

April 2019

# THE Cresset



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

# BOTTISHAM VILLAGE FETE

**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June – 2pm to 5pm  
at Bottisham Primary School Field**

Bring the Family for a great day's entertainment

To include

The Panic Steel Band - Horse rides with a difference!! -  
Tombola and Lucky Dip - Games - Stalls - Face Painting  
B B Q - Bar - Cream Teas - Bowling – Target and Carpet-  
Archery - come and try ! - Football club fun -  
Dance and Gymnastics displays - Musical delights -  
and LOTS more beside

We hope to have both East Anglian Air Ambulance and  
Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service represented

This is an event for the whole village  
Come and have a great time with family and friends  
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To take part or to reserve a pitch for your stall or activity  
please email: [heathermaclay@googlemail.com](mailto:heathermaclay@googlemail.com)

## **APRIL SHOWERS... OR SHOULD THAT BE “WHAT A SHOWER!”**



While I write, the B\*\*\*\*\* debate is still raging and no doubt it will still be going when you read this. So I shall not add to its machinations!

No, my ‘thing’ this month, apart from the weather, of which more later, is ‘signage pollution’. Those signs we see and say” why on earth has that been put there like that?”

They fall into 3 categories for me. Pointless, Duplication and Size.

Pointless. eg. ‘NEW ROAD LAYOUT AHEAD’.

If it is new to you, you didn’t see what was there before, so are none the wiser! If it is not new to you, it is because you have already seen it, so it is not new! – Pointless sign pollution

Duplication.

It used to be that a small village announced its existence by a modest often rustic sign beside the road but quite clear enough to read. Now those village signs seem to come at least in twos on both sides of the road 10ft. up atop twin steel poles. We drive on the left, so why have it on the right anyway.

Incidentally the worst examples of this phenomenon can be seen on roads on Skye, where a village can be 5 houses, but will have four, ten foot naming signs in Gaelic AND again in English 100yds apart. Demarking the start and finish of their parish!

Size. The best local example of oversized signage is on the A1303 at the Missing Sock. Announcing its position as ‘Dunsley Corner’ (never heard that one before!) it signs the road back to Quay and the cut off to Six Mile Bottom. There are smaller signs on the M11!

Ironically some small signs also seem pointless. Those signs imploring you to listen to some local radio frequency for the latest road report for the area. Blink and you will miss it. That report is just as likely to be about the accident caused by a driver braking hard to read the small print on some pointless sign!

The real reason for this burgeoning waste is I believe a simple one of jobs worth. Council managers responsible for roads have a budget and staff to manage signs. Every year their budget is reviewed and based on previous years. Well they do not want less staff and funding than last year so they make sure they spend every penny of their budget and when all the signs that we really need are done they go round inventing new ones on which to spend the money.

Better that they paid them on the number of unnecessary signs they removed (Because they never do, do they? They just rust away)

What is the connection with The Cresset, I hear you say. Well, getting this off my chest was prompted by the Bottisham Medical practice article and the invitation to comment on

*(continued on page 2.)*

*(continued from page 1.)*

the new sign at the surgery announcing the arrival of the new hearing clinic. I had already aired my view to my better half of its overbearing size. So if you have a view on it, they would welcome your comment.

Final gripe. What would you call a person who takes their dog for a walk having rightly gone equipped with lead and small black bag? Conscientious, yes. They then expertly and considerately collect the small deposit, carry it some way, then rather than drop it into one of the many dog bins about the village now, or even drop it ‘accidentally’ in a bush, they take the time to tie it to the branch of a tree using the ‘ears’ of the knotted bag! Unbelievable? No, one of our village residents. It puts flail cutting of hedgerows in a totally different light.

I did say I would mention the weather (he always does, I hear you say!). My comment last month has borne out. Summerlike last month. Gale force winds and rains this. Back to reality and gardening put on hold. Well not really because if you have a greenhouse or even a window sill, you will likely be putting in some seed and seeing the early shoots of spring. Hopefully by the end of this month, the weather will start to look more like it means to improve. Here’s hoping.

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

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We are 99% there in establishing our new library and very pleased that we and you as borrowers have coped so well with our settling in problems. I know access has been difficult recently but the main entrance is now in use. Noticeboards and cupboards are being positioned in the foyer as I write and the telephone system is now up and running same number 812354.

We shall be starting a Lego Club for primary age pupils (who currently hold a library card) on Saturday 4th May 10.30 to 11.30. The club will be held on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month in term time and will be free. We are pleased that Morven Langdon has volunteered to lead this. We had hoped to run the club weekly but to do this we will need another volunteer. Parents will be asked to remain in the library during the club session. Several large boxes of Lego and Duplo have been kindly donated but we do have room for more so please search the attics.

I was recently given by a list of ideas for reading by one of our borrowers. Why not

- borrow a book published this year
- borrow a book you previously abandoned
- borrow a book you should have read at school

**WE SHALL BE CLOSED ON GOOD FRIDAY AND EASTER SATURDAY  
19TH AND 20TH APRIL**

*Sylvia Overton*



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

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

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

**New Signage:** The old dental surgery has been leased by the service for deaf children, which has put up their rather large notice on the Practice nameboard at the car park entrance. The surgery would be interested in hearing patients' opinions on this notice.

**University Students:** The practice is working with Cambridge University in securing the 2019/20 group of undergraduates who will continue their GP training at the Surgery throughout the year. The Reception team will let patients know when we have students present at consultations and there is the option to decline.

