

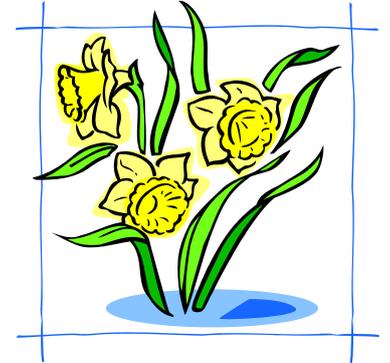


THE GROVE BUILDING, Mere, BA12 6DS

SPRING NEWS

2012

Periodically there are developments/issues that we would like to bring to your attention or to take your advice on. We thought an occasional newsletter might be a nice way to communicate rather than by letter or email.



LOOKING BACK:

2011 was the first year of our being able to offer joint use of both halls. We were delighted to welcome new users: Italian Art, Lip Reading and the Art group to join our list of Regular Users.

Beavers & Scouts came to join the Cubs on Monday nights, Pilates also started an additional Monday session, the Historical Society started a Tuesday daytime meeting and Castle Hill Quilters consolidated their bookings to weekly Thursday meetings.

In addition Tai-Chi, Women's Institute, Merely Women, Mother's Union, Friends Together and Garden Club continue to be major users.

We have further enhanced the facilities in the small hall with an additional projector screen and white board. Both are used extensively. We were also able to fund the long awaited construction of lockable cupboards for those Regular Users who wanted to store basic equipment on-site.

The year saw a major increase of the number of private functions, from children's parties to dance evenings along with a number of occasional fund raising events being staged by the supporters of Friend's of Fives Court, Friends of Mere Museum, Suchana and the Rosemary Goddard Centre.

We are grateful to all those groups and patrons who continue to use our facilities enabling us to maintain and offer such a wonderful facility for St Michaels Church and for the local community as a whole.

For those who may think Mere to be a quiet, sleepy town – think again! Practically every day of the week has some event or other going on in the Grove Building.



MAINTENANCE

The wooden floors in both the main hall and kitchen were machine sanded and sealed with wax-oil over the Christmas break to make sure you have a pleasant area to meet in.

We also started an on-going program of repairing/recovering the red fabric chairs.

Our lovely lady cleaners come every Monday morning and wave their magic wand but it is up to everyone who enters the building to ensure that it is left clean and tidy. There is no excuse for any group NOT sweeping up and washing over the surfaces which have been used - kitchen worktop and tables in particular please. All cleaning materials are housed in the kitchen area for your use.

2012

Bookings for the year are coming in fast and furious so it is imperative that you get your bookings in early. Most Regular Users have made their bookings for the year but if you haven't agreed your schedule for this year then please do it NOW and let us know! (Do check on the Calendar first!).

BOOKINGS and the CALENDAR

All bookings are now shown on the on-line calendar at www.grovebuilding.co.uk

Have you checked your bookings recently?

If you have dates booked and the detail is incorrect then you must make contact to avoid conflict or over charging. If your bookings are not shown then someone else may take your slot – please **DO NOT** assume anything, it only takes a phone call or email to sort things out! **If it is not on the Calendar then those dates/times are not yours! This position holds for all users whether there is a levy or not!** All charges this year will be based on the bookings shown on the calendar!



INVOICING



For all Regular Users this will continue as for last year – payment in arrears on a quarterly basis. Invoices will be sent out at the beginning of April, July, October and December (including up to end of December).

For all Casual Users, payment along with a signed 'Conditions of Hire' and your 'Booking Form' (both available from the web site) should be submitted 2 weeks prior to the event.

QUEEN'S SILVER JUBILEE

We are considering organising a *QUIZ Night* on the evening of *Saturday 16th June* in the hope that all our Regular and Casual Users and the community as a whole would wish to join us. Wine, food and a light-hearted get together. Would you like to attend such an event? Please let any of the committee know what you think.

SEEKING YOUR VIEWS

We are a mere group of volunteers trying to do our best in making sure that the community has an accessible, pleasant facility to use.

Is there any way that we could improve things? (Perhaps something we have not as yet thought of) Do let us know please if you have any bright ideas.



LIGHTING

Just in case you use the building in the hours of darkness and are not aware; there is a light over the front door for your use. On entering the front door, to the right there is a white plastic box with a 'glowing' ring of blue light – Press firmly in the middle – et voila! It goes off by itself after about 15mins.



This newsletter can also be found on our web site.

As chairman of the Management Committee I would like to thank Richard (Bookings Secretary and general factotum) for producing this newsletter. The committee works hard to ensure you have a clean, welcoming and fully functional facility to use. We welcome any suggestions you may have for improvements to the building although we cannot guarantee to be able to afford to implement them all.

Peter Knapp (Chair)

The current committee comprises:

Peter Knapp (Chairman), Judy Bickerstaff (Treasurer), Richard Jefferies (Bookings Secretary)
Chris Bixby (Secretary), Judy Avory (Provisioning), Peter Platt-Higgins, Isabel Howell