

OPENING HOURS

Monday to Friday- 5pm to 11pm Saturday- 12 noon to 11pm Sunday- 12 noon to 9pm

The AGM was held on the 24th of January and attended by 41 members.

The members present were told the club was in excellent financial shape and many repairs and maintenance jobs have been completed over the past year. The club also retained the Cask Marque for the excellent condition of its real ales.

Play your cards right update.

There is a remaining winners pot of £1,906. This will be divided between four Friday nights starting the 8th of April where there will be a guaranteed winning pot of £500 each night which must be won on the night. One card will be removed after each member has a failed attempt until it is won. Tickets are £2 each available to current members only present on the night. First ticket drawn out at 9.15pm.

What's on at the Club

Pam Daish is back at the club Easter Saturday 16th April from 8pm

Free entry to members - £2 non members

Don't forget we have BT Sport available throughout the year.

Saturday morning premier league games and most European games being shown.

Come along to enjoy.

Darts / Pool / Snooker / Billiards / Cribbage / Dominoes / Bar billiards/Table Tennis. We have two full size Snooker tables, two Pool tables and a Bar Billiards table.

Hall and Poppy Lounge room hire available for all your functions.

Well behaved dogs are welcome in the main hall and must be kept on a lead.

Please refer to the website. www.bottishamsocialclub.co.uk for the latest information. If you wish to be kept up to date with the latest news, please email bottishamcsasc@gmail.com with your email address and you will be added to the mailing list.

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In like a lion, out like a lamb (Hopefully)

As I write this editorial, we are in Deepest Perthshire in Scotland, battening down against incredibly strong winds which is the result of the storm Dudley and storm Eunice.



Who thinks up the names of these storms? I picture all the staff in the Met. Office being asked to write down the names of their kids on a list and then just work through the list.

I also now know who has been getting the share of rain that we have been missing down here. The mighty River Tay which flows past Pitlochry where we are, is full to the brim and overflowing its banks in places. As it makes its way past Perth and Dundee, to the North Sea, it makes a dramatic backdrop to some wonderful scenery. Thankfully no snow where we were, but lots much higher up on the mountains.

Back home, we have been having such a mild winter that again that all the flowers and bulbs are pushing themselves up ahead of time. Hope they don't get caught if the frosts return.

As I write, I hoped that we might have known the outcome of the planning appeal for the retirement housing. If it is a successful appeal, it will be the biggest injustice. The wishes of all local opinion, the Parish Council, the District Council planning authority, the local Doctors and properties affected will all have been side-lined by one highly paid aggressive barrister who takes no account of the above. Paid for by a developer who neither lives in the village nor has an interest in the village, apart from a financial one. If it was turned down, then justice may well have been served.

Your magazine this month is packed with lots of information with the new What's On section giving lots of detail, ideas and even recipes to fire you up for the month ahead. If you are getting involved in any village activities, then do let us know what you are up to.

Shame to read about the damage that a small element of our village youth is inflicting. These, remember, are children from this village whose parents, one assumes, are unaware of what their children are up to. If you witness any vandalism or antisocial behaviour you should contact the police if it is in progress or report it to the neighbourhood policing website if it is after the event. Ideally if you recognise a participant, pass that information on as well.

In the 'good old days' there was likely to be more of an adult presence about in the village and more people on the street of an evening, even a village bobby. Nowadays few people walk out at night, particularly in the winter. Most stay indoors with the telly or if going out will be in the car driving out of the village. Also, lots of kids used to play outside in the evening giving the 'safety in numbers' scenario. Now most kids are indoors watching TV or playing on their computers leaving the streets to that element of bored youth who get into trouble.

Another aspect of change over the years is the respect that most kids gave their elders. Now if you dare to intervene, all you get is a foul mouth of abuse.

Enough of depressing talk, there is a lot to be positive about in our village today. A lot of it you can read about in The Cresset.

As we move further out of lockdown and social restrictions, more activities can be restarted. If you were involved in an activity before lockdown, have you taken it up again

(continued on page 2.)

(continued from page 1.)

since? If so, you will be feeling so much better for it, and if not then I am sure you wish you could. Well, if it is on the cards, then go for it.

This month's cover is a well-known view to any Bottisham dog walker, with a view from the Swaffham Bulbeck Rd. looking back across what is known as the cow's field. Taken by Neil Winkup. Thank you, Neil.

If you have taken or do take any views in and around Bottisham, then do share them and get a mention in your village magazine. Portrait layout is always better than landscape. (That's holding your phone up and down, not side to side).

Enjoy your month. - Your Editor

Services in the Anglesey Benefice

Wed 2 March	7.30pm	Ash Wednesday Holy Communion, Quy	
	8pm	C by C (a short contemplative service), Online service on Zoom	
Sun 6 March	9am	Online service on Zoom	
	10.30am	Holy Communion, Bottisham	
	4pm	Village Worship, Village Hall, Quy	
Sun 13 March	9am	Holy Communion, Quy	
	10.30am	Family Worship, Swaffham Prior – also on Zoom	
Sun 20 March	9am	Online service on Zoom	
		Morning Prayer, Quy	
	10.30am	Holy Communion, Swaffham Bulbeck	
		Morning Prayer, Bottisham	
Sun 27 March	9am	Online service, on Zoom	
	10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP), Swaffham Prior	
	3pm	Mothering Sunday: Treat Your Mum to Tea, Service followed	
		by Tea, Lode	
Each Thurs	10.30am	Holy Communion, Lode	

For the time being we would like to request congregations wear masks to sing at services in church

Please check http://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/7378/benefice for current information; or email admin@angleseygroupparishes.co.uk, which is also the address to request the Zoom link.

Community Library

Only a short report from me this month as I am pleased to say that all is running smoothly (fingers crossed).

Our new store cupboard is full to the brim with books ready for our next Triangle sale later in the year - date yet to be decided

There are still a few tables available for our quiz on Saturday 12th March and there is a separate advert for this elsewhere in the magazine.

We look forward for your support.

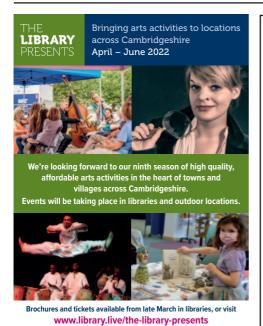
It has been great to see more users coming to the library. Please continue to come.

Sylvia Overton

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District Councillors' Report

From 28 March 2022 our waste will be collected on new days. For Bottisham, Brinkley, Lode and Westley Waterless the waste will be collected on Mondays and Reach, Swaffham Bulbeck and Swaffham Prior on Tuesdays. Our waste will be collected on these days for 2 weeks and then we will move onto the Easter timetable. Bottisham, Brinkley, Lode and Westley Waterless on Saturday 9 April and Tuesday 19 April and Reach, Swaffham Bulbeck and Swaffham Prior on Monday 11 April and Wednesday 20 April. Then we will move back to Mondays and Tuesdays. In addition, the pattern of collection of Green and Blue bins will change – they will still be alternate weeks, but you may get Blue bins collected two weeks in a row when you first move to the new days. ECSS will be delivering letters to each household which should make all of this clear.

We apologise that this may be a bit confusing. We will be asking why the changes were introduced just before the temporary changes necessitated by the two Easter Bank Holidays.

We have been assured that reconfiguring the waste rounds will ensure that the service will operate more efficiently, reducing the fluctuations on resource demand and removing unnecessary travel. We were pleased to hear that the new arrangements will reduce ECSS's annual carbon output by about 12 tonnes C02 per year.

