

Henry Samuel Hall Newsletter

Winter/Spring 2022



Dear residents of Mayland and beyond.

I am writing this second newsletter whilst sitting inside the main hall. The time is 6.15. The clock on the wall which has read 6.07 has been removed but has now been put on a shelf and will be part of our heritage display that will eventually go into our heritage room. It is freezing cold and I can see my breath even with a fan heater going full pelt.

Now wait a minute did he say back thereheritage room..... Yes I did because that is part of our internal plans. These also include; 3 new toilets, a disabled and baby changing toilet, new kitchen and a large community area for informal meetings and refreshments. The main hall is staying more or less as it is but will eventually have new windows, wider access door, better heating and cleaned and resealed floor. This is in part to plans that have been drawn up by Tom who has only recently moved into the village but is passionate about saving the hall. He has been very patient with us as once he started to submit the plans we said could you move this, change that, make that bigger. We eventually submitted PLAN 4 and he still had a smile on his face, I think! I dare not tell him that we now need space for a multiplex cinema, ice skating rink and a 10 lane bowling alley! HAHA!

However we must also not forget our Parish Council, the Hall's Sole Trustees. At the A.G.M. for the Hall held in October the Trustees voted for our plans for the internal changes. A big thank you to them.

Maldon District Council have now passed our plans for improving the outside. This involves taking off the old pebble dashed material, making good and covering it with new cladding including the area above the front porch and the clock tower. We are also intending to put in new double glazed windows and doors.

On top of this we have been given our first grant and that is going to be used to replace guttering, put in new soffits and fascias along with a new front door. We hope this job will be done in April along with the front windows and cladding.

For the first time in ages we are beginning to see people booking time slots for the hall. Exercise classes, martial arts, photography and art classes (Yes our hall is OPEN FOR BUSINESS) and I was lucky to be at the hall when the first art class took place. It was so nice to see Tim and his crew with so many people ready to participate. The hubbub and smiles were a reminder of what the hall was like in the past and can be again.

I feel sure that Joseph Fels, Thomas Smith and of course Henry Samuel would be pleased, along with Miriam Holden and all those that have gone before us to see the Hall emerging again like a phoenix out of the flames.

So what next:

It looks like we are about to appear on BBC ESSEX's Sunday morning treasure hunt challenge. Treasure Quest. Let's hope they find it!

The Boot Sales are going to start in the spring. The dates are Sunday 20th March, 24th April and then every 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month. They start at 11.30 and finish 1.30.

Craft Fair at the Hall is on Saturday 2nd April

Garage Sale is on Saturday 18th June

Music Festival is on Lawling field Saturday 2nd July

Car Show and family fun day on Lawling field Sunday 21st August.

That is just for starters! So come along and support us and let's get the Henry Samuel Hall fully up and running again.

Many thanks.

Yours sincerely
Mel Clarke, Chair

Written on behalf of all the Henry Samuel Hall Management Committee, the Working Party and all our volunteers.

Not forgetting those that have gone before.

Postscript. Yes, it's true. We are now famous!!!! On Sunday 30th January, a lovely bright crisp winter's day, the BBC Essex radio van pulled into the front car park and after what appeared a lifetime where wires were rerouted, mikes changed the Essex Quest duo of Barry and Liana emerged and interviewed both myself and our treasurer Linda Haywood. We were joined by the rest of the committee and volunteers. The pair had a quick tour of the inside of the Hall and then before they went we hopefully helped them with their final clue as they headed westwards!

