

Rowledge Village Hall



Newsletter - Winter 2011/12

Another six months have rushed by with lots of successful events going on at the village hall and the trustees hope that everyone finds the review in this Newsletter interesting and informative. The number of villagers who help with the running of the hall and the events held there continues to grow but we can always use more volunteers. Please remember that if you live in Rowledge then it is **Your** hall and it relies on volunteers to run it and everyone to use it.

1. The building.....back in August a team including Bob Blackman, Graham Precious and Grahame Potter together with Robin, Phil & Ken from the committee brought the walls of both halls back to as new condition for the start of the new school year. Also in place for the new term was the new entrance canopy that will allow people waiting for their children to keep dry, maybe that is why we have had so little rain this autumn! The picture shows Phil with Jamie King formally opening the canopy watched by other Playgroup members and their mothers.

2. Rowledge in Bloom....we were visited by the judges who were most impressed by our rainwater harvesting that supplied 100% of the large amount of water needed to keep the planters looking good. Farnham performed well winning Gold for town centre and Silver Gilt for the wider area. Rowledge Village Hall won a special commendation. It came as a very pleasant surprise when the summer plants were not only removed but replaced with spring flowers. Any volunteers for watering the plants on a Friday morning, just let Liz know.

3. Funding.....our year-end figures show that the new hall reserve has now been rebuilt to £70,000 the level that the current trustees inherited four years ago.

4. 100 Club.....The 100 Club continues to generate a steady stream of funds and we still welcome new members. Mike Humphries performs the draw every eight weeks at Coffee Spot and the next draw will be in mid February; be in it to win it !!

5. Coffee Spot... In 2011 Coffee Spot generated just over £3000 of funds almost exactly the same as in the previous year, albeit without the assistance of snow that boosted attendances in January and December 2010. Indeed the weather this autumn was so good that people sat outside on the very busy McMillan day. There is always a lively buzz on a Friday morning, do drop in, either alone or with friends and partners.

6. Events.....Attendance at the **Autumn Fair** was down this year as our date conflicted with the Farnham Food Fair and the hottest October day for a long time that tempted people to the sea side. Despite this a record sum of just over £2000 was raised. Plans are now being made for an updated event for next year featuring the growth and consumption of food, if you have any ideas or wish to join in with the organisation please contact Ken Bone.

The **Barn Dance** that followed the Fair was deemed by all who attended to be a huge success and already The Roughditch Band has been booked for next year, reserve your tickets now from Jo Walker.

Earlier in the summer all of those who joined in the village **Treasure Hunt** on a wet Sunday afternoon enjoyed the event and John Negus' **Horticultural Entertainment Evening** was fully sold out and great fun was had by all.

7. Coming Events....In January we will be hosting a repeat of last year's inaugural **Village Competition Night** when the children's football club will defend their trophy against nine other teams from village organisations. The Village Hall will be present at the **Jubilee Fayre** on Monday June 4th and are planning to make some changes from previous years. Anyone who is prepared to help should contact Jo Walker or one of the Trustees. The Village Hall will also be hosting a **Jubilee Lunch Party** for senior citizens on Tuesday 5 June, look out for more details in the coming weeks.

On Sunday September 16 the Village Hall and the Cricket Club will be jointly presenting **Happies Circus** on the recreation ground. This fantastic children's event is not to be missed , **save the date now.**

Please contact Phil Thomas if you would like to help organise this event.



8. Regular Users It is great to see that Beavers now have new leaders and are back operating at full strength. Also it is good to see the hall put to use regularly on Sunday afternoons by the Buick dance school, why not join in with them ? Unfortunately the Bridge Club have stopped meeting at the end of the year having failed to build a sustainable group size, a great shame as it seemed that Rowledge should be able to support such a group.

9. Annual MeetingThe next Annual Meeting will be at 8pm on Thursday 22 March and will be followed by drinks and nibbles. Attendance has grown over the past couple of years, please make the effort to come along to discuss **Your** village hall.

Best wishes for 2012
Rowledge Village Hall Committee