**Dispensary:** New staff have now been recruited which should ease the pressure there.

**Patients' Groups:** The GP contract requires practices to have a Patients' Group, the full title being Patient Participation Group (PPG). Each practice is required to make an annual self-declaration electronically to NHS England confirming that they 'have engaged with their PPG throughout the year and made available such feedback to the practice population', 'including actions and reports including where they have acted on suggestions for improvement'. Care Quality Commission inspectors also expect to see and engage with a PPG in each practice.

**Walks for Health:** The next walks with our accredited walk leader Steve Gilson start at 11.00am from the surgery car park on 12 and 24 April, 10 and 22 May, 7 and 19 June 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 23 May 2019 at 6.30pm at the surgery.

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

*Bottisham Patients' Group*

## *Services in Holy Trinity Bottisham in April*

<b>Wednesday 3rd</b>	8 pm	<b>“C by C” (Short candlelit meditative service)</b>
<b>Sunday 7th</b>	11am	<b>Holy Communion</b>
<b>Sunday 14th</b>	10am	<b>Palm Sunday Benefice Communion</b>
<b>Thursday 18th</b>	7.30pm	<b>Maundy Thursday Communion in Qu</b>
<b>Friday 19th</b>	7.30pm	<b>Good Friday Reflection</b>
<b>Sunday 21st</b>	11am	<b>Easter Sunday Holy Communion</b>
<b>Sunday 28th</b>	10am	<b>Benefice Morning Worship at Swaffham Bulbeck</b>

Benefice services are shared by the five churches in the Anglesey Group (Bottisham, Lode, Qu, Swaffham Bulbeck and Swaffham Prior). Details of these services can also be found on the Anglesey website ([www.angleseygroupparishes.co.uk](http://www.angleseygroupparishes.co.uk)). Any late changes in times or places of services will be given there.

### **EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL 2019/20 REGISTER OF ELECTORS VACANCIES**

*We need canvassers to help compile the Register of Electors for this year. The job involves:*

- Delivering Household Enquiry Forms from 25 July through to 9 August 2019
- Visiting properties that have not responded and collecting information about the occupants and their eligibility to vote. (03 October through to the 31 October 2019)

We have vacancies in the Bottisham area to cover 926 properties

The work is part-time and can be done from home.

You should not be politically active to take on any aspect of this work.

You should not be a County/District or Parish Councillor.

*You should be:*

- Able to deal with members of the public
- Have clear handwriting
- Available to canvass properties during the day, in the evenings and at weekends as required
- Conscientious
- Able to work to deadlines

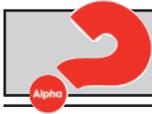
The fees are based on the two stages of employment and are paid per property within the village/area. Holiday pay and any bonuses earned will be paid at the end of the canvass. Full instructions, details of pay and full training will be given.

Payment for Stage 1 is 20p per property only.

Payment for Stage 2 is 70p per property, however If you bring back a completed form from the property for Stage 2 this will be uplifted to £1.20. There is a one off fee to cover mileage of £50.00 (which will be taxable) or alternatively you can record your mileage and be paid 40p per mile (which is tax free).

You will also need to complete detailed canvas working sheets during stage 2.

**Closing date for completed applications is Friday 21 June 2019, If you are interested or would like to know more, please contact the Electoral Services Section on 01353 616460/616459.**



## **LOVE IS KIND...**

I wonder how you got on with being patient over this past month? Me? Well let's just say I'm still a work in progress!

After patience, the next defining characteristic of Love is, 'kindness' (1 Corinthians 13.4). I have been on the receiving end of so much kindness through my life and ministry, and hopefully I've been able to extend kindness to others too. Think back over your life, how have people been kind to you? How have you been kind to others? Can you identify occasions when you have experienced the kindness of God?

Following last month's pattern of reading 1 Corinthians 13: "Love is Kind"; God is Love therefore "God is kind"; Jesus and God are One therefore "Jesus is kind;" we are called to follow Jesus, therefore we too should be defined by our kindness .... "[insert your name] is kind". How can you demonstrate kindness to someone today?

Think creatively, use your imagination, think practically. It may be costly, involving a sacrifice of time or money and it may take some effort, but the lasting impact of kindness will more than outweigh the sacrifice. Go on! Be kind to someone today, be the reason someone smiles and gives thanks today. Need some ideas? Invite someone for a meal; give a gift; take someone out for the day; buy someone a coffee/lunch; write a letter; visit someone you know is lonely; meet a need you are aware of; help with some DIY; take the time to listen to someone; forgive the person who has hurt you; help a neighbour with their gardening; use your gifts and abilities to make someone's day!

I'd love to hear your stories of receiving kindness and being kind, feel free to email me. Even better, pop along to RENEW sometime and tell me in person!

Please don't forget Village Praise this month on Easter Day 21st April 5.30-6.30 followed by Easter Refreshments! If you would like to introduce a favourite Easter song / hymn or have a suitable poem or live experience to share, please get in touch with me, soon, these services are really special when lots of people take part.

If you aren't part of a church family, I would also like to invite you to our Easter morning service in particular, there is no better time to go to church and see what all the fuss is about. Come and See!

*Rev'd Alan Brand*

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### **RENEW Services for April 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 10.10am.

