

HALL HERALD

Great Alne & Kinwarton Memorial Hall Newsletter

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www.greatalnememorialhall.org.uk

March 2021

Sadly the Hall remains closed due to the coronavirus lockdown and, as things stand, we can't say with certainty when we will be able to fully open again. However, the 'road map' just announced by the government does offer hope that it will be late June. Whatever the date we will be ready to welcome back our regular users and to make the Hall available for private hire once more. The Hall has been kept immaculately clean since it was closed initially and qualifies as a Covid secure venue. We have installed three automatic hand sanitisers to be used on entry, replaced the broken window locks to ensure that all of the windows can be opened to maximise ventilation, and restricted access to the committee room and the cleaner's cupboard to enable them to be used for secure storage. All of the crockery and cutlery has been removed and will only be available on request. Tea towels will need to be provided by users in future. Appropriate signage and social distancing markers have been displayed in accordance with the government guidelines.

To help users feel confident about using the Hall they will be provided with a copy of the Hall's Covid risk assessment which sets out the mitigation measures that we have in place. Users will also be provided with a model risk assessment for adaption to reflect and respond to their own concerns.

Despite the fact that the Hall has effectively been closed over the last 12 months (other than a brief, partial opening in the autumn) we have still incurred significant, unavoidable running costs and we have lost a considerable amount of income. In a normal year we would also have been organising fund raising events to make good our operating losses and generate some extra money for Hall improvements but clearly that hasn't been possible. However we have been very fortunate in being able to access grant funding under the government's scheme to support businesses in the retail, hospitality and leisure sectors. The funding means that we do not have to use our reserves and can withstand a period of further closure if needed.

We are anticipating that the return to 'business as usual' will be gradual and that risk management arrangements will probably have to stay in place for the foreseeable future. That being the case it is inevitable that income levels will not return to 'normal' for some time to come. However, with careful management of costs and the benefit of government grant funding, we firmly believe that the Hall will be able to survive the pandemic and can look forward to a healthy future at the heart of the community.

On the Horizon...?

Assuming that the Covid restrictions are lifted (sufficiently) to allow events to be held in 2021 we have tentatively put a ring round the following dates on the Hall calendar. Hopefully you will do the same!

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| • Hall AGM | Thursday 10 June |
| • Village BBQ | Friday 25 June |
| • Centenary Party | Friday 15 October |
| • Christmas Coffee Morning | Saturday 4 December |
| • Christmas is Coming! | Sunday 5 December |
| • Christmas Supper | Friday 10 December |

In January 2020 Peter Harris visited Antarctica and, on his return, he volunteered to give a presentation about his trip. Unfortunately we haven't been able to take him up on his offer yet for obvious reasons but as soon as it is safe to do so we will add that to the calendar as well. The sample photographs we have seen are stunning and deserve to be shown to a wider (and larger!) audience.

Frustratingly the Film Club remains mothballed until further notice. The box office will re-open again as soon we are allowed to start screening. There are a lot of good films for you to catch up on!

Days Gone By...

Christmas Events

All of the events we wanted to have over the Christmas period were scuppered because of the lockdown! Undaunted, we did put up a tree and, although we couldn't have a community countdown, the lights were switched on and stayed on until Twelfth Night. We thought the tree looked fantastic and hope that the illuminations brought a little cheer to the village at what was otherwise a gloomy time.

Other News...

Extra Radiators

To enable the bi-fold doors to be installed it was necessary to remove a radiator. This has made a material difference to the time it takes to heat the Hall and to the ability to maintain the required temperature efficiently. As a consequence, Evesham Mechanical Services (our service engineers) were consulted about the feasibility of replacing all of the radiators in the main hall

with double panels. They advised that the boiler had the capacity to support the new configuration and quoted for installing 6 double radiators. The walls behind the radiators would be covered with reflective foil to reduce heat loss. The quote was accepted and the work will be carried out in March.

The new radiators will be lower than the existing panels and so some minor redecoration will be required.

Kitchen Water Boiler

The kitchen water boiler was installed in 2008 and sadly is no longer serviceable. A like-for-like replacement (a Lincat 3kw/9litre model) has been installed and is a big improvement on the previous model. It is operated via a touch screen and incorporates a filtration system to improve water quality and reduce scale build-up. As and when it becomes necessary there is a built-in descale function which will be a great help. The touch screen also displays maintenance information should a fault be detected. Hopefully the new model will give as many years service or more as the old one. We look forward to putting it to good use!

Mowing

Great Alne Parish Council and Kinwarton Parish Council have kindly agreed to pay for the mowing at the Hall again this year. The aim (as before) is to have 16 cuts at fortnightly intervals (weather permitting) with the councils sharing the cost between them. The contractor will be Limebridge Rural Services as in previous years.

Marking the Memorial Hall Centenary Year

On Sunday 7th November 1920 the foundation stone was laid for ***The Great Alne Victory Memorial Hall*** as it was then provisionally known.



To mark the occasion a commemorative trowel was presented to Mr Walter Lucas Chance Esq J.P., the committee chairman, by the architect Mr W. Norman Twist M.S.A.

The trowel is now on permanent display at the Hall above the kitchen hatch.

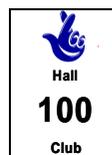
The Hall was formally opened at 3.30pm on **Saturday 15th October 1921** by Sir Ernest Pollock, the 1st Viscount Hanworth KBE PC KC, MP for Warwick and Leamington, and the Solicitor General in David Lloyd George's Conservative government.

Hall Centenary Calendar (1921-2021)

We sold 135 copies of the Hall Centenary Calendar in the end and generated a surplus of £235! A fantastic and unexpected result. Many, many thanks to everyone who bought one (or several!) and thanks again to all the amazing photographers who made this possible. Well done!

If you still need a calendar we do have a few left. Now half price - £2.50! Email gakmhnews@gmail.com to get your copy delivered to your door!

Hall 100 Club



The winners in the last 3 draws are listed below. If you would like to join the 100 Club you can do so at any time, subject to there being a spare number. Membership will cost you £4 a month and the surplus the Club generates is used to help make improvements to the Hall. All you need to do is email gakmhnews@gmail.com

Dec	1 st Prize	£100	No 74	Barbara Munton
	2 nd Prize	£50	No 72	Brian & Coral Bradley
	3 rd Prize	£25	No 80	Freda Earle
	4 th Prize	£25	No 59	Don Marsh
Jan	1 st Prize	£100	No 24	Angela Hall
	2 nd Prize	£50	No 50	Josephine Holt
	3 rd Prize	£25	No 14	John & Margaret Earle
	4 th Prize	£25	No 26	Richard & Gaynor Cockman
Feb	1 st Prize	£100	No 51	Zenia Lovegrove
	2 nd Prize	£50	No 97	Mrs M Crook
	3 rd Prize	£25	No 28	Lynda Steele
	4 th Prize	£25	No 18	David and Linda Bradley

Your Committee for 2020/21

Your committee comprises the following Trustees.

Cliff Armstrong	764642	Marie Holding	488950
Richard Cockman	488627	Sue Jones	488212
Martyn Davey (Chair)	488831	Chris Moody	488009
Mollie Davey	488831	Gareth Roberts-Davies	488079
Peter Harris	488377	Katrina Woodger	488074
Geoff Harrison	488405		