

Chairman's statement – 3/3/18

2018 will see a year of considerable change as our management team welcomes new members and bids farewell to others. Reflecting on the past 5 years as Chairperson and the content of the reports written, it is clear that we do not stand still as an organisation, we plan and evolve around the challenges and requirements of the establishment we are here to support.

As a team we have positively embraced the standards required to ensure we have created a safe working environment both within and external to the hall. We are supported by Hereford Council in our food standard and licencing certifications which are regulatory and legal requirements.

How do we make sure people know about us? As an organisation working in a modern society we utilise many avenues of communication whether on paper or via social media. We now have a well-established and engaging website managed by our colleague Tina Tupper. We ensure that our events and notices are available in whatever media our supporters can access, Facebook, email, leaflets, chimes, posters and notice boards - we get the message out to as many as possible.

We act responsibly and take our role seriously in terms of the Governance of the Hall, a great deal of work has been completed this past year to ensure we have updated and collated accurate and relevant documents detailing charity commission requirements, have recorded existing historical evidence that underpin our management team activities and processes – These documents must be and are “Fit for purpose”

I have stressed over the years that the key objective of our group is clearly not only about money or about fundraising. It is in part to ensure the building and equipment we look after, are in good condition, it is about sustaining the hall for future users and for our community – we need to keep our “house” in good order, in terms of repair and regular implementation of our maintenance plan.

This year a huge amount of essential work has been completed by Ben Casson and his extended team to provide a beautiful and light new floor in the committee room and Hall, what an amazing difference it has made to warmth and light in the rooms. You may also notice that stage two our major renovations has started on re upholstery of the chairs and we have updated lighting in and around the hall and grounds - Events and the funds we raise are how we pay for this work.

So, how do we do achieve this?

We have a strong core team who are a very hard working part of the whole story. We are also lucky and extremely grateful to have access to a huge team of supporters who, with our

extended “family” and local organisations, help to create an energetic and diverse calendar of events across the year.

Our thanks cannot be reiterated sufficiently to truly express what incredible support is given time after time.

Thank you for all of theCakes and bakes, Jumble and donations, time, effort and goodwill, enthusiasm and just general “fabulousness darling” You get the picture. There is a huge team effort involved in all that we do and a sentiment that I know has been spoken of every year not only at the AGM but at every opportunity, it really cannot be repeated too often.

I would now like to share a few moments and memories from mine and Sue’s time with the committee , and say that the time spent with you all is indelibly marked in our hearts and in our minds as a very special and never to be forgotten part of our lives. Obviously we will still support LVH and be involved in helping at future events.