

The Village Newsletter

Serving the residents of Great Witchingham



Welcome to the Autumn edition of *The Village* the Great Witchingham Village Hall Newsletter

In this 2nd edition of *The Village* Newsletter we want to share with you our thoughts on what we envisage happening over the next 18 months as we watch our new village hall being built. For much of the past 6 years the Trustees have been engaged in the design, consultation and planning process, however, as the building work commences the focus has very much changed. To paraphrase the words of Lord Kitchener, **"YOUR VILLAGE NEEDS YOU!"**



In this Issue

Future Fundraising Events and Ideas: a review of just some of the ideas we have in mind and how you could get involved.

Turning back time - Reflections of 1919: the Great Witchingham Village Hall Community Fundraising Appeal.

Generating support within the local community.

Kitting out the village hall: what facilities still require funding.

The Great Witchingham War Memorial: thoughts behind the design process and plans to celebrate the centenary of World War I.

Sign up to join the Community Action Team.

Save the Date:

Community Fundraising Appeal Launch

Spring 2014

Evidencing support from the local community. See page 3

Open Gardens Day
14/15th June 2014

Have you ever wondered what was behind that fence? Would you like to open up your garden? See page 2

WWI Centenary
28th July 2014

The Great Witchingham War Memorial and Remembrance Garden plans. See page 5



Future Fundraising Events/Ideas



The Trustees regularly receive suggestions for fundraising events and ideas, however there is only so much the five of us can do. Please consider offering your help and join a team to transform these great ideas into reality. Here are just a few of the suggestions under consideration. Please complete the form on page 6 to let us know if/how you'd like to get involved.

Open Gardens

The Parochial Church Council and the GWVH Trustees are joining together to organise an Open Garden weekend. Open Gardens have become very popular in recent years and provide a great way to raise much needed funds. Some residents in Great Witchingham have opened up their gardens on a few occasions over the years and although it requires hard work most have found it a rewarding experience. Would *you* like to open up your own garden or join the organising team for the open gardens day on 14/15th June? Contact Liz 01603 872249

Walk the Wensum Way

The 12 mile Wensum Way passes through some beautiful central Norfolk landscape linking the Nar Valley Way at Gressenhall with the Marriott's Way at Lenwade. Would *you* like to help organise a sponsored walk and try to generate interest amongst the keen ramblers within the community?

100 Club

A 100 Club is a form of lottery with a pre-set amount of numbered lottery tickets. Each month participants pay a fixed subscription for their number/s. Each numbered ticket is entered into a monthly draw and prizes are awarded. A percentage of the profits are given as the lottery prize and the remainder to Village Hall funds. Would *you* be able to help facilitate the GWVH 100 Club?

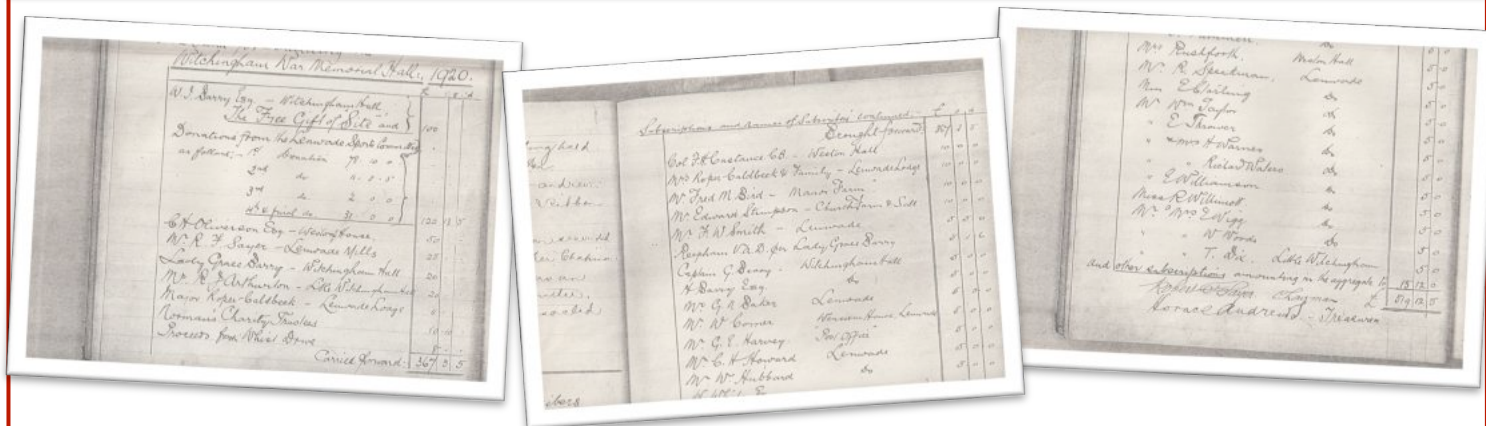


Buy-a-Brick

Many community projects have benefitted from buy-a-brick schemes whereby residents are able to demonstrate their support by contributing towards the bricks and mortar. It's yet to be decided if a physical wall will be set aside to accommodate such a scheme or whether a virtual wall will be set up on our website. Further details will follow in due course but it would be helpful to know if you would like to contribute towards the buy-a-brick scheme. See page 6.

