

Village Halls News and Information

Issue 32
December
2008

Produced by

Helena Stubbs
Village Halls Adviser
Derbyshire Rural
Community Council
Church Street
Wirksworth
Derbyshire
DE4 4EY

Tel/Email: 01629 821925
h.stubbs@derbysrcc.org.uk

Helen Faraday
Village Halls Administrator
Tel/Email: 01629 821928
h.faraday@derbysrcc.org.uk

Inside this issue:

Awards for All Changes Community Payback	2 2
Energy Auditing Event Derbyshire Link Derbyshire Dales CVS Training Workshops	3 3 3 3
BIG Lottery Fund—Big Thinking Fund Raising Concerts Village Hall Info Sheets	4 4 4 4
National Tree Week Big Lottery Successes	5 5
Greening your Community Building	6

Egginton's New Hall

On 3rd October, the residents of Egginton in South Derbyshire celebrated the official opening of their newly transformed village hall. Providing the only meeting place in the village, the hall has been totally refurbished and a new larger hall has been added in order to cope with the increasing demands of village life.



The original Hall, built in 1857 was acquired for the village in 1929 and is run through a Trust by a board of Trustees. Construction on the project started in March 2008 and completed on budget and on time in September 2008.

The project has taken over 10 years in the planning and now completed, provides adequate facilities for both the local community and the adjacent primary school. Previously, week day bookings for local people were restricted as the premises was used as additional class rooms but now the additional space allows multi-use during the day.

As well as the new classroom, the project comprises of a comfortable meeting room for use throughout the day, a large main hall for gatherings, celebrations or other of activities with a well fitted kitchen and new lavatories.

Without the support of a substantial legacy from local resident Geoff Wilson who died in 2001, the new Memorial Hall would not have been built. Having lived in Egginton for 18 years, he willingly joined in with village life and was always ready to help others. His legacy provided the core funding for the project along with many generous donations from local individuals and funds from grant giving organisations.

These included Egginton Parish Council, South Derbyshire District Council, WREN, Biffaward, DALGS, Awards for All, Toyota, East Midlands Airport, Rolls Royce and Egginton Primary School.

The Chair of Trustees, Steve Higgins, says, "It has been a long journey to get to today, but we have created something of which we are all very proud. I am sure that it will be greatly valued by today's residents and by future generations".

Important - Changes to Awards for All



The Awards for All programme will change from April 2009. This popular small grants programme will no longer operate as Awards for All, but instead, small grant schemes will be introduced under the umbrella of the main Lottery distributors.

Awards for All is currently funded jointly by Arts Council England, Big Lottery Fund, Heritage Lottery Fund and Sport England, but from 1st April 2009 each of the lottery distributors supporting the scheme will have their own small grants programmes up and running, meaning that applicants will have four separate and more tailored programmes of funding to apply to.

The Big Lottery Fund will run their own, new version of Awards for All, awarding grants of £300 to £10,000 to local communities for 2009—10. The programme will retain its current broad eligibility and straightforward application process. Projects with a specific art, sport or heritage outcome should direct their applications to these other funders' small grants programmes. Look at www.lotteryfunding.org.uk for more information about these programmes and the changes as and when it becomes available.

Applications under the current Awards for All arrangements can be made up to 31st March 2009.

Derbyshire Probation Service - Community Payback



Do you sometimes need extra help to get a job done and there are not enough volunteers when you need them most? Community Payback may be able to provide a solution.

Derbyshire Probation Service operate and manage teams of offenders across the county who are serving Community Orders. Last year they organised and supervised over 165,600 hours of unpaid work in Derbyshire under the Government's Community Payback Scheme, worth over £886,000 to local communities.

Groups of offenders work under full supervision in teams of between 6– 8 offenders on a wide range of projects. In the summer months, mainly outdoor work is carried out such as fence repairs, litter picking, bulb planting, overgrown shrubbery, strimming, mowing, ground clearance, etc. whilst indoor work such as painting, decorating, cleaning and restoration work is generally undertaken during winter months.

All that is required of the Village Hall committee is to welcome the team to their premises and to fully explain why the project is being carried out who the beneficiaries will be. The hall will also need to provide the necessary equipment and materials, but for some larger activities, the Probation Service can supply some equipment, such as scaffolding for reaching heights. If you do arrange to have Community Payback services at your hall, we recommend that you notify your insurance company in advance of any work being carried out and we also suggest that you inform your Parish or Town Council so that they are aware of the proposed dates and activities.

Last year, Chaddesdon Scout Association benefited from this service when they had a major problem with graffiti artists defacing their building. Community Payback repainted the exterior of the building in preparation for an anti-graffiti covering being applied.

