

## **Vice Chairman of the Trustees' Report for the AGM 2009/2010**

Throughout the last 12 months the Village Hall has again played host to a wide range of groups: from the Toddler Group to the Seniors Club. We are the base for the local Scout Group, Brownies and Guides, the WI and Mothers Union and the popular Karate Club. We also welcome the Parish Council and other community meetings. We have a French Group that meets once a week, whilst TCAT run two classes - Upholstery and Furniture Restoration as well as a new Child Psychology Class. Edgmond Snooker Club members have open access to two full size snooker tables and they enjoy a full programme of competitions.

Sadly, we lost the Line Dancing class during this year as they relocated to Newport but we have gained a new weekly Combat Sports Class which has had to relocate from Newport.

Although the Hall is an excellent venue for parties we have seen a reduction in such bookings from about 25 in 2008/2009 to about 15 in 2009/2010.

Last October the Committee put on a Race Night and thanks to the generosity of our many supporters and sponsors we raised over £1000 for Village Hall funds. We have also very recently staged a Barn Dance that reinforces the committees desire to see regular events to help raise moneys for the upkeep of the Hall but also to bring the community together wherever possible.

During 2009 we had to replace the valley gutters at the front of the Hall because the Main Hall, Lobby and Snooker Club corridor were suffering from water ingress. The work was paid for by a grant from the Grassroots Grant fund administered by the CVS at T&W Council. Later in the year we had to replace 4 heaters and protective cages in the Main Hall. We have also bought replacement chairs for the Committee Room with the help of a grant from the Parish Council.

The year has seen two trustees (Helen & Pete) co-opted onto the Committee and a new trustee representing the karate club (Alan Bates) also joined. Two elected trustees resigned during the year (one was the Chairman) so we have operated with a Vice-Chairman since then.

Thanks should go to everyone on the Committee for giving so much of their time to run the Village Hall. In particular I would like to thank our Secretary Paula Doherty whose unswerving drive and determination keeps the Committee ticking along very nicely, Ann Hawkes our Treasurer, and also Derek Corlett who has yet again very generously given up his time to undertake the independent examination of the accounts. Many thanks too to Lester, who as well as being our very efficient caretaker was chief organiser of the Race Night and whose enthusiasm contributed to that successful event.

What of the future for the Village Hall? We recently held an open consultation evening on 'The Future of Edgmond Village Hall' and a 'New Village Hall Steering Group' has been formed. The Steering Group will have the task of consulting with users and non-users alike to ascertain what everyone wants and expects from the Village Hall both now and in the future. Once we have a check-list of requirements we will be able to ask an architect to undertake a feasibility study into future options. These could be interesting times!