The budget proposals for the coming year were on the agenda for the Finance & Assets Committee on Monday 24 January. These were in line with the Medium Term Financial Strategy which was approved by the council in its budget last year. However, the Leader of the Council moved an amendment at the meeting to delete all the budget recommendations in their entirety, and refer the decision on the budget to the Full Council meeting on Tuesday 22 February, with no recommendation at all from the committee.

The County Council are creating a new heritage website for Cambridgeshire, with the aim of improving the availability of local heritage lists. Once this is up and running you will be able nominate buildings and sites as local heritage assets - https://local-heritage-list.org.uk/cambridgeshire

Jubilee Gardens in Ely celebrated 20 years since it was opened by HRH the Duke of Edinburgh in February 2002. Charlotte was one of the Councillors at the time who pressed the administration at the Council to retain this green space rather than selling it as a building plot - Lib Dems celebrate 20 years of Jubilee Gardens Ely (ecld.org.uk). She wanted people to be able to walk through park land from the river to the Cathedral, rather than having to navigate between buildings. It's disappointing that 20 years later we are still having to fight across this ward to protect local green space from development pressures.

Our next 'meet your Councillors' and Surgery will be on Monday 21 March at 6.30 by zoom. Meeting ID: 865 7631 8040, Passcode: 490667. If you prefer to join by 'phone, the number is 01314 601196.

Copy deadline for next issue is 14 March.

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

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Parish Council Report

I want to begin by expressing my gratitude to everyone who contributed in any way to the recent Inquiry into the appeal against the refusal by East Cambs District Council (ECDC) of the application for the Retirement Village to the rear of 163-187 High Street. So many of you made submissions in writing, underpinning the live contributions by three residents from the village, which can have left the Inspector in no doubt of the strength and unanimity of local opposition. We are grateful also to District Councillor Cane for her powerful statement to the Inquiry. The appeal was a real marathon, with hearings on Zoom over 8 days. I would like to thank my colleagues on the Parish Council and our Clerk who went far beyond the call of duty in spending hours following the action on screen, making live submissions and liaising with those leading ECDC's case for the Appeal to be dismissed. Lastly, anyone who watched any of the proceedings live on YouTube, will have been aware of the constant presence of Dr Tamara Keith, who was there as a formal party to the proceedings on behalf of the Bottisham Medical Practice. While the other two main parties were represented by professional barristers, Dr Keith represented the practice herself. She presented very powerful arguments illustrating the potential impact on the practice and current patients of up to 255 older residents moving into the village. The village already has a very high number of older people and care homes relative to the wider population and this would be hugely increased if the development of the village were to be permitted.

At the time of writing we are breathing a collective sigh of relief that the formal hearings are complete and are awaiting the decision. If, as we hope, the appeal is rejected by the Inspector, we will be freed up to fully commit to the other projects to which the Council is committed. However, if the appeal is allowed, which would, in effect, grant outline planning permission, then we will work to represent you on the detailed ('reserved') matters that then have to be decided before any work can commence.

In January, I reported on the recent spate of vandalism and graffiti affecting the village and the brick bus shelter in particular. During January some Parish Councilors, together with the Village College and local business owners, met with the Community Policing Team, who are taking action to apprehend those involved. At the same time they took issue with some drivers for their dangerous parking on corners near the shops; they recognised that this is a matter on which they will need to focus regularly.

While being committed to challenging anti-social behaviour, the Parish Council believes this results from the action of a very small number of young people. At the same time, it recognises that Bottisham is a large village with limited out of school facilities for young people as a group. The Council is exploring, together with those who share this concern, how we can secure better provision for young people.

One of the roles of the Parish Council is to maintain the existing Cemetery and Churchyard (there is a legal provision which permits Parish Councils to take on the maintenance of Churchyards which are closed to new burials). That responsibility includes caring for the fine but substantial trees that stand on these sites. We have taken advice from a Tree Surgeon and the most immediate issue is the removal of some dead branches, which

Continued on page 9



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OPENING TIMES

Monday and Wednesday 9am-3pm Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9am-12.30pm



Continued from page 7

is planned to take place during this month. Beyond this urgent work, the Parish Council has resolved to commission a survey to plan maintenance over a three year cycle. This has revealed an issue which we want to draw to your attention. In order to survey the lime tree trunks effectively, the 'basal' growth (ie the outgrowth from the base of the trees) needs to be cut back. On close inspection, a substantial part of the hedge along the public footpath bordering the cemetery is made up of this growth. Once removed it would open up substantial gaps in what currently appears to be a dense boundary. It would be difficult to fill these gaps quickly with hedging, as this would be difficult to establish in the shade of large trees. We feel that the solution will be fencing but would value any observations from parishioners about the best option at this location.

I hope this report of some of the Parish Council's recent work, illustrates the positive impact that the committed members of the Council have on improving the life of our community. The easing of the pandemic restrictions has enabled a number of important issues to receive attention that has been lacking during the past two years. We would strongly encourage you to consider whether this is a role you might take on with us for the benefit of Bottisham. Alongside the routine maintenance tasks for which the Council is responsible, we are focusing on making tangible improvements in our community – some members of the Council concentrate on areas where they have experience while others have found it an opportunity to learn new skills, or a bit of both! To find out more, please do contact me (jon.ogborn@bottisham-pc.gov.uk), any of our Councillors or our Clerk (contact details on page 59).

Planning Notes

a) New Applications

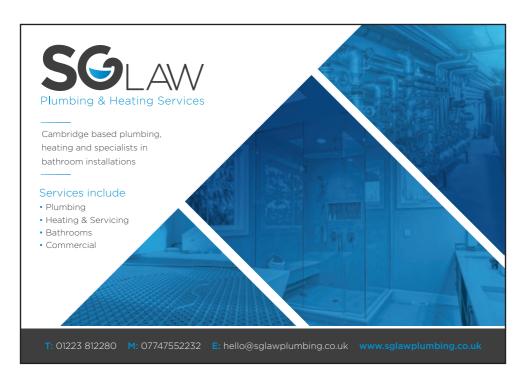
- 21/01657/FUL 4 Bradfords Close CB25 9DW, Proposed demolition of existing garage, single storey front, rear and side extensions, window replacement and external rendering/cladding
- 22/00015/DEM between 59 & 61 Jenyns Close, Demolition of 7 pre-fabricated garages
- 22/00072/SCREEN Six Oaks Renewable Energy Park, Newmarket Rd, Bottisham, SCREENING OPINION: Installation of ground mounted solar array and battery storage system (Land between A14 and A11 by Nine-mile hill running down to Six mile bottom/Wilbraham rd.)

b) Planning Applications Approved by ECDC

- 21/01679/FUL 2 Arber Close, Bottisham, New front porch and single storey rear extension
- 21/01842/TRE 125 High Street CB25 9BA, Ash leaf Maple Pollard to previous reduction points

c) Planning Appeal

21/00033/REFAPP – Land to rear of 163-187 High Street, Proposed Retirement Village – Planning Inquiry hearings closed 4 February 2022 – Inspector's decision is awaited





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Cambridge Waste Water Treatment Plant

An update from Lucy Frazer, our MP.

Constituents rightly remain concerned about Anglian Water's proposals to relocate the Cambridge Waste Water Treatment Plant to a site on land north of the A14 between Fen Ditton and Horningsea.

Access to the site is part of the consultation process, and this has included the option of a new junction east of Junction 34 at Horningsea (known as 'Option 3.' 71% of respondents to Anglian Water's consultation support this option, due to concerns with other proposals (Option 1) which would impact upon a rural road and is used by pedestrians, cyclists and is close to Fen Ditton Primary School. An increase in HGV movements and the disruption it would bring to these two communities is a serious concern.

