

April 2018

# THE *Cresset*



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

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## Happy Easter Greetings to you

Hopefully if our timing is right, you should get this around Easter weekend. We always try to get the magazine to you by the 1st of the month, but nothing is ever guaranteed as sod's law is always lurking in the background!

Easter is always regarded as a time of renewal and new life. Whether that rings religious bells with you for the death and resurrection of Christ or brings secular thoughts of baby rabbits, chicks and chocolate eggs, it should be a happy time to be enjoyed.

It can also be a time, like Christmas, for families to meet up and have a nice meal together, or weather permitting a family barbecue. There again that may be me being a bit optimistic.

Speaking of weather, we had a fairly healthy amount of snow last month. Not the amounts they had in other parts of the country where people got stuck in cars for 24+ hours and where whole villages got cut off for days. No we had just enough to give the children a couple of days to get the toboggans out and make a snowman or two. Then it cleared nicely away without the ensuing flooding which often comes with a lot of snow.

Annoying on a personal note though, as the golf course was closed for a few days!

The cold spell of weather also holds back the growth in the garden, but come the thaw, the relatively mild weather that follows always gives the garden a wakeup call and everything seems to overcompensate, with plants, grass and of course weeds all putting a spurt on.

This year I managed to remember early on to ask Geoff Rank to give my lawnmower the once over. Back now and feeling like a different machine (it never ran so smoothly!) I am ready to take on whatever the lawn can throw at me.

To this month's Cresset offering now.

The Parish notes give us lots information and also the notice of the Annual Parish meeting on the 9th May. Some people think this is just for councillors and those linked with the Parish Council. But no, this is the once a year opportunity for all, to go and hear a summary of what has been going on in Bottisham over the last year, hear of what plans there are coming up and also to have your say and comment on what goes on in our village. There is also usually updates and reports from the police, schools and village activities.

There are the regular offerings which all make such a great contribution to our magazine. Transport Matters has a wealth of information for the traveller who uses public transport. A cornucopia of sports news and comment comes from our 'Sports Nut', while JOW may cause some initial concerns.

The WI are progressing with their organisation of the Village Fayre which sounds like a great day in the making and an event that will celebrate a lot that is going on in our community. More news of this will be published over the coming months.

You will read in the WI report about the progress presented to them by Red to Green of their Greenhouse project. As a former trustee of the charity, I know the tremendous work the charity do through their various projects, here, in Swaffham Bulbeck and in the wider community. One of those projects is based here at the village college and they have moved from the back of the college to a prime site at the front. One of the things they are going to do is open a coffee shop, initially two days a week. While this is primarily for the benefit and development of the clients of the project, I am sure it will be a great place for tea and cake and a chat. You can buy your veg, plants and jams while you are there! I am sure we will hear more of that as it develops.

Enough from me now so do enjoy your April Cresset



*Peter Walker*

# **Cambridge, Past, Present & Future**

*- A colourful month of activities*



## **Beatrix Potter Adventure, The Stable Rooms, Wandlebury, Wednesday 4 April:**

**10.30am-2pm** Meet Miss Potter and her friends for a wonderful outdoor adventure while using play, drama and craft to explore the environment. Booking essential, children 2-6 years accompanied by adult. £10 per child (younger siblings welcome, U2s free). Includes a snack. Dress for outside. For more information and booking: email [Katherine@vitalsparktheatre.org](mailto:Katherine@vitalsparktheatre.org).

## **Gog Magog Giant Adventure, The Stable Rooms, Wandlebury, Wednesday 4 April:**

**1.30pm-3pm** Explore through play the idea that Wandlebury was once home to giants! Touching on history but with a focus on fun and imagination this outdoor adventure is perfect for imaginative children who love exploring. Booking essential, children 2-6 years accompanied by adult. £10 per child (younger siblings welcome, U2s are free). Includes a snack. Dress for outside. For more information and booking: email [Katherine@vitalsparktheatre.org](mailto:Katherine@vitalsparktheatre.org)

## **Imagine a World of Adventure, The Stable Rooms, Wandlebury, Thursday 5 April:**

**9am-5pm** A perfect day of adventure for imaginative young people with a love of the outdoors, story-telling, drama, history or art. Booking essential, unaccompanied children aged 6-11 years, run by Vital Spark's qualified, DBS-checked professionals. £45 per child (£5 off for accompanying siblings). Dress suitably for being outdoors. Bring a packed lunch, snack included. For more information and booking: email [Katherine@vitalsparktheatre.org](mailto:Katherine@vitalsparktheatre.org).

## **Wild Bedtime Stories, The Stable Rooms, Wandlebury Country Park, Friday 6 April:**

**5-6.30pm** Come and enjoy some bedtime stories in a beautiful outdoor setting at Wandlebury Country Park. Wear your pjs, dressing gowns, onesies (and probably wellies!), bring your favourite teddy if you wish. Booking essential. Children must be accompanied. £6 per child, includes hot chocolate (please bring a reusable cup to help cut down on waste if you can). For more information and booking: email [Katherine@vitalsparktheatre.org](mailto:Katherine@vitalsparktheatre.org).

## **Iron Age Walk, Wandlebury Country Park. Wednesday 25 April: 10.30am-12pm**

Enjoy a gentle walk around Wandlebury with one of the Wardens and discover some of the Iron Age history of this Scheduled Ancient Monument. Free, no need to book. Meet at the notice board next to the car park.

## **May Day Morris Dance, Wandlebury Country Park. Tuesday 1 May: 5am-6am**

As the summer sun rises above the Wandlebury woodlands the Devil's Dyke Morris Men dance to greet it. This traditional English dancing event takes place in the same beautiful spot on May Day each year. If you have never been before, we highly recommend it. Free event, no need to book. Refreshments available to purchase on the day. Meet on the picnic field at Wandlebury Park (signposted from entrance), dancing starts at 5.29am.

**For more information:** email [bookings@cambridgeppf.org](mailto:bookings@cambridgeppf.org), call 01223 243830 extension 207 or visit [www.cambridgeppf.org/whats-on](http://www.cambridgeppf.org/whats-on) Directions: Wandlebury Country Park is on the A1307, 2.5km south of the Addenbrooke's roundabout. Parking is available on site and costs £3 per vehicle, free to members.



## Contents

Services in Holy Trinity		Cambridgeshire Fire &	
Bottisham in April .....	4	Rescue Service.....	29
Swaffham Bulbeck Summer Theatre .....	4	News from Bottisham Medical	
RENEW Church.....	5	Practice Patients' Group .....	31
Parish Notes .....	13	Bottisham Community Library	
Planning Notes .....	15	Association .....	31
Our Link with Mara .....	15	The Royal British Legion	
Public Transport Matters.....	17 and 19	Social Club .....	32
WEA News.....	19	Bottisham & Burwell	
A Big Deal for Easter.....	23	Photographic Club .....	33
Dear Editor.....	23	Bottisham WI .....	35
Bottisham & District		Thoughts of a Sports Nut.....	47 and 49
Gardening Club .....	25 and 27	Jolley Old World .....	53 and 55
East Anglian Air Ambulance.....	29	New Additions to Anglian Learning .....	55

Copy deadline for next issue is 14 April.

