

December 2011

**Happy Christmas** – The Village Hall Trustees and Committee would like to thank you all for your support and interest in the village hall over the last year. It has been an ‘interesting’ year, and we hope 2012 will bring peace and resolution to all who use the hall. Wishing you all a Happy Christmas and a peaceful and prosperous New Year.

**Village Hall Governance**– The Silchester Village Hall General Meeting was held on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November, so (hopefully) the new governing document will be in place and a new Management Committee will have been elected. See next month’s magazine for details, or visit the web-site [www.silchestervillagehall.org.uk](http://www.silchestervillagehall.org.uk)

**Auction**– The auction was held on 12<sup>th</sup> November, and there were almost 200 lots, but not many buyers. Some people managed to grab a bargain, although many lots went unsold. Hopefully the next auction on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2012 will be better supported. Why not have an early spring clean, clear out your attics and bring your friends along to support this village event and help raise funds for the village hall.

**Bonus Ball**– Joan Scott was the winner of the latest bonus ball – well done Joan. If you don’t already have your bonus ball and would like to take part in the monthly Bonus Ball competition to win £40 or more please contact Ann-Marie on 9700627.

**Silchester Chocolate Bars** - Help the Silchester Village Hall fund raising effort by purchasing mini milk chocolate bars with images of the Village Hall and Silchester on the wrappers. A box holds 10 mini bars with assorted wrappers and is priced at £4.00. **£1.00 from the sale of each box will be donated to the Village Hall development fund.** These make great little stocking fillers, and gifts for people who no longer live in the village. To order please e-mail [kate@silchester.org](mailto:kate@silchester.org) or telephone 07887 772233.

If you would prefer your own images on the wrappers please e-mail your images to [kate@silchester.org](mailto:kate@silchester.org) with any message you would like to appear on the reverse of the wrapper.

**Christmas Shopping** – If you are planning to do any or all of your Christmas shopping on-line, please consider using **easyfundraising**. It’s the easiest way to help raise money for **Silchester Village Hall!** If you already shop online with retailers such as Amazon, Argos, John Lewis, Comet, iTunes, eBay or HMV, then we ask you to sign up for free to raise money while you shop!

**How does it work?** You shop directly with the retailer as you would normally, but if you sign up to <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk> for free and use the links on the easyfundraising site to take you to the retailer, then a percentage of whatever you spend comes directly to us at no extra cost to yourself. Don’t forget to nominate **Silchester Village Hall** in the ‘find a cause’ drop down menu.

**How much can you raise?** Spend £100 with M&S online and you raise £2.50 for us. £100 spent with Amazon raises £2.50, £100 with WH Smith puts £2.00 in our pocket and so on. There are over 2,000 retailers on their site, and some of the donations can be as much as 15% of your purchase. If everyone who reads this article (and

their friends and family) shop this way it could add up to a considerable amount for the Village Hall.

**Save money too!** easyfundraising is FREE to use plus you'll get access to hundreds of exclusive discounts and voucher codes, so not only will you be helping us, you'll be saving money yourself.