

BLEASBY NEWS



HONOURING OUR AIRCREWS



OCTOBER 2018





WELCOME TO THE OCTOBER EDITION OF BLEASBY NEWS

Editorial? What can we say but “Wow” and “Wow” again! No apologies for the focus in this edition being on the Aircrews Memorial Dedication Day. You will find several pieces on aspects of the day – however, we would particularly wish to congratulate Dorothy Winn on laying the lovely hand-crafted wreath, made by local women and children, amongst the other colourful and beautiful wreaths. We also thank Robin Ogilvie, Roger Bennett and Peter Cast for taking some wonderful photos of the event, some of which we have included in this edition.

Although we have felt the special focus appropriate, you will still find the usual mix of interesting pieces to read, including on July’s Bike Fest, another wonderful team effort.

We will be pleased to receive all types of articles, pictures, ideas and news etc – send all your items for the December edition by **Monday, November 19th**, to Rachael at prandrew74@outlook.com or Barbara at barbaracast@btinternet.com

Bleasby News editors, Rachael and Barbara



Perfection! Could we have wished for better? Could we have been more earnest?

Our recent Aircrews Memorial Event and late July’s Bike Fest both proved to be extraordinarily successful, widely supported and community generated affairs - both receiving their differing accolades! How can appropriate thanks be given to the host of Bleasby people who, over a span of months or even years, conceived, generated, delivered and supported these two very different major events – both reflecting wide-ranging involvement, spirit, creativity, ingenuity and commitment! Any list of those making their contribution to the events would completely fill Bleasby News!

There were, of course, many leading lights but “No man is an island” and, as students of group dynamics and teamwork know, no venture will be successful without the contribution of a wide range of personality types, each suited to a particular team role and each complementary to the others and all critical to overall success. And so, everyone’s contribution, no matter the duration, intensity, demand or form, was invaluable in achieving the ultimate goal and undoubted success. On behalf of the whole of Bleasby Parish, may I say a very big and sincere “Thank You” to all whose voluntary input engendered a sense of pride in us all – and enabled us to share in the showers of compliments given by officials, guests and visitors who were able to experience the friendly welcome and be ‘bowled over’ by the massive community engagement and spirit demonstrated in their different ways through these two events.

“Pride comes before a fall” they say and the “bar has been set high”, but already the Events Group are preparing for our Christmas Celebration to be held on the afternoon and early evening of Sunday, 16th December, on the Glebe Field and surrounding conservation areas. The event will consist of an afternoon “Christmas trail” of anticipation and discovery, followed by refreshments, before gathering on the Glebe for our now traditional open air “Carols and Lights”. If inclement weather prevails our friends at St Mary’s have offered the church as our wet-weather alternative venue. With YOUR support this cannot fail to become yet another memorable occasion – another highlight of Bleasby’s story – so please reserve this date in your diaries.

The financing of these events highlights the real costs of organising them. Had it not been for the massive voluntary support and generosity of villagers we would have borne either a very significant cost or produced a much less than perfect quartet of major events held in 2018. To sustain this level of perfection of ‘place as well as performance’ would have been prohibitive without such assistance and hence the Parish Council’s previous declared intention that next year the council’s precept will have to be raised above the 2 to 3% increase maintained over the past three years. A 10% increase would only actually raise £1000 and would cost the average household about £3.50 per year. Can I ask you to reflect on this as the Parish Council will have to be setting next year’s budget shortly after Christmas and wants to offer financial options to the electorate, indicating which elements of the parish’s

aspirations (as revealed in the Parish Plan Questionnaire or raised at forthcoming open meetings) are achievable at each potential precept increase.

Parish Plan 'Open Discussions' will be held during the coming months in order that the Parish Council is able to improve the Parish Plan as necessary and finally officially adopt it. This will help us steer an agreed course into the coming years. Our future lies with our younger residents (ie under 60 years old) and we 'older' folk look to you 'youngsters' to assist in preparing for your future in Bleasby and to now seriously consider how you can support our joint 'Earnest Endeavour'.

Peter Cast, Chair of Bleasby Parish Council

A WONDERFUL DAY

Over forty relatives of airmen killed during WWII attended the Dedication Event for our Aircrews Memorial, as well as local dignitaries, representatives of the RAF and other overseas air forces, members of the project team and supporters, as well as Bleasby residents. Many attendees travelled long distances to be at the event, with two from Australia, two from Canada, three from Scotland and many from various parts of England. The event also attracted the interest of the BBC News, both TV and Radio, Central TV News and the local press.

The plan was for the Bleasby villagers to host our guests, and everyone delivered wonderfully. The village looked attractive and welcoming, the sun shone, and the guests experienced a reflective, memorable and enjoyable day. Members of the Parish Events Group ensured that the event ran exceptionally smoothly. Bleasby WI served teas, cakes and refreshments that were enjoyed by all the guests. One or two families met distant relatives for the first time in their lives. Neil and his team at the Waggon provided teas and coffees to welcome our visitors, and some light entertainment after the end of the dedication.

Following are some snippets of feedback received from some of the guests who attended the event and of others who visited in the days afterwards.

Ken Ogilvie

WORDS FROM SOME WHO ATTENDED THE DEDICATION AND OTHERS WHO VISITED SUBSEQUENTLY

- "Thank you for organising a truly fitting tribute to the Commonwealth aircrews who lost their lives 75 years ago for a common and great cause. Bleasby as a community are to be congratulated for coming together to make Saturday a day we will always remember, especially the families of some crew members."

*Sir John Peace, Lord Lieutenant of Nottinghamshire
(the Queen's Representative in the County)*

- “Thank you for inviting me to join in your special day at Bleasby yesterday. The village looked wonderful and you must all feel proud of how the day went. Ken and your team, your persistence in finding relatives of the dead was quite something, and all those who came from far and wide were so moved by the occasion. Well done to you all and thank you.”

Cllr Susan Saddington, Chairman, Notts County Council

- “The memorial event last week was a delightful and memorable occasion and a fitting commemoration to those who gave their lives for our freedom. It was moving to speak to so many relatives of those who lost their lives in the tragic accidents, and to hear first-hand accounts from local people of the day the aircrafts fell out of the sky. The memorial is quite beautiful and a fitting everlasting memory. The villagers all played their parts and it is hard to single out any one person – I cannot let it pass without thanking the Revd White for conducting a moving service, the churchwardens for organising the guests, Peter, the Chairman of the Parish Council which had a hand in so many of the arrangements, and the WI for baking cakes and providing lovely sandwiches to us all to enjoy. The hard work and effort put in by Ken Ogilvie, the Parish Council, the Parochial Church Council, the Local History Society and the wider community was apparent throughout the day. The event was one of the best I have attended and spoke of a sense of community I have been praising on my return to County Hall.”

Cllr Kay Cutts, Leader, Notts County Council

- “Well, what can I say? You pulled off a masterstroke with yesterday’s events, which must have involved very many hours of planning and it all went off like clockwork - but above all it was such a happy day. The ladies of the village deserve medals for their friendly marshalling and guiding and above all their laying on, seemingly effortlessly, of a superb lunch. As I said yesterday, when an English village gets behind the wheel the results are truly awesome! We shall treasure our little knitted flowers too!”

