BDT N+V December 2025

The Ticehurst Talks have been going very well with long waiting lists for both the recent Robert Bathurst in conversation with Sue Gaisford and the December one with local resident and survival expert, Ray Mears. I am sorry that so many of you have booked too late to get places. In fact, I did not even have to advertise Ray's Talk or send an email out to all those who have been to past events as so many people spotted it on previous fliers/posters with the forthcoming ones.

Perhaps I should have stayed awake more during my economics lessons at school. Apparently, if demand exceeds supply there is only 1 thing to do – put the price up. All to do the elasticity of demand – allegedly...

By the time you read this my namesake will have delivered her budget speech. Some may well question as to whether she also fell asleep during her lessons! However, we are very keen to ensure that all the events are available to as many people as we can, so for the Talks, the price next year will stay at £10/head. However, if you thought that this is remarkably good value, and with Robert and Sue you got 2 highly regarded professionals for a mere tenner, then we are always very happy to receive donations.

December 11th is Ray Mear's Talk and as of writing this, there are already 40 on the waiting list. I did ask if he would do another night, but he has a very busy schedule, however ….there is always the possibility in the future.

January 8th is a repeat of Simon Lloyd's History of Ticehurst which last time was a full house with a waiting list. It will be a fascinating evening and if you came last time, book again as he has added even more information to it.

I am still working on the February Talk but with no January edition of the "Go-To" publication for everything you need to know in the parish and around – News and Views, keep a look out on social media plus an email from me. If a proposed speaker does not come off you can happily book that skiing holiday or trip to somewhere warmer knowing that you will not be missing out on another incredibly interesting and informative evening. They are also a great way of socialising with old friends and making some new ones.

It is getting colder and the nights longer but to use the final song from The Life of Brian – "Always look on the bright side of life". We are incredibly lucky in the village to have so many people who put their time into making so many clubs, groups, societies and of course the Beatrice Drewe Trust successful. So my thanks to all those whose positive attitude and work have made the Talks, and the bar, run so smoothly – John Brooker, Sheila Jemmett, Julie Hill, Heidi Reisz, Judith Whiteman, my wife Liz and other family members who are now experts in chair stacking after the Talks.

My thanks also to Martin Athey and Pam Craddock who have recently moved from just over the boarder in Kent to “God’s own County and Parish” – East Sussex and of course, Ticehurst. They have kindly donated a very large television, with sound bars and all the modern gizmos to the Village Hall. We look forward to getting this all up and running shortly.

Peter Reeves

Chairman, Beatrice Drewe Trust.