

Charminster Village Hall
AGM: May 15th 2019
Chairman's report

I am pleased to report that the village hall continues to occupy an important role at the heart of the village. During the past year the hall has hosted many successful events, and the trustees have taken appropriate steps to ensure that the fabric of the hall remains in excellent condition.

Among the highlights of the year were the two bingo evenings organised by Sarah Bird. On each occasion we had a full house. It was hugely encouraging to see so many villagers coming together and making use of the hall's excellent facilities. I'd like to thank Sarah for her energy and commitment in making these events such an enormous success. The money raised will make a significant contribution to the cost of the hall's upkeep.

The duck race, organised principally by Celia Davies and Andrea Guppy, was another happy occasion. It was great to see several young families lining the riverbank. We are lucky to have such a beautiful river flowing through the village, and personally, I'd like to see the duck race become one of the highlights of the village calendar. But to achieve this we need support from other organisations in the village.

The hall continues to be used on a weekly basis by several village organisations, and it's regularly used for family parties and celebrations.

During the year, we said goodbye to Lilian Matthews, who has moved away from the village. Lilian contributed a great deal to the village hall over many years, not least in her role as bookings secretary. Members thanked Lilian for her service and made a small presentation as a gesture of appreciation. We were therefore very pleased when Sarah Bird agreed to join the committee and take on the role of bookings secretary. The booking system is evidently in very good hands.

As this year ends, we say goodbye too to Caroline Dick, another long-serving committee member. We thank Caroline for all she has done for the hall, including the many times she has volunteered to open the hall for private events. We look forward to continuing to see Caroline at the art group and at other events.

I have also received a formal note of resignation from Suzanna Barnes; and while she can't attend committee meetings Suzanna is keen to support the committee in a voluntary capacity.

During the year we continued to invest in the maintenance of the hall. In addition to routine repairs, we paid for the re-decoration of the Graham Shaw room, installed a new key safe and replaced a number of damaged chairs.

Finally, I wish to thank my fellow-committee members for their support and encouragement in ensuring the hall continues to play such an active role in the life of the village.

Nigel Kay
May 15th 2019