



# East Worlington Parish Hall News|etter



## **Render and Window Project Edition 03 – 28 July 2018**

### **Repair Needed**

Removing the render exposed a historic a crack and repair in the corner of the west wall and south wall. Cob blocks had been fixed to the top of the walls just below the roof where there appears to have been some damage at some time in the barn's / hall's past. The size and shape of the crack suggests the top of the wall move outwards or failed at some time and this created a movement in the cob down to the stone foundations. A repair of small stone and cement mortar had been used to repair the crack.

As a remedy to this problem it is proposed that stainless steel Helifix bars are driven into the cob, across the joint, where the most serious gap exist fix cob blocks, fill the remaining crack using lime mortar, and render over.

The photographs below show the crack and its location on the building.



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## Render and Window Project



With the old render removed applying the first coat of lime plaster has started. This is known as Harling. Harling is also known as Scat Coat, Thrown Coat or Rough Cast. Harling is a technique for applying a coat of render or plaster. The lime mortar has extra water added to bring it to a runny consistency. It is then cast on the wall using a special tool called a harling trowel which has a curved blade. It provides a rough texture when cured that gives extra key for the next trowelled coat and also controls suction with very thirsty materials such as cob.

## Kitchen Conservation

In conjunction with the Render and Window project the external conservation of the kitchen area of the Hall is continuing. This aspect was not completed earlier in the year due to the weather conditions. On removing the old render from the west wall of the kitchen the original stone was exposed. The photograph clearly shows where this extension lean-to was added to the original barn.



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### Key details:

For **bookings** please contact: **Lorna Manton**

**Tel:** 01884 860657

**Email:** [bookings@ewph.uk](mailto:bookings@ewph.uk)

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