



THE *Cresset*

September 2019



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



Bottisham Community Sports and Social Club

As we slip into the last few weeks of summer and the first weeks of autumn why not take ad-vantage of the last light evenings and warmer weather and take a walk up to see us and enjoy a drink and a catch up with friends.

The new football season is also upon us and with it comes live games on the big screen in the hall, if the hall is being used games will be shown on the lounge tv, the volume set by the staff please respect this as staff are carrying out committee instructions.

Important Notice.

With the start of September comes the start of a new school year and we are very aware that parents, childminders and other family members are tempted to use the club car park for drop of and pick up. We would like to remind you that this is a private car park for customers during opening hours. We have regular deliveries including large dray lorries throughout the day, so we would ask that you please find alternative parking arrangements. Thank you.

Stalls for the craft fair are going quickly, if you are interested booking one grab a form from the bar or email us with your details and we will get back to you.

WHAT'S ON

October 26th Children's Halloween Disco, *Fancy dress.*

November 2nd Quiz Night *in aid of Bottisham British Legion Branch*
Poppy appeal

November 16th Five Ska are back *sure to be a sell out, book early.*

November 24th Craft fair *12 till 4.*

December 16th Carols *with the Newmarket town band.*

New Year's Eve back by popular request *All Glammed Up.*

FRIDAY NIGHTS

Our members draw £100 takes place between 9.00 and 10.30, you must be in the club at the time to win it.

Members play your cards right as of August 16th stands at £1600 and the weekly meat draw are also available. Start the weekend off with a friendly drink and maybe go home a winner.

A new and popular addition to our regular activities comes from the acquisition of our table tennis table, which is available for use whenever the hall is free.

Don't Forget The Regular Activities For You To Join In And Enjoy
Darts/Pool/Snooke /Billiards/Cribbage/Dominoes/Bar billiards/Table tennis.

Also Hall and Poppy Lounge room hire available for all your functions
Well behaved dogs are welcome in the main hall only and must be kept on a lead.

bottishamcsasc@gmail.com

WELCOME BACK.



Our summer has been a veritable mixed bag of weather, has it not? Within two weeks we recorded the highest temperature in the country at Histon with 39.7°C and also some of the heaviest rainfall we've ever seen with flooded roads and bridges washed away. We are soon going to be heading into Autumn and the evenings getting darker. What chance do you think of an Indian summer?

Here in Bottisham there has been much discussion over the summer about play areas and retirement villages. To my mind they both raise similar issues and expose similar reactions. We all tend to be concerned about our own little part of the village, not of the village as a whole. It is as if Bottisham lacks a village community spirit. As you can read in letters to the editor, it is disappointing to at least one reader, and I know of others. Having said that, there is fair consensus that broaching the green belt and one of the few remaining grass meadows for an isolating 'seniors' community with its own services and facilities, would only provide a further separation of part of our village. Or is the cynic in me thinking that this is just a cover to break into more greenbelt for further housing development.

There are however many things about Bottisham which draws us together as a community and some of these are the various activities which are there for us to enjoy.

As Autumn approaches there are always winter activities starting, more suited to indoors rather than in the garden with the BBQ. For example, details included this month are those for the Adult Education Classes at the college where you can discover a whole plethora of activities and skills to learn. There is the start of the season's 'Let's Dance' classes, which I often think would be a good one, if I was brave enough. You can read about the Adult Learning Association which is taking over the role that was previously filled by the WEA, which will, I am sure, prove as popular.

There are also the reports from the various groups and Clubs which are there for us all. The Scout group seems well supported and popular as ever. Gardening Club and WI are some more of the social groups that we can all get involved with, as well as carpet bowls and quiz nights. Not forgetting the Community Sports and Social Club which is a great venue and facility for a social meet and chat. See their page for what's on at the club.

This month we have the regular articles with updates on all matters transport wise, a comprehensive comment on all the summer's sporting activities (and there was a lot). Also, Tony Jolley gives us his comment on the current issues of the day.

All in all, there are a lot of things to read about in this month's magazine and I hope you enjoy it.

I also hope you find it a useful source of information and contact details for trades and services which are available. If you spot any details which you think are wrong, like details in the useful information page, then do let me know. Unless I am told of changes, they can go uncorrected. For example, I got a quick email regarding the change of secretary at the gardening club, so was able to promptly update the contact information.

(continued on page 2.)

(continued from page 1.)

The schools go back about now, so that more relaxed drive you have had to work over the last two months is about to change. I always find it surprising how little a reduction of traffic is required to make the whole thing flow more easily.

Speaking of traffic, I think the A14 roadworks are quite amazing. The organisation and sequencing of the processes required is a skill to be admired. I know it can be a pain if you use the road a lot and 40 miles an hour seems very slow, but it does flow. Under budget and ahead of schedule is not a thing you hear very often these days, so this also has to be commended. If they would just get on with the scheduled duelling of the A428 to St Neots, that would complete some much needed infrastructure.

Enjoy this Month's Cresset and do let us have your views on what is going on in this village of ours.

Your Editor, Peter Walker

Letter to the Editor

Dear Neighbours and Fellow Residents of Bottisham

Last Wednesday I attended a meeting to discuss a proposal for a small pre-school playground on a very small corner of the area known as the Dirt Hills, which belongs to Park Estate Bottisham Ltd.

Although, my own children are now too old to benefit from such a facility I do have young grandchildren. My granddaughter, who is 3 years old is always delighted when I take her over to the school play equipment, but so often when she asks to go there I have to disappoint her because it is during school hours and their playground is, understandably closed to the public.

So when a letter came through my door inviting us to attend a meeting to discuss and vote on the Dirt Hill's proposal I went along to find out more, naively unaware that this scheme has been in the village consciousness for some time now.

Members of the parish council working party gave a comprehensive presentation about the proposal, which included addressing any possible problems. We then heard from a member of Park Estate's committee who explained the committee's objections, which to my ears were mainly opinions, all of which, I felt could be addressed if there was a genuine will to make the project work.

I was surprised that the members voted overwhelmingly against the proposal but what I found most remarkable were the strong feelings expressed, some of which appeared to be underpinned by anger, as if the idea of providing a small play area for our children and other Bottisham children was a threat to our very way of life.

I fully accept the result of the meeting, after all this is democracy. But, I am left feeling saddened and rather ashamed to be member of a community that does not value the enormous pleasure that such a small and simple play area can give our young children and toddlers, who are after all, the Bottisham residents of tomorrow.

Maxwell Saxty

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Transport for People and Planet...

...An opportunity to have your say.

Our villages of Bottisham, Brinkley, Burwell, Lode-with-Longmeadow, Reach, Stowcum-Quy, Swaffham Bulbeck, Swaffham Prior and Westley Waterless have been let down and left behind, leaving us with inadequate public transport. At key times of the evening and weekends there is no service at all.

This is not good enough. Our communities should have an effective public transport system that serves the people and the environment. At the very least, the number 11bus should run until late so that people can get home from Cambridge. This is not possible for students returning later from college or for those who work shifts out of standard office hours. Nobody in our communities can catch a bus home from town after an evening out, or travel by public transport on a Sunday.

