

CHARTHAM HATCH VILLAGE HALL
SOCIETY

CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER



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

Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year

Past Events:

Croquet and Tea on the Lawn : Friday 20th August.

To all those who came along to this event, a most enjoyable time was spent learning the game and having tea. A good profit was made for hall funds. Our thanks to Margaret and Tim and others who were involved in providing the entertainment, food and venue.

The **Wine and Wisdom** evening held on the 23rd October proved to be a successful evening much enjoyed by everyone. The hall was full to overflowing with eager competitors. Mick Tuite and Tim Flisher were the question masters and did a great job. Congratulations to the winners - no need to commiserate with the losers because they got a prize as well! - even if it was later than on the night!

The **Craft Fair** held on 21st November was also well attended; and the trading good. The good food and drinks sold well - thanks to the cooks and bottle washers for their hard work.

All three of the above events made profits which went to the hall funds. Many thanks to all who provided the entertainments and to all of you who came along to partake and buy the goods.

The Committee hope you may have either used or looked at the new toilets and know that your financial contributions to the village hall have been spent wisely!

There was a packed hall for our **Christmas Carol Concert** on the 10th December and we were pleased to see several members of L'Arche group, our chosen charity this year, in the audience. The Ladies Group very kindly provided mince pies and sausage rolls during the interval. As usual, the Band put on a good show and we particularly enjoyed the music by their younger members. Very many thanks for all your donations – as a result of your generosity, we are able to send the L'Arche group a cheque for £250.

Craft and Tea Afternoons

It is very likely that we will be starting a Craft Club very soon. Please do keep looking on the notice board in the New Year for more information.

Well Done and Thank You!

Hall funds are richer by a £57 donation – Ms Ann Baggeley who was in the Flora Light Run in September very kindly donated half of her sponsored money to the Village Hall.

Looking to Events in 2005

Another **Wine and Wisdom on 26th February**. To book tables please ring Heather Stevens on 731718. Tables are usually for six persons and the price is £5 each. A Ploughmans Supper and wine is supplied plus soft drinks, excellent value for a great night out.

The **Village Plant Fair on 22nd May** this year will be in the morning and on a Sunday. This means that, weather permitting, you can buy your plants in the morning and plant them in the afternoon, job done!

A new venture by the Village Hall Committee this year in early June will be a **Garden Treasure Trail**. We will give you more information about this event in the next newsletter in 2005. However, as usual we would appreciate any good ideas that you may have that would help this event along. Please do contact a member of the committee in this regard.

May we please request from whomever (two or more) beautiful days for the above events.

Village Hall History

Many of you will have read in the local press that we were successful with our Local Heritage Initiative application to research the history of the hall, from the time it was built and used as a school up to the present time. The grant will enable us to

- interview and record the memories of villagers, past and present
- copy old photographs and take new ones
- visit archives
- produce a book and a DVD
- run a parallel project with the teachers and children in the primary school in Chartham
- hold events, including an event in the hall with the children, members of the Over 50s and the Chartham Historical Society, and a final exhibition
- have a commemorative plaque made
- receive training to be able to produce and maintain our own Village Hall website

For those with internet access there is a summary on the LHI web-site of our project and all the other projects they are funding at www.lhi.org.uk - just choose Project Directory/South East/Kent and our project is in the list. We have set aside part of the notice board in the kitchen to keep you posted on our progress, including the LHI web-site entry.

Many people have already come forward to tell us about their involvement with the school and the hall, and also to offer their help in other ways (e.g. with typing). If you have anything you feel you could share – memories, photographs, cine/video footage, newspaper clippings – or if you would just like to become involved, we would be only too pleased to hear from you. Please contact Ann (738513), Ruth (738395), Valerie (738678) or Jenny (731395).



The Local Heritage Initiative is a national grant scheme that helps local groups to investigate, explain and care for their local landscape, landmarks, traditions and culture. The Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) provides the grant but the scheme is a partnership, administered by the Countryside Agency with additional funding from Nationwide Building Society.

**The Hall is available for hire at very competitive rates
£3.50 per hour to villagers and £5.50 per hour to others
To book, ring Janet Hitchen on 738093 (or Heather Stevens on 731718)**

Registered Charity No. 302709