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WRCC supporting rural communities throughout Warwickshire

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WRCC Halls

December 2015



Welcome to our monthly e-newsletter specifically aimed at village halls and community buildings across Warwickshire and Solihull.

Quality Assurance

Hallmark

Hallmark is the nationally recognised quality assurance scheme designed for community buildings. It provides funders and other organisations interested in village halls with a benchmark for well managed community facilities, and gives village hall volunteers confidence that they are running their hall in the correct way. Some insurance companies offer a discount for village halls participating in the scheme which is administered by WRCC in Solihull and Warwickshire. Find out more from WRCC [website](#).

Funding News

Rural Initiatives Fund

Up to £1000 funding for projects that enhance the role of a village hall or community building as a hub for the community. Find out more on WRCC [website](#).

Warwickshire County Councillor Grants Fund: Warwick North and Warwick South

Maximum value: £10,000

Deadline: 8 January 2016, 12.00 noon

The fund encourages voluntary and community organisations to apply for funding to support small scale community projects that help to address issues of local concern. The funding priorities for the grant fund are to support projects and initiatives aimed at promoting community spirit and involvement and tackling social isolation among older people.

For more information log onto the [website](#).

Community buildings event

Free event for trustees and volunteers of community buildings and village halls

Set aside Saturday morning, 5 March for a **free** event about village halls and community buildings at Binley Woods Village Hall. If you are involved in managing a community building, there will be something of interest for you.

More information on the agenda and how to book a place will be available on WRCC website in the new year.

Training

Foundation for Social Improvement offers training

3 February 2016

Training on governance, fundraising and more.

Free to FSI members.

Solihull venue.

Find out more from the FSI [website](#).

Bid Writing for Charities & Community Groups

27 January 2016 9:30 - 4:00

Cost: £ 99

Venue: The Moseley Exchange, 149-153 Alcester Road, Moseley, Birmingham B13 8JP

A one-day course aimed at Community Groups and Charities who are interested in increasing their income through grant funds.

- how to identify opportunities with a range of grant programmes
- advice on writing successful applications
- common mistakes made by applicants

To book a place on the course see the Get Grants [website](#)

Charity Commission updates

"Trustees must take responsibility for fundraising"

Charity Commission has published new draft guidance which states more clearly than ever that trustees must take responsibility for the fundraising undertaken by their charities. The commission has launched a public consultation on its revised guidance for trustees. See the detail and give your views [here](#)

Your news

Bearley Village Hall

Congratulations to the Trustees of Bearley Village Hall who have been awarded a Digital Inclusion Grant.

They are planning a "Celebration Event" on 26 & 27 February when the Village Hall will be open, showcasing achievements so far and a rolling programme of "taster" activities.

Concert at Napton Village Hall

Sean Cannon (of the Dubliners) with sons James and Robert

Saturday 9 January

8pm

Tickets are £10 from:

Bernard 01926 814596 or bernardalsop@gmail.com

Colin 01926 812896

Other news and requests

Changes to Gift Aid Declarations

HMRC has published new Gift Aid Declarations for one-off donations, multiple donations and sponsored events. The new Declaration has been shortened (removing unnecessary references to VAT and Council Tax) and contains a clearer call to action which demonstrates the value of making a Gift Aid claim.

Charities holding stocks of printed materials using the previous model declaration may continue to use these until 5 April 2016, after which the new Declaration must be used. Incorrect Declarations may result in Gift Aid claims being invalid. For more information and examples of the new Declaration forms see the [website](#).

Help a Yorkshire village hall in crisis

This month Wheldrake Village Hall (near York) lost its roof in the storms. Their group of volunteers is now really stretched trying to tackle the practical side of their crisis and need to urgently raise funds to get the roof put back on so the hall can be used again.

Read more on WRCC [website](#) and if you can help, make a donation [here](#).

National charities and voluntary organisations survey 2015

Take part in the biggest annual survey of charities and voluntary organisations. The survey, launched by a coalition of charities, is gathering evidence about how charities are able to get their voice heard and the support they need. By taking part you will be helping make sure that funders and decision makers know more about your needs. The [survey](#) can be completed in 15 minutes.

Have you won funding for your community building?

If so, please pass on the good news as this will encourage others to apply.

Email communitybuildings@wrccrural.org.uk

for more funding news and information visit

www.ruralwarwickshire.org.uk/funding

The aim of this e-News is to provide a summary of local and national news, useful information and funding opportunities. If you would like an item included in the next e-News please email communitybuildings@wrccrural.org.uk

This e-newsletter is kindly funded by AON Insurance Services.

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WRCC Halls

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