins, Churchwarden
01246 863418

Rosemary Taylor, Church Newsletter
01773 872354

Morton Events

events@mortonvillage.org

Report It - Who to contact

Bins - missed collection	01246 217610
Bins - new bin request	01246 217610
Bus stops	Parish Council
Cars - abandoned	01246 217610
Car - nuisance parking	01246 217610
Dead animal	01246 217610
Dogs - fouling	01246 217610
Dogs - lost dog	01246 231111
Dogs - stray dog	01246 231111
Fly posting	01246 217610
Fly tipping	01246 217610
Graffiti	01246 217610
Grit bin refilling	Parish Council
Hanging baskets	Parish Council
Litter	01246 217600
Noise nuisance	01246 217600
Pest control	01246 231111
Police non-emergency	101
Playgrounds	Parish Council
Potholes in road	08456 058058
Road name signs	01246 217394
Road & traffic signs	08456 058058
Roadside drains	08456 058058
Street lighting	08456 058058
Vegetation overgrowing highway / paths	08456 058058

Morton Bowls

We meet in the Village Hall
every Friday evening, 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.,
cost £1.50 including refreshments.

There are bowls in the Village Hall that can be borrowed.
We are a very friendly group both young and elderly so come along and have a chat to us anytime.

mortonparishcouncil.org.uk