Please send material to the editor at [BottishamCresset@gmail.com](mailto:BottishamCresset@gmail.com)

## Poppies for Remembrance - Workshops

If you would like to get started on knitting or crocheting poppies for this year's Remembrance Day (see last month's article) we have three workshops. These are for anyone who would like to participate, whether you can knit or crochet already or particularly if you would like to learn. We are aiming to produce 5,000 poppies, so the more people the better!

**Tuesday 3rd April 8pm - 10pm, Swaffham Bulbeck Black Horse**

**Saturday 28th April 10am - 12 noon, Lode Church (Parish Room)**

**Tuesday 15th May 8pm - 10pm, Swaffham Bulbeck Black Horse**

Please remember that for consistency of colour and size, we are supplying all the yarn and patterns centrally, so please get in touch before picking up your needles and hooks.

We are also looking for black buttons between 1cm and 2cm diameter, and donations towards the cost of yarn and other materials. Any excess will go to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

If you are interested, contact: Veronica Stephenson [vron.stephenson@gmail.com](mailto:vron.stephenson@gmail.com) 813 555

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## *Services in Holy Trinity Bottisham in April*

<b>Sunday 1st</b>	<b>11am</b>	<b>Holy Communion EASTER SUNDAY</b>
<b>Wednesday 4th</b>	<b>8pm</b>	<b>Compline by Candlelight</b>
<b>Sunday 8th</b>	<b>10am</b>	<b>Benefice Communion</b>
<b>Sunday 15th</b>	<b>8am</b>	<b>Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)</b>
	<b>11am</b>	<b>Morning Prayer</b>
<b>Sunday 22nd</b>		No service in Bottisham
	<b>8am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b> in Swaffham Prior
	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Children's Church</b> in Lode
	<b>10am</b>	<b>Benefice Morning Worship</b> in Quy
<b>Sunday 29th</b>	<b>11am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>

Do try and join us for the Easter Sunday service - the highpoint in the Christian year - but in any case do look into Holy Trinity during the following days to admire the arrangements created by our Flower Team.

Benefice services are services shared by the five churches in the Anglesey Group (Bottisham, Lode, Quy, Swaffham Bulbeck and Swaffham Prior). Details of these services can also be found on the Bottisham pages of the Anglesey website ([angleseygroupparishes.co.uk](http://angleseygroupparishes.co.uk)). Any late changes in times or places of services will be given there, along with a notice of any funerals or weddings in Holy Trinity.

### **BOTTISHAM BOWLING CLUB**

# **QUIZ NIGHT**

**Saturday 14th April at the Legion**

Open to all

£3 per person 7.30pm Start.

Phone Hilda Buchanan on 811689 to book a table

(Max. 8 people)

Nibbles available at the bar



**Copy deadline for next issue is 14 April.**

*Please send material to the editor at [BottishamCresset@gmail.com](mailto:BottishamCresset@gmail.com)*



**JOURNEYS** - With the development of satellite navigation technologies it is now rare to see a paper road map being used. Many people just switch on the satnav, the gps quickly identifies where they are, they type in their destination, and just follow the directions.

I love maps. When I got my first car satnavs were not common and google maps didn't exist. I remember studying the road map before an unfamiliar journey, writing down on a piece of paper the key points of the journey so I had some reference points en route.

Following the planned journey via the key points and landmarks helped me to be more fully present on the journey rather than just mindlessly following the satnav.

I have also completed several long distance walks, and discovered that hiking using an OS map is very different from planning a car journey using a road map. It is fairly easy to find out what road you are driving on, with regular road signs, but much easier to get lost on a footpath in the countryside. A map alone is not enough when fog overwhelms your surroundings or if you don't know where you are to start with. You may be able to find your intended destination on the map, but if you don't know where you are it's impossible to plan a route. I recall, often times, convincing myself I knew where I was, and being completely mistaken, and walking stubbornly in a direction only to find some time later that I was miles off course.

I believe there are strong parallels between this walking in the countryside and navigating through life. The experiences we have as individual Christians and as a worshipping community at RENEW help us to see we are on the right track, following Jesus, not just our own ideas. I call such spiritual experiences 'milestones' on our journey of faith.

Recently, a number of people have discovered RENEW and believe God has led them to us; certain relationships and experiences have confirmed to them that this is the right path for them. Some have rediscovered their faith at RENEW, finding us a homely and welcoming church family. Those who have been baptised as believers, publicly professing their faith at RENEW recognise the milestone that was on their faith journey. Those who experienced Alpha with us last year encountered the claims of Jesus Christ and the Christian faith and were given weekly opportunities to engage in conversation on the themes and to respond to Jesus and His message. Our next Alpha course starts on Wednesday 25th April, sign up today on our website.

From my experience, one of the most important aspects of any journey is the companions. We would love you to join us on our journey of discovering what lies ahead for us at RENEW Church. Is there a part of you that, if you're honest feels lost at times? Do you have question on life, faith, meaning, purpose, fulfilment? Join us at Alpha. (Proverbs 3.5-6)

*Rev. Alan Brand*

### **RENEW Services for April 2018**

We have activities for children and young people at all our RENEW morning services.

A crèche is available if required. All are welcome.

**Croissants and drinks are available before Morning Worship from 10.10am.**

**Sunday 1st April. Easter Sunday Celebration 10.30am** (Bottisham Primary School)

**Sunday 8th April. Morning Worship 10.30am** (at the School) Followed by shared lunch

**Sunday 15th April. Morning Worship 10.30am** (at the School)

**Sunday 22nd April. Morning Worship 10.30am** (at the School)

**Sunday 29th April. Morning Worship 10.30am** (at the School)

**The Alpha Course begins on Wednesday 25th April at Lode Chapel**

For more information about any of the activities of RENEW Church please contact:

Rev. Alan Brand on C.812558. Email: [alan.brand@renewchurch.org.uk](mailto:alan.brand@renewchurch.org.uk)

Or visit our website at [www.renewchurch.org.uk](http://www.renewchurch.org.uk)



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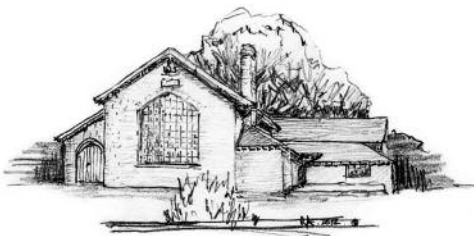
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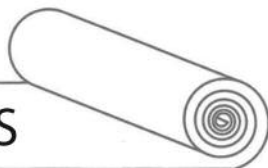


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Hopefully at the time of reading the work on safety improvements to the A1303 will have started. This has been delayed from the beginning of 2018. We only very recently became aware that the Primary School was becoming an Academy at the beginning of March. We wish to thank our District Councillor David Chaplin and County Councillor Mathew Shuter for their help with this matter alongside many others within the District and County Council. They had also not been made aware this was happening as there seems to have been some inadequacies in the consultation process. The parties involved have now come together to ensure that the licence agreement that existed between the school and the Parish Council to ensure that the village can use the playground out of school hours is re-newed and the site is protected for the children of the village.

