

**27 Dec 13**

**Whist:** Tonight, Friday December 27, in the Village Hall at 7.30pm, our usual fortnightly whist drive with raffle. Refreshments included.

**New Year's Party:** Last year's bring n share buffet worked so well we are going to repeat it. A great night for all the family. Doors open 6.30pm for children's games. There will also be plenty of fun for the adults with some party games. This will be followed by music and a disco by Stephen Wheatley to help you all dance into the New Year. As well as the buffet there will be our usual licensed bar with plenty of bubbly and of course our raffle. Adult tickets £4, children free. Contact Carolyn Lister 01767 640727 for tickets.

**Folk Night:** This regular event is held the first Wednesday evening of every month. Despite it being New Year's day we will be holding this event as usual so our next folk night event will be held in the village hall on Wednesday, January 1, 2014. Doors open 7pm. This is a very relaxed event so to all musicians and singers or lovers of live music do come along and join us. For more information call Chris on 01767 640242.

**Village Hall:** You may know that for some time the Village Hall Trustees have been in discussion with Central Beds Council (CBC) regarding the small piece of land alongside the hall.

At last we have been given the opportunity to purchase this enabling the Village to benefit from a number of improvements.

Our first project will be to improve parking, the main parking area will be to the left of the hall, with dedicated disabled parking to the front. We also hope to extend the hall in some way (longer term planning) and fence off a family/children safe area. But first we have to purchase the land. Sadly it's the one thing that we cannot get a grant for, so Moggerhanger Village Hall Needs Your Help!!

After some haggling we have agreed a price of £6600. We already have a promise of £1000 from the Parish Council, and we can manage £2600 from Hall Funds. Whilst we have had a good year we are unable to commit more as we will need money to undertake the work needed, and whilst we should be able to get some help with grants there is always an expectation that some of the work should be self-funded. Additionally we will have legal costs to pay and of course we will have to apply for a change of use of the land. That leaves £3000 to find. If you are able to help with a donation we would be most grateful and ask you to contact our Treasurer, Carolyn Lister on 01767 640727 who will be pleased to provide you with a donation form.

We aim to construct a plan of the field marked off in 10 square meter plots. A donation of £10 would allow us to purchase one 10 square meter plot. We will write your name on the plot(s) you have helped to purchase.

We will be forced to take a loan for any shortfall and would wish to keep this to a minimum. This is our once in a lifetime opportunity which we must seize to enable any further improvements. Not only will this enable us to provide improved facilities at the hall but will also solve our current drastic and frankly dangerous parking situation. At large events cars are seen parked along Blunham Road causing a hazard to motorists and pedestrians alike. This communication has already been published in the Village Magazine and we're pleased to say has resulted in a very significant response. A really big thank-you to everyone who has responded, a list of donors will be published very shortly and thank-you communications will be forthcoming.

The Trustees wish all our many supporters a very Happy Christmas and Peaceful New Year.

**MMPS Christmas Opening:** The shop and meeting place will be open as usual over the Christmas period, except Christmas Day, December 25, Boxing Day, December 26 and New Year's Day, January 1.

**Christmas Party:** Held last Saturday, December 21, in the village hall. This was a Christmas themed fancy dress which saw a number of Santa's elves, Santa Claus himself along with a number of presents, snowmen, a Christmas Tree and a Christmas fairy, complete with wings and halo. There were some fine costumes that folk had put a lot of thought and effort into and the fancy dress parade saw both the Christmas Tree and the Fairy each receiving a bottle of bubbly to help them celebrate over Christmas. The entertainment and disco was provide by Stephen Wheatley, who did a great job of getting folk up and dancing the night away. A variety of warm nibbles were provided , including sausage rolls and mince pies. A raffle was held and also the 100 club Christmas special draw which was won by Mrs Irene Wyatt. A huge thank-you to everyone for making this a great Christmas Party. We raised £830 which will be put towards works for our new car park.

**Christmas Grotto:** Last Saturday saw the last of three events held at Village Farm, 4 St John's Road by invitation from Miss Matthews, to explore the Christmas Grotto. Commencing at 2.30pm, entrance for adults was £2.50 and children free. Tea and a mince pie were included. There was a children's bran tub, costing 50 pence, a large raffle and a gift stall.

The raffle winners were Mr L Eaton, J Gibbs, Mrs P Sheath, Mrs M Wilson, Mrs Y Gleeson, Mrs A Wiseman, Mr A Buck, Mrs A Barford, Mr E Barrance, J Turner, Jen. All proceeds to Guide Dogs for the Blind, Macmillan Cancer Support, East Anglia Air Ambulance and the Dog Trust.

**100+ Club:** With every New Year, annual subscriptions for the 100+ club fall due. We will be holding a social evening for our existing members and any new members, on Saturday evening, January 11, 2014, so get this date in your diary. This will include a free buffet and give us a chance to update everyone on current plans. Look out for your invitation.

As last year I would be grateful if members were to send their 2014 membership subs to me (Carolyn Lister, 7 Blunham Road), which we are keeping at £12. If paying by cheque please make payable to 'Moggerhanger Village Hall'

Anyone wishing to join this private lottery please contact me (01767 640727) for an application form.

**Church Services:** St John the Evangelist, Benefice Service, 11am.