

THE Cresset

March 2019



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



**BOTTISHAM
BOWLING CLUB**

RACE NIGHT

At Bottisham C S & S Club

Saturday 9th March 2019

Starts 7.30pm

First Race 8.00pm

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"BEWARE THE IDES OF MARCH"



Let's start with a brief history lesson. From your school days and reading Shakespeare, you may remember the soothsayer's warning to Julius Caesar to "Beware the Ides of March," Well way before Shakespeare, The Ides of March—March 15—initially marked the first full moon of a new year.

During the late Roman Republic, a new year's festival was held on the Ides of March, in which people would gather outside of Rome on the Via Flaminia. Participants celebrated with food, wine and music and offered sacrifices to the Roman deity Anna Perenna for a happy and prosperous new year.

In 46 B.C., after consulting with the Alexandrian astronomer Sosigenes, Julius Caesar reformed the Roman calendar by adding ten days to the 355-day year, instituting January 1 as the first day of the New Year (beginning in 45 B.C.) and introducing a leap year every four years.

Shortly thereafter, he was granted the title Dictator Perpetuus or "dictator for life." Concerned with Caesar's increasing power and monarchical leanings, a group of Roman senators colluded and stabbed the ruler to death on March 15, 44 B.C.—forever linking the Ides of March with the assassination of Julius Caesar.

March is also noticeable as the month when we are all fooled into thinking that summer's here and we can get the BBQ out and plant out in the garden to our hearts content.

It happens every year when we get a brief spell of nice weather and we think winter has gone. Then we are surprised when the temperature goes back down and wind and rain return.

Having said that, as I write this in the middle of February, it is even more tempting to think winter is over. At the moment the daytime temperature is 15-16deg. last week minus 2deg. Easy to think I can go out and sow some grass seed and it will be up in no time. Patience is, they say, a virtue. So maybe I will wait until spring is well and truly sprung and any risk of frost is out of the way.

Meanwhile I can enjoy the monthly read which is this month's Cresset. All the regular news and views, plus some items of particular interest.

The Primary School gives us an update on what is going on, with the School children getting involved in lots of interesting activities. So too does the Scout group.

Your Parish Council reports on current issues and plans. They also give notice of the upcoming elections in May. There are vacancies on our Parish Council and we need residents to be on the council to reflect our views and make recommendations on our behalf. If you feel you could contribute to what is an interesting and involving role then get your applications in.

Easter will be on us soon enough and we can get those eggs rolling. Mind you Waitrose has been selling hot cross buns since before New Year!

Have a good one.

Your Editor

Bottisham Community Library Association

Hopefully by the time you read this the new access path will have been completed and our cupboards and noticeboards will have been installed in the foyer entrance. Another step in finalizing our move to the new premises.

Thank you to those who supported our recent quiz. It was a fun evening and raised a most welcome £400 towards funds.

Plans for the new Lego Club are progressing. We have had some Lego bricks donated but would be pleased if you could search your attics for any that your children and grandchildren have finished with. We are considering either Saturday morning sessions or during our Tuesday and Thursday afternoon public sessions and the club will be for primary age children. Please let us know if you have a preference and would be willing to help.

There was a good article in the Daily Telegraph last week entitled “Could Lego be the answer to cutting children’s screen time?” and the finishing paragraph reports that “the great thing about Lego is that it is a creative medium so you can use it for whatever form of self-expression you want”.

We have had several donations of interesting jigsaws all in excellent condition which can be borrowed free of charge and many new books have been donated and placed on our shelves.

We shall be pleased to see you. Come and see what is available

Sylvia Overton

REMEMBER THE GREAT VILLAGE FETE IN JUNE LAST YEAR?

Following the success of last year’s Community Fete, a similar event is being planned for **Saturday 8th June 2019** on the Primary School Field.

All organisations from the village and surrounding villages are welcome to take part in the event. It is intended to be a fund raising/showcase event for the benefit of your organisation. There are no pitch fees and any funds raised are to be kept by your organisation.

If you would like to have a stall or pitch, to share your ideas or if you would like to volunteer some time and be involved in the planning of the Fete, please email
heathermaclay@googlemail.com

The Village Fete for all the Village.

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Stop Press

Charity Fundraising Evening
Bottisham Sports and Social Club
Saturday 16th March
Tickets £10, 8pm till Late

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fabulous prizes to be announced at later date.

Services in Holy Trinity Bottisham in March

Sunday 3rd	11am	Holy Communion
Ash Wednesday 6th	7.30pm	Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes
Sunday 10th	10am	Benefice Communion in Quy Village Hall (with pancakes)
Sunday 17th	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
Sunday 24th	10am	Benefice Morning Worship at Quy
Mothering Sunday 31st	11am	Holy Communion

Benefice services are 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 Anglesey website (www.angleseygroupparishes.co.uk). Any late changes in times or places



LOVE IS...

Last month we reflected on some responses from children to the question, “What does love look like?” For the next few months I intend to take an aspect of love from the Bible and encourage us to consider how we measure up to that standard in the hope that we may grow in our love for self, others and Jesus.

You may well have heard this scripture before, most likely at a wedding service: **“Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonour others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails”.** (1 Corinthians 13.4-8)

The Bible tells us “God is Love” (1 John 4.8) so one of the things I like to do with this passage is replace “Love” in the text with “God/Jesus”, **“God is patient, Jesus is kind...”** We are called to follow Jesus, to be like Him, so it follows that we should strive to model these characteristics too, so, I often challenge myself by placing my name in the passage to see how true the statements are, “Alan is patient, Alan is kind ...”

Love is patient. God is patient. Jesus is patient. Alan is patient (?) Insert your name into this statement.

‘Patient’ as defined in the dictionary, “able to accept or tolerate delays, problems, or suffering without becoming annoyed or anxious.”

