BLEASBY NEWS



Our Wonderful Jubilee Ponds



FEBRUARY 2020





Remember last summer and the Open Gardens - join in with Bleasby in Bloom this year and florally decorate your front garden or house!





This year the focus is on V.E.

Day



Photos of Bleasby Open Gardens 2019 courtesy of Christine Bennett

WELCOME TO THE FEBRUARY EDITION OF BLEASBY NEWS

After a most successful and enjoyable Bleasby Parish Christmas, we are now entering an ever hopeful springtime – snowdrops are flowering, primroses too: soon it will be crocuses and daffodils. 2020 – the start of a new decade – there will be challenges ahead but we, here in Bleasby, will rise to them and cherish the place that we so love, celebrating and supporting those who live in our small plot of Earth by the "smug and silver Trent".

As always we will be pleased to receive all types of articles, pictures, ideas and news etc – send all your items for the February edition by **Monday**, **16**th **March**, to Rachael at prandrew74@outlook.com or Barbara at barbaracast@btinternet.com

Please remember that you can get up-to-date news of what's going on in Bleasby Parish by going to www.bleasbycommunity.uk – and to sign up for email alerts email bleasbycommunity@outlook.com

Bleasby News editors, Rachael and Barbara

BLEASBY PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

At the December Parish Council meeting I was voted in as the new Chair for Bleasby Parish Council, taking on the role from Peter Cast. Peter has been a great Chair and my thanks go to him. I plan to follow the approach, spirit, actions and plans that have defined Peter's time as Chair. In particular, I aim to implement the wishes of our residents as reflected by our Parish Plan, which is based on the questionnaire completed by parishioners. To this end, current volunteers are vital for implementation and we will need more. We also need two further Parish Councillors - currently there are five, and we need seven. If you are interested in becoming a parish councillor please contact our Parish Clerk, Karen Green. bleasbyparishcouncil@outlook.com. Being a councillor is a great way of getting involved in the village and provides a different and interesting outlet to your existing jobs and roles. Furthermore, it doesn't take up a lot of time. We meet at the village hall on Gypsy Lane every second Monday of the month at 7.30 pm.

I recently attended Bleasby's Events Group. The group devises and manages the Bleasby events with enthusiasm and skill, and is separate from the Parish Council. The Group is already planning for events for VE Day in May, followed by Bleasby in Bloom, Apple Fest in the autumn and our Christmas celebrations. In addition, we are looking forward to the BikeFest in July. Thriving volunteer groups are key to the village as somewhere where it is good to live and pleasant to visit for non-residents. The Waggon and Horses is a key element of Bleasby village, and we are also fortunate that the Parish Council owned Glebe Field is set between this and St. Mary's Church. A great open setting in itself and as a venue for events. The Parish Council also owns the Jubilee Ponds. This large, accessible area of ponds, meadow and woodland is a great place for gentle walks and seeing nature. We aim to maintain the character of the Jubilee Ponds.

There are issues that remain within the Parish, including traffic, the railway level crossing and the potential for flooding. These issues have been raised in the Parish Plan and in many Parish Council meetings. They will need to be addressed within our scope of responsibility and we are fortunate to have long-standing and excellent working relations with both the District and County Council. Such links are key for addressing such issues.

I am very much looking forward to my time as Chair. The actions and decisions of the Parish Council always aim to be the best for the residents of Bleasby, Goverton and Gibsmere. We are led by your views and aspirations. If you wish to contact me please email me on andersenbleasbypc@outlook.com.

Stephen Andersen, Granary Farmhouse

FROM THE REVD PHIL

Dear All

"For whom the bell tolls...it tolls for thee"

Dear All, for anyone who thinks the Church of England has loads of money because of its amazing assets, please note the following small fact. A single, small church bell will cost one of our churches up to £3,000 to fix ... all told (ha ha!?). So should we pay for it? When do we stop saying "Happy New Year", and to whom do we not say it? Do we have different views about this?

Today, whilst in the car, someone hooted at me in an angry way which really annoyed me... So we were disagreeing about who should occupy road space and for how long! I recently had a 'conversation' with someone who berated at length and in detail the performance of the Church in western society. It was hard to get enough time between sentences to say how much I actually agreed, never mind where I had a different perspective. There are so many things that we don't see eye to eye on. So often we manage to find a way of being confrontational, convinced we are in the right, unable to listen to a new and radical point of view without betraying our own prejudice. Or am I the only one!?

I have heard that some would like not only Big Ben to sound (or have sounded!) on 1st February to celebrate Brexit, but also church bells to sound out. I disagree with this suggestion because we would not exactly be celebrating a moment of national unity, nor a sacred moment. But then you might and can disagree! In reading a document about the Church of England Vision for Education a particular phrase shouted out at me. It was about our need to 'learn how to disagree well'. The quote is not just Ernest Hemingway's but from John Donne (1572-1631). Although about funeral bells (which I'm not applying to Brexit!?), it is in the context of - whatever 'affects one affects all', "no man/woman is an island, entire of itself".

Can we teach our children/grandchildren how to listen to difference and negotiate reconciliation? Only if we do it ourselves....and be willing to admit where we haven't...and try again?

New Year Blessings, Phil

"Then love is sin, and let me sinful be." — John Donne M: 077 200 100 66 Email: phil 07@btinternet.com

CHURCH NEWS

Advent Carols

We were pleased to be the chosen venue for the Trent Choir's Advent Carol Concert under the direction of James, their new choirmaster. The choir entertained us with a wide range of carols from different centuries, some familiar and some new to us. We look forward to hearing them again on Plough Sunday at Halloughton on 9th February at 6pm - there will be no service at Bleasby on that day - do come to Halloughton!

Parish Christmas Tree Event

It was heartening to see lots of young families enjoying the activities, refreshments and singing in church on the day the Parish Council lit the Glebe Field Christmas tree. Santa's visit was a huge success!

School Service

As usual the whole school and numerous parents came to church for their end of term service. The children read and sang in celebration of Christmas and their work over the school term. It was with sadness that the time came to say "Goodbye" to Louise Carpenter who has done so much for the school during a period of challenge and change. We congratulate her on her appointment as Headteacher of Farnsfield C of E School.

