

BAXTER HALL

- We are in fairly good financial health at the moment, however we must remember it costs around £5000 a year to keep the hall going.
- Apart from the £200 donation from the Parish Council (for which we grateful) all funds are raised from events held at the hall and rent from groups or functions. Without money raised from these events we could not keep the Hall open.
- However we do have one major benefactor the ladies group, who have provided many gifts over the years such as the water heater, glass washer, the chairs you are sitting on. And so many others. A big thank you to the ladies of the Ladies Group.
- There has been over 17 events over the last year plus all the standing groups who use the hall such as the Art group, Gardening Club, Ladies Group, Keep Fit and Dance classes and Skittles, so a thank you to all of those groups you who support us so well.
- We are going to have to introduce a winter rental rate because of the rising cost of electricity. From September the hourly rate for rental will rise to £8.50 for Village and £11
- This year we have two big events for your diary the Beer Festival on the 19th May and do not forget the Hall Ball in September.
- I would like to take the opportunity to thank those people while not on the committee who help with Hall business; Geoff Fox who does so many jobs and Gerrard and Neil Squires who cuts the grass. If there is anyone else out there who would like to volunteer on an ad-hoc basis to help with small tasks it would be much appreciated.
- Finally I would like to thank my committee who work so hard to keep the Hall going and who are such a support to me, but also all the people of the Village who do support the events so well.

REPORT FOR PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 2018 - St Petroc's Church

The PCC are committed to welcoming everyone in the parish, and beyond, to St Petroc's Church.

We organise a range of different styles of Service from quiet reflection and prayer to joyful singing, films and child friendly puppet plays. I would like to stress that we are not afraid to have a good laugh in church! Holy Communion is held twice a month and the clergy are always happy to go out to the homes of those who are indisposed and serve the sacrament to them. Our 'special' services i.e. Easter, Rogation, Harvest Festival, Christingle and Christmas are always joyful and very well attended.

Rogation in the old barn at Hallwood Farm is a delight as is Christingle. We always endeavour to encourage young families.

During the year our 'specials' have been an Alpha Course for those who wish to know more about God and faith.

A Cider and Pasty Walk

Serving Cream Teas and other fund raising ideas at the Village Fete

Harvest Festival followed by a lunch and auction of produce from the church.

The Quiz, always well supported.

The Tractor Run and lunch

The Christmas Tree Festival, a first in our church, saw 28 decorated trees donated by various groups and members of the village. This produced a real buzz in the church over the 3 days and was also a good fund raising event.

Finally our Victorian Evening – a lovely, happy, colourful and well supported event, so enjoyed by everyone.

The church now has an up and running Website, thanks to Dee French.

Fund Raising is an ongoing and serious business, the need for which has been well publicised and highlighted in our Parish Newsletter.

We gratefully welcomed our occasional organist, Charles Braund who brings the organ to life with his wonderful playing. Village Voices sing at Christmas ^{events}

We also thank various people who help with cleaning the church, decorating it with flowers, look after the clock and open up and lock up each day.

We are truly grateful to our village community for supporting the church in so many ways, and would love to welcome even more from the village on a Sunday. So do please come and join

^{us.}
Thank you for support for Suzanne to remain in UK.

MERTON AND PETROCKSTOWE HERITAGE GROUP.

Throughout 2017 members enjoyed a varied and interesting programme of speakers. Topics have included Lis Shakespeare on Edward Capern, the postman poet from Littleham, smuggling in Devon by Robert Hesketh and 2 of our members gave their own reminiscences, growing up in Germany during WW2 and farming in Kent during the 1950s and 1960s.

Trips have included a walk around Hatherleigh and a look around Holsworthy Museum with a talk on the town by two of their volunteers.

An exhibition was staged at the Baxter Hall, Petrockstowe in October concentrating on the 50s and 60s in both villages. Many photos and artefacts of the period were on display which was enjoyed by a goodly number of visitors.

A suggestion was put forward at the AGM that the group make their own film documenting events in both villages during 2018. The best way of doing this is still being discussed.

Membership has increased over the last twelve months and meetings are split between both village halls.

Following the resignation a year ago of all the officers of the Recreation Ground Committee, The Petrockstowe Sports and Social Club was formed by the Cricket Club Committee with Lawson Tremellen as Chairman, Steve Cox as Treasurer and myself as Secretary. The Annual Fete and Dog Show was held on July 15th accompanied by the Hatherleigh Bashers Ukulele Band. It was agreed not to run a Fireworks Party as we could no longer use the Crop Mech facilities. New sheep-proof fencing was erected along the Northern boundary of the ground. In the Autumn, the Club was devastated by several burglaries of machinery and other items, We were very grateful to a wonderful fund raising effort by the village which has enabled us to replace machinery with other Security precautions being planned. Following the extremely wet winter the Club are facing many problems in preparing the ground for the coming cricket season and other activities. The Committee are holding their AGM this coming Thursday when we are due to receive the resignation of the Chairman. Lastly, I must publicly thank Geoff Fox for replacing a frozen toilet system and repairing the scoreboard following over-winter damage, and Bryn for help with mowing. Also a plea for anyone who can help look after our village Ground.

Recreation Grd Report APM 2018