

VILLAGE HALL REPORT FOR THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

26 MARCH 2019

We have had another busy year at Pauntley Village Hall, with improvements continuing to take place thanks to generous donations from the Pauntley Real Ale Festival, Ecclesiastical Insurance, Unite the Union Messier Bugatti Dowty Branch, and Pauntley Parish Council. In the kitchen, we have had a new serving hatch installed and additional cupboards, with our existing cupboards being re-fronted to match. We have also purchased a new fridge freezer and a new microwave. In the main hall, we have had new sound equipment installed to give us a better sound quality for our film evenings. We have also been able to replace our old garden bench with a new one. We also thank Maurice once again for keeping our grounds looking good, despite the efforts of the moles to undermine his good work.

Our events throughout the past year have been many and varied. Our film evenings continue to be popular and we have organised six over the last year, with titles including Darkest Hour, Mamma Mia Here We Go Again and The Greatest Showman. Quiz evenings have also been well-attended and we have introduced some new events such as our Gardening Bring and Buy Sale and Coffee Morning, a Fish and Chips and Sea Shanties evening, and our Christmas Party with Santa and his elves coming along to give out presents. Skittles matches with Upleadon continue to take place twice a year and Pauntley is at the moment holding the trophy, but that might all change at our next match on 20 April. Our Friday coffee mornings go from strength to strength and we welcome anyone who is able just to drop in for coffee and a chat on the first and third Fridays of the month. On the second and fourth Fridays, our walking group meets at the hall for walks in the parish and again, anyone is welcome to come along and join us. Pilates continues on a Monday morning and the Newent Senior Section Guides meet at the hall about twice a month. Both they and the local Brownies also camp here on occasions over the summer. We are now hoping to make the hall a venue for camping for guiding and scout groups county-wide.

We have a very full programme of events for the coming year, with film evenings to include Bohemian Rhapsody and The Favourite, a second Gardening Coffee Morning, quiz evenings, a summer ball and of course our Christmas Party. We are very grateful to all the residents of Pauntley, and also those from further afield, who come along to support our events and enable us not only to have an enjoyable evening but also to raise much-needed funds to keep our hall viable for the future. We could of course not do this without an energetic and hard-working group of volunteers who come together to make this all happen and I would like to thank them all on behalf of the village hall and the community for their hard work and enthusiasm.

Lesley Harding