



THE GROVE BUILDING, Mere, BA12 6DS

AUTUMN NEWS 2013

LOOKING BACK:



We are delighted to have retained all of our regular users including Boy Scouting, Girl Guiding, Pilates, Tai Chi, Historical Society, Castle Hill Quilters, Women's Institute, Merely Women, Mother's Union, Friends Together, Lip Reading, Gardening Club, Art Group and welcome an additional Pilates group on Mondays. Special family gatherings continue to be very popular, along with many Church related functions and meetings. Many other organisations such as the Friends of Mere Museum, Suchana, Friends of 5's Court, our local Councils, Zumba, and others have made use of our facilities throughout the year.

MAINTENANCE

1. We are not only looking pretty on the inside but after an 'external makeover' by a local painter and decorator, we are also pretty (and protected from the elements) on the outside – well done Bob (and Ben), good job! We hope to do some floor maintenance over the Christmas break.
2. In accordance with good practice we have had all our electrical equipment and portable appliances tested. We passed with flying colours apart from one item. Unfortunately just a few days later one of the main hall lights packed up. Apologies to anyone who had to sit in the gloom – the good news is it has now been repaired.
3. Over the last few years we seem to have 'acquired' two electrical hostess trolleys – many thanks to those people who knowingly (or otherwise) donated them! Unfortunately during the recent PAT testing one of them failed the test and has had to be scrapped. Organisers who are used to having the two hostess trolleys please note, we now only have one, although we did keep the glass dishes from the old one as spares.
4. There have been occasions in the past when we appear not to have enough tables so we have dug deep and purchased 10 additional large tables – **PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE** - before putting tables away just take a minute to clean them properly for the next users!



NO PETS PLEASE!

We have received several adverse comments in regard dogs being brought onto the premises. In order not to inconvenience those who may be allergic to animals and to ensure we maintain high standards of compliance with health and safety, the committee would request that animals are NOT allowed to enter the building. Guide dogs are exempt but please try to let a committee member know if possible prior to attendance. If you are attending the building for a short visit then you can always tether them by their lead to the handle on the wall for safety sake.



BOOKINGS and the CALENDAR

Everyone now seems very happy with the booking arrangements. Our web site (www.grovebuilding.co.uk) is extremely successful and the on-line Calendar is ALWAYS up to date. Have you checked your bookings recently?

If you have dates booked and the detail is incorrect then you must make contact to avoid conflict or over charging. If your bookings are not shown then someone else may take your slot – please **DO NOT** assume anything, it only takes a phone call or email to sort things out! **Bookings DO NOT get entered onto the calendar unless a Booking Form is received.** All invoicing is based on the bookings shown on the calendar!

NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS WANTED

The current committee members are listed below and it may not be long until some of us will wish to stand-down. We have already discussed ‘succession planning’ but unless we can solicit some new blood to the committee, handing over will be very difficult. We only meet 3 or 4 times each year, all of the hard work in terms of streamlining the paperwork and organisational process has been refined over the last few years but new ideas are always welcome. Could you give up a little of your time to enable this wonderful community facility to continue into the future? Please make yourself known to any of the committee if you can help in any way.

We are as always, grateful to all those groups and patrons who continue to use our facilities enabling us to maintain and offer such a wonderful facility for St Michaels Church and for the local community as a whole.

Whether you regard Mere as a village or town, it certainly is never dull living here with so much going on.

This newsletter can also be found on our web site.

The current committee comprises:

Peter Knapp (Chairman), Judy Bickerstaff (Treasurer), Richard Jefferies (Bookings Secretary)
Judy Avory (Minutes Secretary & Provisioning), Chris Bixby, Peter Platt-Higgins, Isabel Howell