

# **BLEASBY NEWS**



**BLEASBY AIRCREWS MEMORIAL STEAM TRAIN TRIP**

**AUTUMN 2016**



Great success for the Bleasby Aircrews Memorial Steam Train trip – Bill Brazier the driver on the left, the guard in the middle and on the right, Ken Ogilvie whose idea and organisation it was.

Bill at the controls – speeding through the countryside



The front cover shows Willis Gent enjoying his time in the cab.



Colin Thompson and Oliver Vann joined the train trip – they are direct descendants of a crewman who was lost in the 61 Squadron Lancaster crash at Gunthorpe Bridge.

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## **WELCOME TO THE AUTUMN ISSUE OF BLEASBY NEWS!**

We hope that you will have enjoyed some of the splendid weather we have had during summer and are now beginning to look forward to autumn colours in the countryside and our gardens.

By the time this issue is delivered to your door, the new barriers will have been installed at the railway crossing and the crossing should be about to reopen. The upgrade is designed to facilitate train movements but will also make the crossing safer for road users and particularly for pedestrians following a number of serious accidents at half barrier crossings. The information provided by Network Rail about closures and, for those of us living near to the crossing, about noise during peak work times and especially overnight, has been helpful and we thank them for that. We look forward to satisfactory completion of the work.

Continuing on the subject of transport, the termination of the bus service to Southwell has seriously disadvantaged those who rely on the bus, especially for GP, dentist and optician appointments. The Parish and District Councils, our MP, the medical user group and individuals have been doing their best to get some sort of service to Southwell reinstated and hopefully before you read this a solution of some sort will have been achieved – it wouldn't have been but for information provided by bus users and speedy action by the Parish Council. Our government stresses the importance of elderly people remaining independent and in their own homes for as long as possible - it follows that cutting services to rural areas runs counter to these aims.

We always look forward to receiving your articles, views, ideas, poems etc so please send plenty for the winter/Christmas edition to:- Rachael Andrew, Sutton House, [pran@suttonhs.fsworld.co.uk](mailto:pran@suttonhs.fsworld.co.uk) or Barbara Cast, Little Dower House, [barbaracast@btinternet.com](mailto:barbaracast@btinternet.com) by 14<sup>th</sup> November.

*Your Editors, Barbara and Rachael*

## **PARISH COUNCIL NEWS**

The summer has almost passed and many of us are now addressing all that backlog of tasks and good intentions which has accrued during the holiday period.

At September's meeting of the Parish Council we were blessed by the very welcome attendance of rather more villagers than is normal as it immediately followed the open meeting on the future of our bus service. The village hall was filled to capacity with concerned residents – many of them about to lose their only means of getting to the many critical services and facilities provided in Southwell – as well as many who recognised that such a bus service was an essential life-line to those who have no access to private transport or who no longer drive and wanted to ensure that some

alternative provision could be made for such residents should the public bus service be withdrawn.

Fortunately (thanks to the concern and efforts of local individuals, well-orchestrated by Ann Woolder in particular; parish councillors; our County and District Councillors, Roger Jackson and Roger Blaney; along with welcome pressure from Southwell Medical Centre and the Medical Centre User Group) a solution, albeit on a trial basis, has been reached. A trial nine month bus service will be operated weekly on Tuesdays and Thursdays with two return trips on each of those days between Lowdham and Southwell passing through Bleasby and the other riverside villages without a service. This will, of course, be supported by funding from Notts County Council but only for those nine months when its viability is being monitored and ultimately reviewed. At a time of severe local authority funding cuts Bleasby must consider itself very lucky and we must all try to USE IT OR LOSE IT! We may not all need it now but we may well do so in the future!

Meanwhile, behind the scenes the WI has been working on a plan to provide a voluntary service, also no fewer than ten households have officially offered their support on an ad hoc basis and the idea and possibility of acquiring a “community bus” has been raised by Bleasby School Friends Association and the school governors, the PCC of St Mary’s and several individuals and this possibility will be actively considered by all parties. However, the new service will begin operation once the level crossing works are complete, which hopefully should be completely operational by the time you read this. Many thanks and appreciation to all groups and individuals who have offered a life-line with such great community spirit!

The same Dunkirk spirit has been exemplified by the way in which residents and school parents have been able to creatively minimise the trials and tribulations of the upgrading of the level crossing. After initial teething problems on the first Monday the crossing was closed, Network Rail and the main contractors, Global Rail, were able to reduce the wait for pedestrians to cross the lines to ten minutes or less. The workforce had to field the occasional outbursts of frustration from those desperate to “get to the other side” but remained civil and polite throughout – even they had no control whatsoever on the opening of the pedestrian gate which was initially entirely determined by the signal box operator at Lowdham. Clever negotiations by Railtrack’s PR officer, Ian Shorthouse, enabled the crossing to be more frequently open between close running trains without compromising safety. Thank you everyone for your patience and ingenuity.

The Parish Plan Steering Group will, no doubt, be pleased that parishioners will now be much better able to make comment on transport and communications issues when sought by the Group later in the year!

Another matter that exercised the Parish Council’s mind during the summer was that of the water leak on Station Road just before the railway crossing. After much confusion on start dates, Severn Trent Water got its act together and undertook the

repair speedily and with as little disruption as was possible. They have subsequently got contractors to survey the stretch of sewers in that area following sewage flooding and the closure of the school after heavy rainfall in mid-June. Thank you Severn Trent.

