

THE Cresset

May 2014

MAY



News, views and what's on, in and around Bottisham

Saplings Pre-School Playgroup

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“Ne’er cast a clout, till May be out”

That well known phrase is often quoted at this time of year and always raises that age old discussion about what May are we talking about. Is it the month of the year, or the blossom on the trees? The Blossom is the Hawthorn tree of which there is a lot, one of the commonest trees in England. But that, I would say comes out too early to satisfy the proverb. We often get another cold spell or even frost after the flowers are out.



So, I would go with the month version. There is another phrase which I like and definitely refers to the month.

*“Button to chin, till May be in,
Cast not a clout till May be out”*

I love finding the origins of phrases and how they have been altered over the centuries. There is another which is interesting and is again about the hawthorn

The hawthorn has long been a potent symbol of rebirth and appears as May, in other old rhymes; for example, ‘*Here we go gathering nuts in May*’. But that is probably a corruption of ‘*Here we go gathering knots of May* [blossom]’. After all, there are no nuts to collect in England until Autumn and certainly not in May.

But it is not just the hawthorn which has been blooming. The whole countryside has erupted in its annual show. Flowers and leaves coming out everywhere and early too. The birds are all nesting and chicks are already starting to leave the nest. Let’s hope this summer is a good one.

Mind you, it does mean that you can no longer put off all those jobs you have been delaying because you said you’d “wait till the weather improves”! Like painting those windows and repairing the fence.

Other matters now. Last month, one of Bottisham’s best known residents passed away. Following not long after his brother Albert, Ed Rank who died at the fair age of 93, was a great supporter of all things Bottisham. From the Village College to the Church, the Bowling Club and the Royal British Legion, Ed will be missed.

I along with a large gathering attended the funeral service at the Church and there was not a spare seat to be had. You can read about Ed in two items in this month’s magazine. There is an item from the family and a letter from Nick Martin on page 15.

Also in this month are details of the many activities that are going on, with reports from many of the village organisations. As I often say, we are spoilt for choice for activities in this village.

Tony Jolley completes his two part article about the history of play areas in the village and Gerry Daish expands on his sporting knowledge with an interesting bit of research on the sport of ‘Camping’ which Tony referred to last month. Interesting to read about what may well have been the forerunner of the game of football that we know today.

With another two bank holidays this month, there is lots of opportunity for relaxing and enjoying what will hopefully be a good month of weather.

So give the old BBQ a good wire brushing and have a good month.

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☞ Holy Trinity, Bottisham ☞
Services in May 2014

Sunday 4th	11 a.m.	Family Service <i>Revd Sue Giles</i>
Wednesday 7th	8 p.m.	Compline by Candlelight <i>led by Dr Sarah Maxwell</i>
Sunday 11th	11 a.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 18th	8 a.m.	Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) <i>Revd Sue Giles</i>
	11 a.m.	Rogation Service (in the churchyard) <i>Tony Bevens</i>
Sunday 25th	10 a.m.	Benefice Communion <i>Revd Sue Giles</i>

Details of other services in the Benefice are on the notice board in the church

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(Sunday may close at 10pm with the discretion of the staff on duty)

All live premier league games & Sky sports are shown at the club

Saturday 17th May

Bottisham Football Player of the Year awards
Starts at 7.30pm

Saturday 31st May at 8.00pm

OAP Members and guest night with Brian Roy
Includes Fish & Chip supper
List on the Club notice board

Are you having a celebration?

Are you looking for a business meeting venue?

Is your society or Club looking for a friendly place to meet?

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Call in and speak to Kate about availability.

The Royal British Legion, Bottisham & District Branch,
31 Downing Close, Bottisham, Cambridge CB25 9BA
Tel. 01223 812063 www.britishlegion.org.uk/branches/bottisham



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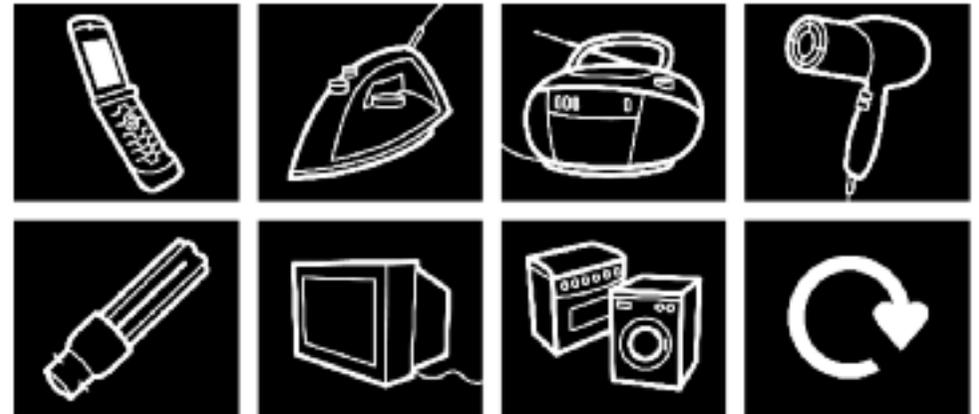
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Bottisham Patients' Group

Action Plan for 2014/15

The Patients' Group (PG) Committee met on 27th March and approved an action plan which the Practice will take forward following the results of the General Practice Assessment Questionnaire (GPAQ) survey last January. For yet another year, we appreciate the very high standards of care that the staff at Bottisham Medical Practice provide and the consequent high levels of satisfaction shown by patients in the survey, particularly in the current context of reduced funding and increased demand for Primary Care. The two areas for concern focussed on the appointments system with the access it gives to doctors and nurses, and patients' need for more health advice and information. The following five points attempt to address these concerns as well as others which should improve the services available to patients.

1. Increase patients' awareness of the Practice's services, systems and processes

Comments made in the survey showed that not all patients are aware of all the services provided by the Practice and clarification is needed to give them a better understanding of Primary Care and its limitations. The PG will continue to work with the Practice to disseminate information through articles and events which benefit the full range of patients.

2. Review current appointments system, clinics and opening times

While the Practice has employed an additional GP and provides above the national average of 100 appointments per 1000 patients, better methods of managing demand will be considered, e.g. telephone triage, where a doctor is available to give advice on the phone or see a patient with urgent need, and/or shift working. A nurse is currently training to provide the possibility of a Minor Ailments service. However, a further decrease in funding this year means that the Practice cannot consider extending opening times.

