

March 18 for March 22

**Whist:** Tonight, Friday March 22, in the Village Hall at 7.30pm, our usual fortnightly whist drive with raffle. Refreshments included.

**Coffee Morning:** On Saturday, March 23, you are invited to a coffee morning at Village Farm, 4 St Johns Road, by kind invitation of Miss Matthews. From 10.30am, there will be stalls and a raffle. All proceeds in aid of Keech Cottage Hospice and MS therapy centre Bedford.

**Karaoke Cancelled:** Our apologies but due to unforeseen circumstances we have had to cancel the disco and karaoke competition planned for Saturday, March 30. There will be an event organised for later in the year.

**Knit and Natter:** The next Moggerhanger Meeting Place and Shop monthly Knit and Natter will be held on Tuesday, March 26, from 10am until 12 noon, in St John's Church.

**Emm Gee 60:** The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 27, in the Village Hall at 2.30pm. New members are always welcome.

**Sing Up Loud:** Thursday evenings at 8pm in the Village Hall. This will be a choir run by Choirmaster Leigh Smith and will cover many interests from Classic, Pop and Show music. Call Chris on 01767 640242 for more information

**Moggerhanger Park:** Book Launch. Join us for a book launch at Moggerhanger Park House on Thursday, April 11, at 6.30pm.

"Moggerhanger Park, Bedfordshire. An Architectural and Social History from Earliest Times to the Present" will be available for sale.

Learn more about the history of your area; Meet the authors (contributions from seven eminent experts); See the restoration work undertaken at Moggerhanger House and Park; Support future restoration work.

If you are unable to attend the launch, copies can be obtained from Moggerhanger Park House.

RSVP to 01767 641007 - [friends@moggerhangerpark.com](mailto:friends@moggerhangerpark.com). Copies are priced at £25 hardback, £15 soft bound plus p&p. All proceeds go towards further restoration work - [www.moggerhangerpark.com](http://www.moggerhangerpark.com)

**Village Hall:** Grand Open Day and AGM

Saturday April 13 will see an open day following the completion of our 2012 Improvement Project. The opening will commence at 3.30pm with a celebratory drink and a few nibbles. There will be an opportunity to check out all the changes and ask questions about any work done but also anything we have planned. After the opening event we will hold the Annual General Meeting so you will be able to see how all the money you have helped raise has been spent.

**Cabaret Evening:** Saturday, April 20, a cabaret evening with Regina Dwight. Be enthralled by the melodious voice of this renowned drag artiste. There will also be a disco, raffle and licensed bar. Doors open 7pm, tickets £5 from Denise 01767 640633 or Carolyn 01767 640727

**Casino night:** Saturday, March 16, saw the second of the Village Hall Casino events. Numbers were down on last year but this enabled folk to get to the tables more easily, a difficulty we had last time. After a lovely meal of lasagne, salad and French bread, but no chips, the evening's activities started. Chips, the non-potato kind were included in the ticket price but more were available for purchase. We had our usual Roulette and Blackjack tables, a revamped Wheel of Fortune and a new game Casino Wars. After two hours of play we stopped and counted up the number of chips folk had won. Our winners were Mr S Denton with 137 chips, Mr R Allen 38 chips and Mrs P Bennison 37 chips. Each received a cash prize and a bottle of wine. We also sold tickets for open the box but our ticket winner unfortunately did not choose the key that opened the box. We raised a very healthy £552.97 which will go towards covering the cost of our new bar, which we were able show off at the event. A very, very, big thank-you to everyone who contributed to this event cooking, washing up, manning the tables and the bar. Also a very big thank-you to our supporters, who attend our events and make them enjoyable and successful.

**Open the Box:** At the end of a very successful Casino Night our lucky ticket winner chose a key that did not open the box. This now stands at £90. The next opportunity to purchase tickets for this draw will be at the Folk Social Evening at the Village Hall on Wednesday, April 3.

**Moggerhanger Gardening Club:** Members met at 7.30 pm on Tuesday, March 12, at the Village Hall. Invited speaker, Eva Aldridge from Asterby and Chalkcroft Nursery, talked about plants for Moggerhanger. With her knowledge of local soils she was able to give examples of plants that would grow well in different parts of the village. (Yes, those who live in the clay part find it hard to believe that other parts of the village are sandy!)

There were some 22 people present and after the break, when tea and coffee and homemade cakes were available, there were questions and answers. Then the programme for the next meeting was decided; 7.30 pm on May 15 in the Garden Room at Moggerhanger Park, Sarah Panter from Dunton Community Garden will talk on no-dig gardening and quick-cook composting. (Date of July meeting to be agreed.) The meeting closed at about 9.15.

**St John's Church:** Dedication of the newly installed heating system.

On Monday, March 11, a service to dedicate the new heating system was held. The service was led by the Revd. L Klimas, who also gave the story of the heating project. The Dedication was carried out by the Bishop of Bedford.

Prayers were led by the Revd. G Orpin and the junior choir sang "Colours of Day" (Light up the Fire) and the Benefice choir sang "Beauty for Brokenness.

Revd. Keith Brown was organist and played "The Royal Fireworks" by Handel at the end of the service. Refreshments were served after the service.

Songs of Praise. The monthly Songs of Praise was held on Sunday evening led by the Revd. L Klimas. Readers who introduced hymns were the Revd Klimas "I Cannot Tell Why He Whom Angels Worship"; Mr G Adams "Be Thou My Vision"; Mrs P Whitworth "For the Beauty of the Earth"; Mrs J Hollington "All Creatures of Our God and King"; Mr S Mercer "The Lord is My Shepherd"; Dr W Hollington "How Great Thou Art".

The reading was "St Patrick's Breastplate and the senior choir sang a "Gaelic Blessing" by John

Rutter.

Prayers were led by Revd. G Orpin and after an Irish blessing all were invited to stay on for refreshments. The next Songs of Praise will be held on April 21 at 6pm.

**Church Services:** St John the Evangelist Sunday, March 24, All Age Communion 9am

Tuesday, March 26, Prayer and Meditation, 7pm

Thursday, March 28, Agape Supper, 7.30pm