

Hiring of the Morham Hall

The hall continues to be used for parties and events. If anyone wishes to hire the hall for an event then please contact David Murray (Tel: 824836).

Bits and Pieces

Church News

Having been without a Minister for nearly a year, the Kirk Session are pleased to invite you to come to the service in Garvald Church on Sunday 27th February at 9.30am when Rev John Vischer will preach as sole nominee for the Parishes of Garvald, Morham and Haddington West. Rev Vischer will be travelling from his current charge of Skipness linked with Saddell and Carradale in Argyll where he has been for some time with his wife and four young children.

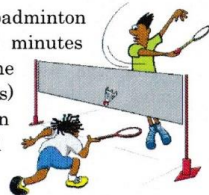
It is hoped that as many as possible will come to the service in Garvald, but if that is not possible, you could also hear him at the service in Haddington West at the later time of 11am. If all goes well the congregation can look forward to the Induction Ceremonies in the not too distant future.

Pilates

The Pilates classes are ongoing in the hall on Tuesday evenings. Please contact Sue Kelly on 07710 642254.

Badminton

A Sunday night badminton session (with 15 minutes of Fussball at the end for the boys) has been set up in the Village Hall between 6-8pm. The session costs £1.50 per person and is open to all ages and abilities.



Garvald Inn

Come along and enjoy the regular "Open Mic" afternoons which are ongoing.

Garvald, Morham and Gifford Telephone Directory

The new Local Phone Book, covering the Garvald, Morham and Gifford area, is now available. This is a very handy resource, listing local businesses and useful numbers for such things as schools and doctors in addition to residential numbers and some very useful maps.

Proceeds from the sale of the booklet, which costs £8, go to Arthritis Research UK. It may be purchased at Hogg's Shop, Gifford, Garvald Inn, or from Laura Maslowski, Northrigg (Tel: 822741)

Sale Items

Some instruction manuals for items previously sold at a village sale in the last couple of years have recently been uncovered. If the buyer of any of the following items would be interested in obtaining their instructions please give Rachel Argo a call (Tel: 830294).

- Boots PT400 Portable Typewriter (operating instructions)
- Helitron Sun Panel (operating instructions plus a piece of small equipment)
- Libra Wirefree Bell Push and 50m Chime (operating card)
- TCM radio controlled multifunctional alarm clock for sale with operating instructions. This item will probably be available in this year's village jumble sale or, if you are interested now, please call Rachel Argo (Tel: 830 294).

Forthcoming Newsletters

The next newsletter will be published in the spring. Please contact Shirley at sawalker106@hotmail.com (Tel: 830270) with any news or ideas.

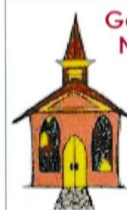
GARVALD and MORHAM NEWSLETTER

Winter

2011

Already well into a new year with plenty going on in the village to keep us busy and entertained. Hopefully everyone managed to brave the worst of the winter. Some of the younger community certainly made the most of it partaking in numerous winter activities. Now we all look forward to some lighter evenings and kinder weather.

Garvald Village Hall News



A new year brings new hire bookings for the hall, jobs to be done in and around the building, and events for the village to enjoy. All of which means there will be plenty to keep your Hall Committee fully occupied.

The original open days for Garvald Art Show happened to coincide with serious falls of snow so it was decided to extend Show dates over three weekends. The Hall provided an excellent venue for this display of quality work by some highly talented local artists. Despite the weather it proved very worthwhile and we look forward to hosting similar shows in years to come. When the Village Christmas Party moved into the Hall for 2010, the art exhibits unexpectedly provided an unusual and interesting surround for the event.

The Christmas Fayre was an excellent start to the Festive Season and generated over £500 for Hall Funds. There was a good variety of stalls, and the stallholders were pleased with their trade on the day - all asking to be invited back in 2011.

The Village Hall Trust AGM took place on 8th December. Those who braved the weather enjoyed mulled wine and

mince pies as they heard about the progress during the past twelve months. An overview of our financial position was given, including our operational costs. We look forward to dealing with the challenges ahead. If interested in either finding out more, joining the Committee or helping in any way, please get in touch; you will be most welcome.

The year ended with a Ceilidh on Hogmanay when over 100 people danced to the music from the Kilty Pleasures Band, and welcomed in 2011 with Colin Macaldowie and some heart-stirring music from his bagpipes. We welcomed four young visitors from Estonia and their interpreter, who were staying in the area on holiday, and they greatly enjoyed their time with us.

Our new central heating system has seen plenty of action during these recent months and is serving us well. On the outside things weren't so good... down came the guttering again, and another insurance claim is in progress.

Happily, not all jobs earmarked to be done are on such a big scale! We have a range of work to do such as painting, etc., so if there is anyone out there who can do a good job with a paint brush, or is a general handyman (or woman!) please contact a Committee member.