3. Improve the monthly repeat prescription and electronic prescription services

The Practice currently dispenses around 10,000 prescriptions each month. Improvements to these services are currently being investigated and it is hoped that it will be possible for patients who wish it to have their repeat prescriptions dispensed automatically for collection each month.

4. Promote greater awareness of opportunities for self-care

The PG will work with the Practice to encourage patients to keep themselves healthy, self-treat minor ailments and self-manage their long-term conditions where possible. The Practice's website currently receives between 5000 and 8000 hits a month. The range of advice available will be increased, including links to sites promoting health awareness, e.g. the Self Care Forum. The range of leaflets and information available at the Practice will be reviewed and doctors and nurses will make patients more aware of useful sources of help and advice.

5. Increase the engagement of younger patients with the Practice

Although the age profile of patients at the Practice remains fairly stable, a need to engage patients aged 13-24 in health awareness is recognised. The PG will seek feedback from pupils at Bottisham Village College about their health interests and a new page on the Practice's website will focus on teenage health issues.

Older People's Programme

The public consultation on these proposals to improve older people's healthcare and adult community services runs until 16th June 2014. Copies of the consultation document and questionnaire are available online: www.cambridgeshireandpeterboroughccg.nhs.uk; by phone: 01223 725304; by post from: Freepost Plus RSCR-GSGK-XSHK, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough CCG, Lockton House, (*Bottisham Patients' Group continued on page 10.*)

(Bottisham Patients' Group continued.)

Clarendon Road, Cambridge CB2 8FH; or email: engagement@cambridgeshireandpeterboroughccg.nhs.uk. Have your say by completing the questionnaire and/or attending the consultation meetings. The ones in Cambridge are on 12th May from 1.00-2.30 pm at The Meadows Community Centre, St Catherine's Road, CB4 3XJ and on 6th June at 10.00 am-12 noon at the Central Library, Lion Yard.

Patients' Car Service

For more years than we can remember there has been a voluntary scheme for drivers to take patients with no means of transport to Bottisham Surgery for appointments. It is greatly appreciated by the doctors and nurses and operates to their benefit as well as the patients who use it. The Medical Practice does not run the scheme, and can take no responsibility for it; it has been taken under the umbrella of the Patients' Group so that it can continue to be managed effectively. If you are a patient who has no means of transport let the receptionist know when you make an appointment. If you can volunteer as a driver please contact our Secretary on patientsgroup@outlook.com.

Walking Group

The next walks will start at 11.00 am from the surgery car park on Friday May 9th, Thursday May 22nd and Wednesday 11th June. Our walk leader Steve Gilson will be away after that so watch this space for future dates.

By the time you read this the PG's AGM will have taken place and a new committee will be running the Group. Thank you for all your interest and support for our activities during the past year.

Bottisham Patients' Group Committee

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Anglesey Group Mothers' Union

Ros Wright came to speak to us about beads of prayer and their use in different cultures throughout the world. Telling us how they were originally made using leaves and flower petals. Ros brought along a rosary made of rose petals that she had made herself, together with other prayer beads from her collection. One of them having a cross with telescopic hole to look through and view pictures of the Somme – very apt for this 100th year anniversary of WWI. We were then given the opportunity to make our own personal prayer beads from the magnificent array of colourful beads Ros provided for us. This made for an enjoyable practical exercise over tea and biscuits.

Our meetings usually take place on the third Thursday of each month starting at 2.30pm in Lode Chapel. In May Wendy Lovell will be coming to speak to us about Fostering. You are most welcome to come along and join us.

We will be hosting the Quy and Fordham Deanery Mothers' Union Coffee Morning on Tuesday 20th May, in Lode Chapel 10am to 12 noon. Cakes, Books, Bring and Buy. You are cordially invited to come and join us. Proceeds for Mothers' Union Projects.

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FORMER RESIDENT OF BEECHWOOD AVENUE

Mary's daughter, Susan, telephoned to tell us that her mother had died on Monday 24th March.

Mary was a teacher at Bottisham Primary School from 1972 for many years. I am sure many children and their parents will remember her. She moved to East Sussex to be near Susan and her family.

Grace Rayner

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ED RANK

We would like to say a big thank you to everybody who has supported us during the final weeks of Ed's life. These include everybody at Bottisham Surgery, the district and community nurses, the carers that came in and helped whilst he was still at home and everybody at the Hilton Park Care Home.

The large number of villagers, friends and colleagues that came to the funeral reminded us of how popular and highly thought of he was in the local community. We have received a huge number of cards with really kind words and we would like to thank everybody for these.

Finally we would like to thank Sue the vicar for such a lovely service of remembrance and for everybody at the British Legion for looking after the mourners so well afterwards.

Joyce, Geoffrey, Peter and Families

To the Editor

Dear Editor,

The sad passing of Edmund Rank will, for those of us who knew or were acquainted with him, evoke some fond memories. We all know that he served this country valiantly in its hour of need; he was one of those brave lads, who 'trawled' the Channel, the days before D-Day, removing the mines which would imperil the landings.

We are, too, cognisant of his wonderful understanding of 'science' - his knowledge of lasers, the internal combustion engine - and all those puzzling things he did with boats and bikes and cars!

He was, too, a generous man, and unstintingly contributed to good local causes, not least our beautiful church.

He was a brave, tenacious, and resolute man, whose views one could greatly respect and hold in high esteem.

But most of all I remember him fondly, as a kid, (nearly sixty years ago!) singing at the annual Christmas carol service; never had there been, nor will there ever be again such a memorable rendition of 'We Three Kings'; Dick Rowe, Ted Rayment (with his lovely, gravelly, bass voice), and our Edmund, who put such pathos into 'Myrrh is mine', that even today, when I hear the carols from Kings College Chapel, I can see and sense Edmund, sat behind me in the choir-stalls. An enduring memory of a fine, memorable man. 'Deo gratis', as my mum would have said!

Nick Martin

Dear Editor,

I live on Jenyn's Close and in the last few months someone has been allowing their dog to use the road and pavement as a toilet and NOT CLEARING it up! The road is covered as well as the path and the pathway near the garages. When doing the school run, the children walk in it as they don't see it. It smells awful when it's warm and looks awful. Does it really take too much effort to clean up after your dog when it's finished its business?

