



TEES VALLEY VILLAGE HALLS NETWORK

self-governing • self sustaining • self help village halls
support organisation

SUMMER

NEWSLETTER

2019



Seamer Village Hall

We would like to welcome Seamer Village Hall to the network. We are still compiling details about Seamer before we can launch their dedicated webpage on our website. However, we can give you a taster of some of the contents.

Main Hall Seating Capacity : 80. Free Wifi available Book exchange, chairs & benches.

Supper Room Ideal for committee or business meetings. Can be used for serving food and drinks at parties

Kitchen Facilities Crockery & cutlery, glasses, cooker, microwave, fridge, fast wash dishwasher

Regular Events Baby & Toddler, Pop-in

Mondays, Art & Crafts Group, Zumba, bridge club, sing-a-long Friday's, carpet bowls, Garden club, table tennis, Book club.



New Committee Member

We would also like to introduce the latest recruit to our committee. Mr David Darling from Middleton St George. (shaking hands with our Chairman). You may notice in the background our new banner. The old banner was in need of a radical face lift.

Finding New Committee Members

The aim of our April training/sharing Session was to explore ways of attracting new committee members. Here are some of the things that came out:

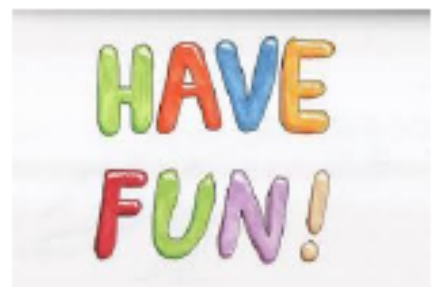


- If you have a clear vision of what you want to achieve, people will be more likely to want to help.
- Look for people who have the skills or particular expertise that you need.
- Look closely at your circle of friends and invite anyone appropriate to come along and see what you do.
- Ask friends to support you if you have a big event coming up.
- Talk to people who hire the hall on a regular basis and let them know that their experience of using the hall would be very helpful on the committee.
- Young people are often looking for volunteering opportunities to put on a C.V.
- Retired people are often looking for a project to get involved with or considering volunteering.
- Always state the minimum commitment that would be expected to give.
- Let them know you won't throw them in at the deep end. Offer to help.
- Legal responsibilities seem formidable but with sensible decisions and using professional advice when appropriate there is nothing to fear.
- Promotion is key. Don't take for granted that people know you need volunteers.



People often volunteer because:-

- They want to learn new skills,
- They want to use existing skills.
- They enjoy being part of the focus of village life.
- They want to support their local community.
- They want to feel useful.
- They want to meet people.
- Or most importantly have fun.



The role can be challenging but the rewards can be amazing when you see the community coming together to enjoy the facilities that they help to provide.

OUR WEBSITE

We are currently experiencing (over a thirty day period) 1,035 unique visits with 2,011 page views. These are impressive figures. We cannot (due to GDPR etc.) identify who is visiting or which pages are being viewed. However, we do think that the halls pages are the main target. For that reason will you please ensure that your hall page is up-to-date.

We would like to explain the other features that can be found on our website. So the following explanation of the tags found at the top of our home page might be of benefit.

Home . Activities . Halls . Reference . Publications . Membership



Home This contains an explanation of who we are and what we do. There is also a diary of special events at all the halls (please send details of any events that you would like to advertise here). This is followed by a series of images of all the halls in the Network. Clicking on any image will direct you to that hall's own web page.

Activities This explains our open meetings, Network hubs, consultations, training events and newsletter.



Halls This tab is another method of gaining access to each village hall page. You will find on each entry a brief history of the village, details of the hall ie, rooms, facilities etc. Regular and special events, details on how to book the facilities and a hall contact form.



Reference (subdivided as follows):

- Reference. Legal and policy documents you might find useful.
- Articles. Some frequently asked questions.
- Contacts. Meet the team.
- Secure page. For use of the Network

Committee only.

Publications Here you will find details of our newsletter including copies of previous issues.

Membership Here you will find details explaining the benefits of being a member of our Network as well as details of how to join.



CARING SHARING AND HELPING

Since the last issue of the Newsletter the Network and its members have been able to provide help with the matters listed here. The red print identifies those where one member has been able to help out another member – swapping & sharing!



Caretaker contract and job description

Cheque signatories

Disposal of a spare indoor bowls mat

Electrical testing

Fire inspections

Halls large enough to accommodate religious services



Hire terms & conditions

Insurance problems - on two occasions

Loan of microphone and speakers

Project funding - on three occasions

Problems with out of date constitutions

Shortage of chairs and tables

Where to get stage requisites

Website designers



Portable Appliance Testing (PAT)

We have been asked lately about PAT testing. The legal situation is that Portable Appliance Testing has never been compulsory and is not a legal requirement. In saying that each hall should make sure that it is not a requirement of their insurance or lease and anyway it's good practice especially if relevant items are being used regularly.



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