Hopefully you will have seen that the Bleasby Book Exchange and Defibrillator Kiosk (aka the old telephone box!) was painted over the summer and stands now more brightly and prominently. We are glad that the Book Exchange can continue to be used but would ask all users and donors to try to keep it in the good order that Ali Sutherland and her supporters endeavour to maintain. Please especially ensure that books are not allowed to pile up and obstruct easy access to the defibrillator and please remove any obstacles you notice as you pass – should the defib be needed every second counts!

The weather this summer, with plenty of early rain and an unusually long bonus of sunshine, brought our road splays and verges, Jubilee Ponds and Glebe Field into rapid, luxuriant but difficult to manage growth and we are delighted to say that we have been able to appoint Richard Covill as our replacement lengthsmen who, against the odds, was able to bring some order to the scene and is addressing the critical tasks of meadow and hedge cutting on the Jubilee Ponds as part of his contract. Council talk of entering the Best Kept Village competition gives good reason for Richard to be kept occupied as will the winter tasks of keeping ditches, drains and grips clear of debris and vegetation as part of our Flood Action Group's recommendations.

Residents themselves play a very significant role in keeping our village attractive, neat and tidy, and we thank you all for your efforts in mowing and caring for areas outside your own home boundaries. We also thank organisations and individuals for their efforts in keeping village hall, church, roadsides etc attractive, clear of litter and looking well-cared for. A little bird tells me that we will be having an Open Gardens Day in 2017 so extra tending of all parts of Bleasby Parish will be very welcome!

*Peter Cast on behalf of the Parish Council*

## **WELCOME**

We are pleased to welcome to our village:-

Owen and Helen Bryant, plus Erica and Megan, to Severn House; the Akers family to Hawthorn Close; the Gregg family to Gypsy Lane, and the Stewart family to the Hollies.

Village welcome leaflets have been delivered to these new residents and we look forward to meeting them at village events. If you know of anyone new or moving in near you, please let us know.

## **DIAMOND DAYS!**

Kate and Iain Kirkham celebrated their diamond wedding on 22<sup>nd</sup> September – many congratulations to them.



## **THE GRATE ESCAPE**

Few villagers would have failed to notice the spreading seepage of water across the road (just before the level crossing) that had been weeping away its escape over a period of many weeks before it was eventually repaired at the beginning of the school holidays. Hundreds of gallons, at the very least, of our main water supply were visibly being wasted. But what was happening out of sight? It would seem that vast volumes of water had been seeking an escape from the same or related source for well over a year and in the process managed to drown and kill a mature yew tree in a neighbouring garden.

When excavations eventually located the leak, after a period of dry weather, it was discovered that an underground water eco-system had been created which was supporting life in the form of tiny (1 to 2 cms) red worms called tubifex which are often used as a live food for aquarium fish! They are, of course, completely harmless and were existing outside the fresh water supply that we receive through the mains water supply. Also within the excavation could easily be seen our sewerage system which seemed very insignificant indeed. Most people probably envisage a tunnel (full of rats)

down which intrepid escapers crept their way to escape from East Berlin or some POW camp, when in fact ours is merely a pipe just about large enough for a rabbit to escape through! Good reason then to ensure nothing but the “3 Ps” are flushed down our toilets and nothing but waste water (free of fats, food debris or harmful liquids) goes down our sinks and drains for there will be no escape from the awful consequences of blocked drains, or worse, blocked sewers!

Many of us were very inconvenienced by the forced closure of the school and back-flowing sewage into gardens after heavy rain in the middle of June. Remember, storm and flood water will also make its escape through the sewerage system and ours is already inadequate for the numbers of dwellings now in our parish.

Please do not use our sewerage system as a convenient disposal opportunity!

Peter Cast on behalf of the Flood Action Group

### **BLEASBY WOMEN’S INSTITUTE SUMMER 2016**

After several years of poor weather for our annual summer barbecue, this year we enjoyed a perfect evening by the lake at Gibsmere, by kind permission of Bob and Monica Richardson of Gibsmere Farm. “Barbecue” isn’t a very accurate description for the cooking that took place, as this year, for the second time, the fish and chip van called to serve us our supper. A walk round the lake seemed to be a good way to round off the evening!

The talk at our August meeting was entitled “Fundamentals of Puppetry”. The visiting speaker took us through the history of puppetry from its origins in Comedia del Arte and Punchinello through Punch and Judy, Muffin the Mule (a fond memory from the 50s for many of us) to the more recent Sesame Street. We learned about the materials used, the construction and manipulation of different types of puppet – glove, string, shadow etc. Later, we had the opportunity to look at samples from the speaker’s collection.

We next meet on October 18<sup>th</sup> for our Birthday Party, our first meeting being held on 19<sup>th</sup> October 1922.

A wider range of activities, outings, sports and visits are planned for the coming months - the Bleasby Book Group and the Ladies at Lunch continue and, looking ahead it’s Bleasby WI’s turn to lead the Welcome Walk on October 6<sup>th</sup>.

We are also supporting the WI County Federation Christmas Appeal on behalf of Samaritan’s Purse by providing handmade knitted hats, mittens, gloves and scarves.

All meetings are held in Bleasby Village Hall at 7.30pm – we welcome visitors and those considering joining us.

