

November 2019

THE Cresset



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

Remembrance Sunday

THE ROYAL BRITISH
LEGION

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION, BOTTISHAM & DISTRICT BRANCH



REMEMBRANCE DAY PARADE AND SERVICE

SUNDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2019
at 10.45am at Stow-cum-Quy Parish Church

The Bottisham and District Branch of the Royal British Legion will be holding its Remembrance Day Service this year at Quy. The parade will assemble at 10.20am and form up beside the Church and then process to the church for the Remembrance Service to commence at 10.45am. Taking part will be contingents from the Bottisham Royal British Legion, Bottisham Scouts, Cub Scouts, Girl Guides and Beavers together with members of the Burwell detachment of the Cambridgeshire ACF. Everyone is most welcome to join us for this occasion.

THE 11TH HOUR of the 11TH DAY of the 11TH MONTH

At 11 o'clock on Monday the 11th November the Nation will pause for the Annual TWO MINUTES SILENCE to remember the War Dead, including those from recent conflicts. The Bottisham Royal British Legion branch will hold a service of remembrance at the village sign and garden of remembrance, opposite the church.

LEST WE FORGET, GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE

The Bottisham Royal British Legion Branch will erect a small Garden of Remembrance which will be situated by the Village Sign opposite Holy Trinity Church. Anyone who may wish to do so is invited to place a Poppy Cross for personal remembrance. The Garden will be in place from Tuesday 29th October until Tuesday 12th November. Poppy Crosses may be obtained from any Poppy Seller or from the Community Social Club in Bottisham.



NOVEMBER ALREADY



No need to point out the way the weather has been. Our cover picture explains it all! Thanks to John Overton for supplying the photograph.

At the time of writing this, we are enjoying some nice weather in the Lake District following a week in the South West of Scotland. However, I hear news of more wind and rain from back home in Bottisham.

Hopefully by the time you read this, things will have improved. Not just in the weather, but in the way the country is fairing. No need for me to add to the confusion with my views save to say that this whole affair will colour the way the population of this country views its governance and those who govern it. From politicians in Westminster to judges in the law courts. It might be timely to remind ourselves that revolutions and wars got going on less argument than this.

While we are in the 'woe is us' mode, I will also throw in the thought that it is becoming clearer every day that the world we live in is reaching a point where pretty drastic steps need to be considered to avoid a catastrophic slide from which we may not recover.

There is no magic bullet to solve the issue. It will only be achieved by the multiple small changes we all need to be taking in our daily lives. We can't go on saying "Well I recycle my rubbish and I'll do more when everybody does". Perhaps we should question whether we needed to buy the item that provided the rubbish in the first place.

We have developed our world into a materialistic one, where acquiring things is a way of life and the low cost of new replacements negates the need to "Make do and mend". I think we will soon need to get back to that way of thinking. It is only a few generations back, which is nothing in the millennia that we have been on earth.

We all, and I mean the global we, need to question the need for some of the ways we live our lives. From "Do we need to buy that bottled water at all", not just "do we need to ship it in from overseas and transported here on great lorries". To, "Do we need to drive the 400 yds to the shop in the village". Eventually we will be forced to do these things. Better to do them now and get used to the alternatives.

I give you one example. The great talk of moving to electric cars still leaves us with the issue of generating the electricity to charge them, never mind manufacturing them. This is simply moving the polluting point from the car to the power station, where additional infrastructure will be required which also will involve additional polluting processes.

The question we should be asking is, "do we need the car at all", or for some", do we need two cars?"

The answer may well be yes we do, but at least we should consider it and if it is yes, then recognise the consequences when this is multiplied millions of times across the world.

There, enough of my thoughts of the moment.

The magazine this month hints at the coming winter, with mention of Christmas fairs and

(continued on page 2.)

(continued from page 1.)

festive lunches. Before that there are some useful pointers regarding fireworks and bonfires from the Cambridge fire service.

That together with the usual interesting reports from village organisations and our regular contributors makes for a good full magazine.

If you have a mind to write a piece for the magazine, then please feel free to send it in. Or if you have some upcoming event in your organisation then make sure the world knows about it by sending it in to be included.

I try to make sure that everything I get is published, but sometimes space gets just too tight. If that happens and an item is not time dependant, I would put it at the top of the list for the following month.

If you wish to advertise your business, big or small, then email me at Bottishamcresset@gmail.com and I shall let you know by return what the costs etc. are.

Bottisham Library

We were pleased to invite the Bottisham Cub group to a specially convened Library Evening. Their leaders had arranged projects for them and the session was enjoyed. Thanks to Margret Coles and Helen Cole who were the volunteers. They were kept busy issuing books.

17 youngsters completed the Summer Reading Scheme this year and medals and certificates were awarded on 21st September. Congratulations to all who participated.

Mark Wells read some extracts from his book "Hidden Tales-the Riddle of the White Sphinx" at the Library recently. It is an exciting treasure hunt looking for clues in museums around Cambridge. The children listening were spellbound.

See the separate advert for **Friday 15th November** for the book signing with wine and nibbles by Clare Wilkes

The **Lego Club** next dates are **Saturdays 2nd Bonfire Night and 16th November - Zipline** starting at 10.30 in the Library.

We shall be having a book stall at the Bottisham Community Sports and Social Club at their Craft Fair on Sunday 24th November so will be pleased to have any good quality books that you may wish to donate. Thank you for the books we have been given recently. All in excellent condition.

Sylvia Overton

**BOTTISHAM COMMUNITY LIBRARY
FRIDAY 15TH NOVEMBER at 7.00PM**

**CLARE WILKES,
AUTHOR BOOK SIGNING AND TALK**

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Would you like to know more about On-Line Fraud and Cyber-crime?

AN OPEN INVITATION TO LISTEN TO AN EXPERT

Cambridgeshire Police is helping to protect communities from fraud and cyber-crime.

Nigel Sutton is the Fraud and Cyber Crime Security Advisor for Cambridgeshire Police.

He is a former Police computer crime investigator but is now advising communities on how to secure their computers from cyber thieves. He has been invited to come to the Poppy Lounge at the Bottisham Community Sports and Social Club to give a talk on the subject.

