

Beck Cottage
Buckden
BD23 5JA

19 June 2011

Dear all

On behalf of the Village Hall Committee I would like to express my thanks to everyone who contributed in any way to the success of yesterday's Gala.

Despite the appalling forecast, we enjoyed a dry (if somewhat cold) day and the proceeds seem to be entirely in line with previous years, even though there didn't seem to be quite so many people in attendance.

It is hard to thank everyone individually as so many of the village have contributed to the Gala in so many ways, however 'thank you's go first and foremost to Bev Owen whose efforts before, during and after the gala seemed tireless; thanks also to Margaret Salmon for organising the rota and the cake stall, Anne Newman for organising the tearoom, Peter Vetch for organising the book stall, John Cowpe for organising the plant stall, Josie Cowpe for her usual array of imaginative crafts, Christine Budd for the wonderful selection of jams, Jimmy and Charmian Sayer for organising the tombola and white elephant stalls, Peter and Jeanne Breen for organising the coconut shy, Ted Salmon for letting us use and abuse his tractor and trailer, Gordon Nowell for taking children's photos on the tractor and for counting all our takings, Frank Hardy for setting up the amplifier and sound system and for the loan of the generator, Sarah Vetch, Leanda Denton and Sara Barraclough for running the children's activities and races, Bev and Gill Owen and Sandra and Gordon Kilvington for their endless supply of hotdogs, Keith and Linda Portman for their highly amusing and very popular animal races and to Kevin for organising the raffle. Thank you also to Sue Woodcock for judging the handicraft competition, to Roger Ingham for his tireless commentary throughout the day, and for the various children who enthusiastically gave their support in bucket-loads. Thank you also to Gary Schofield for letting us use his camping field for car-parking and to the Falshaws and John Davies for letting us use the Gala field. Thank you to Steve Hounsham for designing and printing all the posters.

Thanks also to everyone who donated raffle prizes, tombola gifts, cakes, books, plants and bric-a-brac, to those who sold copious amounts of raffle tickets and to everyone else not already mentioned who contributed their time and effort in setting up on Friday, participating in running stalls throughout the day, and clearing up afterwards.

The Gala is a wonderful way of bringing the whole village together to raise money for the village hall and it couldn't possibly happen without the combined efforts of everyone. Well done, and thank you!

We can all heave a unanimous sigh of relief, and have a well-deserved rest!

Debbie Roe