

THE Cresset

April 2020



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

HELLO! If you are self-isolating, I can help.

My name is

I live locally at

My phone number is

If you are self-isolating due to COVID-19 I can help with:

☐ Picking up shopping

☐ Posting mail

☐ A friendly phone call

☐ Urgent supplies

Just call or text me and I'll do my best to help you (for free!)

Coronavirus is contagious. Please take every precaution to ensure you are spreading only kindness. Avoid physical contact (2m distance). Wash your hands regularly. Items should be left on your doorstep.

#ViralKindness

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP THOSE IN YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY WHO ARE HAVING TO SELF-ISOLATE?

Have you got friends and neighbours who are having to self-isolate due to the current Coronavirus outbreak?

If you would like to help within your local community and do not fall into a category that have been asked to self-isolate, please complete the attached form and post through your neighbour's letterbox. Alternatively, contact church to get your name added to the list of volunteers willing to help in your local community.

ARE YOU HAVING TO SELF-ISOLATE AND NEED HELP AND SUPPORT?

If you are someone who is currently in self-isolation and you need help and support over the coming weeks and months, please contact your local GP who will be able to assist you in getting the support needed.

APRIL ALREADY!

By now we will be well into the effect on our lives of the corona virus and hopefully adhering to all the recommendations for its curtailment. Far be it from me to preach, but I am sure that all those little things that we probably should be doing anyway will be more in front of mind and helping to delay the rise in infections. Like regular washing of our hands etc.



I can't do anything about it in this editorial so let's move on.

What a picture! Our cover this month is truly home grown and was taken by a regular photographic contributor to The Cresset, John Overton. Just at the right moment, from his back window.

To get such a clear picture of a rainbow is one thing, but to get a picture of a double rainbow and seeing their ends hitting the ground is pretty unusual. That has to be a contender in any photographic competition. Countryfile calendar 2021!?

If you have taken a local scenic picture which you like and think others might like as well, then do let us have them to consider for the cover of our village magazine.

I often use generic material that suits the season, but I would much rather feature pictures taken much closer to home.

At the time of writing, the schools continue to operate as normal and let's hope that continues. One thing I do know from my grandchildren is that the hygiene regime in place for school children is being well covered, let's hope that continues, current situation or not.

One of the things that will not change with these events is the need to get the garden going. No longer dormant from the winter, buds are sprouting, blossom is blooming and yes, those weeds are beginning their march to take over the flower beds.

If you have had your tomato seeds in early enough, then they should be beginning to show. Seed trays will be needing to be pricked out. We are told that being out in the fresh air is the best thing and they are right.

We should all have received a questionnaire and survey from ECDC about bus services, cycling and walking routes. This consultation is aimed at gaining additional funding for the future delivery of these services. Needless to say, the more people respond to this, the more likely they are to get the additional funding. If the response is poor, there will be the view that we don't need it. So, don't just bin it. Fill it in and send it back or simpler still, complete it online by Sunday 19th April, at www.eastcambs.gov.uk/buscyclewalk

There are regular contributions this month and information aplenty for what is going on in Bottisham. If you are involved in a club activity or group in Bottisham, do let us know what you are up to. Other people may love to join you and all clubs benefit from new members and new ideas.

Apart from clubs, the college has adult classes which are very varied to cater for all tastes. You will also see in the magazine that the early morning swimming group are looking for new members. Now that's a refreshing way to start your day!

Keep safe this month and keep washing those hands!

PW, Your Editor.

At our meeting in February our speaker was Rachel Farnham who is the owner of Regency Cakes shop in Exning where she produces cakes for all occasions. After leaving school Rachel trained in the art of cake making and decoration and she has now been practising her craft for over thirty years. She loves creating the cakes and showed photos of some amazing examples for birthdays, weddings etc.. Then we were all provided with special icing, given a lesson in sugar craft on how to make a rosebud and leaves and encouraged to have a go ourselves. The results were quite varied!

We had a very interesting report back from a meeting which two of our members attended regarding the A.14 and the big changes which are still taking place. It had been a very informative talk including archeology, ecology, landscaping, all the skills required, talks in schools, quantities of materials used through to the signage.

Our next meeting is on 21st April 2020 at Queens Court, Downing Close at 7.30 pm. Lucy Lewis will be speaking about "The First Female Bomb Disposer"

Visitors and new members are most welcome.

Jenny Callanan

Invitation
TO THE RESIDENTS OF BOTTISHAM
**ANNUAL MEETING
OF BOTTISHAM PARISH COUNCIL
TUESDAY 19th MAY 2020
7.30pm**

POPPY ROOM, BOTTISHAM COMMUNITY SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB
ALL WELCOME

Claire Fullwood – tel: 07914 219732 - clerk@bottishampc.co.uk

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Bottisham Library Association

Not that we are complacent but all seems to be progressing well at the Library. New computers are expected in May and a new lending computer system update is gradually being operated.

One of the many magazines I get stated that "when it comes to the simple pleasures of life, reading has to be up there as one of the best". It goes on to mention book groups and the shared love of reading but did not mention using libraries, perhaps they are not as fortunate as us. Readers of the magazine had been asked to choose their most meaningful read and give their reasons. The winners were;

- The Chronicles of Robin Hood by Rosemary Sutcliffe
 - Bridget Jones's Diary by Helen Fielding
 - We're going on a bear hunt by Michael Rosen and Helen Oxenbury
- Have you read them?

