

BDT N + V October 2022

I have been reflecting on Her Majesty's lying-in state and then state funeral. What a fantastic show of the very Best of British. The Pageantry, Armed Services, Westminster Abbey and Saint George's Chapel plus people happily queuing for hours on end to pay their respects. I feel that there has been a marked increase in community spirit and support for each other over the last few weeks.

Many in the village may well be justifiably concerned at the potential increase in electricity and gas bills over the winter, although the government have taken steps to limit bills for the foreseeable future. However, there may be families and others perhaps by themselves who will struggle to keep warm if it is a hard one. The Beatrice Drewe Trust are looking at ways of providing a warm room/rooms at the Hall for those who might like to have somewhere cosy and have company during the daytime if temperatures drop very low.

At present we are still considering options. To run the heating 12 hours a day (we are on gas) will be expensive but we feel that the Hall is a community asset and should be used for the benefit of those who need it. Please let us know if you think that it would be a good idea – and also how we could fund it. The Trust is a Charity! Email: bookings@ticehurstvillagehall.co.uk or talk to John Brooker on 07716 086931

I would like to thank those who have made some very generous donations to our planned projects. I feel a little bit like Oliver coming up in front of Mr. Bumble and asking for more. MORE! The Trust is always grateful for any donations whatever the size.

Beatrice Drewe Trust 60-22-15 71166327

What of the improvements mentioned in the last edition? Good builders are in high demand resulting in estimates for immediate work being slower coming in than hoped for. However, like the old British Rail advertising line "We Are Getting There".

One small change in the main kitchen. The sad closing of the Court Yard Café has meant that we have bought their dishwashing and other bits. Even cleaner coffee cups and plates than ever!

We also have a new group on Tuesday mornings – Mothers and Toddlers which has only just started but has been very well supported. Sponsored by the NHS and East Sussex County Council.

Peter Reeves

Chairman, Beatrice Drewe Trust