Alastair Graham, son of Wng Cdr William Graham, 304 (Polish) Squadron

- “It will be interesting to see how much attention the Memorial attracts as time passes. Anyway, it is THERE, and for the long term. Indeed, on Saturday, I felt much closer to Bruce than I have for some seventy-seven years when he departed Melbourne for further training in Canada and the UK. Something I have not yet mentioned to anyone except Madeline, who was with me, is that on Sunday afternoon the most amazing thing happened. I was sitting in our room at the Cavendish Hotel on the Chatsworth estate, looking at the photos we had taken in Bleasby, when I heard the approach of what sounded like a heavy propeller aircraft. I put my head out the window just as a Lancaster flew right overhead, at extremely low altitude. I could not believe my eyes, and I broke out into 'goose-bumps'. Then, a few minutes later it came back, having done a pass

over the Country Fair at Chatsworth!! I'm not completely sure it was a 'Damascus', moment, but it certainly left me somewhat shaken and wondering what was going on 'up there'! What would the odds be of such a coincidence? I had to wonder just who was guiding the pilot's hands!"

Jim Humphries, flew from Australia to remember his brother Bruce

- What a wonderful day we had on Saturday. One thing that really impressed us was the way the delivery of the wreaths has been organised at the church. It was really a military operation – one of many that day. The thanksgiving service was quite delightful. We were honoured to have been able to lay our wreaths on behalf of the Polish Air Force Memorial Committee and “The Children of 303” after the dedication of the beautifully designed memorial which was admired by everyone I spoke to, especially the relatives connected with the sad events that happened around the village between 1941 and 1944. You must be very proud of the effort put in by the whole village and it really showed. Didn't the WI do well! May I, on behalf of the Poles, say how much we appreciate the concept of such a wonderful memorial to all those young men from so long ago. Long live their memory.

Philip Ferić-Methuen

- “Many thanks indeed for the most amazing day on Saturday and congratulations to you for all the work done over the last five or six years to bring it to fruition. It really was immaculately arranged down to the last detail and I hope you will pass the thanks from my wife and me to everyone, especially the WI who completely did for my diet! We were honoured to be sitting at the front with the special guests. We did see the television coverage which again was a great tribute and your own interview (*Ken's*) summed up the whole occasion extremely well. It was a marvellous day and a totally fitting tribute to those who died 75 years ago”.

Keith Clark, Architect

- “We have just returned home and felt that we must immediately contact you and express our thanks – and admiration. The planning, hard work and no doubt sometimes stress, were all worthwhile. It was nice to speak to relatives of the crews and they were also full of praise and appreciation. The service was very fitting and was a lovely tribute to the brave men involved in this tragic period of our history. The memorial will now be there for following generations to see and appreciate the sacrifice they made for our futures.”

Guests from Hoveringham

- “I'm writing to thank you once again for the invitation to the Dedication Event at Bleasby today. It was a very moving event which did full justice to the memory of the aircrews who lost their lives. The church service was perfect and the memorial itself is very impressive. We are very conscious of the immense effort that has gone into bringing this about. The research, the approvals and sourcing

of materials, the organisation of the event and all that went with it must be jaw dropping. Help and assistance from many quarters was very visible throughout the event. Thanks again and please convey our grateful thanks to all those who made it happen.”

Guests from Hoveringham

- “What a superb day. All that work and planning came to fruition and it was a wonderful event. Well done to everybody. The feedback from all our guests has been so positive and very admiring of the efforts of the whole community. What brilliant results can be achieved when we work together.”

A villager

- “I met Colin from Ravenshead in the Glebe Field admiring the Memorial and I asked him what he thought of it. “Fantastic. I have seen most of the memorials in Nottinghamshire and this is the best”.

A villager

A VILLAGE WORKING TOGETHER – A PERSONAL VIEW

After the recent wonderful event of the Aircrews Memorial Day, I spoke briefly to Cllr Susan Saddington and she was saying that we were the only village she knew where the collaboration of so many people had “brought the village together”. My repeated reply was that the village “was together” already.

I am writing to bear testimony to that fact as following a serious illness which has changed my life, I have been overwhelmed by the kindness, remembrance, support and practical help I have received. My family have many times expressed disbelief at all that has been shown in deep understanding and love to me. They say, “Thank goodness you didn’t move from Bleasby” and I heartily agree. I am now trying to pace myself so that I can join in when I can. To know you are cared for by many, including new folk to the village, is amazing and for a gregarious person like myself, it has kept my spirit alive. I cannot return the practical help shown but I am very good at phoning, so would gladly contact anyone who feels alone.

Cllr Saddington ended her conversation by saying she had lived in many villages but she always wanted to move to Bleasby and hopes to one day!

Thank you to the village for being what you are.

