



# TAKELEY SILVER JUBILEE HALL THE HISTORY 1936-2016

Presented by John Monk 15<sup>th</sup> October 2016

# From inception in 1935.....

- From this.....



# To this.....

□ Into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.....



# The Takeley Silver Jubilee Hall

## Then.....

- Idea concept in 1935.
- Fund raising began in 1920.
- Committee headed by Chairman and Secretary Mr A E Wright and Mr A L Frost.
- Even then there was active opposition and obstacles.
- Considered to be an excellent example of a Village Hall with adequate stage, dressing rooms and heating!
- Previously the Old Church Recreation Hall was used for Dances.
- Dances were banned in 1923 as “the surrounding sacred land was misused by certain clients.....”
- It needed a new home.....

## Now.....

- It has undergone its biggest refurbishment programme since 1958!
- It has now a magnificent new entrance hall and up to date washroom facilities
- It is energy efficient and comfortable
- It will remain the centre for recreation and social activities for the Village!
- It is used by the Kung Fu, Judo, Youth Clubs, Little Learners, Weight Watchers, British Legion, children and adult parties, art classes and many more.....

# It's History.....

## It started in 1935

- ❑ The Jubilee year gave the impetus it needed.
- ❑ February 1935 a Public Meeting was called and a Committee formed.
- ❑ It had two objectives:
- ❑ “A general holiday with Sports and other activities especially for the younger generation” and
- ❑ “a permanent memorial to the occasion in the form of a new Hall to be called “The Silver Jubilee Hall”

In the Jubilee of the reign of their majesties, King George V and Queen Mary





## The costs then....

It was estimated at an initial cost of £800 raising to £900-£1,000.

Half had to be raised by local fund raising and half from grants.

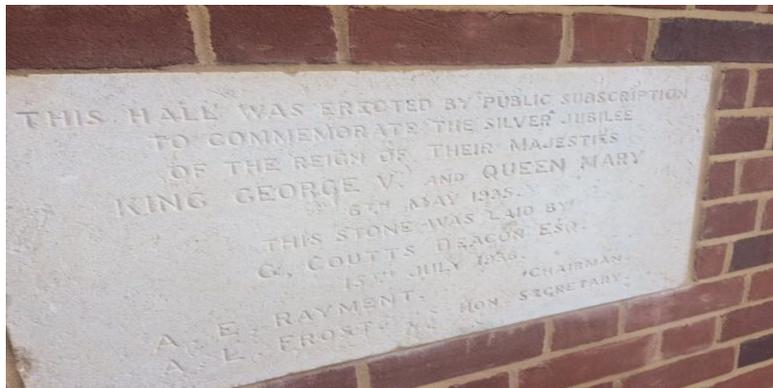
Seven quotes were received and F Cannon & Sons were awarded the contract.

Land had to be donated to Highways for road widening and an IN and OUT access created together with car parking.

# ....and nineteen months after it's first inception....

## It opened with a Golden Key on 28<sup>th</sup> October 1935

- ❑ The loan was £83 for 5 years.
- ❑ Total final cost was £1,090 and 20 gentlemen stood as guarantors.
- ❑ Money raised was £470 plus the site.
- ❑ A heating system was installed at a cost of £120



## The Laying of the Foundation Stone

- ❑ The Foundation Stone was laid by Mr G Coutts Deacon of Sawbridgeworth on 15<sup>th</sup> July 1935.
- ❑ It took a further year to get electricity and electric light was supplied by an electric engine and dynamo!
- ❑ There was no mains water and water was supplied for cleaning purposes from a soft water well obtained from the village pump near the Chestnuts.
- ❑ In 1941 the Hall was free of debt!

# More of the facts.....

## The War Years

- The Hall was a major boon for the village as in 1939 it was used as a training centre for First Aid, Home Guard and other services.
- Fifty mothers and babies evacuated from London were lodged for the night on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1939.
- It was used as a Communal kitchen to aid the war effort until the Essex County Council took over in 1941.
- It was also used as the local school canteen from October 1940 to December 1948 and was used as an additional school room owing to the number of evacuated children being billeted in the area.

## The War Effort



# Continued Success.....

## Takeley does its bit.....



## Takeley Village Hall

- A large amount of money was raised during the war period and in 1944 to 1945 £1,000 was raised by various organisations using the Hall.
- In 1943 flush lavatories and improved drainage were installed.



## Refurbishment in 1957-58



- ❑ An extension was made to the Hall to provide new Entrance and Male toilets. Mains drainage was also installed with pitch fibre drain pipes.
- ❑ Local Contractor H J Piper undertook the works.
- ❑ Improvements to the heating system were also carried out.

New entrance porch and male toilets





## 1975-1990's The Takeley Sports and Social Club

In November 1975 it was suggested that a room should be built adjoining the back of the Hall for a Social Club.

It was estimated that £5,000 would be required with the addition of voluntary labour. Rayments Brewery loaned £1,500 interest free and gave the bar.

