



ROCK VILLAGE HALL



ROCK VILLAGE HALL NEWSLETTER

December 2024 / Issue 6

Welcome to issue 6 of Rock Village Hall Newsletter, thank you to those who have signed up to receive the newsletter and please continue to inform your neighbours and friends of how to sign up to the mailing list so we can continue to use it as a form of communication to the local community. Email rvhcoordinators@gmail.com to join.

Rock Village Hall News.

Play Area Improvements

On Saturday 19th October we held a public consultation for our proposal for the play area improvements, we displayed our current ideas for the improvements which include a trim trail for children age 5+ and multi use games area which is aimed more towards the older children. We are also still in the process of looking into options for flooring so the play area will be usable all year round. Thank you to those who came to the consultation, we are happy to report that no objections have been received and we are just awaiting a finalised quote for the equipment and then can start looking at grants to help fund the project. We encourage the community to support us in the fundraising process, we have currently raised £7737, which is a fantastic start but we have a long way to go! Thank you to everyone who has helped us get this far!

Essential Drainage Work

As you may be aware, the car park had to be closed from 18th November—22nd November for essential drainage works to be commenced. In recent bad weather we had two small floods in the kitchen and upon inspection it was identified that drainage work needed to be completed to divert rain water during heavy rain away from the village hall and to stop the flow of water travelling down the driveway and car park which has caused pot holes and channels in the carpark. On top of this, a soakaway was identified on the area of grass that leads to the kitchen loading space, this area has consistently got very boggy in the last few years and has had to be closed off to vehicle traffic and it was thought that drainage work here will also have a positive impact. Despite many set backs—including the rather large amount of snow we had.. the first stage of the work has now been completed, we need to await drier weather to sort out the grass area which will remain coned off until it is complete, then next steps are to look at drainage at the bottom of the ramp and sort drainage around the building where the hedges currently sit. We are hopeful that once all these jobs are complete the issues we have had will be rectified. We have tried to complete the work with minimal disruption, however work has to be completed during the week days which is a busy time for the hall, we are sorry for the inconvenience the closure of the car park caused to our hirers and users of the village hall.

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Thank you to those who came to the AGM on Friday 15th November, it was encouraging to see so many there and we hope you enjoyed the drinks and nibbles after. The hall is going from strength to strength at present and we thank all those who volunteer, whether that be in the management of the hall, organising and running events advertising or grounds and hall maintenance—without each and every one of you we would not be able to run in the way we do, so thank you. We'd also like to thank all those who support the hall by attending groups and events. We are always wanting to hear your feedback—what events would you like to see, is there a group you'd like to see run at the hall, is there something you think we could do better? Please email rvhcoordinators@gmail.com with your feedback and suggestions or pop a note in our post box!

What's Been On?

Mind Magician—Mentalist Show with Jay Adkins

After we received feedback that villagers wanted to see some variety in the evening events we decided to book a night with Jay Adkins for his mind magic show. Tickets were slow to sell, with several other events on locally on the same evening, however those who came had a great evening of being wow'd and full of mind blowing tricks—to this day we aren't sure how some of those tricks were done! Thanks to those who supported the evening and we are glad you had a good night!

Children's Halloween Party

The children's Halloween party was a busy one this year, with 26 spooky children attending! There was a craft section where they made ghosts and did some magic painting and colouring, a temporary tattoo station and of course the disco dancing went down well! All this was followed by food and finally a Halloween story to finish the party. A good afternoon was had by all! Thank you to Fran for organising the party, everyone who helped to put tables away and to Danny who came to help put up decorations and stayed to make hot drinks and tidy up.

Quiz Night

The latest quiz was held on 1st November in the village hall. It was very well attended with eighteen teams participating. There were 10 rounds in total, eight of the rounds consisted of ten questions. The two picture rounds had twelve each. Teams also had a Joker Card which could be played on one of the rounds 2-5 & 7-9. This would double any score they achieved on their favoured subject.

