



# TEES VALLEY VILLAGE HALLS NETWORK

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

## Summer 2023 Edition No 21



## AUTUMN EVENTS



Our theme this Autumn and Winter is  
“Building Resilience in a Changing World” and we are delighted to bring you expert speakers to help you navigate some of the tricky issues that face Trustees today.



Many of you will remember the excellent talk given by Laura Wilson, Senior Associate at The Endeavour Partnership LLP, on the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) when they first became law. The Endeavour Partnership LLP are returning to update us on what we need to know now and also to answer questions you have raised about other privacy issues in relation to CCTV cameras and photographs.

This event will take place on Tuesday 10th October 2023

“PRIVACY - WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW”

Presented by The Endeavour Partnership LLP  
including GDPR – 5 years on, an Update and Refresher.

CCTV Cameras – Your Obligations and Rights

Photographs – Consents, Publishing and the Law

Time : 10.30am to 12 noon (Coffee and Tea available from 10am)

Where: The Wilson Centre, Long Newton, Stockton on Tees TS21 1DD



# AUTUMN EVENTS

Our next event speaker, Peter Bryan has a wealth of experience helping voluntary organisations and particularly village and community halls. His knowledge is remarkable. Management of the money and accounting are responsibilities of all committee Trustees, not just the Treasurer.



This event will take place on Thursday 26th October 2023

## “LOOKING AFTER THE MONEY”

A policy framework for ‘Looking after the Money’. A template for ‘doing it right’

The tools for “doing the job well” and including a demonstration of 'Easy Accounts' for voluntary organisations.

Time: 10.30 to 12 noon (Coffee and Tea available from 10am)

Where: Lazenby Village Hall, High Street, Lazenby, Middlesbrough TS6 8DX

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Our third event will be divided into two parts,

## “TECHNOLOGY – HOW TO USE IT TO ADVANTAGE”

A presentation by 2 halls

## “HOW TO KEEP YOU AND YOUR HALL SAFE”

Presented by PC Hampson, North East Regional Organised Crime Unit

To include scams, phishing, password security, identity theft, courier fraud. What to be aware of and how to avoid the risks.

When, Where and Time: November 2023 - To Be Arranged.

PC Hampson, one of the speakers at the above event would like to introduce himself.

Please go to our last article on our back page titled “Building Resilience Against Fraud”.

We look forward to seeing you at our events. It would be helpful if you could let us know how many will be attending from your hall but if you forget, don't worry, please just turn up. You will be most welcome.

All of these events are free to member halls, along with our regular newsletter, information bulletins and our Swap and Share email line. All for just £15 per year membership fee. And a reminder – the subscription is due in September. It would be helpful for our accounting if you could send it in promptly when you receive the note from our Treasurer. Thank you.

# Legionella risk assessment Does your hall have one?

A member hall brought this issue to our attention by asking if the Network knew of a firm competent to undertake a Legionella risk assessment as the firm that they had previously used was no longer available. We made some enquiries amongst our halls and this has shown differing practices and a need for a greater awareness of what is involved.



We found that where member halls are owned by local authorities Legionella risk assessments and monitoring are arranged by the local authority. Where ownership is different, some management committees ensure that a risk assessment is conducted, and others may not have considered the issue.

We suggest that Trustees who do not have a risk assessment in place for their hall, look at the Health and Safety Executive website HSE -Legionnaires' disease - What you must do and the HSE Legionnaires Disease Approved Code of Practice and Guidance, (it's not long) and consider it in committee.

We are not experts in this topic but below is our understanding of the position and a list of specialists that member halls have used, that we have been told about, is overleaf.

Conducting a Legionella Risk Assessment (LRA) is a legal requirement under the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974, and building managers have a duty of care to protect the people in their buildings from harm. An LRA should be conducted by a person who has the competence and authority to undertake physical and administrative checks. Engaging the right water hygiene specialist will help ensure compliance and you will receive practical advice on how to minimise the chance of someone in your building contracting potentially fatal Legionnaires disease.

## Where can Legionella bacteria grow?

Legionella bacteria live in natural water sources, but they can also be found in artificial water systems such as hot and cold water systems, cooling towers, and spas. Given the right combination of environmental conditions, any natural or man-made water system has the potential to become a breeding ground for Legionella growth. The health risks associated with



Legionella bacteria are significantly heightened in areas where water is stored or recirculated and where breathable water droplets are possibly spread in the form of aerosols.

## What conditions promote the growth of Legionella bacteria?

Temperatures between 20-45°C (77°F–113°F). Places where there is a ready source of nutrients (sludge, organic matter, algae, scale, rust, etc.) Bio-film on water surfaces. Poor water management and no training and awareness programmes.

## What external factors can help Legionella bacteria grow?

Water stagnation. Water temperature. Changes in municipal water quality. Water temperature fluctuations. Scale and sediment. pH fluctuations. Inadequate levels of disinfectant.

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### Information Shared by Our Members

One of our member halls, a community centre, uses Watercare Legionella Management Services (John Spence, Middlesbrough) and has done for a number of years. Tel: 01642 226404 and ask for John Spence. You may get a discount if you mention you are a member of the Network. We are not promising! Website [www.watercare.company](http://www.watercare.company) Email [admin@watercare.services](mailto:admin@watercare.services)

Another of our halls has recently used Environmental Inspection, (Chris Oyston, Middlesbrough), Tel: 0333 880 4241 Website [www.environmentalinspection.co.uk](http://www.environmentalinspection.co.uk). Email [chris@environmentalinspection.co.uk](mailto:chris@environmentalinspection.co.uk). Halls in Redcar and Cleveland owned by the LA have their risk assessments produced by Graham Compliance Services Tel 07500 787915 (Northern Ireland) and they have a Durham operational office. Website [www.graham.co.uk](http://www.graham.co.uk)

There will be other specialist firms available and your Local Authority may be able to provide Information.

## Building Resilience Against Fraud

From Andy Hampson, Engagement Team, RECCC - Regional Economic Crime Coordination Centre

North East Regional Organised Crime Unit

How To Keep You And Your Hall Safe From Fraud

My job is a police officer working in a regional engagement team, I work alongside 3 colleagues and our geographical area is Cleveland, Durham, and Northumbria police force areas. The job we have is to develop and deliver ways to empower individuals and organisations into being more resilient against fraud and economic crime. 41% of all crime is fraud and the estimated cost to the UK economy is £219 Billion per year. Everyone is a victim of fraud. There is a scam out there for everyone and the more understanding we have about risk, the better equipped we are to spot those scams. A greater awareness of types of scams and an increased collective knowledge of fraud can protect us, our communities, and our region.

Our job is to arm you with that awareness, knowledge and understanding by communication through newsletters, bulletins, presentations, and workshops. We tailor our approach to your needs. We have designed a bespoke presentation/workshop for village hall volunteers/groups which you can request by contacting the Tees Valley Village Halls Network. We will then liaise with you directly, so the content is appropriate for you and your village hall.

Incidents of Fraud should be reported directly to Action Fraud

[www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk) 0300 123 2040

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