Christmas Services

The Crib Service on Christmas Eve proved to be as popular as ever. 140 adults and children enjoyed the familiar story of Christmas told though narration, Bible readings and "first person accounts" of the main protagonists. Thank you to the performers and the children who read so well. And to all those who helped with the organisation and clear-up. The Christmas Morning Holy Communion congregation exceeded all expectations when 40 adults and children left turkeys in the oven to enjoy the celebration together. Thank you to Ali Sutherland and her team of decorators who always ensure that the church looks stunning for the Christmas events.

Church cleaning

Volunteers meet on the second Thursday of each month to clean the church, choosing whether to wash, dust, sweep, vacuum, polish or shake or a selection of these activities for an hour from 10.m followed by a much needed coffee and conversation. We have been encouraged by the numbers who have turned up each time and who seem to enjoy themselves for reasons only known to them!

Open Door at School

The theme for the next term will be parables with Rev Phil telling the stories and Angela and Suzanne organising activities, ably assisted by parents and church volunteers, not forgetting "Angela's Dad" who cooks and serve the pizzas. If you have young children not yet at school and would be interested in bringing them along, please ask Diana, Rachael or Angela about the next session or enquire at school.

Opening the Church

Thank you to all those who have opened the church daily throughout the autumn and to all those who have signed up again to take us through winter and spring. Because of your willingness to help, very few people have been required to do more than a week and no one will need to do more than one from now until May. We are always pleased, however, to have new volunteers and reserves to fall back on if someone has to drop out at short notice. The visitors book provides evidence that people from far and wide have been pleased that the church is open. Local people are also grateful to be able to enjoy the peace and quiet when they come to tend graves or pass by on foot or bike

Candlemas

On February 2nd we will be celebrating Candlemas, otherwise known as the Presentation of Christ in the Temple. Edmund Salter has made a new set of candlesticks which will be presented at this service, appropriately a service of light. We are very grateful to Edmund for using his woodwork and turning skills to benefit St Mary's in so many ways over the years.

Diana Temperley and Rachael Andrew, Churchwardens



REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

This initiative to gather gifts for those who are having to rely on Newark Women's Aid paid great dividends – thanks to all in the West Trent parishes who contributed gifts which have been very much appreciated as you can see from the response from NWA. Thanks also to Janet of Morton who coordinated the collection.

Wow, the donation I collected from you yesterday was absolutely amazing. So many lovely things, from so many kind people. Food, toiletries, gifts, clothing, cleaning materials and household goods, toilet rolls, kitchen rolls, chocolates, etc., it was wonderful.

It will keep the families going for a while, and help with cleaning in the refuge (or make up a pack when women leave), and make up essential welcome packs for families when they come into the refuge and beyond, (until finances are sorted out), gifts for birthdays and so on.

Please pass on our sincere thanks to everyone who donated to our charity, we really are most grateful, and it's your continued support which enables us to continue to work with victims of domestic violence. We couldn't do it without the support of our local community.

LAKE DISTRICT HOLIDAY COTTAGE

Borrowdale Road, Keswick 3 Bedrooms | Sleeps 6 **TO LET**

Fully refurbished holiday cottage with gas central heating, open fire place and private parking

Views overlooking the fells, front and rear gardens, superb location

For further details please ring 01636 830209 | 07812 101303

BLEASBY BIKERS

Every village has its own rhythm and now the groups of local cyclists leaving Bleasby first thing on a Sunday morning are a very familiar sight.

The club has had a very enjoyable year with our now over sixty members of all abilities taking part in non-competitive "sportives" in Lincolnshire, Staffordshire and Rutland in addition to weekly rides into the quiet lanes of north Nottinghamshire or south into the

Vale of Belvoir. Over a third of the membership attended the annual weekend away to Ledbury, nestled behind the Malvern Hills, which provided access to the deserted roads of rural Herefordshire and the delights of the Wye Valley. Each quarter members enjoy a good social catch-up in what we regard as the club HQ...the Waggon & Horses, of course!

In 2020 it'll be more of the same - our annual weekend away already booked, this time based in Oswestry with options to ride the rolling countryside of Shropshire and the Welsh borders or the more challenging terrain further into the Welsh mountains. We try to ride every week, subject to weather, with routes decided informally and arranged via WhatsApp groups. Riders are already signing up to ride their first sportive of the year in March to be held in Rutland.

Why not try us out? The club is focused on road cycling and is affiliated to British Cycling - it is open to anyone over the age of eighteen and different groups exist to cater for differing levels of ability and aspiration. Our 'Easy Riders' group is a great place to start, the emphasis is on not riding too far or too fast, and certainly enjoying a good social stop at one of the many cafés that have sprung up to serve the increasing number of cyclists venturing out. If you're more experienced and want to ride faster and further, then our 'Roleurs' section is for you. The annual subscription is just £10. If you're interested, email Colin at bleasbybikers@btinternet.com for an information pack.



BLEASBY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Let us begin by wishing everyone a Happy New Year from Bleasby WI members.

After starting the Christmas season by spending an evening carol singing at Gibsmere, we continued festivities with a Christmas party for our December

meeting. As well as enjoying some delicious food provided by our members, we played a word game quiz, charades and Irish bingo and had an unexpected (but welcome) visit from Father Christmas. Our competition was to provide a pretty parcel for a child or young person, wrapped in recyclable paper, and these were then passed to the Salvation Army for distribution.

In January our speaker was Angela Hall from the British Hedgehog Preservation Society. She gave us a very interesting talk telling us why hedgehogs need to be rescued and giving us advice as to how we could encourage them into our gardens. And much, much more!

Our usual activities continue with 'Ladies who Lunch', book group, sewing and games afternoons, outings etc. with more planned for the future.

The February meeting will be a cookery demonstration by one of our members, Terri Swift, and the March meeting will be a talk by Alison Sutherland about her recent visit to China to look at healthcare there for patients with breathing problems.

We meet on the third Tuesday of the month at the Village Hall and visitors and new members are always welcome.

Sheila Lewis

SAVE THE DATE: BLEASBY EVENTS - 2020

Please "save the date" for the following Bleasby community events that are planned for 2020.

VE Celebrations: on the 8th May, starting with a street party theme to mark the 75th anniversary of the formal end of World War II......watch this space! **Event contact**: Bleasby Events Group - Peter Cast (07948 266639)

Bleasby In Bloom: following on from the success of last year, the plan is to get those floral displays out in time for the VE celebrations; starting on 8th May and then keeping them going for as long as possible during the summer months. Too early? Not at all – here's a few ideas: wallflower, daisy, viola, peony, iris, geranium (hardy varieties), aquilegia, bergenia, primula, thrift, forget me not.......