The Clerk has reported to the County Council the potholes in Bell Road which have re-appeared. The tree which came down some time ago in a storm on Bell Road has still not been removed by the County Council, probably because they are busy mending potholes! The Parish Council will arrange for this to be removed by our grass cutters who start work again at the end of March. Lucy Frazer MP has been talking to DEFRA on our behalf regarding the Strategic Road Network Review to see if we can get Bottisham included on this review which would hopefully see more satisfactory noise reducing material being used on the A14.

After Councillor Jolley's report in the Cresset last month he has had no response from any residents regarding Speedwatch. We have been looking to re-install the speed cushion which was removed from Tunbridge Lane and put it in Lode Road. The County Council have come back to us with a figure of £1835 for this work which we thought to be very expensive and have therefore decided to put this on hold for now, especially with the current building work taking place at the College. We have been looking at speed indicating devices and feel this may well be a better option. We are currently looking at different options, both moveable and static flashing speed displays. The moveable displays would require volunteers to re-charge and move the displays to different locations. This will be discussed further at our next meeting. For those wishing to attend the next meeting it is on Tuesday 3rd April (due to the bank holiday). We have also booked a date for our Annual Parish Meeting. This will be held on Wednesday 9th May, 7.30pm in the Poppy Room at the Royal British Legion. This is open to all residents to come and hear about what is happening in your village and there will be some guest speakers including the Police. Please make a note of the date in your diary; it would be nice to see some different faces there, as well as the old ones!

No further news on the parking situation outside of the shops yet. We are waiting to hear back on a couple of issues there and will update when we can. We were pleased to see the Police out issuing parking tickets for vehicles parked on the double yellow lines outside of The Bell this month. This is something we continually ask them to do as drivers continue to ignore the lines, making it dangerous for other drivers whose line of sight is then limited as well as those pedestrians wishing to cross the road to go to the shops.

*Claire Fullwood – Parish Clerk*

# M&P

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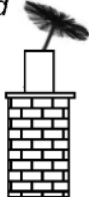
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## Planning Notes

18/00165/FUL 18 Bell Road, Demolish conservatory, lean to rear additions and garage. Construct rear extension and internal alterations. NEW APPLICATION  
17/01784/FUL Silver Edge Barn, Springhall Farm, Newmarket Road, Convert existing outbuilding to 1 no. residential unit. NEW APPLICATION  
18/00168/ADI The Stone Yard, Whitelands Farm, Newmarket Road, Erection of internally illuminated 3m high totem at entrance to Eadonstone Kitchens. NEW APPLICATION  
18/00185/FUL 48 High Street, Single storey rear extension and first floor side extension to existing end of terrace house. NEW APPLICATION  
18/00183/FUL Cobblestones, 11 Tunbridge Close, Single storey front extension. NEW APPLICATION  
17/02081/FUL 40 Bell Road, Proposed two storey side extension, single storey rear extension and loft conversion. APPROVED BY ECDC

## Our Link with Mara



Since 2014 the Anglesey group of churches has been supporting Heather Johnstone (a Church Missionary Society partner) in prayer and financially. The following are some snippets of information about Heather and her current work in Tanzania taken from her most recent letter to us. She writes: 'My call: I had been a Christian for two years in 2011 when I felt God calling me to mission – I spent 17 life-changing months working on water and

building projects in Tanzania. When the opportunity arose to return, I did not hesitate to respond and in 2016 moved to Tanzania where I now manage the Rehema Project for the Diocese of Mara – an empowerment programme aimed at helping the most disadvantaged women and children in Mara.

### GREAT JOY

Life is so tough for many people here in rural Tanzania. People with nothing or very little often go to bed hungry, experience death of loved ones on a regular basis, struggle to get medical help and an education, and face so many more adversities than I have ever faced, remain cheerful and upbeat. They welcome you into their homes and into their hearts and lives with open arms.

There have been some extremely difficult times in the Rehema camp. When crops fail, as they did this summer, people are hungry and there is an increase in the numbers needing help. However, in spite of difficulties the women show tremendous resilience and have recently formed a choir – the Rehema Women's Choir

They have composed and produced a CD of gospel songs called "Tunaku-shukuru Mungu" ("We thank God"). You can get a taster by following the link [goo.gl/advAMc](http://goo.gl/advAMc) to a YouTube video of them singing at a thanksgiving day. If you would like a CD you can contact Rev. Sue Giles on 812726

The cost is £10 each including postage. The money raised will go to supporting the Rehema programme.

Heather sums up 2017 by saying thank you to her friends and all in the Anglesey Benefice who give her and the Rehema women in Mara such valuable support.

*Elizabeth Butler*



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## *Public Transport Matters*

Travelling on the buses since the big change to the 11/12 Stagecoach services at off-peak times I have heard of people's anger and also of difficult experiences. One couple, who live in Bury, had caught the 11 to Newmarket but there was no connecting 12 to take them to Cambridge. They caught a 10 which goes through the villages and so missed the link to the X5. This is a journey they have done regularly as they have family in Buckingham and on that day they had a special celebration so were upset at being so delayed. Another complaint for those of us with access to the stop on the A1303 is that we now have really what can be regarded as one bus an hour not 3 as the 12 and 10 leave Drummer St. with minutes of each other and there is no 11 during the main part of the day. I appreciate that people in the villages on the 10 route only have the one bus an hour anyway. That used to be half-hourly.

Another complaint is the recent occurrence of breakdowns and so consequent no-show of buses. A Bottisham resident told of sitting for an hour on the bus as they left Cambridge due to a breakdown and I have heard drivers discussing together their problems with lack of fuel and hoping they don't run out before reaching their destination. I have had a missed bus and had to pay for a taxi from Bottisham to Cambridge as I had an appointment to keep. I was told I could make an official complaint when I queried it with Stagecoach. It was a case of a breakdown. I did not, in fact, pursue it but might consider that if it happened again. I feel sorry for the drivers who have to cope with what sometimes doesn't seem to be their fault.

There is still much published regarding new developments – Waterbeach station could be moved to the centre of a new development north of the village. It could open in 2021 and will be built for 8-carriage trains and land will be safeguarded to allow for the expansion in the future to 12 carriage platforms. James Palmer, the mayor of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, hopes that this will free up capacity on the A10. Facilities at the new station will be improved and it will be safer as the level crossing will be removed.