**Sun 7th April Morning Worship. 10.30am** (Bottisham Primary School)

**Sun 14th April Morning Worship. 10.30am** (at the School) Followed by shared lunch

**Sun 21st April Resurrection Sunday. 10.30am** A Baptism Service. (at the School)

**Sun 21st April Easter Village Praise. 5.30pm** (at Lode Chapel)

**Sun 28th April Morning Worship with Holy Communion. 10.30am** (at the School)

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*For more information about any of the activities of RENEW Church please contact:*  
Rev. Alan Brand on C.812558. Email: [alan.brand@renewchurch.org.uk](mailto:alan.brand@renewchurch.org.uk)



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# THE WHITE SWAN

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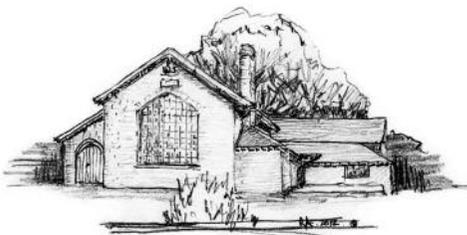
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1ST BOTTISHAM SCOUT GROUP

# JUMBLE SALE

**Saturday 27th April 2-4pm**

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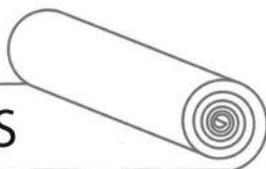
Please drop off any donations at the Scout Hut on the morning of the 27th  
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Well the Beavers have done it! They've had their first official sleepover! Here's what Jonathan (Beaver Leader) had to say:

“A few weekends ago we held a sleepover in the scout hut with 18 Beavers. For many this will have been the first time away from home or family and so there was a mixture of excitement and nervousness. We started with some of our popular games before setting up for a film with snacks and drinks. Afterwards we pitched tents and sorted out sleeping arrangements, did our ablutions and settled in for the night. Thankfully overnight was pretty uneventful, with only one or two who needed to leave due to homesickness. In the morning, we packed everything away and sorted out breakfast – cereal and toast – then time for some more games before pickup. The best part was after breakfast where we asked the Beavers to have some quiet time and they all settled themselves in to reading, board games and colouring. All things told, I'm exceptionally proud of all the Beavers on their first official sleepover”

Considering they are aged just 6-8 years old well done to everyone who gave it a go. As Jonathan said, a first time for many and hopefully many more to come as they move through the sections.

Pete, our Scout leader went along to help out too. More used to dealing with the 11+ age group (and stay-awakes rather than sleepovers!) here's what he had to say. “This was my first Beaver Sleepover and I was apprehensive about lots of people running around, bumping in to things, falling over, not sleeping, tantrums (that's just the leaders) to name but a few fears. But what a great Beaver event it turned out to be. The behaviour was impeccable, the activities were carried out with great enthusiasm and they even slept when it was time to sleep! Breakfast and more games followed the next morning and everybody went home happy. The Beaver leader Jonathan was assessed for his indoor nights away permit and was told that he would be recommended for it. Well done JT and well-done Beavers”.

So, we've heard the adult version, but what did the Beavers think?

Charlie told us he enjoyed watching the film the best, and also said that his tent was warm and cosy. He enjoyed having a chat with his friend before they went to sleep. One of the Beavers obviously had a restless night telling us that “one of the best things they did was lifting their 'camp mates' arm up and down most of the night while they were asleep”!! And Milo told us “the tent was really comfy, and I woke up thinking I was at home” although his mum assures us he doesn't actually sleep in a tent at home.

But you have to hand it to Harry for 'dobbing' the Beaver leader in. He told us “I loved the Beavers sleepover because we got to sleep in tents, and we got to stay up until 9 o'clock [it was actually 10pm!]. I even got to have a really yummy and unhealthy breakfast which included doughnuts!” Now didn't Jonathan mention something about breakfast of cereal and toast.....!!

As always, a massive 'thankyou' to Jonathan, Pete and the team of leaders and helpers, for giving up their time to run this and similar events. And to the Beavers for giving it a go.

Quick reminder – we are holding our Jumble Sale in Bottisham Scout Hut on Saturday 27th April 2019 from 2-4pm. Items can be dropped off at the Scout hut from 9am-12 noon or give me a ring/email for collection (see advert elsewhere in the Cresset)

*Linda Jones, Chair; 1st Bottisham Exec Committee Email: lindakinglouis@aol.com*

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The deadline for applications for the parish council elections will be looming by the time of reading (April 3rd). Unfortunately we did not get much of a response from last month's advert. We have 12 vacancies and applications to date fall well short of this. Ultimately this will have an impact on the work that parish councillors can do to support the village with less people to go round, although we will still work towards providing a new cemetery and a pre-school playground. These vacancies can be filled by co-option after the election and I urge anyone that is interested to please get in touch. Your village really does need you!

At our last meeting our District Councillors reported on why East Cambs District Council has voted to withdraw from the Local Plan, which sets out local planning policies and details where new developments will be built.

It has taken almost a year for a Government Inspector to report back on the Local Plan submitted by the District Council. Proposed development sites at Sutton, Soham and various other sites have had their housing allocation significantly increased. In the Plan there was a policy for each village describing the village attributes and characteristics which they wanted to keep. This was deleted by the Inspector even though it was in the previous plan. Open space in other villages was also taken out. Our District Cllr's reported that it was made clear by the Inspector that the District Council had to adopt the plan or not at all. The District Council therefore voted not to adopt the plan.