For more information about the work of the Community Punishment team in your area please contact Neil Wagstaff on Tel: 01629 582148 or email neil.wagstaff@derbyshire.probation.gsi.gov.uk
Website www.dpsonline.org.uk

How to Energy Audit your Community Building - March 4th



We have organised an **Energy Auditing Event** in response to the survey carried out by DRCC last year on the training needs of village halls regarding energy efficiency. Many community halls are old and tend to be energy inefficient making them less inviting to potential hirers in the winter months. As a result, fuel bills are generally high and management committees are finding it increasingly difficult to keep up with rising energy bills.

This is a great opportunity for hall representatives to learn the skills of energy auditing a community building. This one-day training event will be run by Community Action for Energy (CAfE), which is a training programme from the Energy Saving Trust. This event is completely free and includes a light lunch.

The event will run from **10.00am to 4.00pm** on **Wednesday 4th March** at the **Ashford-in-the-Water War Memorial Institute**.

If you would like to book a place or find out further details of the event, please contact Helen Faraday on tel: 01629 821928. Places are limited, so I urge you to book early. For further details, see the enclosed flyer.

A funding sheet on '**Grants for Renewable Energy Schemes**' is also available upon request from DRCC.

Derbyshire LINK

Local Involvement Networks or LINK is a new Government initiative to enable local people and communities across the country to have a real input into their local Health and Social Care services. New Government regulations require all service providers to respond to any issues and concerns raised by the LINK. Local Involvement Networks pick up from where Patient and Public Involvement Forums left off, but with a wider brief and more power to hold providers to account.

If possible, can you please display the enclosed LINK leaflet on the hall's notice board. This will promote the service to the wider community and explain how people can get involved in efforts to improve these services for the benefit of everyone.

For further information you can contact Derbyshire LINK on tel: 01246 558924 or refer to the website: www.derbyshirelink.org.uk

Training Programme November 2008—March 2009

Derbyshire Dales Council for Voluntary Service (CVS) is promoting a series of training workshops which are free and available to everyone who is involved with a voluntary or community group in the Derbyshire Dales. Topics range from Developing a Financial Strategy for your organisation, Managing Meetings, Legal Structure for your organisation to What's an LSP?

These informal sessions are free and groups can attend as many as they wish, but booking is essential. They are based either at Ashbourne and Wirksworth Leisure Centres or St.Oswald's Church Hall in Ashbourne.

For further details and information on the full training schedule, please contact Neil Moulden on tel: 01629 810901 or email Neil at: neil@ddcvs.org.uk

Big Thinking - your say on the future of lottery funding in the East Midlands

BIG Lottery Fund are giving people the opportunity to have their say on how lottery funds are allocated for the next six years. Big Thinking is seeking views to help them plan and shape future funding policies which could include community buildings. This will guide how they award funds to the projects that make the biggest impact with lottery money.

Lessons will have been learnt from BIG's former Community Buildings Programme. If as many people as possible take part in the consultation advocating the need for community buildings funding, it should help to influence the chance of future support for village halls.

Have your say by visiting: www.big-thinking.org.uk (between 17 November 2008 - 27th February 2009).

Alternatively, book yourself a place at the free Big Thinking event on 4th February in Leicester. Places are limited, so please email: enquiries.em@biflotteryfund.org.uk by 21st January to request a place.

Fund Raising Concerts

Toby and Wilson are an acoustic duo playing country and blues music based in the Staffordshire Moorlands. They are offering village halls and registered charities the rare opportunity to host a free concert to raise funds for their organisation.

In 2008, they helped to raise over £8,000 for venues and charitable causes hosting these concerts that were mainly based in Staffordshire. They are now keen to present future concerts in Derbyshire and across the country for no fee, apart from their travelling expenses. Their primary aim is to provide entertainment to good audiences, which in turn will help to promote their music and help to market their CD along the way.

For further details and to view their bookings calendar refer to their website: www.breezeandwilson.com. The duo also have links on facebook and Myspace where you can view their performances.

Village Hall Information Sheets

Please note that four of ACRE's 'Village Hall Information' sheets have recently been withdrawn. If you have copies of these sheets, please be aware that the information provided in them is now out of date.

These are VHIS3: Post Offices in Village Halls, VHIS23: Village Halls & Community Centres—funding their provision, VHIS 30: The Village Hall Heating and VHIS 31: The Village Hall Floors. We will notify you when replacements are available.

In total, there are 38 Village Hall Information Sheets developed nationally by ACRE's Village Halls Service. These are regularly reviewed and updated as necessary in line with changes in legislation and other circumstances.