He will talk about the impact of Cyber crime within Cambridgeshire and the common methods used by criminals to steal your data.

Nigel will be in the Poppy lounge at the
**BOTTISHAM COMMUNITY SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB
ON 27TH NOVEMBER AT 7.00PM**

and will be available afterwards for any computer security questions.



Services in the Anglesey Benefice in November

Sunday 3rd	8am	Holy Communion (BCP) , Swaffham Bulbeck
	9.30am	Village Worship , Quay Village Hall
	11am	Holy Communion (CW1) , Bottisham
	3pm	All Souls' Service , Lode
Wednesday 6th	8pm	"C by C" (Short candlelit meditative service), Bottisham
Sunday 10th	9am	Holy Communion (CW1) , Bottisham
	10.50am	Royal British Legion Remembrance Service , Quay
		Remembrance services , S.Bulbeck and S.Prior Act of Remembrance , Lode
Sunday 17th	8am	Holy Communion (BCP) , Bottisham
	9.30am	Holy Communion (CW1) , Quay
	11am	Baptism , Swaffham Prior
Sunday 24th	9.30am	Children's Church , Lode
		Morning Worship , Quay
	11am	Holy Communion (CW1T) , Swaffham Prior

- **The ANGLESEY GROUP OF PARISHES** comprises: Holy Trinity, Bottisham, St Mary's, Quay, St James', Lode, St Mary's, Swaffham Bulbeck and St Mary's, Swaffham Prior. You are welcome to attend services anywhere in the benefice.
- **Our Vicar is Rev'd Sue Giles**; Tel: 01223 812726; suethevic@btinternet.com
- **Detail of services** and events can be found on www.angleseygroupparishes.co.uk; www.facebook.com/angleseychurches; www.achurchnearlyou.com/
- **For weddings and baptisms** please contact: admin@angleseygroupparishes.co.uk;
- **For funerals** please contact the vicar directly.



RENEW Church

JUST A CRUTCH?

I remember, during my first week at university (24 years ago!), hearing one of my friends dismiss the Christian faith as, 'just a crutch'; describing Christians as people who were weak and couldn't stand on their own two feet. The comment wasn't aimed at me directly, but I was offended, hurt and angered by her words. As an 18 year old man with his first real taste of freedom and independence, learning to fend for himself in the world, the last thing I was prepared to admit was being in need of a 'crutch'.

Do you ever think back to experiences or conversations you've had and wish you'd had more time to consider your response? Or wonder how you'd react if you were having the same experience or conversation knowing what you know now, however many years later?

My response to the next person who claims my faith is a crutch will be, “What does a crutch do?” “Have you never needed or do you not expect to ever need the help of a crutch?”

I have learned that I may impress people with my strengths, but I connect with people through my vulnerabilities.

I am more than happy to hold my hand up and my head high to the reality that my Christian faith, or more accurately Jesus Christ Himself, is at times a crutch for me to lean on, helping me to stand and continue moving forward when I am not strong enough in myself.

I would also assert, that my faith is so much more than a crutch - it is more like a backbone. It shapes who I am, enables me to stand tall and strong through life. Moreover, at the heart of my faith is the experience of being known by God, being loved to death by Jesus and having life in Him through the power and help of the Holy Spirit every day.

If humans are the measure of all things, then I am deeply fearful of the future. If God is real, Jesus lived, died for me, and rose from the dead, and if the claims of the Bible are true - then I am full of hope! I urge you to resist making an ultimate decision to reject Jesus Christ and the claims of the Christian faith, before first exploring them for yourself.

RENEW Church is a growing family, a community of people being formed by Jesus into the people He would have us be, engaging in His mission in the world. You would be so welcome to join us on this journey - come and see!

Rev'd Alan Brand

RENEW Services for November 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

PLEASE NOTE:, Our Community Christmas Meals at ‘The Shed’ in Lode. On Tuesday 10th December, 7pm for 7.30pm & Thursday 12th December 12noon for 12.30. For more information, menus and booking, please contact Beth Marsh C. 813373 bethmarsh8@btinternet.com. or Alan Brand. C. 812558 alanbrand77@icloud.com The final date for booking is Tuesday 12th November. We would love you to join us.

ALSO: Advent Village Praise 'Carols by Candlelight' on December 8th at Lode Chapel from 5.30-6.30pm. Please join us!

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

Copy deadline for next issue is 14 November.

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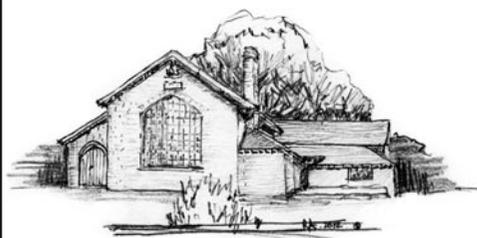


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Bottisham School Puts Students' Future First

The students past and present from Bottisham Village College in Lode Rd have joined a programme run by the national education charity Future First which helps state schools and colleges develop 'old school tie' networks allowing them to harness the talents and experience of alumni to support the current generation.

The former students return to volunteer at assemblies and workshops designed to motivate young people and broaden their jobs horizons so they are more likely to be able to achieve a career of their choice regardless of their background.

Bottisham Village College is one of a thousand state secondary schools and colleges across Britain which have worked with Future First. Future First's vision is that every state school or college should be supported by a thriving, engaged former pupil community that helps it to do more for its students. More than 240,000 former students nationwide have already signed up to stay connected with their old school. They're motivating young people as career and education role models, mentors, work experience providers, governors and fundraisers.

Bottisham Village College wants to contact former students in established careers and recent leavers in further education, alumni who live nearby and those who have moved away.

Ed Compton, Deputy Principal, said e.g. 'We signed up to Future First's scheme straightaway. A network of past pupils with all their valuable experience will be vital in helping us to broaden current pupils' jobs horizons and equip them for the world of work.'