Despite clear local support for Option 3, I am very disappointed that Anglian Water has discounted it, on the basis that they cannot evidence the need for a new junction off the A14.

I have written to National Highways for their comments, and they have confirmed that:

- No options have been discounted.
- Analysis of the information provided to date by Anglian Water regarding expected vehicle movements, indicate that there is more than sufficient capacity at junction 34 to accommodate the additional traffic generated by the new facility.
- They will continue to work with Anglian Water and the local highway authority to agree how best to move traffic into and away from the plant. If further action to promote active use of the strategic road is required, they will work with all parties to put such measures in place.
- The option of creating a temporary access from the layby on the northern carriageway east of junction 35 has been considered. However, this is likely to result in heavy goods traffic accessing and exiting the A14 at slow speeds and encourage use by other road users, who would ordinarily utilise the adjacent junctions. They will therefore explore alternative options once more details are forthcoming from Anglian Water.

I will shortly be meeting with National Highways to discuss this issue further and continue to represent residents' concerns on this issue. If you have specific issue or concerns that you would like me to feed into the discussions at that meeting then please do let me know as soon as possible.

Office of Rt Hon Lucy Frazer QC MP

Member of Parliament for South East Cambridgeshire Financial Secretary to the Treasury House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA dunnlb@parliament.uk

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Bottisham Community Events



Welcome to our Village

RECENTLY ENJOYED

■ 2nd Feb Bottisham Book Club

Held it's third meeting in The Bell Pub Function room, plenty of discussion and fun enjoyed by all. To see what the Club is reading next, check out the Facebook Group or email helenIslone@gmail.com

■ 6th Feb Inter-Village Litter Pick

Lode Parish Council approached Bottisham residents, to see if there was interest in joining forces to keep our countryside clear and support our local wildlife. What a great way to spend a Sunday, getting exercise, meeting neighbours and enjoying cake afterwards. Thanks to those who joined or expressed interest, keep your eyes peeled for future joint ventures. Fun for all the family and especially useful for those working towards their DofE.

■ 9th Feb Bottisham Baking Club

Another mid-week adventure sprang into life this month, held in The Bell Pub Function room. Inviting all those who like baking, or eating the result, to gather-together to swap tips and treasure recipes. For more information see the Bottisham Events Facebook Group or email helenlslone@gmail.com

REGULAR VILLAGE ACTIVITIES

Every Tuesday (term time only) 09:00
 Toddler Group at The Holy Trinity
 Church

- Every Wednesday 10:30 **Meeting Point** in the Poppy Room, Bottisham Community Sports and Social Club
- Every Wednesday 19:15 Carpet Bowls at Bottisham Village College
- Every (first) Wednesday of the month, 19:30 Bottisham Book Club at The Bell
- Every (third) Wednesday of the month, 19:30 Wool & Wine Wednesdays at The Bell
- Every (last) Friday of the month 09:30 Bottisham Men's Walking Group
- Every (first) Saturday of the month 10:30 **Storytelling at the Library**

THINGS IN THE MAKING

- Jubilee Street Party This year marks the Queen's 70th anniversary on the throne, and she will be the first ever British monarch to mark a Platinum Jubilee! Watch this space for exciting news of celebrations happening in your village!
- Community Meal if you're interested in supporting this fabulous idea, why not join the organising committee, simply email

bottishamcommunityevents@gmail.com

continued on page 15

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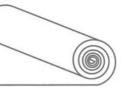


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- Bottisham Village College are looking for volunteers to provide a cafe facility to support village events, if interested email enquiries@bottishamvc.org
- Lego Club Leader Wanted Bottisham Community Library are looking for volunteers to if interested email enquiries@bottishamvc.org ask for Sylvia

If you have a village group, club, society, or event you would like to advertise please email bottishamcommunity events@gmail.com for inclusion online or join the Bottisham Events Facebook Group

Or send your poster direct to The Cresset Magazine via bottishamcresset@gmail.com If you would like these details adding to The Cresset 'What's On' page, please observe the print deadline for inclusion.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - MARCH 2022 DATES FOR YOUR DIARY -MARCH 2022

- Tuesday 1st Mar Toddler Group Held at our local Church in Bottisham, every Tuesday, 9am-11am (term time only), refreshments provided for carers, please bring refreshments for children, for further information contact admin@angleseygroupparishes.co.uk
- Wednesday 2nd Mar Bottisham Book Club Meet in The Bell Pub Function Room from 19:30, For more information see the Bottisham Book Club Facebook Group or email helenIslone@gmail.com
- Wednesday 9th Mar Bottisham Baking Club Meet in The Bell Pub Function Room from 19:30, For more information see the Bottisham Events Facebook Group or email bottishamcommunityevents@gmail.com

- Saturday 12th Mar Community Library Annual Fundraising Quiz At the Bottisham Community, Sports & Social Club at 19:00, organised by the Bottisham Community Library, to book your place contact Margret Coles on 01223 812199
- Wednesday 16th Mar Wool & Wine Meet in The Bell Pub function room for 19:30, bring your wool craft, and enjoy a relaxed evening having a natter while you create, all skill levels, everyone welcome. For more information see the Bottisham Events Facebook Group or email

bottishamcommunityevents@gmail.com

- Tuesday 22nd Mar Play Reading Evening Starting at 19:30, for anyone over 16yrs and beyond, come along and enjoy some script-reading fun! Pandemic restrictions apply, access to a tablet or similar device useful, for further details please contact rosemary@ anthonyjolley.com
- Tuesday 23rd Mar Bottisham Board Game Club Meet in The Bell Pub Function Room from 19:30, For more information see the Bottisham Events Facebook Group or email bottishamcommunityevents@gmail.com
- Saturday 26th Mar Bottisham Litter Pick If anyone would like to bring along a cake for afterwards, a contribution is always welcome. Find us by the BVC Sports Centre Car Park from 10:30am, equipment available to borrow, but you're welcome to bring your own. Sign up here or email bottishamcommunityevents@gmail.com



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continued from page 15

■ Bottisham Sports Centre Thankfully we finally have our much loved Sports Centre open again, thanks to new management! While it can be a bit tricky to find the time to call and book (or use the lengthy online membership link!) it is really a great facility in our lovely village. So if you fancy a swim before breakfast or you're thinking of becoming a gymbunny, give them a call on 01223 811121, use their link or check out their website and support their growth www.bottishamvc.org/sportscentre

■ COMMUNITY HERB BED PROJECT UPDATE by Sarah Brown.

We have made a start on tidying one of the beds and will soon have the rest tidied, ready for spring. One generous Bottisham resident has gifted a pot of Sage and some herb seeds, ready to be sown in March. We were also offered some help with the maintenance of the herb beds, which is fantastic.

If you also wish to get involved, please contact me at brownsjc46@gmail.com.

■ HERB OF THE MONTH by Sarah Brown – 'Tarragon'

Tarragon has a pungent, liquorice like flavour. It pairs well with acidic flavours like lemon and vinegar.

As well as fish, it also goes well with meat, especially chicken dishes. How about trying Creamy

Tarragon chicken? There are plenty of easy recipes to be found online (see inspiration below).

For vegetarians and vegans, try pairing Tarragon with roasted vegetables and lemon.

GROWING

When growing Tarragon, it is best to keep it in a container as its roots tend to spread easily.

