

This was the fourth year of operation for Wootton Community and Sports Trust (WCAST). As a reminder for anyone new - we are a charitable trust, responsible for the provision and maintenance of the Burditch Hall, the Play Corner and the Playing Field.

Both adult and youth football has continued to thrive in Wootton due to the facilities being regularly used by teams in various age groups and leagues from Stonesfield, Yarnton and other local clubs. We continue to have a youth-sized pitch marked out alongside the larger adult sized pitch.

The Play Corner remains in good condition and the next ROSPA inspection is due shortly. Apart from routine maintenance we don't anticipate any issues.

Mowing costs throughout the year are one of our greatest expenses, totalling around £1700. **WCAST would like to be considered for any precept funds from the Parish Council towards these costs please.** The rest of the field maintenance is done by volunteers and trustees.

In the Burditch Hall, the weekly coffee mornings held on Thursday mornings continue to be well attended. They are free and open to all, and we thank Caroline Bateman and other helpers for running these on our behalf. A village book club also continues to run on a monthly basis, open to all and free of charge. Regular art classes run in the hall with a materials-only cost to participants, and from the autumn it is likely to be used to support the new Wootton Singers group. The hall is still available for private hire at very affordable rates. Apart from a regular cleaning contract and occasional maintenance tasks, everything at the hall is run and maintained by volunteers.

The bridge bar continues to be open to the public many Friday evenings, and we are hugely grateful to all our volunteers for giving up their time to provide this option for the village. On the first Friday of every month we run a bingo night and meat draw which is extremely well attended and enjoyed by many people from the local area. We thank our regular bingo caller Pete Appleford for his services.

Other popular events run for the community at the bar include music quizzes, pizza nights, the Christmas sing-along, and specialist cocktail evenings. We also regularly open our doors for bigger televised sporting events, so everyone has the opportunity to watch on our big projector screen in the company of other fans. Sometimes with curry too!

We have recently invested in a pool table which is proving very popular. Regular 'games' evenings are now scheduled to allow people to play pool, darts, table football etc., all for free. We hope to bring back the regular Oxfordshire sport of Aunt Sally over the summer too.

We have been pleased to collaborate again with other village organisations to provide joint events such as the outdoor Shakespeare performances and the Flower Show – and we look forward to those things happening again this year. There is also a fun football tournament planned for all locals in June - have you joined a team yet?

The Trustee group has largely remained the same, but we have said goodbye and thank you to Neil Pollard and Ian Hemingway. We are very happy to have welcomed two new Trustees recently - Gary Timms and Marcus Brown. James Gray continues in his role as Chair for WCAST, and Graham Lawrence continues to oversee the playing field and play corner. Rachel Budge and Nat Mitchell-Boorne continue in their roles of Treasurer and Secretary respectively, and Kelly Earle is key contact for all bookings. Sarah Davies looks after the Burditch Hall, and Matt Mead is our events co-ordinator and looks after the bridge bar.

We are extremely grateful for all the support we receive from everyone who attends and/or helps out at events, to all our amazing volunteers and supporters, and to the community for helping us to ensure that the Burditch Hall and Playing Field are there for people of all ages to enjoy.

Thank you