Tracey Rusk

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Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service

After two years, Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service Community Champions scheme has been acknowledged as a success by CFRS, but continues to need volunteers in other villages to improve our cover to help all communities stay fire safe.



The Champions promote fire safety in their communities by attending local events to spread the word, talk to local groups and organisations and, importantly, also refer vulnerable people to CFRS for home fire safety visits.

Following on from last month's reminder on electrical safety and appropriate fuses, a few words of advice on safety in the kitchen – where over half of all home fires start. A large proportion of these are caused by appliances. Regularly maintain dishwashers, washing machines and driers – and never leave them on when you go out. Keep all flammable items, such as dishcloths, tea towels and utensils away from hobs. How many of us have melted, deformed or burnt utensil handles? Deep fat friers are safer than chip pans, but do not over fill or over heat them – smoke is a warning and you know what can follow!

Distraction is the biggest cause of kitchen fires – children, telephones, the TV and now the internet can all divert attention away from the kitchen.

No more “OMGs – I forgot the ***** “. Don't cook when tired or under the influence!

Please do make sure that fire safety continues to stay at the forefront of your mind throughout May, and always – and don't forget to **test your smoke alarms**, and the smoke alarms of the vulnerable and elderly in your neighbourhood.

Michael White

Brilliant events at Red2Green

1 May 2014 **Quiz Night**
 7-9pm Harvey's Barn. Cost £5

21 May 2014 **Open day at Red2Greenhouse**
 Between 1-3 pm, at the back of Bottisham Village College

11 June 2014 **Silent Disco**
 7-9 pm Harvey's Barn. Cost £2.50 includes food. Parents and carers very welcome to stay, hot drink and biscuits provided for you. Please book place in advance.

13 August 2014 **Cream Teas**
 11 am – 1 pm, The Pavilion, Swaffham Bulbeck

To find out more contact Red2Green
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 L206 10th Floor (1-4) Peckover Way 12.30-2.00 at Giffels Children's Centre
 Story and Play Thursdays 2.30-4.30pm at Forest Sports Centre
 Sun Mums 2nd Sunday of month 10.30-12.30pm. See website for location!

These are just some of our regular groups that run all year round. Contact us to find out what else we have to offer!
 Sophie 01351 727188 sophie.snow@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
 Sarah-Jane 01323 807182 sarah-jane@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Or check out our full time table at
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Parish Council Notes

It was good to see several residents at the April meeting who had come to hear what was happening in the village. They were able, at the start of the meeting to ask any questions that they might have for parish councillors which is an opportunity that all residents have.

Cllr Altham and Cllr Bryant have met again with two of the village college governors. They had previously discussed the possibility of having an area of land at the rear of the school as provision for a play area but it was felt that the area that had been outlined was not appropriate as the area needed to be more visible which was echoed by the police. It was a positive meeting and talks continue.

We had also contacted the Park Estate Residents Association regarding the possibility of having a pre-school play area provided on the dirthills area but this had been rejected and Cllr Heider will speak with them again outlining in more detail what is required.

We have been disappointed with the response from the County Council regarding the planned traffic calming for Bell Road and Tunbridge Lane. Application forms were filled in over a year ago, funds secured and agreement made by the County on what was to be put in place. A start date was initially given of October 2013 which then changed to spring 2014. After receiving no response from the person who had been dealing with the application we found out that he had left employment with the County Council and no one had taken over his work. After our County Councillor Mathew Shuter contacted the Highways Department we have had a site meeting with Adam Cobb who has now made several suggestions and alterations to the original plans which had previously been agreed. We are particularly concerned that it had been agreed that a 30mph sign would be put at the entrance to Bottisham as traffic came off of the A1303 and now we are being told that they cannot do this and we have to have a 40mph sign going down to 30mph, even though this had been endorsed by the police. County Councillor Shuter will be contacting Highways expressing his concerns and we will also be writing to let them know how let down we have been by the County Council. We now have no idea as to when the traffic calming may start.

Streetlighting has also been an area of concern and of many complaints. Holes have been dug ready for posts to be installed and then just left. Communication from Balfour Beatty has not been very forthcoming but County Councillor Shuter has been told that the work will be completed by 13th April in time for a duathlon taking place in the village.

Cllr Buchanan reported that a planning application will soon come in for 24 new homes on the Crystal Structures site in Tunbridge Lane. Nearby residents have been in contact as they have already received letters informing them of the proposed application. The planning application will be online on the East Cambs District Council website for all to view.

County Councillor Shuter reported that there will be a review of recycling centres and a consultation as they are looking to reduce the number of centres and then modernise the ones they are left with. The centre at Milton is being looked at as it is not up to modern standards. It is aimed that all recycling centres are reachable in a 20 minute car journey. An introduction of a £1 parking charge will be brought in at park and ride sites in May. This charge will last for 18 hours to cover workers working shifts etc. This will cover the cost of running the buses and site and toilets etc. which will be refurbished and opened up. There will be a 1 hour waiting time for cars picking up people from the buses.

Please don't forget we will be repeating the kerbside electronic recycling collection day. This will be on May 22nd. Please look out for the poster in the Cresset and all around the village nearer the time which explains exactly what they will collect. For larger items you can ring them and they will come and remove them for you. *(Parish Council Notes continued on page 26.)*

(Parish Council Notes continued.)

The last collection in December generated an income of £178.64 for Parish Council which will be put back into the village. Collections were made from 137 dwellings and it would be great to beat that figure this time round.

Also on this date (22nd May) is the Parish Council Annual Meeting which will be held at 7.30pm in the Poppy Room at the Royal British Legion. All residents are welcome to come and here what Parish Council has been up to the past year and find out what is in store for 2014/2015. We still have a vacancy on the Parish Council and this could be a good opportunity for anyone interested to find out a little bit more about what is involved. I look forward to seeing some new faces as well as the more regular ones on the 22nd.

Claire Fullwood, Parish Clerk

BOTTISHAM PARISH COUNCIL COUNCILLOR VACANCY

There is currently a vacancy on the Parish Council. If you wish to apply or find out more information please contact: **Christine Bryant**, Chair – Tel: **811767** or **Claire Fullwood**, Clerk – Tel: **07914 219732** (e-mail: clerk@bottishampc.org.uk)

INVITATION TO THE RESIDENTS OF BOTTISHAM

ANNUAL MEETING OF BOTTISHAM PARISH
COUNCIL
THURSDAY 22nd MAY, 7.30PM
POPPY ROOM, ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

If you have any items which you wish to be put on the agenda please contact the clerk by Friday 16th May.