Share your comments on line at www.gwvh.org.uk





Turning back time: reflections of 1919

These are the recorded minutes from a Great Witchingham Parish meeting dated Tuesday 25th March 1919

A well attended meeting of parishioners was held in the school rooms for the purpose of discussing the desirability of raising a War Memorial in the Parish. Mr W. J. Barry who convened the meeting presided and pointed out the various advantages to be derived were a building to be erected which be used for a Reading room and Parish room. Such a building had been needed a long time and he proposed that a Parish memorial hall should be built in furtherance of which object he was willing to give the necessary land adjoining the School premises and he would also give a substantial subscription to start the scheme in and of which he believed £300 could be collected and more if necessary. Mr R.F.Sayer seconded and also promised a subscription and a further gift of materials for the purpose of the building. No substitutional scheme being proposed on the suggestion of the Chairman it was resolved that a committee of seven be appointed whose first duties would be to raise subscriptions and do the necessary work in relation to the planning and building of the edifice the said committee to hold office til one year after the completion and opening of the building. The Committee also to take such steps as might be deemed necessary for the placing (*sic*) in the Parish Church and Chapels scroll in memorium tablets containing the names of those parishioners who had fallen. A committee of seven were elected as follows ... It was decided that the building plans when prepared should be submitted to a meeting of parishioners convened for the purpose. Signed W.J. Barry Chairman

The total subscription raised by the residents of Great Witchingham amounted to £519 - 12s - 5d. Therefore we decided to enquire as to how much £519-12s-5d would be in today's money accounting for inflation and discovered that it would have the same spending power as £11,021.16 - an ambitious but achievable target to set for our community fundraising appeal.

Community Appeal Target £11,021.16



Why are we seeking funding from members of the local community? We thought that it would be fantastic if the local residents and businesses residing in Great Witchingham in 2013 could pull together as our predecessors did to demonstrate their support for the Great Witchingham Village Hall Project. In the next edition of *The Village Newsletter* we'll be officially launching the community fundraising appeal to coincide with the start of the village hall construction. We anticipate this taking place in the Spring of 2014.

As you will have read the Village Hall Trustees continue to seek funds in order to fully kit out the new hall. Our intention is to raise the majority of these funds from grant applications and we have already made good inroads. However, the success of future applications depends on our ability to evidence support and financial commitment from local residents and businesses. Potential funders will be looking for such evidence before considering supporting the project. So, please give consideration as to how you might like to contribute towards the Community Fundraising Appeal.

Kitting out the Village Hall

Entrance Foyer

Having visited a number of Village Halls we consider the entrance foyer to be an especially important feature of the building. We therefore hope to create an entrance with a wow factor that will both attract potential user groups whilst providing a practical function in enabling visitors to mingle, enjoy a drink from the bar or make enquiries from the office.



Tables and Chairs

Our highest priority must be to find funds to obtain quality tables and chairs to cater for events that will take place both in the main hall and the meeting room. Moreover, we need to purchase glasses, cutlery, napkins, tablecloths, water jugs and more besides. The overall cost is likely to be substantial as I'm sure you can imagine ... oh, I almost forgot, we also need to buy white goods for the kitchen.

Drinks Bar

Being able to host a great function, whether it be a birthday party, anniversary celebration, wedding banquet or Christening necessitates having both a well equipped kitchen but also a practical bar area. We therefore wish to raise sufficient funds to equip the bar to enable user groups to entertain their guests in the appropriate style.