A new station to the South of the city near Addenbrookes is also planned and could possibly be opened by next year but 2022 seems more likely.

Taxis and buses could be turned electric. The first of 2 charging points for electric taxis is scheduled to be installed in April according to the Greater Cambridge Partnership joint assembly with plans for the installation of a further 7 charging points by 2031.

Work is also ongoing to create a low-emission bus network in Cambridge by 2031. Discussions are underway with two main bus operators to agree the basis for a pilot scheme to operate electric vehicles on two routes – the Stagecoach Citi 6 service and the Whippet Busway C service. This is part of the City Access strategy.

The letters page of the Cambridge News shows people's frustration over the discussion about tunnels and pods, etc., when we need a more efficient bus service, which appreciates the rise in population and growth of businesses like Astra Zeneca.

A new park and ride site has been designated south of the M11 at Trumpington for 250 - 279 spaces. It sits next to the roundabout at junction 11 and is intended to ease traffic on the M11 and A14.

The £1 park and ride charge is due to be dropped in April. Plans are being considered for a city metro. Cambridge could also be the first city in the UK to have a pioneering robot shuttle bus service. £3.2 million of funding from the Government has been obtained to develop

*continued on page 19*



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driverless vehicles with between 10 and 15 seats and will be tested on the guided busway. They would be developed by Coventry-based engineering firm Aurigo. They would be mid-sized self-driving shuttles and would run in the early mornings, late evenings, throughout the night and at weekends. They will be able to accommodate wheelchairs, mobility scooters and bicycles.

A Cambridge train service direct to Brighton has just started – it runs under London and takes 2 hrs. 18 mins. An intrepid local train enthusiast has already used the service but I think I shall wait for better weather. There is also to be a direct Eurostar link to Amsterdam starting on April 14th but there are problems being discussed about border controls between the Netherlands and Belgium and the return journey will involve a Thalys train from Amsterdam to Brussels and then the Eurostar to London. They hope to have it sorted by the end of 2019. It will cost £35 one way outbound and £78 return. It will just run twice a day so early booking is recommended. This is costing the operator of the Channel Tunnel millions of euros each quarter.

Lots of jokey headlines about the hard, uncomfortable seats in new Class 700 trains introduced by Thameslink and Great Northern. It is a £2.8 billion government funded fleet. The need for these seats is apparently due to vandals and the fear of a fire from upholstered seats expressed by the Dept. of Transport.

The new rail minister, Jo Johnson, wants all diesel trains to be gone by 2040. There has been a drop in the number of rail passengers, partly to blame by the problems at Southern rail and the Thameslink through London. However, numbers had doubled over the last 2 decades. The rising cost of tickets is a problem.

Taxpayers face a shortfall of almost £250million due to the loss of income from rail franchises for the government.

People living on the planned route of the HS2 are facing a decrease of 10% in their house value. Lendlease, the Australian company, is to be put in charge of the £4billion redevelopment of London Euston. The delay in producing timetables by Network Rail has meant problems for people wanting to book early to benefit from cheaper tickets. Train station toilet charges are due to be dropped in mainline stations next year.

Rail info: 03457 48 49 50 Traveline: 0871200 22 33 *Happy travelling! - Paddy James*

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## ***WEA News***

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How convenient could it be, that members attending a series of lectures on the collapse the USSR are able to discuss the UK's current relationship with Russia? Having explained how Russian oligarchs got their money, and that many moved to London or other parts of Europe to invest that money, Marina Burrell is now enjoying discussions with members on problems of assassination attempts on resident ex Russian spies. We are lucky to have such a well-informed, native Russian lecturer to discuss these matters!

As mentioned in the last copy of the CRESSET, spring is approaching and if gardening is important to you, Andrew Sankey will be at the British Legion, at 10.00am on Thursday 12th April to commence a short series of lectures on "Arts & Crafts Gardens" in which he will be looking at how the movement influenced the creation of some of Britain's greatest gardens. For more information on this course, please contact Elaine Steverson at 01223 812152.

For future activities of the Workers Educational Association in the area, please take a look at [www.wea.org.uk/eastern](http://www.wea.org.uk/eastern)

*Gerry Cowley*



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## ***Bottisham Community Library Association***

Saw this sign outside Waterstones in Norwich and thought it apt. Does it correspond with the pile of books you have by your bed or set aside to read?

Sorry to say we have lost our 100% record in keeping every session open since our start as we needed to close on Friday 2nd March due to the snow. Apologies but out of our hands I'm afraid.

We have weeded our shelves recently so we would be pleased to **receive more donations of good quality paperbacks**. If they can't be placed on our shelves because we already hold a copy they will be on our sales trolley or at our next sale.

Remember" Reading is Dreaming with your Eyes Open" seen on a pillowcase in the Palmers store in Bury St Edmunds which has unfortunately recently closed.

*Sylvia Overton*



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## A Big Deal for Easter



Easter crowds overflow the church in Nicosia. Photo: George N. Gerasimidis

We lived in Cyprus for 11 years. People sometimes ask me if I miss it. Well, the answer is 'Not much; working someplace isn't the same as being on holiday there', but I did enjoy Easter there. It feels different. The Greek Orthodox Church celebrates it on a different date to us (this year it's one week later), because it follows the ancient Julian calendar. But that's not why I liked Easter in Cyprus. What I miss is the fact that Easter is a very big deal in Greek Cypriot culture. It is publicly celebrated far more than it is here, and more than Christmas. There are street parades, special foods, huge midnight mass church services with people overflowing into the streets and televised on the main TV channels. There is colour, there is warmth, there is welcome, there is tradition, there is enthusiasm. It's a very happy occasion.

Here, in the British public life, the run-up to Easter never matches the pre-Christmas hullabaloo. It's as if Father Christmas trumps the Easter Bunny. Pricey presents trump chocolate eggs. And the season to be jolly trumps the season to be melancholy – after all, Christmas is about a birth, Easter about a death, right?

Well, no. - The Cypriot Christians' joy at Easter isn't because of the death of Jesus Christ; it's because of his resurrection. Yes folks, resurrection. Jesus rose from the dead. You'd better believe it! The general Greek Orthodox greeting for Easter is Kalo Pascha (Happy Easter), but from Easter Day itself it becomes Christos anesti (Christ is risen!), to which you reply Alithos anesti (He is risen indeed!). Actually, we use the same greetings (in English) in the good ol' Church of England at Easter, but the difference is that in Cyprus you are far more likely to hear them outside, among neighbours or in the street.

Jesus' birth was unique – coming from heaven, born of a virgin. His death was unique – he was uniquely and innately sinless and not deserving of death. But at least we are familiar with birth and death. But resurrection? That is super unique – Christ's crowning glory! It demonstrates his power as our Lord and Saviour, his divinity, his authority – as if to say, 'Get lost, death!' The apostle Paul wrote, 'If Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith'. Our Orthodox friends are right to celebrate Easter as a big deal. The Bible says 'If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.' Now that is a Big Deal! Christos Anesti!

