

## TOWN MAYOR'S ANNUAL REPORT 2018-2019

My year as Town Mayor has been an unforgettable experience. It has provided my wife and I with the opportunity to meet lots of amazing people across the whole Township. Throughout the year I have reported about the places we have been and who we have met along the way, so I will not repeat that here.

However, I am delighted to be able to use this annual report to raise the profile of the host of hidden stars within our wonderful community. Many of the people we met in our visits were the unsung heroes of our Town and villages, giving their time and energy to bring our communities together. No-one would be able to pick out those heroes from other residents in the street. They don't wear super hero costumes. However, behind the scenes they work tirelessly for others. Each one has the same dedication and aim to enrich the lives of other people within our community. It was a great honour for us to meet them and share a little of their precious time.

I also want to take this opportunity to boast a little about the Town Council's achievements in 2018-2019. We are all rightly proud of being judged the best Council in Derbyshire in 2018, but as a body we have also been very successful in promoting the Township through the various events and organisations we have continued to sponsor. Alongside the regular events we put on each year have been some new initiatives, not the least of which is the recent Wool Bombing. This has not only brought new vibrancy and colour to Ripley Market Place and Crossley Park, it has also been a showcase for the wide variety of organisations willing to support the community within the Township and the huge wealth of talent and creativity our community holds.

My wife and I owe our personal thanks to the Town Clerk and Deputy Town Clerk for the invaluable support and assistance given to us in our Mayoral Year. It is also worthy of note that many of the Town Council achievements would not have been possible without their hard work and dedication. I believe that not only we as Mayor and Consort, but the Town Council and the residents and visitors to the Township owe them a vote of thanks.

Lastly, a personal thank you goes to my wife for not only putting up with me and my foibles during this amazing year, but for saving my life part way through it.

Cllr Paul Lobleby

May 2019