Beth Goddard, Future First Director of Programmes, said, 'The transition from school to work is challenging for students and the benefits of employer encounters in the classroom is now widely recognised. Alumni volunteers who can share their careers experience, broaden students' jobs horizons and act as relatable role models are an integral part of any good school careers curriculum and helps inspire and motivate students to success, regardless of their background.'

Laurie Simpson, Careers Leader, is waiting to hear from former students on LSimpson@bottishamvc.org. Former students can also register with Future First by clicking the 'For former students' link on the website www.futurefirst.org.uk.

Quiz Night

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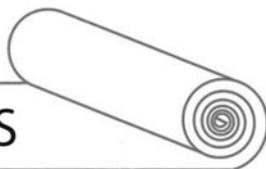


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We welcomed a new parish councillor at our October meeting. Victoria Marsh, resident in Bell Road, was co-opted onto Parish Council. This takes us up to 10 councillors. We have also received another application for consideration at the November meeting - which is good news.

Both the scouts and Red2Green have offered to help plant some daffodils around the village and in the cemetery. This will be done very soon ready for the spring.

A topic that many people were discussing this month was the county-wide flooding, but particularly in and around Bottisham. It was at a level we have not experienced before. We are used to the problems with flooding around the bottom of Arber Close, which the County Council have blamed on Victorian drains being too small to drain rainwater away quickly enough. However, this time the flooding continued further up Lode Road by the Village College and also up the High Street. In fact, surface water was problematic throughout the village. Swaffham Bulbeck was cordoned off at the top of Swaffham Bulbeck Road, as the route was impassable.

At our meeting, our County Councillor Mathew Shuter reported that several residents had contacted him regarding their concerns about blocked drains. He confirmed that engineers had been clearing drains and doing what they could. This was put into action very rapidly considering how many problems there had been county-wide. However, he was concerned about the level of flooding experienced in Bottisham. With this type of heavy rainfall now becoming more common, he is speaking to Highways Officers about what can be done in the future. One of the problems he feels is that the District Council are responsible for street cleaning and the County Council are responsible for clearing the drains. So we can have a situation where ECDC clean the roads and brush leaves into the drains, soon after they have just been cleared by the County Council. He will be liaising with both councils to ensure they have a more co-ordinated approach. He is aware however that the High Street and Lode Road are a particular problem and has asked Highways officers to again review what is causing the problem and also investigate the position of the soakaways.

There has been no further communication concerning the proposed retirement village. We expect that the developers are planning another consultation with the village, after they have considered the comments from the last consultation, with a planning application to follow.

Lastly Parish Council discussed the budget for next year 2020/21 and proposed that we raise our precept by £750 to £48,250. With new properties being built in the village, the rise in council tax for residents will be minimal and could even be less than the previous year.

The next meeting is Monday November 4th, 7.45pm in the Poppy Room at the Bottisham Community Sports and Social Club. All residents welcome.



Copy deadline for next issue is 14 November.

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

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Planning Notes

19/01514/FUL 8 Bell Road. Two storey rear extension. NEW APPLICATION

19/01334/FUL 51 High Street. Home office NEW APPLICATION

19/00480/FUL 35 High Street, Rear extension and new detached garage. APPROVED BY ECDC

19/01043/FUL Blandford Lodge, Six Mile Bottom. Kitchen extension. APPROVED BY ECDC

District Councillors' Report October

The District Council's Finance & Assets Committee met on 26 September, with another full agenda. The internal auditors reported that their work for the year to date found everything was satisfactory, although a number of questions were raised about some of the discrepancies found by the internal auditors. Council officers provided some further information after the meeting but we will continue to try and get these issues clarified in the future.

The committee also considered funding for the District's Sports Centres and agreed a £10,000 grant for Bottisham swimming pool. We agreed to set up a working party to review bus services so that proposals could be submitted to the Mayor of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough and Charlotte was appointed to that working party.

The property development arm of the District Council is the East Cambs Trading Company Ltd and the accounts for this company were to be presented at this Committee meeting but Directors failed to do this. We were informed that they had been signed and would be circulated to members as soon as possible. As at 13 October this has still not happened. We did review the company's Business Plan and several members raised questions and expressed concerns about the plan. John and Charlotte voted against the Business Plan, with two other Councillors, nevertheless the Committee recommended their approval to Full Council. On 8 October Councillor Anna Bailey informed us that she and Councillors David Ambrose-Smith, David Brown and Joshua Schumann had resigned as Directors of East Cambs Trading Company Ltd and East Cambs Street Scene Ltd (the other Council trading company) forthwith. Charlotte attended a Shareholders Meeting on 10 October, hoping to question the Chairman of the Company and the Managing Director, but neither were present. Serious questions therefore remain about the finances and governance of East Cambs Trading Company Ltd.

Agendas for Council meetings are published on the Council's web site a week before meetings. If you see something on the agendas on which you would like to comment, please contact John - john.trapp@eastcambs.gov.uk or Charlotte - charlotte.cane@eastcambs.gov.uk. The meetings coming up before our next report is published are – Full Council 17 October, Licensing Committee 13 November, Operational Services Committee 18 November and Finance & Assets Committee 28 November. The Planning Committee meets on the first Wednesday of every month.

Our next District Councillors' Surgery is on **Friday 29 November from 8.00-9.00pm** in the Village Centre, Reach, after a 'Meet your Councillors' from 6.30pm at the Dykes End, Reach. Following that we have a surgery on Thursday 19 December at 6.30pm in Bottisham.

Charlotte Cane & John Trapp, October 2019

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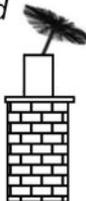
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Public Information Event

Land adjacent to the High Street, Bottisham

Following on from a public consultation in July, Axis Land Partnerships is continuing work preparing outline plans for a retirement village concept including; homes with care provision, wellbeing facilities, new public open space and access to the site.

A retirement village provides specialist housing which aims to deliver a life-enhancing impact for those that live there, designed as active places to live with like-minded people, providing care and support available to suit people's individual needs. The development would also deliver a wide range of other benefits such as increased home choice, local jobs and access to a range of health and leisure amenities which benefits the wider community.

