

Umberleigh Village Hall Chair's report for AGM April 2022

It is now a year since I exchanged being Treasurer for Chair. Gradually activity has increased over the year. It has been nice to see the hall being used again for art classes, which seem to have become increasingly popular, parties, roller skating, band rehearsals, bingo in fact all the normal pre covid stuff.

I believe the biggest change to the hall over the year has been the external painting. I am now very proud looking over to the hall to see its smart appearance. The new planters have been planted beautifully by Jane, Sue and helpers and really offset the new darker colour. The new picnic benches are so much better than the half rotten ones they replaced. We have an outside space to be proud of ready for our 100th Garden Show in August.

It was lovely to see everyone together for our village barbecue and then for the Garden Show. We were one of only very few villages which went ahead with a show and it was a huge success.

It is also nice to see more young people in the village. There are better ties with Umberleigh school and at last the Play part of Park and Play has its equipment in place. This is thanks to a joint collaboration between the School, Friends of Umberleigh School and the Village Hall.

In the last month we have held two major events. First an Antiques fair, organised by Pauline and Jane with a huge band of helpers. This was a great success and will be continued with three more over the year, thank you for everyone who helped with this. The second event was the return of the Roving Crows who were touring to major venues around the UK but managed to fit in a visit to our hall. They were as good as ever and judging by their closing remark 'See you next year' will be back.

Finally, I would like to say thank you to everyone who has given up their time to help at the hall, there are far too many of you to mention everyone but from moving tables and chairs, managing the bookings, watering plants, doing the everyday maintenance needed, cleaning, baking cakes, making and selling teas and coffees, organising the garden show manning the stalls, running the dog show, cutting grass, general tidy ups and of course using and enjoying the hall. Without you all we wouldn't have Umberleigh Village hall.