

Chairman's Report to the Bradford Textile Society AGM 2018

2017-18 has by any standards, been an exceptional year for the Society and one of which I am proud to have been associated with!

Pam Brook who was President in the year 2016-17 agreed to continue in that role for another year. With the able assistance of the President elect Vivienne Bradley they set out an interesting and varied programme of events starting with Pam's Presidential address at the beginning of October.

The end of October lecture was the P. P. Townend lecture delivered by Tony Hodges and entitled "Weaving, Washing and Wealth-Making. This prove to be a very entertaining and informative event.

The annual dinner at the Midland Hotel saw numbers up on the previous year and a 2-for-one guest speaker of Philip Davies and his partner Esther McVey. During the evening Gerrard Litten was presented with a much deserved Honorary Life Membership of the Society.

The December meeting was addressed by Claire Wellesley-Smith and entitled "Worn Stories – Material and Memory in Bradford" which is part of her research project into re-cycling and re-use of textile from 1880 to the present day.

The first meeting of the New Year was Vanessa Yoxall's lecture on Women in Textiles.

In February we had a return visit from Andrea Wilde to give a presentation on "Hield Brothers: History and Vision". And at the end of February Professor Regina Blasczyk on her book about Abraham Moon.

This year the visit was to Hainsworth's where we were made very welcome and given a very informative tour of their production facility in Leeds

Once again the Design competition has broken all records with entries exceeding 1,000 for the first time ever and the organisation was superb, both on the days of judging and the Awards Ceremony. The fact that things went so well was due to the immense amount of work put in behind the scenes and the Society owes a huge debt of gratitude to Sue, Gill, Pam, Jean Gee and many others who worked so hard to make the competition the success that it is, not to mention Barry Smith for keep the finances in order.

Definitely it was a successful year and we look forward to another in 2018-19.