

A few weeks ago, a long-standing member of the Little Ribston village hall committee stepped down, after, I think, much deliberation. Barbara Goulton served on the committee for an astonishing 70 years, having joined when she was a young lady in her early 20s.

Barbara has fond memories of many functions and events that the hall has held over the decades. She remembers attending dances, where live bands would play. 'Bob Hops' were very popular with the young people (I had to ask what these were). A bob was paid, and the evening was spent dancing to records played on a gramophone player that someone would provide. For older adults, fortnightly socials were held. Children's parties sometimes numbered 60, night school was at one time a regular event, and the WI also met regularly until very recently. There were open fires to keep folk warm in the colder months. Whist Drives were so well attended that at times, people had to go out of one door and come in the other, just to be able to move about.

Barbara's work on the committee and constant support has been much appreciated by the current and very recent committee members. In recognition of this, the committee presented her with a bird table, having learned that she gets great pleasure from watching the birds visiting her garden (and also in view of the fact that one of her bird tables had recently collapsed). Barbara reported fairly quickly that the bird table was being visited, so we hope that word will spread and she will have many happy hours watching a variety of birds coming and going.

J. Colbeck
VHC.