



ANNUAL REPORT

September 2012 – August 2013

President: Mrs. Bridget Nuttgens

Working Group 2012/13: Lesley Bradshaw (Chair), Nadine Fidler (Secretary), Michael Baker (Membership Secretary), Terry Strickland (Treasurer), Val Allen (Art and Poetry), Helen Ashdown (History), Anita Barber (Show Promoter), Gerry Bradshaw, Elaine Hubery (Textile and Craft Group), John Hubery and Mike Barber (Tiefrung Gleemen Band), Elaine Taylor (Film Society), Carole Willis (History secretary). All those in bold are Trustees of the Charity.

In early 2013 we spent some time looking at our Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats.

We were happy that we still had a group of people who made things happen despite illness and commitments, but we realised that our programme is increasingly seen as appropriate largely to our ageing membership. We would like to reach out to a wider audience through our new Village Voices programme in which residents will share their enthusiasms whether in work or leisure. We have prepared a welcome letter with copies of the village map and information sheet for newcomers. We are conscious that we are not breaking even on many events – shows and films for example – and we would like to encourage newcomers and younger people to take part in activities as they used to in our early days. We will be seeking your comments and advice on this at our Members' Evening.

Live Entertainment

1 Shows (promoter Anita Barber)

We invited **North Country Theatre** back as they had been so well received last year. Their new show *The Lighthouse on Shimmering Sands* was excellent but the attendance was poor. Early October and a Thursday evening may partly explain the turnout.

The following week we helped to promote a Breast Cancer Awareness week concert by **Steven Goulden and Emma Dennis** who had last performed for Terrington Feast. Their spirited performance was well received, but sadly Emma died in June 2013.

Brian Oxberry's portrayal of **Charles Dickens** provided the entertainment at our **Members' Evening** in November. Brian, in splendid Victorian costume, gave a wonderful performance of an abridged *Christmas Carol* which brought all the familiar characters to life.

Alison Neil returned to Terrington in early February with *Living in the Light*, the story of the multi-talented mediaeval nun, Hildegard of Bingen. Those who saw this and her *Sixth Wife* last year remain in awe of her ability to research, write and perform her enthralling one woman shows.

Our final show of the year came to us via the excellent Rural Arts On Tour programme – as did Alison Neil. *Encore* was a fun French cabaret evening featuring familiar and new songs. The team decorated the hall and put on a wonderful wine and cheese supper.

We would like to thank all those who help with the shows, from delivering posters and fliers to setting up and clearing away, from front of house duties to making a meal for performers. Staging shows would be impossible without them.

2 Talks

David Robinson who had held his audience riveted last year with his talk *Terrington's Place in the Universe* returned in September with aim of having a practical star-gazing session.

Unfortunately the evening was cloudy but the 12 people who went along nevertheless enjoyed a further fascinating talk. David donated his fee to St Leonard's Hospice.

Matt Brash, Zoo Vet, brightened up a January evening with tales of treating large animals in the wild and at Flamingo Park. This was a sell-out and we were able to make a donation to his favourite wildlife conservation charity.

3 Outings

We organised group outings for 12 people to the **Stephen Joseph Theatre** matinees in Scarborough in August to see Alan Ayckbourn plays. The first was a 1990s revival *Time of my Life* and the second his new superb *Arrivals and Departures*. The addition of Fish and chips at Mother Hubbard's helped to make these sociable events.

Howardian Film Society (Elaine Taylor)

Once again a good selection of films was shown monthly on Thursday evenings but the attendance was still disappointing. Films shown were *The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel*, *The Well-digger's daughter*, *Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy*, *Coriolanus*, *the Angel's Share* and *Kiss me Kate*. The planned showing of *Carnage* in February was cancelled when the film did not arrive. The Society belongs to the Yorkshire branch of the British Federation of Film Societies (BFFS) which distributes the films and allows us to show them publicly. Sourcing films from elsewhere would be even more expensive and our low turnout has meant many showings run at a loss.

Art group (Val Allen and Hilary Baddeley)

Formed in early 2010 this well-attended group meets on Monday afternoons from September to May, sharing expertise between its members and inviting in artists, for occasional workshops. This year the group enjoyed workshops from Sue Neil of the Arboretum and two sessions with Frances Brock. Meetings recommenced at the beginning of September, and attendance remains pleasingly high. We are now planning our workshops for '13 – '14, hoping to begin with some life drawing sessions.

Textile group (Elaine Hubery)

A core group of 10 members meets fortnightly in term time to work on projects and share expertise, with input from professional workshops from time to time. Members meet up with those who cannot attend regularly due to illness or caring responsibilities over lunch or coffee. This very sociable group welcomes new members interested in developing their craft skills.