Under current national policy ECDC will regain their five year land supply in April 2020 when the current 2015 plan becomes 5 years old and the past lack of delivery by developers gets wiped clean. Therefore the development envelope will once again be secure. There are currently approximately 5000 permissions which have not yet been built so from April 2020 these will become part of the land supply. At this time ECDC will go back to using the 2015 local plan. A new local plan will be formulated but with forthcoming elections this will not be looked at for several months. Until then all policies in place will still apply including protection of the greenbelt.

I have had some emails from residents concerned about the amount of dog litter that is being left around the village. This has also been noticed by several parish councillors. I know the majority of dog owners do clear up after their animals, but can I urge everyone to take responsibility for clearing up after their dogs and encouraging others to do the same. We will shortly be installing some anti-dog fouling signs provided by the District Council. This is not a problem that the residents of Bottisham want!

The investigations are now satisfactorily completed on the planned new cemetery land. We are very grateful to the landowners, Anglesey Abbey, and their tenant (Lord Fairhaven) for their support with the project. However, the land is "inalienable" and so cannot be sold to the Parish Council directly, but only by a compulsory purchase order (CPO) exercised by the District Council. While Anglesey Abbey is fully supportive of a CPO, they need to obtain approval from the main National Trust board for this to proceed. We have every

*Continued on page 15*

# M&P

## LANDSCAPE AND DESIGN

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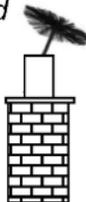
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*Continued from page 13*

expectation of success, but have to be patient while the matter is progressed through several internal committees. So, while we continue limited monitoring of the water table, there is not much activity on the project at present. However, we are optimistic we will be able to move towards purchase later in the year and will then discuss our detailed plans for the area with the village.

Date for your diary - the Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Wednesday 15th May, 7.30pm in the Poppy Room at the Community and Social Club. All residents welcome. This is your chance to find out what is happening in your village.

Once again if anyone is interested in finding out more about being a parish councillor please contact me.

*Claire Fullwood – Parish Clerk [clerk@bottishampc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@bottishampc.co.uk)*

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## *Planning Notes*

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18/01755/FUL, 83 Beechwood Avenue, Rebuild rear single storey extension and small single storey front extension. APPLICATION APPROVED BY ECDC

18/01809/FUL, 19 Peacock Drive, Single storey extensions. APPLICATION APPROVED BY ECDC

---

# *Invitation to the Residents of Bottisham*

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**THE ANNUAL MEETING OF BOTTISHAM PARISH COUNCIL  
WEDNESDAY 15th MAY 2019, 7.30PM  
POPPY ROOM,  
BOTTISHAM COMMUNITY SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB**

**ALL WELCOME**

If you have items for the agenda  
or an organisation wishes to report on their activities during the past year  
please contact the clerk by **Tuesday 25th April**  
Claire Fullwood - 07914 219732 - [clerk@bottishampc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@bottishampc.co.uk)

---

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## *Public Transport Matters*

I have over the years mentioned the helpful newsletter that I have received regularly from Simon Norton of Cambs. Campaign for Better Transport. He used to travel all over the country checking out mainly the bus but also train services. It was a shock to read a whole page about Simon in the Cambridge News on the 7th March due to his recent death. He was a mathematician with an IQ of 178 and represented Britain 3 times at the International Mathematical Olympiad for teenage maths enthusiasts achieving the top grade and once 100%. He attended Eton, the University of London and then Cambridge. He contributed to the Atlas of Finite Groups but at the age of 32 he left maths and decided to work on improving Britain's public transport. He died of a heart condition aged 66. I had mentioned earlier that they were changing the Campaign for Better Transport – I presume due to his ill health.

The transport news is mainly about trains at the moment not buses except for the ongoing problem of the muddy patch stop at the A1303/Bottisham High St. junction. This is now to be sorted by Cambs. C.C. Highways Dept.

The Soham station seems now to be a certainty and is forecast to open by Spring 2021. The cost of the single platform station could be announced by network Rail in June 2019 and £20 million has already been promised by the combined authority towards the delivery of the station. Network Rail is starting noise, vibration and light monitoring work on the site soon in order to support the planning application. It will be on the site of the old station which closed in 1965. There will be a footbridge and car parking facilities. Community drop-in events have been held so that people could see the proposals. 500 people attended. A second track and platform could be added in the future. The plans are on a network rail website for 'reconnecting Soham'. The route is to be operated by Greater Anglia and is on the Ipswich to Peterborough line and would call at Bury St. Edmunds and Ely. A direct link-up with Newmarket and Cambridge is missing at the moment. James Palmer lives in Soham and recognises the needs of local people. He has welcomed a scheme to allow eight-car trains to operate on the route between King's Lynn, Ely and Cambridge which is currently limited to four cars, which results in overcrowding.

The Cambridge to Cambourne busway link is still under discussion - both on road and off road options. There could be a park and ride site along the route – Scotland Farm with access off Scotland Road or by the waterworks with access off the Madingley Mulch roundabout. It was first suggested in 2016 and there have been public consultations. The wish is to get people out of their cars. There will be less concrete involved as technology has moved on since the Cambridge busway and there will be less visual impact.

