

Events Co-ordinator Report 2023/24

As usual there was an events programme in place across 2023/24

The internal renovations to the Reading Room were completed with the input of local artisans Jamie Bull(decorator) and David Ward (Joiner). Decorations and soft furnishings have completed the refurbishment, along with new door and vestibule frame to create a wonderful relaxing space for everyone.

The New front door has a key code access lock which was given to the new committee.

Lockey's Fish and Chip van became a Wednesday treat once a fortnight due to popular demand. Mattie and his team provide the village with their tasty fresh menu. The Reading Room opened the hall doors so that people could eat their suppers, have a brew and share a chat with neighbours.

Media links continue to be very important connecting through Honey Bees and our very own CB.org website which is currently managed by Mike Phillipson and with huge thanks for all his help and input.

During the year we held a fabulous film show evening hosted by the late George Tomlin MBE. He proudly showed us his underwater diving exploits from his recent trip to the Philippines. This was all in aid of the Turkey/Syria earthquake Disasters Emergency Committee appeal. The night was well attended and everyone gave generously, raising considerable funds for the appeal. Thank you so much to those who contributed, from all of the committee.

Our pop-up bakery attended most weeks and it has proved to be very popular. The service is superb with delicious foodstuffs from Claire, David and Sue. Produce can be either bought in the hall or can be ordered and delivered via Claire direct. Long may it continue.

Other than these regular events we have also had numerous room hires and a Marquee hire. Rosemary and Tyne ran flower arranging lessons over 10 weeks. Dawn Gelder ran wreath making events prior to Christmas, with wreaths made proudly displayed on some of our villagers doors. We had a huge birthday celebration party in our marquee, along with bouncy castle for Ottie Yates. The village green and play area proved to be the perfect venue for both children and adults alike.

Every Wednesday morning from 9am to noon the Arts and Craft Group met and enjoyed their time together.

Sunday afternoon teas were held every month throughout the summer, hosted by myself and continue to raise valuable funds for the Reading Room.

We held the annual Summer Gala and Duck Race in August and this proved to be a huge success, as in previous years. We raised circa £800 on the day of which £400 was donated to the YAAS. Thanks for the hard work of those who supported the committee and the very kind donations/generosity of local businesses that contributed to making the day such a success.

The Summer Fayre event was also the day we unveiled our memorial bench in recognition of our much beloved and sadly passed Trustee, Mr Keith Loadman. It was positioned overlooking the green and the Reading Room. Thank you to all who contributed to the bench and in particular to the Wyvill family for their supplementary donations.

We continued our warm space/cosy corner initiative in October. This enabled residents and friends to be welcomed for a cuppa, snack and a chat through the winter months. We held this every Tuesday to coincide with the pop-up bakery. From feedback received this has proved to be a great support to many.

The Halloween event was held along with trick or treat, and all the kids had a great time.

The Christmas event was reorganised this year due to low numbers. Santa and his elf went to visit the children who wished to participate in their homes much to their delight. After this our trusted little elf (me) went to visit all the children in the village, delivering Christmas gifts.

On Christmas Day a Christmas lunch was made available across the parish for residents who wished to attend. All who supported this enjoyed the day. Thanks to Dawn and Simon for hosting this event. The Wyvill family and the Reading Room Committee had kindly agreed that the Reading Room should be made available free of charge for this event. It is hoped this event will continue.

We had another room hire for a large family gathering/party on new years day.

We recently had our Eater event with children competing on the village green; egg hunt, egg rolling etc with gifts for the winners. A fabulous family day made all the more exciting due to our special visitors, petting lambs for the children to see and stroke, kindly brought by the Kettlewell family.

Finally we have again secured the hall for the local Mayoral elections in May.

I have been pleased to have served the committee and the village for so many years, and have had many happy times, however I will not be standing going forwards.