

Great Easton Village Hall Chairman's Report - May 2020

In the year March 2019 to the start of lockdown due to the Covid19 pandemic in March 2020, the village hall had another successful year. Improvements this year included a refurbishment of the stage area and the replacement of the hall crockery.

As always, I would like to thank the committee for their continued hard work and commitment in helping to organise and run our events and in keeping the hall in good running order.

This year, we held three fund raising events (Quiz & Chilli, a talk by Julian Evans and a table top sale) as well as helping with the Village Summer Bonanza which replaced the church fete, as well as the extra funds raised from the sale of the Great Easton Tea Towels. We also organised tea and biscuits after the Remembrance Services which was very well received and I hope we are able to do this again this year.

Looking forward to this year, at the moment we are unable to plan any fundraising, however once lockdown ends, I am sure there will be a keen interest from the Village to get together again, whether for a quiz, a post Covid19 party or the return of Mark Howson's music promotions.

Since the lockdown started in March, the hall has been unused by our regular groups, which has obviously brought our income down to zero, however we have been fortunate to be given a grant from Harborough District Council which will keep the finances healthy for the moment.

The Garden Task Force had continued to meet once a month until the lockdown, keeping the garden in good order. I would like to thank the members of the Committee, and the regular gardeners, Cath Lupton, Margaret Tyler, Julia Brittain and Celia Pocock.

In December 2019, the Church moved their parish office out of the Village Hall and relocated to St Giles church in Medbourne. We have kept the broadband facility as this has proven useful for several of the hall users and we are exploring options for the use of the meeting room.

Finally, I would like to thank Cath for the donation from the Line Dancing group which funds the hanging baskets and Alice for getting and maintaining them, Mark & Diane Howson at the shop for the help with ticket sales and the generous donations from:

- Margaret Stamp from the sale of the Great Easton Calendars
- The Maude Elkington Trust