

The Entertainments Committee is an informal sub-Committee of the Management Committee. Four members of the Entertainments Committee, Adrian Green, Melanie Goldman, Steve Beer and myself, are also on the Management Committee but it is not a requirement for membership and it is open to anyone to become a member, contribute ideas and to help at village events.

During the reporting year, six significant events were organised by the Committee beginning with the 2014 Annual Quiz, which was held a little later than previous years and so falls into the 2015 financial year.

The **2014 Quiz** was very well attended with a nearly full Village Hall so that additional tables had to be provided in the skittle alley. Unfortunately this meant that some quizgoers, who were in the skittle alley, sometimes found it difficult to hear the questions. The problem was resolved for this year's quiz by the purchase of a wireless speaker for the skittle alley. A cheese and pate supper was provided half way through the 11 rounds of questions and the quiz was won by a team from Dolton while the runners up team came from the village. The net profit I am reporting for all events includes notional profit on bar sales. On this basis the net profit for the 2014 Quiz was £ 406.

The **Scrumpy Stroll** was held, as usual, in May. Despite it being quite a wet day we had more than 50 adults and children who came on the Stroll, plus a few four legged friends. The Stroll was led by Steve Beer with numerous cider stops along the way, as well as ice creams to keep energy levels high enough for the steeper hills. After the last cider stop, a short tractor trailer ride took everyone back to the village hall for the BBQ and bar. As it was too wet to have children's games along the way these were held in the village hall, after everyone had dried out. The Committee would like to express their thanks to Mr and Mrs David Brown for allowing us to cross their land at East Hele Farm. In all, the net profit for the Scrumpy Stroll was £259.

In June, we held the **Music Festival** on the Playing Fields. Unlike the day of the Scrumpy Stroll, the weather for the Music Festival was glorious sunshine and we had a gate of nearly two hundred people. The annual tug of war battle between the Hutchings Contractors team and the farmer's team resulted in a win for the farmers on this occasion. We also organized a number of other competitions to amuse people before the music started and these included bale tossing and nail hammering competitions. After the competitions, with lagers from around the world on a World Cup theme, plus an assortment of local ales, people were soon in the mood for music. The night's entertainment was provided by the North Devon Band Wild Strawberries; this appears to have been quite a popular choice of Band and so we have booked them again for this year's Music Festival. The evening was a great success and raised a total of more than £1400.

The **Frithelstock Hallowe'en Fun Night** was held in October. The Village Hall was transformed into a Hallowe'en cave for the night with spiders, ghostly lights and pumpkins and most adult villagers and their children came in fancy dress. The evening began with a pumpkin carving competition, with prizes for the best

junior and adult carved pumpkins. Villagers brought in their home grown pumpkins for weighing and measuring to find the biggest pumpkin on the night and there were also prizes for the best junior and adult fancy dress. We held childrens' games on a Hallowe'en theme and the whole evening was accompanied by Hallowe'en themed music. A supper of hot dogs was made available throughout the evening and the bar did a modest trade. Although the intention was not to maximize profit, but to provide a fun night for the children of the village, the Hallowe'en Night made a modest net profit of £126. It is probable that we shall not hold another Hallowe'en night again for two or three years so that it remains a bit of a novelty.

Regrettably, the December **Christmas Fun Night** had to be cancelled. The decision to cancel was mainly due to two factors: one factor was that there were other Christmas events which clashed with the Fun Night date; the other factor was that there were insufficient acts confirmed for the evening, (this was partly, though not wholly, due to the clash of dates). Lessons learned by the Committee include:

- Setting the date for the Fun Night as soon as is practicable each year.
- Increasing the effort made in trying to identify other events which may 'clash'.
- Preferably choosing a date which means that children do not have to get up the next day to go to school.
- Confirming acts for the Fun Night well in advance.

The last event of the Reporting Year was the **2015 Quiz**. This was even better attended than the 2014 Quiz, with the Hall at nearly maximum capacity and the skittle alley again used to accommodate additional tables. The numbers were particularly good given that there was a quiz for cash prizes on the same night at Weare Gifford. Both the winning team and the runners up were from the Village with bottles of wine as usual for each of the winning team and a seasonal Easter Egg consolation prize for the runners up. The 2015 Quiz made a net profit of £443.

In addition to these events, the Bar has been opened for the regular First Friday Social Night; a wedding reception, an 18th Birthday Party, an annual skittles competition, charitable fund raising and several other events.

Together, all these events and the bar have contributed nearly £4,000 towards funds for the Hall; the Committee would like to thank everybody who was involved, in whatever fashion, in organising and putting them on.

The events that we are planning for the coming year include a Scrumpy Stroll on Sunday 24th May and the Music and Beer Festival on Saturday 20th June, when the band will again be Wild Strawberries. We have yet to decide on an event to be held in September or October but we do have a draft date for the Christmas Fun Night; subject to checking for potential clashes the draft date for the Fun Night is Friday 18th December. There will also be the 2016 Quiz Night on a date to be confirmed in March or April next year.

If there are any other types of events that you would like to see organised in the hall, or if you would like to be involved in helping with any of the events, please don't

hesitate to talk to a member of the Entertainments Committee.

Finally, the Committee would like to thank everyone in the village who has attended the various events we have organised during the past year; we hope that you have enjoyed them and thank you for your continued support.