RECIPE – For Creamy Tarragon Chicken Casserole (Delicious Magazine Online)

- 2 tbsp olive oil •30g plain flour
- 12 free-range skinless, boneless
 200ml dry white wine chicken thighs, halved
- · 200g smoked bacon lardons
- 500g baby potatoes, halved if large
- 800ml chicken stock
- 300g baby shallots, peeled and trimmed
- · 2 tbsp dijon mustard
- 3 celery sticks, finely chopped •3 tbsp crème fraîche
- 3 garlic cloves, finely chopped •2 tbsp finely chopped fresh tarragon

METHOD

In a casserole dish, fry off separately, the chicken, then the bacon, then the vegetables. While frying the vegetables stir in the flour with plenty of salt and pepper, then the wine until the sauce is smooth, then add the potatoes, stock and mustard. Return the chicken, bacon and any resting juices to the pan. Cover with lid and pop in the over for 45 mins at 180°C/160°C fan/gas 4. Remove from the oven then stir in the crème fraîche and most of the tarragon.

Serve sprinkled with the remaining tarragon and cracked black pepper.

Enjoy!

Copy deadline for next issue is 14 March.

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



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Tim the Vinophile Writes

Biblical Wine

Wine has been made and enjoyed for thousands of years, it gets a mention in the bible and has Greek and Roman gods whose main purpose was to drink the stuff. You may remember one of my articles describing the differences between old and new wines? In fact, the old wines of France are not that old after all. In the mid nineteenth century the grapes of France and other European countires were destroyed by the great wine blight caused by the Phylloxera aphid. It is argued by some that the introduction of such pests as phylloxera was only a problem after the invention of steamships, which allowed a faster journey across the ocean, and consequently allowed pests such as the Phylloxera to survive the trip.

Eventually it was proposed that the European vines be grafted to the resistant American rootstock that were not susceptible to the Phylloxera. While many of the French wine growers disliked this idea, many found themselves with no other option. The method proved to be an effective remedy. The "Reconstitution" (as it was termed) of the many vineyards that had been lost was a slow process, but eventually the wine industry in France was able to return to relative normality.

One country unaffected by this was Lebanon where wine has been produced for a very long time. If you want to find out what real "old wine" tastes like I can highly recommend Chateau Musar (chateaumusar.com). The Phoenicians cultivated the land 4,000 years ago and the area has survived war and famine ever since, including the 1975-90 Civil War. It's available in Waitrose and Majestic in Newmarket although it is quite pricey. A wine to be enjoyed and savoured not gulped down.

I'd love to hear what you enjoy drinking. Suggestions always welcome! Do drop me an email vinophile?@gmail.com

This month's recommended wines are all available in our local Co-op, they are mid-priced and reflect the excellence of the Co-op's wine buyers.

Yealands Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc, Co-op £9.50 reduced to £8.00

A classy New Zealand sauvignon blanc. Crisp yet with that fruitiness that makes this grape one of the most popular in the world. Also, one of the first carbon neutral wines in the world.

La Vieille Ferme Rosé Co-op £7.75

Spring is in the air! It's March, the daffodils are out and the clocks leap forward at the end of the month. This means it has to be time for rosé! This crisp and thoroughly delicious pink has a delicate palate of strawberries, raspberries and a touch of nectarine.

La Grange St Martin Cotes du Rhone; Co-op £8

A Co-op exclusive offering a good glugging Cotes du Rhone when there's a late winter cold snap or when it's raining outside or just when you fancy a glass!

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Reasons to be Cheerful...

have a silly sense of humour, and there are many things which make me smile as I go about my life. Road signs, TV adverts, clothing labels, people, animals, food packets, and all sorts of other stuff. Here are a few things which made me giggle this month.

Driving past a queue of about 20 at a bus stop. They were all perfectly spaced (socially distanced) before they boarded the bus and sat next to each other.

According to the QI Elves, cornflakes are magnetic. A cornflake contains around 8mg of iron. If you float one on water you can move it with a magnet. Go on, try it.

The biggest tyre seller in the world is Lego.

Just imagine the self-control needed to work in a bubble wrap factory!

John Lennon airport has just been quarantined. Imagine all the people!

How do you know when you have run out of Invisible ink? (Steve Wrights factoids).

Having a dog named SHARK at the beach was a bad idea! (Facebook).

Detritus. What a great word.

There are different names for Dad jokes around the world.

The world's largest crisp factory in is Leicester. (Inside the Factory).

Why doesn't the word Phonetic start with an F?

Why is it called common sense when it's not? (Kat Rayment).

Rupert bear's middle name is "the".

Why is a Take-away not called a "go and fetch it"?

Keep smiling - Peter Rayment

Dear Editor

Can I make reference to your February 2022 Cresset Editorial, in particular the section where you mention the time it takes to prepare copy ready for publishing. Of course the same applies to Articles and to regular Features. These are required to be submitted around three weeks prior to publishing. The drawback here is that what is actually submitted may have been overtaken by events particularly when they involve a fast moving situation.

As is always the case articles endeavour to provide a candid balance to the narrative on certain topical events, especially where the narrative appears one-sided. This should not be taken or presupposed to be a personal or a political standpoint. The purpose is to get people thinking that just maybe there is another side to the story. My experience is that there often is and this is why it is so important to be widely read rather than just rely on one, possibly partisan source, on which to base one's judgement. And so in this context may I refer to the February JOW Article "Where are the Adults in the Room?" Yes indeed, the allegations concerning the 'happenings' at No 10 have moved on a pace since the JOW article was written and will probably have moved on again by the time you read this letter.

There is now a serious suspicion amongst the more open minded journalists of a 'Coalition of Dark Motives'. I for one am very fearful for this nation if the 'collective wokeism' portrayed in this matter is the manner in which our future politicians, civil servants and political advisers are to conduct themselves. I believe the consequence of these behaviours was once referred to as 'Treachery' for which you would be incarcerated in the Tower of London - and the only way you might leave was with a few body parts missing...

Anthony Jolley



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Read more www.healthwatchcambridgeshire.co.uk/independent-member

LORNA MARGARET GILBEY

03.06.1939 - 29.12.2021

Lorna died on 29th December in Addenbrookes Hospital following a long fight against serious illness. She was born in Bottisham at number 1 Bell Road (now number 22). She spent the rest of her life living in Bottisham. Lorna worked in Bottisham, at the College as a cook, in the shop under different owners and co-owned a taxi company which was run from the village. She was very involved with her seven grandchildren and travelled around the country supporting them in their various sports and teams.

We would like to thank everyone for their cards and kind words. Thank you to everyone who attended the funeral and who donated to the wards at Addenbrookes and Buchan House all who looked after Lorna so well.

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Bottisham & District Gardening Club

Paul Robinson (Waterland Organics) from Lode spoke about organic gardening which he has been doing since he was 14. His farmer father grew vegetables for the family on his farm and plenty of broad beans among them which he hated. He decided to grow the veg he liked, read the book from John Seymour on Self Sufficiency (still available on Amazon) and was hooked. He studied horticulture and since 1993 he has been growing and selling up to 140 varieties of fruit, vegetables and organic eggs in the local area between May and the end of February. You could say the provision of local, healthy and organic food is right up our street - well Willow Farm in Lode.

He is a member of the Soil Association and takes great care in improving his land using coffee grounds (collected from Cambridge Coffee shops) in exchange for boxes of produce. This has been very hard work mainly because of the large variety of crops - 6 to 9 different crops are planted each week - and they need constant attention. He has staff and a large group of volunteers but is intending in the near future to concentrate on just a few varieties and sell to wholesalers.

It was an interesting talk, good to have someone local.

Please come on Tuesday March 22nd when Jackie Lince will talk about Flower Gardens and Flower Arranging. We meet in the Poppy Room at the Club at 7.30pm.