Rachael Andrew

## **BLEASBY PLAY GROUP NEWS**



On a very warm and sunny Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> September, Bleasby Play Group once again opened its doors for the first session back after the summer holidays! Babies, toddlers, pre-schoolers and adults alike had a very enjoyable morning chatting and playing.

Bleasby Play Group is a very friendly group of youngsters and adults, with sessions every Monday morning during school term times. All are welcome!

Mondays, 9.15am until 11.15am - Bleasby Village Hall (Term Times only)

See you there!

Jordanna Harris

## **HAZELFORD CARE HOME NEWS**

On Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> July the Hazelford Care Home held its Summer Fayre. The weather was amazing - in fact very hot - and we had a good turnout of people. Due to the hot weather the strawberry and cream scones were not such a big hit but the Pimms stall certainly was! But do not worry - the scones still got eaten. We just want to thank everyone who contributed, visited or helped in anyway on the day or before - we raised the grand total of £490 for the residents' funds - this goes towards entertainment and trips out.

Regards from Lesley Jeffery and all the staff  
and residents at Hazelford Care Home

## **BLEASBY LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY AND THE AIRCREW MEMORIAL TRAIN TRIP**

The overcast weather and the forecast of showers did nothing to dampen the spirits of nearly eighty supporters of the Bleasby Aircrew Memorial Project who gathered at the Waggon & Horses, arriving from 10am on the morning of Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> August. Meticulous planning by organiser Ken Ogilvie meant that all checking in and allocation of tickets were completed in good time, allowing us to enjoy coffee kindly provided by the Waggon before the departure of the two buses at 11am.

We arrived at Loughborough in good time for the first of our three runs on the Great Central Railway scheduled for 12.45, enabling us to explore the old waiting rooms and cafe. It was good to see a well preserved railway station, looking as it was years ago, and it brought back to many of us happy memories of early holidays. Soon we were checking in and being shown to our very comfortable table seats in the two Pullman carriages. As the train picked up speed drinks were served, followed by a first class meal – everyone receiving the meal they had booked, thanks again to Ken's careful arrangements. Those who had indicated that they would like to spend time on

the footplate (including our past Chair Derek Whitman) now had the opportunity to join our driver Bill Brazier and 'get their hands dirty' while the rest of us contented ourselves by inspecting the magnificent locomotives during our stops at Rothley Brook and Leicester North. Our locomotive, City of Leicester, carried our special name board designed by Ken. We stopped a couple of times on the Swithland Viaduct enjoying lovely views of the reservoir and the countryside beyond.

Our final run finished back at Loughborough promptly at 18.03 where our buses were waiting to take us back to the Waggon. Everyone agreed that, in addition to raising funds for our Memorial, we had all had a very happy and memorable day. My thanks to all the members of BLHS for supporting the trip and bringing along not only Bleasby residents but also friends from further away. A number of people who were not able to make the trip were kind enough to make a financial contribution so that, up to date, the fund now stands at over £5500 – well on the way to our target. If anyone else would like to make a contribution please contact Ken Ogilvie or me.

Now we are into autumn our lecture series starts again – our first lecture was about Moor Green Ponds – an industrial complex with water works designed to power the mills in Linby and Papplewick. Following this we will be hearing about Emma Wilmot on 25<sup>th</sup> October, our speaker being Dr Richard Gaunt of the University of Nottingham - a welcome return from Richard. On November 22<sup>nd</sup> we have a talk entitled “One Thousand Years of Mining”. Come along and join us for these fascinating talks. All are welcome to our talks and visits – we meet at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Non-members £2 – members free!

Jim Kelsey - Chairman of Bleasby Local History Society

### **LIFEBOATS COFFEE MORNING**

The Calverton Lifeboat Fundraising Group invite you to a Coffee Morning in Bleasby Village Hall on Friday October 21<sup>st</sup> 2016 from 10.00am until noon. There will be a souvenir stall selling Christmas cards and calendars, a raffle, a tombola and a cake stall.

Please come and join us and help us to support Lifeboats on the coast and Lifeguards on the beaches. Thank you.

Ann Buckley



## **SAMANTHA LOUISE RICKETT**

It is with great sadness that we have to report the death of Samantha Rickett, wife of James Rickett. Many of you will know James who lived in Bleasby before his marriage to Samantha and who works with his father Andrew as A G Rickett & Son, building contractors, of Corner Farm, Goverton. Samantha, who was 37, formerly of Upton, died suddenly and unexpectedly, leaving two young children. We offer our heartfelt sympathy to James, their children and to Samantha and James' families and many friends.



## **INSPIRING THE NEXT GENERATION**

Since we moved to the village four years ago one of the things I am most proud to say I have been involved in is the development of the sporting provision at Bleasby School. Sport is now well and truly part of the school and there is a full trophy cabinet to prove it!

Many people think I am slightly crackers doing what I do, giving up my spare time to write funding bids, attend meetings, transport kids to matches and coach the children and, well, maybe I am!! But I believe there is a sport for everyone, you might just not have found it yet. I also truly believe in the characteristics that can be developed by playing sport; learning to lose gracefully and win with dignity, supporting each other, how to handle emotions and feelings, respect for yourself, each other and officials, trying things you might not be good at, commitment and dedication, responsibility and reliability.