Please be aware that the library is closed on Friday 10th and Saturday 11th April for Easter.

We shall be holding a book sale at the BASASC at the Easter Craft Fair on 5th April and hope to see you there.

Sylvia Overton

Services in the Anglesey Benefice in April 2020 - SUSPENDED

Wednesday 1st	8pm	“C by C” (Short candlelit meditative service) at Bottisham
Sunday 5th	8am	Holy Communion at Swaffham Bulbeck
Palm Sunday	9.30am	Village Worship at Quay
	11am	Holy Communion at Bottisham
Thursday 9th	7.30pm	Holy Communion at Lode
Maundy Thursday		
Friday 10th	10am	Family Service at Swaffham Bulbeck
Good Friday	7.30pm	Reflection at Bottisham
Saturday 11th	7pm	Easter Eve service at Lode
Sunday 12th	8am	Holy Communion at Lode
Easter Sunday	9.30am	Holy Communion at Swaffham Bulbeck
	11am	Holy Communion at Bottisham
	11am	Holy Communion at Swaffham Prior
	6.30pm	Songs of Praise at Quay
Sunday 19th	8am	Holy Communion (BCP) at Bottisham
	9.30am	Holy Communion at Quay
	11am	Family Service at Swaffham Prior
Sunday 26th	9.30am	Children’s Church at Lode
	9.30am	Morning Worship at Quay
	11am	Holy Communion at Swaffham Prior

With the constantly changing advice and regulations with regard to the coronavirus situation, the above information about services and meetings may be subject to change if this becomes necessary. Please check the church gate or Benefice website ([www. https://angleseygroupparishes.co.uk/](https://angleseygroupparishes.co.uk/) for updates.

N.B. After the service in Bottisham on April 5th, a meeting will take place in the church for the Election of Churchwardens. Anyone who is on the Electoral Roll or resident in the Parish may attend this meeting.

Similarly, anyone who is on the Electoral Roll or resident in the Parish is very welcome to attend the **Benefice Annual Parochial Church Meeting**, which will take place in Quay Village Hall on Thursday 23rd April at 7pm.



‘TRYPRAYING’ & GOOD NEIGHBOURS

The two things I was going to mention this month have been put on hold for one reason or another, so I will take this opportunity to introduce a local initiative several churches are piloting this Easter ahead of a large scale movement next year, and also to share a thought I had recently while reflecting on the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on my church and our communities.

‘TRYPRAYING’ - ‘Trypraying’ is an initiative for people who are not religious. ‘Trypraying’ is the work of a traffic planner, a shop manager, a writer, a designer, an entrepreneur, a civil engineer and others.

The desire to reach out to God is basic to many, many people. Many people pray even if they wouldn’t call themselves religious or go to church regularly. Trypraying is a resource for people like that: no church connection or interest, but open to find out about God. The trypraying booklet is a 7-day prayer guide and is now being used by many to pass on to friends and family with a few words of encouragement, ‘Why don’t you try praying for a week and see what happens in your life?’ There is also an app downloadable for free. Check out these websites for more information trypraying.co.uk thereishope.co.uk. TryPraying, what have you got to lose? Over the next couple of weeks you may see adverts on our local busses and on the screen at Cambridge City FC.

RENEW Church have ‘triedpraying’ together and will be passing on our booklets to others with the ‘trypraying’ invitation. If you would like a booklet, please ask me for one alanbrand77@icloud.com / C.812558 / 07896000796. A free booklet for personal use can also be obtained via trypraying.co.uk.

GOOD NEIGHBOURS - Whilst reflecting on the details of leading a church through the coronavirus pandemic and how to live well through difficult and uncertain times, I felt minded to make myself, the Brand family and RENEW church available to you throughout this time. If you need help and support in anyway, please do contact me via any of the details above, don’t worry about being an inconvenience or the practical details, we would be so happy and blessed to be able to draw alongside you and help where we can. If you are self-isolating and would appreciate a conversation we would happily call you for a chat, if you are unable to get to the shops but need some groceries we would happily get them for you and drop them off, if you need your pet walking, or any other help - please do get in touch. I know many people get to the stage where help would be, well, helpful, but people usually don’t take the final, sometimes vulnerable step of asking for help ... please do ask if we can help. It’s what, I believe, we’re here for.

Equally if you would like to be included on the list of people able to respond to requests for help, get in touch as well, we’d be pleased to include you in that.

Thanks once again for reading - Rev’d Alan.

RENEW Services for April 2020 - SUSPENDED
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 to all our services

We have activity groups for children and young people

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

Rev. Alan Brand on C.812558.

Email: alan.brand@renewchurch.org.uk

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

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Parish Notes

We have now received the planning application for the retirement village off of the High Street and there was a consultation with the village on Monday 16th March. Parish Council are now responding to the District Council. Anyone directly affected by the proposal will have been contacted by the District Council and will be able to respond to them directly with their views.

The Bus, Walking and Cycling Questionnaire from East Cambs District Council were delivered to everyone in March and meetings will be held with local residents to discuss the issues. The drop-off point for the questionnaire is at the village shop. Please do respond as Bottisham is not well served by public transport and this is a key way to get changes. The Mayor is consulting on CAM Metro Plans, but no consultation is planned in East Cambs. There are no detailed plans for East Cambs or to address congestion at the Quoy roundabout or the A14/A142 junction at Newmarket. The Mayor is being pressed to arrange some consultation in East Cambs by our District Councillors.