Share your ideas. Do you have ideas about what our transport should look like? Do you want to get involved with our campaign? transport4pp@gmail.com Drop in to one of our open meetings:

Bottisham, Tue 17th Sep, 5:30pm - 8:30pm, Community Sports and Social Club, 31

Downing Close, Bottisham,

Lode, Sun 29th Sep, 3pm-4pm, The Fassage Hall, Station Road, Lode, CB25 9HB

Swaffham Prior, Mon 30th Sep, 7pm-9pm, Swaffham Prior Village Hall, High Street, Swaffham Prior, CB25 0LD

Six Mile Bottom, Thurs 26th Sep, 7pm-8:30pm, Sports and Social Club, Delamere Close, Six Mile Bottom, CB8 0XF

Burwell, Fri 4th Oct, 6pm-8pm, Mandeville Hall, Tan House Lane (Off Reach Road), Burwell CB25 0AR

Transport for People and Planet is a campaign started up by members of the local Labour Party but open to everyone.

Services in the Anglesey Benefice - Sept. 2019

Sunday 1st	9.30am	Village Worship in Quay Village Hall
	9.30am	Morning Service at Swaffham Bulbeck
	11am	Holy Communion at Bottisham
Wednesday 4th	8pm	"C by C" (Short candlelit meditative service) at Bottisham
Sunday 8th	9.30am	Holy Communion at Swaffham Bulbeck
	11am	Family Holy Communion at Lode
Sunday 15th	8am	Holy Communion (BCP) at Bottisham
	9.30am	Holy Communion (CW1) at Quay
	11am	Harvest Festival Family Service at Swaffham Prior
	5pm	Harvest Festival and Supper at Lode
Sunday 22nd	9.30am	Children's Church at Lode
	11am	Holy Communion at Swaffham Prior
	5pm	Harvest Festival and Supper at Quay
Sunday 29th	9.30am	Morning Service at Swaffham Bulbeck
	11am	Holy Communion at Bottisham
	6pm	Evensong at Swaffham Prior

You are welcome to attend services anywhere in the Benefice.

Bottisham Community Library Association

Sue Wills Head of the Cambridgeshire Library Service spoke at our recent AGM in early July. She was most upbeat about the service. The County has 34 libraries of various sizes, 10 community libraries, mobile libraries and has plans to build 3 new libraries within the new housebuilding developments which means we have a very high national profile. Compare this with Essex County Council who have plans to close all their libraries !! or they did until protesters and campaigners reacted and the plan is on hold.

We have had another successful year, are financially stable and have ideas for events at the library.

On 12th October we have Mark Wells coming to help youngsters 8-12 years tackle the Riddle of the White Sphinx (a Cambridge Museum treasure hunt) first of a series of adventure stories where readers follow in the footsteps of the characters to find clues, decipher codes and discover a secret artefact hidden somewhere in their city.

On Friday 15th November we shall be holding a book signing with cheese and nibbles with Clare Wilkes, a Bottisham library user who has written a biography of a respected Chemistry Professor from Nottingham University "Framed by a Smoking Gun: the explosive life of Colonel B D Shaw" See the Amazon website.

There will be more details of these in the next magazines.

The well supported Lego Club has got off to a flying start and the next dates are **Saturday 7th and 21st September**. The popular Story and Rhyme time for younger children is on Saturday 14th. All these events are at 10.30 in the Library.

Sylvia Overton



VILLAGE PRAISE.

We have been thrilled over the past year to meet together at our Village Praise gatherings with friends from all of our local churches, from churches further afield, and friends with no particular church connection; and we are excited as we anticipate the year ahead. Some of you are now 'regulars' at Village Praise, and we look forward to making more friends in the coming year!

Everyone is welcome, whether you are a regular church goer or not... Come and see what it's all about!

Our next Village Praise will be on Sunday 6th October from 5.30 to 6.30 with refreshments afterwards if you wish to stay and chat. We are looking forward to meeting this time in St. James' Church in Lode – so please note the change of venue.

This time our theme will be 'Harvest', and we invite you to bring donations for our local Food Bank, or an offering towards a local charity serving vulnerable people in our area.

Suitable items for the Food Bank are: Tins – tomatoes; rice pudding. Jars – pasta sauce; jam or other spreads; instant coffee (small). Ordinary tea bags (40s or 80s). 1 litre packs – Long life milk; fruit juice. Sugar – 500gm packs preferred (or 1kg). Cooking oil – 500ml preferred (or 1 litre)

Peter Wells

RENEW SERVICES FOR SEPTEMBER 2019

Sunday Morning worship is held at Bottisham Primary School

The services begin at 10.30 am

Croissants and drinks are available from 10.10 am.

Everyone is welcome.

We have activity groups for children and young people

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

Stewart Merry

Finally the donations in memory of Stewart have been closed and the total was £900, so thank you for giving so generously. We were pleased to pass them on to The Royal Papworth Hospital to be used in the Transplant Unit and the Arthur Rank Hospice.

We would also like to thank you for joining us at The Holy Trinity Church to celebrate the life of Stewart who had faced everything with great courage & fortitude. He was an inspiration to us and we are so grateful for the extra 6 years that his transplant gave to us.

A special thank you to the doctors and nurses at Bottisham Surgery and to friends & neighbours for their prayers, support and kindness. It's been overwhelming and a great comfort to us all. Thank you

Sue, Rachael & Becky



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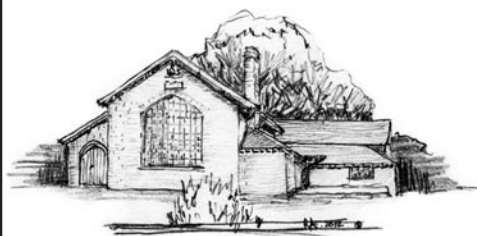
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Cambridge, Past, Present & Future

- A colourful month of activities



Hinxton Watermill Open Day Sunday 1 September: 2.30pm to 5.30pm 17th century working watermill, built on a site dating back to the Domesday Book, located in charming surroundings in the village of Hinxton on the River Cam. Open six Sundays during the summer. CambridgePPF members free. £3 adults, £1 children. CB10 1RD.

Wandlebury Adventurers: (unaccompanied children) 6pm to 8pm, Mondays 2 September: Woodland Art, 9 September: Constructions and Building, 16 September: Fireside Cooking 23 September: Messy Art, 30 September: Willow Crowns You can sign up for the term (£75) or for an individual session (£15). For ages 8-12. Places limited so please book in advance. Based in the Stable Rooms at Wandlebury, CB22 3AE.

Holiday Bushcraft (5-12 years) Tues 3 September, Weds 4 September: 8.30am to 4pm at Wandlebury for children ages 5-12, run by experienced, qualified teachers from Wild Thyme & Embers. Booking essential, £38 each day, per child. Children need a packed lunch, large water bottle and dress for the weather. Booking and further information visit wildthymeandembers.co.uk. Wandlebury Country Park is on the A1307, CB22 3AE.

Painting and Drawing in Autumn – five-week course, Thurs from 5 Sept: 12.15pm to 4pm Celebrate the changing autumn hues of Wandlebury's flora on this five-week drawing and painting course with treescape artist Debbie Baxter. Improve and grow creativity by connecting with their surrounding natural environment, no matter what your skill level is. Five consecutive Thursdays beginning 5 September. £170 per person. Booking and more information email debbiebaxterart@yahoo.co.uk

Coton Countryside Walk: Great St Mary's–The Backs–West Fields–Coton Reserve Saturday 7 September: 10am to 3pm, Sociable and flat walk from Great St Mary's Church in Cambridge centre via the West Fields, past the striking architecture of the University's West Cambridge site, into the Coton Countryside Reserve, returning via the University's Sidgwick site in Newnham to the city centre. Free event but donations appreciated. The walk is around 6.5 miles long. Meeting point is in front of Great St Mary's Church, CB2 3PQ.

