

Chairmans Annual Report for Gaskell Hall AGM September 2025

This has been a busier year than usual and I suppose the highlight has to be the gig in our Silverdale cavern with an Audience With Some Other Guys. Many thanks to Alastair for all the effort he put into this along with the excellent support from other trustees. But there have been many other very successful events, Life Through The Lens comes to mind as does The Mikron Theatre productions and Houghton Weavers. And then we have our own village players, who regularly entertain us throughout the year.

Coffee mornings are on the increase. The hall is used for so many events, for parish meetings, a voting centre, parties and weddings, The Women's Institute, Horticultural Society and the Mourholme history group all meet regularly, especially in winter. Many events centre around well being, health and fitness. Yoga, Pilates, Badminton, Meditation, Line Dancing and Pickleball, which really seems to have taken off this year, all fulfil this objective. Every body seems pleased with the floor resurfacing. It is now 94 years old!

On Wednesday mornings during Spring and Summer we have The Garden Surplus Stall on the carpark. A great meeting point. There are regular cinema events, courtesy of the Village Film Society and to that end we have purchased a new bigger screen and projector, with a grant from the Victoria Wood Foundation. We also received a grant from The West Lancashire Freemasons Charity to pay for the refurbishment of the lower kitchen, which is now better suited to serving drinks and refreshments. There are also some new mugs to supplement the green cups and saucers. It is largely due to the efforts of David that we were successful in our grant applications.

A big thanks goes to Jim for his tireless efforts to keep on top of the many maintenance issues. It is perhaps a forlorn hope that we will eventually complete his action list! But it is not only that. We are obliged to have regular inspections to cover electrical, fire and general health and safety issues, all of which, along with other hidden costs such as licences for entertainment, and the use of alcohol, plus heating, cleaning and insurance, are all a drain on finances. Talking of drains, and along with gutters, these are also part of the maintenance issues. Our lone worker and safeguarding policies are also up to date.

I feel we now have a good balance of trustees, who all contribute in different ways. We have lost Liz who is now Chairperson of the Parish Council, but we have hopefully gained three new trustees. Our new treasurer Lynn has worked hard on the finances, we owe Barbara Griffiths thanks for her many years of service in this capacity. Secretary Jane keeps us all well in order and me in particular. Dawn, representing the Players, works tirelessly, often in the background. Steph is always prepared to volunteer and help, whilst Frank and Keith are valued for their knowledge and input on planning, legal matters and how to do things that the rest of us know nothing about! Andrew organises our cinematic experiences. Alastair has improved the booking system and importantly improved our communication with the cleaners. Polly keeps us all spick and span and keeps an eye on the accident book. We have had a few accidents, mainly linked to sport, but none that have required reporting. David, as mentioned looks after obtaining grants. And another David, David Crowe, manages our Website. But everybody contributes in one way or another, and I thank you all for your continued support. The only position vacant is a dedicated events organiser.

We have a volunteer in David Mason who keeps an almost daily eye on the hall in general and also helps at events. And we have to thank Ash at the Pharmacy for selling tickets for events. There are also have a number of other volunteers and people that frequently turn up to help at events.

I have no doubt I have missed something, or somebody, and will be suitably admonished!

Chairmans Report Sept 2025M

Mike Moon



GASKELL MEMORIAL HALL

Silverdale

Registered Charity No. 225842

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31st March 2025

Apr23 to Mar24 £	INCOME	Apr24 to Mar25 £
£14,815.50	Hire of Hall	£22,888.50
£300.00	Donations	£1,805.49
£2,591.44	Committee Events	£6,646.67
£205.85	SVP don for Electric	
£0.00	Grants	£18,200.00
£305.69	Bank Interest	£333.32
£305.73	Sale of chairs/scrap	
£18,524.21	TOTAL	£49,873.98

Apr23 to Mar24 £	EXPENDITURE	Apr24 to Mar25 £
£10.45	Printing/stationery/postage	£80.88
£8,064.00	Caretaking/Laundry	£7,167.60
£756.13	Fire Alarm	£1,388.28
£3,015.38	Electric	£2,461.20
£1,453.15	Heating oil	£1,530.76
£484.84	Repairs/maintenance	£4,149.19
£476.68	Renewals/equipment	£1,239.27
£516.60	Phone/Internet	£552.60
£2,236.75	Licences/Insurance	£2,192.47
£205.34	Water	£168.79
£278.35	Sundries/Bins	£302.30
£126.60	GH Expenses	£243.77
	GH Fundraising Events	£848.00
	Refunds	£181.00
£17,624.27		£22,506.11

£	ASSETS	£
£841.23	Cash in hand	£150.00
£7,523.78	Bank Account – Current	£35,279.56
£8,046.40	Bank Account - Savings	8379.72
£16,411.41		£43,809.28

CURRENT LIABILITIES	£
AAWSOG invoice	£3,000.00

£	NET ASSETS	£
£16,411.41		£40,809.28

***There is over £20000 to be paid for the kitchen

Signed... *L M McPherson*

Treasurer

Date... *18/9/25*

Signed... *D Wood*

Verifier

Date... *18/9/25*



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