Claire Fullwood – tel: 07914 219732 e-mail: clerk@bottishampc.org.uk

ALL WELCOME

Sales, Wants and Swaps



IF YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO SELL OR WANT TO BUY OR EVEN TO SWAP, THEN THIS PAGE IS YOURS TO USE. Please send details of item, price and landline phone number to the Editor at the Cresset. You can e-mail details to Cresset@Bottishampc.org.uk. Post them to 94 High St. (or put them through the letterbox). Alternatively you can telephone 811402 and leave the details. Entries by 12th of the month for next months issue. Max 5 items.

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*Let's Dance Club is a "not for profit" organisation established to provide dances for the community.

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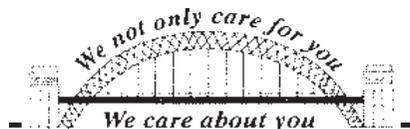
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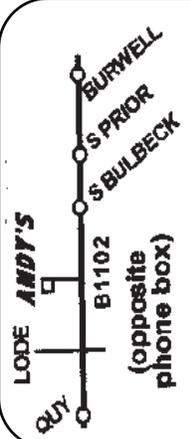
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Bottisham and District Gardening Club

At our March meeting Terry Raynor gave an interesting and informative talk about Terwins Seeds. After learning crop inspection on a 2 week course in Cambridge, it allowed him to inspect crops on behalf of the Ministry, he met farmers from all over the country. Later he took a job at Mr Fothergills. In 2003 he decided to sell his own seeds to the public and he started with vegetables then went on to herbs and flowers. He started with one garden shed and within a year he had three garden sheds. Now he operates from a 650 square unit in Cockfield. He tries to stock old varieties of seeds which are sourced from two wholesalers in Essex. He told us that 95% of seeds are grown abroad, they need a long growing season and this country is too wet. When packaging the seeds all of the counting is done by hand. Larger seeds keep longer than small ones. For the future the company aim to progress by selling seeds online, attend more markets, and go to more shows.

He has written articles for magazines, talked on BBC Radio Suffolk and was interviewed for Anglia News when they discussed the impact of the bad weather. He can be found selling seeds on Bury market most Saturdays, he is always sure to take along his 4 bestsellers which are Boltardy beetroot, Earl Nantes carrots, White Lisbon spring onions and Little Gem lettuce.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 27th May and Richard Ayres MBE will be talking about 'Snowdrops and Winter interest plants'. Visitors are welcome to come along to the British Legion Poppy Room at 7.30pm, further details of our programme for 2014 can be found at www.bottishamgardeningclub.co.uk

We will be selling a large selection of plants on The Triangle on Saturday 17th May 9am – 12 noon.

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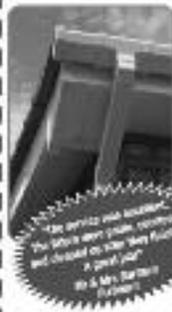
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Bottisham Community Library

We have a Shakespeare quiz available in the library to celebrate the playwright's 450th birthday. The cost is £1 per entry. Entries can be left in the library or sent to me by 30th May.

In the past few weeks there has been a lot in the press stating that books may no longer be sent into prisons for inmates. There is a blanket ban on all parcels introduced last year to stop anything being smuggled in. I liked the comment from Noel "Razor" Smith who was locked away for 32 years and served in 35 different prisons. He had found books his greatest saviour and as he says "everyone knows most of the contraband comes in over the wall hidden in tennis balls or dead birds". I doubt that not a lot of law abiding people knew that.

Actually the library services in libraries are run by the local authorities on exactly the same lines as ours. The only difference is that they have paid staff and most likely are not as well stocked as we are thanks to your generous donations and the many books we buy from funds.

Sylvia Overton

Copy deadline for next issue is 11 May.

Please send material to the editor at cresset@bottishampc.org.uk

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Public Transport Matters

Compared with many villages we do have a good bus service but, of course, like the shop, the pharmacy and other local services we do need to 'use them or lose them'. Paper timetables are available in the post office and it is, of course, all on the web. A handy guide is that the bus 10 to Cambridge leaves the centre of the village every hour at about 5 past the hour until 18.05 and returns from Cambridge at 25 past the hour until 15.25 and then 10 mins. later with the last bus back at 18.45. The 11 and 12 give us an extra service but it does mean getting to and crossing the A1303 - 22 and 52 past the hour to Cambridge and 50 and 20 to return from Cambridge until 18.50. The latest timetable for the guided bus is March 30th - Mondays have a good market in St. Ives. Gloomy stories in the Cambridge News regarding '£20 million busway faults shock'. Suffolk County Council does have a very good range of leaflets and booklets on public transport in Suffolk. The website is www.suffolkonboard.com and the leaflets are available in Newmarket library. It would be good if Cambridge County Council could do something similar. There is a leaflet now in the Grand Arcade on how to access Cambridge - bike, train, bus, etc. - www.cambridgebid.co.uk As our use of Newmarket rail station continues we have looked into a bus connection from the centre - there is the 16 run by Suffolk Rider but only roughly every hour. Parking is very limited. Useful advice on Suffolk rail travel is provided by MARPA - midAnglia Rail Passengers Association - www.marpa.org.uk.

Spring has sprung and days out beckon - Nenta Train Tours - 01692 406152 and also the very popular Go Whippet coastal tours - 01954 230011 - ask to be picked up from the A1303 if that is part of the route. OAPs travel free using their bus pass. Days out or longer holiday trips can be booked with National Express coaches either from our own post offices - it works, we have just done it! - or from Premier Travel at Drummer St. They are presently advertising £5 single fares in some instances - nationalexpress.com. On a recent trip to Northampton we discovered the smart new bus station that has opened recently. Eurolines cover Europe and let you see the countryside. Ferrylines are advertising their benefits as opposed to the hassle of airports - have a short cruise with good food and comfortable lounges. France, Belgium, Ireland or indeed a ferry to many of the islands around the British Isles. Take Brittany Ferries to Cherbourg with your bike and enjoy the French countryside - 0871 244 0744. Or take the Eurostar to Paris, switch to the double-decker TGV and enjoy a comfortable train ride to Spain and the Costa Brava - 2 hrs. to Paris and 5 1/2 to the Spanish border.

