

**Abbots Morton Village Hall**  
**Winter Newsletter December 2019**

**The Trustees of Abbots Morton Village Hall**  
**wish you a**

**Merry Christmas**  
**and a**  
**Happy New Year**

We have lots of good news for you in this issue as we look back on a highly successful year and forward to an exciting year ahead.

We've been very pleased to see so many of the newcomers to our community coming along to our events and enjoying the facilities that we regularly have on offer.

We're particularly delighted to welcome a new member to our Village Hall Committee...and there is room for more people to join us if you feel you would like to get involved in developing the wonderful community space that is Abbots Morton Village Hall.

We hope you enjoy this newsletter. As always, if you have any comments or questions please get in touch with any member of the Trustees. They're given a mention on the last page.

**Wi-Fi is here**

At last we have Wi-Fi installed at the village hall..! It's free to use and is one of those essential services that we can provide. There's no password, just locate the network and make contact with the rest of the world. Our thanks to Sarah Dykes for doing the spadework to make sure it was successfully installed.

## Great Events

We had a succession of lovely events during the autumn, all raising money for various charities... and for our own village hall funds...

### 1...Tea for Tinnitus

After last year's successful event we held a second 'drop-in' brunch to raise money for the British Tinnitus Association and the village hall funds. We raised a total of **£207** which we split £104 for the BTA and £103 for our funds. Two American tourists from Kansas and Kentucky, who were staying with friends and relatives in Broom, dropped in to experience a traditional English village event.



*(Above) . American visitors and their hosts at the Tea for Tinnitus brunch, with villager Jayne Smith (right) staffing the tombola stall.*

### 2...Quiz Night Was Great

After a break in 2018, we put on a Quiz Night on 8<sup>th</sup> November and a hugely enjoyable night it was. We raised a total of **£260**, of which £130 went to Acorns Children's hospice for their "Daisy Chain" fund set up in 2006 in memory of Josh Harvey from Studley in Warwickshire. Josh died in Acorns Hospice after suffering an asthma attack.

Below is a picture of the quiz organiser Sarah Dykes with the winning team "The Generation Game", comprising the McVeigh family from Goom's Hill, (l to r) Simon, Aisling, Conor and Stephanie, together with Mary and Dennis Locke , friends of Sarah. Very sadly, since this photograph was taken, Dennis has died suddenly. We are publishing the photograph with Mary's permission as a fitting memory of Dennis who has supported many of our village hall events.



### 3... Christmas Fayre

Our second Christmas Fayre saw a hall filled with stalls offering a variety of Christmas gifts for sale. It seems that a number of potential customers were put off coming because of the risk of flooded roads in the area... but we still had a successful event, raising **£370** , of which £185 went to Alzheimer's Research UK. Zoe Baggott, Regional Fundraising Officer for Alzheimer's Research UK, told us: "We're so grateful to Abbots Morton village hall for supporting Alzheimer's Research UK once again." It's our pleasure, Zoe.

So those three events combined have raised a total of **£832....** £416 for the various charities and £416 for the village hall. Many, many thanks to all who attended

### Thank You, Antony

We would like to say a big Thank You to Antony Bunce, who has stepped down from the village hall committee because of other commitments . We're grateful for Antony's insights and particularly all his work in bringing us Band Nights and Indian Summers .

## New Trustee

We welcome Pat Willingale to our Village Hall Committee. Pat lives with her husband Martin at Chestnut Cottage in the village and was keen to become involved in the community. Pat's infectious enthusiasm and energy will be greatly appreciated.



If you'd like to use a little bit of your time to join in on a voluntary basis, we'd be delighted to hear from you. We meet once every six weeks or so in the village hall for about an hour and half. The current members are Melanie Clarke (Chair); Lynne Pemberton (Secretary); Sarah Dykes (Treasurer); Colin Pemberton (PRO and Bookings Officer); Lynda Payne (PCC Representative), Pat Willingale. If you want to join us, simply get in touch with any of us... Mel is on 07887 800401, Lynne and Colin are on 01386 792549 and , Sarah on 07411 633148

## EasyFundraising

We've had a new EasyFundraiser join in this month in this simple method of raising money for the village hall when you shop online. We now have 23 EasyFundraisers... Since our last newsletter they've raised £14, taking the total overall to **£625.05**.

To become an EasyFundraiser, simply go to: [easyfundraising.org.uk](http://easyfundraising.org.uk) and follow the prompts to register Abbots Morton Village Hall as the cause you wish to support. If you are buying from Amazon, go to [smile.amazon.co.uk](http://smile.amazon.co.uk) to register your fundraising for Abbots Morton village Hall.. From then on, shop with **AmazonSmile** .

Most of the major retailers are signed up to EasyFundraising and if you're buying Christmas gifts it's a great way to help us.

**And speaking of Christmas, the Trustees of the village hall wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a peaceful and fulfilling New Year.**