We asked for your opinion on our emerging proposals at our consultation event in July. We've listened to your feedback and made some changes. These include proposing:

- A smaller development
- More public open space
- A high quality children's play area with play equipment



Come along and speak with our team in person:

Where - The Poppy Lounge, Bottisham Community Sports & Social Club

Address - 31 Downing Close, Bottisham, CB25 9DD

When - Tuesday 12th November 2019

Time - 12:00 until 21:00

Provide us with any feedback or any questions you may have via the website www.axislp.com/consultations from 12th November. The website will be open for questions and comments until the 26th November. We are aiming to submit a planning application towards the end of the year.

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Please call: Steve Durrant 01638 507037 / 07740 591194

Bottisham and District Gardening Club

In September, Kevin Marsh from Scotsdales came to our meeting at short notice to tell us about container planting. He is an alpine specialist but his knowledge of all things horticultural, his presentational skills, his keenness in answering questions and his sense of humour was much appreciated.

He said that the days of winter pots with daffodils and pansies were no longer the thing, you can do so much more nowadays. Always buy a pot twice as big as you need and ensure that you repot any plant that you buy as nurserymen use the cheapest compost they can! This also applies to house plants. Do ensure that the pot is frost proof and don't use one that is Ali Baba shape as you will be unable to transplant it. Don't use multi-purpose fertilisers as they are known to have the lowest nutrient level. John Innes is recommended and regular feeding will be necessary.

For winter pots use conifers, ornamental grasses and evergreen shrubs or plant bulbs one on top of the other so that you get a succession of flowers, e.g. allium then tulips followed by daffodils and crocus. Herbs in pots are ideal but keep Mediterranean ones together. Pots of alpines should ideally be 4 plants and they need plenty of drainage, John Innes no 2 plus plenty of gravel. He suggested growing hyacinths in individual pots and then put them in the final pot and cover with soil so that they are at a similar flowering stage. No one will be any the wiser and you will have a much better display Other tips were do not double feed. Never feed or prune a struggling plant. Put Vaseline around the top of the pot with your Hosta plants in to prevent slugs and snails eating them. Cyclamen are not hardy and are better indoors.

Our Christmas meeting will be on Monday 16th December and we shall hold our members competition that night. This will be a Christmas decoration, more details next month.

Our next meeting, the first of our new year is on **Tuesday 26th November when Tim Fuller from Plantsman's Preference will speak on Gardening with Grasses.**

The meeting will be held in the Poppy Room at the Club and start at 7.30 and new members and visitors are most welcome.

Sylvia Overton

GILES BREAM PENSION FUND

Applications are invited from widows or widowers to receive a quarterly cash pension from the above charity. Applicants must have lived in the Parish of Bottisham for at least seven years.

Please contact the clerk to the trustees for an application form.

All applications will be treated in the strictest confidence.

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The website now has details of all beers being sold with the guest beers regularly updated.

If you haven't previously been in the club have a look at the website then come and give us a try. - Take a look at the website calendar for future events.

Membership renewal was due on the 1st October, so if you have not done so already, please renew promptly. If you have renewed your membership card will be left behind the bar. New members are always very welcome. The benefits of membership are many. A comfortable, welcoming meeting point for a drink with friends and family at very reasonable bar prices.

Table Tennis - The club has now entered a team in the Ely and District League, and it is looking for players. Speak to Kate at the bar if you are interested in joining.

WHAT'S ON

NOVEMBER 2nd - QUIZ NIGHT,
in aid of Bottisham British Legion branch poppy appeal.

NOVEMBER 16th - THE RETURN OF FIVESKA. Tickets on sale at the bar.
Last year this event was sold out so get your tickets soon.

NOVEMBER 24th - CRAFT FAYRE. Starting at 12.00- All stalls have now been taken up. So, come along and see local people showing their crafts. Ideal time to buy some Christmas presents.

NOVEMBER 27th - CYBER CRIME PRESENTATION

DECEMBER 16th - CAROLS WITH NEWMARKET TOWN BAND

NEW YEAR'S EVE - SEE THE NEW YEAR IN WITH ALL GLAMED UP.

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News from Bottisham Medical Practice Patients' Group

Autumn Newsletter: The Practice newsletter is now available on line or at reception.

Patients' Car Service: We are preparing a question and answer leaflet about this Service which will be available in the surgery for anyone who is interested.

Flu Vaccination Clinics: Saturday 16 November and some other sessions will be available. Early morning appointments will also be made available on Mondays and Tuesdays through the autumn. Flu is a very nasty illness, much worse than a cold, so please have the vaccination to protect yourself and others.

Purchase of Equipment: Doctors have given us a list of items that would be particularly helpful for them to have and it has been decided to purchase all the smaller items which are diagnostic and examination tools. The Doppler machine, for checking blood circulation in diabetic patients is nearly £1500 so this is our next target to save for.

Walks for Health: The next walks with our accredited walk leader Steve Gilson start at 11.00 am from the surgery car park on **8 and 20 November, 6 December 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 Patient Group Meeting: Next meeting will be **Thursday 23 January 2020 at 6.30pm** at the surgery.

Bottisham Patients' Group

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Anglesey Group Mothers' Union Report

On a fine August afternoon members, husbands and friends visited Burwell Museum. We were welcomed by Alison Giles, The Administrator and Education Officer, who gave us a guided tour around the museum. Giving us time to savour the atmosphere of the school room, browse the shop window and peruse the many interesting exhibits. After this a mouth-watering afternoon tea of sandwiches, savouries, scones and cookies was served. A most pleasurable afternoon was had by all.

At our September meeting we looked at the Mothers' Union theme for 2019 'Listen, Observe, Act – in step with God'. The session began with a poem 'Ears that Hear' followed by listening to the Andrew Lloyd-Webber's composition 'Love Changes Everything' from the musical Aspects of Love. Each member was given a card to take home with the quote by Paul Tillich "The first duty of love is to listen". To test observations members were given optical illusion pictures to study and compare findings with fellow members. Over tea and biscuits discussion took place around several MU magazine articles on action and projects taken on at Diocese, Deanery and Branch levels. Mothers' Union supports Prisons Week 13th – 19th October, and the Prison Work Prayer was circulated for personal prayer to enable each of us to take part in the week of prayer for this cause.