Bleasby Bike Fest: 12th July – the third such event will take place on the Glebe Field and Gypsy Lane – no better event around to get the kids up and biking! **Event contact**: Bleasby Events Group - Bobbie Desbruslais (07943 372268)

Bleasby Apple Fest: 10th October - following on from the success of last year, the event will take on a similar format with juice making from your unused apples, live music, a Bleasby Bake-Off and plenty of family fun & games. Hopefully the "Bleasby Wanger" will have stopped fermenting by then and be ready for tasting! **Event contact**: Bleasby Events Group - Mike Fryer (07970 649091)

Bleasby Christmas Lights: 12th December: yes, having just switched them off after a fabulous afternoon on the Glebe Field in December, they will be back on again this year. **Event contact**: Bleasby Events Group - Bobbie Desbruslais (07943 372268)

The Bleasby Community website www.bleasbycommunity.uk will provide the latest info about each event (sign up for email notifications) and you can see photos from last year's events on the Memory Lane page of the site. Also follow the Bleasby Village Facebook page to stay in touch, keep an eye out on notice boards and keep reading Bleasby News.

If you would like to get involved with organising any of these events, or helping on the day, please get in touch with the contact directly. We really need more hands available on the day and would welcome new ideas and skills to help with the planning – getting involved is a great way to help make community days a success and to have a bit of fun along the way!

If you would like to organise your own event, either independently or with the help of the Bleasby Events Group, please get in touch with any of the Bleasby Events Group contacts above.

Mike Fryer for the Events Group

DECEMBER 27th POWER CUT

In the early hours of December 27th houses on Manor Close and Station Road either side of the railway crossing lost their electricity supply. The response by Western Power Distribution to this emergency was prompt and efficient. Where necessary, generators were supplied to keep the supply going while the underground cable breaks were identified and repaired. Personal calls were made the following day to check if all was well. We would like acknowledge this quality of service and remind residents to have at hand the emergency number 0800 6783 105 which was answered without delay and engineers dispatched immediately.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS IN THE PARISH

From time to time there are planning applications submitted to Newark and Sherwood District Council for proposals in our parish. Sometimes residents make representations on applications to the Planning Department. Bleasby Parish Council would find it very helpful if you could send copies to the clerk of any you may make to enable councillors to gauge any concerns or other comments before making its own response.

It has been drawn to the Parish Council's attention that some residents are not receiving letters from the District Council apprising them of an application for development near to their property. If this has occurred to you please let the Parish or District Council know.

bleasbyparishcouncil@outlook.com

LUNCH CLUB

Members enjoyed a delicious Christmas Lunch at the Tea Shoppe on Thursday 19th December. We would like to thank Caroline and Andrew, and their staff for the trouble they took to make it such an enjoyable occasion.

Rachael Andrew

BLEASBY PLAYGROUP NEWS

Bleasby Playgroup has had a fun packed and busy couple of months. We've had some lovely new toys for the Home Corner, musical instruments, sports equipment, a huge aquadoodle and even snowballs for a snowball fight. The children love the knitted "current buns with a cherry on top" and pennies for one of our favourite songs (a big thank you to Viv for the amazing knitting!).

Just before Christmas we spread some Christmas cheer and visited the residents of Hazelford Care Home to sing carols and for the children and residents to make

Christmas decorations together.

We had a lovely Christmas party, transforming the hall with a bouncy castle, ball pit and soft play.

We meet every Monday (term time 9.15 – 11.15) £2 per family, which includes tea/coffee, biscuits and a selection of healthy snacks. If you are interested in coming along or have any questions please contact Sarah Hill (07969 979349) or Lauren Clarke (07966 781661).

Sarah Hill



PHOTO COMPETITION

There is a photographic competition sponsored by Allied Westminster as a part of a Village Hall survey.

Sarah Hill has entered a photo of Bleasby Play Group under a rainbow canopy in this competition which is open to anyone in the village or hamlets - the photo has to show community life or village events. There are money prizes for the winning village hall and the photographer. Find details at willagehallsurvey.com/survey/photo-competition/photo-gallery

JUBILEE PONDS - WHERE DID THEY COME FROM?

I am often asked about the "wheres and why fors" of the Jubilee Ponds and the consequent mesh of responsibilities and rights of parishioners and anglers. I will try to elaborate but it is a rather complicated story!

It all began in the Ice Ages two and a half million years ago when ice came (glacial period) and went (interglacial period) at least four times – once reaching as far as what we call London! During the final glacial period the ice never covered the Ponds area but its land would have experienced the bitter weather conditions of any land ahead of glaciers - known as the periglacial zone. It was in this period that our fauna would have been dramatically different to today's – woolly mammoths and rhino, horse, bison and reindeer, even bears being evidenced by inscriptions on bones (the Palaeolithic Bleasby News?) made by the early human dwellers of Cresswell Crags in the north of what we now call our county.

As the ice sheets melted great lakes and massive rivers formed, the latter carving up the landscape and leaving great deposits of sands and gravels and, with them, depositing the remains of this Pleistocene fauna. The hills of Upper Goverton would have been shaped as would the river bluffs opposite Hazelford, whilst raised gravel beds formed by the meanderings of the river would allow the later settlements of Bleasby, Notown and Gibsmere to be created on these slightly higher and drier areas.

A succession of human groups would have travelled up the resultant River Trent from the Ice Age remnants of Lake Humber and, no doubt, would have set foot on JPs land. First Mesolithic (middle stone age) river settlers and fisherfolk, then the first farmers of the Neolithic, to be followed by Bronze and Iron Age folk, Romans, Saxons, Danes and Normans – all of them leaving some evidence of their local presence.

Our earliest maps of the area appear in the Tudor period and show the existence of a significant 'pond' at Gibsmere – this is Pickerell Pond or Play which is recorded in documents from the early mediaeval as belonging to the Archbishop of York – it marks what would have been an earlier course of the Trent. Until 1777 and the Enclosure Award which divided the parish up into fields, the Jubilee Ponds area, when not flooded, would have been used for grazing or for the production of hay. The name Borrowbread, which appears for the JP area on the c1574 map, indicates the poor quality of the land for growing crops (the farmer had to borrow bread!). Crops would have mainly been grown on the higher, better drained, lands of Goverton and Rudsey in a mediaeval strip system.