Sylvia Overton

News from Bottisham Medical Practice Patients' Participation Group

Red Bucket Funds: Thank you for your donations, we currently have a total of £49.31. **FROM THE PRACTICE:**

Dispensary: Please be aware that dispensary continue to have a five day turnaround time for repeat prescriptions. We are continuing to offer a delivery service for medication. Please pick up a leaflet in practice or go on line in order to register for this service.

Staff Changes: Dr Bouzedi and Dr Kanagasabapathy left the Practice at the end of January. Dr Harrison will be returning to the Practice from 1 April.

The practice is pleased to announce the appointment of a very experienced paramedic who started on 7 February. Ellie will be doing home visits and minor illness clinics.

The Patient Participation Group: We are looking for new members to join. Please contact our chairman as below to find out more information and how you can be involved

Next meeting: If you would like to join one of our Zoom meetings please email our chairman at s.j.gilson@btinternet.com who will send you a meeting invite. Next regular meeting March 23rd 2022 at 2pm. AGM to be held on Zoom at 2pm on 27 April 2022. Details of the speaker will be included in our article next month.

Bottisham Medical Practice Patients Participation Group

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We had a reasonable number of members at our January meeting when Kate Kirk told us about her amazing aunt – Cicely Saunders and the Modern Hospice Movement.

She explained how such a shy schoolgirl, ashamed of her height which caused her back problems throughout her life was such an inspiration and became so famous. She went from Roedean to Oxford in 1938 (when no degrees were awarded to women) but left in 1939 at the start of the war to train as a nurse. She greatly enjoyed it until 1944 when her back problems forced her to give up and she returned to Oxford to qualify as a hospital Almoner. She was responsible for finding money for patients (pre-NHS times) to pay for treatment and care and built connections with Trusts and Charities which came in useful later in her life. She worked as a night nurse too as there was no heavy lifting and there was plenty of time to talk to patients. At that time terminally ill patients were sent to the ends of wards and mainly left alone to die – no palliative care. She met David Tasma, a cancer patient, a Polish man in a strange country. She was his only visitor. She soon realised from nursing him that medical staff were deserting the dying and that research was necessary into painkilling drugs.

She was not considered competent or qualified enough to do this herself (and was a WOMAN) so she studied to become a doctor. This involved cramming as she had no scientific background and she did not qualify as a doctor until she was 39 years old.

She made many friends among the younger fellow students and these worked loyally with her in later years. She concentrated on learning all she could about pain relief and gave a lot of thought into finding how she could put her revolutionary ideas into practice. With the support of one of her brothers and her Polish partner who she later married she raised funding for what was to become the first hospice- St Christophers in Sydenham in Kent. It grew and grew, developed a second storey and she realised that total pain whether physical, social, emotional or spiritual could be relieved and patients could be made more comfortable at the ends of their lives. Care became available at home too for those that wanted this and the real concept was to give patients as normal a life as possible.

Palliative care was eventually recognised in 1987 and she became a consultant physician which involved much travelling and lecturing. She received many honorary degrees but lost out on the Nobel Prize to Mother Theresa! But she was greatly honoured to receive the Order of Merit as a personal gift of the Queen.

Cicely Saunders was an amazing woman and we all probably know of someone who has benefited from all her hard work. Her legacy is – to date- 200 hospices for adults and 43 for children in the UK and hospices in 136 different countries with recognition from WHO.

As we all said "they don't make them like that anymore".

Make a note in your diary for Wednesday 16th March when Steve Sayers will give us an insight to the VVIP World of the Royal Air Force.

We meet at 7.30pm in our new venue (at least until Easter) the Poppy Room

Hope to see you there.

Sylvia Overton

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BOTTISHAM VILLAGE COLLEGE HAS A WIDELY IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY.

We would like to apologise for the disruption the closure has caused you and we are very excited to have reopened Bottisham Sports Centre as of the 4th of January 2022. We are very excited about all of the new things happening at the Sports



Centre, a brand new team, new signage, new paint work and an extensive clean for the relaunch. We would like to welcome our new Sports Centre Manager Harry to the role. Some of you may already know Harry as he has been teaching at Bottisham Sports Centre for many years. We would also like to welcome our two new duty managers Jennifer and Daniel to the team from January 2022.

Our Sports Centre Opening Times:

- Mon to Wed 4.00pm-10:00pm
 Thurs 6.30am-9.00am & 4.00pm-10.00pm
- Fri 4.00pm 10.00pm Sat and Sun 8:00am 4:00pm Our facilities include:
- 25m x 4 Lane Swimming Pool Fitness Suite Dance Studio 4 Court Sports Hall 1 x Indoor Cricket Practice Nets (2 lanes) 3 x Floodlit, Tennis Courts 2 x Grass Football Pitches 1 x Grass Rugby Pitch 1 x Floodlit, 3G pitch 1 Court Gymnasium

Currently, the Sports Centre has lots of clubs covering swimming, football and other sports, so please get in contact with us if you would like to know more of what is on offer! On Wednesdays we offer Zumba classes from 6.15 pm to 7 pm at £5.00 a session or less when you apply for our membership.

As we relaunch, the Sports Centre has also moved to an online booking system.

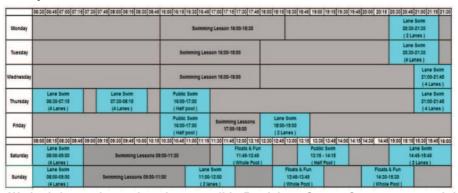
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Fancy a swim, here is our timetable!



We look forward to welcoming you all in Bottisham Sports Centre once again!



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Public Transport Matters

As I prepare my paperwork for this article each month it just seems that it is the same matters but we don't seem so often to have moved on.

The arguments about the closure or not of Mill Rd. bridge continue with the Mayor being in favour but local traders are understandably against as they need their suppliers to have access. There is talk of preventing pollution but the sideroads have humps and as the houses mainly have no parking there are parked cars both sides of the road and it is difficult for through traffic and there would be pollution from the cars trying to get through.

Stagecoach East has confirmed its bus changes. They are not presently putting timetables at the bus stops or providing paper copies. It is all on the web. The 11 is only slightly changed - just a couple of minutes earlier. Part of the guided busway between Cambridge Railway station and Addenbrookes is closed after 2 nasty accidents. They are affected by loss of staff due to the pandemic and fewer passengers. People are still working from home. The Greater Cambridge Partnerships is looking at possible subsidy as some people do need the public transport for work or hospital visits.

The merger between Stagecoach and National Express has been halted as there is an enquiry by the Competition and Markets Authority. Having youngsters attend school by bus is expensive. There is a proposal by the County Council to stop the funding of transport for pupils attending after school clubs at special schools. Perhaps reduce not stop the costs is also being considered.

The railway development information continues. The Times had 6 pages on January 25th about the High Speed Rail Crewe to Manchester Bill for discussion in. Parliament.

A 1.2 billion pounds tunnel has been opened to ease congestion on the East Coast Main line. Greater Anglia services are running 95% on time.

The East West Main Line proposed should be electrified say the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority.

There has been a Green day of protest against HS2 as the Bill was being considered in Parliament. It won't ever be carbon neutral during its 120 years lifespan. So many projects that are under discussion for years. London to Manchester time would be cut by 55 minutes and 45 minutes for Birmingham to Manchester.

High tech sensors are being built into the track to fix HS2 faults.

Finally Crossrail is on track to open. This is the new Elizabeth Line - billions of pounds over budget and over 3 years late

I have enjoyed the TV programmes as it dug under London. A difficult job.

Siemens says it has a solution for the old technology on the old Beeching lines being brought back to life. Beeching, then Chairman of British Rail. thought not enough people were using them.

