

Margaret Harker Hall & Blofield Memorial Ground

Registered charity number:
303908

Volunteers Needed email
fundraisingMHH@outlook.com



History of the Hall:

One hundred years ago the Parish Hall (the Margaret Harker Hall) was given to Blofield by William and Mrs Harker. The parishioners then purchased the recreational grounds as part of the memorial to those fallen in the First World War. Since then, it has been at the heart of the community and we need volunteers to ensure this continues.

Why is Margaret Harker Hall still so important today?

The hall is multi use and accommodates many different groups and clubs as well as being available for private hire for parties or one-off events.

The hall operates as a preschool 4 days a week, during term time. They can accommodate up to 30 children per session and offer a fantastic facility for parents and children to enjoy. Something which parents rely on weekly for the care of their children.

Various sports clubs use the hall for regular bookings including weekly badminton groups and dance clubs (Dancing Dimensions). Both of which offer great exercise opportunities for young and old.

Broadbeat choir regularly use the hall for their weekly meet up which is a fun and welcoming singing group which is open to all ages in the community.

There is also Blofield Players the local drama group as well as the Gardening Club who use the hall throughout the year. This isn't to mention the numerous birthday parties and charity events which are held at our historical hall over the course of a year.

Who keeps it running?

A group of volunteers, from all walks of life, with a shared interest in maintaining and providing Margaret Harker Hall for the local community and surrounding villages. We have no special qualifications or specific experience. We simply want to support and help our village hall.

Current committee members

*"I moved to Blofield in 2018 and wanted to get to know more about the local community so when I saw an advert for trustees, I went along to find out more. Since then, I've held the roles of Secretary, Treasurer and now Chair. It's been rewarding to collectively keep the hall running and particularly to see the play park project through to completion." **Jenny, (Chair.)***

*I joined the committee in 2018 when my daughter was at preschool. I wanted to support the hall where the preschool operated from. Now, even though my daughter has left preschool, I am still part of the committee helping to ensure its future generations to come – **Zoey (Secretary)***

I joined the committee when my child started preschool. I soon realised without

the committee, who give just a small amount of their time, the hall would not function and therefore the preschool could not operate neither as it would have no home. I feel by doing this I am giving a little something back to a village I love to live in. – Jon (Trustee)

I volunteer to help ensure the village hall can continue to run. Without volunteers to keep things afloat the village would lose its hall, which would be a big blow for the groups who use it - pre-school, badminton, indoor tennis, choir, dance classes to name a few. Also, as landlords of the whole playing field, without a functioning Margaret Harker Hall committee, the village would also potentially lose its tennis club, football club and scout hall. – Warren (Treasurer)

As part of the badminton club, who use the hall, I decided to join the committee to keep up to date with all that is happening and to support the running of the facilities – Val (Trustee)

How do we do it?

We come together, six to eight times per year to discuss the maintenance of the building and grounds, what funding opportunities are available and the halls finances. Collectively we (the trustees) have to make decisions on what is best for the hall and how to ensure its future for the local people.

Without a committee none of these groups or clubs would exist. Without volunteers the charity would not be able to operate. The hall would simply close.

Oh, and don't forget the playpark. Without a committee to maintain the equipment and pay for the insurance the facility would have to be closed to the public.

How can you help?

We are looking to recruit some volunteers for our hall committee, with our main focus being for a new Chairperson.

Our current Chairperson is stepping down from May and this position **MUST** be filled for the hall to continue operating.

Do you have a desire to support your local hall and community? Can you spare an hour or so each week? Are you looking for a rewarding role to enhance your local village? Do you use the hall and its facilities?

If the answer is yes to any of these questions please get in touch:

fundraisingMHH@outlook.com

There are 3 mandatory roles which must be filled - the Chairperson, Treasurer and Secretary. Without these in place, the Hall will be forced to close.

Any newcomers will be well supported by the remaining Committee Members who are passionate about the hall and the village we live in.

If a committee is not formed the Hall and grounds will no longer be able to open.

Roles on the Committee

Chairperson (circa 5-6 hours per month on average) This role will be available from May. Please make it known if you wish to put yourself forward for this role and you will be given full handover from the current Chairperson ready for May.

Roles & Responsibilities

- * Oversee the running of the hall and committee.
- * Chair the Margaret Harker Hall committee meetings every 6-8 weeks.
- * Update charity commission with new trustees.

Secretary (Circa 1-2 hours per month average) This role is currently filled. However, you may choose to put yourself forward for nomination.

Roles & Responsibilities

- * Receive agenda items from Committee Members.
- * Circulate agendas and report to Committee Members.
- * Take minutes during meetings and distribute to Committee Members.
- * Check that agreed actions are carried out by relevant committee members.

Vice Chairperson (Circa 1-2 hours per month on average) This role is currently available. Please make it known if you wish to put yourself forward for this role.

Roles & Responsibilities

- * Assist the Chairperson with the running of the hall and to cover when Chairperson unavailable.
- * Ensure all Committee Members have completed relevant forms when joining the committee.

Fundraising Coordinator (varies depending on events but 2-3 hours per month average) This role is currently available. Please make it known if you wish to put yourself forward for this role.

Roles & Responsibilities

- * Take the lead for organising fundraising events. (It is not necessarily required to run each one.)
- * Will need to organise the Committee and staff to assist with the planning and preparation of each event.
- * Make sure events are successfully advertised.

Treasurer (Circa 3-4 hours per month average) This role is currently filled. Please make it known if you wish to put yourself forward for this role.

Roles & Responsibilities

- * Responsible for all financial record keeping of the hall.
- * Issuing invoices quarterly to regular hirers.

Caretaker/maintenance (circa 1-2 hours per month average) This role is currently available.

Roles & Responsibilities

- * Contact traders, as and when, repairs are needed.
- * Obtain quotes and be available to traders for access to the hall for them to fulfil contract.
- * Ideally be a 'handyman' who can make and assist with minor repairs

Bookings secretary (circa 2-3 hours per month average) This role is currently filled. However, you may choose to put yourself forward for this role.

Roles & Responsibilities

- * To liaise with private bookers about hall availability and prices.
- * To update calendar with ad hoc bookings.

Playpark Inspector (Circa 1-2 hours per month average) This role is currently filled. However, you may choose to put yourself forward for this role.

Roles & Responsibilities

- * To inspect the playpark on a weekly basis and ensure it is safe for public use.
- * Report any issues via an online app.