These are available free of charge to halls that subscribe to DRCC's Village Halls service. For non members a small fee is charged for each information sheet requested and they can be distributed either electronically or by hard copies sent through the post.

The full list can be viewed on our website: www.derbyshirercc.org.uk

National Tree Week

Derbyshire County Council teamed up with a number of district councils and the Forestry Commission to hand out thousands of free trees to enhance and conserve the local environment. National Tree Week started from 7th December which launched the initiative to distribute up to 250 trees or shrubs to participating schools, parish councils and community groups, or up to 150 to individuals. Available are Ash, Crab Apple, English Oak, Field Maple, Holly, Rowan, Silver Birch, Lime, Wild Cherry, Blackthorn, Dog Rose, Guelder Rose, Hawthorn, Hazel and Spindle. This offer is available up to 27th Feb 2009.

Application forms are available through Call Derbyshire on 08456 058 058. For further details contact Stephanie Burkinshaw on 01629 580000 ext: 59677 or email: stephanie.burkinshaw@derbyshire.gov.uk

Congratulations - Big Lottery Success!

Three Derbyshire Dales villages have had their Christmas wishes granted, with a grant offer from the Big Lottery Fund to give their community halls a new lease of life. Applications to BIG's 'Community Buildings Fund' has proved fruitful for Parwich Memorial Hall, Clifton Smith Hall and Over Haddon Village Hall with the announcement of capital grants to fund building projects that are economically, socially and environmentally sustainable. The fund aims to help create and improve facilities that can offer a wide range of services and activities to a broad range of local people.

Each of these projects has been designed to incorporate renewable energy systems which will help towards their future environmental and economical sustainability.

Parwich, which has been awarded £476,650 towards the cost of demolishing and rebuilding Parwich Memorial Hall, has received more money than any other project in the country. The project will create a multi-purpose building with a modern kitchen and toilets and an extra meeting room and storage facilities. The total project costs are in the region of £850,000 and every effort is now being made in order to raise sufficient match funding.

Clifton Smith Hall has been awarded £140,000 for their project to renovate and extend the tired Clifton Smith Hall. In recent years the hall had fallen into a poor state of repair and the local play group and pensioners' lunch club could no longer use the hall. The extension will house a new kitchen and store room.

Over Haddon Village Hall will be demolished and rebuilt with a grant of £346,976. The new building will have an additional meeting room, an upgraded kitchen, increased storage space and greater accessibility for people with disabilities. Modern heating and insulation will also be installed. The new hall, with up-to-date facilities and a more flexible interior will ensure continuation of the village hall for future generations.

Congratulations also to:

Findern Village Hall was awarded £3,500 from WREN to replace the hall's deteriorated windows. The original wooden frames have now been replaced with new PVC double glazed windows which has improved the hall's appearance and greatly improves energy efficiency. The new windows will be easier to maintain, reduce heating bills and increase the comfort for user groups. The village hall management committee contributed £1,100 towards the overall cost.

Greening your Community Building

A series of free events are being run by bassac and Every Action Counts. bassac is a membership organisation of over 90 community-based organisations nationwide. Their members provide a range of different services, offer development support and host smaller community initiatives to increase opportunities for local people by strengthening their local neighbourhoods.

The events aim to develop delegates' understanding of climate change, the impact we are having on our environment and how we can change this. The events listed below will explore how delegates can make changes within their own organisations and buildings and how they can encourage others to do so.

Friday 23rd January - Voluntary Action Stoke on Trent, The Dudson Centre, Hope Street, Hanley, Stoke on Trent, ST1 5DD

Wednesday 28th January - Belgrave Peepul Centre, Orchardson Avenue, Leicester, LE4 6DP

Tuesday 3rd February - Gloucestershire Resource Centre, City Works, Alfred Street, Gloucester, GL1 4DF

For further information and to book a place, call tel: 07827 822409 or email Jan at jan@bassac.org.uk

Email Contacts

If you would like to receive future newsletters or the Village Hall Information Sheets in an electronic format by email, could you please contact Helen Faraday with your email address. Having an electronic format will enable the management committee to easily distribute information and news to more of the hall's trustees.

In addition, we can disseminate relevant news and information to village hall committees more readily and efficiently, especially for items of interest in between the quarterly newsletters.

Future events for your diary: Energy Auditing Event - March 4th

DERBYSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Church Street

Wirksworth

Derbyshire

DE4 4EY

Tel: 01629 824797 Fax: 01629 826053

www.derbyshirercc.org.uk

Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee

Registered in England

Registered Charity No. 1061531 Company No. 3320404