Regarding the proposed new cemetery off of Lode Road, Cllr Ogborn has met with the National Trust Estate Manager. The National Trust are wanting to support our plans for a new cemetery, but wish to have some input to the design to ensure it aligns with their priorities. It is apparent that the National Trust would not be happy with a play area/allotments being situated here and, at purchase, may put a restrictive covenant on the land for use only as a cemetery or wildlife area. The next stage is to move towards more detailed designs with our cemetery consultant. Once these are under way, there will be a consultation with the village to receive your input.

DIARY DATE

A reminder that our Annual Parish Meeting for the village is on Tuesday 19th May, 7.30pm in the Poppy Room at the Sports and Social Club. All are welcome and it would be lovely to see some new faces. This is the opportunity for the village to hear what the Parish Council have been up to in the past year and what they have planned for the future. As you can see from above, with a proposed retirement village and a new cemetery there are lots of things to find out about. It is also your chance to ask questions and talk to parish councillors, district councillors and our county councillor. Kevin Evans, our Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator will be coming to do a short talk and there will be other guest speakers.

Claire Fullwood – Parish Clerk

ECDC Councillor's Notes

As we write this, it seems that Covid-19 will have a significant impact. We know that the elections for the Police and Crime Commissioner have been delayed by a year to May 2021 and no doubt there are other changes to come. Please make sure you care for yourselves and your families and neighbours. It may be that we are unable to hold meetings over the next few weeks. We are always happy to be contacted by phone or email – john.trapp@eastcambs.gov.uk 01223 812120 – charlotte.cane@eastcambs.gov 07976 607512.

Continued on page 9

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Last month we told you about our opposition to the Council's decision to stop funding the Citizens' Advice Rural Cambridgeshire (CARC). We supported a motion to Full Council asking for this decision to be put on hold for 6 months to allow for proper discussion. The CARC told us that without the Council's funding they would have to close, leaving people in and around Ely without this vital independent advice. Unfortunately, the administration refused to reconsider and so the Council will stop funding the CAB in Ely. They continue to fund the CAB in Newmarket and the Council's housing team can provide advice on housing and related matters.

You will have received your Council Tax bills and have noticed that East Cambs' share has been frozen for a further year. On the face of it, this is good news – none of us like paying tax. But the books are being balanced for now by drawing millions of pounds out of reserves. The forward budgets show that by 2022/23 there will be a shortfall of £3.3m. John and Charlotte have been pressing the administration to explain their plans for balancing the budget and were encouraged to see that the auditor shared our concerns. He recommended "We suggest that the Council could be more transparent in its planning around the areas it has identified to help bridge funding gaps and we recommend that the Council considers updating its Medium Term Financial Strategy and its underlying assumptions more frequently than the current annual cycle." With the auditor's support, we now have a commitment from the administration to discuss the plans for balancing the budget at the Finance and Assets Committee in September.

Our next Councillors' Surgery is on Wednesday 22 April at 6.30 in the Memorial Hall, Brinkley, followed by meet your councillors at the Red Lion in Brinkley. Our following surgery will be on Tuesday 19 May at 6.00pm, with no 'meet your councillors' because we will be attending the Annual Parish Meeting in Bottisham that same evening. It is, of course, possible that Covid-19 will mean that some of these meetings will be cancelled at short notice, but we remain available by e-mail or phone.

Planning Notes

20/00103/FUL, 139 High Street, To install 14 solar panels on roof facing main road, NEW APPLICATION

20/00147/FUL, Blandford Lodge, London Rd, New entrance with dropped kerb, NEW APPLICATION

20/00281/FUL, 20 Cedar Walk, First floor side extension, rebuilding porch with lean to roof over and garage, NEW APPLICATION

20/00296/OUT, Land rear of 163-187 High Street, Redevelopment of retirement care village in class C2 comprising housing with care, communal health, wellbeing and leisure facilities, public space, landscaping, car parking, access and associated development, NEW APPLICATION

20/00002/VAR, Garages to N.E of 17 Howlett Way, To vary condition 1 (approved plans) of previously approved 16/01250/FUL for demolition of existing garage/workshop and construction of 2 no. one bed apartment, APPROVED BY EAST CAMBS DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Clerk to Bottisham Parish Council

Applications are invited for the above position in a village of 1750 electors. This is a home-based permanent position for a minimum of 12 hours/week (workload will vary over the weeks, so flexibility will be required). Equipment is provided and a home working allowance.

The salary is aligned with national pay scales and pro-rata ranges from £6096-£7730/annum, dependent on experience and qualifications. However, there may be flexibility beyond this for the right person.

Key features of the role are:

1. Attendance at ordinary meetings, documenting and circulation of agendas and minutes, together with comprehensive administrative support. Meetings are held on the first Monday evening of each month (excluding August and on bank holidays when the meeting is held on a Tuesday).
2. Attendance and provision of administrative support to Parish Council Committees/workgroups and the Annual Meeting.
3. Responsibility for all financial records of the Council and the careful administration of its finances, including audit. You will be required to store Parish Council records and documents securely.
4. Managing the cemeteries and grass-cutting around the village.
5. The primary administrative point of contact and correspondent with residents and external bodies.

