



# Quenington Village Hall Newsletter

December 2012



By now, many of you will have noticed the 'SOLD, Subject to contract' signs on both the Village Institute and the Gate on the Green. We are very pleased to announce that contracts have now been exchanged and on 3<sup>rd</sup> January we are due to complete on both the sale of the Village Institute and the purchase of the Gate on the Green as a replacement village hall for Quenington and the surrounding communities.

We were thrilled that the sale of the Institute has matched our expectations, so together with some very generous individual donations from local residents and a grant from CDC, we have raised sufficient funds for the purchase of the Gate, without recourse to expensive loans. We would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank everyone who donated to this important development for the community. It has made a huge difference to the success of the project. Fundraising will continue however as there is still work to be done on the new hall.

Following completion, the Gate on the Green will henceforth be known as Quenington Village Hall and we will be putting it to use immediately. All existing users of the Institute are transferring to the new hall. This includes the Parish Council, Quenington Society, Quenington Baby and Toddler Group and Youth Club. Existing groups using the Gate (Brownies and Church Youth Group) will continue to run and there are many plans afoot for the future. Already in the pipeline are:

- Our regular **monthly coffee morning** will continue on the second Saturday of the month and we hope to introduce a book exchange, parish council clinic and other enticements. Come along and meet your friends and neighbours and sample some of the delicious homemade cakes that are always available with your cup of tea /coffee. Our next one is January 12<sup>th</sup>.
- A **concert** organised by Kate Hicks-Beach in early Spring 2013;
- **Classes / groups** – watch this space for new activities...
- An **Open Day** will be held following building improvements (see below) - further details to be announced;
- A request to use the hall as part of the Fresh Air '13 sculpture exhibition in July

Our aim is to have the hall in full use, seven days a week and we are actively encouraging local groups, businesses and members of the public to come and make use of the facilities. If you have an idea for an event or activity, want to raise funds for a good cause or have a family celebration, please get in touch with our booking clerk, Antonia Faulkner on 07531 879094.

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## **Improvement work**

Although the hall is in good condition and available for immediate use, some necessary work needs to be carried out to improve the health, safety and comfort of users and make the building more energy and cost-efficient. The good news is that we have successfully applied for a grant of nearly £30,000 from the Gloucestershire Environment Trust to help us finance these improvements, which will include new fire doors, insulation, electrical work and upgrading the cloakroom facilities. The work will start as soon as possible in the New Year. Hopefully we can keep the disruption to a minimum, but closure of the facilities may be necessary for a couple of weeks – we will keep you posted.

## **Web site**

We are also pleased to announce that we now have a live and active web site for the Village Hall which was created with the support of the Gloucestershire Rural Community Council. Here you can see what activities are taking place, check availability and download a booking form – do take a look: [www.queningtonvillagehall.org.uk](http://www.queningtonvillagehall.org.uk).

## **Committee**

Following our AGM in October, the committee has reformed as follows:

Liz McFadyen	Chair
Fran Huckle	Vice Chair
David Bostock	Treasurer
Anthea Palmer	Secretary
Antonia Faulkner	Booking Clerk / Representative - Youth Club
Anne Currie	Committee
James Sweeting	Committee
David Mallinson	Committee
Lisa Chapman	Representative - Mums & Toddlers
John Dooley	Representative - Parish Council
Hilary Hull	Representative - Church Youth Group

Other user groups may also be represented on the committee in future.

The committee can be contacted by email via: [queningtonvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:queningtonvillagehall@gmail.com)

We would like to thank outgoing members, Karen Steer, Joan Sewell and Anne Goddard, for all their help over the years and also David Mallinson who has stood down as Chair, but continues to serve as a committee member. Thanks also to Anthea Palmer for her hard work as booking clerk for many years. Antonia has now taken over this role and can be contacted on: 07531 879094 or email [queningtonvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:queningtonvillagehall@gmail.com).

We look forward to welcoming you all to the new Quenington Village Hall in 2013!