Phyllis Hastings

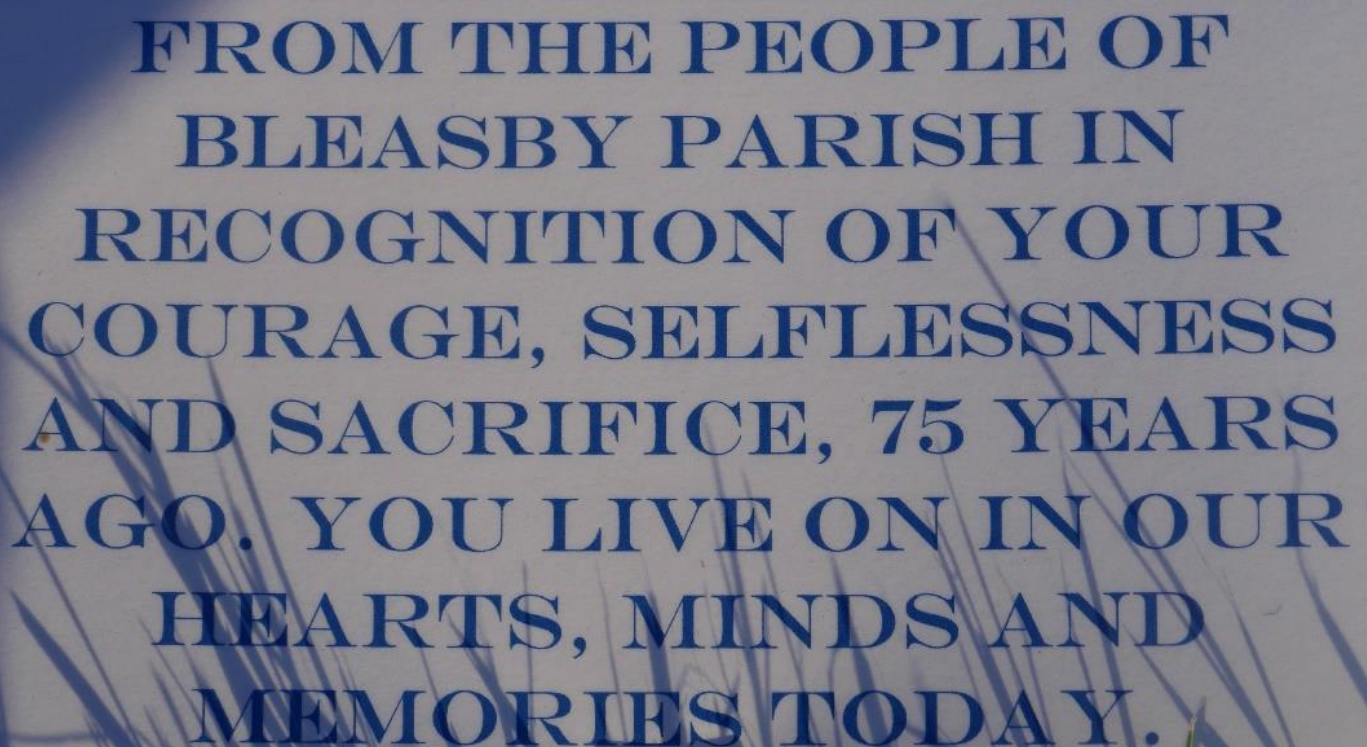


THEY WERE THERE TOO

They were there too, you know – on that sunlit Saturday. A barely discernible breeze went gently through the flower-filled church, lightly touching young and old alike. It was just possible to be momentarily aware of it as flowers and feathers appeared to dip their heads in salute. And later, in the open air, no-one in the silent crowd felt them moving between them – but every heart was entered, and nobody was left untouched. They become motionless during the silence between the well-remembered bugle calls. They heard the words, they felt the emotion, and then they drifted on and watched with gratitude and wonder as wreaths were laid, a few tears were shed, and conversation gently grew between the living who were honouring their memory.

Later, when the moon was up, and the place was quiet, they came again, touching their names on the smooth polished stone, and reminiscing among themselves. Had any living soul approached, they might have imagined the echo of Australian, New Zealand, Polish, English and Canadian accents, along with a faint smell reminiscent of cigarettes – and youthful laughter as the comrades of so many years ago met once more. As the night sky lightened, these souls slipped away, back to their watchful role, knowing that the dark and difficult places they had gone through had led them to the stars, and that they would never be forgotten.

Per Ardua ad Astra



**FROM THE PEOPLE OF
BLEASBY PARISH IN
RECOGNITION OF YOUR
COURAGE, SELFLESSNESS
AND SACRIFICE, 75 YEARS
AGO. YOU LIVE ON IN OUR
HEARTS, MINDS AND
MEMORIES TODAY.**

CHURCH NEWS

Memorial Dedication Service

St Mary's was pleased to host the Aircrews Memorial Thanksgiving and Dedication Service on September 1st. With 170 invited guests attending, including relatives of the aircrews, Air Force personnel, local dignitaries, supporters, stonemasons and regular members of the congregation, managing to seat them all was no mean feat. "Getting a quart into a pint pot" is a challenge we are only too pleased to attempt. Thanks to Gray Gent and his team, a relay service was provided to the Glebe Field. The church carpark has been busy since with visitors coming to admire the memorial. We have tried to keep the church open as often as possible so that many of them have been able to go into church as well to see the beautiful flower arrangements provided by Chris Bennett, Anne Buckley, Elaine France, Viv Mayfield, Doreen Morgan, Jenny Sterland and Lorraine Vickers. To the delight of visiting relatives, Viv also provided forget-me-not crocheted buttonholes. To all those who contributed to the church part of the day, both inside (flower arrangers, stewards, brass polishers and cleaners) and outside (Ali Sutherland, John Sharpe, Derek McGrath and the team of mowers, pruners, sweepers and strimmers) we offer our grateful thanks. Our gratitude also goes to John King for returning specially to play the organ. There will also be unsung heroes of whom we know nothing—thank you all.

Tree work

The long-awaited tree work took place during the second week of September. This followed an approved plan to raise tree crowns to improve visibility and access, to open up overgrown footpaths, and to remove weak saplings, diseased wood and self-sown scrub which was impairing the growth of specimen trees. To those who favour a more rural and natural look, the work is timed to provide as little disturbance as possible to wild life; nature will soon re-establish itself and hopefully the spring flowers will return as usual.

Ride and Stride

The annual Ride and Stride, organised by the Nottinghamshire Historic Churches Trust took place on Saturday September 8th. Sponsored bikers and walkers are invited to visit as many churches in the Diocese as possible within the opening times of 10am until 6 pm. Prizes are awarded to those visiting the most churches and those raising the most money. St Mary's was open as usual to welcome and sign off participants and to provide refreshments. The timing was unfortunate, clashing as it did with the Tour of Britain passing through the neighbourhood and somewhat undermining our attempts to encourage the participation of the Bleasby Bikers - perhaps next year?

Welcome Service for Bleasby School's New Headteacher

On Sunday 16th September a service was held at St Mary's for the Benefice to welcome Samuel Mensah, the new headteacher at Bleasby School. A special service was devised, combining the Diocesan Commissioning of New Headteachers and a Celtic form of worship. The commissioning involved children, parents, teachers, governors, churchwardens and the Diocesan Schools Adviser, Jane Lewis, in the formal welcome, and Jane gave an address and presented Sam with a Bible from the Diocese. The Vicar conducted a short question and answer session with Sam, so we were able to learn more about Sam the family man as opposed to Sam the

headteacher. It was particularly good to welcome his family, and two of his daughters took part in the service. We were delighted that there were 112 people in church to enjoy this special occasion, especially the 32 children, and after the service everyone enjoyed cake: (especially the Vicar's strawberry cream sponge!)

We look forward to working even more closely with the school which is such an important asset in our parish.

Church Treasurer

After many years of loyal service and valuable advice, David Goss is retiring as Church Treasurer. He has worked hard to keep our finances in good order, maintain a steady income and advise the PCC. We are extremely grateful to him. Two people have cautiously offered to consider this position, and after further discussion, and with encouragement and offers of advice and help, would hopefully be willing to fulfil this role.

Sponsored walk

At the very end of July a small group set out on a walk from Upton to Bleasby via Rolleston, Morton, Halloughton and Thurgarton to raise money for St Dorcas Orphanage in Kenya. We were in the middle of an unprecedented heatwave which caused more than a little anxiety but we were fortunate to hit a dip in temperature. The rain that went with it was a minor inconvenience, most of it falling during the last leg of our journey. There is photographic evidence of those who made it to the Waggon and Horses but as we looked singularly bedraggled by then we have chosen not to print it. Only Leonard, the vicar's retriever, looked his usual handsome self. Our kindly publican allowed us in, dripping as we were, to celebrate. Included in the walking group were representatives of most of the churches in the West Trent benefice and those who couldn't manage the 14 miles acted as a support group on the day. Our thanks go to those who sponsored us with money and to those who provided refreshments during the journey, welcomed us to their churches and encouraged us along the route. The event raised £3000. Please read Rev Phil's letter below for details of how the money was spent.

