LOPPINGTON Village Hall Chairman's Report April 2023

This last year has been successful on many levels. Events organised by the committee and "friends of the committee" such as the Jubilee celebration following our late queen's 70th year of her reign. That was a great weekend of celebration which culminated in a family sports day, picnic and live entertainment on the sports field. Unfortunately, the weather wasn't with us on that occasion which was undoubtedly a factor in the low numbers attending. However, the marquee had been erected and games took place in between showers and a fun day was had by all. The event had been organised by a sub-committee made up of village hall committee and W.I. members and I thank them for their efforts.

Other events worthy of mention include the annual treasure hunt organised by Chris and Diane Goodwin who worked hard to prepare a challenging day which again was well supported and enjoyed by all, and the charity race night which raised funds for Severn Hospice.

The village hall building is currently in a reasonable state of repair but requires substantial work done to bring it up to a long lasting specification. Meetings have taken place with the building owners who have kindly agreed to extend the lease for a further 37 years. Matters are now in the hands of the Parish Council and solicitors to finalise the issue.

As well as maintaining the building, efforts are being undertaken by the committee to raise the much needed funds to complete the works.

Special thanks extended to John Bulmer (building manager) for his continuous hard work and attention to detail in effecting repairs.

The editing of the very exceptional village hall news has now passed hands from Keith Webber to Rupert Bearne. We offer a collective "big thank you" to Keith for all of his hard work whilst editor and we look forward to Rupert carrying on the good work.

Bookings and use of the hall continue with the "keep fit" classes such as Pilates and Yoga, and the live music events organised by Dave Price continue to be well received.

Our objectives for the coming year will clearly be focussed in making the hall more welcoming and user friendly. Hopefully, we can complete the essential building upgrades which will achieve our aim.

Furthermore, it would be desirable to recruit new committee members who may have some time to spare to help with the running of our successful community hall.

Lastly, my sincere thanks to all of the committee, and others who assist us, for all of their efforts and hard work in providing this much needed facility for our community.

David Sharpe Chairman