Stourbridge Medieval Fair at the Leper Chapel Saturday 7 September: 12pm to 4.30pm Step back in time for a merry medieval afternoon at the historic Leper Chapel, one of Cambridge's oldest complete surviving building. Dating back to 1199, the Stourbridge Fair was once the largest medieval fair in Europe. Arrive at noon to witness the traditional way of opening the fair. Great opportunity to see inside the chapel. Free, family event, all welcome. Donations towards the upkeep of the chapel are always appreciated. CB5 8JJ – opposite Cambridge United.

Wild Flowers in Autumn Tuesday 10 September: 10am to 12pm Join us for this gentle guided stroll around the woods and meadows of Wandlebury with one of our knowledgeable wardens, Free event – donations welcome. No need to book. Meet at the notice board next to the car park. Wandlebury Country Park CB22 3AE

Bourn Windmill Open Day and Teas Sunday 15 September: 2pm to 4pm See inside one of the oldest mills in the country, near Bourn village. Have a go at the task of turning the whole mill on its post – an amazing sight. Teas and cakes available. Free Cambridge PPF members, non-members £3 adult, £1 child. Off Caxton Road, Bourn CB23 2SU.

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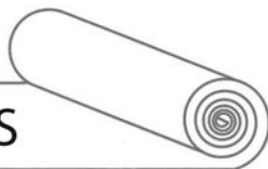


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‘This glorious human relationship with trees’ – a talk by Debbie Baxter, 17 September: 7.30pm to 9.30pm Professional treescape artist Debbie Baxter gives an inspirational talk and slideshow about her journey through the woods of the United Kingdom, and how this keystone species has played such a big part in her development as an artist and a human being. Entry free, donations welcome. Wandlebury CB22 3AE. For information, contact debbiebaxterart@yahoo.co.uk

Walk for Parkinson’s UK Saturday 28 September: 11am start Join Parkinson’s UK, for a friendly fundraising charity walk around wonderful Wandlebury Park. 1.5 miles, or a 4.5-mile route. Registration £12 for adults/under 16s £5. Registration 10am. For further information and registration: visit parkinsons.org.uk/events/walk-parkinsons-wandlebury-country-park

Directions: Wandlebury Country Park is on the A1307, 2.5km south of the Addenbrooke’s roundabout. CB22 3AE. Parking is available on site and costs £3 per vehicle, members free.

For more information: email bookings@cambridgeppf.org, call 01223 243830 extension 207 or visit www.cambridgeppf.org/whats-on

Parish Notes

Summer is traditionally a quiet time for Parish Council, as we have no meeting in August. Our next meeting is Monday 2nd September at 7.45pm for anyone interested in attending (note – we have decided to trial a later start time to assist parish councillors who have young families). There has been some interest in the 5 vacancies that we currently have and we hope to fill some of these at our next meeting.

You may remember some time ago a questionnaire being delivered to you regarding pre-school play equipment in the village. Following on from this a working party was set up, comprising mainly non-parish councillors, who had expressed an interest when filling out the questionnaire. Many respondents pointed to the ‘dirt hills’ outside of the primary school as an obvious place for a play area. This land is owned by the Residents Association of the Park Estate. The Working Party decided to engage with the Association, as this was clearly the favoured site and was in a central position in the village. A proposal was made to put a small pre-school play area on the ‘dirt hills’, funded and maintained by the Parish Council. However, at a ‘special meeting’, the residents voted against engaging further with the Working Party on the matter. This was a democratic decision and we respect the views of the residents, so the Working Party will now look at other options.

Most people in the village will be aware of the recent consultation with local residents regarding a proposed ‘retirement village’ of 250 homes on land off of the High Street. A planning application has not yet been received for this, at the time of writing in early August. However, you should know that Parish Council has always, over many years, opposed any development in this area for several reasons. The reasons have been communicated to E.C.D.C. during the Green Belt Review, Structure Plan Review and more recently the E.C.D.C. Local Plan review. The Local Plan was rejected because the Inspector made several changes which E.C.D.C. did not support. However, the area remains categorised as green belt and Parish

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Continued from page 11

Council are committed to ensuring appropriate development within the village's setting.

We feel the whole of the village must be informed fully if a planning application is made. Thus we will hold a public consultation, so you can see the plans and share your views with us.

The question of a 'Neighbourhood Plan' has recently been raised by some residents. This is a means by which villages can seek to 'guide' further development and was examined at some length in 2017 by Parish Council. Bottisham is surrounded by green belt, which the Planning Department of the District Council assured Parish Council they wish to protect. Creating a Neighbourhood Plan can be a time-consuming and costly exercise and, given the restricted opportunity for development, Parish Council decided there was limited value in pursuing the matter at the time. A comprehensive 'Village Plan' was, however, written by Parish Council and submitted to East Cambs, contributing to the decision to specifically exclude the area of land in question from development under the Local Plan. Residents are welcome to receive a copy of the 'Village Plan' if they contact me.

Concerning the proposed new cemetery off of Lode Road, the Estate Manager and Chief Executive of Anglesey Abbey have presented our project to a National Trust board, recommending that they support compulsory purchase by the District Council. They have come back with a couple of questions, which our cemetery consultant has responded to. There are two further boards the proposal now has to pass through, but we are hopeful we may be able to proceed to purchase next year.

Planning Notes

19/00929/FUL, 3 Peacock Drive, Single storey rear extension, NEW APPLICATION

19/01004/VAR, Whitelands Farm, Newmarket Rd, The removal of Condition 9 (use as a showroom /office) of previously approved 06/00823/FUL showroom and office with parking space. NEW APPLICATION

19/00480/FUL, 35 High St., Construction of rear extension and new detached garage, NEW APPLICATION

19/01043/FUL Blandford Lodge, London Road, Six Mile Bottom, Form new kitchen beneath existing glazed roof, including to construct new external wall and other roof finishes, NEW APPLICATION

19/00567/FUL, 9 Maple Close, Proposed single storey rear extension and first floor side extension over existing double garage. APPROVED BY ECDC

19/00523/FUL, 5 Peacock Drive, Proposed garage conversion to form annex. APPROVED BY ECDC

19/00697/FUL Post Office, 12 High Street, Provision of a link structure to enable covered areas from retail unit to rear store area. APPROVED BY ECDC

16/01166/OUMLand off Bell Road, Residential development of 50 dwellings, new vehicular and pedestrian access from Ox Meadow, public open space including allotments and associated infrastructure. APPROVED BY ECDC

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District Councillors' Report July/August

Our first report covered the Council's decision to deliver at least 46 affordable houses on the estate in Ely which it was buying from the MOD. Unfortunately, the extraordinary meeting called for 19 June used to rescind the decision made in May. This means that of the 92 homes being delivered by the Council's subsidiary company, just 15 will be affordable and none of them will be for rent. This is a missed opportunity to offer affordable homes to the 710 applicants on the waiting list. We had hoped that including more affordable housing in a scheme devised by ECDC would set an example to other property developers in the whole district, including here in Bottisham ward.

We visited the waste and recycling facility in Waterbeach, on a hot Monday in July. It was reassuring to see how much of our waste is extracted for recycling. But a great deal still goes to landfill and we can reduce that in a variety of ways. If we don't reduce it, the site will be full within 12 years. The most important thing is to reduce what we send to waste in the first place, and try to re-use things. If all else fails, re-cycle – put recyclable things in your blue bin and Amey's staff will sort it; put compostable things in your green bin and they'll turn it into compost. We saw amazing things which people had put in recycle bins, which had caused damage to the machines – including a bowling ball! Staff explained that recyclables from the blue bin had a strong sales value and were moved quickly. Recyclables extracted from general waste were heavily contaminated and it was harder to find buyers for them. Any bottles with liquid in can't be recycled because staff can't be sure what the liquid is. We learnt three key tips for helping maximise our recycling

- 1 do not put cloth, heavy objects or electrical items in the rubbish – all of these can cause damage to the machinery;
- 2 if in doubt about whether or not something is recyclable, put it in the blue bin – they can remove it if it's not recyclable; and
- 3 make sure you clean stuff before putting it in the blue bin and empty any liquid from bottles.