# The Great Fire.....

## In the early 70's

- ❑ A fire broke out from a straw bale being stored in a lean too shed.
- ❑ Left from a Barn Dance
- ❑ Children set fire to the bale
- ❑ The roof caught fire
- ❑ The main roof structure was saved
- ❑ The original shingle tiles were replaced with artificial slates





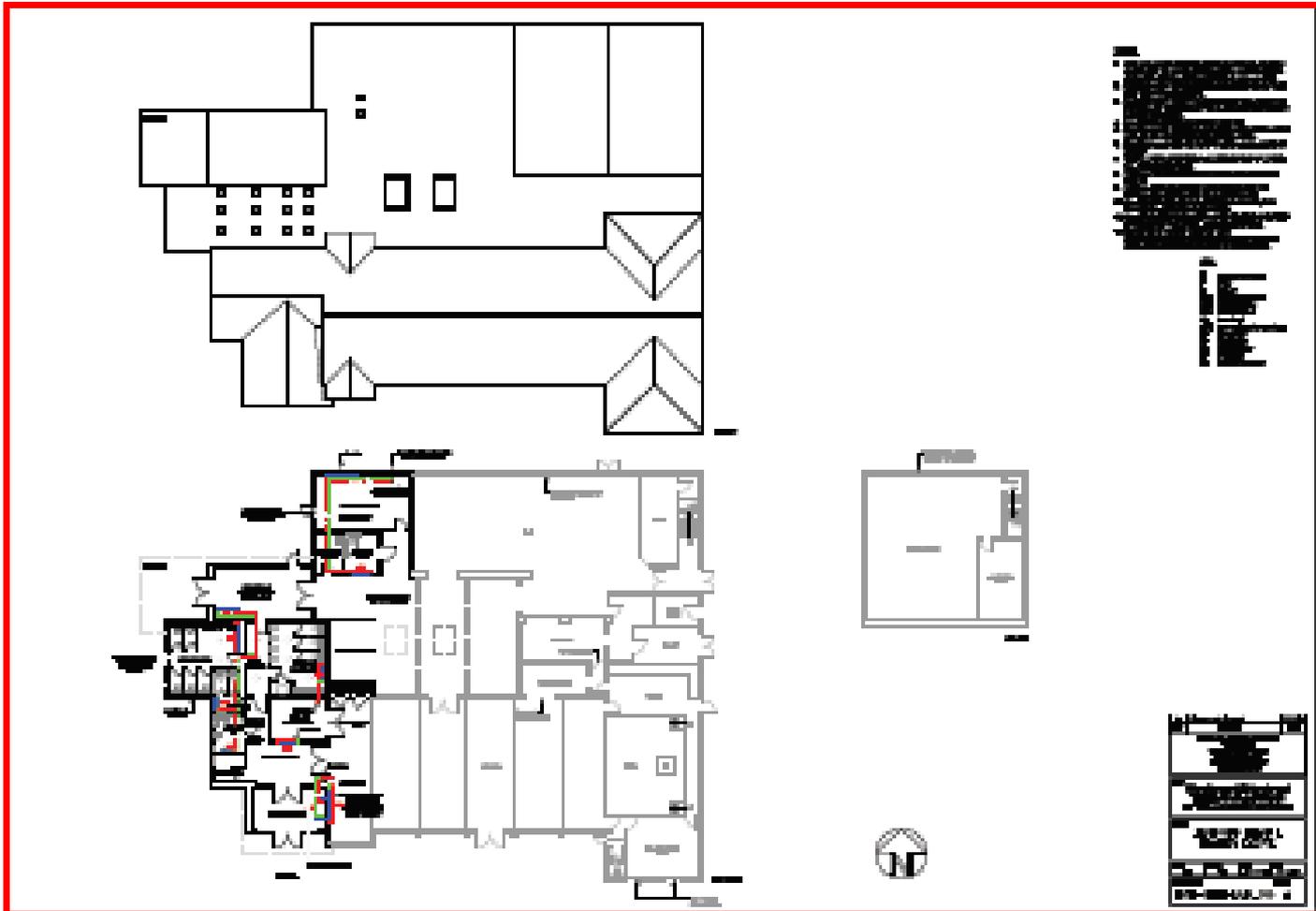
## 24<sup>th</sup> June 1978 the Social Club was formally opened

Various Committee members gave loans as well as the Parish Council and money was raised from social events.

In 1982 the Social Club was extended to contain a long room with a dance floor and a snooker room above.

The bar was run voluntarily for six years.

# .....The Hall enters a new phase



# .....the details

- The Hall entered its second major refurbishment programme in 2015.
- Works included in Phase 1 improvements to its insulation and energy efficiency.
- Installation of 13kw of Photovoltaic panels thus providing free electricity and a healthy Government incentive.
- Improved lighting and redecoration works.
- Improved fire safety works
- A new fresh and comfortable feel.



# .....and now Phase 2

- A brand new Entrance Foyer
- New Male, Female, Children and Disabled Toilets.
- New Ventilation System.
- Additional Storage.





THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME

Takeley Village Hall