Diana Temperley and Rachael Andrew, Churchwardens

FROM THE REVD PHIL

Dear All

I first visited St Dorcas Orphanage, Bungoma, West Kenya in 2010, even before our charity Bungoma Calling was formed. I asked the then pastor why in a subsistence rural economy he was supporting such an enterprise. His answer was "the bible says we are to look after orphans and widows, that is what we are doing", referring to the epistle of James 1:27. It was a great answer and instructive. Christian faith, or indeed anything we 'believe' needs to be translated into compassionate action. It needs to more often.

Thank you for supporting the sponsored walk of 29th July, prior to a group of 3 visiting the Orphanage. They had a wonderful time, receiving in welcome and hospitality more than they gave in seminars for teachers, safeguarding guidance and fun times with

the children. There were tears as they left! The advantage of being a small charity is that we can see exactly where the money we raised (c£3000) has gone so, to conclude, here is a list of ordinary things received with much joy, all delivered and receipted:

4 sacks of beans, 3 of maize, 3 of rice - plus transport back to the Orphanage.

Food for the old peoples' packages, 24 delivered in the local community by the group. Rice, flour, oil, matches, salt, sugar, tea, and soap.

Food for the teacher's seminar, and for the orphanage: sugar, rice, salt, soap, squash and biscuits, sweets for the village children, lollipops for the orphanage, sanitary wear, toilet paper, toothpaste, moisturising cream, washing powder, bar soap for personal washing, washing soap for clothing.

We spent money on some larger items for the Orphanage: 5 mattresses to replace the most disintegrated ones, sheets, pillows and pillow cases, 10 new blankets, plastic chairs, 5 school bags for the older children returning to secondary school, college and university.

We also bought: a bath towel for every child, a dart board and darts for the older children, pants for all the children (all now have three pairs), photocopy paper, exercise books, pens, more soap, balloons and several smaller items such as toothpicks, candles, gravy powder and pants for Juliette the matron (maybe not so small!?).

In addition we purchased: paint to redecorate the children's dining room which was in great need (delivered by picky-picky ie motorcycle 'taxi').

Not bad. Faith/compassion in action? Thanks again to all contributors.

It's harvest soon...we hope to make a collection for the Women's Refuge in Newark, please see how you can help!

Best Wishes, Phil

phil_07@btinternet.com - www.westtrentchurches.co.uk – 07720010066

The Revd Phil can be contacted as above or via the administrator for the West Trent Group: Paula Carlin on 07419 176021 or at beneficeofwesttrent@gmail.com

LIFEBOATS

The Calverton Lifeboat Fundraising Group invite you to a Coffee Morning in Bleasby Village Hall on Friday October 19th 2018 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

HELP!

Imagine having a serious fall in your house or garden or being in extreme pain. Bad news! Now imagine you live alone, are elderly, have mobility problems and have no

family living near when that happens. This situation is feared by more than one elderly person in Bleasby – some of them, however, have taken as much responsibility as possible for this eventuality and have taken the precaution of paying for personal alarms worn as bracelets or pendants which, in the case of an accident or other extreme crisis, they can press to alert a central emergency response centre. The operator there will have a list of contacts, typically family members and perhaps close neighbours who can be contacted to give immediate help. The problem is that family members often live several miles/hours away and neighbours may be at work or away on holiday. It would be a great advantage, therefore, to have as many potential contacts as possible.

Elderly people are however very reluctant and often too embarrassed to ask even those people that they would like to have as one of their contacts. Would you be willing to be contacted if someone living near you needed help? You need no medical knowledge or expertise. A reassuring smile, a hand to get up from a fall or perhaps a phone call for an ambulance might be what is required but your support would be of enormous benefit.

If you think you could help in an emergency, please get in touch with our editors for more details. You may never be needed but your name on a contact list will bring much comfort. Bleasby residents already have a reputation for being very supportive of each other and your name on a list would be a good way of showing that we care for each other. Thank you.

Owners of alarms who would welcome extra contacts should get in touch with the editors (*see page 2 for email addresses – or phone 830284 or 830296*)

BLEASBY LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

We thoroughly enjoyed the lecture by Paul Cullen on “Surnames in Nottinghamshire” given on 25th September – we learnt a lot about local surnames! On October 23rd we give a welcome back to Rowena Edlin-White who will be speaking on “Forgotten Authors of Nottinghamshire” – then in November we have a talk on evacuees to our area by Roger Dobson.

Do come along to our talks - all are most welcome – £2.50 for visitors and free to members for a modest annual fee of £10. Meetings start at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Barbara Cast - President of Bleasby Local History Society

KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH BLEASBY EVENTS AND NEWS

Are you aware that you can sign up for email updates on local information from the following website www.bleasbycommunity.uk. The community website is maintained and monitored by Bleasby Parish Council. PC information can be found on the Council website www.bleasbyparishcouncil.uk.

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JUBILEE PONDS - TREES FOR LIFE AND LOSS

We all know how critical a part our world's trees and forests play in the survival of humans on Planet Earth, whether as providers of the oxygen we breathe, as restraining bastions to the extension of deserts, the drivers of our balanced water cycle, the preventers of soil erosion and the supporters of wildlife and the ecosystems from which we receive a bank of medicines, foods, materials and simple wonder. But what is happening locally? On the (Silver) Jubilee Ponds there are now hundreds more trees that when it existed as farmland prior to excavation for sand and gravel by Hoveringham Gravels Ltd during the 1960s – many planted by local people, and the Hoveringham and Tarmac companies in turn - but most numerically by natural regeneration.

To commemorate the centenary of the Great War the Dowager Centenary Wood of over 70 oaks and hazels was planted on the Jubilee Ponds in the autumn of 2014 with everyone in the parish invited to adopt a tree in recognition of a family member who had served their country, and its cause, in some way. In readiness for November 2018, to mark the end of the conflict and the signing of the Armistice, the JP volunteers (as identified through Parish Plan responses) and Bleasby Carp Syndicate volunteers will be preparing the site for ease of access and individual tree recognition. It is also planned to provide further information on site.

At a similar time (November 10th) two trees will be planted – a beech and an ash – to mark the passing of 40 years since the Parish Council officially signed an agreement for use of the area for “gentle recreation and nature conservation” (16th November 1978) and ten years later for the purchase of the land at the grand sum of £1 sterling!

Commemorative trees have, of course, been planted in other parish sites over the years, wayside hedgerow trees for example were planted by villagers in “Plant a Tree in ‘73” and “Plant some more in ‘74” initiatives. The Glebe Field has had a number of commemorative tree additions since its purchase by the Parish Council in 2009 – a rowan planted by the School to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, a walnut planted by the Parish for the same celebration, the fastigate hornbeam to mark the purchase of the Glebe Field – and, of course, the magnificent oak planted for the coronation of George VI in 1937. We may even be planting a Christmas Tree this year to become our permanent focus point for Christmas celebrations. Our own village orchard on the Glebe Field was planted with local fruit trees in 2012 and, after thorough improvement work by local stalwarts, the area can now be more readily seen and accessed. Many traditional fruit trees survive in our village gardens and have, ironically, cropped particularly well this year. Perhaps we should each plant a new fruit tree in our gardens – why not this year - and enjoy that beautiful spring blossom, shade in summer and fresh, chemical free fruit in autumn. The Events Group is hoping to hold a Bleasby fruit celebration in autumn 2019 – so there is still time to plan making fruit juice or even cider for then!