Train trips across Europe are now recommended rather than flying and there are various companies putting this together. Inn Travel suggests the South of France and the Sunflowers of Van Gogh - Paris, Narbonne, Nimes and Arles. Or London St Pancras to Amsterdam - bulb fields and Delft Blue pottery and a canal ride. Recommended - we did that many years ago!

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What's on at Anglesey Abbey

Signs of Spring are popping up across Anglesey Abbey, bulbs are busting into colour, birds are busy building nests and the House is open to visitors again. In the garden we have replanted the flower beds in the Formal Garden with hyacinths, and there are 24 new Cherry Blossom trees along Olympian Way.

We received funding from the Queens' Green Canopy, an initiative to protect and increase native tree cover in honour of the Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II. We have used the funding to replant a tree where we had to remove a large Chestnut tree along the front drive. We chose Acer x freemanii 'Autumn Fantasy' and planted it opposite an existing Acer x freemanii 'Autumn Blaze' so we hope to get some spectacular autumn colours. We also took the opportunity to replant 500 new trees in our woodlands. The woodlands were originally planted to protect the gardens from the strong fenland winds, to which we have lost a lot of the mature willows. We have chosen to replant with a mixture of Hornbeam, Hazel, Field Maple, Spindle, Yew and Holly which will hopefully be well suited to our soils. The planting has been supported by our team of volunteers from Cambridge Regional College.

We've got some exciting plans to celebrate the spring holiday season and keep the whole family entertained. Join us daily between 2nd-18th April for our nature-inspired Easter egg trail. There'll be lots of fun for you and your family as you follow the trail and complete the spring-themed activities and of course enjoy a chocolate egg! Pre-booking is essential for our Easter trail, book early to secure your chosen day and time slot! The eggs are made here in the UK using cocoa that's responsibly sourced from Rainforest Alliance Certified farms.

For the latest information and updates about Anglesey Abbey, visit our website and keep an eye on our social media pages. www.nationaltrust.org.uk/anglesey-abbey-gardens-and-lode-mill





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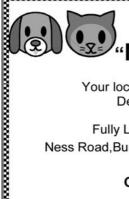
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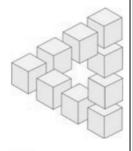
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Anglesey Group Mothers' Union

The Mothers' Union theme for 2022 is 'Transformation Now' and Revd. Sue Giles used the topic of Transformation for our New Year Holy Communion Service. Julie Sale presented the Branch accounts for 2021 to members before the service, and collected subscriptions for 2022 after. We thank Julie for all the work she carries out as Branch Treasurer.

Our members have started to support the Leprosy Mission by collecting used postage stamps. This will be an on-going project throughout the year, and we invite others to join us in supporting the Mission. Currently collection boxes can be found in Lode and Bottisham churches, and we hope to eventually extend this to include other churches in the Anglesey Group not already participating in the collecting of used postage stamps for charity.

Please leave a good amount of envelope around each stamp.

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

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Thoughts of a Sports Nut

I must admit, in the early weeks of the year I struggled to find many uplifting stories in the sporting world, which, sadly, seems to be dominated by those who prioritise self-interest above integrity. Such is the way of today's world, it seems. But, as if to celebrate the coming of Spring (hopefully!), the last month has produced more than its fair share of brighter moments to illuminate my otherwise gloomy diatribe!

Firstly, although I was hugely sceptical of the recent changes to the Highway Code (treating left turns into minor roads like pedestrian crossings, for instance) I honestly feel that, on the whole, car drivers are tending to give us CB25ers on road bikes a little more room now. It may not change the habits of the bad boys (and it is usually boys) but, bearing in mind that human flesh is so much softer than either metal or tarmac, the overall improvement is encouraging.

Staying with local interest, I'm sure the whole village will join me in congratulating Bottisham's adopted son, Neil Robertson, in winning the UK Masters Snooker tournament in January and following up with the Players' Championship in February. Barry Hawkins must be sick of the sight of 'our lad', having lost the final in both! With 21 ranking titles to his name, Robertson, currently in the form of his life, is close to claiming a place among the true 'greats' of the sport and will be looking to add to his single World Championship title (in 2010) when this year's tournament begins at Crucible on 16th April. Good luck Neil!

Remembering an undisputed all-time-great: it would have been Muhammad Ali's 80th birthday on 17th January. To celebrate, Anthony Pratt, the Aussie-American corrugated packaging tycoon and close friend of the champ, donated \$2 million to the Muhammad Ali Center in Louisville. Opened by Ali himself in 2005, the non-profit 'Center' is described by his wife Lonnie as "a place where Muhammad's legacy provides inspiration to all people to achieve their own personal greatness". I was rather moved by this story. How wonderful to secure the memory of this extraordinary man by running community programmes to promote themes of peace, social responsibility, and respect. I could think of a few people from other sports who might learn something by visiting!

At the time of writing, the Beijing Winter Olympics are well under way and the UK is still awaiting its first medal. This is not ever-so surprising but nevertheless a tad disappointing considering some of the enormous sums of money ploughed into the teams. For example, the Skeleton Bob team has enjoyed nearly £6.5 million of funding in the four-year block to 2022, but both men's and women's teams were woefully short of podium positions, citing "no speed in the equipment"! Really? How on earth much do these tea-trays cost?!

I must say that I find many of the Winter Olympic events somewhat underwhelming, if not downright odd! Certain competitions seem rather contrived — either to simply fill up the programme (Doubles Luge anybody?!), or to appeal to the youth audience who, perhaps, demand maximum excitement from an athlete's every move. That's not to say the skills of 'Big Air' and 'Half Pipe' are not admirable; it's just that I would expect to see such acrobatics in the circus rather than the Olympics. And I can't understand half the terms in the commentary... my failing, I know, but it's so difficult to tell the difference between a 'cab', a 'double cork' and a 'high

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(Sports Nut continued.)

backside', the latter conjouring up all sorts of inappropriate imagery! I'm a bit 'old school' with my sporting interests I suppose... a ball or a race are minimum requirements for me!

I am captivated every four years, though, by the sport that combines bowls, sliding and housework! As I write, both Men's and Women's Scottish GB Curling teams are close to securing semi-final places in their respective competitions and one hopes that they can add gold to their bronze & silver medals secured at Sochi 2014. Remember, Team GB has an illustrious history in Olympic Curling, having won gold at the inaugural Winter Olympics in Chamonix in 1924 and who can forget Rhona Martin's 'Stone of Destiny' taking the title at Salt Lake City in 2002?

The snowboarding racing has been absolutely riveting. First, Lindsey Jacobellis – the American woman who squandered a nailed-on gold medal opportunity in 2006 when she showboated on a jump and crashed within sight of the finishing line – finally redeemed herself at the age of 36 to secure her first gold medal in the Snowboard Cross! Then she followed up with a second gold in the team event two days later. It's never too late, eh? Then an enthralling duel ensued in the men's event, with Austrian Alessandro Hämmerle pipping Canadian Eliot Grondin on the lunge for the line which produced one of the commentary highlights of the games. Ed Leigh, the BBC's snowboard specialist, was overcome with excitement as all four competitors scrambled to the finish and gave us this gem: "That finish line was like a Black Friday deal at Chipping Norton Currys"! Marvellous!

One has to work slightly harder to find inspiring stories in football these days. I read with incredulity the FIFA President stupidly suggesting that a biennial World Cup could alleviate the problem of migrants fleeing war-torn countries. What? As Tony Burnett, CEO of Kick It Out, retorted: "If FIFA has a genuine commitment to tackling inequality, they should be investing into charitable causes on the ground rather than disguising a profit-making biennial World Cup as the answer to any problems." Then Kurt Zouma, the French defender who (still!) plays for West Ham, brought shame on himself, his club and his sport by showing the world just how much he "loved and cherished" his cat!