There are also public consultations on the 'varsity line' plan - the new railway line between Oxford and Cambridge. There are plans for a new station near Cambourne or Bassingbourn. South Cambs. councillors are involved in the discussions as they wish the environment to be taken into consideration. Villages like Gransden and Eltisley and the Abbotsley valley need to be protected. There is the question of a Cambridge South Station or use Cambridge North. The County Council are considering it all. Between Bedford and Cambridge a new line needs to

*continued on page 19*



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continued from page 17

be built and for the western portion of this journey older railway lines will need to be reinstated and upgraded where necessary. There are five route options. People would like it to include St. Neots.

There are due to be new rail timetables this May and it is hoped it won't cause the chaos as last year's did. This includes Greater Anglia. 1,000 new trains will be introduced. The platforms may be too short!

Brussels defended its competition laws recently as it blocked the merger of Siemens and Alstom. Critics of this decision say that it would be a counterbalance to CRRC, a Chinese rail company and accused the 'backward looking technocrats' of jeopardising Europe's prosperity by insisting on a rule book of three decades ago. The HS2 saga continues with a rail expert warning that the costs of it were never properly analysed. The Go Ahead group – Thameslink and Southern – are back on track. It is one of the UK's big five domestic privatised train, bus and coach groups and employs 28,000 people operating GTR – The Thameslink, Southern and Gatwick Express franchise as well as neighbouring Southeastern. It also runs 5,000 buses with a strong presence in London, Oxford and the northeast. Train commuters could face week-long shutdowns as part of a Network Rail plan to speed up repairs. Bus services would run. The Gov't. has earmarked £52 billion for upgrading the railways over the next 5 years underlining the scale of work in the pipeline

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CFRS bulletin this month is directed principally at the business sector of our communities. Please, however, do not overlook all the tips and advice given over the past year – in particular regularly testing those smoke alarms. Look upon them as RNLI personnel look upon their life vests – they’re always there but called upon in earnest only when it matters – to save lives.

- Do you own or run a business locally?
- Would you like to come along and hear from a Fire Protection Officer to find out more about keeping your business in business?
- Would you like the help you need to build a FREE risk assessment for your business?
- Sign up today for a FREE business seminar with Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service.

On average there are 165 fires in business premises each year with many of those businesses not going on to trade again.

Attending a FREE Business Seminar with Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service can help you to get the support you need to keep your business safe from fire and to ensure those working there are protected.

We are determined to support and inform business owners across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough on fire safety legislation and to help you put together a FREE Fire Risk Assessment to help you to protect your business from fire.

Whether your business runs out of a small industrial unit, is a side-street coffee shop or a licensed premise, our FREE workshops will help you to understand important legislation and build a comprehensive risk assessment to protect you and your business.

Our seminars run across the county in various locations and can additionally be arranged ad-hoc to requirements wherever possible.

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*Michael White*

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## Grant Funding for Small and Medium Businesses

Small and medium businesses in Cambridgeshire can access Grant Funding and Free Energy Efficiency reviews, thanks to ERDF funding.

The Business Energy Efficiency programme can potentially provide grant funding up to a maximum of £20,000, or 25% of project costs, to eligible businesses for energy efficiency improvement measures such as LED lighting, heating, insulation and solar PV.

The pot of grant funding is limited and businesses are urged to register their interest by 30th June 2019 at [www.beecp.org/sign-up](http://www.beecp.org/sign-up) or call 01733 882549 or email



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

Pippa and Steve Temple whetted our appetite for our summer visit to their garden and mill at Impington. They purchased the house, a wilderness garden of an acre and a windmill desperately in need of some tender loving care. Twenty years later after much hard work, attendance on courses and help from friends and family they have a garden regularly opened under the National Gardens Scheme. The garden is tended, managed and designed by Pippa, the Mill has been totally brought back to life by Steve and they share the house.

Now in the one and a half acre garden (the extra half was the cleared growth on the perimeter) there are colourful perennial beds, pergolas, a bog garden, a large grass bed and a herb bank. Many trees have been saved from years of neglect and new ones planted in the right position not to impede the turning of the new sails for the mill. There are many paths circling the garden laid with bark chippings and several interesting paved areas for sitting out. There is a complex compost system too where the bins are turned every week. Put it on your list as a place to visit. We hope that we will be able to hold another Annual Show in September but this is dependent on offers of support from members as the committee is now smaller.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 23rd April when Andrew Sankey will tell us about "Colour in the Garden" He is highly recommended as a good speaker.

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

*Sylvia Overton 811792*

### **BOTTISHAM BOWLING CLUB**

#### **FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

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**Saturday 20th April**

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## **ALWAYS LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE. MOTTO OF THE MONTH**

Dr Tim Wreghitt was a very interesting and entertaining speaker. He is a locum Consultant Virologist at Addenbrookes and a fellow of the Royal College of Pathology. He said that forensic pathology as shown on TV was only one branch of pathology, it also covers genetics, haematology and the diagnosis of various allergies. Since 2004 he has been the mainstay of a stand at the Chelsea Flower Show and in showing differing aspects of the discipline it has won several silver, silver gilt medals and eventually gold medals for displays on Food Allergies covering vegetables, wheat and peanuts, and Malaria. He has been responsible too for stands explaining the skin tests available to detect allergies and plant pathology covering the various drugs available to treat diseases.

He enjoys meeting the celebrity visitors (he was very good at impersonating them) and chatting too with members of the public – many were very keen to show off their rashes! He often meets the Queen and it was she who suggested in 2016 that he write a book explaining plants suitable for an allergy free garden.