There was a very short Council meeting in July where the main item of business was to note that the Council is undertaking a review of polling districts and polling stations. July's Finance & Assets Committee meeting had a packed agenda. We were shocked that our auditors had not had enough staff to work on the audit and so were unable to report to us – they do not expect to report to our next meeting in September either. Every member of the Committee expressed significant dissatisfaction with this. Despite having no audit report, we were required by law to publish our accounts by 31 July and therefore approved the unaudited accounts for publication. We also noted the changes to the Risk Register, we found it very frustrating that we were not able to discuss the Register in general, just changes which staff had made to it. In particular we raised concerns about the low level of risk given to Brexit and the limited actions taken by the Council to prepare.

Our next District Councillors' Surgery is on Tuesday 24 September at 6.30-7.45 pm in the Passage Hall Lode, followed by 'Meet your Councillors' at 8.00pm in the Shed, Lode. Following that we have a surgery on Monday 28 October in the Cricket Pavilion, Swaffham Bulbeck, followed by 'Meet your Councillors' at the Black Horse, Swaffham Bulbeck.

Charlotte Cane & John Trapp, August 2019

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Anglesey Branch Mothers' Union Report

Helen Banyard, Mothers' Union Praying Our Faith Co-ordinator came to speak to us in June about MULOA (Mothers' Union Listening, Observing and Acting). The aim being for Mother's Union to work globally to listen to each other, to the people we serve and to partners, so we can co-create the future together.

The Mothers' Union is a charity with 4 million members world-wide and was founded by Mary Sumner in 1976 when she was a grandmother. Today among some of the projects you can undertake, whatever your age or situation, is supporting areas of local need such as Women's Refuges – appeals for items; AFIA providing holidays/breaks for families under stress and many more. One of the latest outreach projects in the Ely diocese is the Wisbech Family Project. In 2017 Mothers' Union Family Worker Sue Squires Dutton started working in the North Ward (Waterlees) Wisbech. The aim to provide support, encouragement and companionship for families in the most challenged and underprivileged part of the diocese. This has been a very successful project, supported by MU fundraising.

Prayer (personal and in groups) can be powerful support for those especially subjected to modern day slavery and human trafficking (there are more than 136,00 potential victims in the UK); Marriage and parenting support; prison workers - prayer for MU visitors and those involved with parenting courses and assisting the chaplain.

Today MU is a Christian Mission organisation based on prayer and action – working with people of all faiths and none.

In July Kerry Briggs, a volunteer with Service by Emergency Response Volunteers Suffolk and Cambridgeshire (SERVSC) was our guest speaker. SERVSC provides an essential free of charge service to five NHS hospitals in the region by transporting blood, blood products, breast milk and samples for toxicology 365 nights of the year and all day at weekends and Bank Holidays. It also makes deliveries to the MAGPA Air Ambulance. Transportation of products is usually by motorcycle, but on occasions cars are used especially in adverse weather conditions. SERVSC was launched in May 2011, and has carried out more than 5,000 delivery runs, saving the NHS approx. £300.00.

Kerry told us about his own personal decision to become a volunteer over 4 years ago. Wanting to give something to the community and helping others in time of need. He is now proud to be a member of a team of circa 100 dedicated volunteers. Each volunteer receives training to advance driving standard, and are allocated a designated area of transportation. Kerry's being between Bury St. Edmunds and Marks Tey. Each night seven riders/drivers are available for duty and usually receive two to seven calls. In addition, a duty controller takes the telephone calls from hospitals and organise the duty volunteers to deliver products to where they are needed. Very recently SERVSC have received The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service. They receive no funding from the government or the NHS and therefore rely entirely on generous donations, such as sponsorship from local businesses, public donations and the dedication of their volunteers who use their own vehicles and fuel to provide this vital service. Further information is available on the website <https://servsc.org.uk/about>

Our meetings usually take place on the third Thursday of the month in Lode Chapel at 2.30pm. At our next meeting on September 19th we will be looking at our Theme for 2019 'Listen, Observe, Act – in Step with God'. You are most welcome to come and join us



Saplings

Preschool Playgroup

It has been a busy term for us at Saplings. We have recently had an Ofsted inspection, and are thrilled with the outcome of being rated "Good".

Lunch club is proving popular, and it is a lovely social time for the children to eat together.

We have improved our outdoor play space. Our mud kitchen and sand pit have had a revamp, and we now have a den building area. Thank you to the Parish Council for a grant which we will use to continue to improve the outdoor play area.

We recently asked the village to respond to a questionnaire about what you need from Saplings. Many thanks to everyone who took the time to give us feedback. From this, we have extended our opening hours. From September we will be open longer on Mondays and Tuesdays, 9am-3pm.

If you are interested in sessions in September, please email enquiries@saplingsbottisham.co.uk or phone 01223 813226. Even better pop in and come for a play to see what we are offering.

Saplings Preschool Committee



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Further details from:

Nora Watson: 01223 812121 (email:-nora@gandnwatson.uk)

Richard Nichols: 01223 812158 (email:-rlla.bell@btinternet.com)

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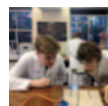
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News from Bottisham Medical Practice Patients' Group

Appointments: All the in advance GP appointments and also minor illness appointments for Nurse Practitioner Welch are now available on line. The Practice has to meet a set target for these. Patients can register to use this service. You will still be able to book on the day and other appointments through reception.

Extended Hours: The new early morning appointments on Mondays and Tuesdays have been fully booked. There are now a further 50 appointments per week.

Dispensary: The dispensary is also open to cover the early start on Mondays and Tuesdays.

Repeat Prescriptions: Please allow 2 full working days between ordering and collection. This also applies when you request repeat prescriptions on line, although currently the computer does not recognise non-working days when giving you your collection date, so please be aware of this.

Missed Appointments: There are still too many missed appointments, which could have been given to another patient needing one. This also costs the NHS money so please cancel with reception if you are not going to attend. You can arrange with reception to have a text reminder sent to you if this would help.

Osteoporosis: The Royal Osteoporosis Society has launched a new set of online exercise videos and guides. The guide includes information on how exercise helps with osteoporosis and bone health, answers common questions, and provides exercises to promote bone and muscle strength.

Walks for Health: The next walks with our accredited walk leader Steve Gilson start at 11.00 am from the surgery car park on 13 and 25 September, 4 October, 8 and 20 November 2019. Do join Steve for a walk he would be delighted to see you. Walks from Anglesey Abbey continue on Thursdays at 10am from the reception area.

Next Meeting: Next meeting will be Thursday 26 September 2019 at 6.30pm at the surgery.

Bottisham Patients' Group

Letter to the Editor

I live in the Ancient Meadows development behind the GP surgery. As you know the developer had to put a footpath from here through to Beechwood Avenue, which allows people to cut through the village. The adjacent development along Lysander Close also created a footpath at the rear of their drive that connects to the path.

Unfortunately, people are not following these formal routes to join the path. We are getting more and more people, children, cyclists, etc. thinking they will save time by going through the large archway and around to the footpath.

