

May 2022



THE  
*Cresset*



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



Bottisham  
Parish  
Council

Serving Residents  
Supporting the Community

# ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

**7.30 pm**

**Tuesday 24 May**

**Bottisham Sports & Social Club**

**Downing Close**

45 min formal meeting  
followed by an opportunity to talk informally  
with key organisations in the village.

**ALL WELCOME**

please come along to hear what is happening in the village and let us  
know your views

I cannot write anything this month, until we deal with the biggest impact that might have been made to this village since the nine-mile hill development was addressed back in the 1980's.



It was good to get the news eventually, that the appeal against the decision to reject the retirement development was turned down. That seems like bad grammar, but the result is that there will be no development on that bit of green belt.

If you read the detailed report from the Planning Inspector, it was not all plain sailing, however the decision was made and we can all be thankful for that. It highlights that green belt is there for a reason and makes the environment that we live in what it is.

Developers ought to take note and turn their attention to sites that are already suitable (and there are many) and not try to look for keyholes to take over areas which are not suitable or indeed available.

Our cover picture this month, taken by John Harris, shows the field which was to be part of the concrete and brick development being used for what it is good at, and that is growing food and crops on green belt land.

We also should not take our eye off the ball, because there may be other plans put forward which would continue to change our environment bit by bit.

Developers have a knack of submitting plans which initially look innocuous, but which lay the ground for further development further down the line. Unfortunately, the bureaucratic planning system which we have does not allow the decision makers to look over the fence to see the bigger picture when it is plain to others what the scheme is.

However, note was taken of the submissions made by villagers and in particular the medical practice. So it does no harm to air your view if you see planning applications coming forward which you think are not good for the village.

In addition, if you want more information on a particular planning application that you see in the Planning notice in *The Cresset*, then note the application number and go the East Cambs planning website and you can see all the detail there. Including other people's views and objections.

As I write this it is Easter weekend, and the weather is being very kind to us. I have even dusted down the Barbecue for when the family come over for the Easter egg hunt.

I hope you can enjoy the good weather when it comes and avoid the dreaded lurgy which still seems to be rife, if less severe. It seems most people view the catching of Covid as inevitable. If you are one that catches it, then I hope it is a mild one and you get over it without any long-lasting effects.

Take care and I will be back next month.

## *News From Holy Trinity Church Bottisham*

I am delighted to report the success of two fundraising activities in the Church. On 19th March a coffee morning gathering in aid of the Red Cross Appeal for Ukraine raised a magnificent £1161. One-week later Julie Bristow and her choir gave a concert which raised a further £1244 for the same cause. Many thanks to all those involved in the organization of these events and to all those who attended and contributed to this very worthwhile cause. In the meantime, we are exploring the possibility of housing a refugee family from Ukraine in the area.

On April 1st Lucy Frazer, our Member of Parliament, met in the church with several of the volunteers who had helped with the food bank and food distribution during the first lockdown resulting from the COVID pandemic. On behalf of these volunteers, our vicar the Rev Sue Giles, was presented with a certificate in recognition of the Bottisham Volunteers for their outstanding service to the community. This is displayed on the church notice board.

**Future events:** On Saturday May 7th we are holding an informal 'Coffee, Cake and Concert' in the church from 10.30am. The first two words are self-explanatory and the short concert will comprise some easy listening and popular pieces for violin (Stuart Field), soprano (Sarah Maxwell) and piano (Jonathan Giles). Entry will be £4 for adults, to go towards the significant cost of maintaining the church fabric, with no charge for children. Please do come along to support us.

**For the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Weekend on Saturday 4th June**, we are planning a celebration tea and garden party in the vicarage garden with typical outdoor garden party activities. In addition, we plan to hold an exhibition in the church displaying photographs, taken in and around the village during the 70 years of the Queens reign. Also on show will be any photographs taken by villagers of the Queen at any time during her reign.

**Celebration tea 2.00 - 4.30pm in the vicarage garden**

**Exhibition of photographs in the Church 10.30am - 4.30pm.** Exhibits to be brought to the church on Friday 3rd June 2pm - 5pm please.

**On Sunday 5th June at 10.30am** there will be a special service in church to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee – all are welcome.

At the annual Vestry meeting in the church on Sunday 3rd April I was elected as the new Churchwarden.

By the time you read this the new sound system will have been installed together with a hearing loop for the hard of hearing.

We hope to see you at some of our village activities.

*Stuart Field - Churchwarden*

Copy deadline for next issue is 14 May.

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



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At RENEW Church we are committed to following through with our claim that, ‘there is a place at RENEW for you’. This is true, whoever you are. We dream of being a church family that represents well the amazing diversity of humanity that God created. We are part of the Inclusive Church Network ([inclusive-church.org](http://inclusive-church.org)). If this resonates with you and you would like to hear more or support our vision in any way, please get in touch with Rev. Alan (see below).