The candidate will be expected to work towards the CILCA qualification for Parish Clerks (if not already qualified), for which the Council will provide support. You will require strong communication and organisational skills and be self-motivated. A working knowledge of local government procedures is desirable, although not essential.

The successful candidate will commence employment on 1st September 2020 and work alongside the current Clerk for 1 month.

A full job description and Person Specification is available from the Parish Clerk at: clerk@bottishampc.co.uk. Tel: 07914 219732.

To apply for the position please send your CV and a covering letter to the Chair of Council at: jon.ogborn@bottishampc.co.uk.

Closing date for applications is 30/04/2020, with interviews in early May.

Copy deadline for next issue is 12 April.

*Please send material to the editor
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Bottisham and District Gardening Club

Chris Field owner of Field Compost of Weston Woods Farm, Weston Colville told us of his involvement in providing high quality compost. He started as Newmarket Bedding providing newspaper shredded bedding for the Racing Industry, but was disillusioned with the large general waste companies and decided in 2003 to branch out on his own. He thought smaller units could make and sell fertilizers for growing plants ie manufacturing a product. He told us that in Germany the whole country has the same coloured bins (have you worked out the systems when you visit family in other parts of England) and each small town has its own composting facility. He explained the process he uses which can take 3 to 4 months to prepare and is then left for 6 months to mature. This organic matter is an agricultural improver of soils and much better than the chemicals often used. It can also be used like a mulch as a blanket to suppress weeds. Peat use is being phased out by 2020 (over 2.4 cubic metres are taken each year from Eastern Europe and Ireland which can never be replaced). His company supply the National Trust and the War Graves Commission. We expected the talk to be a load of rubbish but it proved most enlightening and interesting. Members were all given a small begonia corm to be planted for judging for a members' competition in September. Menu choices were provided for the Annual Spring Lunch at the Newmarket Golf Club on Sunday 19th March.

We shall not be arranging an Annual Show this year. It is sad to think that such a long-lasting village event is no more but I'm afraid that volunteers are not able to continue with this.

Next meeting is on Tuesday 28th April "Unusual Shrubs for the Garden" by Hedgehog Plants

We meet in the Poppy Room at the Club starting at 7.30 New members and Visitors most welcome.

Sylvia Overton

The Churchwarden Needs Your Help

You will see in the sales and wants section that the Church is looking for a wheelchair in good condition and a pair of blankets.

This is to assist if somebody takes unwell in the pews and needs to move and await medical help or indeed an ambulance.

If you have an unused wheelchair or know of somebody who does, do please respond to the number in the Sales and Wants section



Copy deadline for next issue is 12 April.

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

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Bottisham Community Sports and Social Club

Are you a member of your local sports and social club? Membership is just £21 to 1st October. Come along and have a look at our facilities and see what is on below.

If you are already a member we hope you can come along to some of the entertainment.

WHAT'S ON

EASTER CRAFT FAIR- SUNDAY 5th APRIL

Stalls open at 12 noon

CHILDREN'S EASTER DISCO

SUNDAY 12th APRIL- 4pm to 6pm

**BEER FESTIVAL WEEKEND SPRING BANK HOLIDAY
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Sunday Evening - AJ's Karaoke

Monday - Family day

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bottishamcsasc@gmail.com www.bottishamsocialclub.co.uk

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News from Bottisham Medical Practice Patients' Participation Group

CORONAVIRUS – HELP US HELP YOU

The practice is implementing contingency plans for managing the current Coronavirus outbreak in order to minimise impact to the service. The practice is implementing certain measures to ensure the safety of patients and staff by reducing footfall into the practice. This includes the following:-

Doing initial consultations via telephone. Should it be deemed necessary to see patients in person this will then be arranged at the end of the telephone consultation.

Closing the front desk reception. Can all patients please use the hand gel provided at the check in screen and use self-check in wherever possible. A bell will be placed on the front desk for patients needing assistance. Where possible, if you need to speak with reception please phone from home where the reception team will be happy to help.

Please note, if you have travelled abroad in the previous 14 days or been in close contact with someone with confirmed coronavirus, please check the gov.uk website for the latest COVID-19 travel advice, you may need to call NHS 111 for further advice. DO NOT ATTEND THE SURGERY UNTIL YOU HAVE RECEIVED ADVICE ON WHAT YOU SHOULD DO AS YOU COULD JEOPARDISE THE RUNNING OF THE PRACTICE.

If you have minor symptoms of cough, cold, sore throat etc. and want advice visit the following site and complete the questions: <https://111.nhs.uk/covid-19>

If, once completed, you are deemed as low risk but still feel you need advice from a GP please then contact us and we can arrange a telephone consultation.

Do not bring friends and family with you – where possible if you do need to visit the practice for an appointment or to pick up medication, please come alone in order to reduce footfall into the practice.

Thank you for supporting us with these measures which will ensure we are able to continue to provide essential services to all our patients.

Three Huge Thanks: We are delighted to extend thanks to The Bell P.H. Mr and Mrs Wilson, staff and customers whose generous donation almost doubled what we had saved towards buying the Doppler machine. We have also been told that another welcome donation from the Meeting Point group is coming, so our thanks to them, and of course we are also very grateful to all who have been contributing through the red bucket so we should now be able to purchase the machine.

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 24 April, 6 and 22 May. 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 Participation Group Meeting: Next meeting will be the AGM on Thursday 30 April 2020 at 7pm at the surgery when one of the GPs will talk about the latest developments. All patients of the Practice are welcome to attend.