This area is mainly a car park, with 14 or more cars coming and going. It is dangerous to use this supposed cut through. Children are running through this area without looking, cyclists are racing through, etc. and it is becoming worse.

I would kindly ask people not to use this car park area as a cut through. It is not a safe route.

An Ancient Meadows resident. (Name & address supplied)



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The venue, Skreens Park Activity Centre, Roxwell near Chelmsford.

The dates, 27th July-3rd August 2019.

The Crew, 12 Scouts, 2 Young Leaders, 4 Adult Leaders.

The leadership team arrived at Skreens Park just after 11am on the Saturday morning and set up the marquee and the cook shelter. The Scouts arrived at 1pm and were allocated into their patrols, and were tasked with erecting their own patrol tents. Considering that the group was very inexperienced over all (Of the 12 Scouts, only 3 had camped with us before), the tents went up and weren't that bad (honest). The weather was not very good during the first 2 days but got better as the week progressed. Each of the patrols had their tent and kit inspected every morning. The standard was improving day by day, and by the end of the week the Scouts could call themselves proficient in the art of Patrol tents.

The activities during the week were as follows:- Bridge building, Air rifle shooting, Hiking, Rafting, Gladiator challenge, Blind football, Jacobs ladder, Kayaking, Crate stacking, Zip wire, Non stop cricket, Frisbee competition, Scouts own, Beano night, Fire lighting, Backwoods cooking and finishing off on Friday evening with a BBQ and good old traditional (nearly) campfire sing song. One of our Scouts was invested whilst doing the Rafting activity.

The food was great and plentiful all week (you wouldn't believe how much an 11 year old can eat when they are on the go all day). If any parents want to know how to get the children to bed on time, simple, just take them to a Scout camp.

Whilst at the campfire the prize for the "Champion patrol" was awarded with the prizes for the Best Scout and the Best Newcomer being awarded at our final Flag down of the camp.

One downside of the week was that there were many wasps nearby (one nest was destroyed by Site staff while we were there). So, to end the week knowing that 5 of our group were not allergic to wasp stings was not too bad really.

Saturday morning soon came round again and sadly it was time to pack up and return home. It was possibly one of the best "tear downs" that I have been a part of. The tents were dry when we packed them away, thus saving too much extra work when we returned home. Yes, it is hard work from start to finish, no, I wouldn't miss it for a minute.

My most sincere thanks go to Kate and Richard Watts, and my wife Kat for their support leading up to and during the camp, but my biggest thanks must go to the Scouts (as we would look very silly without them on a campsite). The Scouts were an absolute credit to themselves and 1st Bottisham Scout group. Already thinking about the next adventure.

Yours in Scouting - Peter Rayment , Scout Leader, 1st Bottisham Scout Troop



Copy deadline for next issue is 14 September.

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

K.J.P.

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Each month, apart from August, I have brought news of the wide variety of missions for which our crews are tasked. On one of the hottest days one such happened at a farm near Newmarket when some irrigation kit exploded exposing Jonathan's lung and severely damaging his leg.

His colleague Tim applied first aid and at 15:29 called 999 in response to which, at 15:45, Anglia Two was despatched from Cambridge. Sheltering from the sun under a tree, Jonathan and Tim were located at 16:08 – Dr Ed Gold and Critical Care Paramedics Liam and Chris dealt with the wounds and, sedated, Jonathan was flown to Addenbrookes for blood transfusion and eleven hours of surgery ! Astonishingly Jonathan survived and, in March, CCP Liam and Pilot Elliot were amazed to see him walk into the Crew Room, his self determination, therapy and counselling all having contributed to his recovery. He is now a true ambassador for EAAA giving talks and presentations about his experience. Another 'job well done' and example of the vital life-saving importance of intervention within the 'golden hour'

If you have to have a serious incident, East Anglia seems to be the area in which to have it!

So, please do continue to support this crucial life-saving work in whatever ways you can – donations, playing the EAAA weekly lottery or setting aside a bequest in your will. Oh, and before I close – we could use more help in a variety of ways so why not join in this extremely rewarding work.

www.eaaa.org.uk or info@eaaa.org.uk

Michael White

Bottisham Adult Learning Association (BALA)

Are you retired from full time work or free on Thursday mornings and want to pursue educational and social interests? If so, this may be of interest to you. As a consequence of withdrawal of government funding for WEA branches resulting in greatly increased fees, it has been decided the Bottisham branch WEA group will close.

A new group has been formed known as Bottisham Adult Learning Association (BALA). We will meet on Thursdays (term time only) from 10.00 - 11.45am in the Bottisham Community Sports and Social Club in Downing Close, Bottisham. It will be a continuation of the WEA in a more relaxed way.

The tutor for the Autumn Term (beginning 3rd October) will be Ros Connolly and the ten week course will be 'London through Literature'.

The fee for the course will be £45 plus an initial fee of £5.

We do hope for the continuing support of our regulars and welcome new members.

Helen Cole



Copy deadline for next issue is 14 September.

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Bottisham WI

In June we heard Angela Deavall speak about using herbs and essential oils at home with the emphasis on chemical free living. She is the founder of an ethical, environmentally friendly company, Boxworth Botanicals, selling handmade plant based natural products. They are not tested on animals and the creams are non-greasy and silky- smooth using plants and flowers like borage and comfrey in the base cream. Gardeners Hand cream and Fabulous Foot cream were recommended. We had opportunities to test various fragrant oils and many face creams and a chance to buy items. Worth looking at the website for Christmas presents.

Raffle proceeds were to the benefit (nearly £50) of the East Anglian Air Ambulance Charity. Mike White the local volunteer for the Charity explained the background to and the current aims for the group – in 2 minutes!

14 members enjoyed the walk on 4th July from Bottisham for a meal at the Black Horse.

Nick Wyatt from East Cambridgeshire District Council spoke about recycling and answered many questions. He explained that we have a good rate of recycling in this area and the separation of waste is dealt with at the centre in Waterbeach off the A10. The majority of waste is dealt with here in the UK and plastics are recycled in 8 weeks and are then back on the shelves as another container. Cardboard is sent to Europe or SE Asia. Items suitable for both the blue and green bins are listed on the lids. Shredded paper goes in the green bin as it can be easily composted. The black polythene sacks are for waste on a daily basis. Empty crisp packets can be taken to Red to Green, they can earn money from them.

I will report on our annual summer coach outing, this year to Woburn Abbey in the next issue

At our next meeting on **17th September Patsy Glazebrook** will tell us about the **Sick Children's Trust and Fundraising**.

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

Sylvia Overton

Sales, Wants and Swaps



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Throughout the year and particularly as the winter months draw in, we begin using our fires, burners and chimneys once again to warm our homes.

In Cambridgeshire 83% of chimney fires occurred between September 2018 and March 2019. The highest recorded fires were in the coldest months of the year; totalling 44 chimney fires. As the UK is about to enter in to autumn, it is the perfect time to clean out your chimney.

Follow our 'top tips' below to ensure your home is kept safe and warm all year round.

Chimneys and 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

continued on page 35

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continued from page 33

- 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.

Most importantly

- Fit a smoke alarm that carries the kite mark or British Standard Number 5446 and test your alarm weekly by pressing the test button and know the life of your battery.
- 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.

For more information or to get in touch contact us at firefire@cambsfire.gov.uk or on 0800 9179994.

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

Bottisham Bowling Club

The club was "born" in 1998, and we use the bowling green in Downing Close, adjacent to the BCSSC. We compete locally with two teams in the Ely and District afternoon leagues and one evening team in a Cambridge based league, with home and away matches through the bowling season, from late April to the start of September.

