

Waveney Heritage October 2019.

Hallo everybody and welcome to Autumn! Actually, as I write this at the end of September the weather has not been too bad; we've finally had some rain, but sunshine in-between and the temperatures are holding up, saving on the heating bill, so we'll see what happens next.

We've been busy as usual at the Centre. The really big news is that the Community Action participants have spent this week working very hard on the garden and outside painting. The garden is now in a condition where we should be able to keep it under control with help from our volunteer gardeners, maybe including any of you who might like to offer a bit of time occasionally? I think you might be seeing the occasional appeal for help!

Despite the rain the workers have also completed about a third of the outside painting, so we're looking very smart. When it rained, they worked inside and have installed all the black-out blinds in the hall and put up display boards there as well.

The purchase of paints and equipment, along with the cost of a skip and also the boards for the hall to aid displays of art work and at exhibitions, but also copious quantities of tea and biscuits, was made possible by a generous grant from Philip Hudson's Art charity which supports organisations associated with bringing Art to a larger audience. Many thanks Philip. I hope you won't mind us using some of it for the purchase of a different sort of paint! It will beautify the hall!

We have also been donated a half-size snooker table and taken delivery of two table-tennis tables, courtesy of a grant from South Norfolk Council. Thank you so much to the donors and also our members who make it their business to research and apply for grants. It is surprising what is available if you know where to look, but that does take time, as do the applications. We are grateful to all of you.

We are proposing to start a table tennis club in the New Year and also of course to make use of the snooker table. For those of us who feel less energetic we think it would be great to meet on a Tuesday afternoon for chat, maybe book swapping, tea and biscuits (with the occasional cake of course!) and anything else that takes your fancy, like knitting or drawing: really just a chance to get together and relax. We'd like to start this by mid-October, so watch this space! When the weather perks up in the Spring, gentle gardening could be included too. A small band have already cleared the courtyard and are about to put in some plants there and also sorted the raised beds at the front, ready for bulbs. Kind friends from Diss have pruned and continued to train the willow wall at the side of the entrance so things are really moving! If any of you have any spare plants, we would love to have them. Just give Jill or me a ring and we'll collect if necessary, or even better you could come and put them in yourselves!

We are really enjoying our many varied talks this season and Jill is busy organising the Spring programme, so do keep coming. We love to see you and look forward to our next meeting.

Very best wishes to you all,

Mary Thompson

Director and general dogs-body, as usual!