

Barbara Cast  
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## Report of President/Chair of Bleasby Local History Society to APM 2023

The Society has just passed its 42<sup>nd</sup> birthday with a few of its founder members still in membership. All those years ago it was just a handful of people interested in local history who met in each other's homes but it soon grew into a thriving society needing the accommodation the Village Hall provides.

We meet on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of most months, having a break in the summer when we usually visit a place of historic interest.

Our lectures are chosen carefully by the BLHS team to be varied and of high quality - they are usually about some aspect of our own county but we do have some specials when we hear about neighbouring counties. This year our programme includes talks on the county's hidden gardens, Nottingham's caves, how the Trent has shaped the surrounding countryside, industry in early 20<sup>th</sup> century Newark and, a look outside the county, when we will have a speaker telling us about the Rutland Roman Villa project - a very special lecture.

We also enjoy our AGMs as we make sure there are always appropriate quizzes or other entertainment to follow the small amount of business.

This year we have doubled the size of our committee, otherwise known as the team - from 2 to 4 - which is very helpful.

Our contribution to the parish is to be ready to be involved in events and activities such as the Jubilee, the commemoration of the end of the Great War, exhibitions etc. We also provide information on Bleasby Parish's history for interpretive boards etc and there are regular contributions to Bleasby News. We do also take an interest in the historic buildings and special areas of our own patch.

We welcome members and visitors to our lectures from the parish and also from neighbouring villages. Subscriptions each year are £15 for individuals or £25 for two people at the same address. Visitors are welcome to come to our lectures for which we ask £5.

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