Local History (*Helen Ashdown and Carole Willis*)

In November 2012 the group held an open day to share the projects we had been working on during the last year. It was well attended and we gained new members. 2013 saw the start of a major undertaking to **record Ganthorpe Hall** with the help of the Yorkshire Vernacular Building Study Group. We made three visits to Ganthorpe and the plans are now complete; all that remains is to write the final report. We are very grateful to Phillip and Rosalind Watson for their hospitality. In April we visited North Yorkshire County Records Office to look at **house deeds** relating to Terrington and members continue their research, bringing it to the Group. Elaine Hubery showed us her extensive research on Terrington **Families from the Census and Parish Registers** at a Family History session in May. Gigi Signorelli a professional Archaeologist living in Terrington gave us a talk about **recent excavations** he has led at Boltby Scar and Yearsley Moor.

We continue monthly meetings on the second Tuesday evening of the month. Autumn meetings include Jocé and Stephen Gibson on Mowthorpe and their fascinating finds. There may be an opportunity for further **field walking** exploration this winter. We are moving forward with **Oral History** thanks to the enthusiasm of John Goodwill. In conjunction with Ryedale Family History we are engaged in a project to **record our War Memorials** and commemorate the lives of the casualties. Our **database** continues to expand with census data added and a fascinating audit of rentals in Terrington in 1751 giving a glimpse of the social structure of the parish before the Enclosures. Please do join us and help us explore and record our local heritage.

Tiefung Gleemen Band (*John Hubery and Mike Barber*)

The band rehearses on a Monday evening at the Music room at Terrington Hall School. We have played 8 gigs this year with several additional ones being cancelled by those booking us and have played venues from Leeds in the South to Brompton-under-Sawdon in the North. Our excellent caller, Tessa, ensures that all the gigs are fun, enjoyable and geared to the abilities of the participants from beginner to the more experienced dancers. We are all looking forward to continue into the next year, with several gigs already booked.

Village Map and Information Leaflet (*Nadine Fidler*)

The village map, produced in 2011 and the village information leaflet (2012) are both still available and offered at our events on a regular basis. Newcomers to the village are to be welcomed with copies of both with information about Terrington Arts. An updated version of the leaflet has been placed on www.terringtonarts.org and this will be done at regular intervals.

Poetry (Val Allen)

A meeting was held in February at Val's house to gauge interest in reviving the poetry group in some form. The group has since

met monthly in different people's houses with members taking turns to lead sessions. We had an afternoon on Poets Laureate, and then used Andrew Motion's anthology *Here to Eternity* as a basis for exploring the themes of Travel, Relationships and Home.

After a long summer break, our first autumn session will be held on October 15th, when we shall once more be looking at Relationships. We are a relatively small, but lively group, increasingly enjoying exploring a wide variety of poems and subject matter.

Websites

The most up to date website for village news is <http://terringtonvillagehall.co.uk/>

<http://www.terringtonarts.org> is updated on a fairly regular basis but needs redesigning. www.terringtonvillage.com the old village website is still accessible but is totally out of date- please ignore it.

External links

Rural Arts North Yorkshire, based in Thirsk continues to provide us with a great choice of touring **shows** and we select those which complement other events being mounted in the Village Hall. These shows are partly subsidised by Arts Council England and Ryedale District Council. Rural Arts also runs some very exciting **creative courses** at the Old Court House in Thirsk, which is only half an hour away – for the up to date programme see www.ruralarts.org.

The **Village Hall** has undergone some welcome changes in the last year, in particular the new lounge bar which gives scope for more relaxed social occasions. Bar profits are put towards upkeep of the Hall.

Membership

We had 95 households in paid up membership, making 157 individuals. This means we have a significantly greater proportion of single person households than in previous years. One third of the membership is from outside the parish from as far away as York, Malton and other Ryedale villages. We value their interest as we would not be able to mount the activities we do without them. Within the parish about one third of the households are in membership, but in general our members are in the older age groups with the majority retired. This has implications for our programme and participation rates.

Finance

There is a separate financial report by our Treasurer Terry Strickland. We are grateful to Doug McQueen for agreeing to take over the inspection of our books last year. Many of our activities have lost money in the last year. We aim to break even but while we have reserves we do not worry too much about small losses. There is still money to support new projects, so we are always pleased to hear your ideas. We would especially welcome projects involving young people. We were good at inter-generational activities in our early years and would like to see a revival.

Thank you

Once again we are indebted to all those who have helped to set up and run the great variety of activities under the Terrington Arts umbrella. Many quietly get on with jobs on a regular basis without fuss. One person who worked quietly and efficiently for us over a number of years was Michael Baker our membership secretary who sadly died suddenly in August.

We are very grateful to Ian and Kate Hughes for selling tickets for our events at Terrington Stores and wish them well in their retirement.

I would particularly like to thank everyone on the Working Group for their leadership of the various projects and the fun they have given people who attend their sessions. And last but not least thank you to all the members for your support for what we put on.

Thank you all.

Lesley

Bradshaw

