

COUNTESS WEAR VILLAGE HALL

JUNE 2021
NEWSLETTER



An update from the Committee.....

Community Survey:

We launched a community survey in May in order to find out more about local views of the Hall and how it should be used. It's great to see the return of some of our regular groups, and we will be adding to our programme of events as we act on the survey feedback. The winners of the £25 vouchers will be announced at the AGM.

To keep up to date about classes or events, please check the website and facebook, or let us know if you'd like to be added to our email mailing list.

Many thanks to Exeter City Council for the financial grants that have supported us during lockdown. The restart grant will be a great help as we welcome you back into the Hall for community events during the coming months.

Trails:

February Half Term saw the first ever **Countess Wear Scarecrow Trail**. From first thing on the Monday morning there were children clutching scarecrow maps with big smiles on their faces. Throughout the week scarecrow hunters of all ages kept coming in all weathers. It was a half term tonic for families locked down and weary of home schooling. We were amazed at the imagination and creativity that went into the scarecrows. Special mention goes to the Tally Ho pub for their family of scarecrows. A firm favourite with the children was the chap sitting in his canoe on the wharf at the bottom of Lime Kiln Lane! Big thanks to all those talented residents for producing so many fantastic scarecrows and generating an amazing **£1,070.17** for Hospiscare.

The Community Easter Trail was a chance for children (and adults!) to get creative once again. Windows and doorsteps were adorned with bunting of bunnies, Easter themed pictures, flowers and decorated eggs. Eggs large and small were hanging from trees and even a cheeky Humpty Dumpty scarecrow was to be found hiding amongst the daffodils. Thanks again to everyone who took part, raising over **£100** for the Cinnamon Trust.

**Annual General Meeting
Friday, 2nd July at 7.30pm**

CALLING ALL RESIDENTS

There are three **Committee vacancies** to fill: we need two more **Committee members** and one more **Trustee**.

Come and join a lively team and help us to maximise the use of our community venue to the benefit of all.

The AGM will be followed by a talk by Anya Oliver from the Devon Wildlife Trust:

*Northbrook Park and beyond:
DWT in the Riverside and Ludwell
landscape, the Northbrook stream,
and other work in Exeter.*



WHAT'S HAPPENING?

The Committee are working in partnership with The Tally Ho to install a **Defibrillator** in the coming months and a new **Touch Pad** door system to help improve access to the building.

Green Spaces in Countess Wear:

We've been asked to publicise a new initiative: an informal group of Countess Wear residents are interested in improving local green spaces via activities such as native wildflower planting, seed sowing and litter picks. The first action of the group has been to liaise with the Council to opt areas out of its Glyphosate spraying programme this summer. The more neighbours who can get involved, the more it'll be possible to achieve, so if you can lend a hand please get in touch and we'll connect you with the group.

THINGS TO LOOK FORWARD TO

The committee are looking forward to planning some new events later in the year, as we evaluate the results of the community survey. But some longstanding favourites will also feature, such as a Community Lunch and Book Swap, Halloween Trail, and Christmas events such as the Wreath Making Workshop.

Celebrations 2022: The Hall will celebrate its centenary next year at the same time as the UK celebrates the Queen's 70th Year Reign. Celebrations will take place during the June bank holiday and we'd like your ideas on what you'd like to do and see.

Serving the Community over 100 years: In 1922 the Village Hall was an ex-army dormitory hut adapted to memorialise WWI and to provide a community space for the wellbeing of residents. Following various modifications over the years, in 2016/7 that creaking and leaking 1922 building was replaced by the fine modern hall we have today.

The Village Hall is much more than the building and the committee are keen to gather information on the people who built it, as well as those who have managed and used it over the 100 years. Unfortunately the Village Hall has few records now for the 80 years to 2000 – only legal documents and photos of plays and pantos. We would be grateful to hear from residents whose families have documents, photos and memories of using the Hall or who can point us to possible sources of information. We would also welcome your ideas for marking the Centenary. Please make contact by email countesswearvillagehall@gmail.com or by phone to Tim Davies 01392 433427.

Hiring the Hall

Why not hire this super venue for your family party or business meeting? Get in touch and we can chat about your requirements.

Main Hall - £15 per hour
Meeting Room - £12.50 per hour
Use of Kitchen - £5 per rental



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