Trees have, unfortunately, been put under stress by this year's drought, some browning and losing leaves prematurely, but we must not assume that they are dead

or dying as this is a survival strategy – trees should be left until next summer before deciding that they are dead. This is especially the case with horse chestnuts. If you check your tree, you are likely to find that they are bearing next year's buds even though they have resorted to winter dormancy.

Tree losses have also occurred over the years through various introduced tree diseases – our elms were virtually wiped out by Dutch Elm Disease during the early '60s – whilst oak, ash and horse chestnut are increasingly vulnerable to diseases brought in by imported trees. Those planted on the Jubilee Ponds from 2014 onwards have been grown in Britain and so are as free of disease as can be possibly expected – try to ensure any tree purchases you make are similarly sourced.

Many of you will have been dismayed to see some of our most significant trees lost to our street scene during recent years – only last month a lime was felled close to the corner of Elmore's Meadow because it was diagnosed by the County Council's tree officers as diseased and suffering from soft rot fungus. Some trees in Bleasby have Tree Protection Orders (TPOs) on them whilst others are in the Conservation Area - all these have special protection and can only be pruned or felled with permission, and then usually with a requirement for replacement with a similar tree.

A tree's role in air pollution reduction has recently been once again highlighted and, although our carbon emissions are much lower here than in urban areas, it is reassuring and rewarding to see our trees making a "stand" in Bleasby Parish. **"Let more trees be seen in 2018"!**

Peter Cast

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BLEASBY BIKE FEST

What a great day this was! This was a really special event with over sixty children registered and more who joined in on the day. Great smiles from children riding safely along Gypsy Lane: fierce concentration from those tackling both Gray Gent's skills course and the easier course enjoyed by the less confident riders; even some very small children on balance bikes. Richard Simpson from British Cycling and Ali Hobson were busy helping the small children get to grips with basic skills, reporting at least three novices cycling unaided at the end of the day, the scrutineers removing stabilisers for another. Great skill was shown in the slow race (supervised by Gray Gent & Helen Davis) and no serious spills in the melee of cycling football under Gray's 'emerging' rules.

Thanks to Charlotte and Gray Gent, Bobbie Desbruslais, Geoff Lester and Peter Cast who got this very successful event off the ground – a huge achievement for a small village. Bleasby Bikers made a huge contribution - Matt Ward (helping Gray set up the skills course - brilliantly using just a few pallets), Jon Marshall (who also provided the vital adaptor for the British Cycling inflatable arch!), Jon Edinborough (shifting tables and chairs with his trailer), Steph Dyce, Penny Shaw, Mike Jones, Stuart Davis and Julian Stone, the scrutineers (Rod Corbett and Vic from Staythorpe) provided a valuable service sorting a number of flaky brakes, the odd loose headset and inevitable adjustments to seat heights - and to everyone else there is not room to list including Bobbie's extensive family, friends and son-in-law Nick. The WI provided excellent tea and cake and raised over £135 for its charities. Free fruit was provided by Lee Miller of Millside Barrowcliffe, the Waggon's barbecue did a roaring trade and Newark Cycles sold a number of electric bikes – more converts to cycling! We also need to thank the residents of Gypsy Lane who collaborated in the closure of the lane, a key factor in the success of the event.

What is striking is the depth of support for the event. There were some very nice thank-yous from parents and lots of interest from both children and parents in another event. Hopefully that will happen in 2019 when we will be looking for more volunteers!

Bleasby Events Group - Working on behalf of Bleasby Parish Council





**ALWAYS LOTS ON AT THE WAGGON AND HORSES
GREAT FOOD – GREAT DRINKS – GREAT COMPANY**

To reserve a table call 01636 830283



Bleasby Diary of Events

Date	Time	Event	Location
Saturday 29 th September		Southwell Ploughing Match	Little Carlton
Sunday 30 th September	10.30am	Benefice service of Holy Communion	St Denis Morton
Sunday 7 th October	10.30am	Service of Holy Communion	St Mary's
Monday 8 th October	7.30pm	Parish Council meeting	Village Hall
Sunday 14 th October	10.30am	Harvest Thanksgiving and Baptism	St Mary's
Friday 19 th October	10am till noon	RNLI Coffee Morning	Village Hall
Sunday 21 st October	10.30am	Benefice service of Holy Communion with the Trent Churches Choir	St Peter's Thurgarton
Sunday 21 st October	2pm	Footpath walk	Start at Chestnut Tree, Gypsy Lane
Tuesday 23 rd October	7.30pm	Meeting of BLHS with Rowena Edlin-White on Forgotten Authors of Nottinghamshire	Village Hall
Friday 26 th October	10am - 12 noon	Friendship Coffee Morning	Village Hall
Sunday 28 th October	10.30am	Service of Morning Praise for Everyone	St Mary's
Monday 29 th October to Friday 2 nd November		School half-term	
Sunday 4 th November	10.30am	Service of Morning Praise for Everyone	St Mary's
Saturday 10 th November		WWI Armistice Centenary event & "Decades in the Making" planting	Jubilee Ponds and St Mary's
Sunday 11 th November	10.30am	Service of Remembrance - centenary of end of Great War	St Mary's
Monday 12 th November	7.30pm	Parish Council meeting	Village Hall
Saturday 17 th November	10am - noon	Parish Plan open discussion meeting	Village Hall

Saturday 17 th November	7.30pm	Jenkins' The Armed Man - a Mass for Peace - concert by Southwell Choral Society	Southwell Minster
Sunday 18 th November	10.30am	Benefice Holy Communion and Bereavement Service	St Mary's
Sunday 18 th November	2pm	Footpath walk	Start at Chestnut Tree, Gypsy Lane
Monday 19 th November		December's Bleasby News deadline	
Tuesday 20 th November	7.30pm	Meeting of Bleasby WI with J Whitfield on Women's Progress	Village Hall
Sunday 25 th November	10.30am	Service of Morning Praise for Everyone	St Mary's
Tuesday 27 th November	7.30pm	Meeting of BLHS with Roger Dobson on Evacuees to the Bleasby area in World War 2	Village Hall
Sunday 16 th December	PM till 5.30pm	Christmas event on Glebe Field and adjacent conservation areas	Glebe Field

WHERE HAVE ALL THE BABIES GONE?