From keen beginnings we have been attempting to hone our skills against various levels of opposition, and in 2008 (at the age of 10) we won the **Gordon Bridges KO Cup** from division 1 of the Ely afternoon league.

For the last few years, as is inevitable, some players have dropped away, but we have been welcoming new members and where possible getting them involved in the competitions.

In 2017 we managed to win the GB Cup again, and last year when we were 20 we retained the trophy, and had the best league position we had ever achieved, second by a couple of points after 20+ matches. This year we made it, 21 years old and we are the champions of division one.

We also have internal matches, some as knock-outs and another running through the season, with occasional Sunday events involving BBQs.

Through the winter a small group goes to Cambridge and plays on an indoor rink, a large rink with bar and restaurant attached.

If you find this interesting and would like to be involved then why not get in touch next April/May (watch the Cresset) and come along and have a trial. (Contact name and number is in the list at the back of the Cresset)



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Hope you have all managed to have a good travelling summer despite the problems caused by the weather. The heatwave affected the overhead wires and the track for the railways. There are fears that passengers will be priced off the market due to proposed train fare rises of about 3 per cent in the New Year. This could mean a rise of about £131 annually added to the cost of a season ticket to London from the south-east. Grant Shapps, the transport secretary, said he has ordered officials to provide new data as to why train punctuality has declined for seven years. A spokesman for the Rail Delivery Group said that they were making trains more frequent and less crowded with over 7,000 new and refurbished carriages and thousands of extra services each week by 2021. Season ticket increases are regulated by the government but are crucial in enabling improvements. Don't forget that you can claim for cancellations and delays – my son was delayed on the way from Cornwall to London by a cow on the line and was given a refund! Ageing signals may be replaced with digital technology. A 100 mile section from King's Cross to just north of Peterborough will be controlled by digital signalling in the train cab, the first of its kind on an intercity railway in the UK. This could be operational by 2025-7 if approved by the Dept. of Transport and the Treasury. The whole line will eventually be converted. Trains can run closer together and it should improve punctuality. Delays on the line are among the worst in the country. Let's hope it is safe.

Train fares from Ely could become more expensive after a merger between two operating companies. The Competition and Markets Authority is investigating the award of the East Midlands Rail Franchise to Abellio. They would operate the only services on the Norwich to Ely and Thetford to Ely lines. This could reduce competition since there are no other rail options and could lead to higher fares. Abellio has offered to work with the CMA to

keep fares and advance ticket availability at current levels. The franchise was due to begin on August 18th. There is ongoing disapproval of HS2 – people say that if trains are full, then add more carriages, there is no freight carrying to take lorries off the road, it is only ½ an hour faster, it will disrupt people's lives and lose acres of countryside. The Crossrail bill rises with no end date as the work is taking longer than planned. It will be named the Elizabeth Line and run for 73 miles from Berkshire to Essex. The central section is now unlikely to open until late next year. Southern Rail has been named as the most improving company with a large jump in passenger satisfaction. Upset commuters even wrote a stage show – Southern Rail The Musical to highlight the shortcomings. Stagecoach has withdrawn from railways after the dispute with the Government over the awarding of the rail contracts.

I try to maintain my supply of timetables and was awaiting a new box from Stagecoach. There is usually a fairly quick response but there had been a delay. As I drove into Drummer St. on the bus I noticed that Nigel, the friendly young chap who delivers the boxes, was up a ladder by the opposite row of bus stops and seats. I ran across the road and Nigel, now descended from the ladder, saw me coming. Passengers waiting to board buses were highly amused by the sight of a little old lady and a handsome young chap greeting each other with the words 'I am so pleased to see you!' Nigel had received a box the evening before and had been trying to plan when he could get it to me. It fitted into my shopping trolley! The previous box of timetables were for the 28th September and these

continued on page 39



**BOTTISHAM
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are dated 18th February. As I have said before regarding the local bus service – use it or lose it. Buses sometimes have only a few passengers.

As I write, there is at last work on the A1303 to install the new bus stop and shelter for the 12 returning from Newmarket.

Don't forget Seat 61 when researching travel plans. Wandering Europe on these tickets is not just for students on a gap year, you can discover all sorts of towns and cities. Sublime scenery – how about the Semmeringbahn in Austria. J. R. Tolkien writes in the Lord of the Rings that not all those who wander are lost. Serendipity is what it is all about. You can have various routes to a final destination and discover all sorts of interesting places. Great Rail Journeys offers a luggage transfer scheme but it does pick up and return 5 to 7 days before and after the trip. They offer various short breaks by rail – 01904 730829 – Highland Adventure or Bath and West Country?

Japan holds the record for the fastest train with a superconducting magnetic levitation train which ran at 375 mph in April 2015 and now a Chinese train has hit 370 mph on a cushion of air – its maglev prototype a year ahead of schedule but it is still years from operation.

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

Happy Travelling - Paddy James

Red2Green News

Red2Green is a charity based in Swaffham Bulbeck and Bottisham. We support people with learning disabilities or on the autistic spectrum.

Green at Red2Green: In order to improve local sustainability, we are collecting crisp packets, baby food pouches and dishwashing, cleaning and fragrance flexible packaging (including household wipe packaging) for recycling through teracycle. All of these items can be dropped off at either Harvey's Barn, Park End or the Red2Green Community Café in Bottisham. Any community groups who would like to collect for us please contact us at info@red2green.org or call Liz Taylor at 01223 811662

We are also offering a cup of tea or coffee at the community café when you bring your old plant pots, so that we can re-use them.

Green Fingers Needed Having moved to a new site last year in Bottisham Red2Green have been developing their sensory garden, if you have gardening expertise and could volunteer for a few hours a week please contact Liz on info@red2green.org or call 01223 811662

Community Café The community café is currently open Tuesdays and Thursdays 11am-2pm. We have a selection of hot and cold snacks and light lunches. The full menu and daily specials can be found at www.red2green.org and you can sign up to have these sent to your e-mail inbox.

Support while you shop If you shop online then there are ways that you can support us without any additional cost to yourself by using The Giving Machine website, 'shop and give app' or smile.amazon.co.uk and nominating us as your chosen charity. We really appreciate all donations, they make a difference to what we can do.

Turning the Red Lights Green is a Registered Charity No 1112429 and registered in England and Wales No 5485413 (trading as Red2Green)

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HEAR HERE: PATIENTS WANT TO BE LISTENED TO

Patients in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough want to be listened to by health professionals - especially those with long-term conditions who are often experts in their own health.

A new report from Healthwatch into people's views on improving local NHS services shows that good communication is really important to people.

People want health professionals to acknowledge their own knowledge and experience about their condition and to listen.

"Please be honest about what the options are and do not use clinical expressions when talking to a patient. Encourage the patient to ask questions if they do not understand."

Eight hundred people across the region gave their views to Healthwatch. Most want face-to-face meetings and they also want emails and letters about their health in simple, plain English with no complicated medical jargon.

Said one heart and lung patient: "...the letter of the report could have been written in language a normal person could understand and not in medical terms. A lot more care could go into explaining the results."

Share your views too

Like to give your views on local NHS services? Healthwatch, the independent champion for people using health and social care services, wants to hear from you.

Need information about health or care services?

Healthwatch can help you find:

- Health or care services near to you
- What to do if you have a concern or complaint
- Organisations that can give you help or advice

Get in touch

- Via our websites (please select most appropriate)
- www.healthwatchpeterborough.co.uk/feedback-on-care/
- www.healthwatchcambridgeshire.co.uk/content/have-your-say
- Call us on 0330 355 1285 (local call number)
- Email us at: enquiries@healthwatchcambspboro.co.uk

Read more about the What would you do? report on the Healthwatch Peterborough website or the Healthwatch Cambridgeshire website.