I regularly reflect on how patient God is with me, I would have given up on myself a long time ago, but God and Jesus do not give up on me. Jesus shows what He requires from us, teaches and demonstrates what life with Him is like, and gently leads us forward, recognising we will have struggles, constantly there for us, always loving us, ever ready to welcome us back if we stray, however far we have wandered.

I can be so impatient. My main triggers being: poor service, delays / waiting, self-centred people. This first aspect of love challenges me every time. I will make a conscious effort this

month to grow in my patience with others, with situations I face, and maybe even with myself. Will you join me? Let's see how we get on, and those of you who get opportunity, hold me to account!

It would be amazing to see you at RENEW, you are welcome every Sunday 10.30am at Bottisham Primary School. You will receive a warm welcome, a hot cup of tea or coffee, a relaxed environment and an opportunity to join us on a journey of discovering the great things God has prepared for us.

Rev'd Alan Brand

RENEW Services for March 2019

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

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

Sunday 3rd	10.30am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion. (Bottisham Primary School)
Sunday 10th	10.30am	Morning Worship. (at the School) Followed by shared lunch
Sunday 17th	10.30am	Morning Worship. (at the School)
Sunday 24th	10.30am	Morning Worship. (at the School)
Sunday 30th	10.30am	Morning Worship. (at the School)

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

Or visit our website at www.renewchurch.org.uk

Empowering People at the End of Life

Wednesday 27 March 2019

**10am to 4pm (registration
from 9:30am)**

**Burgess Hall
Westwood Road
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PE27 6WU**

Free event

**Find out about end of life
planning and understand
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There will be workshops on issues like setting up power of attorney, mental capacity and supporting someone at the end of their life.

Lunch is free and refreshments are included.

The event will be accessible, with British Sign Language Interpreters and speech to text reporting.

Entrance is free but you must book your place in advance. For more information or to book your place visit our website at

www.healthwatchcambridgeshire.co.uk/endoflife-2019



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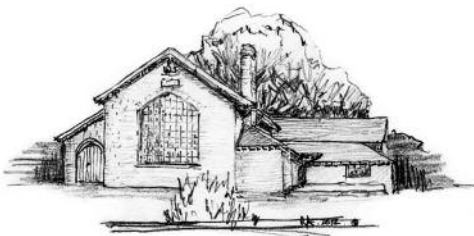
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FRIENDS OF BOTTISHAM VILLAGE COLLEGE

News from Bottisham Medical Practice Patients' Group

PATIENTS' CAR SERVICE

We are looking for people to join a rota of volunteers to drive patients with no other means of transport from the villages of Bottisham, Lode and Quy to and from the surgery for their appointments. The service runs daily to cover the 9.10 to 9.40 appointment slots. We also hold a list of volunteers who are available to cover on-the-day appointments during morning surgery only.

Drivers must be medically fit and hold a full driving licence.

If you feel able to help and would like more details please telephone the surgery and leave your name, address and a contact telephone number for the attention of the Service Administrator, Mrs. Janet Aves, who will contact you.

Diabetes: The number of people with type II Diabetes mellitus is on the rise, as many of you will be aware. It is due to our changes in lifestyle such as a more sedentary lifestyle, unhealthy food choices, weight issues etc. Changing our habits to healthy ones can prevent people from developing type II Diabetes and can help people who have been diagnosed to go "in remission". Things that will help are becoming more active, eating healthily, losing weight, stopping smoking and limiting alcohol. It is important to consult your GP as soon as you develop any symptoms that might indicate Diabetes such as excessive thirst, increased frequency in passing urine (also at night), losing weight without trying and blurred vision. Timely diagnosis is important to minimise lasting effects.

Strength and Balance: Two of the most important ways to reduce risk of falling and possible injury. For further information go to www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/strongerforlonger

Walks for Health: The next walks with our accredited walk leader Steve Gilson start at 11.00 am from the surgery car park on 15 and 27 March, 12 and 24 April, 10 and 22 May 2019. 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: Next meeting will be Thursday 28 March 2019 at 6.30pm at the surgery.

A.G.M: Will be held on Tuesday 30 April 7pm at the surgery.

Bottisham Patients' Group

Copy deadline for next issue is 14th March.

*Please send material to the editor
at BottishamCresset@gmail.com*

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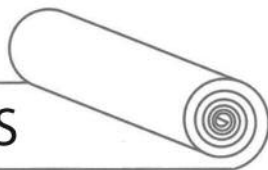


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The Scout group was quickly back into the swing of things after the Christmas break with lots of events planned for the children this year. The Beavers are looking forward to a sleepover in the hut; a first Beaver sleepover for most; with lots of fun and games planned throughout the evening. The Cubs are getting ready for their hike and sleepover, and plans are being drawn up for two camps this year – one run by the district, for all Newmarket District Cub packs and a summer camp to be held near St. Ives. The campsite is an island in the river so many adventures to be had, (and maybe, like me, reminiscences of ‘Swallows and Amazons’).

The Scouts continue to be busy and are planning a night hike and sleep over (actually known as a stay awake!). Plans are also being made for their summer camp. Over the next few terms the Scouts will be working towards their Environmental Conservation badges.

The executive committee are working hard, not just to support all these activities, and make them financially accessible to all, but to continue to maintain and improve the hut. This year we are raising funds with a jumble sale, family quiz, cake sale on the green, stall at village fete, horse racing afternoon, family cycle treasure hunt, family treasure hunt, advent windows, craft fair and ‘carols and songs by the campfire’! Quite ambitious for a small group of fundraisers but we are really keen to continue the update of the hut following the success of the new windows at the end of last year.

Please also note that after five years of sorting out the hut hire for us, Adam has now stepped down, although we are delighted he will remain on the committee. The hut hire is now being run by a small team so please note the new address should you wish to hire the hut bottishamhuthire@outlook.com

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY (so far):

Saturday 27th April – Jumble sale in the hut from 2-4pm. Jumble can be dropped off in the morning at the hut or we can pick up (see email address below). Full details in next month’s Cresset.