At Bleasby we now have teams entered into local and county competitions in Hockey, Netball, Football, Rugby, Cross Country, Swimming, Pop Lacrosse, Athletics and Cricket. The teams are supported and coached by the teachers and parents from the school who give their time to make sure the children can access the opportunities.

National School Sports Week is also a firm fixture in the school calendar. Activities this year included carnival dancing, rugby, urban hockey, yoga, athletics, cycling, fencing, kick boxing and bootcamps! This year the children also set school records that each year, during sports week, they will try and break, to achieve the accolade of having their name engraved in the School Records and be part of the school history.

Highlights have been: taking the school hockey team to the regional finals where the team more than held their own against some of the biggest private schools in the region, seeing the big smiles and enjoyment on sports day, the determination and can do attitude at the swimming galas and seeing the pride the children have when wearing their Bleasby sports kit for the first time.

I would like to thank Mrs Town for letting me play such an active role in the school. Her belief in me in welcoming me into the school like a member of staff has made me even more determined to continue volunteering even when life has been crazy!! And to Mrs Shine in the office for all her support and patience.

My youngest son left the school in July, but I have committed to continue to run the hockey and swimming teams for the foreseeable future. I hope one day to see a Bleasby pupil all grown up and representing England and I will give a little smile knowing somehow we may have been part of their journey to the top!!

Helen Davis

*Have a look at the photo of all the children who have represented the school in sport this year - Eds*



**Bleasby School Sporting Champions**

### **FROM THE REVD PHIL**

I read the other day about Nidhi Chaphekar ([www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com) *Wednesday 14 September 2016*). She was wounded in the Brussels airport terrorist attack. A picture of her, bloodied and dazed, minutes after being blown across the room helped define the horror. She came from a poor background. As a young woman she was an athlete and a beauty queen. Through hard work and against the odds she became a stewardess with Air India. Now here she was lying helpless and injured with shards of metal covering her face and body.

I wondered how I might react to being caught up in something so horrific, and callously pointless. Would I be angry because of my injuries? How would I deal with the pain and the months in hospital?

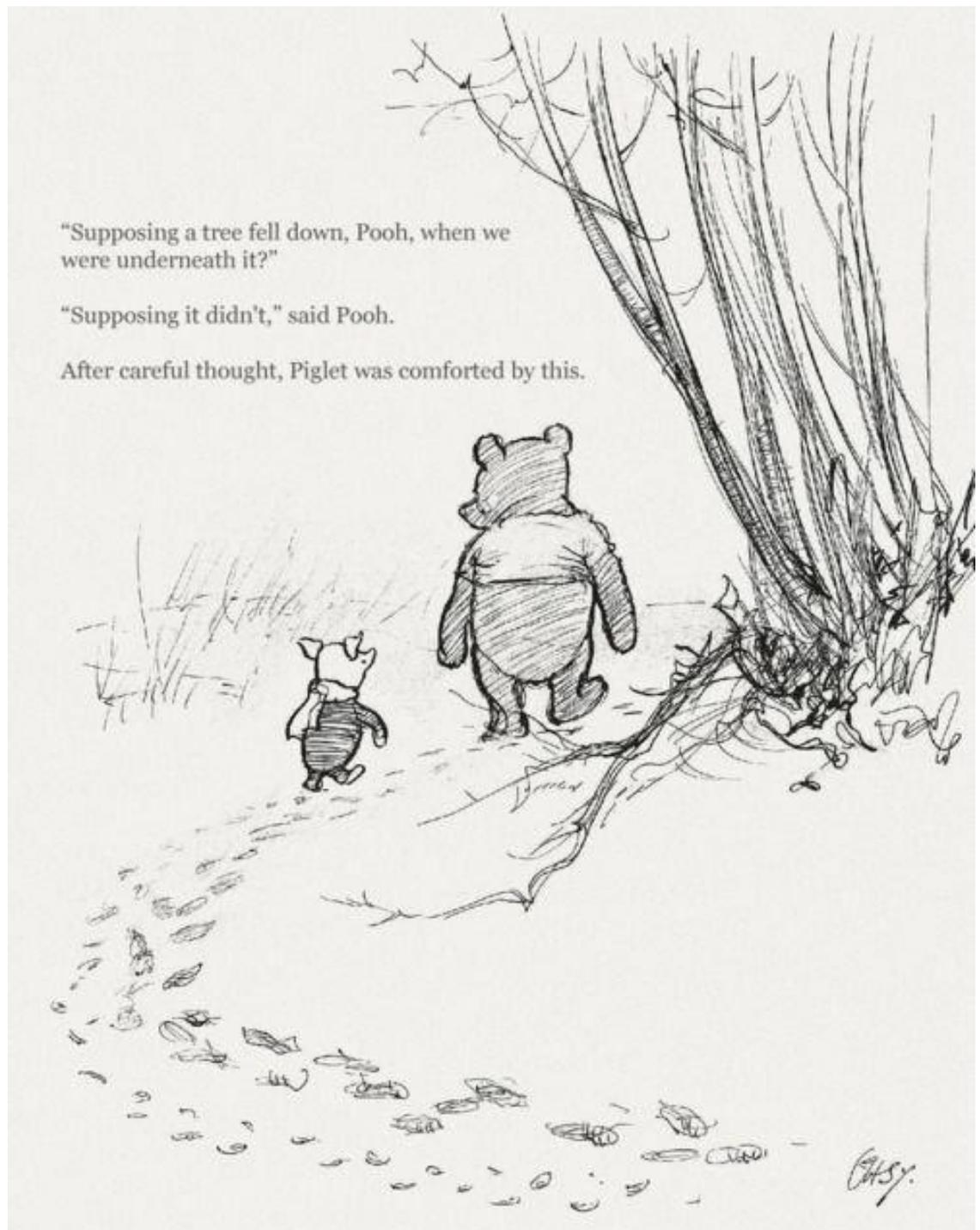
Nidhi, when asked to take two steps by the physio, would tell herself to take five or six! Seeing her face for the first time she said *"I didn't want to live"* and she worried her family would not accept her because of the injuries to her face. But her sister told her, *"people don't look up to someone because of their beauty, they look up to strength. And you have shown strength. People are with you."* At the end of the story