*Mike Procter (LLM) Anglesey group of parish churches*

## Dear Editor

Recently I reluctantly left Jenyns Close to live in a care home at Little Downham which borders the Fenland. The conservatory overlooks a paddock where besides horses, I see pheasants, grouse and an abundance of birds, doves and pigeons.

Needless to say I spend most of my time in there, close to nature which has helped make up for leaving my home next to Jan, Jenny after approx. thirty years.

More recently Jocasta Jonas and their little family have moved in. I thank them for their support. It was the little things, much appreciated, many thanks, I miss you all, not forgetting Helen and Lesley.

I spent many happy hours at The Legion Social Club, especially the dances. I always found the village shop and post office very helpful and supportive as were the medical centre - superb! Nothing was too much trouble. And so too the Dentist of course.

*My special wishes to you all, Stella Cornell*



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# ***Bottisham & District Gardening Club***

Our February speaker was **Phil Bailey, Operations Manager at Red2Green**, who came to tell us about Red2Green: the story so far and plans for the future. Phil is a qualified horticulturalist with previous experience working at Madingley Hall before taking up the post of Support Worker at Red2Green some 13 or 14 years ago.

## **THE STORY SO FAR**

The centre, then called 'Turning the Red Lights Green', a registered charity, was founded by Fred Peeling and Peter Hains in 1997 and based at Bottisham Village College. Its aim was 'to support local people who had learning disabilities, who were on the autistic spectrum, or living with mental health, to help them achieve their goals in life skills, training, work, friendship and fun'. The head office later moved to Swaffham Bulbeck, to one of the converted barns allocated by David Rayner and previously occupied by ARM Holdings, who continue to support Red2Green in many ways. Red2Green also work from various community locations in and around Cambridgeshire, with three minibuses going out into the community every day bringing clients to the centre, for which there is a small charge. (If you are a mechanic with experience servicing minibuses, your help would be very much appreciated; looking after the minibuses is expensive.) Clients and learners are supported by a number of series run by the charity.

**Options** is open weekdays 50 weeks a year and clients can come for a day or all week, or whatever best suits them and their needs. Independence is promoted using various means: shopping, to deal with money; music activities, including karaoke (which clients love); a Keep Fit lady comes regularly and does an hour of keep fit; IT, teaching clients how to use a computer; Arts and crafts – drawing and colouring, sewing etc. There is a sensory room in the barn at Swaffham Bulbeck and one to one support is available in-house. They can also work with clients with challenging behaviour sometimes with 1:1 or 2:1 support.

**Aspirations** is anyone over 16 years of age with autistic spectrum conditions such as such as Aspergers Syndrome and high functioning autism. Working in small groups they promote social contact, self awareness, an understanding of others, strategies to cope with anxiety and anger management, and independent living skills.

The learners are supported to cope with everyday situations such as communications, relationships, work placements, work experience and flexibility. Some learners, including those with university degrees, are supported to get and maintain a job. Red2Green has employment links with local businesses such as ARM.

**Support** is a vital support planning and signposting service to help people in East Cambridgeshire who are living with mental ill health. The service helps people to manage their expectations and to create a framework to build on their improved mental health. They hold weekly drop-in sessions at Ely Church, Silver Street, Ely and A Tasca Cafe, Soham, and a walking and lunch group meets alternatively at Anglesey Abbey and Wicken Fen.

**Advance** supports clients with disabilities to look for work volunteering or in paid jobs. Help is given in writing CVs, filling out an application form, dealing with employers' expectations.

Dylan the dog is used as pet therapy, walking him, stroking him, bathing him. Clients with difficulties with other people lose those inhibitions with the dog. Red2Green have also visited Jeremy Sallis at BBC Radio Cambridge for a half-hour interview, with staff members and clients/learners telling their stories.

*continued on page 27*

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Work is also done in the community, for example in Bottisham Village College and Swaffham Bulbeck Primary School. Clients have had a day making bread the old-fashioned way using the College kitchens; a day on knitting and sewing and a day building fires - all great fun!

### **PLANS FOR THE FUTURE: RED2GREEN IN THE COMMUNITY**

Their new purpose-built £400,000 building is now in use. Up to last year the premises were at the back of the Village College and included a lovely sensory garden and a greenhouse, but it was out of the way and a lot of people didn't know they were there. There was also a lack of facilities such as toilets. Red2Green were able to incorporate their ideas into the plans for the new building. Sadly there wasn't time to move the plants from the old sensory garden as, due to birds' nesting times, the site had to be cleared quickly, so many of the plants were lost. But some of the hardware has been saved, including a water feature which it is hoped will be working soon.

This new building right at the front of the College has access straight from the road into the site. The garden area has been redesigned and, using £1,000 which was donated from a fund-raising event held by the Black Horse in Swaffham Bulbeck, they are in the process of replanting. There will be a monkey puzzle tree (presently very small but still Phil's favourite), a weeping willow, a smoke bush; the site is already filling up, with bulbs coming through. The hedging around the perimeter has been put in by contractors who have also sown grass seed. The Red2Green clients can regularly be seen working there, even during the bad weather, putting potatoes in, building raised beds for vegetables; there will be herbs there, for touch and smell. It will be a while before the plants mature but they are still fundraising and plant collecting.

Best of all, Red2Green has recently received a grant of £10,000 from Awards for All England from the Big Lottery Fund to help set up and run a community café which will open to the public two days a week, on Tuesdays and Thursdays, selling tea, coffee, cakes and simple lunches such as soup and homemade bread.

The idea is not to make lots of money for R2G but to run it as a community centre to involve the people who are supported by R2G – cooking, serving, cleaning and helping generally where necessary. Work is also in hand on growing bedding plants for hanging baskets etc. which will also be for sale. And, take note:

**An Open Day is planned for Thursday, 24 May, which will see a grand opening of the site and the café.**

This is a very positive step forward for R2G, the café has been talked about for years but they have never had the opportunity, the site is in a prime position and signage is now up so everybody will know where they are. Please, please let us support this most worthy of charities. Phil gave us an amazing talk and I can't wait to see it in action.

Forthcoming dates are given below, but can I also promote our Plant Stall, which will be held this year at the WI Centenary Fete at Bottisham Primary School on 9 June. Be there for some bargains. And do please support Red2Green whenever and wherever you can

### **DIARY DATES**

- |           |                                                     |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| 24 April: | The Walled Gardens of Ramsey Abbey, Dr Jane Sills   |
| 29 April: | Annual Spring Lunch at the Newmarket Golf Club      |
| 22 May:   | Traditional Tales from the Misty Fens, Polly Howatt |
| 24 May:   | Grand Opening of the Red2Green site, café and shop  |



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Again, a huge 'Thank you' to all who so generously and consistently support EAAA.