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Who let the dogs out!

LOCAL CARE HOME HOSTS ANNUAL DOG SHOW

Staff and residents at Barchester's Oaklands and Hilton Park Care Homes in Bottisham enjoyed their afternoon with man's best friends on Saturday 3rd August 2019 when they hosted their third annual dog show.

This year's dog show featured ten entertaining categories from "Waggiest Tail" to "Scruffiest Mutt"; as well as "Dog that the judge most wants to take home". Entry was free for all who came to cheer on the furry competitors, and the categories were judged by members of the Pat Dog Society.

The Prettiest Bitch was chosen by the residents and was awarded to Nancy, owned by Mabel Mercer.

General Manager Cecilia Thomson said: "Our residents and staff love our popular annual dog show and to have a chance to watch the dogs was very special for everyone." She took the opportunity to thank, not only Cathy Riethoff and Wendy Haynes and their beautiful Labradors Brodie and Sonny not only for their regular visits to the homes but to the Pat Dog society who touch the hearts of so many. We've had a great day meeting our furry friends and their families from the community. Our doors are always open if they ever want to stop by again for a visit."

A resident at the Oaklands Home said "it was a tough choice awarding best pup because they were all so affectionate and friendly!"

RITA AND ALBERT BYE

We would like to say a

HUGE THANK YOU...

...to everyone who supported **our Tea and Cakes Afternoon** to raise money for Queens Court in memory of Rita and Albert Bye. We handed over a cheque for £600 which was way beyond anything that we expected.

The weather was perfect and we couldn't believe how many people came along and stayed all afternoon. They enjoyed tea, cakes, a wonderful tombola and an amazing raffle. Thanks to Liz, the ladies who washed up, Jo and Rosie for their help with running these and everyone who donated prizes. Taylor and Mailee (the grandchildren) did an excellent job running the children's lucky dip, sweets in a jar and the find the treasure map. Thanks also to Jeff for setting up his Ping Pong in a Jar Game – the kids (and adults) loved this.

Taylor also excelled as raffle number caller – who needs a microphone!!

Mum and Dad would have been so proud. It was an amazing afternoon and so lovely to see so many people just relaxing and enjoying themselves – thank you all.

John and Jackie Lince

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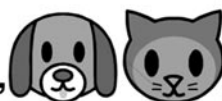
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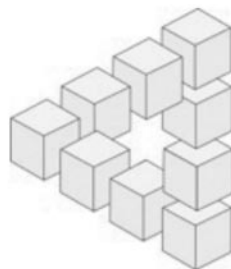
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Bottisham & District Gardening Club

Our June evening was a social event with strawberries and cream and a glass of Pimm's. We had a quiz difficult for some but won by Dora Gale and Enid Bucket.

There were many entries for the Don Bedford Rose competition (much more sensible to hold this in June rather than August). Members choose their favourite bloom by placing coins and there was a tie – the first time this has happened - between Tricia McLaughlin and Dora Gale. The cup was awarded to Dora as her rose bush was new in its first year, and had been planted in memory of her husband John. We are sorry that we did not contact Ros Cullum Don and Sylvia Bedford's daughter to present the cup.

The coach was full for our summer outing to the RHS Garden at Hyde Hall in Rettendon in July. We did have rather a convoluted journey to get there and rushed to the loos and the excellent café on arrival. An excellent venue with many themed gardens, lovely shaded woodland areas and viewpoints to see the surrounding Essex countryside. Plenty of roses to see, interesting herbaceous borders colour themed and set in small areas with yew hedging and the trial area which was a riot of colour and well worth visiting. The shop did a good trade as plants were reasonably priced. Thanks to Peter Bullock for managing this.

I will report on our visit to the Mill Garden, Impington on Tuesday 27th August.

Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday 24th September when Andrew Harper-Scott will talk about Container Planting for Spring.**

The meeting will be held in the **Poppy Room at the Club and start at 7.30pm.**

Sylvia Overton



LET'S DANCE

Come and join us dancing on Saturday evenings in the New Main Hall at Bottisham Village College. We will have music for Ballroom, Latin American and popular Sequence dancing.

Dates:

**September 14th (Pirate Theme), October 12th, November 9th
and December 14th (Black Tie optional)**

Time: 7.30pm to 10.30pm.

The cost is £12 per couple. You are welcome to bring along your own refreshments. There is ample parking on site. For further information please contact: Frank and Sue Hancocks, 01638 741159

or check out our new website: www.letsdancecambridge.org

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

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Thoughts of a Sports Nut

Well, the Summer has been so eventful that it feels like the sporting world has changed beyond recognition since the last Cresset! So we'll start where we left off in July – with Bottisham Lode Cricket Club. And it's a good news story! At the time of writing, BLCC sit atop the league by 17 points, having won six of the last eight, with five matches to play. Three wins from here would guarantee a return to Junior 1 – a second successive promotion. The top two run-scorers are Callum Fullwood (295) and Tim Sale (265), both with three half-centuries under their belts; and Martin Wilson leads the bowling attack with 17 wickets to date, whilst Jordan Haynes claims the best figures so far with 4/15. Keep it up lads! And good luck for that promotion push.

On to the wider landscape then... 15th July turned out to be quite a day with four major sporting events – in Cricket, Tennis, Motor Racing and Netball – happening simultaneously! Whilst the England ODI team were making history, dramatically winning the World Cup for the first time by the narrowest possible margin over a plucky but luckless New Zealand (count-back on number of boundaries after an unlikely tie in the tie-breaking Super-Over!); Novak Djokovic was beating Roger Federer in the longest ever Wimbledon Men's Singles final – a true five-set epic between two great warriors of the game; Lewis Hamilton was winning the British Formula 1 Grand Prix at Silverstone (again); and the England Netball team were 'kicking-off' (?) their World Cup campaign with a comfortable win over Samoa. What a day! The England netballers went on to celebrate the retirement of Tracey Neville, their inspirational coach, by picking up the bronze medal and the Kiwis perhaps ameliorated their cricketing disappointment by pipping Australia by a single point in the Final.

Returning to cricket for a moment, it remains to be seen how England fares in the Ashes series, having capitulated in the First Test at Edgbaston after punishing the Australian top order batters on the first morning. Apart from a slightly streaky century from Rory Burns on the second day, England – without the services of injured Jimmy Anderson, stupidly picked by the selectors without having played a game to test his gammy leg (gr!) – failed to match the Aussies in any department. And if we don't find a way to dismiss their pantomime villain Steve Smith for less than 100 runs per innings in the remainder of the series, our world cup hangover could continue well into September! With Tests 2 & 3 to play before the end of August, we should know which way fortunes are blowing by the time you read this...

In the meantime, our attention had been drawn to dramatic developments in a number of other sports... Four-time Tour de France winner, Chris Froome, suffered mixed fortunes during June. Firstly, he crashed on a practice ride in the Criterium de Dauphine, sustaining "multiple serious injuries" including fractures to his neck, ribs, hip and femur, which could yet (in my humble but non-learned opinion) signal the end of his outstanding career. Then, whilst in hospital, he was awarded the winner's jersey from the 2011 Vuelta, after Spaniard Juan Jose Cobo was stripped of the title due to blood passport irregularities!

And on the same day as Froome's accident, champion Dutch cyclist Marianne Vos was

(Sports Nut continued on page 49)

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(Sports Nut continued.)

brought down by a pothole near Henley on Thames, when leading Women's Tour of Britain, and forced to retire. What a disgraceful dish to serve up to one of the world's great sportswomen. I can imagine it'll be a long time before the organisers bring this race back to Oxfordshire!