There has been a succession of ownership of the JP area from the Norman Ralph Fitz-Hubert, briefly the Willoughbys of Wollaton Hall (Francis, one of this family, was a noted early naturalist), the Grundy family for over a century until 1744 when their descendant Thomas Beetson had to sell his lands through bankruptcy. Some of the land was bought by Nathaniel Need who, in turn, sold his land in 1813. Ultimately the land was acquired by a Gibsmere farmer and in 1952 he sold the area which is now the Jubilee Ponds to a company which leased it to Star Gravel for gravel extraction.

This lease passed to a Hull company which renamed itself Hoveringham Gravels and which subsequently bought the land in 1973 – much of it then a series of worked out and water filled gravel pits which provided aggregate for Staythorpe Power Station.

In preparation for celebrating the Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977 a meeting was held for Bleasby residents to suggest ideas to mark the occasion. Gerald Cole (then of Sycamore Lane) and I jointly put forward a proposal that the parish attempt to acquire the disused gravel workings for an area available to all parishioners for "gentle recreation and nature conservation". The Parish Council of the time saw this as an ideal way to commemorate the Queen's Jubilee and set about negotiating a deal with the assistance of two Bleasby residents, solicitor Brian Temperley and Tony Callaghan, Secretary of Hoveringham Gravels, ultimately to sign an agreement on 16th November 1978 to rent and manage what were to be called the Jubilee Ponds for the grand sum of £1 per annum! The fishing rights to the ponds were retained by the land company and let to the Mansfield and District Angling Association and the Midland Angling Society – subsequently sold to them in 1986 for over £16,000. A year later, on March 9th 1987, the exchange of contracts took place between Hoveringham Gravels and Bleasby Parish Council to complete the purchase of the area now known as the Jubilee Ponds, paying the small fortune of one pound sterling!

This meant that the fishing rights were therefore all in place and established before the Parish Council took ownership of the Jubilee Ponds and also its access road. having resurrected its previous name of Borrowbread Lane. The fishing rights include vehicular access via Borrowbread Lane, on-site parking for fishing club members, access to the banks and the right to trim obstructing bankside vegetation. These rights have subsequently been transferred by purchase to the Bleasby Carp Syndicate, whilst the land itself is, of course, still owned and managed by Bleasby Parish Council. The two parties cooperate in their combined roles and respective rights and the fostering of good relations between both has always been of paramount importance. Much of the necessary physical management work to maintain access around the Ponds, to remove dangerous trees and to keep the Centenary Wood in good order is undertaken by members of the Syndicate as a goodwill gesture to the parish. In return, the Parish Council actively encourages parishioners to respect the rights and fishing requisites of the anglers which can be easily achieved by simple consideration and by adherence to the code established in 1978 to ensure the constitutional "gentle recreation and nature conservation" objectives of the Council's management of the site

The Jubilee Ponds site has always been seen as a 'jewel in Bleasby's crown' and we should all do everything possible to maintain our good working relationship with the anglers, to support and contribute towards the good management and maintenance of our 'jewel' and to ensure it remains in perpetuity for the original intentions of providing pleasure, enjoyment, relaxation, education for residents through gentle recreation and the conservation of its trees and wildflowers, its birds and other wildlife – and always available as an escape from what can be a very stressful world.

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR 100th BIRTHDAY MRS COX

"Dear Mum

I have put together some of the highlights of your life with memories that are precious to both of us."

Born 100 years ago on February 20th 1920 my Mum Irene grew up in a large (11) and loving family in Arnold. Life was fairly ordered with a childhood freedom it is hard for us to imagine. She and all her siblings were encouraged to use their talents whether music, dancing or sport. Mum played the piano and did very well at school and was captain of the hockey team. Just before the 2nd World War was declared she met the love of her life, my dad Charles Cox. In 1941 they were married - just before he was called up and posted to India. She saw very little of him over the next four years but she kept very busy working in her full time reserved occupation and fire watching at night, growing vegetables in their cottage garden (digging for victory) and helping to look after her young brothers and sisters. When the war ended my parents decided to emigrate to Australia with me, their one year old daughter. They stayed almost three years, living in various locations even out in the bush with only a radio for company and the nearest clinic was the Flying Doctor. When they returned to England the following years were busy but peaceful. In 1969 I married Granville and over the next few years their two adored grandchildren, James and Louise, were born. In 1987 Mum and Dad moved to Orchard Close to be near us.

In 1991 they celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on Christmas Eve with a party at the Hazelford Ferry Hotel when Father Christmas made a memorable visit. In 1998 my Dad died, having enjoyed his retirement in the countryside particularly the times spent with the grandchildren. Mum, with her usual resilience, eventually made a new life for herself, joining the Live at Home Scheme in Southwell and making new friends as well as being there for her family. Over the years I have been impressed by her lively spirit, her courage and her continued interest in not only those she loves but in the world around her. She taught me how to appreciate and express myself through art, crafts and gardening, how to love and be excited by the natural world, animals and, above all, each other and, although I may never have her dress sense and elegance, thank you dear Mum for everything.





ST. MARY'S CHURCH BLEASBY LENT LUNCHES

Come and join us on Saturdays in Lent from 12.30 to 2.00 for soup and cheese at various venues. No ticket required. Donations on the day for the hosts' chosen charity.

Date	Host	Address	Telephone
Feb 29th	Revd Phil	Thurgarton Vicarage	07720010066
March 7th	S&J Huddleston	The Elms	830732
March 14th	R&P Andrew	Sutton House	830296
March 21st	B&P Cast	Little Dower House	830284
March 28th	R&S Jadhav	Fishermans	830296
April 4th	Village Hall	Gypsy Lane	830296

An indication of numbers is helpful to hosts so please telephone the host or Rachael in advance if possible.

Or, just turn up!