she is reported to have said *“I do believe it was destiny,” she says. “It was supposed to happen to me. And I’m glad it did. If it hadn’t been me, it would have been someone else.”*

It is often a crisis that defines us as people. There are many ordinary people like Nidhi who inspire. Do you know one? Could you be one for someone else?

The Revd Phil

*“The world is indeed full of peril, and in it there are many dark places; but still there is much that is fair, and though in all lands love is now mingled with grief, it grows perhaps the greater.” – The Lord of the Rings by JRR Tolkien*





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**Gypsy Lane, Bleasby, Nottingham, NG14 7GG**

## **BLEASBY BIKERS**

For a village of just over 300 households, we have a good number of enthusiastic road cyclists. Formed a few years ago by Dads eager to support the local school, Bleasby Bikers is now affiliated to British Cycling and boasts over thirty active members.

One Sunday a month two rides leave the Waggon & Horses, the earlier one a longer and faster route for the more experienced cyclist, and the other, usually away by 8 o'clock, will cover 30-40 miles at a more social pace. During the longer summer evenings we enjoy an evening training ride lasting up to a couple of hours, departing the Waggon at 6.30 pm on Thursdays. And, we arrange longer club rides every couple of months, the most recent a ride of just under 70 miles taking a circuit around Belvoir Castle and enjoying a couple of pub stops on the way, and also a weekend in Skegness, riding 65 miles each way with an overnight stop. An excellent way to exercise and catch up with friends from the village.

At the time of writing we are organising 'family ride' in September, with mums and dads accompanying their children for a morning ride out and, inspired by the success of the British Olympic Cycling Team, we are organising a 'track day' at the Derby Arena on 13 November.

The Club is keen to see new members from Bleasby and surrounding villages, and ladies are very welcome to join us. We currently focus on road biking, and it's probably worth saying that a little experience is required, as the shortest ride will be in the region of 25 miles (40km) at an average speed of 14 -16 mph (22 - 25 km/h). If you're interested, do have a look at our Facebook site, and please contact me at [colin.stump@btinternet.com](mailto:colin.stump@btinternet.com) if you want more information.

Colin Stump

## **BLEASBY VILLAGE HALL – THE PLACE TO BE**

Mature on the outside but young at heart, our recently redecorated bright and cheerful Village Hall could be the ideal venue for your celebrations, fund raising events or new ventures.

Currently it is used by the Play Group, Swing into Shape, the Sewing and Games Group, the Trent Churches Choir and the Whist Club. It is the meeting place for the WI, the Bleasby Local History Society, the Parish Council and the Village Hall Committee. The Children's Drama Club is a recent and hopefully not brief visitor.

We would welcome new ideas or even revive old ones. There must be lots of people who have a talent, or know someone who does, that they could share. Why not give it a try and start a new group?

Facilities include a ramped access, well-equipped kitchen, baby changing unit, toilet for the disabled, tables of various sizes and comfortable chairs. The hire rate is a very reasonable £8 per hour. Soft play equipment is available for young children's parties at no extra charge.

We also have a selection of items which can be hired for outside events – these include large and small tables, forty plastic chairs, a tea urn, crockery and cutlery. Cater for those garden parties, barbecues and summer fund raisers without the hassle of searching for extra eating and seating arrangements.

For more information or to book contact Alison Salter on 01636 830373 or by email on [ajsalterbleasby@btinternet.com](mailto:ajsalterbleasby@btinternet.com) or our Lettings Officer, Dorothy Elmer on 830691.

