SOUTH LEIGH VILLAGE HALL

ANNUAL REPORT April 2024

Two of our main expenses this year have been the widening of the entrance so that it is not such a sharp angle to drive in and the painting of the outside of the hall. The paintwork wasn’t in a poor condition but after 10 years some of it was badly faded, so it should be good now for another 10 years. On the same subject members of the committee, with some very welcome help, have re-painted the summerhouse and the arbour (the covered seat at the top of the garden).

We have recently purchased a new cooker as the ovens on the predecessor were no longer functioning properly. This one has 6 gas hobs and one large electric oven which hopefully will last for many years.

We have encountered unforeseen repair work necessary to the roof when the rain seeped in and set off the fire alarm. At the time of writing the work has been completed and the scaffolding removed, all that remains is for the fire engineer to come and replace the sensor high up on the main hall ceiling.

We have asked our handyman to remove the wooden thatched ‘structure’ before it falls down, in readiness for a more permanent ‘shed’ as we are desperately in need of more storage space. The size etc of the ‘shed’ is still being discussed. The idea of a major brick- built extension beyond the fire exit has been shelved for the moment but the village has an extensive archive collection which is currently being stored in a variety of houses.

A continuing problem has been the grass-cutting but we have recently found a more local man than the one we employed last year, who will cut the hall grass, the Village Green and possibly the churchyard. At the time of writing he has only been once so it is early days.

Our most frequent bookings are for children’s parties at weekends, very often involving a bouncy castle outside or inside, and during the week there are regular yoga classes, a sound therapy meeting once a week, also family gatherings feature fairly often and wedding reception parties occur during the summer weekends.

John Ashwell

Treasurer SLVH