

The Village Hall Committee has been extremely busy during this last year. The new larger storage area has been completed, which means we now have much more room in our hall. The biggest difference is with the small meeting room, the removal of the storage cupboards has made this room look twice as big. All user groups have now got their own storage cupboards within the main store. All this was made possible by the grants that the hall was awarded; these came from The Trusthouse Charitable Foundation and the Dorset Community Fund.

The Dorset Community Fund had money available under a Social Inclusion Grant which the Village Hall was awarded with a grant of £1000 this went towards the new cooker and extractor fan which is now in the kitchen. The Sturminster Cheese Festival awarded the Village Hall with a grant of £500 which is to be used on the kitchen. Some of the units need replacing, it will also fit new worktops and new doors to all units, this is now on order and we were also given 20% discount. The kitchen will now shortly have a face lift.

As promoters for Artsreach we were offered two events. One in January Forest Forge put on a family show; Midnight is a Place which was very well supported. During the February school half term the Angel Heart Theatre put on their production of Mzymeg and the Honeybees, these types of puppet shows are always very popular with the children.

Unfortunately we have had an uninsured driver hit our oil tank and demolish the shed. The police have investigated this and have issued the driver with a fine and points on his licence. This has now been put in the hands of the insurance company. An incident like this does create a tremendous amount of work for those concerned.

I would like to thank the Village Hall Committee for all the help and support during the last twelve months. A very special thank you goes to Alison Maughan and Ann McCulloch, who are very busy working long hours, but still find time to do a tremendous amount of work for the Village Hall. I must also thank David Maughan who is always there when I need some help, whether it's building a cupboard or re-placing a loo.

I feel it will soon be time for me to stand down as chairman to this Village Hall; I will carry on for one more year as there are one or two things that I would like to still get done. It would be nice for someone else to take the helm and bring new ideas. If this is a challenge that you would like to take on why not join our committee, we meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 7-30pm.