

EXHALL VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

CHAIRMANS REPORT to the AGM for 2015/16.

This past year our activities have been many and varied, both socially and otherwise. We set up our website www.exhallvillagehall.org.uk: special thanks to Councillor Jon Buxton for doing this for us. Thanks also to those who update the diary of forthcoming events and Sophie for posting photos. We have had some woodwork and metalwork repairs carried out on the hall by Andy Harris and Adam Read and the old loo and overgrown vegetation at the back were cleared one wet day: thanks to Chris Hanson. The kitchen ramp handrail posts have been replaced and the rail reinstalled: thanks to Bob Mace.

15 trees on the road from the top of the village to Ardens Grafton were severely pruned {and survived!}, and the cuttings then shredded. The bases were cleared and chippings from the churchyard clearance laid. Thanks to Bob and Avril Mace, Adam and David Wilson. The Channels were cut into this road's banks [or cleared] and the ditches particularly near Hay Brook bridge cleared of post hedge cutting debris, all to aid drainage. Thanks to Martin Murphy and others for helping to keep the drain covers cleared throughout our village.

I attended an event put on by Rural Warwickshire at Binley Woods village hall on 5/3/16 designed to help halls access funding and specialist insurance.

Meetings and Events: we held 6 formal meetings. For the rest of the 2015 year we put on the Harvest Supper and auction, Spooky Quiz and the Xmas Childrens party when all the children received a present from Father Christmas: our thanks to him for fitting us into his busy seasonal schedule.

In 2016 we had our New Years Day Walk and at the end of January a very successful Bier Fest when many took the opportunity to dress up and pretend to be Bavarians, enjoying German style food and drink along the way! Skittles was cancelled for lack of support but the annual Bluebell Walk took place on May day when the flowers were at their best, followed later in the month by the hall's Spring clean. On 23rd July we had the Extravaganza, themed on Shakespeare since it was the 400th anniversary of his death: many took their chance to act the Fool! The Boundary walk occurred on the 18th September in lovely warm early autumn sunshine.

Thanks to all the Committee members and their partners for helping to make these events successful and such fun.

In Addition: Thanks To Fred and Gerry Minshall for our Rural Cinema every month. To reflect our actual annual outgoings, the fee for the hall hire charged to the Cricket Club was increased and thanks to David Rodgers who sits on the Club's Committee for attending a meeting so we could explain our reasoning. The Book Club also donated money to offset the electricity cost when they held their meetings in the hall.

This has been my first year as Chair and I remain impressed by the willingness of members and villagers as a whole to contribute to our village community by their participation in and support for the above activities. Thanks for an enjoyable 15/16! Chris Smith 27/9/16