

## ST ANNE'S LADIES GROUP

### ANNUAL REPORT 2019

St. Anne's Ladies' Group was founded in 1963 by Mrs. Edith Fox, wife of the Rev. F. Fox, the then Vicar of St. Anne's. It is not faith-based, is open to all members of the community and meets on the third Wednesday of the month, usually in the evening in the Broadhead Room.

Although non-denominational, some members of the Group play an active role in St. Anne's Church as Choir members, Sides-persons, Mothers' Union Committee members, Flower Festival Committee members and arrangers, Toddler Group helpers, Sunday morning coffee rota etc.

Our year began with the Annual General Meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> February, where we agreed that the annual subscription should be £10 and £3 per meeting. At the conclusion of the business, Jean Lowe entertained us with an amusing anecdote entitled "Ladies Group Meetings" and this was followed by a Quiz.

Harry Campbell was our speaker in March. He had recently visited the "Fountain of Peace Children's Foundation" orphanage in Uganda, where he had been helping them in various ways. His illustrated talk about the work of the orphanage and the people it helped was very informative.

There was no meeting in April due to the date falling in Holy Week.

In May, Jean Finney's topic was "The Origin of Nursery Rhymes" which was very interesting and encouraged us to look at the words of nursery rhymes in a very different way! Jean is also an accomplished song-writer and ukulele player and she gave us a hilarious rendition of her own song "I'm Confused", which we all enjoyed.

We welcomed Professor David Rudd in June who delivered an illustrated, in-depth talk on the life and works of the storyteller and author, Enid Blyton.

It was with great pleasure that we accepted the offer of Barbara Fisher, a longstanding member and magazine correspondent of the Ladies Group, to share her interest in Victorian cemeteries and memorial cards. Barbara also brought along a selection of her extensive collection of cards and other relevant memorabilia and books. The evening was a huge success.

At our August meeting, Elizabeth Cheadle spoke of her experiences as a Land Girl in World War II. She is a remarkable lady who at 98 years old drove herself to St. Anne's to give her very interesting talk.

We had our Annual Meal at the Black Bull, Edgworth, at lunchtime on 18<sup>th</sup> September. The food and fellowship were excellent, but there were 14 of us and only one waitress.

We looked forward to the return of Brian White in October and we were not disappointed. Brian showed us Part II of his Sri Lankan journey "Looking for Paradise" - absolutely stunning.

Our year ended in November when we welcomed our friend Richard Hall who regaled us with his musical compilation "Seasons Greetings". This was followed by Mince Pies and Sherry and a "Grand Raffle".

During the year we said a sad goodbye to Dorothy Isherwood who has moved to be nearer to her daughter and we wish her well in Ingleton.

Margaret Warburton

Secretary