



Great Whittington Village Hall

News from the Great Whittington Village Hall Committee - May 2021

INTRODUCTION

The new GWVH committee was formally constituted at the first committee meeting following the EGM on 29th April 2021 and the following officers were elected by the committee:

Chair: Maggie Bassendine, Vice Chair: Anne Maughan, Secretary: Phil Hinchcliffe and Treasurer: Emma Young.

The following are ordinary members of the committee Linz Gillam, Barbara Hinchcliffe, Anne Lawson, Morris Gosling, Michele McKenzie, David Maughan, Marion Petrie, Judith Wilkes, Andrew Williamson. All members and officers became Trustees of the Charity entitled Great Whittington Village Hall [Charity No. 522066].

One of the first tasks of the New Committee was to set up a **new website**. This was done through Community Action Northumberland and can be found at: <https://northumberlandvillagehalls.org.uk/great-whittington-village-hall>

The main function of the website is to communicate with the members of the Whittington Parish, particularly with notice of events. The website details procedures on renting the Hall, committee minutes and other documents such as the constitution of the charity and some information on the history of the Hall with photographs of past Village Hall events.

e-Mail Communication

We are hoping to build up an e-mail list for Whittington Parish and would be grateful if you could contact the Village Hall on greatwhittingtonvhc@gmail.com saying that you wish to be informed of village hall events.

(Unfortunately, the previous committee were unable to give us access to the e-mail addresses that some of you may have already provided owing to lack of GDPR compliance, so please notify us again if you wish to receive communications by e-mail.)

We are aware that some people cannot or do not wish to receive e-mail about VH events, and we will endeavour to update people with paper hand-delivered newsletters. Please let us know using the slip at bottom of the page if you wish to receive paper copies of new events etc.

Great Whittington Village Hall listed as an Asset of Community Value

We have just received the news that our application to Northumberland County Council to have the Village Hall listed as an Asset of Community Value has been successful.

This is excellent news which recognizes that the “current main use of the building ... furthers the social interests or social well-being of the local community” and that it is realistic to think that this “can continue to be a main use of the building”. The full text of the letter from the Community Registration Officer at County Hall is in the Documents section of this website.

The practical implication of this designation is that the Village Hall is protected from the threat of residential development for the next five years; and is thus of less interest to property developers.

Many thanks to all the people who signed the application for this designation: their efforts have helped protect our much-loved Village Hall for the foreseeable future.

There has also been further analysis of the surprising suggestion in recent years that the costs of maintaining the Hall might be prohibitive. In fact, our detailed analysis (see attached) reveal that this suggestion was, at best, seriously flawed. A line-by-line analysis shows that the Village Hall is a robust well-maintained building and that much of the work identified has already been done. The actual costs required in the future are modest and manageable and grants are available for much of the work needed.

FUTURE EVENTS

Our **first** major event after lock-down will be the traditional Summer BBQ (assuming summer starts & Lock-down ends!)

FAMILY FUN and BBQ

Saturday 26th June 3pm -7pm

BBQ salads and Pudding (Alternative vegetarian options available)

Raffle and Pay Bar

Circus fun and games for the Children in the Circus tent.

Why not come in Circus themed fancy dress and win a prize (Mums and Dads too!)?

We look forward to seeing you all in our lovely village hall garden.

£10 for Adults and all Children free

COFFEE MORNING + CHILDREN'S CRAFT CORNER

Saturday 3rd JULY 10am - 12 am

Coffee mornings will be held on the first Saturday of every month and will also include a children's craft corner where activities for the children will be organised whilst their Mum's and /or Dad's drink coffee and chat.

WOOLY WANDERERS

Saturday, July 10th from 10am-4pm. All welcome.

The "Wooly Wanderers" are a group of hand spinners from Northumberland and Durham who meet monthly at different venues throughout both counties. They are involved in spinning, weaving and other fibre related crafts and will be meeting in Great Whittington Village Hall.

SOCIAL EVENING - with 'Garden' focus

Tuesday July 20th – doors open 7.30pm

8.00pm: Talk by **Andrew Davenport** of **Gardener's Cottage Plants, Bingfield**

"Introduction to low maintenance organic gardening & composting"

Including a discussion of new possibilities

- 'GWVH garden group'
- 'GWVH children's play area' ('every village should have a play area')
- 'Plant a tree for the jubilee'

All welcome

Raffle & Pay bar

DOORSTEP THEATRE FROM NOVEMBER CLUB

Friday 23rd July

Northumberland performing arts company are bringing a new doorstep theatre show to your garden. Slots are available throughout the day for up to six people or two households. The outdoor performance is suitable for families of all ages and will last approximately 20 minutes. To register visit <https://tinyurl.com/doorsteptheatre> or call **01670 457808**

WANTED - REGULAR CLUB ORGANISERS

Would you like a regular event at the hall such as a keep fit class or a table-tennis group?

Other possibilities which have previously been successful include yoga/pilates/quiz nights/pub nights/carpet bowls/ Gentleman of GW cricket club. We have heard that there was also once a Radish Club, "who can grow the biggest radish"? but have been led to believe that large radishes weren't really the objective but merely an excuse to hold a party!

Please contact a committee member if you are interested in helping to organise any of these things; regular doesn't have to be every week - any interval is acceptable, even once a year.

PLEASE KEEP ME INFORMED ABOUT GWVH BY e-MAIL (see above) OR LEAFLET (If you don't have e-mail)

PLEASE PRINT NAME and ADDRESS and RETURN to VILLAGE HALL MAILBOX.....

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