Saturday 18th May – Cake sale on the village triangle

Saturday 8th June – Stall, Barbeque and litter pick at the village fete

We are also holding a **family quiz (16th March)** and family cycle treasure hunt (6th July) but these are only open to families with children currently in the group or leaders and members of the exec committee and their children. Anyone wishing to join our committee is of course very welcome!

Linda Jones - lindakinglouis@aol.com

Chair, 1st Bottisham Scout Group Executive Committee

SPRING JUMBLE SALE

Saturday 9th March 201 • 2.00-4.00pm

St. James’ Church, High Street, Lode, CB25 9EH

There is a car park opposite the Church.

The entrance fee is £1 for adults and free for children

Tea, coffee, soft drinks and cakes are available when you tire of your strenuous jumbling!

We look forward to seeing you.

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We had a busy February meeting with lots on the agenda. Anti-social parking still seems to be a major problem in the village. Parking on the double yellow lines outside of the 'The Bell' public house continues and parking around the shops is problematic. The Parish Council has delivered a letter encouraging shop workers and residents living above the shops to park their vehicles in the rear car park. This should free up spaces in the lay-bys and we will continue to monitor the situation.

Parking around schools has been something that residents complain about regularly. The County Council recognise that this is a problem throughout Cambridgeshire and they are currently investigating the possibility of a scheme that looks at parking outside all schools in Cambridgeshire. The plan is to experiment with 3 schools initially, where parking would be banned within 800 metres of the school. The 3 schools will be selected at their next committee meeting in March.

We are disappointed that Anglian Learning, the Academy Trust that the Primary School belongs to, have still not finalised the licence in order for residents to use the primary school play area outside of school hours. The Parish Council have been waiting for this to be completed since spring 2018 and we hope the situation will soon be resolved.

As reported previously, we had been looking at providing a bus shelter on the Cambridge bound side of the A1303. We are pleased to report that the County Council have been able to recover £14K from previous S.106 monies. This is money provided by developers to improve facilities in villages where development has taken place. There is a time limit to spend these funds and we were outside of this, but the County Council wrote to the developer and they agreed to let us spend the money. This project is being run by the County Council. They will be putting in a hard standing area for the bus shelter, a little further towards the Wilbraham junction where there is a suitable grass verge. Our County Councillor also pointed out that there is no legislation that would support reducing the speed on the A1303 past Bottisham as this is not a village road.

Whilst on County Council business, our County Councillor reported that there is likely to be a 4% increase overall in council tax. This will be ratified at their next meeting. The District Council are recommending a frozen budget again for the 6th year running.

The District Council is seeking applications to the Community Transport Grant Scheme. £43,500 is available to support the delivery, development and promotion of community transport services in East Cambridgeshire for 2019/20. The aim of the scheme is to provide community transport services to improve accessibility to work, education and for social purposes by helping to improve transport choices within East Cambridgeshire. The fund is open to community groups. If anyone has any ideas, application forms can be found on www.eastcambs.gov.uk/roads-transport/community-transport

The Parish Council will be writing to the Planning Department at the District Council seeking to understand better the criteria that they use to notify neighbours of proposed building works. This has been causing problems of late, as some neighbours affected by planning applications are not receiving notification letters from the District Council and are therefore unable to comment.

We now have a working party involving parish councillors and residents looking at provision of pre-school play areas in the village. This follows on from the questionnaire

Continued on page 15

M&P

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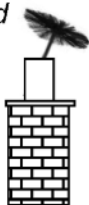
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that was sent to all residents in 2017, where it was established that the village does want this facility. We are currently in discussions with the District Council concerning the open space at Ancient Meadows and the Residents Association with regard to the 'dirt hills' area. We understand the latter will be discussed with members at their AGM in April.

Lastly and most importantly, Parish Council elections take place this May. Councillors are elected every 4 years. Until now we have had 11 parish councillors but, at our request, the District Council have allowed an increase to 12 for Bottisham. We have so many projects underway, including proposed play areas (as mentioned above) and a new cemetery; we felt we really needed to increase our numbers. Please see the separate advert in the Cresset for more details.

The next meeting is Monday March 4th in the Poppy Room at the Community Sports and Social Club.

Claire Fullwood – Parish Clerk

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS YOUR VILLAGE NEEDS YOU!!!

If you want to make a difference in your community, then serving on the Parish Council is a great opportunity. We have elections for new councillors in May and need you to volunteer.

The Council is responsible for and influences a surprisingly large number of aspects of village life. We are also the liaison point with many outside organisations, such as the County and District Council and police. You are therefore able to gain an insight into and can influence policy across the whole county. It is an interesting and essential role. However, we do need residents to volunteer, to ensure we continue to maintain and improve our village.

The only requirement for a councillor is that you are over 21 and have lived or worked within 3 miles of Bottisham for the past 12 months. It does not matter whether you are working or retired. We need a mix of people with differing views, experiences and ideas to take forward and represent the interests of the community.