One of our core values is ‘Hospitality’. We love to gather round a big table and share a meal together each Wednesday evening\* 6.30pm at Lode Chapel. Each week we have a choice of meals, including vegetarian option(s), and some lovely desserts. We have been so blessed to have colleagues, friends and family of current church members join us. You would be so welcome and we will cater for any dietary requirements we are aware of, please get in touch (as below) to let us know your needs.

It is good to eat together. I believe this invitation will connect with several people who read this; if you are one of them, we’d love to see you. If transport is an issue we can arrange for someone to pick you up and take you home.

RENEW Church meets each Sunday Morning, 10.30am at Lode Chapel. Refreshments are available before and after the service. We are an inclusive and LGBTQ+ affirming Christian community. You would be so welcome to join us.

*Thank you for reading - Alan*

Contact Rev. Alan Brand 4 Mill Road, Lode, CB25 9EN.

[alan.brand@renewchurch.org.uk](mailto:alan.brand@renewchurch.org.uk) t.01223 812558 m.07896 000796.

*\*Except the first Wednesday of the month when we meet for a drink and conversation in one of our local pubs. Send Alan a text for details of where we’re gathering.*

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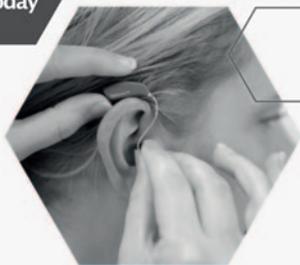
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## *Services in the Anglesey Benefice*

<b>Sun May 1st</b>	9am	<b>Online service on Zoom</b>
	10.30am	<b>Holy Communion</b> , Bottisham
<b>Wed May 4th</b>	8 pm	<b>C by C (a short contemplative service)</b> - online via Zoom
<b>Sun May 8th</b>	9am	<b>Holy Communion</b> , Quy
	10.30am	<b>Family Worship</b> , Swaffham Prior – also on Zoom
<b>Sun May 15th</b>	9am	<b>Online service</b> on Zoom
	10.30am	<b>Holy Communion</b> , Swaffham Bulbeck
<b>Sun May 22nd</b>	9am	<b>Online service</b> , on Zoom
	10.30am	<b>Holy Communion (BCP)</b> , Swaffham Prior
<b>Sun May 29th</b>	9am	<b>Online service</b> on Zoom
	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b> , Lode
	6 pm	<b>Evensong</b> , Swaffham Prior
<b>Every Thursday, including Ascension Day (May 26th)</b>		
	10.30am	<b>Holy Communion</b> , Lode

*Please check the Church notice board or [www.achurchnearyou.com/church/7378/benefice](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/7378/benefice) for current information; or email [admin@angleseygroupparishes.co.uk](mailto:admin@angleseygroupparishes.co.uk), which is also the address to request the Zoom link.*

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

## **Memorial Service for Ken York**

A service to celebrate the life of Ken York,  
will be held in

**Bottisham Church at 2.30pm on Saturday 7th May 2022.**

We hope that his many friends will be able to join us.

Dad died in 2020 aged 100 during the first lockdown  
so we were only able to have a very small funeral attended only by  
his close family.

We would now like to celebrate his long and very full life  
and the significant contribution that he made to life in  
Bottisham and Lode.

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## *Parish Council Report*

Firstly, could I encourage residents to join us at our Annual Parish Meeting on 24th May at 19.30 at the Bottisham Community Sports and Social Club? Those of you who attended the Covid-delayed Annual Meeting in October last year, will recall the success of a new format we trialed. This minimised the amount of formal sitting down & listening, with extended opportunity for informal discussion with councillors & representatives of public organisations that serve our village. Everyone who attended clearly enjoyed and welcomed the new format and we intend to follow this approach again. If you can join us, this is a great opportunity to have a voice in helping grow our village as a great community to be part of.

Now on to other matters. The news we have all been waiting for has arrived! On 7 April we received a copy of the Planning Inspector's judgement on the appeal against the refusal of planning permission to develop a retirement care village to the rear of 163-187 High Street. The appeal has been dismissed. This is the outcome many local residents, the Medical Practice and the Parish Council hoped for.

It is clear from reading the judgement that making the appeal decision is a complex process. The evidence for the many issues raised during the appeal was weighed in detail by the Inspector in coming to his decision. The outcome was by no means a foregone conclusion and it is now clear that the careful work by so many people was essential to it being achieved. My thanks go to the team from East Cambridgeshire District Council, to our District Councillors, Dr Keith, all local residents who made representations (particularly those who registered as "interested persons" to the Inquiry) and my colleagues on the Parish Council.