Viv Mayfield



## Bleasby Diary of Events

| Date                                 | Time       | Event                                                      | Location                 |
|--------------------------------------|------------|------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup><br>October  | 9.30am     | Jubilee Ponds Working Party                                | JPs                      |
| Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup><br>October  | 7pm        | Cheese and Wine Evening assisted by Waitrose               | Village Hall             |
| Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup><br>October    | 10.30am    | Harvest Holy Communion and Bring and Share Lunch           | St Mary's                |
| Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup><br>October    |            | Railway crossing due to reopen                             |                          |
| Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup><br>October  | 10am       | WI walk followed by lunch                                  | Starting at Village Hall |
| Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup><br>October    | 11am       | Morning Prayer                                             | St Mary's                |
| Monday 10 <sup>th</sup><br>October   | 7.30pm     | Meeting of Bleasby Parish Council                          | Village Hall             |
| Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup><br>October   | 9.30am     | Jubilee Ponds Working Party                                | JPs                      |
| Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup><br>October   | 10.30am    | Benefice Holy Communion & Healing Service with the Choir   | St Peter's Thurgarton    |
| Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup><br>October  | 7pm        | WI Birthday Party                                          |                          |
| Friday 21 <sup>st</sup><br>October   | 10am - 1pm | Coffee Morning in aid of Lifeboats                         | Village Hall             |
| Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup><br>October  | 7.30pm     | Meeting of BLHS with Richard Gaunt on Emma Wilmot          | Village Hall             |
| Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup><br>October   | 10.30am    | Benefice Holy Communion and Harvest Service with the Choir | St James' Halloughton    |
| Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup><br>November | 9.30am     | Jubilee Ponds Working Party                                | JPs                      |
| Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup><br>November  | 10.30am    | Remembrance Day Service of Morning Prayer                  | St Mary's                |
| Monday 14 <sup>th</sup><br>November  | 7.30pm     | Meeting of Bleasby Parish Council                          | Village Hall             |

|                                             |         |                                                                                  |                                                                   |
|---------------------------------------------|---------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup><br>November        | 7.30pm  | Meeting of Bleasby WI<br>with Carol Dewhurst on<br>the Witches of Pendle         | Village Hall                                                      |
| Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup><br>November       | 7.30pm  | Southwell Choral Society<br>perform Mozart Requiem<br>plus the Clarinet Concerto | Southwell Minster                                                 |
| Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup><br>November         | 9.30am  | Jubilee Ponds Working<br>Party                                                   | JPs                                                               |
| Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup><br>November         | 10.30am | Benefice service of Holy<br>Communion                                            | St Mary's                                                         |
| Monday 21 <sup>st</sup><br>November         |         | Deadline for December's<br>Bleasby News                                          |                                                                   |
| Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup><br>November        | 7.30pm  | Meeting of BLHS with<br>Bob Bradley on One<br>Thousand Years of Mining           | Village Hall                                                      |
| Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup><br>November         | 4pm     | Advent Carol Service with<br>the Choir                                           | St Peter & St Paul<br>Upton                                       |
| Saturday 3 <sup>rd</sup><br>December        | 9.30am  | Jubilee Ponds Working<br>Party                                                   | JPs                                                               |
| Saturday 10 <sup>th</sup><br>December       |         | Christmas Events<br>commence with Christmas<br>Tree<br>light-up                  | Glebe Field etc                                                   |
| Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup><br>December         | 4pm     | Trent Churches Choir<br>Annual Carol Concert                                     | Holy Trinity<br>Rolleston                                         |
| <b>Sunday 11<sup>th</sup><br/>June 2017</b> |         | <b>Open Gardens Day</b>                                                          | <b>Put it in your diaries<br/>now - especially<br/>gardeners!</b> |

## **BUILDING A SCHOOL IN UGANDA**

Inspired by a small group of friends and their plans to rebuild a secondary school in Northern Uganda, our family made a trip to Lira, Uganda, this summer. Our oldest daughter, with long university holidays, travelled to Keframa High School first to teach English. We followed a month later to meet with the wonderful family who set up and run the school and get to know some of the students there, as well as also take some classes and generally help out where we could. The opportunity that secondary education affords these young people should not be underestimated. Most children do have the chance to attend primary school but few are able to study further. With 'O levels' achieved at Keframa young people can begin to make a real impact in their families and local communities.

Life has also been hard and hazardous for this part of the world due to war and disease. The Lords Resistance Army (LRA), a terrorist group, ran rampant through this region taking lives and capturing children as soldiers or sex objects. These communities, of which Keframa is a part, have suffered much and need to be given a chance to rebuild their lives.

Our family joined the group that is now 'Keframa School Build,' having seen first-hand the poor and inadequate facilities, and yet how much they have achieved despite this. In the past two years land nearby has been purchased and a partnership formed between the school and a Northern Irish charity, Fields of Life ( FoL), to deliver brand new school buildings. FoL have built schools in Uganda over the past twenty years accumulating a wealth of experience, which they are sharing with us. We are now beginning our fundraising in earnest, in order to get on with the building of the school. We are planning some fundraising events over the coming year, but if you would like any further information about the school, fundraising or if you would like to help or get involved, please do get in touch.

Please look at our website, [www.keframaschoolbuild.co.uk](http://www.keframaschoolbuild.co.uk) where you can donate using a 'just giving' link, follow us on facebook and twitter or be in touch on 831226.

Many thanks

Tom, Sarah, Lois and Esther

## **CHURCH NEWS**

### **Harvest**

We are holding our Harvest Service on Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 10.30 am. This will be followed by a Bring and Share Lunch to which everyone is invited.

We are again joining with the school to raise money for a relevant charity and this year we have chosen the Bungoma Project in Kenya. Rev Phil is a trustee of this charity which provides support for the school and St Dorcas Orphanage. (Please see [www.bungomacalling.co.uk](http://www.bungomacalling.co.uk) for further information.) Linked primary schools are encouraging the development of mutually beneficial relationships and Bleasby School is hoping to be involved with Bungoma in this way.

### **Church Alterations**

We hope that the alterations to remove pews at the front of the nave will be completed in time for our harvest celebrations. There are still two pews for sale at £150 each if anyone is interested. They are pitch pine and strip down beautifully.

