

Report for Tunbury Hall to APC for Year May 2015-16

Once again the Hall has been extremely busy with almost full occupancy at most times of the day or evening. All of our hirers have had busy years and have gained a lot from the activities that they have undertaken at the Hall.

The only major change to our groups is that Sue Burnham – Jones has retired from her role as Principal of the Bluebell School of Dance but is continuing to both teach and offer guidance to the pupils and instructors now running the school. In recognition for her many years of service to the local dance scene and of the huge sums that Bluebell School of Dance has raised for Demelza and other charities Sue was presented last year with the KALC Community Award by Peter Homewood then Chairman of Kent County Council and an Aylesford Parish Councillor at the APC offices at our last APC Annual Meeting in May 2015.

Perhaps the most significant activity has been that focussed on the Hall itself. Now with a new caretaker, Fred, a programme of preventative maintenance has been scheduled. So far this year we have replaced the fascias, soffits and gutters around the building with UPVC materials, cleared the overgrown vegetation from the sides and rear of the Hall and cut back on bushes at the front which were

encroaching on the drainage pipework. We have entered a contract of regular cleansing and inspection of the drains and pipes running to and from them, especially in the vicinity of the toilets and changing room areas. The contract is shared with APC the owners of the changing room facilities. In addition the sewage pumps have been checked, repaired and placed under a similar maintenance agreement. More recently under a loan facility from APC we are replacing the lights and fittings throughout the building to more efficient and economic styles of lighting. The building will receive its usual up-grading in terms of decoration and we are looking at how we will combat mis-use of the Hall flooring and make improvements for the comfort of all of our hirers.

The Hall now well over 25 years old is benefitting from replacement of out-dated and worn fittings and with the annual maintenance schedule now well in place should serve the local community for many years to come.

Malcolm Wright

Chairman Tunbury Hall Committee