

Life Returns to the “New Normal” when the Hall re-opens in August 2020

The Village Hall is Now Open

Having been closed since 23rd March, we are pleased to report that the Village Hall re-opened on 3rd August, albeit with additional restrictions and conditions. The maximum number permitted in the Hall is currently 25 and exercise activities (pilates, yoga, fitness, dance classes etc) are limited to 13. Private social events are not permitted for groups of more than six while the new 'rule of six' is in place (although there are a few exceptions). In line with Government guidance, face coverings are now required by everyone while they are in the Hall, although those taking part in exercise activities may remove them whilst undertaking their activity *“if they feel it would negatively impact their ability to do so”*.

Regular groups should ensure they are aware of the additional conditions before finalising any plans to restart their activities and it may be sensible to discuss things with Jonathan Powe beforehand on Tel: (01963) 220021 or via chvhbookings@gmail.com.

During the enforced break, we have taken the opportunity to repaint the bar, the gent's loo and the disabled loo, and we brought in a professional team to give the building a thorough clean before re-opening. We have also purchased a new shed for the lawnmower and other equipment – the old one being past repair.

The Hall received a COVID-19 grant of £10,000 as part of the Government's scheme to help small businesses and community centres in the retail, hospitality and leisure sectors. This is particularly welcome as the income received in 2019 for the hire of the Hall was in excess of £9000 and this grant will help to compensate for the loss of Hall hire income whilst it has been closed, together with the expected reduced income over coming months, and has contributed towards the improvements mentioned above.

As many of you may know, for many years Betty and Len Grant have been running the Monday Short Mat Bowls Club and the Wednesday Arts and Crafts Group. Their weekly stewardship of both groups has enabled many people to take part in these activities, whilst at the same time raising worthwhile funds for the Village Hall. Betty and Len have now handed over the reins to others and we would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their years of service.

Jonathan Powe
Chairman