Bottisham Patients' Participation Group

K.J.P.

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Bottisham Bowling Club

The 2020 season beckons, first competition matches are scheduled from the first of May. The picture alongside is of the spoils of last year – the Ely Afternoon League One Champion's Trophy. It's taken us twenty years to get our hands on it, and we would love to keep hold of it again this year!

Amongst ourselves we have several friendly competitions, some of which involve BBQ food, as well as the more serious matches. This year, for the first time, we will be hosting a County competition match, we have hosted County friendlies before, but not one at this level. Could be a chance to see how the game should be played.

We are always pleased to welcome anyone who would like to try out the game, please come along and have a chat with some of the members to see what the fuss is all about – we play it because we enjoy both the game and company, and once you try it, we hope you will as well.

We are holding an Open Day on Saturday 2nd May, where there will be several members on hand to give guidance. Please come and give it a try. (Don't worry about being a beginner – we all were at one time! and we do have some trained coaches in the club).

If you have any questions please contact any of the following

Katy Rowe, Captain-Tel 813170, Jim Carswell, President-Tel 812857,

Keith Gibson, Secretary-Tel 811049.



BOTTISHAM BOWLING CLUB

COFFEE MORNING

SATURDAY 4th APRIL

in the Poppy Room, Bottisham CS&S Club

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Bottisham and Burwell Photographic Club

I found myself with a spare second or two a few weeks ago, so I made myself a nice cup of tea, broke out the fig rolls (you can dunk them until your heart's content, just don't get them confused with dog treats) and sat down with all the pictures that I've ever taken and went through them with a critical eye. Do you know what I found? I've taken some truly bad photos. No really. I've taken some shocking photos. And knowing that is a good thing.

Taking a bad photo is true for all of us, and as photographers, of any standard, you should embrace that reality because it helps us live with ourselves better, and keeps our feet on the ground knowing there are areas for improvement which give us an opportunity to learn. As an example, my wildlife photography is simply shocking. I can come back from Wicken Fen with memory cards full of blurred images which are meant to be stunning shots of birds in motion. I have painfully found it is better to show and be criticised for the "sake of improvement" than to show your photos thinking that it's perfect when it's not. Attending a local photographic club is a good way of doing this. How painfully have I been critiqued for improvement? - well let's just say I was encouraged to put the camera down and find a new hobby.

I'm still here, taking better photos. I hope they're better – I like them....

Look and learn from looking, and not just at your own work. Go and have a look at other peoples, be it online or by visiting a gallery or exhibition. I'm not saying go out and copy some one's image you like, please don't do that, Instagram is bad enough as it is, I'm saying go and look at all sorts of peoples work and work out what you like and don't like about it, then apply that to your own work. You will find, very quickly, the level of quality and craftsmanship of your photographs will improve. Remember, you are bound to take images which act as steppingstones or practice shots which will give you experience and knowledge to apply to your photography in the future and prepare you for your moment of artistic breakthrough. That breakthrough will come, it may take time, but it will come.

A great place to gain some inspiration, as always, is the Bottisham and Burwell Photographic Club as they have some wonderful speakers and presentations. I can truly say you won't want to miss these.

First up on the 10th of March is a presentation by well-known local photographer Laura Galbraith entitled "Costa Rica & Japan". Laura will be sharing images and tales of her travels to both locations last year.

On the 17th of March we have "I Shoot People" a talk by prominent street photographer Dave Mason.

On the 31st of March there is "The Big Print Show" By Ron and Maggie Tear. Why is it called "The Big Print Show", well they are both presenting A1 and A2 printed images on a range of topics covering Monochrome, Landscape, Wildlife, Cityscapes and People. This is not to be missed.

Also, this month there are two club competitions if you fancy coming along and seeing a range of work from lots of other likeminded local photographers.

Continued from page 23

BOTTISHAM ADULT LEARNING ASSOCIATION (BALA)

**Wednesday 6th May at 7.30pm
in the main hall at the Sports and Social Club**

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As always, if you'd like to know more about the club you can visit either the clubs website at bottburpc.org or come along and see us all in person at the Chapel in Lode. We meet every Tuesday at 7:30pm. Come and meet the members, have a chat about photography and see what we're all about.

To help obtain a more objective view of your abilities as a photographer and the quality of images you can produce, here are some steps which help me...

Beware of getting comfortable. When you find yourself feeling comfortable with your images – challenge yourself and learn something new. I find that this is the only way to grow, don't get comfortable for too long.

Learn to let go of your old work. It's hard but try to forget about your old work. Stop going back to it and instead look at it as something to build on and move forward.

Ask for feedback and critique. It's hard and can be extremely painful, but don't be afraid to ask or find constructive, genuine and honest feedback from other photographers you appreciate. It's a hard truth, but the critique that gets to you might be the most important because you know they're right.

If you post your work to social media, please don't rely on "likes" as tool for your image's quality.

Always keep learning. You've never learned everything. Photography is constantly changing, so always keep learning and stay informed.

Feeling bad about your old work. It's really important to understand that if you are feeling bad about your old work it means that you are improving as a photographer. If today you are feeling a little embarrassed of your old images you once thought were amazing – don't worry, it's a good sign.