The carers and toddlers group have been meeting in Bleasby Village Hall on Monday mornings in term time between 9.15 and 11.15am for over three years and have enjoyed each other's company. We charge £2 per family per session which includes a mid-morning snack. Each week we try to organise a different activity, besides the usual free play, dressing up and nursery rhymes that the children enjoy. These include Art & Crafts, Music & Movement, Sensory and Magical Stories. Unfortunately recently participation has dwindled as older children move on to pre-school and reception classes in the area or to day nursery provision when carers go back to work. As a result we are in danger of having to close if we cannot increase numbers and cover costs. So if you would like to meet other mums, dads and carers and would like your baby, toddler or preschooler to enjoy playing with new friends, please come along and join us or get in touch with Alison Collins - alisoncreative@icloud.com

Also we would like one or two people to give occasional help on a rota basis to put out toys and equipment in the village hall for the playgroup on Monday mornings in term time and/or to help out in the kitchen as we prepare for and clear up the children's snacks and drinks. If you like to be in on the action then your help would also be appreciated with our various activities, songs and games. Plus there's always a friendly chat and a cuppa! Please be in touch with the editors or Alison Collins, again at alisoncreative@icloud.com, or pop in one Monday morning.

October Church Services in the West Trent Benefice

(HC = Holy Communion: MPE = Morning Praise for Everyone: EP = Evening Prayer)

October	Bleasby	Halloughton	Hoveringham	Morton	Rolleston	Thurgarton	Upton
Sunday 7 th	10.30am HC		6pm EP	9am HC	10.30am MPE	10.30am MPE	10.30am HC
Sunday 14 th	10.30am Harvest and Baptism	6pm Harvest Service	10.30am HC	10.30am Harvest Service	10.30am Harvest Service	10.30am MPE	10.30am MPE
Tuesday 16 th							10am HC
Sunday 21 st						10.30am Benefice HC	
Sunday 28 th	10.30am MPE		10.30am MPE	10.30am HC	10.30am HC	10.30am with Methodists	10.30am MPE

November Church Services in the West Trent Benefice

(HC = Holy Communion: MPE = Morning Praise for Everyone: EP = Evening Prayer)

Nov'mb	Bleasby	Halloughton	Hoveringham	Morton	Rolleston	Thurgarton	Upton
Sunday 4 th	10.30am MPE		6pm EP	9.00 HC	10.30 MPE	10.30 MPE	10.30 HC
Sunday 11 th	10.30am Remembrance Service	10.30am Remembrance Service	10.30am Remembrance Service	10.30am Rem Serv at Rolleston	10.30am Remembrance Service	10.30am Rem Serv at Hover'gham	10.30am Remembrance Service
Tuesday 13 th							10am HC
Sunday 18 th	10.30am Benefice HC and Bereavement Service						
Sunday 25 th	10.30am MPE		10.30am MPE	10.30am HC	10.30am HC	10.30am with Methodists	10.30am MPE

BLEASBY WI NEWS

The talk in August given to the Women's Institute by Julia Davies had a distinctly local flavour. Julia's subject was "The History of Brackenhurst". She described the changes to the house and gardens over the years which resulted in the grander hall and grounds it was to become, the lives of the families who made the hall their home, its use during WWII as a military hospital and eventually its transformation into a place of learning. Although she wouldn't describe herself as an historian, she is a long-serving staff member of what is now part of Nottingham Trent University and has unearthed a wealth of knowledge during her career there. Her talk was well-illustrated by fascinating photographs of Brackenhurst through the years and touching family photographs of its occupants.

On September 1st the WI hosted a lunch in the Village Hall and the marquee on the carpark for the 170 invited guests to the Aircrews Memorial Dedication event. Always to be relied upon to support every village event, this day was no exception, the hospitality greatly contributing to the success of the day and much enjoyed by guests.

In complete contrast our guest speaker in September was Gurcharan Manku on the subject of "The Impact of the Asian Community in the East Midlands". In October members look forward to the annual WI birthday celebration dinner which will take place this year at "Ashmore's" in Radcliffe-on-Trent.

We meet at 7.30pm on the third Tuesday of the month in our village hall. New members and visitors are always welcome.

Rachael Andrew

COUNTRYSIDE AND FOOTPATHS GROUP

The monthly village walk was held on 23rd September and led by founder members of the re-established group, Carolyn and John.

All parishioners (and friends) of all ages and abilities are invited to join in these walks which are tailored so that there is always a shorter option for those with less time or energy – usually of just over a mile in length compared to the full three to four mile walk. Countryside 'roving surveys' and interest stops are incorporated into walks and the use of maps and compasses is encouraged (these are provided along with any guidance needed in their effective use). A set of waterproof and compact Yellow Maps has been purchased for group usage and, at a scale of 4 inches to the mile, make easy reading for those of us with less than perfect eyesight! Comprehensive coverage of our rights of way system has been made possible through negotiation by the group with Yellow Maps publishers. This special map adjoins the one covering the Trent from Burton Joyce to Bleasby, allowing us to extend our continuous map coverage from Bleasby to Winthorpe along the Trent Valley Way.

We look forward to seeing new participants on our next walks planned for Sundays at 2pm on 21st October and 18th November.

Countryside and Footpath Group members

BLEASBY NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Further to our last report in Bleasby News, we are glad to inform parishioners that we have now produced a Watch Group constitution and management document, have made productive contact with the official Notts Watch representative and hope to hold a Village Awareness event this autumn when the organisation and function of the Group will be highlighted and relevant advice and materials made available to all members of the community.

We hope that you will make your best effort to take advantage of this forthcoming opportunity to find out more about Bleasby's Neighbourhood Watch Group and, hopefully, to consider becoming a part of this very important means of reducing our vulnerability to crime and enhancing our security.

The BNW Convenor Team

FISHING IN BLEASBY

Fishing has been carried out in and around the area of the Trent Valley now known as the Parish of Bleasby since Neolithic times and the many Iron Age boats found beautifully preserved within mud deposits in the worked out gravel beds testify to the large human population dependent on the Trent for fishing and transport long before the time of Christ.

Mediaeval fishing weirs were constructed along the length of the northern bank where fish became trapped; remains of eel traps of that period have been found in number by archaeologists during gravel extraction from here to Colwick. The ford at Hazelford dates back to prehistoric times when flints from Grimes Graves in Norfolk were transported to the north for trade along the ancient trackway still to be discerned across the river and known as Longhedge Lane. Shallows here would undoubtedly provide for easy fish entrapment back then. Gibsmere's name refers to the natural mere or pond on the southern edge of the hamlet known as Pickerel Play or Pond – a reference to the pike found there. The Archbishop of York held the fishing rights to this special water for many centuries testifying to its high status as a source of "coarse" fish.

Though constantly growing and changing through the deposition of silts, sands and gravels, the Knabbs (an island formed by the shallows of the Trent at Hazelford) would almost certainly have provided an excellent fishing base owing to its central and shallow river position. Since the 'canalisation' of the Trent to make it more navigable up to Nottingham these shallows, providing an early fording opportunity, were deepened and the ford changed to a ferry resulting in the name Hazelford Ferry.