Abellio Greater Anglia have a useful leaflet on their 2 for 1 offers on attractions, hotels, etc. Always ask for the best railway deal - there are the '2 together' railcards and it seems there is a '4 for 2' also (Groupsave). Plusbus gives you a linked bus pass to your train ticket.

Still the arguments over HS2 - now it has to be slowed down to prevent pollution; the link to the channel tunnel has been abandoned; bring it forward to revitalise the North. However the people in the rail industry - e.g. Stagecoach Group, Network Rail, DB Schenker, Abellio UK write to The Times backing the project. A major boost is foreseen for the British economy as Hitachi of Japan's famous bullet train is set to move to Britain including bidding for the HS2; there is a forecast for an increase from 200 to 1800 staff in 3 years.

Crossrail continues to expand and Bombardier are bringing jobs to Derby after winning a £1 billion contract. Crossrail will run from Berkshire to Essex.

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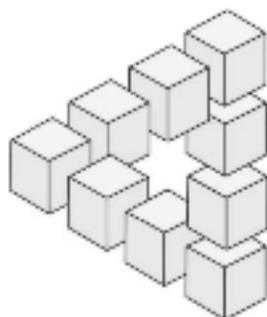
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Thoughts of a Sports Nut

Well, they made it, and how! The Cambridge & District Schools' team reached the final of the English Schoolboys U15 National Football Cup with a stunning home victory over South London Schools, which was as impressive as it was unexpected (at least by the away team, anyway!). Sporting no fewer than three Bottisham lads, Messrs Crisp, Fullwood & Taylor, plus another BVC pupil, Toby 'Biscuit' Bicknell, the Cambs team displayed great resilience in the early stages and grew in confidence as they took a 2-0 lead, running out eventual 3-2 winners after a tense last few minutes where the visitors threw everything at the stubborn home side.

The final against Liverpool is a two-legged affair and, again, the first match at Cambridge Utd will be over by the time you read this. Regardless of what happened at the Abbey Stadium on 24th April, this is a tremendous achievement by the Cambridge lads and I'm sure the return leg at Goodison Park on 8th May will be the experience of a lifetime for these courageous young men. Good luck to them!

You may remember the subject of 'camping' being mentioned by my esteemed colleague, the author of Jolley Old World, in the March issue of The Cresset. Did it pique your curiosity as much as it did mine? If so, you may be interested in what Tony and I discovered about this strange, ancient pastime, once popular in our very own Bottisham.

Between the 16th and 19th Centuries, a Game of Camping was typically played between teams from rival parishes on a special field set aside for the purpose – the camping-place, camping close or camping pightle – often sited near the church as it was customary to play games after church services. Of East Anglian origin, the game was rough, tough and dangerous and it was recorded that a match at Diss Common in the early nineteenth century was so brutal that nine men were killed or died of their injuries!

So, what of the rules? Well, there were goals and a ball... sound familiar? Actually there were two goals per team, usually formed of the 'thrown off clothes of the competitors' (jumpers for goalposts?!) and each pair were up to 200 yards apart. Teams comprised up to 15 players a side and the ball was of cricket ball size. A neutral spectator would throw the ball in the air to start the game and the teams would scrap for possession, the object being to carry the ball through an opponents' goal to score a 'notch' or 'snotch'. If a player was caught in possession of the ball, he would lose a 'snotch', so the challenge was to throw it to a 'less beleaguered friend' when in imminent danger of being caught. The match was won by the first team to win seven or sometimes nine snotches, which often took several hours. The use of a larger 'foot-ball' changed the name of the game to 'Kicking Camp' and, played with shoes on, it became 'Savage Camp'!

But, where there's sport, there's controversy, and the level of violence was a particular bone of contention. To some, camping represented 'a combination of all athletic excellence', whilst, to others, it was tantamount to a mass brawl, the contest never ending without 'black eyes and bloody noses, broken heads or shins, and some serious mischief.'

Woodbridge based historian Edward Moor, who described Camping in his book of "Suffolk Words and Phrases" in 1823 was most enthusiastic: "It is a most noble and manly sport... Indeed it is very animating to see twenty or thirty youths, stripped to the skin, and displaying the various energies that this game admits of; rushing with uplifted eye, breast to breast, to catch the descending ball, and all, at once, running full ding to gain a point... amid the shouting and roaring of half the population of the contiguous villages."

However, the brutality of Camping eventually seemed to diminish its popularity and, by the 1830s, the boxing element of the game had been banned, (*Sports Nut continued on page 49.*)

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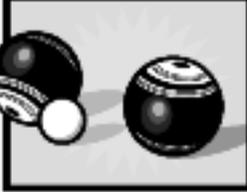
(Sports Nut continued.)

giving way firstly to a 'civil game' involving passing the ball from hand to hand, and then to a 'gentler' kicking and passing game, which was to develop into 'the beautiful game' of Association Football once the outlawing of hacking and handling precipitated the split of football from the 'Rugby Football' code of rules. Even then, soccer (the word, by the way, being a nickname derived from 'Association') was barely recognisable as the same sport played on turf carpets by today's over-hyped, over-paid (mainly foreign) malingers and drama queens in the British professional leagues, but that's another tale for another day...

Thank you Tony for the 'Camping' challenge. I hope our readers enjoy this whimsical meander into sporting history!

TTFN

Gerry Daish



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In the autumn we will be developing some opportunities for reminiscence work to support those suffering from Alzheimer's or dementia. If you are involved in a local care organisation and would like to be kept up to date on the project please e-mail janet.jephcott@nationaltrust.org.uk

A weekend of fun activities is planned at Anglesey Abbey over the weekend of 10 -11 May as we take part in the National Mills Weekend, to celebrate our nations milling heritage. A range of family orientated activities are planned in and around the mill, including competitions to design a flour bag, bread making demonstrations and tours of the mill.

Looking further ahead, we have a host of self-led family activities planned at Anglesey Abbey for the half-term holiday including den building, story telling, tree climbing, bird watching and bug hunting. Activities run from Saturday 24 June – Sunday 1 June from 10.30am – 5pm (normal admission applies). On the 28 & 29 May between 2-4pm we will be running drop in activities to help families find out how to set up their own nature club and launching our online resource pack full of great ideas. See the Events page at www.nationaltrust.org.uk/angleseyabbey for more details.

