

CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT 2011

This year has seen significant changes in our Officers/Trustees with the retirement from the Charity of Derek Edwards, our Treasurer for the last 15 years; Lisa Bullock, our long-serving Bookings Officer; Lynn Edwards, Guides representative; and Liz Dolman, Village representative. There were also the resignations of Mavis King, Vice-Chairman, after 15 years most valuable service to our Charity; and of Heike Jeronim, Village representative. The Charity is indebted to them all for their support in their various ways to its work. In their place we welcomed Heather Crolley, as Treasurer; Paul Tyler, Bookings Officer; Caroline Hancock, Guides representative; and John Hirst, Village representative. Lesley Adam, who took over as WI representative from Pam Loosmore, was also welcomed.

As heralded in the 2010 report, the Hall windows were replaced with double-glazed units early in 2011; these much improved heat retention. This work was funded by a grant from Viridor Ltd. to whom we are extremely grateful. More minor works carried out included replacement of the kitchen sliding hatch doors and the periodic treatment of the wooden floor. The Charity also bought a new batch of tea-towels, depicting village buildings and scenes, and notelets for sale; thanks to Rachel Carver for leading on this. Overall, usage of the Hall was little changed from 2010.

Turning to the Recreation Ground, the year saw a new contractor carrying out the grass-cutting . After a few “teething problems“, the work was performed most satisfactorily throughout the season. Given the profusion of dandelions in early spring, the Charity arranged for a complete weed-control treatment of the ground; this has been successful. After the demise in 2010 of Atworth Football Club, we were pleased to reach agreement with Staverton F C in October for their hire of the senior football pitch as their “home” ground. A further planting of trees in the copse took place during the year.

2011 has not been an easy year for the Charity given the extent of turnover of Officers/ Trustees. Additionally, our 2011 accounts show a “loss” of some £1430 over the year; however, most of this is due to the late issue of bills to Hall users and the 2012 accounts are expected to show a “profit” of a similar order. We are, therefore, financially in good shape. I record, once again, my grateful thanks to my fellow Trustees, in particular John Day and Rachel Carver, for their help and support during the year.

Bill Cooke (Chairman)