

## War Memorial Hall Report 2018 – AJW

Hook Norton War Memorial Hall has undergone a huge amount of work over the last year – which follows on from all the work that was completed in previous years. (This includes the roof undergoing costly repairs, ceiling repaired, new windows, complete redecoration throughout.)

All lighting in the main hall has been replaced with new LED lights – so apart from being brighter should also be cheaper to run. New outside security lights are also in place.

Despite this, the Hall was still being underused – and so we looked into why this was the case. We were told that the kitchen was not adequate to cater for parties and so last summer many hours were spent on clearing out cupboards, re-stocking with new crockery and cutlery and purchasing a brand new range cooker. We had already put a fridge in place, and so just needed to re-position it to complete the kitchen. In conjunction with The Film Society and Hooky Players (thank you both) we were able to purchase 80 new (and comfortable) chairs.

From now on there will be a yearly inventory of items and they will be re-stocked as necessary.

Unfortunately the roof needed some attention as bad weather had displaced a couple of tiles. This led to water getting through to the ceiling which will now be re-painted later this year.

We also arranged for all guttering and downpipes to be cleared which should have stopped the damp problem that had appeared on the internal walls in places. The Velux kitchen window was also repaired as it had been leaking.

Various other repairs have been needed – like broken blinds and a need to update the electricity pay meter to take the new £1 coin, plus replacing the toilet cistern in the Gents and repairs to the Ladies toilets. We have also had to remove trees from the grounds which have either died, or been uprooted during stormy weather. Fence panels are being repaired as I write this. All of these are at a cost to the MH. Last year we spent £12076 on the Hall but the income was only £8673. We need to look at ways to make the Hall more self funding. Hopefully we will have some ideas when we have the MH User Group meeting on Monday April 9<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. This will now be an annual event.

Incredible Edible Hooky are making use of a portion of the gardens – but I think this is an area that could really do with an overhaul – something to think about for the future.

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