

# Swainby Village Hall March 2018 Newsletter

Welcome to the first Swainby Village Hall newsletter of 2018. The Management Committee would like to keep you informed about recent developments at the Village Hall. Information is available on the hall web-site ([swainbyvillagehall.com](http://swainbyvillagehall.com)) but for those who do not have access to the Internet this newsletter is printed. It is far more cost effective to supply the newsletter electronically and therefore we are combining this with the Whorlton News which is sent to residents by the Parish Council

## Village Hall Improvements

You will no doubt be aware of all the activity going on in the village hall, but have you seen the results of all that activity? It has been accepted for some time that the toilet facilities were lagging behind the rest of the building and in addition required some provision making for less abled hall users. The heating system, which was based on night storage heaters, was inefficient and difficult to operate effectively for the variety of times that users were in the building.

With this in mind the Committee developed plans to modernise all the facilities, provide a wheelchair accessible toilet, together with a totally new shower area, install oil fired central heating and hot water together with wall and roof insulation and secondary glazing to all the front windows of the building.

The cost of these improvements amounted to over £50,000 and we thought you might be interested to know how the work was funded.

About three quarters of the money spent was raised over the last 5 years. This was money which had accumulated from hiring out the building and the many social functions held during that time. Our sincerest thanks go to all those people who have given their support to enable this to happen.

The Committee received a magnificent donation of £10,000 from one anonymous resident to pay for installing the whole central heating system. The money was to have been a bequest but as it made sense to install the heating system while other works were taking place, it was made available at this time. What a marvellous gesture and one which is being enjoyed by everyone visiting the hall since the heating was installed. Our 'warmest' thanks go out to that very kind person.

The Committee also applied for and were successful in being awarded £6,100 from the National Lotter Awards for All scheme. This is to be used for specific works relating to improving the thermal efficiency of the building including loft insulation, cavity wall insulation and secondary glazing.

Another donation of £2,000 was received from a supporter in West Yorkshire. In addition, we were able to claim back over £750 from HMRC through the Gift Aid Scheme, proving that it is well worth UK taxpayers taking a minute to complete a Gift Aid declaration when making donations.

Throughout the project a focused and committed team of tradesmen has supported the Committee. Our thanks go to **Bod of Sutcliffe Building Contractors** who led the main construction work and coordinated the sub-contractor teams. **Rochester Heating & Plumbing, Contech Electrical, Maynard Joinery** and **Carpetcraft** deserve a special mention. **Howden Joinery Co** and **Jewson** donated goods to the project, saving hundreds of pounds. Thanks to you all for your generosity.

## Village Hall finances

The Committee maintains a minimum bank balance of £5,000 to cater for contingencies, the recent spending has brought us very close to this amount. The priority now is to start to rebuild the depleted funds and for this we need your continued help and support. Many people are very generous with their time and money when it comes to supporting the Village Hall and it is important for everyone to understand how much this is appreciated.

## Film Club

During 2017 the Swainby Film Club was founded. The main aim of the club is to provide entertainment, within the community, at reasonable cost and in sociable surroundings. The Film Club is non-profit making.

Thirty four members signed up and paid subscriptions for the first season of films. During the first four screenings the average attendance has been 30 people. This includes a few non-members who chose to pay at the door. Getting the right type of films to show is very much trial and error and the initial programme has since been refined to reflect members preferences. See the website for more information. Why not give the TV a rest one night and come along and watch a film with your neighbours or friends. There are always plenty of seats and drinks are available. Even popcorn!

### **Social Evening 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb**

I am sure everybody who attended this sell out event will agree the evening was a huge success.

The proceedings flowed with Maureen Stonehouse's great niece Olivia entertaining us with some of her favourite songs. Maureen and her team of cooks provided the delicious pies for the Pie & Peas Supper. Paul Heritage encouraged more people to 'Play Your Cards Right'. There was a quiz, a couple of games of bingo and of course a raffle.

The Committee would like to thank all those who attended the function for their generosity. The evening made a profit of £880. We would also like to extend our appreciation to those people who generously donated prizes for the raffle and the games.

### **Swainby Village Hall web site**

Last year the Village Hall developed its own independent web site. The address of the web site is [swainbyvillagehall.com](http://swainbyvillagehall.com) (don't forget the .com). If you haven't yet used the web-site why not check it out. You can even read this newsletter on the site if you prefer. If you are not sure how to access it, or how to get the best out of the site then please get in touch and we will help you through it.

### **Future Events**

To help maintain the community spirit of Swainby, the Village Hall Committee have recently introduced many new activities. Live performances of bands and singers have attracted residents and people from outside the Village to the Hall. There are already a number of regular activities such as Dancing, Pilates, Knit & Natter, The WI and Local History.

The 2018 Calendar includes:

- |                              |                                    |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ▪ April 20th                 | - Colin Holt Band with Snake Davis |
| ▪ May 12th                   | - Coffee Morning with Plants       |
| ▪ July 21 <sup>st</sup>      | - Themed Coffee Morning            |
| ▪ August 26th                | - Classic Cars                     |
| ▪ Oct 20th                   | - Curry Night                      |
| ▪ Nov (date to be confirmed) | - Brass Band Concert               |
| ▪ Dec (date to be confirmed) | - Sounds United sing Christmas     |

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If you would like to receive your copy of the newsletter electronically and/or if you require help with the village hall web site please supply the following information

YES I WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE AN ELECTRONIC COPY OF THE VILLAGE HALL NEWSLETTER

*Please tick box*

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

YES I WOULD LIKE SOMEBODY TO SHOW ME HOW TO USE THE VILLAGE HALL WEB SITE

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No \_\_\_\_\_

**Ring 01642 700 302 or Return your completed form to 106 High Street Swainby or the Village Hall**