

# Victoria Hall

Reg. Charity No. 301961

## Annual Report & Accounts 2017



[www.suttonscotneyvictoriahall.org](http://www.suttonscotneyvictoriahall.org)

2017 has again been a busy year with the Hall well used by groups who meet regularly throughout the year as well as by many one-off family and social bookings.

Some major changes occurred in the management team with the election at the Annual General Meeting in January of a new chairman, Alistair Black, and the appointment of a new Bookings Secretary, Jill Powell, in October. The very considerable contribution of George Gray and Valerie Keel, former post-holders, was warmly acknowledged; the time and skill that they and other volunteers who maintain and make the facilities available for users is a real and valued community service.

The establishment of a web site has been an exciting development during 2017. This was the work of Rob Parker whose ideas and creativity have made the site a valuable tool in advertising the Hall and its activities. Warm thanks have been extended to him. A picture of the home page illustrates this year's report.

## **Management Committee**

The committee is comprised of three parishioners elected at the Annual General Meeting held in January and representatives of all the voluntary (not for profit) groups who have met regularly throughout the previous twelve months.

Committee members are trustees of the charity and, as such, jointly own and manage the Hall and its facilities.

Membership for the year was:-

Chairman	Alistair Black	elected
Treasurer	Sandra Fishlock	Royal British Legion Women's section
Secretary	Sue Lane	elected
Bookings secretary	Valerie Keel/Jill Powell	elected
Members:-	Margaret Attfield	Dever Art Group
	Tony Bortoli	Sunshine Club
	George Gray	Wonston Parish Council
	Eryl Holt	Act Too
	Hannah King	Parent & Toddler Group
	James Rowson	14 <sup>th</sup> Winchester Scouts
	Gerald Sergeant	Royal British Legion

The committee met four times during the year and organised a successful Christmas Fair in November that raised £500. Amongst the committee's considerations a decision was taken to vest the car park and garages in the Official Custodian for Charities. The Hall itself is already vested with the Official Custodian who holds property and land in trust for charities instead of it being held in the names of individual trustees on behalf of the charity.

## **Finances**

A copy of the Accounts for 2017 is attached to this report showing a healthy end of year balance of over £13,900. Income from lettings has remained high and the generous donation from Act Too, in lieu of rent, relates to the previous year's pantomime. We were delighted to receive a grant of £1,800 from Wonston Parish Council towards new carpet in the front foyer and the installation of additional electrical sockets in the main hall. The council's support for the Hall is much appreciated. Other expenditure has been largely directed towards maintenance costs of the building and grounds. After maintaining the rates for lettings for three years increased charges have been agreed to take effect in 2018. We are also most grateful to Sue Hedges for kindly examining our accounts.

### **Building and grounds**

The Hall remains in generally good condition although heavy use does cause considerable wear and tear. The floor in the main hall shows signs of such use and the kitchen, whilst serviceable, looks in need of some 'refreshment'. Plans are in hand to up-date it. A number of holes in the car park have been filled and the surface remains in a reasonable state. It is one of those items that needs regular attention and is very dependent on weather conditions. The large puddle that forms at the entrance to the car park requires work to drain the area and prevent the collection of water, a complicated and fairly costly engineering exercise – a matter for future consideration.

### **The Future**

The monthly Pop-Up café run by members of Wonston church ran throughout 2017 and the year ended with a Nativity play by children from Egg Day Nursery and Naomi House children's hospice party for siblings. All three examples show the role that the Hall plays in offering a location for activities provided by other organisations in the parish. Hopefully 2018 will see such use sustained and developed. Sutton Scotney continues to grow apace with the development of the former station yard due for completion and the importance of welcoming and involving new residents remains key.

Sue Lane who has been the secretary of the village hall for 25 years and who is largely responsible for its survival and development has announced that she will step down. We thank her unreservedly for her hard work and dedication. We owe her a great deal and without her hard work over the years the Dever Valley could have lost a crucial resource currently enjoyed by the whole community. She leaves this post with the Victoria Hall in great shape and we look forward to the future with optimism. We are fortunate that Jackie Qualmann from the village has agreed to take on this role from Sue.