But let me finish on a shining example of how footballers can be outstanding role models (even though, of course, that is not why they are employed). Senegalese striker, Sadio Mané, is currently at the very peak of his career, having won the Premier League with Liverpool in 2020, African Footballer of the Year in 2020 and the African Cup of Nations with Senegal this February in which he was also Man of the Tournament. Life could hardly get any better for him. Admittedly, he has a penchant for luxury cars but he remains mindful of his roots. Over the past three years he has donated over three-quarters of a million pounds towards the building of a school and a hospital in his home town of Banbali. "I was hungry, and I had to work in the field; I survived hard times, played football barefooted, I did not have an education and many other things, but today with what I earn thanks to football I can help my people. Why would I want 10 Ferraris, 20 diamond watches, or two planes? I build schools, a stadium, we provide clothes, shoes, food for people who are in extreme poverty. I prefer that my people receive a little of what life has given me." Gianni Infantino: THIS is how you help the under-privileged, NOT by fleecing the world's most popular sport to line FIFA's already bulging pockets!

TTFN Gerry Daish

[&]quot;Try not to become a man of success, but a man of value." - Albert Einstein



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'Sovereign Britain...'

I have long held the belief that certain parts of a country's strategic infrastructure should remain in the control of the Government or at least managed by appointed agents of the Government. And of course I am reminded of this by the problems with recent power outages in the north and the shortage of energy supplies worldwide as different countries begin to rebuild their economies. This has crucially resulted in demand far outstripping supply leading to certain countries using their natural resources to gain political leverage. Added to this we hear that our streams and rivers are becoming even more polluted due to the release of untreated effluent and of our transport networks performing way below par. It was therefore of significant interest to me when I read an interview about the role of 'Strategic Infrastructures' and how vital such things are to a country's security interests.

Further reading on the topic exposed that as far as the UK is concerned most of the sectors that should form a strategic or national infrastructure are not owned by the state but by third parties outside the borders of the UK and in state control in their own country. France, Spain, Italy, Belgium and Germany are but a few to which of course we must add Russia and China. The consequence of relying on third parties to provide essential services is rather leaving yourself open to all sorts of economic blackmail. We have seen this with China and the UK roll out of 5G, with France threating to cut off electricity to The Channel Islands and of course Russia that has already turned down the taps controlling and regulating European gas supplies.

What sectors then are essential to forming a 'strategic infrastructure'? Well on the advice and knowledge of experts in these matters, principally all of those services that a country would need to survive if it were to succumb to some form of catastrophe. In the UK these sectors have been identified as communications, emergency services, energy, finance, food, health, transport and water sectors. Without these sectors, the UK could suffer serious consequences including severe economic damage, grave social disruption, or even large scale loss of life. A strategic infrastructure also comprises some functions, sites and organisations which are not critical to the maintenance of essential services, but which need protection due to the potential dangers they could pose to the public in the event of an emergency - civil nuclear and chemicals sites for example.

If our security services take their eyes of the ball then the country's strategic infrastructure is and has been exposed to hostile states, cyber criminals, terrorists or criminals for the purposes of disruption, espionage and/or financial gain. As mentioned above, we are already seeing these players at work. For example, the Centre for the Protection of National Infrastructure (CPNI) already judges that "strategic infrastructure sectors represent core strategic interests for foreign intelligence services". Additionally the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) judges there is "a growing 'cyber' threat". There are now more devices connected to the internet than ever before, and with the growth of our dependence on technology comes increased risk. Apps such as Social Media, Alexa, Google, Ring etc. for personal devices and home technology are simply gathering lots of information about us. But vitally; where these apps are produced by a company based in what could be considered a hostile country then you can confidently bet where that data is going and how it is being used.



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Continued from page 45

We can see how appallingly the privatisation and regulation of the Water companies has panned out with very little investment being channelled back into sufficient new infrastructure and modernisation – we have a local example just off Tunbridge Lane. Profits instead are going to the foreign owners/governments whereas the effluent is covertly seeping into our water courses and aquifers possibly endangering lives. And probably more important still the manner in which Russia is using its ability to seriously hike gas prices and redirect distribution as a form of economic blackmail. The consequence of this is that Governments around the world that rely on Russian gas are powerless to resolve the issue. The UK is not the only country to be under threat in this way – other countries that also deemed nationalised sectors to be burdensome have potentially the same threats. To my mind the Government has to take back the sectors that fall into the category of strategic infrastructure but with one huge difference – they must free from Trade Union influence.

'Outstanding BBC...'

There is a big debate brewing about the future of the BBC and whether the annual Licence Fee should remain mandatory. Over recent years the BBC has undergone criticism for what some claim, including me, to be a substantial drop in public broadcasting standards. This has included programming as well as continuity and presentation. At one time the BBC was the standard by which ALL broadcasters would measure themselves and was the most trusted and admired source worldwide for impartial news reporting, documentaries, family entertainment and articulation of the English language.

Today there is a school of thought, which I also tend to side with, that advocates the BBC should report the news with impartiality rather than make the news with underlying editorial partiality. This school of thought also suggests the BBC should revert to its core business and should stop attempting to emulate and competing with the everyday 'sameyness' of the subscription channels.

If this were to be then in my opinion there is without doubt a place for the BBC in today's viewing and listening preferences. My idea though would mean concentrating on 'quality' programming consisting of news, drama, documentaries and general entertainment – the latter having a wider and much improved appeal than currently is the case. Alternative programme genres falling outside of these four prime areas could continue but only be available through say a 'Pay Wall' using possibly the flexibility within BBC iPlayer. Primarily a 'Pay Wall' would include catch up/on demand TV and subgroups or focused programming, and for listeners - BBC Sounds.

How would it work? I am sure others will have better ideas but as a first pass my suggestion would be those wanting to continue to watch the BBCs four areas of mainstream TV would create an account with a reduced fee TV licence while those wanting something different would only get to watch the BBC through either 'Pay to View' or subscribe weekly or monthly through the 'Pay Wall' - as they do with current subscription channels. Income generated could then be used for programming and or to help subsidise TV licences for the elderly. BBC radio could continue to be provided free as part of the standard licence package except for BBC Sounds which would be available through the Pay Wall. Discuss...

JOW

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In 2007 our 'Hero' Doctor, Dr. Pam Chrispin became EAAA's first female flying doctor when all air ambulance doctors were volunteers. All good things must come to an end though and after after 14 years of dedicated service, including as EAAAs Deputy Medical Director, Pam is retiring, She had an incredible 40 year medical career and was recently reunited with mother Emma and her daughter, Willow, whom she once saved. Emma said "She's our absolute hero – if it wasn't for her we wouldn't be here today or have a precious family". Our thoughts and good wishes go with you Pam for a long and happy retirement. Job well done! You can read more about this remarkable lady on the EAAA website by visiting www.eaaa.org.uk

Those of you who read my monthly missives will be all too aware that the overall objective is to engender ongoing support for EAAA. Of course, financial support is vital but – we do need more 'feet on the ground' by way of volunteers.

EAAA holds a wide range of fundraising events throughout the year, all of which are great fun for the participants and for the volunteers who help with the organisation.

Please, therefore, contact us via the website to explore how you might help and get so much out of so doing by way of friendships, and knowing that you too can make a difference. Volunteers are the essential ingredient to the survivability of EAAA and, therefore, to its ongoing lifesaving work. Activities include –helping at events, taking part in bucket collections, speaking to groups, box collections, in the office and copywriting, research and networking. We need your skills, time, ideas, contacts and energy! Whether its regular or intermittent, your gift of time and help is needed. So, do it now – please.

