

REPORT FROM TUNBURY HALL MAY 2018

Once again Tunbury Hall has been extremely busy with all of its users having made the most of its facilities. During the year our Caretaker had to retire through ill-health and it has proved impossible to replace him. Fortunately our cleaner stepped into the breach to add booking duties to her role and we have managed to get through the year. Various aspects of maintenance have been covered with the largest item being the sanding and re-polishing of the floor using our funds that APC kindly allocate to local village halls. Due to the active programme set up by our former Caretaker, Fred, the regular sewer & drainage matters, heating and PAT testing has been successfully undertaken.

It is with regret that I have to stand down as Chairman and APC Representative due to pressure of my business activities after several years in that role. I would like to thank all those members of the Tunbury Hall Committee who have made the role an interesting one and one where we are always looking to provide fulfilment for the local community. I also feel reassured that Tom Shelley, our Tunbury Hall Treasurer will take over some of my administrative role and act as the APC Representative in the future. Good luck to them, I wish you well. Here is a selection of the reports for the past year.

BLUEBELL SCHOOL OF DANCING

They started the year with a performance of 4 ZERO celebrating 40 years since the School was founded. They made over £1,000 for Demelza House Hospice bringing their total raised for charity to around £46,000. What a great achievement! As well as this parents have raised around £1,200 for costumes and equipment. Once again the School has been very successful in its examinations and competitions. On March 25th they staged a performance of the Nutcracker Ballet at the Brook Theatre in Chatham. One of their current pupils has just completed an 18-month contract with the company performing `Billy Elliot`. Two other pupils were on BBC Children in Need working with the East Enders cast and backing winner of Strictly Come Dancing, Ore Odube.

CATKINS PRE-SCHOOL

Their Easter Bonnet Parade managed to raise £198.23 for the Oliver Fisher Special Baby Care Unit as well as £190.00 for Children in Need. During October Ofsted made its second inspection resulting in a `Good` rating overall with `Personal Development, Behaviour & Welfare` achieving an outstanding grading! Ofsted noted that the children were extremely polite and behaved impeccably showing amazing empathy and compassion. Children here have outstanding opportunities to challenge their physical skills. Two further Nativity plays provided further funds for Demelza House Hospice. As always a great debt of gratitude is due to Anne & Angie for all of their hard work and effort throughout the year.

MARTS

Medway Amateur Radio Transmitting Society dates back to 1922. There is today a constant membership of around 50 with most holding Amateur Transmitting Licences. Their Annual Founders Day event takes place on 1st January where contact is made with other radio amateurs elsewhere. There have been lectures and demonstrations and in August a 2-week outdoor field event was held at Bredgar near Sittingbourne. There has also been the ever-popular `junk sale` providing a useful way of disposing of older equipment which has been subsequently up-graded. A number of examinations have enabled more members to gain their amateur transmitting licences. For more information prospective members should contact John Burton at <http://www.marts.org.uk>

SHORT MAT BOWLS

This is a long established club playing on numerous occasions in Division 1 and 2 in the Maidstone & District League and winning many titles and trophies. At present 15 members of the Club play for Kent County teams, with others trying to qualify. One of their bowlers plays for the England Team which is a great achievement. Short Mat bowling is suitable for all ages with their youngest member being 12 and the oldest in their 70`s.

TUNBURY RAINBOWS

There has been another busy year with themed evenings including a `Winter Evening` with snowman biscuits and pretend snowballs and snowflakes, then a Valentine`s Evening, a May Day Celebration with some trial Morris dancing and dressing as cheerleaders for American Independence Day. Biscuits and cakes were made for Fathers` Day and a `Princess Evening` with a senses evening using all their senses to play games. A visit was made to SOAR, the trampoline park and a Teddy Bears Picnic was held with the Brownies at Woodreeves Guide Camp. There was also a `Thinking Day` celebrating the birth of our founders and they attended a pantomime in the village in January. There was a sports evening on Tunbury field

as well as a treasure hunt walk through the woods. Several Rainbows have since become Brownies.

6th WALDESLADE BROWNIES

Lots of badges have been gained including: Agility, Hostess, Sight Awareness, Growing up Wild with textures involving a trip to the woods and some bark rubbing as well as the Pack Holiday badge. Weekly activities included a healthy evening about food and doing some exercises, a self-defence evening with outside help, an American Independence Celebration with flag making and eating lots of popcorn! Outings included going to the village pantomime and with Rainbows to the trampolines and Teddy Bears Picnic. They made and sold poppies for Remembrance Day. Like the Rainbows there was a Founders Day and the older Brownies enjoyed a weekend Pack holiday to Paxwood where they had to make their own beds, prepare meals and wash up afterwards! Finally they recently held an afternoon tea party to celebrate Brown Owl's 40 years of service to Guiding along with parents joining in with the singing and dancing. Brown Owl received a special badge and certificate

Cllr Malcolm Wright

Chairman of Tunbury Hall

APC Representative