

Knowstone Parish Hall Annual Activity Report 2022

This Platinum Jubilee year has been a busy and successful for the Parish Hall team. After the two quiet pandemic years we were back to a full schedule of activities for our community.

We are fortunate to have committed members in our team who are willing to take time from their busy lives for the benefit of their community. The current Committee members are:

Chairperson: Tiina Paju-Pomfret
 Treasurer: Wendy Sweet
 Secretary: Liz Barrett
 Members: Ken Dykes – resigned Sep 2022
 David Barrett
 Catherine Whatcott
 Jeanie Hicks – resigned Jan 2023
 John Pomfret
 Phil Dey (maintenance)
 Gill Smith (communications)
 Martin Smith (maintenance)

In 2022 we successfully delivered the following schedule of events:

EVENT	DESCRIPTION
Coffee mornings	These are always well received with delicious cakes on offer. Our two charity ones we for the Devon Air Ambulance and for the Ukraine. The rest were for our own charity.
Film Nights	We tried a new concept this year: film with hog roast and a bar. After two events it was clear that they were not profitable for the caterers due to low numbers, so after some deliberation we decided to stop organising film nights.
Easter Bingo	Like the Christmas Bingo event but with an Easter twist on the boxes was well attended.
Games Afternoon	We tried a new idea for a family friendly games afternoon and provided a variety of games along with Scalextric. Sadly, this did not draw much audience.
Village Platinum Jubilee Celebration (Instead of the Summer Fair)	Without a doubt this was our biggest event of the year with a Parish Walk (people, dogs, horses) and the main event; Street Party which ended up being in the Hall as weather was cold and rainy. The main event also contained competitions for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best decorated front of house (judged by Reg Howe) • Photograph of Knowstone now (public vote) • Best Jubilee table centre piece (judged by Mark & Sarah Dodson) • Jubilee themed cupcake decorations (judged by Mark & Sarah Dodson) All residents under 17 years received a souvenir mug. Lots of fun was had during the celebration and I can say that the Hall team can be proud of events well organised.
Quiz Night	Another new event suggested and hosted by Kevin and Soo Tompkins from the village. The night was a great success with a good turnout, lots of competitiveness and laughter.
Christmas Bingo	As our traditional Christmas Bingo was back again we had a record number of people turn up and fill the Hall. Somebody was heard commenting that the Knowstone one has the best prizes – our special meat boxes were packed with delicious local meat thanks to Stanburys, Caves and Swanseys! A great evening of Christmas Cheer.
Together with the Parish Church Committee	

EVENT	DESCRIPTION
Harvest Festival supper and auction	Another traditional event was back, and the team helped with setup, decorations, food and service. The Harvest was well attended, and delicious food enjoyed by all.
Christmas Afternoon Tea & Fair	We helped raise funds for the Parish Church and had a very successful day offering lovely cakes & refreshments. Thelma's Christmas stall also did very well with her lovely wreaths and other decorations.

We have started to use the Knowstone Facebook (FB) page for advertising and sharing posts across similar local FB pages. We also now have a dedicated person looking after the communications and advertising.

Hall is also used for regular events organised by various parishioners. These include:

- Pilates classes
- Book club
- Line dancing (new)
- Crafting evenings (new).

Hall maintenance has become an important discussion topic. We have identified that there is problem with the stone wall at the front and are currently in process of investigating the best course of action. It is likely to require a structural engineer to assess and possibly a significant investment to rectify. We are planning to apply for the Platinum Jubilee Village Hall Improvement Grant to fund this. The maintenance team have already sorted out the gas tank issue and we now have new pipe from the tank to the hall. They have also replaced lights with more energy efficient one. We are also looking to improve our kitchen facilities to bring them to a modern standard.

Here's to a successful year full of fun and beneficial activities. We are looking forward to welcoming new team members and anyone who wants to come and get involved in any of our events and activities.

Tiina Paju-Pomfret

Chairperson