We shall bring our centenary celebrations to a close with a meal free to members at Newmarket Golf Club on Thursday 25th April.

Our next meeting on Tuesday 16th April sounds interesting. Carole Pook will tell us about “The first woman doctor, Margaret Buckley AKA Dr James Barry”.

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

*Sylvia Overton*

## *Sales, Wants and Swaps*



**IF YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO SELL OR WANT TO BUY OR EVEN TO SWAP, THEN THIS PAGE IS YOURS TO USE.** Send details of Item, price and landline Phone Number to [BottishamCresset@gmail.com](mailto:BottishamCresset@gmail.com). Max. 5 Items. Entries by 12th of the month for next months issue.

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

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- The combination of quick response time, advanced clinical care on scene and rapid transfer to the most appropriate hospital
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- Developing partnerships and collaboration with organisations which have aligned ambitions
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What does this mean to the people of, or passing through, our region ? It means that we have one of the best emergency response organisations – anywhere! BUT! It comes at a cost, which is not met from public funds on a regular basis, but by the generosity of people who contribute their time and money to help people in need. Ben Parkin. Ben was at home with his family when, without warning, he went into cardiac arrest. His wife phoned 999 and, without prior medical knowledge or training, began CPR to afford Ben the best chance of survival. Just moments earlier he had seemed fit and healthy, but now the cardiac arrest had left Ben's life hanging in the balance. Shortly after the 999 call, EAAA's helicopter, carrying Dr Marcel Rigaud and CCP Gary Spitzer, landed near Ben's home. Ben was defibrillated, put into an induced coma to protect his brain and intubated to allow the team to take control of his breathing. The crew airlifted Ben to Papworth Hospital where he spent a week in intensive care before being brought out of his coma. His life was saved thanks to the immediate CPR and the speed with which the EAAA crew could put their experience and specialist equipment to work. "A true thanks with all my (slightly tired) heart to my wife and to East Anglian Air Ambulance for their work without which I'd be gone for sure". Another satisfied, and saved 'customer' – Thank you for continuing to support EAAA.

*Michael White*

## *Anglesey Group Mothers' Union*

Our 2019 Programme began with a New Year Communion Service led by Rev'd Elizabeth Caswell. Our guest speaker in February was Sarah Maxwell who spoke to us about A Life in Teaching. We will give a full report on this very interesting talk next month.

Our April meeting will take place on Thursday 11th April, when we will be holding our Spring Social and Bring and Buy Stall at 2.30 in Lode Chapel. (Please note this is a week earlier than usual due to Holy Week). You are most welcome to come and join us.



## *Bottisham Community Sports and Social Club*

It's April already with lighter evenings and hopefully warm enough soon to enjoy an early evening drink outside.

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- April 20th** **EASTER DISCO FOR THE CHILDREN WITH AJ'S FANTASTIC DISCO.** Come along with the children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews. 4.00 pm till 6.30.
- May 3rd** **BEER AND GIN FESTIVAL BEGINS.** Come and sample the many and varied real ales and gins.
- May 4th** **BEER AND GIN FESTIVAL** continues with a race night in aid of the oncology unit at Addenbrookes hospital
- May 5th** **KARAOKE EVENING.** Sample the beers and gins to lubricate your throat and give us a song.
- May 6th** **FAMILY FUN DAY WITH JENGA,** Connect Four and more plus BBQ.
- May 25th** **OUR ANNUAL SENIOR CITIZENS MEAL** with entertainment from the wonderful voice of Michael Antony.
- Sat 1st June** **DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY** to the very popular local group Back to the 80's
- Sat 8th June** Get those grey cells working with the **CLUB QUIZ NIGHT.**

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## *Letters to the Editor*

Dear Sir,

If my erstwhile colleague, Tony Jolley, has read somewhere that there are regular variations in the amount of solar radiation reaching earth due to oscillations in the planet's orbit and inclination, no doubt he will also have read that these 'Milankovic cycles' have been known about for a whole century and have periodicities of 25,000 years and upward, depending on which orbital component, and not the few hundred years implied in his text.

Think about it. When was the last Ice Age?

*Doug Astill*

Dear Editor,

It is five years since the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change stated that global warming was "unequivocal" and that human-produced greenhouse gases are "extremely likely to have been the dominant cause of the observed warming since the mid-20th century"; an assessment agreed by 97% climate scientists. Do we really still have to rehearse these arguments? Natural variations in global temperatures over historical and geological timescales are well known, and largely understood, by climate scientists. Variations in solar orbit and rotation can be predicted to a large extent; more difficult are the variations in solar activity. However, for the recent past we do have observations for all these so can model the behaviour of global temperatures over the last century with a high degree of confidence. No climate scientist denies the importance of natural variability; it is, of course, included in every climate model. The warming observed since the 1980's cannot be explained by natural variation alone; it can only be explained by including the warming effect expected from the rise in greenhouse gases observed in the atmosphere.

Solar activity may of course decrease in the near future; there may be large volcanic eruptions to provide some cooling through putting dust into the upper atmosphere. But it is surely foolhardy to risk our future on these hopes.

