

## **Report on behalf of Bleasby WI**

### **Bleasby Parish Council Annual Meeting 2018**

On behalf of the members of Bleasby WI, I am pleased to report that we have had another successful and full year. We celebrate our 96<sup>th</sup> Birthday in October and the Nottinghamshire Federation celebrated their centenary this year. For this occasion we had afternoon tea at The Stage at the Deli in Southwell where we welcomed our Federation Chairman Jane Jefferson.

We have enjoyed a usual full programme both at our monthly meetings and also with the extra activities for our members organised by the committee which have kept us occupied throughout the year, ranging from visits to the cinema to pamper evenings at Eden Hall.

We have regular visits to Averham Theatre and have lunched at various pubs and restaurants around the county, some local and others further afield.

We have Gone to the Dogs at Southwell; watched tennis at Nottingham Tennis Centre; watched Nottingham Panthers at the Ice Stadium and T20 Cricket at Trent Bridge.

Our book group has met regularly in the Waggon and Horses and have read and discussed a wide range of titles all loaned from a well stocked library service in Southwell.

At our autumn council meeting held at The Palace Theatre in Newark we danced in the aisles to the ABBA tribute band.

Members have attended our WI college Denman in Oxfordshire to learn the art of cheese making, drawing and we have tried our hand at Mosaics in the village hall and our skill at croquet at Morton.

Our membership is currently ~~56~~<sup>7</sup> but we always welcome new members of the community of any age, to come along and see what we do.

We held a successful Christmas coffee morning in support of the Children's Bereavement Centre and also in December we sang carols and the money also supporting this charity and with the generosity of both our members and the people of Bleasby we were able to give them a donation of £555.

We have also raised money in support of the Women's Refuge in Newark who also received our pretty parcels in December for the children at the refuge and we have given them used and nearly new children's clothing, bedding, baby equipment and useful household items. These were all gratefully received by the Refuge.

We supported Hazelford Care Home at their summer fayre holding a Jarbola stall and have a regular team of volunteers who man the trolley service for the residents of the home.

In support of our national resolution last year '**Alleviating Loneliness**' and together with St Marys and the BVH Committee, since November we have held regular monthly coffee mornings to encourage people here in Bleasby to come along have a coffee and a chat. These are free and not a fund raising event.

So you can see we have had a very busy year, having fun, forming friendships, learning new skills and getting involved in our community which we have been doing for 96 years.

We look forward to another successful and full year ahead.