At Wicken Fen, our Spring Talks @ Wicken series concludes on Wednesday 7 May, with a talk on the Anglesey Abbey Gardens, by Head Gardener, Richard Todd. The talk (free) starts at 11.30 in the Learning Centre. For the May half-term, we have Pond dipping & minibeast hunt on Tuesday 27 May, Age Range 3+, timed sessions from 10.30am £2.50 per child; and Springtime Arts & Crafts on Wednesday 28 May, 10.30am or 2pm, Age Range 3 – 10 years, £4.75 per child. Tickets for half-term events are available from the NT Box Office on 0844 249 1895 or by following the links from the Events page at www.nationaltrust.org.uk/wickenfen

If you've been inspired by recent reports in the press about the health benefits from eating seven portions of fruit and veg a day – how about growing your own. We have a number of allotments available in Lode – please call Janet Jephcott on 01223 810098 or e-mail janet.jephcott@nationaltrust.org.uk if you fancy taking on a plot.

Talking of healthy things – don't forget our new regular weekly Heart Beat Health Walk every Thursday which will explore the local countryside around Anglesey Abbey. Leaving the main car-park at 1.30pm, walks cover a distance of 3-4 miles and last around an hour. Walks are free to join and dogs on leads are welcome.

Copy deadline for the next issue is 11 May.

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Jolley Old World

An Account of Bottisham Recreation Ground – Past & Present - Part II:

In my previous article we had established that a search for land for a village Recreation Ground was started in 1919, after the First World War, when the village declared the old 'Camping Field' site next to the Church no longer fit for purpose. Bottisham Recreation Ground (BRG) was eventually founded in 1924 on land leased to the village by Mr Soames Jenyns. A 'brick' pavilion was built by the village for the new Recreation Ground and was presented to the Parish Council in 1925.

Most village recreational pursuits moved to the new BRG including football and cricket. But not the local 'boy meets girl' pursuits which remained firmly rooted in the proximity of the Church Yard or 'down Bendish'. To this day some residents in the Jenyns Close/Pound Close area continue to dig up old cricket balls. During the period from 1925 to 1936 numerous references are made in Parish minutes to acts of vandalism on the Recreation Ground, broken windows in the pavilion, uprooted fencing and broken gate posts to name but a few!! And it was toward the end of this period that Bottisham Village College (BVC) commenced construction providing both a lower and upper school with 'substantial' playing fields.

Thus, in November 1936 the 'special community relationship' between the College and the village began when the Cambridgeshire Education Committee (CEC) wrote to Parish Council and asked whether children attending the College could use BRG for games Monday to Friday. According to the Warden, Mr D W Philips, the College Playing Fields would not be ready for at least another year or so. In the Parish Council minutes of 19 November 1936 it is recorded that PC considered this request satisfactory and permission was granted to the College to use the facilities of the village Recreation Ground and this arrangement continued through until 1941 even though BVC playing fields were in use by then.

The matter of the lease on BRG was discussed at a Parish Council meeting in April 1938 where a Miss Towler proposed writing to the King George V Playing Fields Trust for some assistance in locating an alternative location in case BRG should be sold at the end of the lease period which expired on 10 October 1943. The lease on BRG was also subject to 'a long discussion' by Parish Council on 7 February 1939 but unfortunately the transcript of this discussion cannot be found or was not actually recorded.

Then in 1941 it was the turn of BVC to reciprocate and to come to the aid of the village when the Air Ministry requisitioned BRG to provide air crew accommodation in April 1941. In view of the circumstances the Warden was asked if an informal arrangement could be made that would allow the village temporary use the College Playing Fields. A 'Gentlemen's Agreement' must have been reached as there is no written record of this request being granted or refused by the Warden. But anecdotal evidence such as that from Tony Newman, who was a teenager at the time, does help to clarify the position:

Tony's father, Noel, was one of two Parish Council representatives on the Village College Council – the other was a Mr JGA Paul. Tony relates to being told about discussions going on about a new Recreation Ground. These discussions involved Mr George Edwards the Warden at the Village College and the Parish Council. Mr Edwards was very supportive of the village community using the College Playing Fields and an 'understanding' was reached with the College in favour of the village using the College Playing Fields on a more permanent basis.

It is also important to emphasise that Tony Newman's account (January 2014) is given credence in whole and in part by the recollections of a number of other established long term residents of the village.

(Jolley continued on page 55.)



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(Jolley continued.)



Even though a temporary arrangement for the Recreation Ground had been reached with the College; the matter of the lease on BRG was again raised at Parish Council in April 1943 and a letter was sent to Mr S Jenyns asking what his intentions were when the lease expired later that year. Alas there is no record of a response having been received from Mr Jenyns but having spoken to Roger Jenyns (February 2014); it seems possible that whilst the BRG was under war time 'requisition' and the future of the site was uncertain, his father considered it pointless renewing the lease. Roger is confident however that the land was intended to have been leased back to the village as a Recreation Ground when the future was more assured.

To be continued:

TJ

Bottisham Recreation Ground taken over by Military buildings and Bottisham Village College - extracted from a Map dated c1943

GILES BREAM PENSION FUND

Applications are invited from widows or widowers to receive a quarterly pension from the above charity. Applicants must be of good character and have lived in the Parish of Bottisham at least seven years. Please contact the clerk to the trustees for an application form.

All applications will be treated in the strictest confidence. *Clerk to the trustees:*
Coral Hatley, 29 Mill Road, Lode, CB25 9EN • e-mail: coralhatley@gmail.com
Tel: 01223 811457

Swaffham Bulbeck Summer Theatre

2014 performances of Gilbert & Sullivan's 'Patience'
at the 'Theatre in a Barn', Downing Farm, Swaffham Bulbeck on:

Wednesday 11 June 2014 at 7.30pm - £9
Thursday 12 June 2014 at 7.30pm - £9
Friday 13 June 2014 at 7.30pm - £10
Saturday 14 June 2014 at 2.30pm (matinee) - £6 and 7.30pm - £10.