This month, a message to all with, or involved with, children. Recently, we have been tasked to respond to a cardiac arrest incident reported by 10-year old Kai. By virtue of his prompt and calm 999 call his mother received the necessary vital treatment in time to save her life.

At Cub Scouts the previous week Kai had been taught the first five steps in emergency first aid. He and his friends had been taught that, in an emergency, it is vitally important to get help quickly, and that is exactly what Kai did. He remained calm, taking his 6-year old brother into their living room before calling for help. He explained the situation, gave his name and address and returned to reassure his mother whilst waiting to open the door to the paramedics. They broke in to the locked bathroom and, after their timely initial treatment, handed Kai's mother over to Anglia 2, which had managed to touch down nearby, the crew of which continued to treat her whilst flying her to the Lister Hospital. All this happened within the 'Golden Hour' which gave Kai's mother the best possible chance of full recovery.

If anything were to happen to you would your children and grandchildren know what to do? Make sure that they are familiar with your 'phones. Tell them who are your emergency contacts, and where your medication is kept. Empower them to be able to perform basic first aid including the 'recovery position' and the basics of CPR. It will instil confidence in them to help in an emergency.

You may not be surprised to hear that, in response to the intervention of East Anglian Air Ambulance, family and friends have also been spurred to help raise funds for the charity.

**Together, we save lives.**

*Michael White.*

## NEWS RELEASE



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The emphasis from CFRS this month centres upon the free seminars being run for people in our community with small businesses – 'to keep your business in business'.

On average, there are 165 fires in business premises each year – causing many of those businesses to cease trading.

CFRS are determined to support and inform our business owners by inviting them to these seminars which have been designed both to help people to understand important legislation, and to put together free comprehensive fire risk assessments to help protect their businesses. Seminars will be run across the County and, additionally, may be arranged on an ad-hoc basis to meet individual requirements wherever possible.

If you feel that you might benefit from this important initiative please contact CFRS today – on 01480 444 500, or [www.cambsfire.gov.uk](http://www.cambsfire.gov.uk) under Business Fire Safety.

Back to the domestic front – please keep testing those smoke alarms to avoid potentially becoming homeless, and a statistic !

*Michael White*

For the latest news, incidents and safety advice, or to contact us, log on to [www.cambsfire.gov.uk](http://www.cambsfire.gov.uk). Sign up to email alerts and find us on Twitter, Instagram, YouTube and Facebook.

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## *News from Bottisham Medical Practice Patients' Group*

**Practice Newsletter:** The Spring edition is available on the Practice website and in the surgery. The newsletter contains useful information about the Patient Transport Service, diabetes, family carers, contraception, self care, over the counter medication and details of a talk on Alzheimer's in Great Wilbraham Memorial Hall on 8 May at 7pm, so do take a look at this letter on line or pick up a copy from reception.

**Red Bucket:** We are looking to raise funds to purchase a SurgeryPod for the Practice. This is a machine designed to give patients more quality face to face time with their doctor. It is a secure computer system which has the capability to accurately record patient data and take readings such as weight and blood pressure measurements and send directly to the GP, thus allowing more time during the appointment for discussion with the patient. This is an expensive piece of equipment and costs around £5000.

**Missed Appointments:** Sadly there are still too many missed appointments, which is such a waste as there are always other patients waiting for appointments.

**Bottisham Patients' Group:** The Patients' Group would be delighted to hear from you -please see the notice board in the waiting room for details, speak to the receptionist or look at the practice website for further information [www.mysurgerywebsite.co.uk/ppg.aspx?p=D81055](http://www.mysurgerywebsite.co.uk/ppg.aspx?p=D81055) and see what your Patients' Group has achieved. We would welcome help with running the group.

**Walks for Health:** The next walks with our accredited walk leader Steve Gilson start at 11.00 am from the surgery car park on 6 April, 11 and 23 May, 8 and 20 June 2018, Do join Steve for a walk he would be delighted to see you. Anglesey Abbey walks continue on Thursdays at 10am from the reception area.

**Next Meeting:** The AGM will be held on Thursday 26 April at 7pm at the surgery to which all patients are invited. Red to Green will be giving a short talk about their future plans. Next meeting Thursday May 24 at 6.30pm at the surgery.

### BOTTISHAM BOWLING CLUB

# COFFEE MORNING

**Saturday 28th April**

**in the Poppy Room, The Royal British Legion Club  
From 10.00am until 12.00**

*entry £1 to include coffee/tea and biscuits Stalls to include: cakes, books and puzzles, tombola, guess the weight of a cake and Jewellery by Bernadette*



## *The Royal British Legion Social Club*

### **WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH AT THE LEGION SOCIAL CLUB**

OPENING TIMES Mon-Thurs 5-11pm : Fri 5-12pm : Sat-11.45-12pm : Sun 12.-11pm

## **AN IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS**

### **SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING**

**8.00p.m. MONDAY 30TH APRIL 2018**

**ROYAL BRITISH LEGION SOCIAL CLUB**

As announced in last month's Cresset the Social Club Committee have begun the process of ascertaining whether the social club membership as a whole are in favour of disaffiliation from The Royal British Legion.

Some of the reasons to support disaffiliation were listed in last month's Cresset, and these are purely financial. It was explained that we will continue to be happy to support TRBL by hosting branch meetings at the club, facilitating the poppy appeal from the club and by supporting any fundraising activities.

The Special General Meeting will be for the purpose of disaffiliation only and no other business will be discussed.

On Tuesday 17th April and Wednesday 25th April committee members will be at the club from 19.30 to 21.00 hours for any members who would like to discuss the future of the club on a one-to-one basis.

Ballot papers will be delivered to all members between the 7th April and 16th April and must be returned to the club on or by 8.00p.m. on the 30th April and placed in the ballot box in the main hall.

75% of the total membership need to vote for disaffiliation in order to pass the motion. Any ballot papers not returned will count as a vote against.

**YOUR VOTE REALLY DOES COUNT**

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# ***Bottisham & Burwell Photographic Club***

## **EXHIBITION**

To celebrate our 45th Anniversary in November this year, we are holding a one day exhibition at the **Royal British Legion Social Club** in Bottisham, on **Saturday 12 May 2018, 10:30am-4:30pm**, free entry. The official opening will be at 11 am. A selection of members' Prints and Projected Digital Images will be on display. We expect to display 200 mounted prints, in monochrome and colour, and to project 200 digital images over a wide range of topics. Refreshments will be available all day. Look out for posters and flyers advertising this event in the village.

We are always pleased to see new members wishing to join the club or to attend as guests throughout the year. Several new people joined in September 2017 and the club currently has about 40 members, which is still a relatively small club. Our members include some very experienced photographers who are able to share with new members their depth of photographic knowledge and skill.

## **DATE FOR YOUR DIARY IN 2018: TUESDAY 1 MAY**

'Monochrome Landscapes' by Barry Freeman ARPS DPAGB APAGB, from Ipswich. Barry is a black and white specialist and will be presenting his prints and discussing these.

