

CHARTHAM HATCH VILLAGE HALL
SOCIETY

AUTUMN 2006



Chartham Hatch Village Hall From an original drawing by Jon Wilmot, 1995

With the end of the holiday period and the days getting shorter (and even some rain!), the time has come to think about indoor activities for the autumn and winter. Here are some events, both past and future, in your local Village Hall which you might find interesting.

Past events

As anticipated, the Plant Sale in May had a reduced number of stalls, though with many donations to the Hall plant stall. The additional White Elephant stall was a great success. There were a vast number of items donated to this stall and you will be pleased to know the unsold items were given to the British Heart Foundation charity shop.

Once again the Summer Concert in July was blessed with lovely weather. The Canterbury City Band gave their usual polished performance and, this year, refreshments were provided to add to the enjoyment of those present.

Only a few stalwarts turned up to help with the Village Hall clean-up day later in July. The day was extremely hot and it was decided unanimously to finish at midday. Our apologies to anyone who turned up in the afternoon to help.

Forthcoming events

Our next event is the **Wine & Wisdom on Saturday, 7th October at 7.30 p.m.** This is a very popular event, so book early by calling Mike Armstrong on 738243. Teams are for six people, but smaller numbers can also be accommodated and combined to make a team. A Ploughman's Supper with wine, fruit juice and bottled water will be provided – all for the sum of £5.50/head.

We have had requests to run our November Craft Fair again so come along on **Sunday 19th November** to buy your Xmas gifts and enjoy our refreshments!

The year will finish with the very popular Carol Concert on **Friday, 15th December at 7.30 pm.** As usual, the City of Canterbury Band will provide the music and light refreshments will also be provided. There is no charge for this event but donations are requested to go to the chosen charity on the night. This year donations will be in support of the Young Carers Project, a voice for children and young people who are carers, and there will be someone from the project who will give a brief talk on what it is all about.

History of the School/Hall project – A brief progress report

One aspect of the funding received for the above project was to train someone to set up and maintain a web-site for the hall. We are pleased to let you know that the web-site is now up and running and can be accessed at <http://www.charthamhatch.org>. Jim Sanders, Jenny Harries and Ian Harris attended several training sessions, but Ian bore the brunt of it all and will continue to look after the site. Thanks Ian, and thanks also to Jim for providing much of the material and images. One of our pages lists all the regular

activities in the hall with contact telephone numbers if you are interested in joining. This list is also posted on the noticeboards both inside and outside the hall.

In practice for their part in the project, several Chartham Primary schoolchildren recently experienced a Victorian day at school where they, and the teachers, dressed the part and were taught as they would have been done at the end of the 19th century. Quite an eye-opener for them!

We are well on the way with typing up the section on the school and have now started collating material and pictures on the hall. If you have any anecdotes or pictures to do with the hall, please get in touch with Ann, Ruth, Valerie or Jenny.

A new look

As you may have noticed, several changes are being made which we hope will be a great improvement. Firstly, the wire fence and some of the posts round the hall are being renewed. Not only will this look better but will also provide easier access to the parking at the rear of the hall. Secondly, the older gas heater has been replaced as there were various problems with it last year. Unfortunately, because it is no longer acceptable to use the old chimney flue, the new heater has had to be installed against an outside wall. While this has meant extra cost at the installation stage, the new heater should be more efficient and its new position against the end wall should mean that more of the hall will receive its heat. And lastly, we have also obtained some ‘newish’ chairs to replace the old wooden-seat ones which should also add to the comfort of hall users.

Other events in the Parish

This **Saturday, 2nd September from 11 am to 4 pm**, there is another chance to see the heavy horses working in **No Man’s Orchard**. There will be lots of other events – see the notice in the board outside the hall. Lots of people attended last year and commented on what an interesting and, at the same time, relaxing day they had had. Also look out for notices about **Apple Day** events in the orchard in October.

By popular request, the **Chartham Chameleons** are repeating their sometimes surreal readings on “*Phantoms, Fakes and Fantasies*” at **7.30 pm, Saturday 11th November** in Petham Village Hall. Tickets on the door or from Marjorie on 738369.

The next exhibition by the **Historical group of the Chartham Society** will be now be in October and will be about the River Stour and the Mills in the parish.

Newcomers to the village may like to know that parish events are advertised weekly in the local news section of the Kentish Gazette and monthly in the Parish Magazine which also carries local advertising. If you would like to receive a regular copy of the magazine, please contact Ruth on 738395.

A clear solution

Recycling your waste could not now be easier – no longer to do you have to trek in to the Council Offices in Canterbury when you run out of clear sacks, we now have our own supply point in the village. A kind volunteer is keeping a supply in her front porch at 12, New Town Street. No need to knock – just help yourself.

**The Hall is available for hire at very competitive rates
To book, ring Janet Hitchen on 738093
(If you think you may be interested in taking on the Bookings Secretary job,
please ring Janet)**

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