

Midgley Community Forum Newsletter - October 2008

Wide variety of spring bulbs for sale in the shop now. Get those window boxes & planters filled. Make Midgley as beautiful as Luddenden next Spring!! Shop opening times 9am - 7pm weekdays (except Tues closed) and 9am - 1pm weekends.



'Call My Bluff' Wine Tasting



The recent call-my-bluff wine tasting event was a sell-out and 36 braved the atrocious weather on the night, including one group that started out walking from Thorney Lane just before the heavens opened - a slightly sorry and bedraggled sight they were on reaching the Community Room !

In a light-hearted start to the evening to get things going we had a "head or hips" guessing game to pin down the starting wine. (In fact it was a Pinot Grigio from South Africa). After a few questions, Rob was the last person standing and took the prize.

Alistair Grant, who acted as MC for the evening, recruited (press-ganged) three game volunteers to act as the "bluffers" for the remaining wines - Rob, John and Jean. Then each "bluffer" in turn proceeded to give a different, but entirely convincing, description of each of the 6 wines tasted throughout the evening with aplomb and conviction as if they were sommeliers of long standing. Once each in the audience had decided who they believed, the True or Bluff cards were revealed to great acclaim and considerable barracking depending on whether people had made the right choice. As the evening progressed the "bluffers" really got into their stride with Rob even having a stab at Oz and American accents to match the last two wines he tried to convince us we were drinking. (He lied in both cases, but many believed him!!)

Whether by sensitive noses and palates, or pure guesswork, or some combination of these, Phil and Rema combined to identify the correct descriptions for all 6 wines - remarkable! Part way through the evening, we enjoyed an absolutely excellent supper - thanks to Linda and Jennifer Vale for providing these. The raffle was drawn at the end and Dai won the bottle of Grand Cru champagne.

Overall, this was a super evening of entertainment and fun where everyone who came had

a great time, and we made a profit for funds of over £150. Thanks to everyone who helped in all sorts of ways to make it a success.



Halloween' Family Night

Friday 31st Oct 6pm - 8pm

Back by popular demand, this month's family night will have a Halloween theme. It will be Halloween inspired dress for the children - and the adults if they dare. We shall have trick or treat and other games as well as a Halloween fair. The evenings entertainment is for children five years old and under, accompanied by their parents/carers. Tickets will be available from Midgley shop at £2.50 per child (adults free). As usual the bar will be open. For more information contact Rachael on 885640.



Forum AGM

This took place last week. Present committee members were re-elected, Elaine and Alistair Grant continue as Treasurer and Chairman respectively, and Sean Kavanagh takes over from Eileen Fury as Secretary. The Chairman and sub-groups gave an update on the various Forum activities throughout the year. The accounts were presented and show a healthy surplus for the year. These are open for all to view and anyone wishing to see a copy please contact Reg Slater on 883583. AGM for MM Ltd (the shop) is to be advised at a later date.

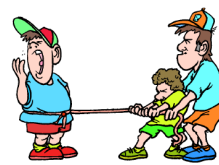
Message from Rosie

Rosie Crook is happy to help anyone needing a lift to the Post Office at Wainstalls . This PO is still staffed by Sam, the previous Midgley postmaster. Some of Sam's regulars at Midgley PO would perhaps be happier dealing with him rather than other POs in the area, which are anyway difficult to get to. Rosie could take people on one of the opening days. If there is interest from anyone in doing this please contact Rosie 883607. Opening times for Wainstalls PO are Mon & Tues 9 am to 1.00 pm and Thurs 1.30 pm to 5.30 pm.



Under-5s Playgroup

Continues to meet successfully in the Community Room every Friday morning from 9.15 to 11.30 am. New mums and toddlers are invited to come along where they will be met with a very warm welcome. Family Nights is also an early evening social get together for parents with young children. Refreshments and bar available. For further information on both Playgroups & Family Nights contact Rachael on 885640.



Update on the Planning Application for the Old Co-op.



As everyone probably knows, the Forum has submitted a planning application to Calderdale Council for change of use of the Old Co-op for potential use as a Shop and Community Room. Of course, the purchase of this building by the Forum is by no means certain, but a necessary pre-cursor is planning consent before a purchase can be contemplated. Thanks to everyone who responded to the request for support of the application, which resulted in a massive positive vote of 223 submissions registered on the planning file, with only one objection.

At present the Planning Officer dealing with the case had not had comments back from either Highways nor Environmental Health, either, or both, of which could take a negative view and recommend refusal or restrictive conditions which would make the building non-viable. The current planning timetable is to give a decision by 27th October, but we may have some indication whether the Planning Officer is minded to accept, or refuse, by mid-October. Assuming that consent is given, then we will be in a position to consider further steps. Obviously there are a lot of bridges still to cross which would include the negotiation of an acceptable price, obtaining of grants, and also the enlisting of financial support, either by loans or shares, from supportive individuals in the Midgley community. However, until planning consent is received from Calderdale Council, none of this can take place, and there is bound to be a lot of uncertainty about the future of the Community Association. We remain optimistic however that the hurdles can be overcome, and in particular, we have had some strong indications of support from several grant bodies - all subject of course on the above consent.

Events Calendar

Village bonfire and BBQ Friday 31st Oct

Frances & Rayner Tighe have generously offered to host a bonfire and fireworks for the village. This will take place after the children's Halloween party. There will be a BBQ and a charge will be made for food and bonfire toffee, parkin etc. as well as a bucket for donations to attend the event. If you are able to help with the event on the night please contact John Benson 885602 Further details on posters nearer the time.

BAKERS NEEDED - Please would you bake for the event? If you can please contact Rema Sim on 885111. Recipes for parkin, gingerbread and bonfire toffee will be available in shop if you haven't got one! What a wonderful event this will be! If you have ideas for events or would like to help in any way on events - cooking, clearing up, marshalling etc we are always looking for more help please contact Elaine Davies 07721 501454

Talk by Ian Dewhirst Friday 7 Nov, 7.30 pm

By popular demand Ian Dewhirst will be returning to Midgley for one of his talks. This time it is about 20th century Military life. His talks are always entertaining whatever the subject and tickets sell fast so buy yours early. They are available now from the shop at £3.

Quiz Night Friday 14 Nov, 8 pm - 11 pm

with **HOMEMADE** supper and bar. £5 inc supper. Tickets available from shop. If we sell 30 tickets by the 12th we can get a barrel in! All the food is made by volunteers and to help them cater for numbers PLEASE buy your tickets early. WE ARE NOW LOOKING FOR COOKS FOR EVENTS AFTER CHRISTMAS. Can you help us? If so please contact Rema on 885111. Even if you can just do a small part of the cooking this will be fantastic!

Festive Fair

Unfortunately has been postponed and will now be a Food Fair in the New Year. This will be a major fund raising event for the village. More details nearer the time

Auction of Promises

Another big fund raiser. Will take place in the New Year. Last time we raised over £4,000! No mean feat. So please get your thinking caps on on what you might be able to offer.



FATHER CHRISTMAS HAS NO SLEIGH !

It is very likely that we will have no horse and trap for the very popular carol singing just before Christmas. Do you or do you know anyone who has suitable vehicle to transport Father Christmas through the village? In the past it has been one of the highlights to give children a ride in the trap and if this is a possibility- brilliant! Please contact Ann Holdsworth on 882901.