Our meetings usually take place on the third Thursday of the month in Lode Chapel at 2.30pm. On November 21st our guest speaker will be Rob Needle, Ely Diocesan Ambassador for The Children's Society. You are most welcome to come and join us.

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION BOTTISHAM & DISTRICT BRANCH

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LEGION

CALLING NOTICE FOR THE BRANCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**Wednesday 20th November 2019
7.30pm in the Poppy Lounge
The Bottisham Community Sports and Social Club**

All Branch members welcome

The purpose of the meeting will be to review the Branch business of the last year, and to elect officers for the coming year.

Any branch members wishing to add items for discussion to the agenda should email the branch secretary at PNTW@live.com by 7th November

Notice of attendance or apologies to secretary please.

K.J.P.

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Whilst we support a splendid highly efficient Air Ambulance – they would much prefer not to have to attend heath or life-threatening scenarios – particularly in the face of our winter weather.

But they do – which is why, again, I ask for your continuing generous support in whatever way(s) suit you – according to your means.

And again – a HUGE thank you to all who regularly contribute.

Together – WE Save Lives

Michael White

News from Saplings Preschool

Our first term has started well, all children have settled in and are enjoying balancing and climbing on our new frame and crates during outdoor play.

We have had 12 children move up on their educational journey and we wish them well. We have just held our AGM, and have formed a new committee. We are very grateful to our parents for joining and supporting us!

The Chair of our committee has been in post for a number of years, and wishes to step down next year, so we will be looking for a new Chair this time next year. You do not need to have a child at Saplings to join the committee. If you have a bit of time to spare and think you may be able to contribute to the Committee in this role (or others) please do get in touch.

We have just had a fun Halloween Disco and have lots of fundraising events planned for the next few months! Please do come along and support Saplings and have some fun at the same time. All events are on Facebook. Please email manager@saplingsbottisham.co.uk to book tickets or pop into the Hut.

Cake Sale on the Triangle - Saturday 2nd Nov from 9am. Cake donations welcome at the hut the day before.

Wreath Making Evening - Wednesday 4th Dec 7:30pm - 9:30pm. Tickets are £25, all materials are included. This workshop is led by a florist - Wayne Bailey, Flowers. This is an opportunity to come together for a fun evening to make your own festive wreath.

We have spaces available for children from 2 years old. Funding is available.



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Mark Farrington was our speaker from the Sick Children's Trust and is Chairman of the local branch of the Charity whose mission is to provide accommodation near Addenbrookes so that families can be kept together when a child is in hospital for any length of time. There is emotional and practical support given and this in itself improves the recovery of a seriously ill child. One of our members outlined her "incarceration" in hospital in the late 1940's when as a child of 5 she saw her family for only an hour at weekends. She even had a visit called off because of a mild misdemeanour.

The charity was founded in 1982 by two paediatric specialists from Great Ormond Street hospital. There are now 10 "homes from home" near to specialist hospitals providing an essential service for 147 families every night of the year. There are 2 houses on the Addenbrookes campus, Chestnut and Acorn Houses. There are communal social areas with large kitchens and dining areas and several en-suite rooms. The house manager assesses need and Addenbrookes Hospital provides the cleaning services and the maintenance contract. Chestnut House has a more clinical feel as it is older and part of the main hospital building. Acorn House is near the Rosie Maternity Unit and serves in the first instance those with babies in the Neo Natal Unit. We saw a short film following a family through a difficult period in their lives which helped to show the importance of the service. The cost of £30 per person each night is fully funded by the Charity who totally depend on donations. They do have prominent "hands on" supporters including Michael Crawford, Judy Dench and Gary Lineker who regularly hold and support events.

This was a Charity that we knew little about, we were pleased to learn about and we will be further supporting this through our Christmas Raffle.

Darts and the Craft groups continue to be well supported and our walking group had a lovely walk along the River Cam recently.

At our next meeting on 19th November, Simon White will demonstrate the Making of a Christmas Holly Wreath.

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

Sylvia Overton



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Yes, it's that time of year – again – when CFRS is coiled ready for the calls on 5th November – or anywhen else for that matter – and so we reiterate the annual words of wisdom to all concerned.

FIREWORKS and bonfire night can be plenty of fun for all of the family to enjoy - attending an organised display instead of holding one at home can be a great way of supporting your local community.

However If you do plan to use fireworks or light a bonfire at your own home, please ensure that you follow the following safety advice:

FIREWORKS:

- Buy only fireworks marked BS 7114
- Light fireworks at arm's length using a taper, stand well back and never go back to a lit firework
- Never throw fireworks or put them in your pockets or clothing
- Light sparklers one at a time wearing gloves, and place used sparklers in a bucket of water
- Never give sparklers to children under five
- It is illegal to sell fireworks to someone under the age of 18 or to light fireworks in a public place
- For more information on Firework Safety, visit: www.hse.gov.uk

BONFIRES:

- Do not light bonfires in unsuitable weather conditions, particularly when windy
- Do not leave bonfires unattended
- Keep a bucket of water or a hosepipe handy just in case
- Build bonfires well clear of buildings, garden sheds, fences and hedges
- Never use flammable liquids to start the fire
- Never burn dangerous rubbish such as aerosols, paint, foam furniture, rubber tyres, batteries, etc
- Before you light the bonfire, check that children and animals are not hiding inside and are a safe distance away
- Always consider the location of a bonfire or firework display as smoke drifting near or on to roads can have devastating consequences. Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. **To find out if you are eligible for a free home fire safety check, call 0800 917 9994, and please keep testing those Smoke Alarms – they could save your life!**

Michael White

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Public Transport Matters

It will be interesting to see the results of the recent questionnaire regarding the first Local Transport Plan for the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority area. There does seem to be a growing recognition that we do need improved public transport to help solve the present levels of congestion in the area. James Palmer, the Mayor, lives in Soham so does experience things personally. Our 2 district councillors are now reporting monthly in the village magazines. There is discussion of an evening bus for the villages on perhaps Friday and Saturday evenings and on Sundays. There is hardly anyone on the early evening bus to Cambridge as there is no bus back after you have been to the theatre or had a pleasant evening meal or other entertainment.

