

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING : Thursday 12 May 2016

REPORT FROM GRANGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

John Gwillam – Chairman

It is with sadness that we have lost another of our Committee members; our Vice Chair, Mrs Pat Ferguson, lost her brave battle with cancer in March of this year, and she will be sorely missed by all who knew her.

The Grange Hall continues to be well used on a regular weekly basis throughout the year, with bookings into 2019! The past year saw 'peaks and troughs' with parties and presentation events, but this seems to be a continuing sign of the times. The good news is that they are increasing, and the diary continues to fill up. The Bar continues to provide additional much needed income for the Hall, and we always keep prices as competitive as possible. We are lucky to have a small but committed team of casual bar staff. We have also seen an increase in business meetings requiring refreshments/lunches.

Our concert programme continues, albeit much reduced. The Abba Tribute Evening is booked again for this year by popular demand, and we are hoping that they will again be successful. We have so enjoyed our Christmas with Bob Brolly, MBE, the last three years, but are giving him a break this year (although we hope he will come back again in the not-too-distant future). We are in the process of arranging a Rock & Roll Christmas, so check out our website nearer the time! Our lack of spare funds means that it is difficult to take too many gambles and we have to be fairly certain that something will work.

Our accounts are with the Accountants, and we hope that the past year will show us just breaking even. Savings are almost impossible in a high maintenance building. Southam Town Council continue to be very supportive, and we are extremely grateful to them for the assistance they give. We also appreciate the Town Council and Stratford-on-Avon District Council continuing their capital investment in the hall. We were very fortunate to have been awarded two grants from Southam Town Council (September and February) and this has meant that we were able to repaint the Rear Room and also the Rear Entrance – a much needed and appreciated face-lift to both!

The committee continues to work hard, but it desperately **needs** some **new members** who have a little time to spare and, more importantly, have new ideas to share.

As always, I should like to thank Mrs Louise Neal (our Caretaker), Mrs Carole Gwillam (our Administrator) and the Management Committee members for their on-going support.

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