

Hatley Village Hall

Annual Report 2025-26

In the financial year ending 31st March 2026 the hall was hired on 54 occasions, an increase of 11 compared to the previous year, and double the number for 2023-24. As usual, events ranged from children's parties, family gatherings, and bands practicing.

Income from hall hire in this period was just over £3,000, being £1,100 higher than the previous year. In addition to hire by the residents of Hatley and Gamlingay, income in 2025-26 was enhanced by a few corporate bookings, monthly storage fees, donations for car park use by a local rambling group, plus the payment received from South Cambs District Council for the recent polling station.

The positive feedback we receive from hirers is further evidenced by the amount of hirers who return each year. However, at present the only regular hirer is one of the local bands.

The Hatley Village Association and monthly Hatley Coffee Morning held events free of charge in the hall throughout much of last year, however both groups had disbanded by the end of 2025.

The hall still operates without a voluntary caretaker and therefore I continue to look after the hall in addition to my role as booking clerk. I am fortunate to be able to lean on Harold Nickerson from time to time, to help with spot checks, cleans and minor repairs.

We also rely on support from a small group of volunteers to meet and greet hirers, however due to the fact we've had so many returning hirers in the year, my need to call on those helpers has reduced, despite the increase in bookings.

A few new names have also offered to volunteer for this purpose, following the community Bonfire event, though I still need to organise a 'show and tell' with them.

Please do use and encourage others to hire the hall this year, to help keep hall income higher, which in turn keeps your parish precept lower.

Kim Wilde
Parish Clerk and RFO / Hall Bookings Clerk
19.05.26