Bleasby Diary of Events

Date	Time	Event	Location
Sunday 2 nd February	10.30am	Service of Holy Communion for Candlemas	St Mary's
Sunday 9 th	6pm	Plough Sunday Service with West	St James
February	·	Trent Choir	Halloughton
Monday 10 th	3.30 till	Open Door - everyone welcome	Bleasby School
February	4.30	including children with their adults	
Monday 10 th	7.30pm	Meeting of Bleasby Parish Council	Village Hall
February			
Thursday 13 th February	10am	Church clean, coffee and conversation	St Mary's
Sunday 16 th	10.30am	Benefice service of Holy Communion	St Michael's
February		,	Hoveringham
Sunday 16 th	2pm	Countryside and Footpaths Walk	Meet at Chestnut
February	·	·	Tree, Gypsy Lane
Monday 17 th -		School half-term holiday	
24 th February			
Tuesday 18 th	7.30pm	Meeting of Bleasby WI with Terri	Village Hall
February		Swift on "Shopping on a Shoestring"	
Sunday 23 rd	10.30am	Morning Praise for everyone	St Mary's
February			
Tuesday 25 th	7.30pm	Meeting of Bleasby Local History	
February		Society with Adrian Gray on Pilgrim	Village Hall
		Roots and Mayflower 400	
Friday 28 th	10.30am	5	
February	until 12noon	Friendship Coffee Morning	Village Hall
Saturday 29 th		First Lent Lunch	Thurgarton
February			Vicarage
Sunday 1st	10.30am	Service of Holy Communion	St Mary's
March			
Saturday 7 th		Second Lent Lunch	The Elms
March			
Sunday 8 th	10.30am	Service of Holy Communion	St Mary's
March			
Monday 9 th	7.30pm	Meeting of Bleasby Parish Council	Village Hall
March			
Thursday 12 th	10am	Church clean, coffee and conversation	St Mary's
March			

Saturday 14 th		Third Lent Lunch	Sutton House
March			
Sunday 15 th	10.30am	Benefice service of Holy Communion	St Peter & St Paul
March			Upton
Sunday 15 th	2pm	Countryside and Footpaths Walk	Meet at Chestnut
March			Tree, Gypsy Lane
Monday 16 th		Deadline for April's Bleasby News	
March			
Tuesday 17 th	7.30pm	Meeting of Bleasby WI with Alison	
March		Sutherland speaking on	Village Hall
		"Breathless in China"	
Saturday 21st		Fourth Lent Lunch	Little Dower
March			House
Sunday 22 nd	10.30am	Morning Praise for everyone	St Mary's
March			
Tuesday 24 th		Canon Walter Hilton of Thurgarton	
March		Priory remembrance day	
Tuesday 24 th	7.30pm	Bleasby Local History Society AGM	Village Hall
March		with music entertainment by Dave	
		Mooney	
Friday 27th	10.30am		
March	until	Friendship Coffee Morning	Village Hall
	12noon		
Saturday 28 th		Fifth Lent Lunch	Fishermans
March			

MARK THE MILKMAN

Those of us who have our milk delivered were sad to hear that Mark West, who had brought milk and other commodities to our doors for many years, was leaving us. Milk and More had terminated its franchises and brought deliveries into the company, resulting in him losing his employment. In thanking his customers for their loyal custom he informed them that he would be starting his own garden maintenance and handyman service and asks that consideration be given to him for "all those jobs no one else loves to do". Phone 07773 069201 or email mark.west2019@outlook.com if you wish to contact him for any garden or other odd jobs you may need doing.

WELCOMES

If anyone knows of new residents arriving in Bleasby, Goverton or Gibsmere who we may have missed, please let the editors know or, even better, Ali Sutherland at alipetebleasby@gmail.com who will present them with a copy of the Welcome Booklet which has details of all the organisations in Bleasby and lots of other useful information.

Church Services in the West Trent Benefice (HC = Holy Communion, MPE = Morning Praise for Everyone, EP = Evening Prayer)

February	Bleasby	Halloughton	Hoveringham	Morton	Rolleston	Thurgarton	Upton
Sunday 2 nd	10.30am HC Candlemas		6pm EP	9am HC	10.30am MPE	10.30am MPE	10.30am HC
Sunday 9 th	6pm at Halloughton	6pm Plough Service with Choir	10.30am MPE	10.30am MPE	10.30am MPE	10.30am HC	10.30am MPE
Tuesday 12 th							10am HC
Sunday 16 th			10.30am Benefice HC				
Sunday 23 rd	10.30am MPE		10.30am MPE	10.30am HC	10.30am HC	!0.30am with Methodists	9am MPE
25 th Ash Wedn'day			10am HC				
March	Bleasby	Halloughton	Hoveringham	Morton	Rolleston	Thurgarton	Upton
Sunday 1st	10.30am HC		6pm EP	9am HC	10.30am MPE	10.30am MPE	10.30am HC
Sunday 8 th	10.30am HC		10.30am HC	10.30am MPE	10.30am MPE	10.30am MPE	10.30am MPE
Sunday 15 th							10.30am Benefice HC
Sunday 22 nd	10.30am MPE		10.30am MPE	10.30am HC	10.30am HC	!0.30am with Methodists	9am MPE
Sunday 29 th		10.30am Benefice HC					

FLOOD ACTION GROUP - TURNING THE TIDE

What goes up must come down – as is perfectly demonstrated in that old science chestnut – the "Water Cycle"! Simply presented, the warm prevailing westerly winds travelling across the Atlantic from as far south as the Caribbean Sea, collect water evaporating during their passage over the sea and then, being forced to rise as they meet the British Isles, cool and cause the water vapour to condense and fall as rain - or, in the 'olden days', as snow if the air temperature is low enough!

Fortunately for us, being in the shadow of the Pennines, we receive less rain than the western counties. However, unfortunately, almost certainly as a result of global warming, we are experiencing more extremes of weather and changing weather patterns and must, therefore be prepared for more storms and heavy downpours in the future.

The Flood Action Group has recently been more focused on the pluvial (rainfall) risks of local flooding than on fluvial (river) risks. Our drainage dykes are kept clear and

effective by the Trent Valley Internal Drainage Board and local landowners, thereby ensuring that surface water can be drained into the Trent near Fiskerton. Fortunately, when this autumn we received heavy and continuous periods of rainfall, the Trent was coincidentally at low levels and had the capacity to receive the incoming water from its local tributaries, the Dover, Cocker and Thurgarton Becks, and there was no fluvial flooding experienced by the parish - though river levels were reached twice at just centimetres below the FAG 'trigger' for our pre-determined fluvial flooding risk alert.