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At a Glance

MAY

- 6/13/14/20/21/27/28 BRBL Line dancing
- 6 BBPC Roger Human Print Trophy. Judge Vic Hainsworth ARPS
- 11 Cresset Copy Deadline
- 16 BBPC Social evening. Presentation of cups etc .
- 17 GC Plant stall on the triangle
- 17 Bowling Club Open Day
- 20 MU Coffee Morning
- 22 Parish Annual Meeting, Legion Poppy room.
- 22 Kerbside electrical collection
- 27 GC Snowdrops and winter interest plants - Richard Ayres MBE
- 31 BRBL Member's pensioner evening

JUNE

- 3/10/11/17/18/24/25 BRBL Line dancing
- 7 Hilton Park Fair
- 17 Lode Village fete
- 27 Gardening Club Summer outing

GC = Bottisham & District Gardening Club meets at BRBL Poppy Restaurant at 7.30pm • BRBL = Bottisham Royal British Legion Social Club • BBPC = Bottisham & Burwell Photographic Club meets Tuesdays at Lode Chapel 7.30pm - Non Member £2 • W I = Meet at the BVC Lecture Room at 7.30pm • Lib = Bottisham Community Library Assoc. • MU = Mother's Union meet at Lode Chapel 2.30pm Third Thursday ••• *This list is intended to be a 'quick view one liner' with brief details and a contact number if possible. Please let the editor have details by the 11th. e-mail: cresset@bottishambbpc.org.uk*

1st Bottisham Scouts need you!



1st Bottisham scouts are looking for helpers to support our leaders as they work with our young people in all areas of scouting.

You will probably be aware that Bottisham is growing, and we are anticipating a significant rise in the number of children wanting to benefit from a place with 1st Bottisham. What we would like to do is to 'be prepared' by adding to our team of already experienced leaders. This will mean that we have more options when the need arises.

We are looking for people with energy and enthusiasm who can offer regular help in one of the sections (beavers, cubs or scouts). It doesn't have to be every week; alternate weeks or once a month would be fine. All positions are completely voluntary, and all leaders and committee members are CRB checked due to the nature of the service we provide. The Scout Association pays for any checks, and training is provided.

Our leaders find their role to be a very rewarding one. We have some great young people in Bottisham, and scouting gives them a range of exciting opportunities and challenges which you could help to provide. **If you are interested in becoming a helper, please contact: Chris Jackson-Kew (Group Scout Leader) 07500 831761 • cjk@jks-fleet.co.uk**



Lode with Longmeadow Village Fete 2014

Sunday 15 June from Mid-day to 4.00 pm
on the Fassage Playing Field

This year the Fete will include an Inter-Village Challenge Cup, lots of stalls, bar, BBQ, teas and cakes. The Dog Show is back by popular demand and we are delighted to announce that Newmarket Town Band will be opening this event and playing throughout the afternoon.

Lode will be taking on Quy, Bottisham and Swaffham Bulbeck in an afternoon of races, games and fun-filled challenges leading up to a winner of the 'prestigious' cup. This will be for all ages and the Bottisham team captains are Karen and Kevin Crisp. More details next month, on how you can be part of the team and what the challenges will be.

If you would like to have a stall at the Fete please contact Pauline Holmes on 01223 812029 (sorry no hot food stalls and we cannot supply electricity).

Get those tails wagging and new tricks learnt for the Dog Show – all good dogs welcome to enter on the day.

So put the date in your diary now for another fun packed day for all the family!!

The Fete Committee

John Lince (Chairman) 01223 812227



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You might be: • Married, in a civil partnership, single or living with a partner • From an ethnic background • In work, unemployed or retired

Recruiting local people will mean that children and young people can live in their own community, continue to attend the same school and maintain contact with their family and friends.

In return we offer generous allowances including a start up package, 24 hour support and full training. **Call our freephone number on 0800 052 0078 or email fanda@cambridgeshire.gov.uk**

Copy deadline for the next issue is 11 May.

Please send material to the editor at
cresset@bottishampc.org.uk

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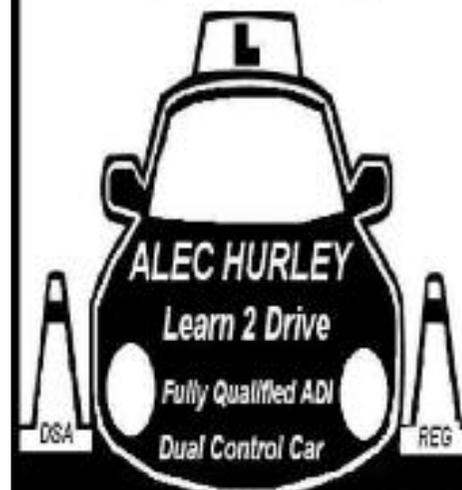
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RE:NEW

Living in a Fog.

At the time of writing we have just had three days of most unpleasant atmospheric pollution. Going outside there was a smell in the air, a metallic taste in the mouth and a stinging in the eyes. The phrase 'Killer Smog' was being headlined in certain newspapers. It brought back memories for me of the 'pea-soup' fogs we used to have when I was a boy. I can remember on certain occasions going out with my friends after school, armed with torches, to the main road where we would tell the motorists crawling their way home exactly whereabouts they were, and if they were coming off into our streets, walking in front of them with the torches, showing them the way round the corners and setting them on the right road.

I also remember a time, living near the Thames in Grays, Essex in the early 1960s when we had a thick fog which never lifted for about five days. For all that time we could hardly see across the road, and everyone was crawling about as though half-blind. What a fantastic feeling it was to look out one morning and be able to see again!

At RE:NEW, in the period leading up to Easter, we were looking at some of the people encountered by Jesus in the Gospel of John. One of these was a beggar who had been blind from birth. Jesus took him to one side and did a very strange thing. He spit on the ground and made some mud which he smeared on the man's eyes. Then he told him to go and wash it off in a certain pool in Jerusalem. When he washed the mud from his eyes the man could see for the first time in his life. What must that have been like?

The Gospel uses this story to illustrate the fact that many people are spiritually blind – unable to see clearly the truth of God in the world around them. Jesus came to open the eyes of people like that, and he still does it today. John Newton, the 18th Century slave-trader turned hymn-writer, used the words of the blind man in his best known hymn 'Amazing Grace': *'I once was lost but now am found, was blind but now I see.'*

Many people have found those words true in their lives today. If you are not one of them, why not take a look?
Peter Wells

RE:NEW Services in May 2014

4 May 10.30am – RE:NEW The Bigger Picture (Bottisham Primary School)

With Holy Communion

11 May 10.30am – RE:NEW Café style (at the School)

11 May 6.20pm – Traditional service. (Lode Chapel)

18 May 10.30am – RE:NEW The Bigger Picture (at the School)

25 May 10.30am – RE:NEW The Bigger Picture (at the School)

25 May 6.20pm – Traditional service. With Holy Communion. (Great Wilbraham Chapel)

For more information about any of the activities of RE:NEW please contact Rev. Keith Morrison on C.813055 or Peter Wells on C.812388.

