

NEW VICTORY HALL ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2025



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Reference and Administrative Details

Charity Name	New Victory Hall
Charity Registration Number	225178
Charity Address	Street Hill, Neatishead, Norfolk, NR12 8AD
Correspondence address	Chair, c/o Willow Green, Hall Road, Barton Turf, NR12 8AR.

Trustees who served in 2025

Clayton, Simon	(Appointed by Neatishead & Barton Society) (Premises Committee)
Dean, Doreen	(Chair) (Bookings Secretary) (Appointed by WI)
Fletcher, Jim	(Elected Trustee) (Bridge Club)
Gower, Michael	(Elected Trustee) (Events Committee)
McFadyen, Ian	(Elected Trustee, (Treasurer)
McGill, Hugh	(Elected Trustee) (Web Master)(IT Support)
Pell, Cheryl	(Appointed by W.I.S.E.) (Events Co-ordinator) (200 Club)
Diane Pickering	(Appointed Craft group – resigned in June 2025)
Simpson Pauline	(Elected Trustee) (Community Market Co-ordinator)
Alan Smith	(Appointed Neatishead Community Gym representative)

The Trustees are grateful to Val Perkins who has provided support as the Minute Secretary.

Constitution

The governing document for the New Victory Hall can be found on the website at:

<http://www.victoryhall.info/downloads/Constitution3.pdf>. The name of the charity is 'New Victory Hall'.

Appointment of Trustees

As set down in the Constitution, the charity is managed by a committee of Trustees which is capped at 15 with up to five being elected annually by the community at the Annual General Meeting. Up to eight Trustees may be appointed by the main user groups and parish councils to act as their representatives and a further two Trustees may be co-opted. The Trustees elect from their number a Chair and appoint a Treasurer and Minute Secretary. Decisions are taken by majority vote.

Management Structure

Events, Village Screen and Premises Management are run by committees which operate to a written remit approved by the Trustees. Other key roles (Chair, Treasurer, Bookings, IT) are filled by individual Trustees, who operate according to their specific Roles and Responsibility statements. The hall is managed in accordance with a number of policy documents (including Health and Safety, Safeguarding, Environmental Policy). All policy documents are available on the website. Roles, Responsibilities and Policies are reviewed and updated annually by Trustees.

Charity Objectives

The New Victory Hall is used for social, recreational, educational and leisure purposes. It is managed by Trustees who are responsible for maintaining and operating the building in a manner that benefits and improves the quality of life for all the local community without distinction of political, religious or other opinions, including use for:

- (a) meetings, lectures and classes, and
- (b) other forms of recreation and leisure-time occupation.

Activities and Public Benefit

The Trustees are satisfied that the New Victory Hall complies with the Charity Commission's guidance on providing 'public benefit' in accordance with our Charity Objectives. In 2025 the hall was used by a wide cross-section of local and outside user-groups and individuals for a range of different activities. The hire bookings for the hall together with fundraising and regular events such as Community Market and Village Screen provide a wide ranging mix of activities for the community.

Financial Controls / Policies

Treasurer Roles and Responsibilities

The Treasurer has a defined set of Roles and Responsibilities that is reviewed each year by the Trustees. The Treasurer receives no allowances or increment for performance of the duties. There are a number of financial controls and procedures in place to ensure good practice.

Accounts Examiner

The Annual Accounts are examined by an independent and qualified person in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities Regulations 2008. A report is prepared which is attached to the annual financial return.

Financial Summary for 2025.

The New Victory Hall is in a sound financial position. The accounts do show that expenditure exceeded income by £4,965.00 due to the unexpected expenditure of circa £11k on roofing works but the hall is still in a very satisfactory financial position for 2025 with a balance of £53,320 in the bank at the year end. A concern is that there is a reliance of around £7k per annum on fundraising, as without this, the hall income would not be able to cover routine operating costs. Full details will be given by the Treasurer in his Annual Return.