Remember, being a photographer is much more than snapping the photo. You cannot take your camera and hope for the best, hope that something will just turn up and happen right in front of you. This path leads to a draw full of bad photographic images, and trust me, I have lots of full draws.... Think about the image you want, what is the story you want to tell with the image, think about your vision, your idea. Then go out and capture it.

You have the idea, the vision of your image, now you are in control of your subject and surroundings to obtain the shot you have pictured. As always, practice, use your camera, use your vision and above all else, have fun.

Until next time – thanks for reading,

Elliot Needham – Bottisham and Burwell Photographic Club.

Copy deadline for next issue is 12 April

Please send material to the editor at

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Anglesey Group Mothers' Union

Our 2020 Programme began with a New Year Communion Service led by Rev'd Roger Bowen themed on our links with the diocese of Mara in Tanzania. In February we looked at the Mothers' Union theme for this year "Building Hope and Confidence". Taking a light hearted look at how we build confidence together and work as a team. We had great fun building paper towers with only newspaper and sticky tape. In groups we then made a collage for each church in the Anglesey Group with pictures showing the work of MU building confidence in those we seek to help at home and overseas.

Our April meeting will take place on Thursday 16th April, when we will be holding our Spring Social and Bring and Buy Stall at 2.30pm in Lode Chapel. You are most welcome to come and join us.

Ann Langran

Letter

Dear Editor

I was absolutely disgusted when I went out for my morning run this morning to see someone had let their dog foul the pavement and just left it there!

Thankfully I didn't tread in it but had to clean the path when I got back from my run. I don't have any animals but if I did, I would certainly never let that happen. I live on the High Street on the corner of the corner of Beechwood Avenue.

So many children walk past here in the mornings to go to school. This is simply not acceptable! One person's ignorant behaviour could cause lots of people distress at the start of their day which isn't needed. It is harmful to children who would be taking this into school on their shoes. For others it would tread into their homes.

I am always shocked when I see this on the pavements in our lovely village, it is a very sad we have to experience this.

I feel very strongly about this and hope that you can publish something in the Cresset. The person responsible may actually then realise it is simply not acceptable.

I had to go outside with a shovel, bleach, hot water and a broom to clear it up. I am extremely annoyed and disgruntled to have to do this at the start of my day when I need to get ready to leave the house for work.

Best Wishes - Lisa Jackson

Copy deadline for next issue is 12 April.

*Please send material to the editor at
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Registering your appliances can instantly improve safety in the home. It ensures that householders can be contacted swiftly if a safety repair is ever needed or if an item is recalled by the manufacturer, helping to prevent the risk of fire.

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Copy deadline for the next issue is 12 April.

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I have not heard of any changes to our local buses and hope you have access to the paper timetables, if you need them. They are available at Bottisham PO and on Bottisham High St. in the bus shelter opposite the entrance to Beechwood Avenue. I know that the Lodestar and Bulbeck Beacon do list the timetables. Just a reminder that the Saturday times can be a bit different and their pages are in green not blue in the paper timetables.

The arguments over public transport provision in the west of Cambridge continue – it seems almost daily in the Cambridge News. Is it to be trains, buses or a metro? Rome is digging down through history to install a new metro – as we would need to do here. James Palmer has now overruled the joint council's proposals. And faces a possible legal challenge. He says that the metro construction dates would be between 2023 and 2029. It all seems to be years away when we need improvements now. Our ECDC councillors are on the case and there are to be public meetings in the villages to discuss the transport needs. I do worry at seeing so many buses during the day with just a few passengers. I repeat again 'use it or lose it'. Young children usually enjoy going on the bus – perhaps sitting on the front seats upstairs. When there were evening buses, the teenagers used to use them and we would hear them cheerily saying their goodbyes at 11 p.m. after a happy Saturday evening in Cambridge. Now they are acquiring cars of their own despite the large running costs.

People request a Sunday service but when there was a limited one along the A1303 between Newmarket, Bottisham and Cambridge, it was hardly used. I do visit Newmarket every Sunday and I was often the only passenger. Amended plans for a retirement village off Bottisham High St. have been published and the promoters say it would boost bus needs. The Bourn airfield housing development could be delayed if the plans for the Cambourne to Cambridge busway are delayed or cancelled.

We need to cut the Cambridge congestion which is getting worse. People need to get to school, to work, to the shops, to the doctors or hospital, etc., etc. – now. I enjoy the bus lane on Newmarket Road – it is good to whizz along as the cars are all lined up and often stationary. What affect are the 2 Marshall's housing developments going to have? They say everyone will cycle. With a bus passing close to you that could not be a happy experience. I gave up cycling up Bottisham High St. years ago as, due to parked cars, cars were coming straight at me and several times I had to jump on to the footpath.

The Campaign to Protect Rural England talks about 'transport deserts' with people unable to get around without driving. Mr Johnson has unveiled a £1 billion a year boost for regional bus services – every region outside London. It is hoped to lead to cheaper fares and more frequent and greener services. More than 250 miles of segregated cycle ways will be built in accordance with the mini-Holland projects, which he introduced in outer London, when he was Mayor. National Express says that its fleet will be all electric by 2035. It won't buy another diesel bus.

There has been much information on train travel. Easter rail travellers face cancellations and delays due to a £113 million upgrade to various routes over the holiday. London to



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Glasgow will be the worst affected. There is a huge backlog of work to be done. Reduced services from London Paddington. The closure of Fenchurch station with services diverted to Liverpool St. Replacement buses on South Western Railway services around Guildford for 10 days from Good Friday. The closure of Wolverhampton station. Network Rail urges all travellers to check their plans before travelling.

