

This is the day we ^{have} all been waiting for & today
 we make history in East Iloilo by opening
 this hall which is the product of hard work
 & negotiations over the past 4 years, this has
 been a great effort on the part of the people
 of this village, it has been an ~~extended~~
 undertaking, one that was launched
 with some misgivings, however one was spurned
 on by the determination of the greater
 majority, one must remember also that the
 land on which this Hall stands, had to
 be purchased before any suggestion of
 a building could be entered into, the
~~people of this village~~ raised the sum
 of £3,500 to purchase the site, plus
 all fees, & it is difficult to appreciate
 the fact that the first money were not
 raised until February 1971 when the country
 started decimal currency & a group
 started a mile of pennies down the street

this inspired others & it was not long before
 a cabaret was organised & staged in
 the old hall a Spring Bank Holiday
 Fete was held & all organisations in the
 village contributed & a large sum of
 money was raised, this was repeated
 last year, together with coffee evening &
 Christmas Bazaars, Supper Party &
 Luncheon Party, & in September 1973 the
 old Hall was closed & then ^{came} the question
 of where to hold functions, & here immediately
 Mr. Tordella came forward with the loan
 of his barn & the organisation of Barbecues
 complete with serving wenches, & dances
 etc, all this enthusiastically supported &
 run by the local people. We are indebted
 to Miss Blackman ^{for the} use of the
 Methodist Chapel School room, as indeed
 we are ^{for the} making the land available
 on which to build this Hall.

There has been

~~We have had~~ two sponsored walks in successive years which have been well supported & raised large sums, also in the last two years we have been supported by groups of people who have toured the village singing carols. In the latter part of 1973 a then & now exhibition was staged, which proved very interesting & attracted people from afar & helped to fill our funds. We are grateful to school managers & the headmaster for making the school available on so many occasions. We have received ~~one or two~~ ^{several} substantial donations in the past year or so. We must not forget the "Bay. a. Brick" campaign, which proved so successful.

We are very grateful to the numerous people who have organised all these fund raising events & especially to ^{the} colossal task of running the draws which have

been so frequent & raised so much money
& also our thanks to the folk who have
so generously contributed draw prizes
time after time. 4+

* I now turn to the committee who have worked
so hard to ~~make this possible~~, over the last
4 years, we have had approaching 100 meetings
& it has been very gratifying to have the
~~support~~ ^{of} pleasure of serving with them.
- A project such as this cannot take place
without ~~such~~ ^{an} enormous legal
transactions & this Mr Standfield has handled
for us, & has made no charge & this in
itself has saved some ^{in excess of £500} pounds, & from
here I pass to the Secretary Mrs Ross
whose untiring efforts & constant loyalty to
this committee words cannot adequately
express, & last to Ray Franklyn for
handling the finances in such an
efficient & experienced manner. & we must not

The Hall Committee then had to start looking into the financial side of the project & having realised \$18,000 on the sale of the old Hall, & with monies in hand & an estimate of \$42,000 to consider, it was a difficult decision to make as to whether to proceed in two stages or the whole, it was decided to form a sub committee, to probe the possibility of interest free loans to tide us over & ensure that we could start building, this was successful & we had one generous offer of the deficit, & the contract was signed & building site prep work started on Jan 14 last year, we now have 10 guarantors who have ~~offered~~ ^{made} interest free loans, we have received grants from Parish Council, East Hamlet District & Dept of Education, & here one sees the result in this Hall, we hope to receive the second half of the grants on April 1st

this year, & then we shall know exactly what the ultimate deficit will be; but it must be stressed that we must still continue with our fund raising efforts *

- One must not forget Messrs Houlets the builders who have done a good job & honoured their contract

forget our previous treasurer the Blowers who had the job of governing the building fund in its initial stages.

through the whole of this enormous task, we have had the expert advice of the Haute Council of Social Services, who I am sure must be pleased with the results & glad to be rid of our constant pressure on them.

The amount of money raised by the village is in the region of £? & this in the space of 4 years must be a record, & I should imagine an inspiration to any community

about to embark on building a new Hall
you will have noted my remarks in the Post
at a recent P Council Meeting with reference to
the community spirit in the village, and I firmly
believe that the building of this Hall has had
the effect of bringing all sections of the village
in a communal effort.

Self - Lynton. Mrs R. Emery - Trevelyan
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