**Woldingham Village Hall**

**Chair’s Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2022**

I am delighted to report that 2022 was a better year for the Hall. Following the lifting of all pandemic restrictions the level of hires was returning to normal levels although discounted rates were maintained until the end of June to help those hirers whose activities had been badly affected. By mid-year activity levels were back to pre-pandemic volumes. We also managed to hold an AGM, which had not been possible during Lockdown.

With the improved activity in the hall, we have been able to resume our managed programme of investment in maintaining and improving the facilities. This year we focused on refurbishing our smaller meeting room, installing additional security lights, and making much needed repair to the hall’s fascias and soffits which were replaced with plastic. Conscious of steeply rising energy bills, we also installed a new remote control heating system in the building so the temperature can be adjusted room by room, according to use on an hourly basis. We also continued our renovation programme for our tenanted cottage.

The highlight of the year was our concert for the community in November called Let The Music Play. In the past Woldingham had many events that brought the residents together, and we aimed to revive that. The evening was a huge success, in fact it was a sell out, all those that came thought the Surrey Yeomanry Symphonic Wind Orchestra were exceptional musicians. Their programme of music from famous films, musicals and the all time greats was judged perfect for the occasion.

We sadly said goodbye to Ernie McGirr, who resigned as a Trustee. He had represented the Woldingham Players who have now ceased putting on plays in the hall.

I would like to extend a thank you to our booking secretary, Jennifer Lofthouse, who looks after our hirers and ensures all runs smoothly, to Mat Jeary who looks after the hall and its grounds, and to Hazel Dixon who has for many years volunteered to keep the flowerbeds looking colourful.

My greatest thanks go to Nicki Fraser our Secretary, and Peter Farrar our Treasurer for their unrelenting commitment to their roles.

A thank you also to all the Trustees who keep the Hall up and running for the Woldingham village.

Martin Lewis, Chair

www.woldinghamvillagehall.com