



Welcome to our first ever Carbrooke Village Hall newsletter – designed to keep everyone in the Parish up to date with what is happening at the hall as well as bringing you up to date with all the committee’s plans for the future!



**A bit about the Hall!**

Set at the very heart of Carbrooke Village, the Hall has been a valuable asset for village life for many many years. First opened back in 1956 to mark the Queen’s Coronation, the Hall began its life as a logging cabin and was then purchased by the first committee members and local farmers for the princely sum of £100. Since that time it has undergone many improvements and changes – the most recent being the brand new entrance hall, kitchen and toilets in 2019 and the new Heritage Centre which opened last year.

We were registered as a Charity in 1960 with a constitution that included a very different set of user groups – including the WI and the British Legion. You can find out more about our history from the Heritage Centre or by visiting the website [carbrookehistory.co.uk](http://carbrookehistory.co.uk)

**How we are improving the Hall**

The current committee has been working very hard to deliver a programme of improvements at the Hall. As mentioned we have completely rebuilt the back of the hall to improve the entrance, kitchen and toilets. We have also worked with the Carbrooke Heritage group to provide an excellent use for the attached portacabin (previously used by Playgroup who have now relocated to the School) as a heritage centre. This was developed with funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund – a project that will culminate with a film about Carbrooke’s history on 25th November.

Not all changes are immediately visible. The Hall has been rewired this year which has also given us the capacity to purchase and install a digital screen and projector – new speakers (currently being sourced) will complete this set up so that we will be able to put on film screening nights and offer more professional facilities for hirers.

Our next big project is replacing the hall roof and we are currently working on bids to relevant funders – watch this space for more updates. Other improvements on our wish list include painting the outside of the hall, updating the bar area and replacing some of our bar furniture.

Carbrooke Coronation Hall has been a village asset for the past 67 years. Everyone on the Village Hall Committee is fully committed to keeping updating and improving the hall so that it remains an asset to the village for the next 67 years and more!!

Since 2017 the current Village Hall committee has raised over £90,000 from grants, fundraising, donations and events.

**Events at the Village Hall**



In 2022 we set up an events sub-committee to increase the usage of the Hall and provide entertainment on the doorstep for local people. Since then we have run a number of successful events including quiz nights, band nights, race nights and a very popular murder mystery night. The committee also successfully bid for funding from Breckland Council for a Coronation tea party - free to Carbrooke residents. This was a sell out and attracted many of our community’s oldest residents.

**What’s on July- December 2023**

- Sat 22 July** - **The Dell Boys Band**
- Sat 26 Aug** - **Quiz Night**
- Sat 23 Sept** - **‘September Fest’**
- Sat 14 Oct** - **with the ABC Blues Bros Band**
- Sat 18 Nov** - **Race Night**
- Sun 26 Nov** - **Comedy Drag Bingo**
- Sat 2 Dec** - **Heritage Film Show**
- Sat 16 Dec** - **Christmas Bazaar**
- Sat 16 Dec** - **Band night**



Visit our website or Facebook page for details and booking

### Private hire

The Hall is available to hire – and has always been very popular for children’s birthday parties and other celebratory events. We are also available to hire for meetings, wakes and outside clubs. We are fully licenced and can provide a bar for adult events. Full details of hiring the Hall (capacity, hire charges, availability and booking conditions) can be found on our website.

### Regular clubs and classes

We currently have a few regular clubs and classes using the hall – including a coffee morning, yoga, and a craft group that meets every two weeks on a Friday morning but we are looking to set up more. Following on from the popular Carbrooke Gardeners’ page on Facebook we are hoping to restart a gardening club (there was one at the Hall until it folded several years ago.) At the Coronation tea we were also made aware of the needs of many of our older residents so we are working with the church and other organisations to launch a lunch club and a warm space in the winter for those who may need it.

### Carbrooke Village Hall bar

Our bar is open every Friday night and alternate Sundays, offering a wide range of alcoholic and non alcoholic drinks at a lot less than pub prices (have you bought a pint in London recently?!!)



Alan, our excellent bar manager, has built a great relationship with our suppliers and is always looking for new products to stock. The bar is also available to hire for events.

[www.carbrookevillagehall.co.uk](http://www.carbrookevillagehall.co.uk)

[www.facebook.com/carbrookevillagehallnorfolk](https://www.facebook.com/carbrookevillagehallnorfolk)

### Carbrooke Heritage Centre



In case you didn’t know, our lovely Parish has a rich history - from the 12<sup>th</sup> century Knights Hospitallers to the establishment of a

US air base during World War 2. To help share and celebrate this amazing history the rapidly growing Heritage Group has been collecting and collating the Parish’s history over the past decade, now on display at the Heritage Centre.

The Centre is open by arrangement, please contact us by email to organise a visit. It can also be accessed during public events in the hall. The Heritage Centre gives everyone the chance to learn more about the area where they live and will allow people to research their family histories as well as giving senior members of the community the chance to record their memories for generations to come.

Get in touch at: [carbrookeheritage@gmail.com](mailto:carbrookeheritage@gmail.com)

### Working with the Millennium Green

We know how lucky we are to have our beautiful Carbrooke Millennium Green adjacent to the hall and we are working much closer with their committee as we move forward towards 2024 – especially as we now have a new rep on our committee. Those who have been in the village for several years will remember our fabulous village fetes – a real community project involving the Hall, Green, Church, School, Playgroup and Heritage group – something we are working on bringing back for 2024.



[www.facebook.com/carbrookegreen](https://www.facebook.com/carbrookegreen)

### Keep up with what’s happening at the Hall

- look out for our event flyers delivered to your door
- check out our Facebook page and website

[www.carbrookevillagehall.co.uk](http://www.carbrookevillagehall.co.uk) - QR code

If you have any comments or suggestions you can contact us through our Facebook page or website, or email us at:

[info@carbrookevillagehall.co.uk](mailto:info@carbrookevillagehall.co.uk)  
[events@carbrookevillagehall.co.uk](mailto:events@carbrookevillagehall.co.uk)

Phone: 01953 883577 (Mondays-Wednesdays 9-3)



**Don’t forget to put your glass and old clothes in the Bottle and Clothes Banks in the Hall car park - all proceeds to the Millennium Green!**