Another event that was ruined this summer was the Women's Football World Cup in France. The nonsensical use of Video Assistant Referees caused confusion at every turn... disallowed goals, retaken penalties, delays, heartbreaking reversals of decisions, and referees frozen like rabbits in headlights. Abolish this folly, I say, and return the offside law to the concept of requiring daylight between the relevant parts of the respective bodies! (I notice VAR has already caused chaos in the new Premier League season, and we're only one game in!) Incidentally, the tournament was won, predictably, by the USA who are streets ahead of all other nations in this sport and England just fell short of securing third place by underperforming (again) in the play-off game against Sweden.

Back to cycling... it was not to be for Geraint Thomas this year in the Tour de France. In one of the most exciting races of the modern era, Thomas did not quite reach the heights of strength and endurance that saw him win the Maillot Jaune in 2018 (probably due to crashing out of the Tour of Switzerland a month earlier), but – credit to him and his team ethic – he supported his Ineos team mate Egan Bernal all the way to the Champs Elysees to see the Colombian become the youngest champion for over 100 years – Colombia's first ever triumph in this extraordinary race. And everyone's favourite Welshman finished as runner up – hardly a failure. So that's another one-two for Ineos' supremo David Brailsford... our new Prime Minister could sure use his ability to get results in Europe, eh?!

There was a fairy tale in Northern Ireland in July, too, though perhaps not from the expected quarter. Former champion Rory McIlroy couldn't recover from a disastrous opening round and ended up missing the cut in the British Open at Royal Portrush. But the big story belonged to Irishman Shane Lowry who hit eight birdies in a remarkable third round of 63 to take control of the tournament. Four shots to the good, going into the final day, he eventually triumphed by a whopping six shots to take his first major – a popular winner among the delirious home crowd.

Another popular winner, in my eyes at least, was a champion of awesome longevity who may have escaped the notice of many due to the dominance of pay-per-view TV in boxing and the rather low-key newspaper reporting of the sport. This 40-year-old man has won 12 major world titles in a record eight different weight categories in a career spanning 24 years to date. He has a decent claim (though not from his own modest lips) to be regarded as one of, if not the best, pound-for-pound fighter of all time, and he was named 'Fighter of the Decade' for the 2000s by three of the world boxing awarding bodies. For his day job, he's in the middle of a six-year term as a Senator in the Philippines Government and he apparently "had fun", outpointing American Keith Thurman to take the WBA Super Welterweight title in July! Take a bow, Emmanuel 'Manny' Pacquiao.

TTFN - Gerry Daish



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PASTIES AND CREAM TEAS!

Well, here we are approaching a new academic year and for most the holidays are now behind us. Perhaps, like us, some of you ventured down to the southwest to God's own county and dined on a diet of pasties and cream teas! But now we wait with baited breath to see what fortunes may await us. I say fortunes rather than disasters because I for one am the forever optimist and, unlike the naysayers, have confidence in the robustness of this country's economy and its ability to rise to the challenges ahead, either within or without the EU. Goodness knows the EU itself is no safe haven at the moment with all the political and fiscal rancour going on with Germany, France and Italy. That to one side, I liken the resolve and inventiveness of the British people to the entrepreneur who searches for change, responds to it, and exploits it as an opportunity. Anyone can hypothesise on the scale of risk but only by taking the risk can you expect to reap the rewards, after all 'fortune favours the bold'.

Sadly during August the village lost a duteous and committed community figure. I am of course referring to the legend we knew as Mel Walden - one time and long serving Parish Clerk. No doubt he will be having a word with his maker on a few points of order...

Changing tack, some may also have heard that Peterhouse College has been granted outline planning permission to build a further fifty houses in the Bell Road corridor. And by the time you read this edition of the Cresset the Newmarket bound bus shelter on the A1303 should have been repaired after being mindlessly vandalised and a new bus stop and shelter in place, also on the A1303, for those travelling in the Cambridge direction. The Parish Council serving in late 2018 should be recognised for its tenacity in preparing the business case and in finding the (hidden) funding that has seen this much awaited project realised.

Now what about the potential for a Retirement Village on parkland at the Newmarket end of the village? Many I believe attended the public exhibition and numerous questions were raised but not all were satisfactorily answered I understand. A 'retirement village' - whilst an interesting but old concept (remember 'time shares'!) - does not, for many, fulfil a 'village need'. None of the 'carrots' spoken about, and those that could potentially be waved around as appetisers, will serve or benefit the wider community. And with the advantages of avant-garde technology in the home do we really want or need to herd maturing residents, possibly in various stages of health, into a 'ghetto' of up to 250 homes? Surely their quality of life is better served in their own home or in a diverse and balanced community. At the end of the day if rare parkland that embraces three levels of planning protection, and also provides a natural habitat for many species of plants and wildlife, is to be built upon then the developers must be held to account by our local and district representatives and must be made to prove a very 'special' and overriding case for destroying a much needed yet rapidly disappearing ecosystem.

Back to holidays; this year we embarked upon our biennial 'family & friends' safari en route to my ancestral heritage in Cornwall. Its purpose; to simply renew friendships with those whom we don't get to see very often. Once in Cornwall we are soon gathered into the family fold and we get to visit an aged Aunt, now 98, who is keen to survive long enough to receive her telegram from The Queen. This year we went on a family heritage trail to the

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Tin Coast where many of our ancestors eked out a living mining tin and copper below and above ground. If you are a follower of Poldark you will have seen many of the locations on TV. Typical of these being the harbour scenes filmed at Charlestown (near St Austell) and 'The Crowns' engine houses and tin mine workings at Botallack. And nearby in St Just is Manor Farm used as the Poldark residence – 'Nampara'. You may also recognise the names Trenouth and Godolphin that crop up from time to time...

Being ancestrally Cornish I am delighted that Cornish identity is to be preserved under rules protecting minority cultures. Cornish people have always proudly claimed to be the most genetically distinct Britons on the UK mainland having descended from the tribes that colonised Britain in the last Ice Age. The Cornish dialect is well-known and loved but is often indecipherable to anyone north of the Tamar.

The Cornish language (Kernewek) dates back to pre-Roman times and the Celtic races that inhabited this part of Europe. The tongue of the Cornish faded out towards the end of the 18th century but several Celtic languages still survive and Cornish has undergone a revival over the past 100 years. Cornish is perhaps most closely related to Welsh and Breton, which have provided many clues to help resurrect the language. It's not an easy vernacular to master - with the likes of Aidan Turner and Eleanor Tomlinson trying and failing to get their tongues around it in Poldark, and the cast of Doc Martin sounding mainly like 'they'm from Brizzle'. Everyone knows they do things 'dreckly' in Cornwall, but would you know how to respond if you were called a 'cock' or 'shag'? And do you know what people are talking about if they tell you they're 'rufazarats' or 'teasyasanadder'?

Of course many associate Cornwall with pasties, cream teas, clotted cream, ice creams and beautiful coves and beaches. As far as pasties and cream teas are concerned there definitely is a right and a wrong way. Traditional Cornish pasties for instance are crimped around the edge and not across the top. In the days of mining the pastry crust on the edge was thrown away because it was covered in an arsenic residue from the miners' hands. And no, it's not savoury at one end and sweet at the other. It's made entirely from skirt of beef, swede (not carrots), onion and potatoes with a liberal sprinkling of salt and pepper. And with cream teas it's very much spread the jam first...

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