It is reported by the Dept. for Transport that the number of bus journeys has fallen by 300 million in the last 5 years - due to a lack of funding say 69 % of people interviewed. Local councils, people say, should be the decision makers on public transport.

Lack of funding affects school transport and rural services. It is suggested that the proposed metro could extend to Alconbury as Alconbury Weald is being developed with new homes and new jobs but at the moment there is only an hourly bus service. The metro system could also go all the way to Peterborough via Alconbury and Ramsey, said James Palmer at a meeting of Huntingdonshire's full council. An early stage report has been funded and found to be positive. He is working with Homes England and Urban and Civic ref the development in Alconbury and Huntingdon station could also be included. He says it is about providing homes in garden villages and he would like to have a discussion with the mayor of Ramsey about this.

Returning from King's Cross recently my son was checking the times of the trains back to Cambridge and then we saw Ely via Cambridge and Cambridge North! Non-stop to Cambridge. I rang him when I arrived home and he replied that he had only just arrived home in the Greenwich area via the tube! Greater Anglia has invested more than £1 million this year in maintaining station car parks, approach roads, pedestrian crossings, bus lanes and platform surfaces. The work is taking place at 53 stations and includes filling pot holes, relaying tarmac, re-lining and marking car parks, refurbishing platforms and installing anti-vandal measures. In a separate upgrade 53 new information screens using the latest LED technology have been installed displaying train running information in a clear, easy to read format, which also reduces energy consumption. This is part of a £20m investment across 32 stations including those on the Cambridge to London Liverpool Street route. Revenue from the car parks goes back into improving and upgrading station infrastructure. Cambridge, Cambridge North, March, Manea and Whittlesford Parkway have seen improvements. Easier ways to pay and automatic number plate recognition have been introduced at 20 stations. Greater Anglia franchise also runs the Stansted Express service.

The Soham station opened 140 years ago but closed as part of the Beeching cuts in 1965. It is now to be reopened with a single 102 metre long platform and parking for 50 cars also a stepped footbridge across the track which could be upgraded if the line is dualled.

Badge cams for Greater Anglia train conductors are being provided so that footage can be recorded of bad behaviour on trains. Newmarket racecourse representatives and local councillors are among those seeking more investment in Newmarket rail services. They

continued on page 39



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continued from page 37

met with stakeholders from the horse racing industry and Members of Parliament. There was a series of speeches. The demands included a half-hourly passenger rail service to Cambridge and direct rail connectivity with Oxford, London, the Midlands, the North of England and Scotland. Matt Hancock, West Suffolk MP, and our local MP Lucy Frazer were part of the discussion.

Commuters are set to benefit from an upgrade in the train line linking Cambridge to London starting from the new timetable on December 15th. A new route, extra services and more seats will be added to the line serving Cambridge North. The existing services between London Liverpool St. and Cambridge will be extended to Cambridge North seven days a week. A new direct service between Cambridge North and Stansted Airport will also be introduced. There is a growth in the number of passengers using the Cambridge North Station. Over 13 weekends from December there will be replacement buses on the Fen Line due to railway upgrades until April. This is for Great Northern's longer trains.

We have been promised plans for high-speed trains to Germany and south-west France by Eurostar before but it is now being mooted again that they will link with a rival operator Thalys on the continent in an attempt to give travellers a more sustainable alternative to air travel. This is being led by SNCF, France's state railway operator. The merger of companies would need permission from the European Commission – not reassuring as it refused another link-up earlier this year. The trains aren't interchangeable and Thalys can't run through the Channel tunnel.

More than a third of trains run late and rail operators face penalties, said Grant Shapps, the transport secretary. The Adam Smith Institute has advised ministers that the cash for HS2 should be used for upgrading main lines instead.

Rail info: 03457 48 49 50 Traveline: 0871 200 22 33 (apologies for wrong final number last month)

Happy travelling! - Paddy James

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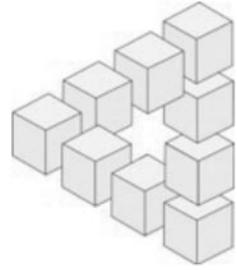
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Macmillan Coffee Morning

Many thanks to all who attended the coffee morning held in the Poppy Room at the Club on 27th September.

Thanks too for the support of WI members in donating delicious cakes, to the Club for kindly agreeing to waive the charge for the room and to Bill at Bottisham stores for a raffle prize. It was an enjoyable friendly event (2 brave men attended too) and we will be sending £338 to the Charity.

Thanks to those who helped in clearing up, washing dishes and returning the room to its original state.

The WI walking group usually attend the coffee morning in Swaffham Prior at the end of a walk but we decided to hold a "bit of a do" in Bottisham this year. Barbara and Denis King have held many a coffee morning in the past for this worthy cause and we were pleased to follow on.

*Mary Batten, Deborah Langford
and Sylvia Overton,*



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

Copy deadline for the next issue is 14 November.

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



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Thoughts of a Sports Nut

By the time this Cresset hits your doormats, the England footballers will have completed their European Championship qualifiers against Czech Republic and Bulgaria but, at the time of writing, we haven't boarded the aeroplane yet, so – more of that next month. In the meantime, with political intrigue to the forefront of most people's minds, I'm going to step into the murky world of sport politics...

Bang in the middle of the World Athletics Championships, we heard that Alberto Salazar, former coach of Mo Farah, among many others, and head of the sinister-sounding Nike Oregon Project, had been found guilty of doping violations and suspended from athletics for four years. This was not a new story of course; BBC Panorama reporter Mark Daly had been investigating Salazar since 2013 and has documented his downfall extensively, if you'd care to seek some further reading. But, with Nike bankrolling the prestigious NOP, Salazar's tracks (no pun intended!) had been well covered. He was even employed as a consultant by UK Athletics until the Russian Fancy Bears' hacking activities prompted his associates to start distancing themselves from him. What he did in detail is a long, convoluted story but – in essence – he'd been trafficking testosterone; which, in my humble opinion, leaves massive question marks against Sir Mo's achievements following his dramatic improvements in the run up to the 2012 London Olympics! The latest fallout is that Neil Black, UKA Performance Director, is said to be 'considering his position'!