The impact to the hall of ever rising costs is challenging despite the efforts made to ensure value for money in all expenditure especially the lead costs of insurance and energy. Energy costs are particularly concerning and to mitigate the costs, UK Power Networks was challenged on the level of Capacity Charge resulting in a reduction of the kVa figure from 80 to 25 as from November 2025 giving expected savings per annum of circa £1,200. A two year contract with British Gas for electricity supply is place until November 2026. Trustees will be seeking the best deal but that is likely to be challenging in the current global market. An unhelpful change was British Gas removing the vat charitable concession rate of 5% which has meant a further 15% increase in electricity bills which we are still pursuing refunds for as it is clear the hall qualifies for the charitable rate.

Hire revenues, the main income source, was £27,832 and exceeded budget by £1,500 but this is partly due to a hire rate increase of 50p per hour in 2025. There were losses of income due to some small user groups leaving and more importantly the Wherry Band in the last quarter of the year. On a positive note, Pilates increased its bookings and the income from private hire has continued at a good level. The Community Gym is a major hirer providing 27% of hall hire income and receives a special quantity user discount.

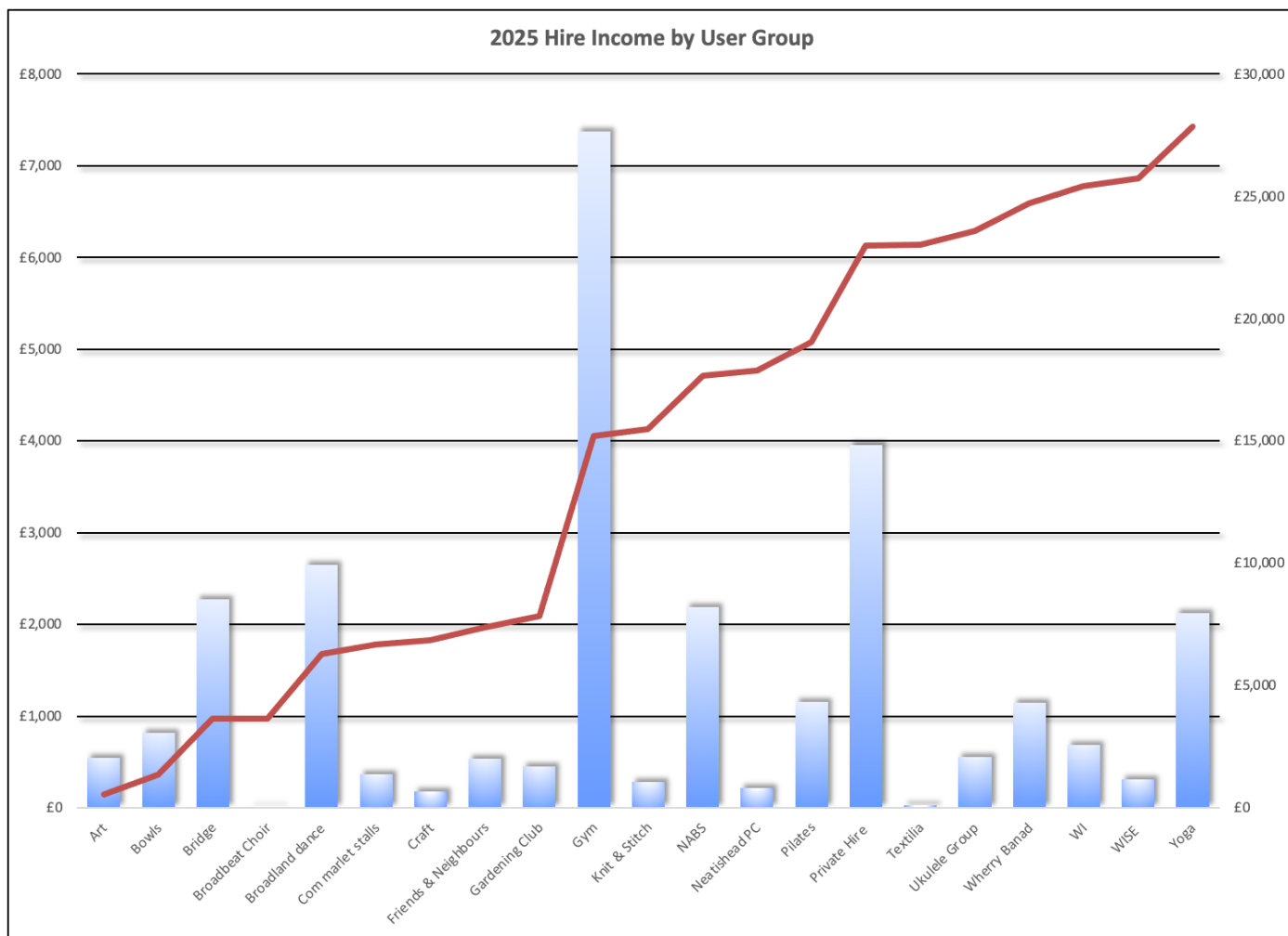
Following the annual review of hire rates in July, Trustees decided that rates should remain the same for 2026.