Email: pandawells@cheerful.com Or visit our website at www.re-new.me.uk

Copy deadline for next issue is 11 May.

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How things were done, how kitchens were run,
Peep into the cupboards, feel free!

There's a mill grinding corn at the Abbey,
Climb up the ladder and see.
And in case you don't know, watch the water below
Turn the blades, grinding flour for our tea.

There's a magical house at the Abbey,
Full of treasures and paintings to see,
Clocks, bronzes and Claude's, and Windsor in oils,
By a boy who was only fifteen.

There's adventure abroad at the Abbey
Come into the woodland and see,
Explore dens that tell stories, observe creepy crawlies,
And picnic, under a tree.

Angela Robinson.

Our 2014 performances of Gilbert & Sullivan's

'Patience'

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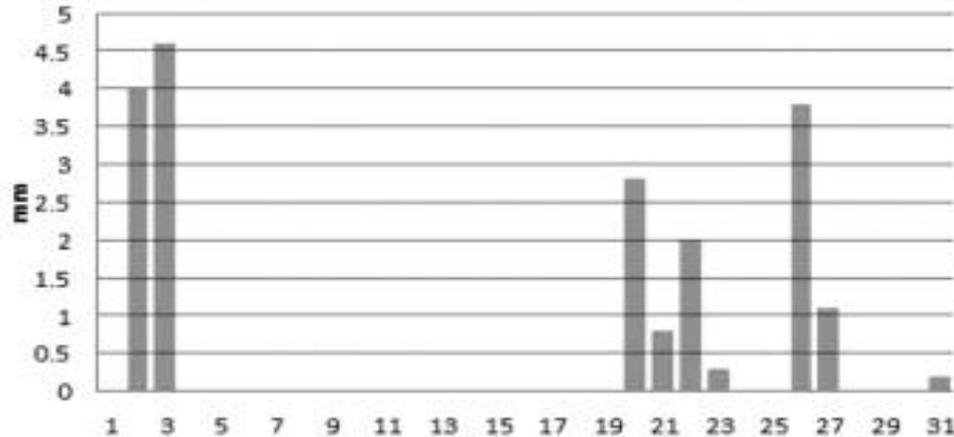
Our tickets available to purchase online from Ticket Source from 1 April 2014
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The Rain Spot

This year's rainfall for March was 19.6mm. On average March is the driest month of the year borne out by only having 9 days with rain. It can be unpredictable though: The millennium year March 2000 surprised us with 104mm while March 2011 only produced 3mm.

Terry Chapman

March Rainfall



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Bottisham WI

Our March AGM meeting was a reminder to us of all that we had done and achieved in the last year reminding us of the interesting speakers we had heard, memories of our 95th Birthday Celebrations and ways in which we had supported village events.

Our speaker for the meeting was Sue Hotchkiss, a WI member from Burwell WI who showed slides and told with several amusing anecdotes her story of her "African Ascent - Climbing Kilimanjaro". She told us it was her challenge to herself in celebration of her 50th Birthday. The actual climb took 5 days and there was a crew of 40 for the 16 climbers with porters who carried all their luggage, tents and food. Each day was difficult walking from 9 to 5 and in daily stages they reached 8,500ft, 12,000 ft and then the final staging point of 14,000ft at Mawenzi Tarn. Four members of the group had succumbed to various forms of altitude sickness by this stage but the rest including Sue and her husband Nigel reached the top. 2 girls in their early 20's were carried up the final part by Humphrey one of the guides (one under each arm)! They had left their base at midnight, complete with head lamps, saw the rising sun and walked for about 10 hours over scree and snow to reach the rim of the volcano. They were afforded wonderful views when they were at the summit at 19340ft. They then walked back to their starting hotel for a night, (hot water comfortable beds and flushing loos) before having a few days on safari in Tanzania. The name Kilimanjaro in the local Chugga dialect means "hard to conquer" so Sue did extremely well. Quite an achievement considering how flat East Anglia is and that she had major back surgery in the 1990's!

Our walking group visited Wandlebury recently and saw the vast areas of cowslips just coming into bloom and the Highland Cattle followed by refreshments at the Gog Magog Farm Shop.

Our next meeting is on 20th May when Jay Williams will be coming to speak to us about "Growing Roses in Kenya and selling them in the UK market" This will be at our usual venue in the Lecture Room at the College at 7.30pm. New members and visitors are always welcome.

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Roman Catholic Priest: Monsignor Eugène Harkness. Parish of St Philip Howard.....	01223 211235
RE:NEW/Lode Chapel: Rev. Simon Goddard.....	01223 812881
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Enquiries and Appointments.....	810030
Out of Hours only – Urgentcare Cambridge.....	111
Bottisham Library:	812354
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Police community support officer Ian Hawkins PCSO 7274 at Ely Police StationContact through 101	
1st Bottisham Rainbows/1st Bottisham Brownies: Kay Pearce.....	811055
Bottisham Bowling Club: Keith Gibson, Secretary.....	811049
Bottisham Boys Football Club: Jim Tideswell.....	812591
Bottisham Carpet Bowls Club: Nora Watson.....	812121
Bottisham Community Primary School: Headteacher Paul Belzar.....	811235
Bottisham Cricket Club: Graham Barker/Charles Fletcher.....	812087/811039
Bottisham Football: John Turner/Tim Sale.....	07841592203/07743862836
Bottisham Pharmacy:	812321
Bottisham Pool Association: Manager - Jason Rye.....	811121
Bottisham Royal British Legion Club: Secretary - Suzy Woolley.....	812063
Branch Chairman: John Overton.....	811792
www.britishlegion.org.uk/branches/bottisham	
Bottisham Scout Group: Group Contact: Linda Jones.....	813040
Bottisham Sports Association: Graham Barker.....	812087
Bottisham Village College, School:	811250
Evening Classes, Clubs and Youth Club Information.....811372	
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