The wartime construction of Syerston Airfield on the high southern escarpment required the extraction of gravel from fields on the eastern side of Boat Lane close to the river and consequently two rectangular lakes were formed allowing the development of recreational fishing other than along the riverside. Post-war reconstruction demanded further sources of aggregate and its extraction in this area between Gibsmere and Bleasby settlements provided further fishing opportunities where quarries were not restored – creating Gibsmere Lake, the Jubilee Ponds and Woodyard Lake. These all survive and are stocked respectively with trout, carp and coarse fish. The JPs were originally stocked and fished by Mansfield and District Fishing Club in association with Midland Anglers under licence from Hoveringham Gravels. Subsequently the fishing rights were purchased by the Bleasby Carp Syndicate in March 2010. This gives the Syndicate controlling rights to the water and bankside, whereas the Parish Council, as the owner, has sole control of the land. We

are very pleased to be able to work with our fishing neighbours who help us manage this lovely area and are glad that the long tradition of fishing in our parish can happily continue.

Peter Cast

THE SERMON GIVEN AT THE AIRCREWS MEMORIAL DEDICATION SERVICE – 1st SEPTEMBER 2018

This evening in the small Belgian town of Ypres a ceremony will take place, which happens every evening of the year. The traffic will be stopped, and buglers of the Ypres Fire Brigade will form up in the middle of the road under the cavernous arches of the Menin Gate and sound the Last Post. This nightly salute is in memory of the soldiers of the First World War who were killed in the Ypres Salient in that war and who have no known grave. One of the things that strikes you when you stand in the huge ceremonial Menin Gate, apart from the grandeur of the architecture and the evocative echoes of the Last Post ringing round its arches, is the seemingly endless lists of names inscribed on the walls, stretching in apparently limitless columns up into the vaulting. There are upwards of 56,000 of them.

I've been to that ceremony a few times in my life and you may wonder what the connection is between that and what we are gathered here to do this morning. The connection is numerical because it has always borne in on me whenever I've been there that, within a few hundred, it's almost the same number of names as those who died serving in Bomber Command during the Second World War. In the case of Bomber Command it was 55,573, 40 of whom we're assembled to remember today, whose lives ended tragically, not in the skies over enemy territory, but in the vicinity of this church in the years when they were training in this area. There were young men from this country, Canada, Australia, Poland and our other allies. Their average age was in their early 20s – roughly the average of all aircrew in Bomber Command.

As was the way with bomber aircrew they would all have gone through intensive training in their respective specialisms, whether as Pilot, Navigator, Flight Engineer, Wireless Operator, Bomb Aimer or Gunner in specialist schools before coming together as a crew. That coming together as a crew would have been through what seems to us now a somewhat random process; they would have mixed together with other trained aircrew and more or less selected themselves. Once together a crew would form itself into an integrated family where each looked out for the other and in which they would work together as a close team. It was this mutual dependence and trust that would often ensure their survival on operations – or “ops” as they came to be called.

In an edition of *Air Mail*, the magazine of the Royal Air Forces Association of a year or two ago I read a report of a gathering of ex Lancaster aircrew at the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight at RAF Coningsby. A former Bomb Aimer, Ralph Tyrell, expressed what this bonding was like when he said, “You flew together like brothers. You met as strangers and soon formed as brothers, each relying on each other 110%.” And on the same occasion our own Nottinghamshire hero, Wing Commander Jim Flint

DFC GM DFM who died a year or two ago aged 100 and whose funeral I had the privilege of conducting, said of the Lancaster, "it was a beautiful aircraft; the engine was an absolute wonder. We got in trouble at times, and some of the missions were a bit naughty, but you didn't argue, you just got moving and got on with it."

It was into this tradition of teamwork, of commitment and comradeship that the young men we're commemorating here today were admitted. Of those 55,573 who died in Bomber Command, the majority lost their lives in operations over enemy territory or, as is the case with one of the crews we're commemorating here, who died as a result of a mid-air collision 75 years ago today on return from an operation, and some died in training. But their deaths were no less valuable, and their passing no less mourned by those who flew with them or their families receiving the news that their loved ones were "missing in action".

The cause for which they were fighting or preparing to fight was just and, insofar as any warfare can be called honourable, a noble one and this community, in raising this memorial to them is honouring their memory for our and succeeding generations. The attendance here today and the huge amount of research that Ken Ogilvie and others have put in to create this fitting memorial is in itself a huge and fitting tribute to these 40 young men, in their generation scarcely older than the Air Cadets we have with us in church. As the memorial records, echoing the famous Kohima Epitaph, "They gave their tomorrows for our todays".

In the Old Testament book of Joshua, we read of the people of Israel finally crossing the river Jordan into the Promised Land. In Chapter 4 of that book we hear of how the water of the Jordan ceased to flow, something that happened from time to time, and this was taken as God's miraculous holding back of the waters so that the people could cross dry-shod to their destination. It was interpreted as the action of God working for his chosen people and after the 12 tribes had crossed Joshua, their leader, instructed that twelve stones, one for each tribe, should be erected into a cairn as a perpetual memorial to God's mighty act, "so that this may be a sign among you. When your children ask in time to come 'What do these stones mean to you?' then you shall tell them that the waters of the Jordan were cut off from the ark of the Covenant of the Lord. So, these stones shall be to the Israelites a memorial for ever." They were moving into the Promised Land and to a new hope, the hope that was reflected in our first reading from the book of the prophet Ezekiel. He was addressing the Jewish exiles in Babylon and assuring them of God's care and plan for them in returning to their homes, "you shall live in the land that I gave to your ancestors; and you shall be my people and I will be your God".

And it seems to me that when the children of Bleasby and the surrounding communities ask in time to come "what do these stones mean" we and succeeding generations will be able to tell them that it is a memorial for ever to 40 brave young men who died doing their duty and through whose deaths we and they, and their children after them can live in freedom and peace. That was seven decades or so ago, but we should also remember that as we meet today there are young men and

women serving in a similar cause on operations in various places all over the world who no less deserve our support and our prayers.

The first of our readings this afternoon was from the book of the Prophet Ezekiel. The context of this passage was a message of encouragement to the Jewish exiles in Babylon in the 5th century BC that they would return to their homeland and that when they did it would be to a time of peace and security. I would guess that if we were able to wind the clock back to ask the young men we're commemorating here today, what would be their most desired wish, I would guess that high on their list of aspirations would be to return to their homelands in a time of peace and security. That said, I believe they would still be committed totally to the cause for which they were training. That is the nature of the service which they belonged to and of their successors represented here today, and all who have worn the Queen's uniform.

The Christian faith gives an assurance that memories do not die and that, in the words of the book of Deuteronomy, "the eternal God is our refuge and underneath are the everlasting arms". And the Christian hope of the Gospel gives similar assurance that, in the words of St Paul writing to the Church in Rome, "whether we live or die we belong to the Lord," and in the Gospel passage from St John we heard that this depends on the love, even the sacrificial love of being willing to die for one's friends – Jesus, through St John, assures us that there is "no greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends." The 40 young men we remember today and who are commemorated in this memorial would have formed the friendships born of being in a crew together, and it is due to their sacrifice that we can enjoy our freedoms today.