1. Picture Round—Great British War Films
2. Science and Nature
3. Alpha Numeric
4. British Citizenship
5. Spot
6. Picture Round—Flags
7. Music Round— The Hitlist
8. History
9. Film and Television
10. Double or Quits

Every team scored well on Great British War Films and the Alpha Numeric rounds. History and Science and Nature proved to be more difficult for some. At the break the raffle was drawn and the teams got to enjoy the drinks and nibbled they had brought along. Round ten was a double or quits round. Teams were not obligated to answer every question, but for everyone they got correct they got 2 points. However, the downside was if they got any question they'd answered wrong, they lost the score for the whole of round 10. Eight teams wiped out and the best score achieved was twelve (2x6) for this round. The quiz winners and runners up both survived this final challenge.

The maximum score possible was 124. The eventual winners Roquefort scored 95 and the runners up Shooting Stars 92. The booby prize went to Team K with 50 points, who seemed pleased with their Kit Kat prize.

A big thank you to Barry and Dave Merchant for organising the quiz, to everyone who attended, helped out and donated raffle prizes. At the end of the evening £291.50 had been raised. This will be put towards improvements in the children's play area at the village hall.

What's Been On? Continued...

Christmas Bingo Night

Christmas bingo night went ahead as planned, with the car park being opened with just an hour to go until opening time! Bingo was led by the brilliant Celia Smith again and some fantastic prizes were won. We had a twist on the normal bingo evenings and we were joined by Chris Raynor who did a Christmas special Rock 'n' Roll bingo round in the interval which went down well and prizes were happily received by the two winners! Thank you to Celia and Chris for running the bingo rounds, and to Fran for organising the bingo. We raised ... which will go towards the Children's Christmas Party on Saturday 14th December.

Rock Christmas Fair

We held our third Christmas Fair on Saturday 23rd November, and what a day it was weatherwise! The weather wasn't the nicest, but we didn't let that stop us from having a thoroughly enjoyable day. We had a great variety of stalls selling items such as macrame decorations, jams, hand sewn items, hand made glass Christmas tree ornaments, children's Christmas items, plus LOTS more! Thank you to all our stall holders who braved the wind and rain and brought a fantastic variety of food, items and gifts to the fair and for the many, many generous donations of raffle prizes - we had a lot of happy winners! (All winners have now been contacted) Thank you to Dutson's Bar for the yummy mulled wine and hot chocolate. Thank you to Steph and her team of volunteers who served up some festive baps, hot drinks and cakes. Thank you to Fran and Sue for running the raffle and most importantly thank you to everyone who came and had a look around the fair, brought from stalls, supported the raffle and chatted with us - we hope you all had a great time!

Events Team

We have set up an 'Events Team' to help organise and run events in 2025 onwards. This team was set up so everyone can have an opportunity to volunteer to organise and run events without needing to join the village hall management committee. We are extremely excited to say that we have had 13 people volunteer to be part of this team! All have some exciting new ideas and lots of enthusiasm and we look forward to what next year will bring! Everyone is welcome to join—please contact Emma at rvhcoordinators@gmail.com if you're interested.



Future Events

Children's Christmas Party

Saturday 14th December. 2.30pm—5.30pm

Calling all children and grandchildren of Rock Parish! Book a space at our children's Christmas party which is free to all children and grandchildren of Rock Parish. There will be craft by Rainbow Books, entertainment, food and drink and a visit from Santa himself! Children must be booked onto this party, please text Fran on 07527 541400 and book a space by Saturday 7th December.

Family Christmas Event

Sunday 15th December. 3.30—6.30pm

Join us for an unforgettable festive celebration! The hall will be feeling very Christmassy with twinkling lights and our lovely Christmas tree, enjoy a mulled wine or hot chocolate and get ready for an afternoon of festive fun! The afternoon will consist of a performance from a professional singer who will get us warmed up and ready for a performance by local choir the Rock Warblers and then followed by a traditional carol service sing a long. Dutson's Bar will be there selling some festive drinks and a few of the usual villager favourite drinks and Steph will be selling some cobs. There will be activities for the children provided by Rock Church and also a raffle with some fantastic prizes up for grabs!

This is a free event for the community—no need to book, just turn up!

Quiz Night

Friday 31st January

We will be holding another quiz night in January, hosted by Jay Adkins who hosts popular, traditional paper/pen quizzes across the Wyre Forest. No need to book, just turn up and pay on the night, teams of up to 6 people and £2.50 per person. Please feel free to bring your own drinks and nibbles. See you then!

Community Coffee Morning

Saturday 15th February. 10.30am—12noon.

