

Major Developments in 2008

This increased use of the Hall and its key role within the community encouraged the Trustees to embark on an ambitious re-development project in 2008. The cost was over £150,000 and included the re-development of the rear of the Hall, to include new toilets, storage areas, car parking areas retaining walls and the development of an upstairs meeting room. The old attic room was converted into a store for Gower Players which has been developed by Gillian Woodford into a highly effective costume and props facility. The kitchen was enlarged and brought up to modern standards as was the fire alarm, heating, lighting and electric systems. A wider apron to the stage, understage storage and a permanent bar area were built by volunteers. The Welsh Assembly Government awarded the Project £73,000, with further major grants coming from the Sports Council of Wales and the Gower Sustainability Fund. An appeal in the village raised £6,600.

Ian Campbell was the architect for this project, as he was for the other major developments at the Hall. Kevin Lloyd of Llanrhidian undertook the building work. The Trustees of the Reynoldston Village Hall Association managed the project: Hugh Jones (Chairman), Alan Bryant (Project Manager), Rob Vine (Treasurer), David Bending, Adrian Richards, Gerard Turley, Enid Jones, Dave Harvey, Sheila Williams, Wyn Cornelius and Paul Valerio. Further grants provided funding for the purchase of equipment including a short throw projector and large screen, tables and chairs for the new meeting room and table trolleys. The building of retaining walls, painting and tiling were undertaken by volunteer labour.

(2011 saw the replacement of all windows in the Main and Minor Halls with highly efficient double glazed models. A group of volunteers spent the summer months sealing and painting the external walls of the Hall. Further improvements will be undertaken in 2012, again with both local and European funding.)

The Two Hall Sub-Committees:

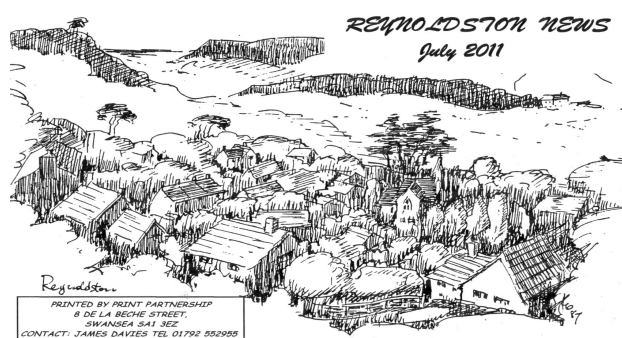
Mention should be made of two interesting developments undertaken by the Trustees of the Association.

Reynoldston Village Broadband

It was clear by 2004 that the village was not able to receive an adequate broadband signal. Dave Harvey proposed that the village run its own service (with a signal via satellite) and that the service be managed as a sub-committee of the Village Hall. There were fifty subscribers and the service was managed by Dave Harvey, Paul Valerio, Gerard Turley and David Bending. The equipment required was funded by a grant of £40,000 from the Welsh Assembly Government. This unique project benefitted from the expertise of Dave Harvey who purchased equipment from the USA and adapted it to meet local needs. The project was featured in the "Western Mail" and on BBC Wales News. This was a successful and much appreciated

service. However, it was decided in 2008 to discontinue the service as the equipment was becoming out dated and there was now an adequate service from commercial providers. The email service **reynoldston.com** is still available to subscribers and is well used.

The “Reynoldston News”The Village Magazine



The monthly magazine “Reynoldston News” replaced the church run “Parish News” in November 2005. The magazine is free and self funding, relying on advertising revenue and donations from subscribers. 265 copies (40 pages) are produced each month and circulated to all households in the village, with the remainder being distributed via the Post Office, Cilibion Garage and by post to those in other villages. The magazine contains four pages of colour and is printed by Print Partnership of Swansea. The Editors are Hugh and Enid Jones, Commercial Manager - Valerie Beynon, Technical Manager - Keith Fuller and Finance Manager - Rob Vine. Guest Editors have been John and Judith Rock, Ian Campbell and John Bastiani. The Magazine won a *Special Commendation* at the Lord Mayor of Swansea’s Communication Awards in 2009.

2013 Hall Personnel

Trustees

Hugh Jones	Chair of Trustees and Co-Editor of “Reynoldston News”
Alan Bryant	Trustee -Vice-Chair and Secretary
Enid Jones	Trustee - Hall Booking Secretary and Co-Editor of “Reynoldston News”
Adrian Richards	Trustee - Former Chair and Treasurer
David Bending	Trustee - Member of Email Service Committee
Dave Harvey	Trustee - Member of Email Service Committee
Gerard Turley	Trustee - Member of Email Service Committee
Paul Valerio	Trustee - Chairman of Email Service Committee
Sheila Williams	Trustee
Wyn Cornelius	Trustee
Rob Vine	Treasurer

Others: Steve Murray - Cleaner/Caretaker; Margie Bond – Wedding Reception Co-ordinator; Gillian Woodford Manager – Drama Room.

Grants Received by the Village Hall Association

The Reynoldston Village Hall Association has received grants from the following organisations to fund building and improvement projects:

Foundation for the Sports and Arts

Sports Council for Wales

Welsh Assembly Government

Gower Society

Gower AONOB Sustainability Fund (City and County of Swansea)

Greater Gower Transition Status Grant Scheme (City and County of Swansea)

Corus

Reynoldston Community Council

O2 Community Fund

National Lottery "Awards for All"

Weston Foundation

Trusthouse Trust

Austin Bailey Trust

Barclays Bank

Western Power

Swansea Council of Voluntary Service

Acknowledgements: Much of the earlier information was taken from the "Gower Church Magazine". My thanks to Eric Lee for his information and photographs and to Godfrey Jefford, Carley Lloyd-Davies and the late Daisy Fisher for their memories.