

ST MARY THE VIRGIN RIVERHEAD WITH DUNTON GREEN

CHURCH HALL REPORT 2016

The year 2015 was, as ever, a busy year for the hall. Our regular users have remained faithful although we did sadly lose Musical Bumps who had been using the hall more or less since it opened. The leader decided to go into Teacher Training and although someone else took over her classes, attendance fell away and they felt they had to close. The hall remains a popular venue for parties with families coming back year after year and I have to say most of the time, they leave everywhere clean and tidy.

We suffered a couple of "break ins" during the year, the first one not proving successful. The prospective thief, having broken the frosted glass window, realised that there was nothing in the office worth cutting him/herself to ribbons for and gave up. The second was rather more enterprising and actually climbed through the window, raided the fair trade cabinet for all the chocolate and left through the fire door taking with him a fire extinguisher. On another occasion youths entered the hall during Scottish Country Dancing, removed the new fire extinguisher (which had been replaced) and proceeded to spray all the cars in the car park. We have now had a door bell fitted so that it can be locked whilst activities are going on in the main hall.

The hall was opened in 1999 which makes it seventeen years old and the kitchen is now extremely tired and not really up to health and safety standards so the PCC have decided that this year, during the month of August, when everything goes quiet, we shall have the kitchen refitted. This will, I am sure, make the hall an even more attractive proposition for renting.

Margaret Nicholas