

INKPEN VILLAGE HALL AGM REPORT 2018

I'm pleased to say that it's been another busy year for the Hall. It's doing what it was built for, being used nearly every day for a wide range of activities for people in the village. That's both regular activities like Carpet Bowls, Table Tennis, and Yoga and for special events like The Pudding Club and for family parties too.

A special mention here for the MacMillan Coffee Day coming to the hall on Friday 28th September . Last year this event raised £750 for this very worthwhile charity and we hope you can come along again this year. We also have the Great Inkpen Quiz returning for the fifth time on the 17th November. You can find details of these events on the village hall website www.inkpenvillagehall.org

Our volunteers have done a sterling job running the hall this year so that these activities can happen. I'd like thank them all for they've done for the hall and in particular to extend our thanks to Julie Bryant and Mark Bates who are stepping down as Trustees this year. They have done great work for the hall and it's much appreciated. We would also like to welcome Jean Rolfe as a new member of the committee who joined this year.

I'd also like to thank Diane Burgess for keeping the hall looking so good and Pippa Jeffries for doing such a fine job with the gardening.

A busy hall is a welcome sight but it does mean our volunteers have to provide extra support to ensure the smooth running of the clubs and the management of hirers' needs. We have a small team of volunteers who take responsibility for events, hiring, maintenance, safety and accounts.

We'd welcome new volunteers to join the team, bring in new ideas and help out, whether this be as a Friend to the charity who helps us out when they can or as a hall Trustee or committee member to get more involved in running the place. If you'd like to know more please talk to us tonight or contact us through the details on the village hall website.

After a sustained effort on maintenance over several years the hall is now in good shape. There are always small maintenance tasks that happen quietly in the background, and we work from a long maintenance list and tick off the priority tasks first.

One thing I would like to add is that the hall has now gone global. Thanks to the initiative of our volunteer Helen Bates and courtesy of Gigaclear we now have a fast and free broadband connection to the village hall.

It's also good to know that hall is more financially secure now than it's been before. There's always the worry with an older building that some major unexpected problem will surprise us but we do our best to monitor how the hall is doing. As you may know the hall is a charity and receives no funding other than what comes in from the people who use it. So we always plan to rely on our own resources.

Looking ahead at major future projects we'd like to improve the kitchen facilities and re-grade the car park entrance and we're currently investigating how best to do this.

And finally but most importantly we'd like to thank everyone who uses the hall for their support in keeping this important village amenity running.