Results from fundraising events in the year have been excellent both in income and enjoyment raising a total of £3,794 net. The Christmas Fair, Easter Fair, Quiz Nights and Ceilidh evening were all great successes and many thanks are due to all those involved in arranging these events. The 200 club added an important £1,614 net to hall funds. The monthly Community Market raised £1,195 and Village Screen broke even despite technical hitches but both offer valuable opportunities for people to socialise. The Trustees are working hard to secure new bookings to fill the gaps in the weekly calendar including a Table Tennis Fun Night starting in April 2026.

Many thanks to the Treasurer for managing the hall's finances and keeping Trustees so well informed.

Sources of Hire Income

The graph below shows a familiar pattern with some groups being main users like the Community Gym, NABS, Broadland Dance and Bridge providing a significant amount of income but every booking is important. It is a competitive situation with so many local halls all seeking user-groups which is why the NVH has to keep hire rates at an appropriate level despite being able to offer one of the most pleasant and well resourced venues. The NVH rates are currently very competitive considering the standard of facilities provided.

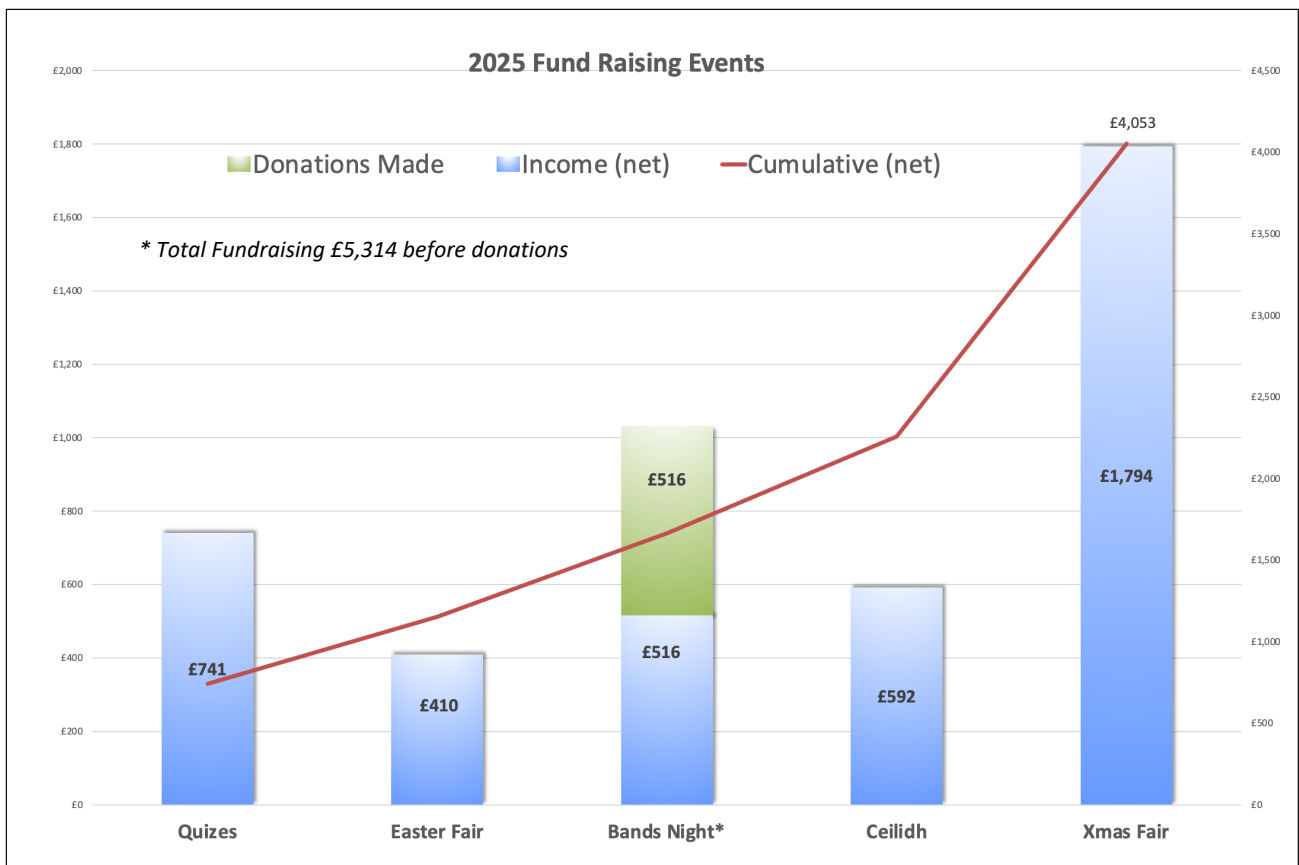


Events

The Events Team has had a fantastic year with some regular events in the programme such as Quiz Nights and the Christmas Fair along with more recent additions such as the very successful Bands-Together Evenings and the Ceilidh evening. There was a popular Easter Fair and the year finished on a high with a very successful start to the festive season when the NVH joined other village providers for a Festive Light Switch on and Lantern Parade with no less than Santa himself. The event involved other village organisations which provided refreshments and entertainment so everyone was very well looked after. It was great fun for