For anyone interested in finding out more information, or to receive an application form, please contact the parish clerk on clerk@bottishampc.co.uk or telephone 07914 219732. **Applications need to be returned to the District Council by the 3rd of April.**

Planning Notes

- 01809/FUL, 19 Peacock Drive, Single storey rear and side extensions, NEW APPLICATION
18/01755/FUL, 83 Beechwood Avenue, Rebuild rear single storey extension and small single storey front extension NEW APPLICATION. APPROVED BY DISTRICT COUNCIL.
18/01631/FUL, 85 High Street, Resubmission of withdrawn application 18/01174/FUL. Change of use of part ground floor from restaurant into residential/forming one dwelling including associated works to car park/amenity areas. APPLICATION REFUSED
18/01180/VAR, The Bell Inn, 16 High Street, Variation of condition 1 (approved plans) of previously approved 17/01216/FUL for construction of a 3 bedroom dwelling house with car parking, cycle and refuse storage. Demolition of sheds and fences to the rear of The Bell public house to create additional 10 parking spaces and a new amenity area; with a new vehicular access. Reduce boundary wall along Bell Road to reduce its height from 1.1M to 0.6M. APPLICATION APPROVED

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Public Transport Matters

Public transport is a popular topic at the moment in both local and national newspapers and this morning the 9-10a.m. topic for discussion on Radio Cambridgeshire was buses. It is an hour when people are asked to ring in or email with their comments. It was quite lively with various views as to why people either use or don't use buses. Punctuality, frequency and cost were all mentioned. Was it an age-related problem with young people not using them as much as the older generation, who are used to bus use and also may have given up driving and perhaps have walking problems. Whippet bus company chap spoke of having free use of buses and the problem of finance. Should it be free for those under thirty so that congestion would be cut as they used a bus for their commute. Punctuality is, of course, affected by the congestion on the roads. Services are cut as fewer people use them and then even fewer people use them due to the lack of a bus at the time they need one!

The problem of the muddy patch standing on the A1303 when waiting for the 12 for Cambridge or returning from Newmarket is more of a problem for Bottisham residents rather than Lode or Swaffham Bulbeck. However, the problems continue. As we shake our heads in despair at the ongoing Brexit saga, I also find the whole handling of the upgrading of this stop by Highways C.C. totally unsatisfactory. We wanted it sorted last year before the weather deteriorated. I am told that the money is now available but it could be April before the work is carried out and the stop might be moved 50 metres nearer the museum. I have mentioned the elderly visitors to Hilton Park and also elderly local residents. I am told that there are rules and regulations that have to be followed as it is near the junction with the High St. There is due to be a shelter as well as hard standing, apparently. I have asked that it not be moved so far away and that it happens sooner. I have to explain that if we go to Newmarket we then return to that stop! I am told that it is not considered to be a bus stop. I don't think these people use buses.

Claire has tried to move things on but it is now in the hands of the County Council.

Complaints have been made about people immersed in their phones and not giving up a seat for the disabled or elderly. I personally have not had a problem.

Newmarket is due to have an upgrade for their railway station and Soham is promised a new station and rail link.

Train delays are the worst for 13 years according to an analysis by the Press Association of the figures of the Office of Rail and Road – rails buckling in the heat, storms, strikes – Transport Focus reminds people that they can request compensation. The arguments over HS2 continue. HS2 bosses have revealed the designs for a £1 billion rail station to serve 250,000 a day at Old Oak Common in West London. Will HS2 ever be built – is it needed, when other areas could benefit from upgrades? A Beeching-era revival would be better. More competition is to be introduced on the rail network from April in the hope that it will improve services for travellers if they can choose between different operators. We do, however, rank 6th out of 26 countries for passenger satisfaction compared with Europe and it is the safest of its size in Europe. Delays to Crossrail are costing £30 million a week. Rail crew shortages lead to 35,000 cancellations. 80 trains over 45,000 miles! This is an epic adventure described in *Around the World in 80 Trains* by Monisha Rajesh. Don't forget the website www.seat61.com when planning rail travel.

Rail info: 03457 48 49 50 - Traveline: 0871 200 22 33

Happy travelling! - Paddy James



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As the weather drops further and the snow and ice kicks in, we begin using our fires, burners and chimneys more often to heat up our homes. But, have you had your chimney swept in the last year?

Follow our 'top tips' below to ensure your home is kept safely warm and cosy all year round:

CHIMNEYS AND OPEN FIRES

- Have your chimney swept once a year or more frequently if you burn wood
- Avoid burning resinous woods that quickly build up soot
- Only burn fuels suitable for your burner (eg. never burn anything other than wood in a wood burner)
- Do not overload the grate/ appliance
- Do not bank fires too high and remember to let them burn out well before you go to bed
- Check the hearth, floor and furnishings near the fire for hot sparks/embers
- Do not place objects on or over the mantelpiece which cause you to stand too close to the fire in order to reach them
- Use a fire/spark guard to prevent accidental fires and make sure it has the kite mark or conforms to British/ European standards
- Inspect your chimney breast, particularly the roof space. Make sure it is sound and sparks/fumes cannot escape through cracks or broken bricks.

WOOD/MULTI-FUEL BURNERS

- A qualified and competent engineer should install all wood/multi-fuel burners and boilers - regular maintenance should be undertaken to prolong the working life of the appliance. Specialist servicing and maintenance will usually be provided by the company you purchase the appliance from but you can also refer to www.solidfuel.co.uk for advice and information
- Ensure correct ventilation is in place when the appliance is in use
- Wood burning appliances should only use the right quality wood recommended by the supplier
- Regularly inspect the chimney and flues
- Generally wood should be well-seasoned (usually wood kept dry and stored for around 2 years)
- Avoid wet or newly felled wood as this will cause tars/ creosote deposits forming in the burning appliance and chimney
- Using laminated chip boards will leave binding glue deposits
- For each slow burning period there should follow a quick burn to dry out unwanted tar/creosote deposits and to warm up the chimney again
- At the end of each burning season and at least once during the season the entire system should be cooled and thoroughly cleaned to maintain top performance.

(Continued on page 25)



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- Always also install a CO alarm in the room where the burner is installed. Chimney Fires continue to be a common occurrence in home fires in the winter months.

We experience an average of 81 chimney fires a year in Cambridgeshire alone. Whatever fire you have, or fuel you burn, it is vitally important you have your chimney swept to avoid a build-up of ash and soot.

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Like us on Facebook for regular updates www.facebook.com/cambsfrs or follow us on Twitter @cambsfrs.