What a shame this distasteful episode cast such a shadow over this year's Championships, which needed all the positive stories it could muster, what with being held in front of miniscule crowds in Doha, often in 40 degrees of heat! Obviously, we are immensely proud of our medal winners – sprinter Dina Asher-Smith and Heptathlete Katarina Johnson-Thompson in particular – but the whole idea of holding major tournaments in the Middle East is deeply troubling as we contemplate the horror of a 'winter' world cup in Qatar in 2022.

Incidentally, have you noticed a theme developing among our rising stars of late? Asher-Smith; Johnson-Thompson; Oxlade-Chamberlain; Alexander-Arnold; Loftus-Cheek; Hudson-Odoi... a new sporting aristocracy perhaps?!

In a neat segue to football, I am reminded of The FA's extraordinary decision to charge Manchester City player Bernardo Silva with an 'aggravated breach' of rules over a recent tweet to team mate Benjamin Mendy, comparing him to a cartoon character on the packet of Conguitos – a Spanish sweet – in a jest of innocent fun between best friends! The reason given was that the tweet included a 'reference to race and/or colour and/or ethnic origin'. However, your Sports Nut is no stranger to FA Rules & Regs, and I can state confidently that, unless Silva's words were abusive, indecent or insulting in the first place, then there is no breach to be 'aggravated'. It seems that the anti-discrimination charity Kick It Out, who brought this case citing 'racial stereotyping', is determined to persist in characterising black people as victims, even when the facts suggest otherwise. If I said my mate Brian Lewis, with his blond hair and spectacles, looked like the Milky Bar Kid, would that be a racial insult?

One final thing on football, I noticed that the new owner of Sheffield United – Saudi Arabian, Prince Abdullah Bin Mosaad Bin Abdulaziz Al Saud – was said to be considering

(Sports Nut continued on page 49)

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(Sports Nut continued.)

further investment in the club from the ‘very respectable’ Bin Laden family. I do hope the Blades’ supporters could live with such an association. For all the problems that my beloved Ipswich Town have faced under private ownership, we do have a degree of comfort in the owner being a Suffolk lad! Or am I being racist?

I was sad to see that, after a retirement of 23 years, former World Middleweight and Super Middleweight Champion Nigel Benn is trying to make a comeback. His promoter Mark Peters has described him as the “fittest 55-year-old on planet Earth” and insists he is “fit to box”. Don’t you wish you could believe that he had Benn and his family’s best interests at heart? Apparently, the British Boxing Board of Control is refusing to sanction a fight – supposedly against 40-year-old Sakio Bika, a Cameroonian-Australian – but, typically in the ignoble world surrounding the noble art, there is a rival organisation, the British and Irish Boxing Authority who has no such qualms. Benn was a true warrior in his day. I sincerely hope that this madness does not have a tragic outcome.

From one warrior to another... what a summer cricketer Ben Stokes had! After heroic performances in both the ICC World Cup and the Ashes series against Australia, he thoroughly deserved the avalanche of accolades that came his way as he prepared for a short rest before the winter tours to New Zealand, South Africa and Sri Lanka. How sickening then that The Sun, in a clear breach of even its own code of conduct, decided that this was the moment to drag up a tragic incident from Stokes’ family history (before he was even born!) designed only to cause pain and to sell newspapers. Stokes described it as the “lowest form of journalism”, which was remarkably restrained, but it didn’t stop another unnamed tabloid reporter from sinking even lower by telling Welsh rugby star Gareth Thomas’s parents that he was HIV positive, forcing him to go public about his condition. If anyone wants any further reasons never to buy a tabloid paper, surely this disgusting behaviour fits the bill.

Now that’s off my chest, I’ll finish on a positive note! The Rugby World Cup is currently bubbling nicely but I’ll leave that until it’s finished. So, back to cricket... wasn’t it heart-warming to see (all) the international teams reconnecting with cricket fans and filling the grounds in both the World Cup and the Test Matches this unforgettable summer. And remember folks... thanks to a brilliant victory in the 5th Test in September, the Ashes series was DRAWN, not lost to the Australians! Chris Silverwood, fresh from his successes with Essex, has now replaced Trevor Bayliss as England Head Coach and one hopes he and the Skipper can develop a new plan in the coming series to bring home the Ashes in 2022!

TTFN - Gerry Daish



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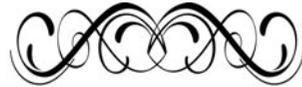
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IF ALARM BELLS AREN'T RINGING THEY SHOULD BE!

I would like to thank our Editor for providing me with the platform for this month's article. He bravely admonishes the BBC for their coverage of The Last Night at the Proms and the 'political' message that it sent out to millions of viewers across the world. Over recent months the BBC has revealed that impartiality is no longer sacrosanct to its corporate charter. Some reporters have been allowed to cross the line into opinion without reprimand (or a withdrawn reprimand in one case) and an American mezzo soprano was permitted to break the decades' old Proms tradition by not waving the Union Flag during Rule Britannia. For such a prominent and, until now, respected global occasion to permit the unfurling of a flag denoting a particular gender following was at the very least embolden mischief making and shows the BBC in its true colours. The Henry Wood Promenade Concerts were founded on principles unconcerned with politics, colour or sexuality and should go on doing so. As with all publicly funded broadcasters the BBC has a duty to remain impartial and report the news not create it...

Similar is also being said of the 'shenanigans' played out by The Supreme Court. Distinguished professors, historians and constitutionalists argue that the Supreme Court has set a very dangerous precedent by crossing that line of impartiality into opinion. In doing so its judgement has paved the way for wealthy people who lose out in the political process to secure political advantage in the courts. Not so long ago it would have been unthinkable for the courts to consider whether the power to prorogue Parliament had been misused. They would simply have said that this was not a legal question for them to decide - why? Because the role of the courts is clearly defined in Article 9 of The Bill of Rights 1689 and is unambiguous - it protects the rights of Parliament by explicitly preventing courts from questioning proceedings of Parliament "**...the freedom of speech and debates or proceedings in Parliament ought not to be impeached or questioned in any court or place out of Parliament**".