This year's season ends on 11 May 2018 with our Social Evening, followed by our Annual Club Outing on Sunday 10 June. This year's trip is to Chatham Historic Dockyard, Chatham, Kent. If anyone is interested in joining us on the day, there is a possibility that seats may be available on the coach, price £17.00. Please contact our Secretary, Daphne Hanson, see below for contact details.

Guests are welcome to attend any meeting at our venue, Lode Chapel CB25 9EW on Tuesday's from 7:30 pm to 9:30pm. Fee: £3.00, including refreshments, refunded on joining.

Annual subscriptions: Adult: £40.00, Joint Membership: £67.00, Student: £21.00. Refreshments 50p. New members joining now will receive a pro rata rate.

Lastly we would respectfully ask guests attending the club not to **double park** in the vicinity of Lode Chapel, as there is local concern regarding access for emergency vehicles.

For further details contact: Mrs Daphne Hanson T: 01638 741106 [www.bottburpc.org](http://www.bottburpc.org)

*Barry Coles Publicity Officer*



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The speaker at our February meeting was Julie Bounford who told the remarkable story of Heffers of Cambridge.

William Heffer was born in Exning near Newmarket in 1843, the eighth child of an agricultural labourer and his wife Phoebe. His father died five years later and at 13 he started his working life delivering parcels by donkey and cart from Burwell to neighbouring villages. He went on to become a groom at 17, had a short spell as an apprentice at a racing stable in Doncaster before returning to Sidney Street in Cambridge as a groom. It was said "He had no particular bent towards books."

In 1863 he married Mary Crick, a cook/housekeeper and for several years he was a publican even though he had turned to temperance. In 1876 he purchased 104 Fitzroy Street, his first shop, selling stationery, educational supplies, hymn books etc. He became a newsagent and opened a post office there. William and Mary had eight children and most of them participated in the family business which continued to grow till four generations became involved.

Julie's book, "This Book Is About Heffers" (The bookshop that is known all over the world) - is full of illustrations, photographs and meticulous research showing how Heffers opened more shops, became not only booksellers but printers, publishers, suppliers to the colleges and schools with books, stationery and art materials. They had an art gallery to show work by local artists, they ran competitions, booksignings etc. and opened a bookshop for children and one dedicated to Penguin books. They employed artists with modern ideas on design for their products, advertising and shop layouts. Along with the photographs of the shops, products and events there are numerous pictures and stories from past and present employees and customers. Her book is a fascinating account of Heffers in Cambridge from Victorian times to the 21st Century.

The sewing sessions with children at the Primary School are proving very popular. The members involved are enjoying working with the children and now that the wallhanging (for the Bottisham WI Centenary) has been completed the sessions continue and the children are now producing bookmarks and needlecases.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The WI Centenary Community Fete at the Primary School is on Saturday 9th June and not the 6th as previously reported. Please come along to our next meeting: **Tuesday 17th April 2018 at Queens Court at 7.30pm. "100th BIRTHDAY SURPRISE MEETING"**

## **INVITATION TO THE RESIDENTS OF BOTTISHAM**

**ANNUAL MEETING OF BOTTISHAM PARISH COUNCIL**  
**WEDNESDAY 9th MAY 2018, 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 Monday 30th April

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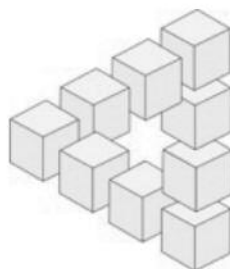
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## *Thoughts of a Sports Nut*

With so much happening in the sporting world in the run up to Spring, I hardly know where to start...

Well, the Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang came and went, and the country was gripped – as it is, briefly, every four years – with Curling fever! Unfortunately both the women's and men's teams missed out on the medals after promising much in the early stages, but not before the competition had its own video refereeing controversy (GB skip Eve Muirhead allegedly breaking the hogline – or perhaps not – in delivering a decisive stone in the loss to Sweden). It seems no sport is to be spared this nonsense these days... So video is to end the arguments, eh? Do me a favour!

Poor old Elise Christie, too... falling foul of adjudicators' judgements when she had battled so hard to overcome the effects of crashes in the Short Track Speed Skating. Vying for gold in no less than three events, Christie came up short for the second time in successive Winter Games and one wonders about her temperament as a potential Olympic champion, even though she currently holds three World Championship titles! Is it possible to have too much desire and simply try too hard?!

There were some uplifting stories though. Darling of the GB team Lizzie Yarnold managed to repeat her gold medal performance in the Skeleton Bob, with colleague Laura Deas taking bronze; Izzy Atkin won GB's first ever medal (bronze) on skis; Czech snowboarder Esther Ledecka took gold on the thrilling Women's Super G Skiing on borrowed skis, then went on to take the Parallel Giant Slalom title in Snowboarding a week later to create Olympic history; and who can forget the Tongan and Mexican skiers being applauded home, way behind everyone else, in the men's Cross Country Skiing – an event that makes me grimace in pain just watching!

So – all good entertainment; but is it really worth over £28 million of British tax payers' money (almost double the amount spent four years previously) to send our athletes round the world for the sake of one gold medal and four bronzes? Eddie 'The Eagle' Edwards doesn't think so: "Britain isn't a Winters nation!" he told Radio 2 in sympathising with the doubters, a sentiment he demonstrated perfectly in Calgary in 1988!

At the time of writing, the Six Nations Rugby tournament remains open for Ireland to win a Grand Slam if they overcome England on St Patrick's Day, the England winning bubble having been well and truly burst by successive defeats at the hands of Scotland and France in the previous two games. England coach Eddie Jones remains as phlegmatic as ever, though, insisting that the recent defeats have been "beneficial to England's development"! Surely this spin is worthy of an under-pressure football manager's logic!

Which brings me to a wonderful piece of hypocrisy from the otherwise respectable Pep Guardiola, manager of Premier League champions-in-waiting, Manchester City. After two of his players were victims of nasty challenges in City's 2-0 FA Cup win over Cardiff in January, Guardiola pleaded for protection for (all) players, the "only thing referees have to do", apparently! Then he had the temerity to rant at both the referee and the Wigan manager when his midfielder Fabien Delph was sent off for a terrifying two-footed lunge at a Wigan player in City's FA Cup 5th round defeat! I stand by my comments in last month's Cresset about managers not wanting "fair", they want "in their favour"!

*(Sports Nut continued on page 49)*

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***(Sports Nut continued.)***

This was closely followed by another example of footballing idiocy when FA CEO Martin Glenn implied a comparison between the Jewish Star of David and the Swastika when criticising Guardiola's wearing of a 'political symbol' (the yellow lapel ribbon supporting Catalan prisoners in their bid for independence). Frankly, I fail to see how he escaped a disciplinary charge, given that – in recent months – I have seen grass roots players fined and suspended for delivering such racial slurs as "traveller" and "shopkeeper"!

