

RIVERSIDE HALL NEWS

There have recently been changes in our Trustee membership. We are very sorry to have lost Edward Tanner who is reducing the number of commitments he has. For many years Edward has been a member of the current CIO and its predecessor the Riverside Hall Management Committee and we will miss his contribution and support of our work. He will continue to be associated with Riverside via his role as Personal Licensee for the Hall.

We have been pleased to welcome two new Trustees to the committee – Daniel Stephenson and Lynda Baulch. There is currently a vacancy for one further member and if anyone would like to be considered, please contact the Chair, Claire Benton, on 01398 332048, email clairebenton54@gmail.com or the Secretary, Sheila Howells on 01398 331144, email sheilahhowells@gmail.com.

Our programme of decorative improvements continues and in August we expect to replace the floor coverings in the Albert Fowler Room, in the lobby and the WCs which will also be repainted. Also in August we expect to install the new high level windows and cassette blinds. We have taken a momentous decision and chosen fabric for the new curtains !!! which will go ahead in August. There should be new decorative light fittings in the entrance lobby to replace the institutional looking fluorescent strips and help make it more gracious and welcoming.

We have had some good news about the money for replacing the flat roof. Many years ago there was a group exploring the possibility of replacing the current two halls with one new one. When the work ended there was some money remaining from a grant, which became the stuff of legend. Recently the remaining members of this group have regained access to the funds and decided to split the total between the Riverside and Community Halls. Our share will give a big boost to the replacement roof fund though it will not go all the way and we still welcome donations of any amount to be put in the honesty box in the Riverside car park.

The new round of TAP funding from Mid Devon Council has just opened. This is a relatively small fund and realistically we could expect a maximum of £1,000-£2,000 At our next committee meeting we will be deciding which option to put forward. The longlist currently includes:

- replacing the hot air hand dryers with more efficient ones
- reconfigure the bar area to make it less cluttered and more suitable for the Players needs
- providing automatic opening for the outside doors (probably too expensive)
- replacement of hospitality equipment eg crockery, cutlery, table linen
- a new measured survey of the Hall to provide a secure basis for future projects
- some exterior painting

We welcome any suggestions you may have. Contact Sheila Howells, details above.