

## **For May 2**

### **Whist:**

This takes place tonight at 7.30pm in the village hall with cash prizes and a raffle. Refreshments are included.

### **Folk Night:**

This monthly open mike event is held the first Wednesday evening of every month in the village hall. Doors open at 7pm. The next event will be held on May 7. For more information call Chris on 01767 640242.

### **Coffee Morning:**

The next St John's Church coffee morning will be held on Tuesday, May 6, at 10am in the church.

### **100+ Club Draw:**

The May draw will take place at 11am during the St John's Church coffee morning.

### **Coffee Break:**

Don't forget this weekly event for Mums and Dads every Wednesday during term-time from 9am to 10am and longer if wanted (the shop is open until noon). Tea or coffee and biscuits cost just 50p.

### **Karaoke Night:**

This takes place on Saturday, May 10 at the village hall. Tickets will be £4 for adults but children under 16 or in full time education will be free. Come and join us for a relaxed fun evening. Doors open 7pm. Tickets from Carolyn 01767 640727

### **Plant Sale:**

This annual event to raise funds for St John's church will take place on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, May 16, 17 and 18. There is a change of venue this year so the event will take place at the Pink Cottage, 64-66 Blunham Road, Chalton. On Friday, May 16 the event will be open from 10am until 1pm during which time coffee and cookies will be served. On Saturday, April 17 the event will run from 10am until 4pm with a barbeque and bacon butties available. During the afternoon you will also be able to purchase a cream tea. Sunday opening times are 1pm until 4pm again with cream teas available.

There will be the usual cake stall, pickles and preserves and a raffle in addition to the myriad of bedding plants, vegetable plants, perennials, baskets, planters etc.

### **Village Hall:**

Last Saturday there was a social evening and annual meeting held at the village hall. Annual meetings sadly are not generally well attended so the trustees decided to hold a social evening for Moggerhanger Parishioners and hold the annual meeting during the evening.

There were 41 attendees, a record for our annual meeting, and everyone enjoying the evening.

A buffet was provided and once everyone was settled the Chairman, Mr C Bashford, opened the meeting. Mr G Adams read the minutes from last year which were approved, followed by Mr Bashford's Chairman's report. Mrs C Lister presented the annual statement of accounts, highlighting key income and expenditure. This was

followed by the election of officers for 2014-15; Mr C Bashford, Mr G Adams, Mrs C Lister, Ms J Warren, Ms J Hobson, Mr R Allen, and Mr P Milton.

Mrs Elizabeth Barrance MBE has served Moggerhanger community well for many years, including holding the office of trustee at the village hall. As a mark of respect for her many years' service the trustees voted to elect her as the village hall President, a decision supported unanimously on the evening. Mr Bashford presented Mrs Barrance with a framed certificate to mark the occasion.

After formal closure of the meeting Mrs C Lister updated those present on the land purchase 'Buy a Plot' scheme. There were still ten plots to be sold to cover the costs of purchasing the land including solicitor and Land Registry fees. These were instantly sold with further requests for additional plots. This scheme will be officially closed at the end of April. After that the final figure raised will be announced and an outline of the plots sold and a list of donators will be framed and placed at the village hall to mark this fantastic achievement.

The evening finished with a light hearted mini auction and a raffle.

Many thanks to our social team for producing a lovely buffet and to everyone for attending and supporting the evening. We raised £326.69 in addition to the 'Buy a Plot'.

### **Moggerhanger Gardening Club:**

On April 16 we had a very interesting talk about Warden Abbey Vineyard, which is situated on the road from Old Warden to Cardington. The Manager Jane Markham told us that there had been a vineyard there since the 1100s, run by the monks of Warden Abbey until the dissolution of the monasteries in 1537. The modern site occupies about 1/3 of the original and since 2010 is run by Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity as one of its many projects to foster rural life in Bedfordshire. Planted in 1986 by the Whitbread family, the vineyard's production is not huge, depending on the year of course, but the quality of what we sampled was very good. Everything is done by volunteers and once the harvest is in the grapes go to a company in Surrey for pressing and bottling.

We were also told of the Warden pear, which is mentioned by Shakespeare. Recently it has been replanted and the vineyard also has a young tree.

Altogether a very interesting evening, with a tasting also, followed by the usual tea and coffee with home-made cakes.

The next meeting will be on June 26, but on Wednesday, May 21 there is a planned visit to Edible Ornamentals at Chawston for a tour of the nursery and a chilli tasting session. For details and booking contact Jackie Warren on 01767 640790.

### **Church Services:**

St John the Evangelist, 9am sung communion.