

**Thraxton Memorial Hall  
Chair's address 2024**

**Welcome to the Thruxton Memorial Hall AGM.**

Welcome to the 2024 Annual General Meeting of Thruxton Memorial Hall thank you for coming.

**We have apologies from**

Richard Earp, Rob Oliver, Janet Mitchell and Brenda Jarman

**It has become our custom to ratify committee members at this meeting.  
The current Trustees are**

Graham Harris: All things financial, provides floats, banks money, pays expenses, patiently explains!! Organises our sum up machines, applies for grants etc etc

Nick Williams who organises the cinema.

Keith Edwards Safety officer and Barman extrodinare

Louise Cushine Thruxton Loves Cakes and supplies for the hall.

Clare Oliver who focuses on Marketing.

We also have a couple of co-opted members Rob Oliver who organises maintenance tasks, as you can imagine the hall is a lot like the fourth bridge...???

And Richard Earp our new member who began by organising the very successful band night last year.

And of course Pat Counsell who does far more than just take the minutes for us.

**Election Of Committee Members  
Ask One at a time, then block vote in.**

**Thanks Committee members**

Please show your **Thanks** to all of these wonderful people who give up their time to help maintain this lovely old building.

**Thanks Others**

**Janet and Brenda** stalwarts of TLC

**Sue King** for Programming the heating in the Machin room.

**Pat Counsell** for taking the minutes and to

their partners **Martin and Steve** for being ever present when there is help needed.

People who use the hall are always very complimentary about it and thanks must go to **Alison** who has taken ownership of the cleaning and keeps the place beautifully helped by her daughter Natasha at times. WE really do appreciate the work that they do.

Finally to all our partners who are often cajoled into taking part! **Trish, Will, Anita, David and Rob**  
We really couldn't do it without you all.

### **Plans for improving the hall/ facilities**

As with all grade one listed buildings maintenance is our biggest expenditure. This year we took a big breath and ordered new heating for the main hall. After a few teething problems it seems to be working well apart from the human factor (me) which seems to malfunction every now and then!

We're working on a program of redecoration, one big job each year. Over the last few years we've done floors, decorated the Main hall, corridor, Machin room and outside. This year we will touch up the decor in here where the heating was installed and do the ancillary rooms, loos and store rooms. Then it will be back to the beginning again.

As you can't fail to know we have been busy with Pauline Broomhead's help organising a Promises Auction to refurbish the kitchen. We have been given some amazing lots to auction this weekend and hope that it will be fun as well as successful.

The largest long term issue we have is that at sometime in the past concrete patches have been used to cover failing bricks. These are now failing themselves and at some time in the future will need taking off, new bricks inserting and the whole building repointing. I'd like to thank Bill Brewer for looking into this "can of worms" for us.

We know that the roof is generally sound but the piece over this building which was not replaced when the upgrade was done is aging, we had to repair some of it last year but are hopeful that it will last a while yet!

### **Marketing plans**

As well as the Halls for Hire website we continue to advertise on facebook locally, sites that advertise village halls for hire more widely and using posters around the villages.

In addition to the events we run ourself we pick up a steady stream of parties, a number of smaller children's parties but also this year... a wedding and a corporate Christmas function.

### **Our social events**

We aim to run a couple of **Quiz nights** this year and following the success of the Rocking Bandits **Band Night** they will be back again in this Autumn

### **Regular users**

This year we made the decision to keep the local hire rate as low as possible and only applied a small increase to the rates for external users. Electricity Charges, thank goodness did not go up as much as we feared.

**Thruxton Loves Cakes** will continue, it proved to be a wonderful meeting place, with between 20 and 30 people not unusual.

A small group of diehards continue to come to the **Cinema**, making the decision to buy our own screen and run it ourselves means we keep the small amounts of money raised and we enjoy the fact that it's just up the road.

Although our Yoga teacher had to retire Baz Meyers who lives in the village, has started a **Fitness class** on a Tuesday which is proving popular.

**Thruxton Threads** run by Kate Christie continues to thrive and has moved from the Machin room into the main hall as numbers have increased.

**The Gardening Club** holds its monthly meetings in The Machin room occasionally making use of the old projector screen which we moved when we installed the larger one in the hall.

After the success of **Thruxton Open Gardens** last year The Gardening club and The Hall are running it again this year as a joint venture.

**Andover Ladies Choir** use this as their base.

The Machin Room is been used regularly by The Parish Council and occasionally by ... Southern Water, Mary Elizabeth Flowers

If you have any ideas for events that you would like to see let us know.

Gill Odling  
25th June 2024

