

## Book Club

Next meeting of the Midgley Book Club is on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April at 8pm in the Community Room. The book selected for discussion at this meeting is A Thousand Splendid Suns by Khaled Hosseini. All welcome. Any queries please contact Marilyn Hawkins on 883036

One of the founders of Midgley Community Forum and a very active supporter is celebrating a significant birthday on April 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Happy Birthday** to John Benson. Now he is 60 (did I say that) will he relax more I doubt it? Keep up the great work John.

## Garden Open

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> April 11am onwards  
Come and see the AURICULAS flowering at Lane Ends Farm, some outdoors & some in the cold greenhouse. Andrew will be on hand to show you around and perhaps persuade you to buy a plant for your own plot. Proceeds to village funds. Refreshments. Further details, phone Andrew or Sandra 883388.

## Consultation Exercise

The consultation that was carried out to gather the views of the community about the future of the shop, post office and community room took place between 29<sup>th</sup> February and 3<sup>rd</sup> March. The main points to come out of it were:

- 112 completed forms were received
- 86 people agreed that the proposed site should be developed
- 20 people disagreed with the proposed site
- 87 people wanted a shop included in the development
- 82 people thought a post office was important
- 73 people wanted the community room to continue
- 73 people preferred the larger building

Many people wrote additional comments and these are harder to quantify. The issues that were raised most frequently were:

- The largest number of comments were that the shop and community room are essential to preserve the sense of community in the village
- Many people expressed a preference for the larger building but preferred the design of the smaller building
- Thought needs to be given to the external appearance of the building, with natural materials in keeping with the village being important considerations
- Concerns about lack of parking facilities were raised by many people, both in favour of and against the plan
- A number of people made alternative suggestions, including using the school as an alternative to the community room
- People thought that a purpose built building with level access would allow more people to use the facilities (particularly the elderly and children)
- Concerns were expressed about the height of the building and the loss of view for nearby residents

## Outcome

As a result of the survey, the community forum has concluded that it has a positive mandate to take the project to the next stage, finalising the design of the building, seeking planning permission for the site and applying for grants. In doing this the committee are keen to address the concerns that have been raised by villagers, particularly those who will be near neighbours, and will continue to explore any viable alternatives. The architects have reduced the height of the building in the new plans and are looking at ways to ensure the design is as sympathetic as possible to the existing architecture of the village. We will also pursue as many options as possible to create additional parking – all ideas welcome. The final design will be available in the shop for people to look at and there will be a section on the notice boards in the village and in the shop, as well as regular newsletters, to keep people informed of progress.

## Do you use Midgley Matters Shop?

If not, why not – it's there for you. Where do you go when you run out of milk or bread? Or need something for tea but can't be bothered to trudge to Mytholmroyd or drive to Tesco? We stock everything from beans to beer, chocolate to cheese, pasta to pain killers and orange juice to olives. Call in for an Evening Courier on your way home from work, or pop down on a Sunday morning for croissants and bacon and see what else we have to offer. You won't be disappointed. And if you need to use Post Office services, our friendly postmaster Sam will help you out, but check PO opening hours before coming.

## Shop & Post Office Opening Times

	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>	<i>Sun</i>
<b>Shop</b>	9am – 7pm	Closed	9am – 7pm	9am – 7pm	9am – 7pm	9am – 1pm	9am – 1pm
<b>Post Office</b>	1.30 – 5.30pm	Closed	9am – 1pm	9am – 1pm	9am – 5pm	Closed	Closed

## Forthcoming Events

Further details will be on posters, in the shop. Some events are likely to be very popular so please get tickets early to avoid disappointment! It would really help us organise events with food if tickets could be bought as early as possible (preferably by the Monday before the event) as suppers are all home made and also there is a greater chance of having a barrel on if events are well supported-early!