Join us for the first community coffee morning of 2025! Steph will be back with her team of volunteers to bring us a more regular coffee morning—with the hope of a coffee morning every month (except January, July, August and December). Of course there will be her popular bacon baps, cakes and hot drinks! Please contact Steph on 07895 623048 to pre-order a bacon bap and avoid disappointment.

Playground Improvement Fundraising

We are continuing to fundraise for our playground improvements, to date we have raised a fantastic **£8028.50**

Any proceeds from the community coffee mornings and any other village hall events will be added to the fundraising total. We welcome children of the village to help us with our fundraising—whether that be a cake sale, car boot sale or sponsored walk—all efforts will get us to our target quicker!



Volunteer of the Month



September

Steph has brought community coffee mornings to Rock Village Hall, with the delicious cakes and bacon baps! Most recently she helped raised a considerable amount of money for the children's play area by running the refreshments at Rock Show, which was approved of by all! Her enthusiasm to make an effort for events for the village hall is outstanding and she's never short of an idea or suggestion! Thank you Steph!

October

Fran has been part of Rock Village Hall committee since the new hall opened in 2007, she has organised and ran Halloween and Christmas parties for the children and grandchildren of Rock to enjoy for over a decade! This includes fundraising for the parties so everyone can attend for free! As well as children's parties Fran helps organise and run the villager music nights and is always willing to help at other events such as fairs, the toddlers playgroup and bingo nights! Fran is always helping to fundraise, most recently by running the well loved 'fun dog show' at Rock Show. It's clear to see that Fran is a big part of the committee and massively appreciated by us all! Thank you Fran!

November

Dave has been a member of the Rock Village Hall committee for approximately 25 years, being a dedicated Chairman for around 4 and a half years. He took on the role of Chair at a difficult time and navigated the hall and the committee through Covid. His leadership has helped to see big changes in recent years which contributes greatly towards the hall's current stability and success. Dave takes on many roles for the hall, from admin tasks to maintenance and grounds work and is always willing to help when it is needed. Thank you Dave!

December

Barry has been Treasurer for Rock Village Hall for over 30 years.. that's a lot of hard work and commitment having the tricky job of managing and tracking the hall's finances! Without Barry's support throughout the years the hall wouldn't be in the position it is in today—its quite the achievement! As well as all the financial side, Barry organises and runs the very popular quiz nights which are welcomed and well loved by many and he will always offer help and support wherever he can. Barry is in the process of handing over his Treasurer role to the next great volunteer—we thank Barry greatly for his commitment over the years and hope he can continue supporting the hall .. Just with less of a role! Thank you Barry!

A Thank You to Some Treasured Members of our Committee.

The Village Hall is a place to be celebrated, it is a place where laughter echoes during community events, where friendships are forged, and where memories are made. None of this would be possible without the unwavering dedication and tireless effort of some remarkable individuals.

On the behalf of the Village Hall and the committee, I would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to our long standing Village Hall committee members who have recently stepped down from their roles or are in the process of doing so. David Hall has announced he will be stepping down as a member of the committee and will now begin a hand over period . Richard Hall has stepped down as Secretary, David Griffiths has stepped down as Chairman and Barry Merchant is in the process of stepping down as Treasurer, all three will continue to be members of the committee. Your commitment over the years has been nothing short of inspiring. You have poured your time, energy and passion into ensuring that our hall remains a vibrant hub for all of us—a place where everyone, young and old, can come together to celebrate, learn and grow.

From organising events that bring joy to our community, to maintaining the hall and advocating for its needs, your contributions have truly made a difference. You have not only enhanced the experiences we share here, but have also fostered a sense of belonging and unity within our village.

Thank you for your countless hours of service, your innovative ideas, and your willingness to go above and beyond. Your hard work has enriched our lives and strengthened the bonds that tie us together. The legacy you have created will undoubtedly inspire future generations to carry on this vital work.

As we look ahead, let us continue to build upon the foundation you have laid. Together, we can ensure that our Village hall remains a beacon of community spirit for many years to come.



Thank
You

And Finally.....

As the end of 2024 draws closer, we'd like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their efforts and support in the past year which have resulted in an incredibly successful year!

*Wishing you all a very
Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year!*



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Have Your Say!

We welcome your views and suggestions for future events, improvements, what you'd like to see the village hall do next...

Please email any feedback or suggestions to :

rvhcoordinators@gmail.com