Bottisham & District Gardening Club

John Benson has been involved with orchids since the 1980's and considers them truly amazing plants, a true aristocrat. There are 35,000 natural registered varieties and he was involved when plants cost £250 each and amateurs and professionals worked together to gather seed and promote them. Now plants can be purchased from supermarkets for as little as £10 and they come with leaflets explaining their care. He suggested we tore these up as orchids are difficult to kill off. He suggested 3 tips, water once a week but not into the centre of the plant, feed very diluted feed once a month and stand the pot in a bowl with an inch of water to encourage the aerial roots to develop. Any pests appearing on the underside of the leaves can be removed with a cotton bud and very weak methylated spirit. Plants need to be placed on a sheltered window sill in a temperature of 65F.

I shall look out for your thriving orchid plants as I go around the village. He kindly offered 3 lovely plants as raffle prizes.

There was a good display of beautifully perfumed, pink hyacinths that members had grown over the winter and Helen Cole was judged the winner of the members cup competition.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 26th March when Ian Limmer from Beales Roses will explain "Getting the best out of Roses" including a practical demonstration.

It will be in the Poppy Room at the Bottisham Community Sports and Social Club at 7.30pm and visitors are welcome.

Sylvia Overton



Copy deadline for next issue is 14 March.

Please send material to the editor at BottishamCresset@gmail.com

K.J.P.

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Bottisham Primary Update

Our pupils kicked off 2019 by taking part in the Cambridgeshire Area Young Artist Competition, which saw the whole school creating artworks "In The Style Of..." inspired by famous artists from throughout history including Mondrian, Jackson Pollock and Van Gogh. One piece of work was selected from each class to be a Bottisham Young Artist winner – and six of those creations were also put forward to an exhibition held at Sawston Village College between 22-23 February. You can see some of the colourful artwork in the images.

At the end of January, Year 5 welcomed local expert Dr Harper to speak about fossils: Dr Harper had carried out research on Bottisham's surroundings, and our pupils were fascinated to find out that our school is built on chalk that could be 100 million years old!

Our Year 3/4 Production has got off to a flying start, with children in Birch, Elm and Cedar already working hard on learning songs for Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies. We'll publish information on tickets and performance dates nearer the time.

For those of you who have or who know children in our Year Six: the end of Key Stage Two Statutory Assessments will take place during the week commencing May 13, and we'll be sending out further information regarding the organisation of that week at a later date.

Some news from the staff: we're delighted to let you know that Mrs Claire Rayment of Year 3/4 will be returning to the school after half term, and will be teaching in Cedar on Thursdays and Fridays – and Miss Cridland will be continuing in Year 3/4 with Cedar on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

Our office also has changes on the horizon: Mrs Clowes has decided to spend some time travelling with her husband, which means, sadly, that she'll be leaving Bottisham Primary. Mrs Clowes has been a hugely important part of our school community and we wish her all the best for her exciting adventures to come. Mrs Powers, another key member of our office staff, has made a decision to not return to the school after a period of illness. Mrs Powers has worked with our school for over 25 years, and has made a huge contribution to school life: we also wish her the best for the future.

We are always looking for volunteers keen to get involved in school life, whether as a Governor or helping out with another aspect of school life: if you've started 2019 with a little time on your hands and are looking for a way to contribute to the community, please do get in touch – we're always happy to hear from people who'd like to help.

Our Spring Term will end on Friday 5 April, and will reopen for summer term on Wednesday 24 April. We hope the start of your year's been as creative and colourful as Bottisham Community Primary School's has!



Copy deadline for next issue is 14 March.

Please send material to the editor at BottishamCresset@gmail.com

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LAUGH AND THE WORLD LAUGHS WITH YOU, CRY AND YOU CRY ALONE. Motto of the month

John Flood a long-term volunteer at the Cambridge Museum told us about the history, showed slides of old Cambridge and brought a few items from the museum.

It was formerly the Cambridge Folk Museum and came into being through the Cambridge Federation of Women's Institutes. Catherine Parson was the instigator and the collection of memorabilia in the Guildhall in 1933 with items from both Cambridge city and the surrounding villages were so well received that there was a request for a permanent site for the treasures. They were offered a site on the corner of Castle St in the vacant White House Inn a timber framed building built in 1646 on short term loan and they are still there. The WI held prominent positions on the Board of Trustees and Lord Fairhaven was also involved. The curator Enid Porter was there for 30 years (as a volunteer who only claimed expenses) and she produced a book of reminiscences, folk lore and interesting remedies that she had collected from around the county. An interesting talk deserving of a visit.

We discussed the six proposed resolutions to be debated in June at the National Annual Meeting and decided to support the motion to improve plant security in the UK. Remember Dutch Elm disease – we need to have a mandatory certification scheme to ensure that the plants, soil and the containers have been screened and are infection free.

Our annual meeting is on Tuesday 19th March. We shall be reflecting on our most successful centenary year and choosing a new committee.

We meet at Queens Court at 7.30 pm and visitors and new members are most welcome

Sylvia Overton

THE ROYAL BRITISH
LEGION



Bottisham & District Branch of The Royal British Legion

The Branch holds its meetings on the third Wednesday of alternative months throughout the year.

They will be holding the March meeting
in the Poppy Lounge at the Community Sports and Social Club

On Wednesday 20th March 2019 at 8.00pm

*All current members are welcome
New members are also always welcome.*



Bottisham Community Sports and Social Club

March is upon us and things are getting busy at the club. If you are not yet a member why not come along and join us. Membership is £21 in the first year and membership forms are available from the bar. The benefits of membership are many. A comfortable, welcoming, social meeting point for a drink with friends and family at very reasonable bar prices. All the usual club games, darts, pool, bar billiards, snooker, billiards, cribbage, dominoes and a pack of cards available. BT Sport and Sky Sports available throughout the year so why not come along and watch your favorite team with company and a great pint. Also many of our members may have noticed the new clothes bank in the car park, this supports three great causes, The Salvation Army, East Anglian Air Ambulance and our own Primary school, so please bring along any old clothes or shoes.