the children and special thanks to WISE for giving lanterns to all the children as well as providing a lot of the organisation. It has been agreed to run it again in 2026. In January 2025, 130 breakfasts were cooked and served at the BIG Community Breakfast raising £1,124 of which £754 inclusive of bucket donations went to the Motor Neurone Disease Charity.

On-line ticket sales were introduced to complement the selling of tickets at the White House Stores for all the events and films. Thanks to the shop team for their help and to the NIB Team for publishing all NVH events and notices.

Sincere thanks to all those who work tirelessly to provide these events as the funds raised make a significant contribution to NVH funds as well as the social life of the villages.



Premises Management

The Premises Team was busy throughout the year keeping the hall well maintained, safe, clean and well organised. The Trustees employ two cleaners on a part time contract who both continue to do a fantastic job in keeping the hall to a high standard of cleanliness and good order and Trustees are very grateful for their commitment. We have a great window cleaner too.

Maintenance work was mostly of a routine nature except for works to replace the barge boards which due to the need for scaffolding cost circa £11k, repairs to main projector cost £1,126 and the NVH met the installation costs of a short range projector supplied by NABS. There were no health and safety incidents during the year.

A contractor looks after grass and hedge cutting. Volunteers have made progress in making the environs of the hall site wildlife friendly and the outcomes of the work include improvements to hedges, creating a bug hotel and a wild meadow area to rear of the premises.

The solar panels on the kitchen roof provided an income of £787 from generating 2,747 kWh units and 984 kWh were fed into the national grid.

Actual electricity consumption figures show an increase of 435 kWh or 3.54% from 2024.



