**SILCHESTER ASSOCIATION TREASURER’S REPORT 2016/2017**

I am pleased to be able to report that the total cash assets for the Association for the year to April 2017 stands at £20,611.68, just over £5900 higher than this time last year. In addition to this very healthy position we made donations totalling £1,585 and made capital purchases costing £1,167. More detail on these items later.

Our first event in 2016 was a Craft and Hobbies exhibition. The event was well attended by exhibitions and visitors. Overall cost to host this event was nearly £250 however, with the sales of wine and contributions from exhibitor’s sales we managed to keep the final event cost to £164.63.

The Fun Run sub-committee comprises members from the Association, Tadley Runners and Silchester Pavilion team who did a great job of seeking “promotional” funding from local businesses. £800 was raised along with sponsors for bananas and bottled water. Fun Run 2016 was blessed by very good weather and this resulted in our highest ever number of entrants totalling 425. This high number required a lot of data entry at sign-on and a big challenge with timekeeping / number order at the finish tape, so well done Tadley Runners. In addition to the high number of entrants the good weather brought out lots of spectators and the BBQ, café, candy floss and beer sales all did well returning an income of over £600. Overall the Income, after costs, from the event was £2,508.72. Well done to John Davis and the Fun Run sub-committee members. In light of the high income, and in agreement with Tadley Runners, a donation of £996.50 was made to the Pavilion committee.

 You may recall that in 2015 our August Bank Holiday “Picnic” event had to be cancelled due to very bad weather so it was with trepidation that we planned the next free “outdoor event” to celebrate the Queen’s 90th Birthday on 12th June. The weather on the day wasn’t too bad and games bought for the picnic were used for children’s activities and Rick Hutching’s band kept the adults entertained. Overall the event cost £518.43 however, we were informed by Ann-Marie Dalton of a “Community fund” at AWE for such events and she managed to get a £200 contribution from AWE. Thank You Ann-Marie.

The 6th Beer Festival was enjoyable and successful. We had great beer, good food and two excellent stage bands. Thanks to Derek Monger, Simon Brewin and the team for a great night. The 250 tickets were all sold by about 6pm and we made an income, after costs, of £735.84 which was much higher than £175.65 of 2015 when we only sold 172 tickets.

Bonfire Night is the big event of our year with a huge financial commitment of over £6000 and requires an attendance of over 900 people to just breakeven. 5th November 2016 fell on a Saturday so that date was the obvious date for our event. At the planning meeting Silchester House management team informed us they had a booking for a wedding that weekend. Lucky the bride and groom, who had attended and enjoyed our 2015 bonfire night, kindly offered to let us hold Bonfire night as usual. This gave us a few logistics problems to ensure we had minimum impact on the Wedding activities and parking at the house was a particular headache. On the night everything went exceeding well with a record attendance of 1621 compared to 1242 in 2015. Considering that both the Lions Club and Mortimer fireworks nights were the same night we were very surprised and pleased so many people decided to attend our event. Again we outsourced the food catering which saved us a great amount of catering logistics. We concentrated effort on the drinks sales with more stock of the popular items – Mulled Wine, Mulled Cider, Soup, Hot and Cold drinks. Glowsticks were again very popular and soon sold out. Drinks and Glowsticks sales gave an income of £628 after costs. In the end a great night which was very much appreciated by the wedding party and villagers. The income, after costs, for this event was a massive £5,145.83. Thanks go to Paul Baker and the sub-committee and all the many volunteers who helped in so many ways. A very special thank you must go to Silchester House and the Wedding party.

In February we held the Quiz night which was a great evening and returned an income of £163.14. Thanks to Alan Fairhurst who set the questions and hosted the event. Professor Fulford’s interesting Roman Talk evening in March was well attended and returned an income of £319.25 compared to £165.48 in 2016.

Special Events. To be able to run events like the Fun Run, Beer Festival and Bonfire night we have to have the help of a large number of volunteers and this year we decided to hold a “Thank You” Party for all the people who had kindly given their time and effort to help at an Association event in the past year. Cost to run the party was £930.18. Thanks to Derek Fawcett for kindly let us use his barn for the party.

Donations. Looking next at our support of other village organizations and events. In addition to the £996.50 income share with the Pavilion committee we donated £300 to the school PTA for Leaver’s Memories Books, £75 to the Tadley Scouts and £100 to the 2nd Silchester Brownies towards a Community Meal.

Silchester Association received a very kind donation to our funds of £2500 this year.

The Association’s Other expenses.

 Public Liability Insurance which was £1393.52.

 Capital Purchases. We used the money donated to the Association to buy capital items with the major items being:-

* 3 heavy duty gazebos and 1 medium weight gazebo (£1106.95)
* Low-power waterproof lighting (£60)

Portable Appliance Testing (PAT) cost us £141.60 and included in this price were all items in the Pavilion, Village Hall and the Church PA system.

In Conclusion. This time last year I was reporting an increase in the Association funds of just over £100 so, even allowing for the kind donation we received of £2500, to be reporting an increase this year of over £5900 shows what a good year the Association has had running events.

Commitments on the account for the next financial next year are:-

* WW1 Remembrance bench £1200
* Pavilion Committee – field maintenance £1250
* School PTA - Leaver’s year book £300
* New Website development- estimate £600 - £1000
* Under discussion are commitments to the Village Hall and the Playground

David Westwood – Treasurer. 5th April 2017.