WHATS ON

- **March 9th BOWLS CLUB RACE NIGHT.**
- **March 16th CANCER CHARITY DANCE** with the **142 BAND**. Tickets available at the bar.
- **March 23rd** Come along and dance the night away with the brilliant **FIVE SKA**. Covers of the great scar bands, Madness, The Specials, Badmanners, The Beat and many more. Again tickets available at the bar.
- **April 13th BOWLS CLUB QUIZ NIGHT.**
- **April 20th** Bring the kids, grandchildren, nieces and nephews down for some Easter fun and games with **AJ'S FANTASTIC DISCO**. 4.00 pm till 6.30.
- **May 3rd- 6th, BEER FESTIVAL AND FAMILY FUN WEEKEND**
- **Sat 4th RACE NIGHT**
- **Sun 5th KARAOKE**
- **Mon 6th FAMILY FUN AND GAMES PLUS BBQ.**
- **May 25th OUR ANNUAL SENIOR CITIZENS MEAL** with entertainment from the wonderful voice of **MICHAEL ANTONY**.

FRIDAY NIGHTS

Our members draw is drawn between 9.00 pm and 10.30 every Friday and is a guaranteed £100 every Friday in March. You must be in the club to win it so come and enjoy an end of week drink. You could be a winner. Also every Friday, Play Your Cards Right and our regular meat draw.

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A Big Thank you from Mara



Melina Gabilona from the Safe House writes:

Thank you so much for your gifts for the girls at the Safe House. From September to December you sent £8,500 and we don't know how we could manage without your support.

In November we welcomed 25 girls escaping from FGM. Only 7 families gave an undertaking not to cut their girls. So we were able to send 7 girls home. More came in December, so we now have 52 girls safe here with us. We dare not send any of these back home.

It is your gifts which enable us to go to the villages with government officers and speak against genital mutilation; and also provide the girls with education and basic skills, like sewing. So they are still here, needing all the support we can give them. So please do not forget them as they will be here for some time.

Bishop George joins me in saying thank you and wishing you all God's blessing in 2019.

(Further gifts gratefully received. Send to Revd Sue Giles and payable to Bottisham PCC, including your address if Gift Aid can be claimed on your donation.)



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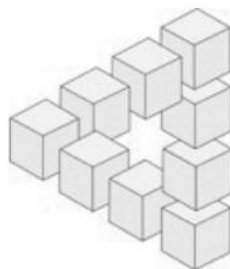
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Thoughts of a Sports Nut

The world of sport has not exactly been a bundle of joy in recent weeks (like the rest of the news-scape I guess!). However, I'll do my best to highlight the remarkable, the poignant and, hopefully, the interesting!

Actually, the first thing that caught my eye might be interpreted by some as good news, in fact, a possible levelling of the playing field for the less wealthy competitors! Sky has announced the end of its long-term sponsorship of the Team Sky professional cycling team with effect from the end of the 2019 season. Their intentions include a search for a new owner/sponsor for the richest team in cycling history, but the story has gone a bit quiet while they get stuck into the new season, starting in February with an overall win in the Herald Sun Tour stage race in Melbourne, courtesy of 2014 Tour of Britain winner, Dylan van Baarle. And with two serious contenders for July's Tour de France – four-time winner Chris Froome and reigning champion Geraint Thomas – it would be a body blow to British cycling if a new sponsor is not found. The trouble is: who is willing to commit over £150million over the course of a decade...? Perhaps only footballers have this kind of money nowadays... Thomas's compatriot Aaron Ramsey is reputed to be earning £400k per week at Juventus following his transfer from Arsenal (that's £20m a year folks!!). I wonder if they're friends?!

On the subject of money, you would think that earning the kind of astronomical sums that ordinary folk can only dream about would be enough for most people to at least pay their taxes, wouldn't you? But not so the wealthiest athlete in the world, Cristiano Ronaldo. Five-time Ballon d'Or winner, Ronaldo, is reputed to be earning the equivalent of c. £95m per year, but apparently 'misunderstood' Spanish tax law while playing for Real Madrid and salted away his 'image rights' revenue via tax-friendly regimes elsewhere. Anyway, he emerged from a Madrid court, all smiles, after paying a £16m fine and agreeing to serve a 23-month jail sentence 'on probation' as opposed to being incarcerated. Both Messi and Neymar have also recently fallen foul of the authorities over similar indiscretions... it's astonishing that, with their resources, they can't find more skillful accountants, eh?

One man with a slightly healthier attitude to fiscal matters, albeit not widely known, is Andy Murray, who has tirelessly championed gender equality in Tennis over the years. As the curtain slowly and tearfully descends on his marvellous career, the tributes to his achievements and character have been led chiefly by the game's women, not least by Billie Jean King who commented somewhat cryptically that "his greatest impact on the world may be yet to come". A coaching or administrative future perhaps? We'll see, but let's hope he is fit enough to be able to enjoy the farewell he deserves at Wimbledon in June.

The most tragic story of the year to date has, of course, been the loss of Argentinian footballer Emiliano Sala and pilot David Ibbotson in a plane crash off Alderney in January. It goes without saying that our hearts go out to the families of both men, but what has irritated your Sports Nut immensely is the ongoing "grievathon", fuelled by the odious Neil Warnock and Cardiff City FC, aided and abetted by the media, over this unfortunate player

(Sports Nut continued on page 49)

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(Sports Nut continued.)

who (a) nobody had ever heard of before and (b) had never pulled on a Cardiff shirt, having only just been transferred from French club Nantes. Not only are display banners of “beautiful bluebird - forever in our hearts” crass examples of what I would call “competitive compassion”, but the furore over Sala is deeply insulting to the pilot’s family whose loss is equally intense. And there’s something slightly distasteful about the fact that the search for the wreckage, privately funded after the official search was abandoned, was itself called off upon the discovery of Sala’s body, leaving poor David Ibbotson lost in the depths as if he mattered less. Credit should go to Paris St-Germain striker Kylian Mbappe, who has donated £27,000 to the Ibbotson family’s appeal to fund further searching. Good luck to them.

