



Church & Chetwynd Aston Village Hall

REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 522491

WALLSHEAD WAY
CHURCH ASTON
NEWPORT
SHROPSHIRE
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Press Release

Church and Chetwynd Village Hall Committee and helpers have been awarded The King's Award for Volunteers, a very prestigious award that will be amongst the first to be presented by the Lord-Lieutenant. Two members have been invited to represent the group at a Royal Garden Party.

The group have completely refurbished the old wooden building: insulating; installing full air conditioning, powered by solar panels and a storage battery; replacing all lights with LEDs; installing hot water to the toilets for the first time; and removing the old inefficient gas heater and its associated ducting that was expensive to run, noisy and unreliable. Both the hall and the refurbished Aston Room were then redecorated.

The hall is used extensively by many exercise classes and other groups and once refurbishments were complete, they decided to provide the community with some evening entertainment, starting with installing a large screen and superb surround sound system that allowed them to start Flicks in the Sticks. They have now moved onto live music shows that are proving very popular.

These shows are advertised on a large external electronic screen that shows events in the hall together with events at St Andrews Church and activities at the Newport Hub.

The hall has been very successful attracting people after the Covid lockdowns as many can walk to all the low cost events.

The hall is managed by volunteers supplemented by helpers and according to the Chair, Dr Malcolm Bennett, a very talented and hard working group.

We received grants and loans from the following, without whose help, none of this could have been achieved:

The Environmental Agency, The Lottery Fund, Sport England, The COOP Foundation (loan & grant), Cllr. Andrew Eade, both Church & Chetwynd Aston Parish Councils, The Boughey Trust, The Women's Institute.