*Clare Enright*

Dear Editor,

It is understandable that Tony Jolley has no time for LGBT History Month and other such celebration of particular identities (JOW, March Cresset). He undoubtedly grew up secure in being able to be open about his feelings and relationships. He would not have felt any need from young adulthood to pretend a partner was just a friend, to refrain from public signs of affection such as holding hands, or to edit his replies to conversational enquiries from colleagues about how he spent a weekend or holiday. His choice of life-partner was celebrated publicly and joyfully supported by family and friends.

Those who have not been able to take these basics for granted, or who know individuals who haven't, will understand what it means to the LGBT community to have opportunities to be open at last about their identity, to tell their stories and to celebrate what has been for them, perhaps for decades, a cause of secrecy, feared or actual discrimination, and even shame.

*Warm regards, Sarah Maxwell*

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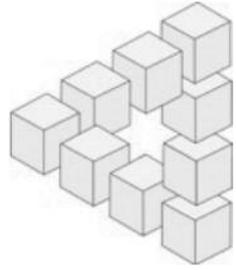
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## *Thoughts of a Sports Nut*

Did you notice how many runners there were pounding the streets of Cambridgeshire during January and February? People of all shapes and sizes in all manner of weather-resistant attire... they even outnumbered the cyclists at times! Of course, it was all about the increasingly popular Cambridge Half Marathon on 3rd March. And what a day it was! There was an impressive Bottisham contingent in evidence, among them Steve Leech, Paul Fullwood, Nina and Marcus Hall (apologies if there are others who have eluded my attention) and the remarkable Chris Darling, whose personal best time of 68 mins 54 secs secured him 2nd place overall. That is a mighty impressive performance and they had to go to a different country (well, Wales) to find someone to beat him! But pride of place must go to a newcomer to distance running: Katy Attwood, who not only won a brave battle against cancer to complete this race, but also raised nearly £1,500 for Cancer Research into the bargain. Katy – you are a heroine of this village and we salute you!

Whilst we're on the topic of running, another (slightly more experienced) English woman pulled off an astonishing feat recently by setting a new record in the Montane Spine Race, a non-stop challenge from Edale in Derbyshire to Kirk Yetholm in the Scottish Borders. The course comprises 268 miles of rough terrain that takes in the Peak District, the Yorkshire Dales, the North Pennines, Hadrian's Wall and the Cheviots, and the competitors must carry all their own kit throughout. Jasmine Paris, a 35-year-old mother, completed the race in 83 hours 12 mins 23 secs, finishing almost 10 miles ahead of the runner-up, and enjoying only seven hours of rest over the three-and-a-half-day duration, 'rest' which included breastfeeding her 14-month-old daughter! It never ceases to amaze me what people will do in the interests of a challenge.

The mention of Wales, above, reminded me that the Emiliano Sala saga took a turn for the distasteful at the beginning of March. On the very day the search for pilot was called off, Sala's 'agents' attempted to steal some moral high ground by accusing Cardiff City FC of "abandoning" the player when he needed someone to organise transport (for a journey that was solely the personal choice of the player). It's evident that the agent Mark McKay, through his father Willie, who is not a licensed agent at all, stepped in to arrange the ill-fated flight and now they are getting all slopey-shouldered over their own part in this tragedy. McKay has made it public that he not chasing Nantes for his fee for brokering the transfer deal; then, just when you think he may have an ounce of decency after all, he rounds off his statement by saying that "I wish I had never gone to watch the guy play"! To make matters worse, it now transpires that there is a query over whether the pilot's licence permitted him to carry a fee-paying passenger at all, and so the sad story continues... I wonder if Cardiff City has coughed up any transfer fee money yet!

Another organisation allegedly employing underhand tactics is the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) in pursuing a revision to the rules governing eligibility to compete in female sports. South African athlete Caster Semenya's lawyers are accusing the IAAF of trying to manipulate public opinion against the two-time Olympic

*(Sports Nut continued on page 49)*

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*(Sports Nut continued.)*

800m champion to cast doubt over her status as a woman. There is no suggestion whatsoever that Semenya has ever done anything wrong or taken any substances to increase her testosterone levels and it seems, to me, reprehensible that they are connecting her with their efforts to discourage the participation of transgender women in female athletics.

On the transgender issue, I heartily applaud Martina Navratilova and Sharron Davies who have popped their heads above the parapet to be (verbally) shot at by the “determined to be offended” brigade. They have both been labelled “transphobic” for daring to suggest that women who were formerly men might have a physical advantage over women born as women and should not be allowed to compete in female sport even though they can artificially reduce their testosterone to an acceptable ‘female’ level. Navratilova and Davies feel that, as retired athletes, they can speak out where active competitors cannot. Let us hope that common sense prevails, that men who identify as women can find non-regulated outlets for their sporting inclinations, and that poor Caster Semenya can continue her career in peace.

With the Six Nations Championship still approaching its climax at the time of writing, I’ll leave my highlights and lowlights until next month and turn my attention to cricket to round off this missive. England’s winter tour of the West Indies has certainly been a mixed bag, hasn’t it? Despite a resounding victory in the St Lucia Test, catastrophic batting collapses in Barbados and Antigua lends further weight to the view that one day cricket is the nursery for sloppy test match batting. Nobody expected a 2-1 defeat and one wonders if the England players and selectors were a tad complacent in their approach to the series. Did the selectors also misjudge the requirements for an effective bowling attack? Given that all three tests were effectively won by pace bowling, the over-reliance on spin proved costly. The subsequent ODIs and the T20 matches afforded England the opportunity to exert their superiority, though, notwithstanding some explosive hitting from veteran Jamaican Chris Gayle. Convincing series wins in both formats hopefully put the players in a positive frame of mind for this year’s home World Cup (starting on 30th May), but spare a thought for the poor old bowlers, eh? Who in their right mind would choose that discipline in the limited overs game? There were over 800 runs scored in a single day in the 4th ODI v. West Indies in St Lucia... absolutely insane!