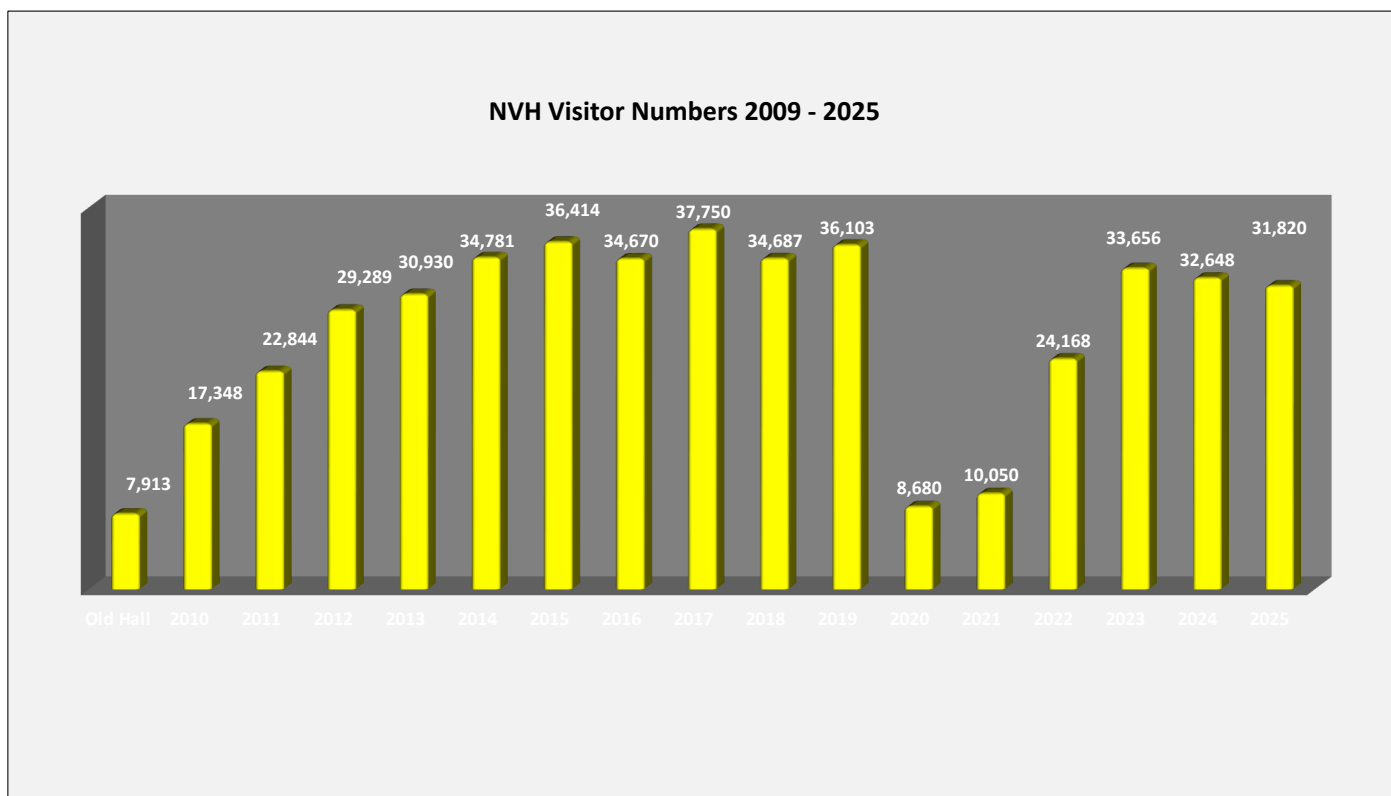
Many thanks to all in the Premises Team and the volunteers who maintain such high standards at the NVH as the hall still presents in excellent condition despite its busy use.

Bookings and Visitor Numbers

Bookings continue to be at a good level with 21 regular groups plus private hire and the fundraising events using the hall but there are still vacant slots available for new activities or organisations to come to the hall. We would welcome more weekend bookings as the hall is an excellent venue for that special celebration or event.