*Friday 4th April 8pm*

### Quiz Night

£5 inc homemade supper. Bar. Form a team and come along or make a team on the night. Newcomers welcome

*Friday 18<sup>th</sup> April 8pm*

### 'Lazy & No Ambition'

A talk by Ian Bailey on the Ministry of Agriculture's view of farming in Midgley during the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War. £3. Bar

*Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April*

### St Georges Day Progressive Dinner

A dinner with a theme this time! Come in red, blue, white, dragon, knight, damsel etc. A great gastronomic evening and you only need to cook one course! Contact Sandra Carter on 883923 asap if you would like to take part. It will start and finish in the Community room. No charge!

*Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> June*

### Midgley Open Gardens and Open Studios

This is a wonderful village event and this year we have 21 gardens open for viewing. It is also one of the biggest fund raisers for the Community Forum. This year there will be also teas, lunches, a bric a brac stall book stalls, plant sales and a B-B-Q .Programmes and tickets will be on sale in the shop from May so ear mark this event on you calendar and have a fantastic time visiting your village gardens. Thank you to all of you who have volunteered your time and gardens/Studios. For further information please contact Elaine Davies 07721501454 or Ann Holdsworth 882901

**Family Evening** We are proposing having a family evening on a Friday where villagers with children can come to the Community room and meet up with friends and have a drink without having to get a babysitter. Sounds good to me! Please let us know if this would appeal to you.

**Summer Walks** These were popular last year. They involved short walks around the valley with a supper in the community room afterwards. Watch this space for dates for the summer season.

If there are other events you would like to have, especially those with children or the elderly or would like more details on the above events please contact:- John Benson 885062, Jean Bradbury 882239, Peggy Horsfield 882452

### Time For A Chat - Update

I have now completed a number of visits around the village and received several suggestions regarding future daytime activities and events. In order to develop these ideas further, an informal get-together would be appropriate. For all those interested you are invited to afternoon tea and a chat at Midgley Community Room on Wednesday May 7<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday May 21<sup>st</sup> between 2pm and 4pm. Any queries or problems with transport, please telephone Marilyn Hawkins on 883036.

### Easter and the Pace egg play

A big THANK-you to all who supported the pace eggers from Calder High School on Good Friday. What a marvelous turnout for an excellent rendition of the Midgley Pace egg Play. The shop and community room were open for the event and it was great to see the shop being so well supported by the village and the community room full of families enjoying tea and Easter cakes. It was a very profitable event raising much needed funds towards the new shop and community room.

### Ever wanted to be a shopkeeper?

The Midgley Matters Shop (opposite the bus terminus) is run by a team of over 30 volunteers, for the benefit of the village. Some of us work in regular weekly slots, some provide cover for the regular workers when they are away, and some work in the background, ordering stock and dealing with finances.

#### Why do they do it? - What the current volunteers say:

- Getting to know the village and what's going on
- Meeting local people
- Putting in what you get back
- Having a village shop open until 7 pm by helping to keep it open
- Feeling part of the community
- Getting out of the house
- Walking to the shop for exercise
- Enjoying providing a service

#### Would you like to help but don't know what you could do?

We need help with: Stock control, ordering supplies, cleaning and organising shelves, creating displays, taking orders, sales and marketing, opening up in the morning, closing up at night, minor repair work and, of course, working behind the counter. If you can help with any of these we'd love to hear from you.

#### Have we tempted you to find out more?

Would you like to come along to an 'open day' and have a go? Get to know how easy it is to use the till? You won't have to commit to a fixed time, and don't even have to work in the shop itself. One hour a week or a couple of hours a month will help, it doesn't have to be a big commitment, but we will welcome you whatever time you can give. **Contact Ruth Strickland, Volunteer Co-ordinator, Tel: 881534** or call into the shop and leave your contact details for Ruth to get back to you.

The deadline for the next newsletter is **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> May**. If you would like an article or advert to be included, please contact Ian Bailey on 886840 or e-mail [ian.bailey@3-c.coop](mailto:ian.bailey@3-c.coop)