A visit and Q&A session at Bassetlaw Museum with former King Edward's School pupil and actor Philip Jackson brought a touch of the show business world to our town. Our thanks to Stephen Walker for kindly offering to lead tours of the school grounds.
Plus, Paul Cookson as our Town Crier. What a voice! A day to remember.

Six successful visits have been organised since our last AGM:

- Castle Howard – The Wizard of Oz Christmas Theme -25th November
- Manchester - John Rylands Library and the People's History Museum 30th April
- Amcott House Tour – 22nd May
- Tasker's Strawberry Fields Tour – 30th June
- Knaresborough – 7th July
- Tour of Retford Commonwealth War Graves- 20th July.

The local visits have also proved popular, informative and enjoyable. Our thanks to Joan Turner for organising these excellent, informative and enjoyable outings.

The planning group for Retford in Bloom have worked hard in 2026 and we held a presentation evening on Wednesday, 23rd September at 6.30 pm. It was extremely well attended, with a colourful and well-illustrated PowerPoint presentation by Karen Hall. We held it at Grove Street Church and invited schoolchildren to attend.
The Mayor, Cllr Malachi Carroll, and Jack Anderson, President of the Rotary Club of Retford, presented certificates and shields. Retford Civic Society sponsored the event, working in partnership with the Rotary Club of Retford.
As Retford expands, we will need more volunteers to join the planning committee.

We held three litter picks this year; great fun and effective. We receive lots of 'Thank yous' from the general public. Through these projects, the Society strengthens its image as an active, approachable organisation deeply invested in community well-being.

We held two Open Meetings during the year:

22nd October – 'Erasmus Darwin and Other Enlightened Era Thinkers' by Mike Galer (The Curator of Bassetlaw Museum)
4th March – Adrian Sumner – 'The History of the Gamston and Worksop Airfield.'

As a committee, we're keen to have members involved in practical ways. If you have a particular skill you are willing to offer, or if you would be happy to come and lend a hand when we are running events, do get in touch. If you are able, we'd love to have you actively involved.

We really have made a difference so far this year! As an organisation, we can only achieve this with your support. Thank you for staying with us through these difficult times. Your continued membership not only provides the funding to continue our work, but also gives us greater authority in negotiations.