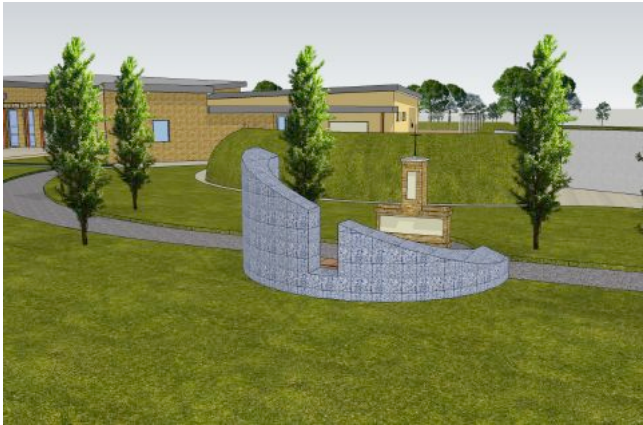


Modular Stage and Audio/Lighting

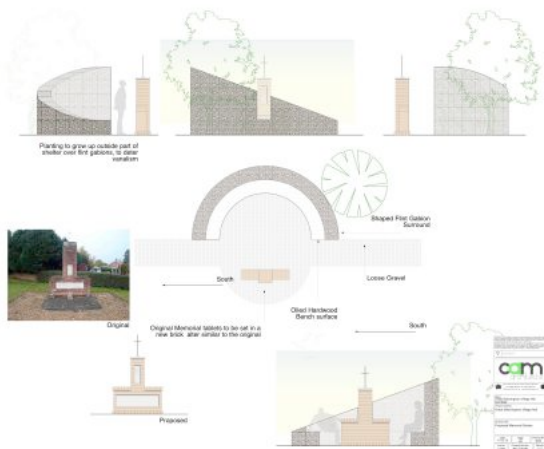
We believe that Great Witchingham's new village hall will be an attractive venue in which to host any number of musical or dramatic events. We therefore intend to apply for funding from appropriate sources to purchase a modular stage and the audio/lighting equipment required to encourage arts companies to use our facilities.



The Great Witchingham War Memorial



The Great Witchingham War Memorial is temporarily being stored in St. Mary's Church awaiting its new home on the Village Hall site. The reestablishment of our memorial on a prominent new site is very close to our hearts and therefore a great deal of thought has gone into the design concept of the new site. Our architects have designed a memorial garden and seating area that we believe will complement the memorial tablet. As



you are no doubt aware 28th July 2014 marks the centenary of the start of WWI. We therefore plan to work alongside the developers and the Parish Council to try and complete the project in sufficient time to mark this significant date with the unveiling of the new memorial and garden.

Time Capsule

A **time capsule** is a historic **cache** of goods or information, usually intended as a method of **communication** with future people and to help future **archaeologists**, **anthropologists** or **historians**. Time capsules are sometimes created and buried during celebrations such as a **cornerstone** laying for a building.

The Trustees would like to celebrate the opening of the new Village Hall by establishing our own village time capsule. We would therefore like you to consider what you would place into a time capsule for future generations to discover. It could be photographs, letters, memoirs or even your redundant mobile phone. As long as it fits into a container no larger than a small shoe box. For a nominal donation to the village hall project you can immortalise your memories for generations to come.



Please let us know if you would be interested in participating in the Great Witchingham Time Capsule project or better still would like to join the organising team – see *page 6*.

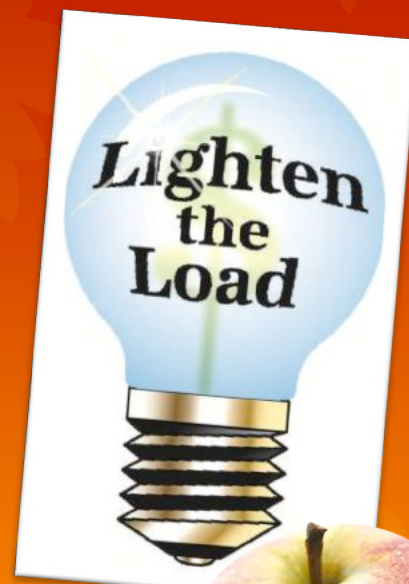
If you have an interest in the Centenary commemorations or are a relative of a Parish resident who fell in the Great War, perhaps you would like to get further involved in the War Memorial project. If you are interested in finding out more then circle the appropriate apple on *page 6*

Community Action Team

So, now that you know how much still needs to be achieved would you consider joining the Community Action Team? We're looking for 30 village residents to join the team to support the fundraising ideas.

Volunteering can be a very rewarding experience. As well as making new friends you may discover that you have skills that you never imagined you had.

We're not asking you to make a major commitment but if *you* could do a little, then *we* can achieve so much.



Sign up today



I am interested in (circle all of the apples that apply)

Joining the Community Action Team



I would particularly like to know more about:

Opening up my garden in June 2014



Walking the Wensum Way



The 100 Club



The War Memorial Centenary Commemorations



I would like to make a contribution towards the Community Appeal Target



I am considering buying a brick



I would be interested in participating in the Time Capsule initiative



Please complete your name and contact details below:



Name:

Address:

Email address:

Contact Tel Number:

All completed forms should be returned to Maxims on Fakenham Road for the attention of Kerry Burchinshaw