Unfortunately, with a high water table and saturated ground, Upper and Lower Goverton had to contend with surface water flooding down the hillside and collecting on the lower lands behind the damming effect of the railway embankment. Significant damage to property was narrowly averted by redirecting water streams and the use of water pumps to remove accumulating excesses of water. The opening of roadside grips to take excess water away from the channelling effect of road surfaces was also undertaken by FAG members and significant volumes of water were carried safely away by the Goverton Hill drain dug by Andrew Goodwin after periodic flash flooding of Lower Goverton in October 2004, June 2007 and July 2012.

We live in the Trent Valley are therefore all potentially at risk from the effects of flooding at some time. Despite the recommendations of the Pitt Report, drawn up after serious flooding in the summer of 2007 across much of the country, planning permission is still being given for new developments in flood risk areas such as river valleys. Every new house built creates more impermeable surfaces on roofs, hard-standings and road access modifications. In addition there is the excess water run-off into already overloaded drains - which are also expected to receive all the extra waste water and sewage brought into the system by the occupants of all new properties.

The removal of trees, the tarmacking of drives, new drives, patios, extensions, increased car ownership all add to increased flooding risk and we must ensure that proper provision is made to either reduce the impact of such factors or drastically improve our drainage, sewerage and flood protection systems.

In the long term, with rising sea levels, the tidal effects on the Trent will become increasingly significant – so we must all do our very best to reduce our contribution to the global warming crisis and work towards reducing our carbon footprint and help to "turn the tide".

Peter Cast for the Flood Action Group

SCHOOL NEWS

Mrs Louise Carpenter The school has said goodbye to Mrs Carpenter. We had a lovely service for her attended by parents, governors and present and past pupils. Mrs Carpenter has been a major part of the school's success. She is a fantastic teacher and she has lived and breathed Bleasby for all her years here. She is a standard bearer for the values, ethos and vision of our school. When you are taught by Mrs Carpenter she develops every part of you, be it the personal, social or academic side. And she always does it with a sense of fun and enjoyment. She has been an excellent colleague, listener, friend, leader and teacher and fulfilled every

role in her time at Bleasby with excellence, including her roles as Acting Head, Governor, Deputy Head, Maths Leader and Teacher. We thank her for all she has done and wish her well as the new Headteacher of Farnsfield St Michael's Primary.

Recovery Facility at Veolia in Mansfield. We went on a site tour of the Facility, wearing our high-visibility jackets and hard hats. It was fascinating to watch the lorries bringing in the waste collected that morning from local recycling bins and to see how it was sorted into plastics, metals, paper and cardboard by the different machinery. We saw how many non-recyclable items are incorrectly placed in recycling bins, such as plastic bags, bin bags and plastic lids. We then saw how the sorted recyclable materials are placed into lorries and sent on to paper mills and other facilities to be re-used. We also enjoyed a session in the education centre, where we were challenged to work out which materials could be recycled and which could not, using



our new knowledge. The children learned a lot about the importance of recycling, and the importance of sorting rubbish correctly so it can be recycled efficiently. Many thanks to Mrs Hobson and our parent volunteers for supporting the visit and helping it to run so smoothly.

<u>Christmas Production 2019 - The Donkey Seller</u> Well done to all the children in Maple, Willow and Apple Classes. You wowed the audiences with three superb performances of "The Donkey Seller". Your singing, acting and

dancing was superb. You gave your families lifelong memories. Well done to you all and thanks to all the staff involved in planning and organising a great show.

Bikeability Well done to all the children in Cedar Class who completed their Bikeability courses this week. They worked extremely hard and the Bikeablity team were very pleased with all of them. They singled out Clem Beardmore for his positive attitude and good manners. Cycling is fun, healthy, environmentally friendly and a great way to get around. The course has equipped the children with the skills and confidence to keep themselves and other road users safe.

Christmas Church Service

We rounded off the term with another poignant and packed church service. Well done to all for the lovely acting, singing and reading. It was a special service with Jesus the Light of the World at its centre. The whole school choir, boys' choir and girls' group gave really exceptional performances.

OPEN DOOR AT BLEASBY CE SCHOOL

Open Door....This is what it is....We would love you to join us....

A club/activity run after school twice a term on Mondays (see dates below). It is open to everyone of any age especially children with their adults. Each time we meet includes the following ingredients: -

- A 'Godly Play' story from the bible to think about its meaning and message in our lives today;
- Some expressive play, crafts and so on to do with the story.
- Eating pizza, and having time to be relaxed, informal and peaceful and thereby focus on the Bleasby School vision and values.

Anyone is welcome, be they Christian, other faith, no faith. The team includes me (The Revd Phil), Suzanne (Teacher and Church member from Southwell), Mrs Dunning (Teacher and parent, Bleasby), Diana, Rachael and Ann (volunteers from St Mary's), plus some regular parent and other helpers. It is an open door, we hope you might like to come through it yourself!

Mondays all at 3.30 - 4.30

10th February (theme 'The Good Shepherd')
9th March (theme 'The Mystery of Easter')
11th May (theme 'The Mystery of Pentecost')

6th July (theme 'The Great Pearl')

BLEASBY LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

In order to mark the 75th Anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE Day) the Events Group, with support from parish groups and organisations such as our own, is planning a period of related projects and activities to prepare for and support commemorating this significant landmark in European history.

It is hoped that BLHS can work with the school, following up their own WWII project, by further developing the interest generated by the children's simulated evacuee experience and by their research into their own family histories. We would also hope to be able to collect the memories of our older folk who lived through some of the war years, whether locally or elsewhere, with the aim of producing a record for the future. Another plan would be to identify and record all the properties which existed here in Bleasby Parish on VE Day and possibly produce a map of the village and hamlets as they were, as remembered and with significant wartime places and incidents marked upon it.

The Events Group will incorporate any such findings into its plans for the day which may include a street party when it is hoped that the experience can be relived of that day in 1945 – eating appropriate food (rationed of course), wearing clothes of the era, be it fashion, workwear or uniform – maybe singing and dancing, ringing of church bells and celebrating on the 'village green' in 40s' style! A special service is being planned for St Mary's when those recorded on our aircrew and churchyard memorials will be acknowledged. We would hope to be involved in an exhibition to display the Bleasby experience – that's where your memories, medals and other mementoes and artefacts would be invaluable.

Back to now – our monthly talks are held in the Village Hall - all are welcome to come – 7.30pm start. On February 25th we have a very timely talk for 2020, "Pilgrim Roots and Mayflower 400" by Adrian Gray from the Bassetlaw group which is preparing for the commemoration of the 400th anniversary of the Mayflower's journey to America. And on March 24th our very short AGM will be enlivened and enhanced by music by Dave Mooney.