A brief 'heads-up' on forthcoming TREK 24 events (up to 24 miles or kilometres depending on route) includes – 7/5 Norfolk Broads to Norwich, 11/6 Suffolk coast and countryside, 13/7 Chilterns Challenge and 11/9 Norfolk Coast Path. Why not get a group together and contact www.trek-24.co.uk for these great fundraising days out.

Every time that you see or are aware of an East Anglian Air Ambulance helicopter overflying your 'neck of the woods' remember – people like you helped it take off to undertake that potentially lifesaving mission! Together – we save lives.

Michael White

Bottisham Adult Learning Association (BALA)

Following a very stimulating five-week course on the history, geography, art and culture of Japan, a new course started on February 24th. Presented by local speaker Deborah Monteiro, the course is 'The Art of Performance and Dance explored by many Artists'.

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Cambridge Past Present & Future

- Grant award of £425,000 from Natural England Nature Recovery is made to the Cambridge Nature Network.
- Funding is for projects that will increase the amount of nature and help to demonstrate how the Nature Recovery Network can be realised.
- 18 Projects are being delivered by a wide range of organisations. Projects will be completed in 2022.

Nature in Cambridge has received a boost thanks to a grant award of £425,000 from Natural England's Nature Recovery Programme. The grant is to support the delivery of the Cambridge Nature Network which was launched in May. The funding will pay for 18 projects that will increase biodiversity.

The Cambridge Nature Network identifies opportunities to double nature and increase access to natural greenspace in Cambridge and the surrounding countryside. The aim is to halt the decline in biodiversity improve climate resilience and enable nature to recover, while benefiting public health, wellbeing, and the economy.

The grant is being managed by local charity Cambridge Past, Present & Future. Their Chief Executive, James Littlewood is thrilled, "the Cambridge Nature Network vision is for significant areas of downland, fens, meadows and woodlands, where nature can recover and thrive and where people can experience a wilder countryside and nature on their doorstep. This can only happen if everyone works together towards that shared vision. So, we are delighted that Natural England is supporting 18 projects to help kick-start the Nature Recovery Network. Each of these projects will create new or better habitats for nature and they range from converting 150 acres of farmland in the Gog Magog Hills, to expanding country parks and nature reserves, to small projects on school grounds in the city. The range of organisations and people involved in these projects is really inspiring, as well as Natural England it includes local charities, local councils, community groups, local landowners, schools, contractors and individual people helping to plant trees and sow seeds."

The grant is supporting a wide range of projects including:

- Restoring 58 veteran Willow Trees at Sheep's Green in Cambridge (Cambridge City Council).
- Planting trees to create a new woodland belt next to Logan's Meadow Nature Reserve in Cambridge (Cambridge City Council).
- Creating 20 acres of meadow and planting 2,000 trees as part of an expansion of Wandlebury Country Park to the south of Cambridge (Cambridge Past, Present & Future).
- Planting 2,000 trees to create 4 acres of woodland between Coton and Madingley on the western edge of Cambridge (Cambridge Past, Present & Future).
- Planting 400 trees to create a new area of woodland at Coton Countryside Reserve on the western edge of Cambridge (Cambridge Past, Present & Future).
- Creating 10 acres of new meadow on farmland near Barton (Wild Farms Trust).

Continued on page 53



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Continued from page 51)

- Creating 150 acres of new meadows, scrub and woodland at Lower Valley Farm in the Gog Magog Hills to the south of Cambridge (Cambridgeshire County Council)
- Working with five schools in Cambridge to improve their school grounds for nature (Cambridge On the Verge).
- Creating 7 acres of new meadow next to Fulbourn Fen Nature Reserve to the southeast of Cambridge (Wildlife Trust BCN).
- Improving habitat in the Bin Brook and its ditches near Coton to the west of Cambridge (Norfolk Rivers Trust).
- Improving habitats in and around the villages of Histon & Impington (Histon & Impington Parish Council).
- Habitat improvements on the Roman Road and encouraging landowners to help nature at Roman Road, Devils Dyke and Fleam Dyke to the southeast of Cambridge (Cambridgeshire County Council).
- Two community projects in Cambridge parks and open spaces (Natural Cambridgeshire).

John Torlesse, Natural England Area Manager for West Anglia said "I'm really pleased that Natural England is able to support the Cambridge Nature Network. The natural environment in Cambridgeshire has become greatly depleted. It is crucial that we work together to put back wildlife into our lives, and to create more places where those who live and work in and around Cambridge can experience nature and all it offers us. This excellent project is doing just that by creating more nature on a really ambitious scale and helping us all meet our goal to 'double nature' across the county."

Added to another seven projects which are being funded by the government's Green Recovery Challenge, there are currently a total of 25 nature recovery projects underway in the Cambridge area. Further information about all the projects can be found at www.cambridgenaturenetwork.org/current-projects/

Work on some of the projects has been taking place over the winter and 2,000 trees have already been planted by volunteers.

A partnership of organisations is supporting the Cambridge Nature Network including Wildlife Trust BCN, Cambridge Past, Present & Future, National Trust, RSPB, Cambridge Sport's Lakes Trust, Magog Trust, Cambridge City Council, South Cambridgeshire District Council and Cambridge University Botanic Garden.

The Cambridge Nature Network is one of 6 large scale nature networks seeking to recover nature for Cambridgeshire & Peterborough which are being promoted by Natural Cambridgeshire.

Copy deadline for next issue is 14 March.

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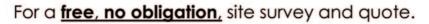






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Holy Trinity Church: Revd Sue Giles	812726
Roman Catholic Priest: Monsignor Eugène Harkness. Parish of St Philip Howard	01223 211235
RE:NEW/Lode Chapel: Rev. Alan Brand	01223 812558
Bottisham Surgery:	
Enquiries and Appointments	810030
Out of Hours only - Urgentcare Cambridge	111
Bottisham Library:	812354
Library hours: Monday Closed; Tuesday 3-5pm and 6-8pm; Wednesday 10am-12.00noc	on
Thursday 3-5pm; Friday 6-8pm; Saturday 10am-11.30am	
Cambridgeshire Police HQ:	01480 456111
Cambridgeshire Police:(NON-URGENT MATTERS) ring 101 - In EMERGE	NCIES ring 999
Local East Cambs Policing info. www.cambs.police.uk/Neighbourhood-Policing/East-Cambs Policing info. www.cambs.police.uk/Neighbourhood-Policing/East-Cambs Policing info.	Cambs
1st Bottisham Rainbows/1st Bottisham Brownies: Kay Pearce	811055
Bottisham & District Gardening Club: Secretary: Julia Green	811467
Bottisham Bowling Club: Keith Gibson, Secretary	
Bottisham Carpet Bowls Club: Nora Watson	812121
Bottisham Community Primary School:	811235
Bottisham Cricket Club: Chairman: Will Allen Chairman@bottlodecricket.co.uk	- 07713 007757
Bottisham Local Charities Trustees: secretary - Jonathan Barrett	
Bottisham Pharmacy:	812321
Bottisham Pool Association: Manager - Jason Rye	811121
Bottisham Royal British Legion Branch: Secretary. Peter Walker	
Branch Chairman: Dave Frost	nches/bottisham
Bottisham Scout Group: Group Contact: Linda Jones	813040
Bottisham Community Sports and Social Club: Secretary Graham Darling,	
Bottisham Village College, School:	812063
Bottisham Village College, School:	811250
Evening Classes, Clubs and Youth Club Information	811372
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