Talking of charges, it was good to see the disgraced coach Barry Bennell finally convicted and imprisoned for his crimes against young footballers. I'll say no more on this ghastly story, except to say that 31 years should easily be sufficient for him to die in incarceration, a small price to pay for the life-changing abuse suffered by his victims.

I'll save my thoughts on Team Sky and Sir Bradley Wiggins for a future article. I doubt the question of their ethics will recede any time soon, given the self-serving tenacity of the smarmy Damien Collins, chair of the DCMS! I would rather use my column inches for a couple of sad goodbyes, if I may.

Fiorentina FC captain and Italian international Davide Astori died in early March following a "sudden illness". He was only 31 and still at the height of his distinguished career, but the thing that caught my eye was the tribute from his friend and international captain Gianluigi Buffon: "You were the best expression of an ancient, surpassed world, in which values such as altruism, elegance, education and respect for others, were the masters." Can you imagine such a classy use of words by any British footballer? RIP Davide.

Then on the same day, 4th March, we heard that Sir Roger Bannister had also left us. None of us need reminding either of his historic four minute mile or of the huge legacy left to British – even world – Athletics by this fine man. Again, it was a tribute that touched me. His family's announcement of his passing included the words, "He banked his treasure in the hearts of his friends." How we would all love to be remembered with such admiration, eh! RIP Sir Roger.

Finally, on a local note, a good hundred or so people of all ages turned out on Sunday 11th March to celebrate the opening of the new £440,000 Quy-Lode Cycleway. The launch was a triumph for the organising/fund-raising committee, not least for the redoubtable Fran Platten who was the driving force behind the project from the very beginning; and it was heart-warming (good job, considering the weather!) to see so many cyclists, runners, walkers and pram & buggy pushers showing their appreciation. Stay safe out there people!

*TTFN - Gerry Daish*

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### **What type of mail do you get!**

A nationwide advisory panel has apparently been debating the future of postal services in the country and has put forward the prospect that Bottisham, amongst other desirable residential villages, should be divided into postal areas in addition to post codes. The change is by all accounts necessary in order to reduce certain types of mail delivered to each household and to rank mail according to quality. Additionally it will help to keep pace with current and future housing expansion.

Principally the aim is to use socio economic principles to set charges for households in areas that receive an abundance of low quality mail such as leaflets and brochures. But those households receiving mail of a higher quality, primarily letters, will apparently be exempt from charges. In the case of low quality mail the idea is for the recipient to be charged and then, if they so wish, recover the cost from the company or companies sending the mail. However, to help ease this process, households will have the option to register themselves with a mail preference service which should reduce the quantity of low quality mail put through their letter boxes. It's thought by those behind this initiative that this new system will also significantly reduce the workload on overworked postal delivery staff - citing that almost a quarter of all mail is of the low quality variety and is largely sent without a full or accurate postcode.

Reports in the press remind us that post codes are over 50 years old and everything from insurance premiums to satellite navigation systems now rely on them. The whole of the UK was divided into postal districts for the first time after a trial run in Norwich in 1959. Royal Mail says the UK now has more than 1.7 million postcodes, covering about 28 million addresses. Post Codes may be a wonderful creation but according to the strategists the time has come to introduce newer and smarter ways in the engineering of postal delivery options.

Improvements encompassing the introduction of new technology based on Artificial Intelligence (A I) are apparently one possible answer. It's envisaged that stamps and postmarks will have minuscule coded chips embedded in them that can be read by A I devices. These devices will then separate out low quality mail and thus calculate a charge for each item delivered based on size and weight.

Letters however will be ranked as high quality mail and prioritised as they are considered to contribute to the protection and conservation of literacy by way of their use of formal language, grammar and punctuation. Justification is given for this conclusion by drawing attention to 'professional' people who use letters for important legal affairs and business matters.

Forward planning is already well underway; it would seem, with suggested titles being considered for the new postal areas. I understand that preliminary research indicates that most high quality mail gets delivered in what is referred to as the 'Upper Bottisham' area, slightly less so in 'Lower Bottisham' and very little in 'Outer Bottisham'. Mail delivered in 'Middle Bottisham' however is being investigated for its apparent high proportion of plain brown envelopes marked 'Confidential'. This is to assess whether this mail should be classified as letters or junk.

Opinion on this new scheme is divided as some of the advisers on the local implementation panel believe such area titles will introduce an element of both pretentiousness and possibly

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anxiety as, due to their location, some of the most expensive properties could be placed in the low quality mail areas. So a review of the research has taken place which has validated the research findings.

One would hope though that more thought will be given to these ideas before they actually hit the street, and that local opinion will be seriously considered. What's more the type of mail delivered through letter boxes could have immense power over property prices. This prospect must be well understood by the powers that be because the precise whereabouts of these postal areas is being kept very hush-hush - may be to avert possible mass relocation.

Lastly but very importantly, I am informed that if you have any concerns or you would like to formally comment on these proposals you can do so through the Cresset.

*JOW*

**Here cometh 'April' again, and as far as I can see the world hath more 'fools' in it than ever. ~ Charles Lamb, Poet. (1775 – 1834).**



## ***New Additions to Anglian Learning***

**ANGLIAN LEARNING**

I am delighted to let you know that as from 1 March 2018, three primary schools, Bottisham Community Primary, Fen Ditton Primary and Stapleford Community Primary have joined Anglian Learning to form our first Primary Hub.

Our motivation in establishing Anglian Learning was based on a strong underlying belief that we can simply achieve more together. We've tried to encapsulate that within our over-arching goal:

'To create self-sustaining, community based clusters of schools that celebrate individuality, creativity and innovation and actively pursue a collective responsibility for achieving excellent outcomes for all learners across the trust.'

We are convinced that the chances of achieving this goal will be strongly enhanced by working together across the whole age range, enabling us to collectively enhance the experiences, achievements and ultimate life chances for all of the children and young people in our care. We are therefore delighted with the establishment of this first Primary Hub, which will complement and enhance the work of existing secondary schools.

Anglian Learning has been founded on strong collaborative and trusting relationships, where everybody is committed to sharing their successes, but equally open to new ideas, professional challenge and alternative perspectives. We are firmly committed to maintaining the individual ethos and identity of each school, matched to the needs of each local community, whilst all sharing the same core trust values and goals.

Leading our new Primary Hub is Prue Rayner, an experienced Head and highly-regarded senior Ofsted inspector. Prue has experience of taking on the leadership of a school in special measures and bringing about substantial improvement. During her career, Prue has also developed experience of both secondary education and of the provision of education for pupils who have special educational needs.

The Trust is also committed to recognising and working with parents as key partners in education; we will continue to keep you informed about how our work is developing over the coming months.

*Kate Evans - CEO Anglian Learning*



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Branch Chairman: Dave Frost .....	www.britishlegion.org.uk/branches/bottisham
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