Members free (for a small annual fee) and visitors just £2.50. Do come along!

Barbara Cast, President of BLHS

WHY CELEBRATE V.E. DAY AND, APPARENTLY, IGNORE V.J. DAY?

Having lived through WW2, this question has made me think, and I certainly would not claim to have a definitive answer. However, I have come to some sort of conclusion, which might help others to find their own answers.

On 3rd September 1939, when I was three, war against Germany was declared and Great Britain and her European allies engaged in hostilities which were going to last for nearly six years. The mighty German war machine was launched and within two years the only country not overcome was our nation. The entry of the USA into the conflict was prompted by the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour in 1941. Eventually, in 1944, the invasion of mainland Europe took place with the aim of defeating the Nazis and liberating the countries which had suffered so much under their subjugation and victory in Europe was secured in May 1945.

Our involvement in the war in the Far East had been triggered by the Japanese invasion of Hong Kong in 1941 and the alliance of the Japanese with the Axis powers. Thereafter British and Commonwealth soldiers worked with the Americans to bring about defeat of the Japanese Empire in 1945.

When victory in Europe was assured the people of this country suddenly realised that the fear they had been living with for six long years had gone! Despite the battering we had received, the suffering and hardship we had undergone, the loss of so many lives and the complete reshaping of society, we had emerged victorious from a situation which had overshadowed the lives of every man, woman and child in the country. The war in the Far East seemed a long way away and, even though many of our soldiers were still fighting and enduring tremendous hardship, we at home felt the jubilation of removal of the threat of subjugation to the Nazis.

And then came the atomic bombs – 6th and 8th August – with such a horrendous loss of life – 91,000 estimated in Hiroshima alone – followed rapidly by the unconditional surrender of Japan on 14th August 1945. I have always felt that the victory over the Japanese has been forever tainted by those atomic bombs. I know that it has been proven time and again that the war was shortened by this action, and that many lives were thus saved, but I have never been convinced that the use of nuclear power in this way was justifiable. However it is important that we must always remember that

the last few months of the war were fought on the other side of the world, in indescribable conditions, against an implacable enemy for whom death was preferable to surrender and who looked with unconcealed contempt and derision on foreign troops who preferred surrender to death.

At the time, of course, like everyone else I rejoiced in things new to me – no more bombs, no blackout, my Daddy not wearing his ARP uniform anymore, street lights, my first fresh banana and the knowledge that I no longer needed to sleep with my popgun under my pillow to defend myself against Hitler.

Which is why I can understand why we celebrate VE Day and apparently ignore VJ Day – but those of us who can remember, will not forget.

Diana Temperley



COUNTRYSIDE AND FOOTPATHS GROUP

Owing to sodden and flooded fields and mud bath potential – not to mention illness, Christmas preparations and family demands, our walking routine has been seriously curtailed of late but

With New Year resolution, spring flowers already in evidence, bees becoming active and currently experiencing a more prolonged drier period, we can now plan to put our "best feet forward" and celebrate with a "Springtime Walk and Celebration" at 2pm on Sunday, February 16th, boldly setting foot once more with gladdened hearts and in good company. Why not join us? Look for notices, email alerts and the website for details – or give me a call.

Peter Cast, 830284

ROAD CONDITIONS

Nottinghamshire County Council have responsibility for maintaining our roads in a safe condition and, despite a recent increase in Government funding, face an uphill struggle in this task given the particularly wet winter conditions we have recently endured. Potholes are appearing everywhere, forcing motorists to swerve around them to avoid damage to car wheels and tyres and many cyclists having to ride further away from the kerb to avoid calamity. At these times, please ensure that everyone gets the chance to share the road safely. This is particularly the case when roads are very wet, filling potholes with water, which then present an unseen risk to those on two wheels.

As you might expect, Nottinghamshire County Council and their wholly-owned road maintenance arm, Via East Midlands, are overwhelmed with work at the moment, although we have seen many local roads receive substantial investment in the recent past. The road from Gonalston to Epperstone and the main road through the centre of Fiskerton are cases in point.

NCC is also trying out new technology to repair roads. In Bleasby we have seen their trial in action, the road from the level crossing up to Manor Farm and through Goverton re-surfaced using a single truck and just two operatives, although I think we would all agree that the result falls short of what we would call a good road surface, the top surface very uneven and now shedding a lot of loose gravel. However, Via East Midlands have deemed this trial successful and have purchased a 'Roadmaster' vehicle, an all-in-one spray injection chip patching system. It treats surface defects by sealing the target area, filling cracks and removing potholes whilst regulating the surface. Delivery of this new machine is imminent and we are told that they have ordered a higher specification machine with an integrated roller to improve the surface finish. In addition, NCC is introducing mechanised patching where new and existing equipment will be used together to make the patching of larger areas of road where the road surface has suffered significant deterioration economically viable, and also carry out deeper structural repairs. This will improve the quality of ride for road users as well as the appearance. This is something we have advocated for some time and is to be welcomed. Not every crack and pothole reported to them will be repaired. They work on a 'risk assessment' basis and the rule of thumb seems to be that any hole greater than 4cm deep will receive attention. And it's not just potholes. We should also report instances where the road edge has collapsed (as we often see on the road up to High Cross) or where drains are subsiding. Please do use Nottinghamshire County Council's own website reporting tool. From personal experience they are responsive, although with the current volume of work hitting them we'll have to be realistic about response times over the coming months. Report problems on website

www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/transport/roads/report-a-road-or-pavement-problem or just Google Notts CC potholes or similar. Attaching a photo and providing a good description of the risk will help, and the process will only take you a couple of minutes. Alternatively, telephone NCC's Customer Service Centre on 0300 500 80 80 80. Importantly, the Customer Service Centre method of contact should always be used where contact for urgent and incident response requests are required.

Colin Stump

WHERE DO YOU LEAVE YOUR VEHICLE?



If your vehicle is half on the road and half on the pathway it obstructs both road and path users. It is dangerous and illegal to obstruct pathways — they are intended for walkers, pushchair pushers and wheelchair users, not for parking on. How would people using a wheelchair or pushing a small child in a pushchair get around such a parked vehicle — in the road? It would be most helpful if, whenever possible, drives were used to park your vehicles.