Visitor numbers (footfall) decreased by 2.5% to 31,820 compared to 2024 (data taken from booking forms).

The Gym is hoping to re-introduce a circuit training group and there is a table tennis group starting in 2026. It was good to see the Community Heritage Group using the hall for the very successful VE Day and VJ Day celebrations and to see NABS bringing more challenging productions to the hall such as Blood Brothers but still offering such evenings as the Christmas Show. The Community Gym and Bridge groups report good membership levels. It was also great to have the local art and craft exhibitions held at the hall.



Overview of 2025.

The hall has had another very successful year and I thank all the Trustees and volunteers who give their time, energy and expertise so willingly throughout the year to keep the NVH running so well. The support from the groups and visitors that use the hall is also highly valued and appreciated.

The Trustees remain optimistic about the hall going forward. One of the targets for 2025 was to look into the feasibility of extending the use of solar energy; the short presentation which follows the AGM business will give more detail on an exciting opportunity.

The Trustees consider that they have met the 2025 targets apart from attracting enough people to become trustees and volunteers. We appreciate we are not alone as other community organisations and indeed some NVH user groups also struggle to recruit people to run them. However, it is becoming apparent that if new people do not come forward to take a turn in managing and running the hall, it will be necessary to have paid help for some administrative, financial and organisational work which will dramatically increase costs which will significantly impact hire rates. The Trustees wish to avoid this so, especially if you use and value the hall, please ask yourself how you might get involved as there are numerous ways to help.

The plans for 2026 give the on-going objectives for the hall but any new objectives are subject to the outcome of community consultations which we are beginning with the presentation which follows the formal AGM business.

I hope this report has updated you about the New Victory Hall.

Most importantly, sincere thanks to all the hirers, donors, volunteers and staff for their understanding and support throughout the year. Particular thanks to the unsung heroes who do all those little jobs behind the scenes that often go unnoticed but are so important.

Finally, again my deepest gratitude to each and every trustee.

Doreen Dean
Chair, New Victory Hall Management Committee

30 March 2026

Appendix 1 = Outcome of Trustees Plans for 2025.

On-going aims

- ✓ To continue to ensure the hall provides a high-quality resource at affordable rates for the local community to use for social, educational and leisure time recreation.
- ✓ To maintain and deliver appropriate improvements to the premises and equipment to sustain good standards of environment and facilities for hirers.
- ✓ To ensure the hall is financially viable.
- ✓ To continue to provide a range of social and fundraising events.
- ✓ To support the needs of regular user groups fairly and equitably within the scope of NVH resources.
- ✓ To attract new volunteers and trustees to come forward to run and manage the hall for the future. **Partly achieved but still an on-going priority.**
- ✓ To ensure there is sufficient succession planning in place to safeguard the hall in the event of changes in trustees. **On-going**
- ✓ To support volunteers work to ensure the NVH grounds are wildlife friendly. **Achieved.**

Ideas for developments that are subject to further consideration, volunteers and funding.

- ✓ To carry out a feasibility study for increasing car parking at the hall with other community stakeholders. **Decided to consider as part of aim below.**
- ✓ To complete investigations to further develop the hall's eco-friendly features e.g. more solar panels and perhaps an EV charging point. **Achieved to an early consultation stage.**
- ✓ To review arrangements for ticket sales for NVH community events. **Achieved.**

Plans for 2026

On-going aims

1. To continue to ensure the hall provides a high-quality resource at affordable rates for the local community to use for social, educational and leisure time recreation.
2. To maintain and deliver appropriate improvements to the premises and equipment to sustain good standards of environment and facilities for hirers.
3. To ensure the hall is financially viable.
4. To continue to provide a range of social and fundraising events.
5. To support the needs of regular user groups fairly and equitably within the scope of NVH resources.
6. To attract new volunteers and trustees to come forward to run and manage the hall for the future.
7. To ensure there is sufficient succession planning in place to safeguard the hall in the event of changes in trustees.
8. To complete the feasibility study for extending solar provision and act on the outcome.