Also lost to us in January was that prince of sports writers, Hugh McIlvanney, whose mastery of words and exhilarating turn of phrase took him to the very top of his profession, whether commenting on football, rugby, boxing, horse racing... or life. He offered this remark upon the death of Jock Stein, but perhaps it’s a fitting sentiment to follow his own passing: “The larcenous nature of death, its habit of breaking in on us when we are least prepared and stealing the irreplaceable...”. Quite. RIP Mr McIlvanney.

And just before going to press, we heard the news that legendary World Cup winning goalkeeper Gordon Banks had died. As a 10 year old, I remember being captivated by reading about the man with “the face of an Asiatic sage and the agility of an Olympic gymnast”, so much so, that I even tried a spell in goal myself before accepting that I would never grow tall enough to reach a crossbar! Anyway, the fourth of England’s 1966 team to leave us, Banks has a special place in our hearts, not only for his astounding save from Pele’s header in the 1970 World Cup (which he described as “lucky”), but for his modest, unspectacular demeanour in establishing England as the ‘home of goalkeeping’ for several decades. In the words of the great Pele: “Yes, you were a goalkeeper with magic. But you were also so much more. You were a fine human being.” RIP The Banks of England OBE.

TTFN Gerry Daish

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A relatively short report this month, not that the crews have in any way been inactive – ‘au contraire’. Over the last financial year our highly trained and skilled trauma doctors and paramedic teams were dispatched 2,725 times by helicopter or rapid response vehicle – that’s an average of eight times per day – and they treated 1,722 patients. The life-changing and life-saving work they do, that helps not only the patients but also their families and friends, is not funded by the NHS but by the generosity of people like you. So on behalf of our 1,722 patients last year, our fantastic doctors and paramedics, a huge thank you! I never cease to be impressed by the generosity of people who spontaneously contribute time and again towards work carried out by the charity. Are you signed up to our weekly lottery? if not, or if you would just like to know more about EAAA and keep up-to-date with patient’s stories, please visit our web site.

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WHAT'S GETTING THE NATION TALKING?

Well, apart from the 'B' word that is – by the way are you watching this series on BBC2 called 'Inside Europe - 10 years or turmoil'. It's clear from the programs aired so far that the 'B' word is a minor irritation to Brussels compared to what else has and is going on!! The latest twist is that France has withdrawn its ambassador from Italy because of so called 'provocations'. And the French populace is rising up against both Macron's economic policies and the Macron - Merkel push for an ever closer federal Europe.

Moving on quickly; the head of the Metrological Centre in the UK has suggested that the planet is within 0.5 of a degree of hitting the +1.5 degree pre-industrial red line beyond which there could be no return. But there are reputable scientists around that think it could point to causes other than the current fixation that climate change is due solely to human impact. It's certainly true from reading historical accounts - such as those written way back by Monks - that Earth has experienced some extremes that were warmer than today, as well as much cooler periods. For example the 11th century is believed to have been up to 3 degrees warmer than now and then there is the 'mini ice age' that occurred in the UK in the 17th and 18th centuries. Further reading points to these periodic changes being contributed to oscillations in the planet's orbit and Earth's inclination, which alter the amount of solar radiation reaching Earth. Since modern records began in around 1870 measurements taken of solar activity show that over the period 1850 to 1940 solar activity was pretty constant and so was the earth's temperature. However since 1940 solar activity has increased dramatically and measurements show an eerily strong relationship between this and the rise in earth's temperature. Werner Schmutz, Director of PMOD in Switzerland, has said, "We could win valuable time if solar activity declines and slows the pace of global warming". So maybe, just maybe climate change is not totally attributable to the deeds of mankind and that somewhere in the equation sits natural phenomenon...

Multi-Academy Trusts (MATs) have come in for some stick and are under investigation by the Government over the large salaries that some are paying to trustees out of public money. The Public Accounts Committee is asking them to justify salaries and for confirmation and reassurances that they are not diverting money away from the frontline. Once a school joins a chain – either by choice or for whatever other reason – it ceases to exist as a legal and financial entity and is wholly absorbed by the trust. Which means that if, as is apparently common, the trust does badly, the school is stuck. Too many schools are said to be in just that predicament. At the very least schools should remain individual entities (one size does not fit all) so that failing chains can't keep dragging the good schools down with them. Parents are rightly concerned that some MATs are far too big and are operating beyond the mandate given them by the DoE. The identification in the media of misconduct in academies and MATS is to be applauded. It can never be right that public

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monies are used simply to benefit a few individuals. And it can never be right that individual schools and academies put their own interests before the interests of individual learners and communities. Is it no wonder then that with such high salaries being paid to what are essentially 'administrators' schools are finding it difficult to provide sufficient funding for frontline education!

Heterosexual pride month - what's this I hear you say, I know nothing about this? Well, you're right – it doesn't exist. Neither does a six foot tall or a straight pride month. But the latest impulse from the LGBT community to fly rainbow flags for LGBT History Month - does! Why is it that this gathering requires constant recognition and celebration? What makes gender fashion so special that everyone has to celebrate it for fear of being labelled 'transphobic'? Well, this is the gist of the feedback from readers after this topic was recently aired in the press. The feedback would also seem to suggest that the public at large, including some in the LGBT community itself, is fed up with the importance given by liberalists to this relentless need to publicly celebrate. By all means go about your chosen way of life but don't parade it in such a manner as to provoke an unhelpful public reaction. Now Holocaust history is worthy of recognition and reflection.