### **Sheila Clark**

A funeral service was held at St. Mary's on Thursday September 8<sup>th</sup> for Sheila Clark, previously of Gibsmere. Sheila had been living near her son in Wakefield where she and her husband Colonel Steve Clark had moved in the late 90s when Steve became ill. Sheila was a member of the Bleasby painting group which was run by

Barbara Baggaley for many years and included her friend Mary Sterland. Steve was a long-serving member of the PCC. They are remembered with affection by the church community.

Diana Temperley and Rachael Andrew, Churchwardens

### October Church Services in the West Trent Group

(HC = Holy Communion; MP = Morning Praise; EP = Evening Prayer)

|                          | Bleasby                  | Halloughton                          | Hoveringham             | Morton           | Rolleston          | Thurgarton                              | Upton    |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------------|----------|
| Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup>   | 10.30 Harvest HC & lunch |                                      | 4pm Harvest EP & supper | 9.00 HC          | 2.30pm Pet service | 10.30 MP                                | 10.30 MP |
| Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup>   | 11.00 MP                 | 6pm EP                               | 9.00 HC                 | 10.30 MP         | 6pm HC             | 10.30 HC                                | 10.30 HC |
| Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> |                          |                                      |                         |                  |                    |                                         | 10am HC  |
| Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup>  |                          |                                      |                         |                  |                    | 10.30 HC Healing service with the Choir |          |
| Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup>  |                          | 9am HC                               | 10.30 MP                | 10.30 Harvest HC | 10.30 MP           | 10.30 with Methodists                   | 10.30 MP |
| Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup>  |                          | 10.30 Harvest service with the Choir |                         |                  |                    |                                         |          |

### November Church Services in the West Trent Group

|                                           | Bleasby             | Halloughton | Hoveringham               | Morton                     | Rolleston | Thurgarton            | Upton           |
|-------------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup>                    | 10.30 HC            |             | 6 pm EP                   | 9.00 HC                    | 10.30 MP  | 10.30 MP              | 10.30 HC        |
| Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup>                   |                     |             |                           |                            |           |                       | 10.00 HC        |
| Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> Rememb' rance Day | 10.30am MP          | 6pm EP      | 10.30 Remembr'nce Service | 10.30 Remem' rance Service |           |                       | 10.30 MP        |
| Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup>                 |                     |             |                           |                            |           |                       | 4pm Zip Bam Boo |
| Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup>                   | 10.30am Benefice HC |             |                           |                            |           |                       |                 |
| Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup>                   |                     | 9am HC      | 10.30 MP                  | 10.30 MP                   | 10.30 HC  | 10.30 with Methodists | 10.30 HC        |

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## **JUBILEE PONDS – OUT OF SIGHT, OUT OF MIND**

Late summer and early autumn are always grand times to visit and enjoy the Ponds. Things may be looking a little tired to our eyes – overgrown hedgerows and pathways, withering vegetation, a meadow in its final fling of summer glories, young trees hidden from view – but this is all in the natural course of events and should be valued as an inevitable part of the seasonal cycle. Our image of the ‘chocolate box’ countryside is charming but very unrealistic.

To maintain a diverse and rich range of habitats and to maximise the interest, appeal and eco-balance over the whole Ponds site is a very complex management task requiring many planning and working hours and we must not take any of this for granted. The Ponds are as they are because of their history and their management for “gentle recreation and nature conservation” over the past forty years. A whole army of village people over that time have contributed to creating what is enjoyed today and the challenge of the task increases as the site matures.

Our current band of working party volunteers has been progressively depleted as people have got older, moved away or been forced to turn to more pressing family or work demands on their time – few of us have thought to thank them, mainly because they have been largely ‘unseen’ and have just quietly got on with the tasks seeking no acknowledgement or accolade. Fortunately the parish council has newly appointed a parish lengthsman and, as part of his remit, he will be able to help out on the more pressing, labour intensive and arduous tasks this autumn and this will be of great assistance. But we would greatly welcome additional support for our working party weekend work on some forthcoming short-term ventures and projects which might even involve the whole family.

Beneath all that tired looking vegetation is concealed autumn’s bounty of seeds, berries and nuts so critical for the winter survival of our wildlife, roosting, nesting and hibernating sites, safely hidden shrew, vole and mice runs, germinating and emerging wild flowers in anticipation of next spring, fungi ‘food’ and an enriching accumulation of humus to return goodness to the soil.

Little brown, insignificant birds, may be flitting or skulking in the insect rich cover, filling up and building fat reserves for their long migration, giving away their presence (just like our ancestral working party members) by the noise of their ‘brush’ with vegetation, whilst the last swallows and martins will be hunkered down in the browning reedbed awaiting the inevitable falls in daylight and temperature and the all-important winds to wing them on their way to winter paradises.

Autumn is a time for quiet reflection and the Ponds mark the changes of seasons, the passage of time and the life, growth and decline of all things – ready for life to start all over again in the spring.

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*St Mary's Church as it was in 1865*





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We have a person centred approach to the care of the residents: this approach is vital to ensure the best possible outcome and wellbeing.

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Our aim is to offer stimulating activities, with one to one time for those who may have dementia: we specialise in this area and our approaches create a relaxed harmonious environment for all.

Our bedrooms are large with views over the countryside and offer a choice of colour and furnishings, personalising them to suit our residents' preferences and choice.