Details will be appearing on the Notice Boards, also in future editions of

the Newsletter, of village events during the year. But get those new diaries out now and make a note of some important dates:

- 24 April: Plant Sale – Go potty and keep in mind when you are dividing things in your garden;
- 29 May: Fun Day – Something to enjoy; everyone welcome;
- 26 June: Jumble Sale – Start gathering your collection of bits and bobs;
- 27 August: Flower Show – Garvald Horticultural Society presents its 60th Annual Village Show.

Garvald Village Show

The village show will be held this year on 27th August, and you can see below the classes which you could prepare well in advance during this colder weather, so that when the growing season starts you can devote your energies to the garden.

Hard copies of the full schedule will be available in the spring, but should you wish to have a copy now, it can be sent by email if you contact Hazel at handdclark@btinternet.com, or you can download this from the website at www.gmcbbroadband.org.

HANDICRAFTS

- A1 Baby's matinee coat
- A2 Jumper or cardigan
- A3 Hand-knitted hat or scarf
- A4 An exhibit of jewellery
- A5 Patchwork article
- A6 Canvas work article
- A7 Embroidered article
- A8 Article using cross stitch or tapestry
- A9 Something new from old
- A10 Sewn article machining allowed
- A11 Crochet article
- A12 Home made garden ornament

- A13 Useful and decorative article
- A14 Article made from wood
- A15 Hand-made greeting card
- A16 Collage
- A17 Something to hang on the wall
- A18 A painting

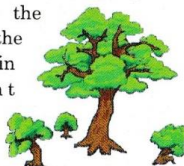
PHOTOGRAPHY

* Maximum size of print and mount (if used) is 178x127mm except in class B8

- B1 The beauty of the Scottish weather
- B2 My favourite place
- B3 Still life
- B4 A Garvald landmark
- B5 A tree
- B6 Tricks with your digital
- B7 A portrait (head and shoulders)
- B8 4 photographs which tell a story (printed together on a single A4 sheet)
- B9 An unguarded moment

Papana Woods Project

Discussions remain ongoing with regards to the proposals and the committee remain hopeful that differences will be ironed out to allow contracts to be signed and work to begin.



Community Council News

If you are not already on the list, and would like to receive a copy of the Community Council minutes, send your email address to Rufus at Bellamycom1@aol.com and you will get them next time. Please note that these minutes, together with a copy of this Newsletter can be downloaded from the gmcbbroadband.org website. Other items will be available on

this site shortly. In particular, there will be an information leaflet and a copy of the application form for Crystal Rig funding available for download. Alternatively, these can be obtained from Hazel Clark by email. The deadline for the next round of applications is 31 May 2011. You will find information about this on the website itself.

GMCC Broadband Upgrades Programme 2011

The broadband group has designed an upgrade for the existing broadband service, with potential speeds of up to 20 Mbits/sec. This design takes advantage of the many advances in technology that have become available since the original system was installed. The cost of the upgrade, which would cover a much larger area, including East Linton and Gifford, is a 6 figure sum. A summary document is available at <http://www.iasmith.com/bbProposal.pdf>.

There have been further recent expressions of interest from other villages in East Lothian. Expansion to additional areas of the county could certainly follow successful completion of the initial project. We are by no means the only rural community who do not have access to adequate broadband services.

The group originally applied to the EU financed Broadband Challenge fund. Unfortunately it was over subscribed and the group were unsuccessful. The group have now submitted their proposal for the March round of Leader funding. All fingers are crossed!

If successful, the Garvald and Morham Community Council broadband group will transform itself into an "industrial and provident society co-operative" where all members of the community will be able to become shareholders.

If unsuccessful, the award of money

from the Crystal Rig wind farm will be used to upgrade the existing system to up to 6 Mbits/sec.

Morham News

Happy New Year to you all!

Morham Village Hall AGM

In November, Morham Village Hall held its AGM where both I (Anne Hunter – Chair) and Susan Farmer (Treasurer) stepped down from our respective positions.

A special thank you to Susan for her commitment and dedication to the hall over many years.

New Office Bearers were elected:

- David Murray – Chair (Tel: 824836)
- Hannah Stenhouse – Treasurer (Tel: 829629)

Community Hall Events

The children's annual Christmas Party was very well attended and a fun afternoon was enjoyed by all. Thanks to all parents who supported and helped and also to "Scooby-Doo," and friends, who were a hit with the children.

Our annual Burns Supper was held on Saturday 29th January and was again a huge success. All present enjoyed the good food and entertainment, including excellent speeches and the wonderful music of "Laverock". Thank you to all involved who supported and contributed to the event. Thanks particularly to Kirstie Shearer who orchestrated the whole evening so expertly.

During the worst of the snow in December the hall was also used as a base to allow parents and children to get together for a play, a coffee and a chat. This was a great success and hopefully the hall will be used again to meet the immediate needs of the community in the future.