Is your home just too smart for comfort? According to cyber security experts you bet. The security risk comes from smart technology apps on your phone that use the internet to manage your listening (Alexa), lighting, CCTV, heating and cooking appliances and any TV linked to Google's Chromecast that takes content from the Internet via your smartphone and displays it on your TV. The security issues arise from 'smart home' devices not being set up correctly thus giving open access for the system to be hacked into and controlled remotely by a third party. In the demonstration I saw the hacker in Greece showed how it was possible to bring together virtually every smart device in the home, even devices that were otherwise secure. He had the ability to unlock smart door locks, disable smart house alarms, spy on CCTV, listen to microphones, turn on TVs, and more. Smart home installers aren't necessarily experts in security so ask for evidence of the security processes they follow. And also remember that the majority of smartphone apps, allegedly providing you with a service, are in the hands of companies who are also gathering and managing data on you!!

JOW

“Democracy is more important for what it prevents than for what it provides.” Clive James. Writer and broadcaster.

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Weekly Healthy Walking Every Thursday: 10am (faster walk) and 10.30am (slower walk) Each walk lasts around 30 minutes and covers about 1.5 miles. We meet all year round at 10am every Thursday morning, with the slower walk starting at 10.30am. Teas and coffees are available afterwards. Free of charge and no need to book. Meet at the Stables Education Centre, Wandlebury Country Park, CB22 3AE.

Wandlebury Wildlife Sunday 24 March: 11am to 3.30pm Explore the habitats of Wandlebury and the wildlife that calls it home. Fun and learning for all ages! In conjunction with the Cambridge Science Festival. Free, drop-in event for all ages. No need to book. Donations welcome. Wandlebury Country Park, CB22 3AE.

About Cambridge Past, Present and Future (CambridgePPF) Founded as Cambridge Preservation Society in 1928, CambridgePPF is a registered charity campaigning to keep Cambridge and its surroundings special by positively influencing planning developments, delivering environmental education and managing the green spaces and historic buildings in its care. Its diverse property portfolio includes Wandlebury Country Park and its Iron Age Hill Fort; Coton Countryside Reserve; Barnwell Leper Chapel; Bourn Windmill, Hinxton Watermill plus various wildlife sites and historic buildings. Key achievements include protecting sites such as Grantchester Meadows, the Gog Magog Hills and Wandlebury Estate from development and helping to establish the Cambridge Green Belt in the 1960s. CambridgePPF has a growing membership, which makes a vital contribution to the cost of conserving, managing and developing its sites. With its HQ at Wandlebury, the charity has a mix of busy full and part-time staff and is run by a Board of Trustees together with Advisory Committees staffed by dedicated volunteers. For more information about the charity and benefits of membership:

Twitter: @CambridgePPF or www.twitter.com/cambridgeppf **Facebook:** Cambridge Past Present & Future **Cambridge Past, Present & Future** Wandlebury Ring, Babraham, Cambridge CB22 3AE Tel. office (Mo-Fri 9am-4pm): 01223 243830 www.cambridgeppf.org

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Useful Information

Bottisham Website:	WWW.BOTTISHAMPC.CO.UK
Holy Trinity Church: Revd Sue Giles.....	812726
Roman Catholic Priest: Monsignor Eugène Harkness. Parish of St Philip Howard	01223 211235
RE:NEW/Lode Chapel: Rev. Alan Brand.....	01223 812558
Bottisham Surgery:	
Enquiries and Appointments	810030
Out of Hours only - Urgentcare Cambridge.....	111
Bottisham Library:	812354
Library hours: Monday Closed; Tuesday 3-5pm and 6-8pm; Wednesday 10-11.30am	
Thursday 3-5pm; Friday 6-8pm; Saturday 10am-12noon	
Cambridgeshire Police HQ:	01480 456111
Cambridgeshire Police:(NON-URGENT MATTERS) ring 101 - In EMERGENCIES ring 999	
Police community support officer Ian Hawkins PCSO 7274 at Ely Police Station..Contact through 101	
1st Bottisham Rainbows/1st Bottisham Brownies: Kay Pearce.....	811055
Bottisham & District Gardening Club: Secretary: Tricia McLaughlin.....	811072
Bottisham Bowling Club: Keith Gibson, Secretary	811049
Bottisham Carpet Bowls Club: Nora Watson	812121
Bottisham Community Primary School:	811235
Bottisham Cricket Club: Martin Wilson.....	07768 031979
Chairman: Will Allen	07801 580604
Bottisham Local Charities Trustees: Clerk - Coral Hatley.....	811457
Bottisham Pharmacy:	812321
Bottisham Pool Association: Manager - Jason Rye.....	811121
Bottisham Royal British Legion Branch: Secretary. Peter Walker	811402
Branch Chairman: Dave Frost	www.Britishlegion.org.uk/branches/bottisham
Bottisham Scout Group: Group Contact: Linda Jones	813040
Bottisham Community Sports and Social Club: Secretary Suzy Wooley	812063
Bottisham Village College, School:	811250
Evening Classes, Clubs and Youth Club Information.....	811372
Bottisham W.I.: Secretary - Jenn White • mrandjw@btinternet.com	811600
Bottisham Youth Football Club: Jim Tideswell.....	812591
Cambridgeshire County Councillor: Mathew Shuter.....	01638 508729
East Cambridgeshire District Offices:	01353 665555
East Cambridgeshire District Councillors: Alan Sharp, 11 High St, Stetchworth	01638 507485
David Chaplin, Tunbridge Hall, 60 Tunbridge Lane	
Girlguiding Bottisham District: Cambs East County office • www.cambseastguides.org.uk	01223 813917
Parish Council Chairman: Christine Bryant	811767
Parish Council Clerk: Claire Fullwood	07914 219732
Queen's Court Day Centre:	811905
MP for Cambs South East Constituency:	
Lucy Frazer, House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA.....	
E. lucy.frazer.mp@parliament.uk W. www.lucyfrazer.org.uk	
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Milton Road Tip: Apr to Sept - Weekdays 9.00am-8.00pm: Weekends 9.00am-6.00pm.....	860674
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