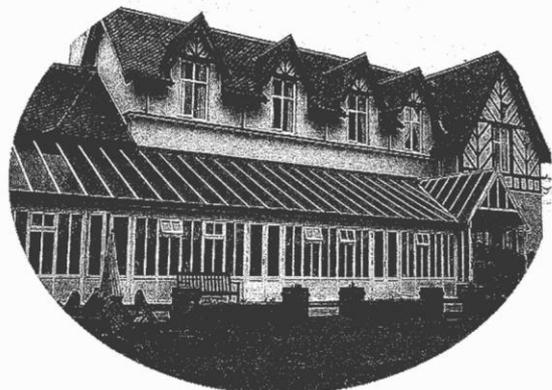
Please feel able to visit our home at any time – a warm welcome awaits you. We encourage families to also have an input into the plans the home may make. We hold family and friends of the home evenings.

With spring and summer comes along a plan of social events: for the summer an annual garden party, summer fair and schedule of outings to various venues.

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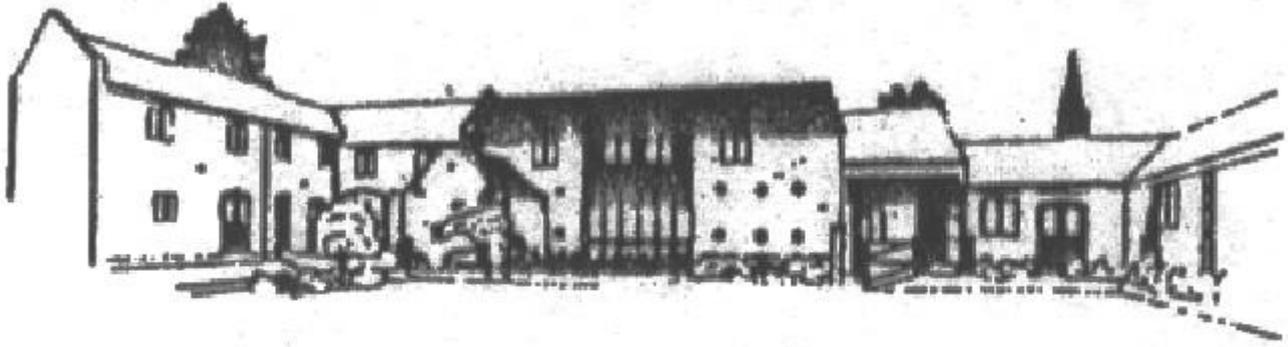


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*Nicola & Nigel Bennett, Goverton*

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*Janine and Chris Ford, Southwell*



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## NEWS FROM BLEASBY 1816

### **From John Holmes' Diary for 1816 (he lived at the Old House) his spelling throughout!**

“On Thursday the first of Aug (this year) was drowned near Hazelford-ferry Joseph Islip of Wisbech; proprieter of the “Little John” packet boat, trading from Lincoln to Nottingham. His life was lost through thoughtless folly, for he was scuffling with a passenger for a bottle of ale, he fell overboard and was drowned. What an awful warning to the young and careless, not to trifle with time, but it calls loudly to be always prepared for death. He was found on the Sunday following, within a few yards of the spot where he was drowned. Mr Robert K Kelham Esq came with his family to reside at the Hall (who purchased it of Mr Falkner) the beginning of July this summer. He added considerable additions to it, by building a housekeepers room, wash-house etc. The church began to be repaired on the 14<sup>th</sup> of May, 1816, and was opened again for divine service on Sunday Sep 22<sup>nd</sup> following. The outsides was drawn and sand-dashed; the tower and church slated with capitol king-post roofs; also a new porch at the entrance; the windows new glazed and enlarged, the interior raised and new pewed throughout. Also a new pulpit and door; a large fane was affixed at the (blank) of the tower (made by William Buck, the village smith) with the date of 1816 thereon. The cost was (blank)

At Newark Michelmas Sessions came on for trial, between Bleasby and Upton, concerning the settlement of a pauper (Thos Dailey). Mr Parsons of Nottingham pleaded the cause of Bleasby and Mr Barrow of Southwell for that of Upton. The contest was determined in favour of Bleasby. The expenses on the part of Bleasby amounted to the sum of £33.17s.1d. The house of Thos Welch of Weldon in the parish of Southwell (about two miles from this village) was broke into by seven villains on the night of Oct 8<sup>th</sup> 1816 and robbed of good and money to the amount of nearly forty pounds, and got clear off with their booty. John Hervey of Notown built a new dairy, this summer and Mr Horspool, at Hazleford-ferry a new barn. The summer was remarkable wet; the hay in general got very bad, and the corn greatly damaged, by the long and constant rains; so that it was the latter end of Nov before the harvest was finished. The beans was almost rotten in the fields and a quantity of the barley sprouted. A small flood happened in Nov and another on the 17<sup>th</sup> of December. The prices . . . . .



*The Old House circa 1900 – built originally a hall house in mid-16<sup>th</sup> Century – the second oldest building in the parish*



*Bleasby Hall in the 1880s – then the home of the Kelham family*



*Robert Kelham Kelham*

*The church nave circa  
1860*



*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 Toot Hill School Reprographics.*



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The Red Arrows fly  
over Bleasby 24<sup>th</sup>  
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Sunset over Goverton Hill