So who's really been lying and to whom? Did 'The Affluent Three' want in truth the Supreme Court to judge whether the power to prorogue Parliament had been misused or were they simply out to frustrate Government business to secure a political advantage? The eminent individuals who have questioned the authority of the Supreme Court in this matter say that 'Alarm Bells' should be ringing throughout the democratic world when 'unelected' Courts feel powerful enough to challenge and more importantly overrule the 'elected' Government of the day.

In a similar vein it is being said that we should also worry for this Swedish teenager whom, it is being suggested, is being exploited by extreme ideologists to gain support and respectability for their frenzied militancy. The Week magazine says no one is denying that climate change is happening but will we solve it by succumbing to the shrill 'catastrophism' espoused by this young lady. It also asks whether the calls from the climate strikers are realistic when they demand even lower carbon-neutral targets and the curtailing of the free

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(Jolley Old World continued from page 53)

market and shunning all 'evil' corporations. Heaven forbid that any of the news coverage is partial but from the footage I have seen the demonstrators seem to come from the 'bohemian' part of society supported and funded by 'luvvie' actors and rock musicians looking for a 'liberalist' cause. As Piers Morgan exposed during a recent interview with a member of XR; their hypocrisy and illusory protests fly in the face of their own ideology. Richard Madeley uncovered the same duplicity in another but separate interview with XR. By their actions (not their ideology) they are condoning a path into lawlessness for anyone or any group that has a grievance! Stopping others going about their lawful business, necessitating hundreds of police to be diverted to keep order, may create attention but for many it alienates the whole philosophy of the cause. If XR or any of us really worry about the triggers of climate change perhaps we should all start by depositing our smartphones in a dustbin!

Why? I hear the cry. Well, for a start it's worth considering the huge data centres that are needed to provide the Internet and Social Media access we require for our Smartphones to work. These centres are soon set to have a bigger carbon footprint than the entire aviation industry says John Harris in The Guardian. Yes, that's right! The amount of energy used to power these centres and to keep the plethora of routing and storage devices cool has doubled every four years, and is expected to triple in the next ten. These changes are partly being driven by the so-called 'Internet of Things': the increasing array of everyday devices that constantly emit and receive data. At the same time, the accelerating rollout of the internet and its associated technologies in the developing world will add enormously to the existing load. If the battle with climate change is even more urgent now then how does it fit with a world in which router lights constantly flicker, and all the devices we own are in constant, energy-intensive communication with distant mega-computers?

JOW

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PARISH CLERK

CLAIRE FULLWOOD 26 Peacock Drive 07914 219732

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*Working in Partnership with the
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Useful Information

Bottisham Website:	WWW.BOTTISHAMPC.CO.UK
Holy Trinity Church: Revd Sue Giles	812726
Roman Catholic Priest: Monsignor Eugène Harkness. Parish of St Philip Howard	01223 211235
RE:NEW/Lode Chapel: Rev. Alan Brand	01223 812558
Bottisham Surgery:	
Enquiries and Appointments	810030
Out of Hours only - Urgentcare Cambridge	111
Bottisham Library:	812354
Library hours: Monday Closed; Tuesday 3-5pm and 6-8pm; Wednesday 10-11.30am	
Thursday 3-5pm; Friday 6-8pm; Saturday 10am-12noon	
Cambridgeshire Police HQ:	01480 456111
Cambridgeshire Police:	(NON-URGENT MATTERS) ring 101 - In EMERGENCIES ring 999
Police community support officer Ann Austin PCSO 7353 at Ely Police Station	Contact through 101
1st Bottisham Rainbows/1st Bottisham Brownies: Kay Pearce	811055
Bottisham & District Gardening Club: Secretary: Julia Green	811467
Bottisham Bowling Club: Keith Gibson, Secretary	811049
Bottisham Carpet Bowls Club: Nora Watson	812121
Bottisham Community Primary School:	811235
Bottisham Cricket Club: Martin Wilson	07768 031979
Chairman: Will Allen	07801 580604
Bottisham Local Charities Trustees: Clerk - Coral Hatley	811457
Bottisham Pharmacy:	812321
Bottisham Pool Association: Manager - Jason Rye	811121
Bottisham Royal British Legion Branch: Secretary. Peter Walker	811402
Branch Chairman: Dave Frost	www.Britishlegion.org.uk/branches/bottisham
Bottisham Scout Group: Group Contact: Linda Jones	813040
Bottisham Community Sports and Social Club: Secretary Graham Darling, Bottishamcsasc@gmail.com	812063
Bottisham Village College, School:	811250
Evening Classes, Clubs and Youth Club Information	811372
Bottisham W.I.: Secretary - Jenn White • mrandjw@btinternet.com	811600
Bottisham Youth Football Club: Jim Tideswell	812591
Cambridgeshire County Councillor: Mathew Shuter	01638 508729
East Cambridgeshire District Offices:	01353 665555
East Cambridgeshire District Councillors: Charlotte Cane 34 Swaffham Road, Reach	07976 607512
John Trapp 104 Commercial End, Swaffham Bulbeck	01223 812120
Girlguiding Bottisham District: Cambs East County office • www.cambseastguides.org.uk	01223 813917
Parish Council Chairman: Jon Ogborn	07486 372780
Parish Council Clerk: Claire Fullwood	07914 219732
Queen's Court Day Centre:	811905
MP for Cambs South East Constituency: Lucy Frazer, House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA	
E. lucy.frazer.mp@parliament.uk W. www.lucyfrazer.org.uk	
Cambridgeshire Trading Standards Helpdesk:	0845 3030666
Saplings Preschool:	813226
Milton Road Tip: Apr to Sept - Weekdays 9.00am-8.00pm; Weekends 9.00am-6.00pm	860674
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