Summary train timetable – until May 2020

	From Bleasby to Nottingham *
Monday to Friday	6.21;6.55;7.52;9.50;11.52;
	14.52;16.53;17.52;18.11;23.05.
Saturday	6.22;7.54;8.55;9.51;11.52;
	14.52;16.51;17.52;18.09
Sunday	9.41;11.54;15.07;16.58;18.46;22.50
	From Nottingham to Bleasby
Monday to Friday	05.54;06.53;07.56;09.49;11.51
	14.50;16.50;18.17;19.19;22.26
Saturday	05.55;06.53;07.58;09.49;11.53;
	14.50;16.48;17.47;21.24
Sunday	09.30;11.30;14.35;17.27;22.28

^{*}Journey time approx 25 mins

Remember to keep an eye on <u>www.bleasbycommunity.uk</u> for the latest Bleasby news!

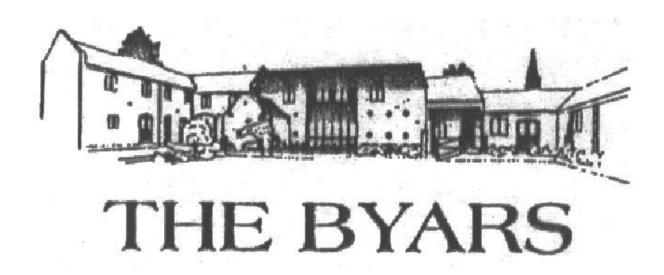


HOW TO DEAL WITH NON-RECYCLABLE PLASTICS

Thank you Wendy and Monica for this idea to get rid of our unwanted plastic bags and film in a sustainable way

This bin was is in Asda at Newark but they are probably available in other places.





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BUS SERVICE – 300 MEDI-CONNECT – UPDATED TIMETABLE

The timetable for the bus service, which runs on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from Lowdham to Southwell and then on to Newark, is available to all.

Outgoing stopping point	1 st service	2 nd service
Lowdham, Epperstone Road	09.30	12.30
Lowdham, Magna Carta	09.33	12.33
Lowdham Station	09.34	12.34
Caythorpe, Main Street	09.37	12.37
Hoveringham, Main Street	09.41	12.41
Thurgarton, Bleasby Road	09.48	12.48
Bleasby, Main Street	09.52	12.52
Fiskerton	09.57	12.57
Morton, Main Street	10.00	13.00
Southwell, Church Street	10.04	13.04
Southwell, Ropewalk	10.07	13.07
Upton Main Street	10.15	13.15
Newark bus station	10.39	13.39
	10100	
Returning stopping point	1 st service	2 nd service
Returning stopping point	1 st service	2 nd service
Returning stopping point Newark bus station	1st service 10.43	2 nd service 13.43
Returning stopping point Newark bus station Upton Main Street	1st service 10.43 11.00	2 nd service 13.43 14.00
Returning stopping point Newark bus station Upton Main Street Southwell, Church Street	1st service 10.43 11.00 11.08	2 nd service 13.43 14.00 14.08
Returning stopping point Newark bus station Upton Main Street Southwell, Church Street Southwell, Ropewalk	1st service 10.43 11.00 11.08 11.11	2 nd service 13.43 14.00 14.08 14.11
Returning stopping point Newark bus station Upton Main Street Southwell, Church Street Southwell, Ropewalk Morton, Main Street	1st service 10.43 11.00 11.08 11.11 11.17	2 nd service 13.43 14.00 14.08 14.11 14.17
Returning stopping point Newark bus station Upton Main Street Southwell, Church Street Southwell, Ropewalk Morton, Main Street Fiskerton	1st service 10.43 11.00 11.08 11.11 11.17 11.20	2 nd service 13.43 14.00 14.08 14.11 14.17 14.20
Returning stopping point Newark bus station Upton Main Street Southwell, Church Street Southwell, Ropewalk Morton, Main Street Fiskerton Bleasby, Main Street Thurgarton, Bleasby Road Hoveringham, Main Street	1st service 10.43 11.00 11.08 11.11 11.17 11.20 11.25 11.29 11.35	2 nd service 13.43 14.00 14.08 14.11 14.17 14.20 14.25
Returning stopping point Newark bus station Upton Main Street Southwell, Church Street Southwell, Ropewalk Morton, Main Street Fiskerton Bleasby, Main Street Thurgarton, Bleasby Road	1st service 10.43 11.00 11.08 11.11 11.17 11.20 11.25 11.29	2 nd service 13.43 14.00 14.08 14.11 14.17 14.20 14.25 14.29
Returning stopping point Newark bus station Upton Main Street Southwell, Church Street Southwell, Ropewalk Morton, Main Street Fiskerton Bleasby, Main Street Thurgarton, Bleasby Road Hoveringham, Main Street	1st service 10.43 11.00 11.08 11.11 11.17 11.20 11.25 11.29 11.35	2 nd service 13.43 14.00 14.08 14.11 14.17 14.20 14.25 14.29 14.35
Returning stopping point Newark bus station Upton Main Street Southwell, Church Street Southwell, Ropewalk Morton, Main Street Fiskerton Bleasby, Main Street Thurgarton, Bleasby Road Hoveringham, Main Street Caythorpe, Main Street	1st service 10.43 11.00 11.08 11.11 11.17 11.20 11.25 11.29 11.35 11.39	2 nd service 13.43 14.00 14.08 14.11 14.17 14.20 14.25 14.29 14.35 14.39



Walter Hilton of Thurgarton Priory c1340-1396 remembered on 24th March

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Extract from John Holmes' Diary

A Church Sunday school commenced at this village February 1822 with about 30 boys. It had long been in contemplation, but was never brought to maturity, till this time, by Mr RK Kelham Esq who first set the proposal on foot; it was opened in a house belonged to John Saxton (which at that time was standing empty)...

(This house is now Court Cottage)

Remember to keep an eye on <u>www.bleasbycommunity.uk</u> for the latest Bleasby news!

Whilst every effort is made to ensure accuracy, the editorial team cannot accept responsibility for errors or omissions in articles appearing in Bleasby News. The views expressed in Bleasby News are not necessarily those of the Editors nor of Bleasby Parish Council. Bleasby News is distributed by local volunteers to whom we remain very grateful. Printed by Unwin Print, New Hill, Farnsfield.



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