*TTFN - Gerry Daish*

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## **SO, WHAT'S GOT THE VILLAGE TALKING?**

Well firstly, unlike last year, this is NOT an 'April Fool' – you can only get away with that once! So that being made clear it would seem that last month's short JOW pieces on climate change and LGBT celebration have ruffled a few feathers!

Firstly; some of the replies I've seen on climate change have certainly enhanced my 'layman's' knowledge on 'Milankovic cycles' whereas another has suggested that there is 'unequivocal' evidence that human-produced greenhouse gases are "extremely likely to have been the dominant cause of the observed warming since the mid-20th century". Notice the use of the adjective 'likely' which to my enquiring mind suggests there is still a possible element of uncertainty. We all know how fickle 'computer modelling' can be and whilst we have data covering the past 150 years or so this is but a pin prick in time relating to the historical climate of this planet. That's why in my opinion it's so important to make sure we delve into history from time to time where you can readily find journals and such like written by people who lived hundreds of years ago. And in this context may I recommend a book by C. J. Sansom – 'Tombland' - that throughout the novel provides a very descriptive account - gleaned from historical accounts - of the extreme weather conditions affecting East Anglia in the mid-1500s.

The responses also prompted me to investigate a little more fully and in doing so I found an example of research that exposes a totally different conclusion from the argument put forward above. The research was conducted by The National Academy of Sciences (NAS) entitled - Report on Global Climate Change. What the report did not conclude was that global warming was the result of human activity. In fact it concluded, in a passage incidentally that I cannot find quoted anywhere in the press, that "A causal linkage between the build-up of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere and the observed climate changes during the 20th century cannot be unequivocally established." Further opinion on the subject suggests; "The predictions of severe warming are based on developing climatic models that have, so far, been unsuccessful in simulating history accurately. The models also miss the mark trying to accurately simulate the transition into and out of the ice ages for the past few hundred thousand years." By making mention of this alternative research I'm merely pointing out that there are diverse opinions other than the consensus view and that in all things we should ensure we properly inform ourselves rather than each time follow popular hypothesis. May I also add that it is important to such debate that readers take note of what is written rather than what they think is written.

Secondly; in response to the letter concerning my musings on LGBT celebration, may I start by saying that I don't think our views are that far apart. It is right that people should be able to live their lives in a manner they chose (within the law) and thankfully the days of secrecy about relationships are mostly gone. Yes, of course it is proper to be open about

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*(Jolley Old World continued from page 53)*

identity and relationships but in a constructive manner and not, may I suggest, in such a way that might be considered as having it continually ‘pushed in one’s face’ by a persistent need by some in the LGBT community to publicly celebrate.

Now not wanting to tread on Sports Nut’s turf, I cannot help but wonder whether some of the associations representing British sport have completely lost their senses. Three elite lady athletes have felt it necessary to speak out on whether participation in women’s sporting competitions should be determined by assumed gender or by one’s biological sex. This has all been prompted by British Gymnastics’ decision to legislate for the less than 1% of males who identify one way or another as women and who want to compete in female only sporting events. The decision by BG will allow what are essentially young men to share the same changing facilities and rooming arrangements with young girls. This surely puts a child’s safety at risk and makes safeguarding a nightmare. A string of athletes including Martina Navratilova, Sharron Davies and Dame Kelly Holmes, have spoken out against transgender women competing in female sport saying “it’s unfair for women to compete against athletes who are still biologically men with a male body structure.” As with all things in life we have to accept that there will be things that we cannot do or achieve and in my opinion this has to apply equally to those men and boys who identify as women. Not to do so is utter selfishness...

And finally remember Gina Miller – the affluent business woman activist who, through the judicial system, challenged the sovereignty of the Brexit result and the government’s authority to implement Brexit without approval from Parliament? Had the Supreme Court and its interpretation of EU law not found in her favour then the Government alone, not parliament, would have been able to negotiate and to implement the nation’s decision. As it is, and as a result of the ruling, parliament has been able to claw back sovereignty on this issue - which incidentally it surrendered to the electorate by allowing the referendum – that has left the door wide open for individual MPs, the Labour opposition and minority groups to frustrate the Government’s negotiating hand in the hope of forcing a No Deal, a General Election or worse still another referendum. So be very careful who you point the finger at for causing the political chaos this country is now in.

*JOW*

**“Prediction is very difficult,  
especially about the future.” Niels Bohr - Physicist.**

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

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**Pop-up Poppins Play with Vital Spark Theatre, Wednesday 10 April: 10am to 11.30am and 12pm to 3pm** Storytelling, creative play and craft for families in the morning for accompanied children; a storytelling, craft and performance play event for unaccompanied children in the afternoon. For more information and booking: email [katherine@vitalsparktheatre.org](mailto:katherine@vitalsparktheatre.org). Morning event for accompanied children aged 2+ only, £11 per child, adults free. Afternoon event for unaccompanied children aged 6+, £22 per child (includes materials). Wandlebury Country Park, CB22 3AE

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