

## **Derbyshire Branch report to the 2019 AGM**

Last year at AGM – my first as council member – I found it very interesting to hear what other areas were doing. One thing that struck me which I reported to the Derby council meeting was that London Branch for example has quite a few get togethers during the year and moves around the churches. We said we would try and do this a bit more.

For our Summer Outing last year, we met at the costume museum in Alstonfield antiques show – home of Nottie Hornblower – north of Ashbourne. It was a lovely warm day with a very interesting talk about the costumes, especially wedding dresses through the years followed by a delicious tea.

For our Autumn workshop and demonstration in October we enjoyed a demonstration by Jean Fordham from Newthorpe in Nottinghamshire followed by an opportunity to try our hand. The in November we had a pre-Christmas get together in Derby when three of us, Ada, Julie and myself shared ideas. There were 15 of us and it was a very relaxed day.

This year we held our AGM in April at Newbold near Chesterfield. After the usual business and elections, we were delighted to welcome Averill Lovatt who had travelled up from London. She spoke about CEFAA being about faith, fellowship, friendship, flowers and food!! Her philosophy was “everyone can arrange”. Use church building, use ordinary members – invite people to get them interested – sow the seed including flower fledglings i.e. grandchildren. Thank you for coming Averill and giving some of our members an opportunity to meet you and hear about CEFAA.

After the meeting we had a demonstration by Ada Fawthrop and then went for a meal near the church. We all said we must do this more.

Now we are planning: - a meal out; a summer get together and a workshop in the Autumn.