

## **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT year 2017 – 2018**

This last year has been a trouble free and quiet year for the Village Hall Committee since the AGM in June 2017 . With no matters requiring action, the second Committee Meeting required by our constitution was held by email in February 2018.

The outstanding issue facing the hall for this coming year is the retirement of Sue Sulkin as she moves outside the village. She has been our principal stalwart to the good running of the hall for around a quarter of a century. We have relied on her doing a multi-tasking job as Booking's Secretary and Treasurer, organizing work required and acting as the social and business secretary. Under her vigilant eye she has encouraging and overseen an ever increasing use of the hall both from the village and outside hirers. It is important to place on record how indebted not just the committee but the whole village are to her for her dedicated work over the last 2 to 3 decades. I suspect we will not be aware of just how much we miss all that she has done to keep the hall running so smoothly until she is no longer in the village to guide us.

We now need to find several Committee members to carry out the individual roles she has been taking care of. We are indebted to Ian and Katharine Scott for offering to take on the role of Booking Secretary and all that this entails under the new Privacy Act. We need to appoint a Social/business secretary who can also deal with the cleaner and gardener and a new Treasurer/Finance officer.

Thanks to Sue Sulkin, our finances continue to be healthy and we have been able to easily afford the cost of heating oil along with the regular expenses of Insurance, heating, lighting, cleaning, gardening and having the boiler and Fire Extinguishers serviced.

Similarly, our thanks and appreciation very much go out to Trevor and Jan Marpole who have so willingly responded to repair and maintenance issues throughout the year, and to the rest of the committee who have stepped in when required, particularly their efforts during the August repaint and clean up of the hall.

We have been caught up in the new Privacy Act and Jeremy Collins has done sterling work on creating an appropriate Privacy Policy with all its supporting documentation to be on the on the village website [www.Bucklandnewton.com](http://www.Bucklandnewton.com) before the required deadline of 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018. Our thanks are certainly due to Jeremy as this has been no mean feat for any small organization. The Privacy Policy is to be approved at this AGM and updated, if required, in future years,

Bookings have gone well with village use predominating, underpinned by our regular hirers of the Lunch Club, the Youth Club, the Village Café, Lydden Ladies, the Garden Club, the Little Goslings, the Art Classes and hugely popular exercise classes of Keep Fit, Pilates and Yoga. Artsreach has brought a string of very enjoyable evenings and really valuable remuneration to the Hall thanks to the efforts of Ian and Katharine Scott and Fran Parker.

From outside, elections, mini conferences and other celebrations and parties continue to provide a significant input to our budget. The hall is being well used throughout

the year which has enabled us to continue to keep our fees modest....very modest compared to village halls elsewhere in the local area....and thanks to freely given inhouse maintenance from within the committee, it is more than paying its way.

Overall all it has been a good past year for the Hall, thanks to all the efforts of all the Committee.

Signed .....Nicki Barker (Committee Chair)