The service from Cambridge to Brighton is increasing in May. There are to be extra carriages and so more seats on the service from Cambridge to Stansted to prevent the present overcrowding. Other areas will get this too. The arguments over the building of HS2 continue. It is vital for the Bombardier company, it is said. A Lancashire MP has been appointed as the minister in charge of it. Boris Johnson sidelines the company over poor management. Old Oak station in West London to have 14 platforms to handle 250,000 passengers a day from the HS2? A better idea, it is argued, would be to connect it to St. Pancras so people from the Midlands and North could travel direct to Europe.

A French high-speed train has derailed on a trip to Paris – the first derailment of a TGV train in nearly 40 years of commercial service. 21 people injured including the driver – he managed to bring the train to a halt.

Many rail routes in the UK and Europe are being proposed as people are being encouraged not to fly. The Cornish Riviera express to Penzance, for instance. Or the Alpen Express from Amsterdam after the 11 a.m. Eurostar train from St. Pancras. Interesting cities all round Europe can be visited although presently with the virus spreading this is not recommended. Don't forget Seat 61 for travel advice.

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Happy travelling! - Paddy James

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COG2COMPUTERS

At Red2Green, we have been busy working on our image as a message to send into space as well as creating binary code beaded bracelets which will be the start of our "Communication" segment of the project.

Key dates:

Centre for Computing History Museum visit: First 2 weeks in May

Gaming Day at Red2Green: Date TBC (June)

Community Learning Day: Date TBC (October)

****We are still currently looking for older members of the communities. Please get in contact with us to join in!****

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Wandlebury Park Outdoor Cinema: Rocket Man, Friday 10 April: 7pm-11pm
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Wandlebury Wild Flowers in Spring, Wednesday 22 April: 10am-12pm Join our gentle guided walk around the woods and meadows of Wandlebury Country Park with one of our knowledgeable wardens.

Pond Dipping for Earth Optimism Day at Wandlebury, Saturday 25 April: 2pm-3.30pm Have a go at catching and identifying pond creatures. Free event but donations are appreciated.

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

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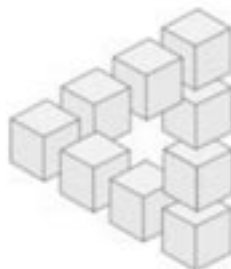
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Thoughts of a Sports Nut

At the time of writing, virtually all sport over the entire world has been put on hold for at least a few weeks because – apparently – someone ate a chicken that was infected by a bat in Eastern China! I understand that even the upcoming Subbuteo championships have been postponed, so it's a serious situation!

So whilst we are awaiting news of whether we can expect to see any of the major sporting events scheduled for 2020 taking place – including things like the Football League which is already three-quarters completed – I am temporarily 'isolating' myself in my study trying to make sense of the current state of play...

In the meantime, the last few weeks have offered us some interesting and amusing stories, the biggest of which was the WBC Heavyweight title fight between Deontay Wilder v Tyson Fury which shook up the boxing world. In the fight itself, it is well known that the skillful giant Fury absolutely dismantled and demolished Wilder over seven rounds and that Wilder's corner threw in the towel to save him from further embarrassment (or worse). But it was the American's array of excuses afterwards which prompted much mirth this side of the Atlantic. First we heard that, in spite of the physical evidence, he was not hurt at all by Fury's onslaught and that he was firing his trainer for stopping the fight unnecessarily. Then 16.5 stone Wilder blamed the 18kg outfit he wore to enter the ring, claiming it was so heavy that it sapped the strength from his legs. Then he revealed he had a cold. And finally, he complained that Fury's gloves had been tampered with in order to reduce the amount of cushioning! (NB. This is not even possible as the gloves are handled by the boxing authorities until the moment they are put on the fighters' hands.)

Anyway, the upshot is that Wilder seems determined to exercise his option for a third match with the "Gypsy King" before Fury can meet fellow Briton Anthony Joshua in what would be a title unification fight in the heavyweight division (Joshua already holds the other four main belts), and what, according to Fury's promoter Frank Warren, could be the "biggest sporting event in British history"! I guess we'll have to wait and see.

I know that boxing isn't everyone's "cup of fish" (a phrase coined by the lovable Frank Bruno in one of his wonderful interviews with Harry Carpenter in the 1980s) but I still regard it as a bona fide sport and am disappointed that the art can no longer be appreciated on terrestrial TV as it used to. However, I must say boxing doesn't help its own credibility when you have no fewer than six awarding bodies offering world championship belts! We have WBC, The Ring, WBO, WBA, IBF, IBO, not to mention 'lineal' (challenging the champion) titles in 17 different weight divisions.... bonkers!

Another thing that struck me as absurd was the disparity in the punishments meted out to rugby players Mohamed Haouas (France) and Joe Marler (England) after the recent Six Nations games. Haouas punched a Scotland player full in the face, clearly with mal-intent, and received a 3-week suspension for "dangerous play/physical abuse", whilst Marler received a 10-week suspension for acting "against the spirit of good sportsmanship" after playfully squeezing the Welsh captain in the groin during a melee! Seriously? This is nuts!

(Sports Nut continued on page 49)

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(Sports Nut continued.)

