

## **LINCOLN BRANCH OF THE GEOGRAPHICAL ASSOCIATION CHAIRMAN'S REPORT APRIL 2009**

2008/2009 has been another successful year for Lincoln Geographical Association. We have 78 full members and 24 student members.

Yet again Peter has worked hard to provide us with a varied diet of visiting lecturers, and for that I thank him.

The Sixth form conference, which took place in September, was hosted by Bishop Grosseteste University College and the lectures were provided by Nottingham University. The topics were interesting and challenging, ranging from Deserts and Climate to G.I.S. The students had the opportunity to meet the admissions tutors of both Bishop Grosseteste and Nottingham universities.

The World wise Quiz was a very popular event and proved to be a most enjoyable evening. Eighteen teams took part and had fun embracing all things geographical. Thanks to Julie Saul and Maria Hawley for organising the event and setting the questions, and to Robert Pattinson School for hosting the event. The winners were Humberston School. Additional thanks to the team of markers and scorers who complete a demanding job behind the scenes.

John Halocha organised a stunning day visit to London where Bob Digby guided us around a selection of the Olympics 2012 sites and explained their contribution to the Olympics and the wider urban regeneration of London.

The Social events prosper enabling geographers to have fun together. The Chairman's Evening was most enjoyable. Ruth Hollinger spoke on her experiences in the Antarctic, and the immense amount of preparation necessary to thrive on the experience! Thanks to Patsy Booth who arrives with a car loaded with food, and the committee members who help her turn this into a beautiful buffet, and to Peter for organising the wine.

The bunk housing weekend to Braithewaite was great fun. The weather was much kinder this year and a good time was had by all. Thanks to Andy Baxendale for organising it. He was actually able to make it this year which was good.

Some of our members have forged links with India so a social evening was arranged to fund raise for some of the projects that they visited. Peter gave a presentation of his holiday to Patagonia and Hazel and Andy helped us relive our visit to Slovenia.

The annual programme of events demands a great deal of effort from the committee. I would like to thank them for their continuing hard work. Specifically Peter Penn for arranging speakers; Rebecca Longbottom for organising our finances; Andy Baxendale for keeping our social communications going, and Keith Briscoe who ensures that our events are publicised. Enormous thanks must go to Richard Roberts for his continued financial support and to Muriel Robinson for hosting us, so generously at Bishop Grosseteste University college.

Hilary Baxendale