I began with a memory of standing in the Menin Gate at Ypres as they sound the Last Post. At the end of the First World War when the Imperial, now Commonwealth, War Graves Commission was set up, Rudyard Kipling was asked to suggest words that could be inscribed on the Stone of Remembrance which was to be set up in each cemetery. The words he chose were "their name liveth for evermore". These come from the Apocryphal book of Ecclesiasticus, Chapter 44, verse 14. The full verse reads "Their bodies are buried in peace; but their name liveth for evermore". The 40 young men who died near were mourned by their families in Australia, Canada, Poland and this country and by their comrades and we honour them today. Their bodies were laid to rest all those years ago but thanks to what is happening today and to the vision of those who have worked to erect their memorial, it will remain a great tribute to them that in this community their name will live for evermore. May they rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen.

The Venerable Robin Turner

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Outgoing stopping point	1st service	2nd 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
Newark bus station	10.30	13.30
Returning stopping point	1st service	2nd service
Newark bus station	10.35	13.35
Southwell, Church Street	10.58	13.58
Southwell, Ropewalk	11.01	14.01
Morton, Main Street	11.07	14.07
Fiskerton	11.10	14.10
Bleasby, Main Street	11.15	14.15
Thurgarton, Bleasby Road	11.19	14.19
Hoveringham, Main Street	11.25	14.25
Caythorpe, Main Street	11.29	14.29
Lowdham Station	11.32	14.32
Lowdham, Magna Carta	11.33	14.33
Lowdham, Epperstone Road	11.36	14.36

ROYAL MAIL – SCAM MAIL AWARENESS

The Parish Council Chair has recently received a letter from Royal Mail asking that the problem of scam mail be brought to people's attention. Royal Mail states that they never knowingly deliver scam mail and ask that, if anyone receives a suspect letter offering prizes etc, they take one of the following actions.

- Write to Royal Mail at FREEPOST SCAM MAIL enclosing any items that are suspected of being scam mail.
- Call the Royal Mail Scam Mail helpline on 0800 0113 466
- Email scam.mail@royalmail.com

Summary Train Timetable until 9th December 2018

	From Bleasby to Nottingham*	From Bleasby to Newark Castle **
Monday to Friday	6.22;6.55;7.52;9.52;11.52; 14.52;16.52;17.52;18.08;23.05	06.16;07.14;08.17;10.11;12.16; 15.16;17.11;18.39;19.41;22.45
Saturday	6.22;7.54;8.55;9.51;11.52; 14.52;16.51;17.52;18.06	06.17;07.14;08.19;10.14; 12.16;15.14;17.11;18.10;21.43
Sunday	9.41;11.54;15.01;16.59;18.46; 22.50	9.51;11.51;14.57;17.47;22.49
	From Nottingham to Bleasby	From Newark Castle to Bleasby
Monday to Friday	05.54;06.53;07.56;09.49;11.54 14.53;16.49;18.17;19.19;22.26	06.09;06.42;07.39;09.39;11.39; 14.39;16.39;17.39;17.56;22.55
Saturday	05.55;06.53;07.58;09.51;11.53 14.52;16.49;17.48;21.24	06.10;07.41;08.43;09.38;11.39; 14.39;16.38;17.39;17.55
Sunday	09.30;11.30;14.35;17.27;22.28	9.29;11.42;14.49;16.46;18.34; 22.39

*Journey time approx 25 mins

** journey time approx 15 mins

Those who find it necessary to park in the vicinity of the school and railway station should be aware that it is illegal to park where there are central double white lines – they are in place to ensure a clear exit for vehicles coming over the level crossing - Highway Code 240

DID YOU KNOW?

That the average age of those giving a regular amount towards the work and upkeep of our Church of St Mary is 76 years! What is going to happen when they are all pushing up daisies? For information on covenanting a regular sum to St Mary's contact one of our churchwardens – Diana Temperley or Rachael Andrew.

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Where is it?

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.



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Dementia care is a specialist area: we ensure with sensitivity that the resident is supported continually with person centred care planning, reinforcing daily the aspects of their lives they enjoy to ensure wellbeing and pleasures on a daily basis as, sadly, the previous day may be forgotten.

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.

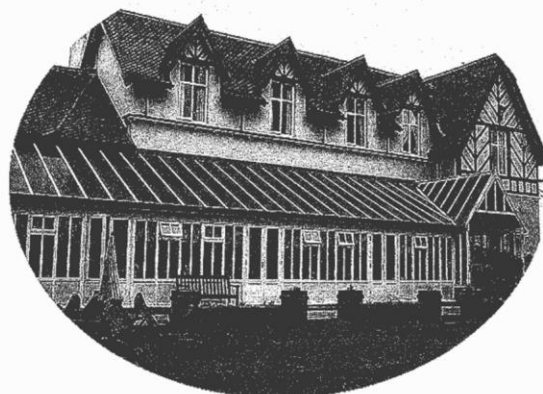
Please feel able to visit our home at any time – a warm welcome awaits you. We encourage families to also have an input into the plans the home may make. We hold family and friends of the home evenings.

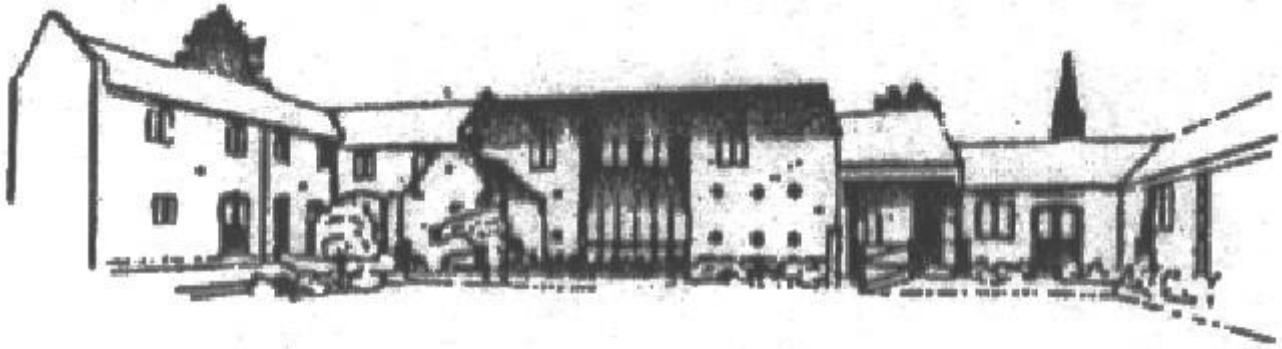
With spring and summer comes along a plan of social events: for the summer an annual garden party, summer fair and schedule of outings to various venues.

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The Waggon was also at the heart of the 1st September WW2 event



The Songbirds



Bringing together the 1940s and 2018 – above is an imagining of how our skies looked 75 years ago



And a peaceful scene on 1st September 2018