

Chairpersons Report

8TH April 2010

I would like to begin by thanking fellow committee members for the work they have done. As you are aware Margo & Sandra have served a good few years on the committee & are now standing down. The naughty corner will never be the same again. I wish them both well with their new found freedom/retirement. I feel sure however that they may well be called upon to help from time to time. Thank you to Peter Marshall for maintenance in the hall. This kept costs, this year to a minimum. Even at times of great inconvenience, he downed tools at home and managed to carry out numerous tasks at short notice. (I am still waiting for parts of our kitchen to be completed).

Thanks also go to the following-..... B. Dolby, for producing programmes & schedules. *L. Dempster, J. Reiley and E. Connell, for their assistance with collection of membership fees. *J. Hendry for grass - cutting. * Bowling - Club for their assistance in keeping the hall floor clean and helping with chairs and tables at times of functions, this was much appreciated. * E. Connell, John and Walter, P. Marshall, D. Menzies, G. Smith, G & G. McGinty, M & J. Hendry for painting the external walls of the building. Due to weather the task had to be performed at short notice. A special thank -you to John, who saved a lot of time with his large roller. A big thank you to Eileen who completed the outside with her gardening skills. * B. Dolby, G. McGinty, J. Gordon, S. Davidson, P. Marshall and J. Wilkinson, thank you for attending the Burns Supper meeting which was called to help find speakers and plan the evening. * M. Menzies, M. Furguson and S. Tweddle for the successful tombola at the flower show. *Vicky and David, for their help behind the scenes with posters and the WEB. *Waitresses, Waiters & Bar people who did a splendid job.

As you can see the committee have not worked alone and nor should they.

FABRIC OF THE HALL

There have been many jobs completed this year, both major & minor. *Heaters have been installed to eliminate dampness in the cloakroom and the store cupboard. This has been shown to be most successful. * Engineers were sourced for the wiring & installation of security lighting. A new light for the entrance has been purchased and will be fitted by Peter in due course. *Roof leaks in the main building were found in various places. The problem was the joints in the old guttering. Although the guttering is old it is in good & solid condition. * The toilet block roof was repaired once again. The block also received damage from frozen pipes in ten places. Although due to excessive weather conditions this year, the pipes were found to have insufficient lagging. This matter is still to be dealt with. *Exterior of building -Painting & upkeep was completed by hall members aforementioned.

There have been no visits from our wee furry friends this year.

ELECTRICITY An investigation into the heating of the hall is, still in progress (at this stage). As you are aware we turned off the Wall Heaters for one week. The result was a reduction of 75% off the electricity costs. We are at present investigating lower wattage heaters which can be timed & left on for longer periods of time. An energy consultant can be obtained for guidance and the opportunity to apply for a grant exists from April.

FIRE REGULATIONS Extinguishers, fire blankets and signs have been serviced and replaced where necessary to be in line with current regulations.

Hall Capacity 100 square metres (main floor area)

70 people

120 square metres (inclusive of stage)

80 people

Fire officer will accept 90 maximum

The above numbers refer to a dance floor.

When using the area for seated dinners the numbers are reduced to the following.

100 square metres 50 seated

120 square metres 60 seated

Should the above figures be exceeded, this would contravene the insurance policy if anything happened. As the committee have a duty to members and visitors alike the above policy was immediately adopted.

SOCIAL EVENTS The Flower Show was an outstanding success this year. The Tombola in place of the normal raffle, not only proving to be more popular but also proved to be more profitable. * Xmas Drop in was also successful and was preferred by our members. * Fun & Games Night was unfortunately poorly attended due to most people coming down with a bug. This said, those present had a good laugh. * Burns Night was received well with very entertaining speakers. However the profit made from the event was not worth the effort and work put in quite frankly. In-fact it was appalling. Although numbers were reduced it did not make any difference to the number of people wanting to come as nobody was refused a ticket. A suggestion put forward was to just have a Burns Ceilidh & Bar with guests doing their turns throughout the evening. This should be discussed further. Other events had the usual low turn-out.

THE FUTURE Last year my predecessor stood here and told us her views on the future of the hall. The committee agreed, but did not want to see the hall close. Well, we have kept it going for another year. Is there a future? ... Art Club folded, Rural struggling. With all the will in the world I cannot see past what seems to be inevitable at this moment in time. Although we are here to provide recreational facilities for the village, at the end of the day this still has to be viable.

In the year 2000 we had 123 members -2010 we have 94 members = 30% drop in membership.

Not all our events need to be profit based but the larger ones do in order to cover outgoings. To show you the lack of success with events this year I refer you to the following.

Flower Show Profit made £544-72 increased by 16% on last year.

Bazaar " " £222-60

Burns Supper " " £193-75 Ticket sales were down £300 but no ticket sales were refused.

Xmas Drop- In “ “ £72-50

Games Night Attendees 9 people unfortunately a lot of people were ill with a bug.

Xmas Bingo “ 6 “ Nil profit but was a good laugh.

Lunchtime Bingo 1 “ Arranged too early. Should have been 2pm instead of 1pm

Pantomime Called off as only one person wanted to go.

As you can see, it is not enough for all the hard work which put in.

The answer... **YOU**

Yes, **you** are the answer.

You are needed to come to functions.

You are needed to keep clubs going.

You are needed to tell us what you want to attend.

You are needed for ideas.

In my view, the need for a full and dedicated committee along- side **YOU** for large events where needed will be the way forward.

This concludes my report for 2010