



# News Update Q1

## Chairman's Update January 2025

With 2024 seemingly long gone we are already accelerating through January. We thought we would give an update on some more recent activity at your Village Hall.

Our first Arts Alive event held in November was a huge success another sell out, the Canadian band was fantastic. We can look forward to more high quality Arts Alive events this year, we will keep you posted.

Ahead of the event we managed to install new acoustic panels, constructed from sheep's wool, this was in our plan and has noticeably improved the sound within the hall. Thanks again to The Forman Family whose generous donation enabled this to happen.

I am sure everyone is aware of the launch of The Happy Abbot Community Pub. We now have our own license for the sale of alcohol alongside our pub and events nights. A massive thanks to Anthony who has built us the most fantastic bar using all recycled materials. All this change means that any profits for running the bar are now returning to the Hall further strengthening our long term financial sustainability. Our next pub night is 31st January, please do come along, it's a great opportunity to meet other people in the village.

A consequence of the license is that we do need to install CCTV, a cost we had not foreseen, which will need to be installed by end of February. Externally we will be replacing the rotting wooden doors to the store during February.

Many of you will have noticed that we removed the overgrown leylandii hedge to the rear of the hall improving the light and vista. This created some disquiet from a number of quarters, however as part of our plan we are replanting with a deciduous hedge and your Parish Council have kindly donated the hedging plants, hopefully we will get those in shortly.

On a final note we will be saying goodbye to Andrea Coggins our treasurer due to family commitments. A big thank you to Andrea, it does however mean we are looking for a Treasurer going forwards. If you would like to be considered for this exciting post please contact myself or Hayley directly.

Wishing you all a happy and healthy 2025,

Jon Evans

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## 2024 Event Updates

Here's a flavour of what fun we had in the last quarter of 2024...

### Pumpkin Carving – Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October

An enjoyable time was had at the Village Hall when kids (& grown-up kids alike!) came together to carve Halloween pumpkins. A big thanks to Hayley, Elaine, Lina and Anthony for donating delicious homemade pumpkin soup and to Morrison's for donating the pumpkins for carving.



### Allison Lupton – Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November

Arts Alive came to Brampton Abbots for the first time in November. Allison Lupton, Shane Cook and Kyle Waymouth performed to a capacity audience and it was an evening of song, dance, humour and laughter. This talented Canadian group of musicians entertained us in a very relaxed manner and were well received by an appreciative audience who left at the end with a smile on their faces.

Thanks to Elaine for all her hard work securing Arts Alive, Len for volunteering to be our barman on the night and Anthony, Jon, John and Mike for constructing a stage suitable to withstand Kyle's spectacular step dancing!

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Our next Arts Alive is on 1<sup>st</sup> May and will be very different in many ways. Victor and Albert are funny, have wonderful singing voices and provide great entertainment to all age groups. You won't be disappointed. Tickets will go on sale during March.

### Christmas Wreath Workshop – Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December

A lovely evening was spent creating Christmas Wreaths, supping Mulled Wine and eating Mince Pies. Claire and Tracy from Designer Flowers provided super instructions and a treasure trove of decorative materials...



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## Christmas Quiz Night – Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December

Our resident Quiz Master Rob provided a festive round of questions and along with Parson's 'Christmas Dinner' Pasties a jolly good time was had by all. Congratulations to the winning team of Charlotte, Alex, Lisa and Mark who each won a pair of Christmas 'Happy Socks'!



## Nativity Concert – Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December

Thank you to the children and staff of Oak House Nursery for performing their nativity concert. A small group of villagers thoroughly enjoyed a magical performance and feasted on nursery made mince pies.

## Christmas Church Service and Carols – Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December

Well done to everyone that turned out on a cold winter evening to attend the Christmas Carol Service at St Michaels, the service included a jolly sermon by Canon Freda Davies, festive spoken words read by Simon, Mike and Rosemary and a beautifully rendition by the Bramptones of the sacred Christmas carol Gaudete. It was then back to the Village Hall for more carolling with Jane and Sharon, mulled wine and cider and warm mince pies and sausage rolls. Refreshments were kindly provided by the VH and the PCC but a special thanks goes to Mark for his donation of the home made mince pies laced with Jack's whisky!



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## Your Community Pub

'The Happy Abbot Pub' is now up and running and will open the last Friday of the month.

We have secured our full premises licence to serve alcohol at VH functions. Under the terms of the licence, this will only be available at VH sponsored events.

Wi-Fi is now available, having been installed in December. This will be available free to VH users with the password on display in the Kitchen area.

The implementation of Wi-Fi has allowed us to obtain a card machine so that we can now take card payments at all events.

We are looking for volunteers to help run the bar (One event per year as a minimum). Please contact [admin@bavhall.co.uk](mailto:admin@bavhall.co.uk) if you feel you are able to help.

The next pub night is Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January. Tracey from T'licious will be serving Curry as long as we can guarantee 30 orders, so brush off those January blues, order a curry and come and meet some HAPPY ABBOTS...



The happy  
**Abbot**  
**PUB**

BRAMPTON ABBOTTS VILLAGE HALL

**Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January**  
**5.30pm – 9pm**

Chicken or Veggie \*Curry  
Rice & Naan Bread by

Adult £10 / Child £5

Essential to book your Curry  
Please email [admin@bavhall.co.uk](mailto:admin@bavhall.co.uk)

\*Gluten, dairy & nut free



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## Event Planning

The Events Planning team currently consists of three Trustees (Ali, Anthony and Charlotte) and is supported by three volunteers (Elaine, Lina and Adrienne).

Now in our fourth year of Events Planning we are looking for additional support to firstly help us come up with new ideas to keep our events fresh and secondly to offer organisational support.

We are due to meet early February to brainstorm event ideas and we would really appreciate new input. If you feel you could offer a little support please email us at [admin@bavhall.co.uk](mailto:admin@bavhall.co.uk) detailing your name and contact details.

## Event Advertising

Over the last few years, we have had the availability of a colour printer which has enabled us to produce and display our Event posters. We would like to say a big thank you to Mike for this support. Unfortunately we are soon to lose this facility and therefore need to re-think how we advertise our events.

Posters will still be produced, uploaded to the VH website and circulated via email and WhatsApp groups. As regards posting them around the village, in future they will only be displayed on the main VH notice board. We aim to keep the 'What's On' section of the website updated so please keep an eye on this.

## Thanks to...

Jon, from all your fellow Trustees for everything you have done in the last year –

- Obtaining our alcohol licence and setting up accounts with Majestic Wines & Wye Valley Brewery
- Organising the installation of Wi-Fi
- Organising the purchase, collection and installation of the acoustic panels
- Donating/supplying Anthony with the materials to build the 'Happy Abbot Pub' bar
- Negotiating the removal of the boundary hedge with Cape Developments and organising the grass seeding/whip planting.

## Website Updates

- 'Home Page' Photo Gallery updated to include new event photos
- 'News / Fundraising' section has been updated to include the 2025 News Update Q1
- 'What's On' section updated to include more information on the 2025 Future Events

## Next Trustee Meeting

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2025