(Sorry, I couldn't resist it!) How is a minor wind-up, done with a smirk, more than three times as serious as smashing someone's face in whilst in the grip of a 'red mist'? The Welshman involved, 6ft 5in, 18.5 stone Alun Wyn Jones, claimed to be "offended" by Marler's attentions but shouldn't he be embarrassed about making such a fuss? I think the best reaction came from the punditry of gay ex-player Gareth Thomas: "It would never have happened in my day and I'm really upset about that - because if it had I would have never retired!" Priceless!

If Wyn Jones wants a lesson in toughness, he might consider the recent efforts of a deaf, 60-year-old pharmacy worker who, as part of a trio of oarswomen, rowed across the Atlantic in a record 49 days in the Talisker Whisky Atlantic Challenge. Mo O'Brien, her daughter and a friend, all from the West Country, overcame seasickness, storms, flying fish strikes and sleep deprivation to complete the 3,000-mile journey by rowing in pairs for four-hour shifts and, on arrival in Antigua, Mo immediately began talking about the next project: rowing the Pacific!

To finish this bulletin on home turf... you may know that Chris Darling has been at it again! I'll take this opportunity to congratulate all the many local runners who completed the Cambridge Half Marathon in early March, including Lode's Tom Vickery who finished fourth, but pride of place must go to Chris, who finished second overall with a new Personal Best time of 1:07:10 – a truly outrageous performance! Congratulations my friend, and I sincerely hope that the global pandemic does not rob you of your prestigious appointment as referee of the Cambs Challenge Cup Final on 21st April... Kick-off is at 7.30pm at Histon FC (Cherry Hinton v Over) for anyone who wants to witness match officiating at its finest!

TTFN - Gerry Daish

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DID WE SEE 'BLACKIE'?

At the beginning of March the Memsab and I ventured off to Bengaluru in India, formerly Bangalore, to embark on a safari offering the potential to see Tigers and Leopards as well as other exotic fauna in their natural habitat. We were not disappointed....

We arrived at Bengaluru at five in the morning after a very comfortable nine hour flight from London. A hearty Indian breakfast was welcomed and preceded a five hour journey south west through numerous towns and villages on our way to the Nagarhole National Park. Immediately noticeable was the pollution haze and the amount of plastic litter strewn everywhere - a common sight wherever we went. Our drive through Bengaluru itself, an area half the size of London, but with twice the population at around 8.5 million people, showed that overtaking and undertaking was an art compulsorily accompanied by the sounding of the horn no matter the time of day or night. Seven million vehicles - compared to two and a half million in London - all vying for space. And regardless of the width of the road if there was the slightest space another lane of traffic would appear made up mainly with motorbikes, mopeds and Tuk Tuks – the latter being a small three wheeler taxi (think Robin Reliant) often with ten or more people being carried. It was certainly an experience and not one for the nervous driver or edgy passenger!

One of the main attractions in undertaking this safari was the chance, although remote, to see a Black Panther aka 'Blackie'. There is something inherently mysterious about Black Panthers. They inspire legends and seem to tread a fine line between myth and reality, the most well-known being Bagheera in Kipling's 'Jungle Book'. Our trek took us right into the heart of this big cat's domain where we also hoped to explore the reserve's vibrant forests and waterways.

Nagarhole National Park is home to India's largest herds of Asian Elephants as well as other mammals such as Gaur, Sambar, Dhole (Wild Dog) and Wild Boar. Nagarhole is also one of the best places to see Leopard and a thriving population of Tiger. Birdlife is conspicuous throughout the Reserve and includes endemics such as Hornbill, Treepie and the famous Hoopoe. There is also a plethora of water birds, including eight varieties of King Fisher and nine varieties of largish Raptors - all in all an ornithologist's dream. We also came across some Marsh Mugger Crocodiles who are aptly deserving of their name.

Each day started at 5.30 in the morning with a wakeup call followed by sweet tea and then, at 6.30am, a three hour drive through the Reserve. On our return we were served a good breakfast of typical Indian (spiced) dishes plus fried eggs and omelettes. The rest of the morning was ours until lunch at 1pm followed by another three hour safari drive starting at 3pm. Each evening our group met to discuss the day's sightings prior to dinner which was served from 8pm. Again classical Indian dishes arranged in order of spiciness but the only meat was chicken or mutton (goat) as the cow is sacred and lamb has religious implications for some. I can honestly say that we will not be visiting 'Classic Spice' for a while yet...

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Bonnet Macaque monkeys played on our roof and veranda. In the Reserve itself you frequently saw the adorable Langur – the intensity of their collective alarm call when there was a big cat around was quite something and yes, we saw the magnificent and noble Royal Bengal Tigers and the elusive breath-taking Leopards. But what about ‘Blackie’ himself - who confidently controls a large swathe of the Reserve - often allowing the kinds of relaxed encounters that would be special with a Leopard of any kind? Alas not this time... Nevertheless it was a wonderful experience and I’m so glad that the Memsaab persuaded me to go.

But on a final and not surprising slightly controversial note can I suggest that the ‘climate change crusaders’, rather than embark on disrupting activities here, go to Asia where much more education needs to be done!

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Jeremy Bentham – 19th Century Philosopher.



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*Working in Partnership with the
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Useful Information

Bottisham Website:	WWW.BOTTISHAMPCC.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: 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, Bottishamcsase@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 Tidewell	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 Oct to Mar - 9.00am-4.00pm	860674
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