



Centre News

This first issue of Centre News is brought to you by the generous support of The BATTH Social Group

HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE !

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The Centre for All

Trustees announce exciting and ambitious development plans



Staying relevant to residents needs now and in the foreseeable future has led the trustees to devise an ambitious development plan for the Centre which is intended to be implemented as soon as funding becomes available.

The plan includes:

- Creating an additional function room and social space by repurposing the existing toilets and changing areas;
- Installing a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA);
- Building new changing rooms and toilets for football teams and users of the MUGA;
- Adding a conservatory adjacent to the existing meeting room;
- Improving the football pitch;
- Extending the existing overspill car park;
- Enhancing the interior and providing additional equipment to encourage a wider range of activities and increased usage;
- Adopting eco-friendly practices and improving health, safety and security features;
- Implementing effective marketing and sustainable income generation strategies.

Please contact us if you would like more information about our plans or are able to offer any help.

Centre Booking System Now Online

Hiring the Centre's rooms couldn't be easier now that the booking system is online. Simply log on to <https://batth.co.uk/>, click on *Community Centre* at the top of the page then scroll down *To Make A Booking* and click on *Community Centre Booking and Availability*. Here you can check whether or not the room, date and time you require are available and, if so, submit your reservation request. Confirmation of your booking will follow quickly. Details of room sizes, amenities, charges and conditions of hire are available on the webpage.

Look out for our new website coming soon !

Volunteers Welcome

The Centre is run by volunteers and we always need more !

If you want to make new friends, help the community come together and are able to spend a little time to help out with hosting events, catering, admin, maintenance, marketing, fundraising, etc. then you'll be welcomed with open arms.

Please just drop us a note to our contact details below or come along and speak to any Trustee.

Like the Centre's new Logo ?

The Centre logo takes its inspiration from the original name of Acton Trussell as it appears in the Domesday Book of 1086. "Acton" is derived from the Anglo-Saxon meaning "oak" (āc) + town (tūn). The Trussells were a Norman family who were early lords of the manor. The tree also emphasises the rural nature of the 3 villages.

Trust applies to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation

A Trust was established by the Parish Council and registered with the Charity Commission in 1986 to own and run the Acton Trussell Village Hall which was replaced by the Community Centre in 1990. The stage and extension were added in 2016.

Since the Trust's formation, charity law has evolved and a new form of governance created the Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) which grants added protection, wider powers and better regulation for trustees.

Last year the trustees decided to adopt the CIO constitution and are now in the process of applying to the Charity Commission to convert the present Trust as many village halls have done.

The change won't have any noticeable effects but will improve the way by which the trust operates. A public meeting will be held soon to explain things and answer any questions.

New events, activities...

We're brimming with ideas for new events and activities but what floats your boat? What things would you enjoy doing? Let us know. Here are a few suggestions to get you started:

Keep Fit Classes | Computer Club | Community Cinema Write, Perform, Enjoy Monologues | Celebrity Lectures Dances / Discos | Comedy Club | Live Concerts and Entertainment | Debating Society | Youth Club | Quiz Nights | Pop-Up Pub Nights | Friends 'n' Family Games Nights | Put-on-a-Panto Group | Summer Fun Weeks Poetry for Readers and Writers | Special Theme Events Garden Parties | Games Room | Outings & Trips | Etc.

... and services

The Centre is able to accommodate and help with all manner of social services provided by various agencies. If you feel there is a need in the villages for something not available locally and that could be hosted here, tell us and we'll see what can be done, for example:

EV Charging Points | Library | Shop | Blood Donor Waste Collection/Removal Point | Advice Centre Vaccination Centre | Food Bank | FE Classes | ATM Luncheon Club | Business Club | Etc.



The Community Centre serves the villages of Acton Trussell, Bednall and Teddesley Hay but, of course, welcomes everyone to use its excellent facilities for varied regular activities as well as meetings, socials, parties, concerts, private and special events. We also enjoy ample free car parking, a football pitch with changing rooms and showers plus a fantastic outdoor children's play area and adult fitness equipment.

Bits & Pieces



The Centre has joined Support Staffordshire - the largest independent voice for voluntary, community and social enterprise organisations in the county, providing a range of services and activities including the Village Halls Network. For more information visit <https://supportstaffordshire.org.uk/>

A Policies Handbook has been produced which sets out the legally-required practices of the trust and users of the Centre. A copy of the handbook is available for reference in the foyer and will be sent by email in pdf format to anyone requiring one.

First Aid boxes are now located in the foyer and kitchen together with an accident book.

A new **Cooker** has been purchased with the help of a grant and installed in the kitchen.

A Users Forum has been set up to which representatives of all regular and frequent user-groups are invited to join. Meeting a couple of times a year, the forum will enable groups to air their views, make suggestions for improvements and participate in marketing activities.

Borrow **Books** from our large collection available in the foyer. If you have any books surplus to requirements please add them to the collection.

The Thursday morning **Tea Room** is as popular as ever - particularly on the first Thursday of every month when bacon butties are on the menu! Come along for coffee, a chat and good company.

On Mondays between 2pm and 4pm the **Indoor Bowls Club** meets. It's not (too) competitive, just lots of fun with great tea and cakes. Everyone's welcome so come along and give it a try.

Families with youngsters should know that the **Kids Play Area** behind the Centre on the recreation ground is a safe and free place to have fun. Various, well-maintained equipment is securely fenced-in with adjacent car-parking and seating. There's also plenty of green space to kick a ball about and have a picnic - when the sun shines!

The Centre plays host to many **Clubs, Societies and Events**, so there's sure to be something you would enjoy. Take a look at the foyer noticeboard or ask us by email for a programme. You could also start your own group and join with others having similar interests or concerns.

We are planning to produce Centre News every two months.

We'd be delighted to hear what you think about it and also your ideas for improving the Centre and its facilities. Distributors and sponsors really welcome!