

Lots of other great things happened over Easter too . . .

*Clare Cunningham
15th April 21*

A VILLAGE Easter egg trail and other fundraising activities have helped Sampford Courtenay reach a milestone target in its bid to raise £150,000 to save the village hall.

The fundraising appeal has now reached an amazing £30,000

Generous donations from local people and pledges to 'Buy a Tile' have boosted the fund, while recent events at the village hall have also helped achieve this milestone. An intrepid band of volunteers organised, within strict Covid regulations, a takeaway curry night and Sunday ice cream sundae offered alongside the village Easter egg trail. Their combined efforts raised over £1,200 towards the appeal.

As well as supporting a wide range of local fund-raising activities the fundraising group is making applications for major heritage funding. As part of the applications the group has been asking parishioners 'what the village hall means to them'.

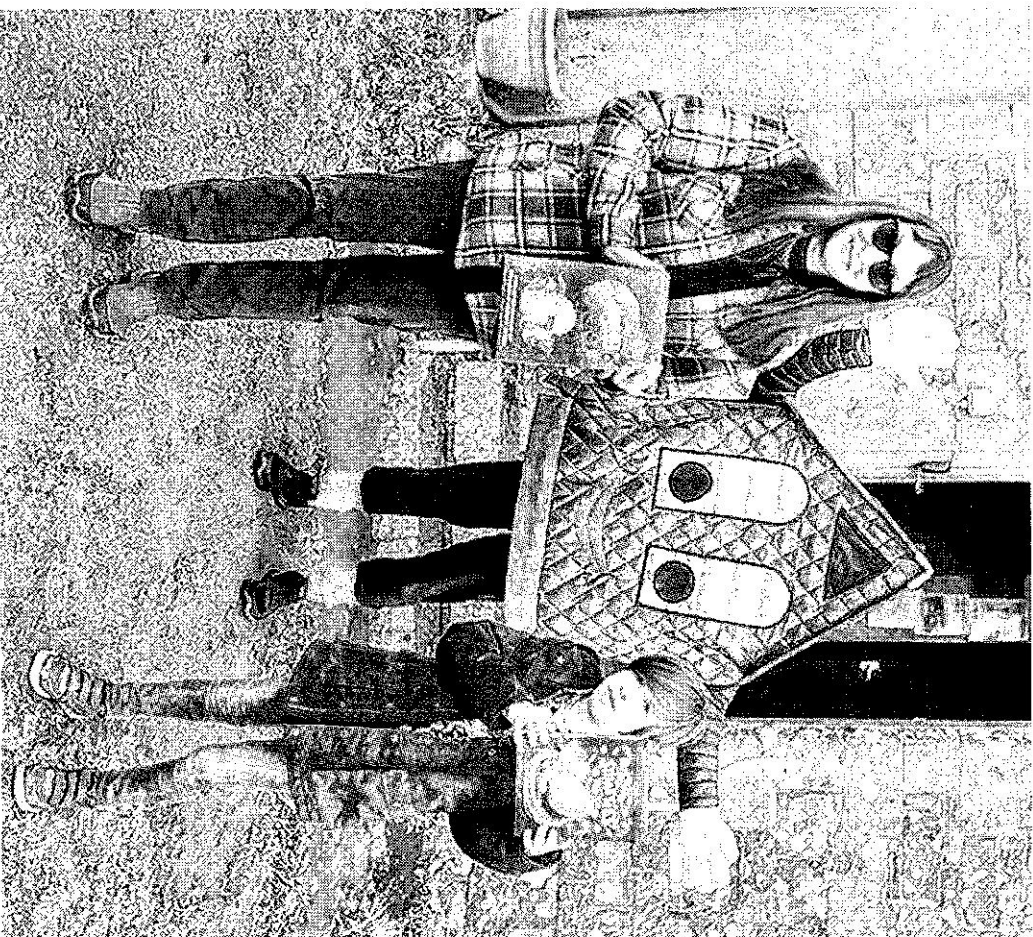
Over Easter a competition featuring paintings, photographs, poems and stories was held and some of the entries received will be used in the applications for funding.

Using the funding achieved to date, some urgent work will be taking place in the next few weeks. This will start with the replacement of the three large windows and the hall committee will then be reliant on other funding to replace the roof which is deteriorating rapidly.

You can find out the ways of helping Sampford Courtenay save its village hall by visiting the village website <https://www.sampfordcourtenay-pc.gov.uk>

Sampford Courtenay Village Hall is a major hub in the community and big part of village life. Its enforced closure over the last year has shown how much it means to the well-being of parishioners. There is still a long way to go with fundraising but with help they are confident that it can be saved.

● The picture shows Roof-us, the village hall roof appeal mascot, with the Easter competition prize winners Percy Cunningham and Veronica Matthews.



£30,000 was raised towards the save the village hall campaign