The key factors leading to his decision were that only 3% of the land within East Cambridgeshire is Green Belt and that this development would have caused harm. However there have been judgements made elsewhere that "very special circumstances" may justify the building of a retirement village on green belt. A key part of the appellant's evidence was an "Alternative Sites Assessment", which claimed that there was no other suitable land for such a development in the District. The Inspector found that the criteria set for the assessment were unnecessarily narrow, to the point that only 4 alternative sites were identified (and each of these was rejected) out of a possible 285!

The other good news we have received since I last wrote, is that the Board of Trustees of the National Trust agreed in March not to oppose the Compulsory Purchase by ECDC of the land needed for our new cemetery. Work on the planning application is nearing completion and we hope to lodge it by the end of May. Again, this work has involved a lot of work by many people; I am very grateful for the Councillors and residents who have played their part in bringing us to this key stage.

In my March article I described the work required to the trees on the boundary of the present cemetery and invited comments from those interested. No one has raised any issues in response and the Parish Council decided at its April meeting to follow the recommendation to cut back the basal growth to the Lime trees between the cemetery and the public footpath. This will leave gaps which will be closed by suitable fencing.

Finally, I have received a plea from a local resident concerning gravel "leaking" from driveways onto the pavement, causing difficulty for people using wheelchairs. If you have a gravel driveway, could you please regularly sweep gravel back on to your drive to keep the paths smooth? Your drive will also last longer!! At the same time, it is a timely reminder that wheelchairs and pushchairs all need room to move along the pavement and it is important that cars do not park on kerbs and create an obstruction.

*Jon Ogborn, Chair of Parish Council*



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Monday and Wednesday

9am-3pm

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

9am-12.30pm



## *Planning Notes*

### **a) New Applications**

22/00229/FUL – 9 Arber Close CB25 9DR, Demolish existing garage and rear canopy, construction of single and two storey side extension

22/00276/FUL - 2 Spring Lane, CB25 9BL, Construction of 1st floor side extension and garage conversion to granny annexe

22/00366/FUL – 10 Maple Close, CB25 9BQ, Proposed 1st floor side extension

22/00270/CLE – Storage Yard at Parsonage Farm, Newmarket Rd, Bottisham

Open storage of timber and wood products

### **b) Planning Appeal**

21/00033/REFAPP – Land to rear of 163-187 High Street Proposed Retirement Village – Planning Inquiry hearings closed 4 February 2022, Appeal dismissed

## *Lucy Frazer MP Writes*

I was pleased to recently visit Rev Sue Giles at Holy Trinity Church and her team of volunteers in Bottisham as part of my COVID Community Champions Awards. The Awards recognise volunteers and community groups across Cambridgeshire who went and above to help others during the pandemic.

Throughout the pandemic, Sue and her team supported vulnerable and elderly neighbours, including setting up two helplines that were staffed by volunteers. They focused on helping residents' with medical needs, collecting and delivering prescriptions and medication as well as supporting individuals who were shielding to purchase and deliver groceries.

The initiative was a cross community scheme, with volunteers from neighbouring communities of Lode and Swaffham Bulbeck also taking part.

This community measure was a real lifeline - thank you again to Sue and her team for serving the community of Bottisham and the surrounding area!



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# *District Councillors' Report*

## **OPERATIONAL SERVICES COMMITTEE**

1. The ECSS (the Council trading company that collects waste and cleans streets) Business Plan for the forthcoming year was approved. This included possible opportunities for further commercial operations, e.g. bin cleaning, even though there are still problems with waste operator staffing.
2. Adopted an Environment Policy, and is seeking 'Investors in the Environment' (iIE) accreditation; it believes that the Council can achieve 'Bronze' status this year, and 'Silver' potentially achievable in 2023.
3. A Community Sports Facility Grants Scheme was approved, in order for leisure providers to make improvements to their business. Unfortunately, only those facilities that are regularly open to the community for at least 30 hours per week are eligible, and this precludes many of the leisure facilities in our ward; John Trapp raised this point, and it was agreed that a similar scheme for smaller leisure centres should be considered.
4. A report on the progress of the Youth Action Plan was received.

The revised bin collection schedule has come into operation, and there have been a few teething problems which is to be expected. If your bin has not been collected, please contact ECDC, 01353 665555 or online at [www.eastcambs.gov.uk](http://www.eastcambs.gov.uk). The sooner the new schedule is running well the better.

## **FINANCE & ASSETS COMMITTEE**

The main item was to approve the Eligibility Criteria for the CLT Pre-Development Grant Scheme (total £100,000) that was created in the budget for the forthcoming year. This is to fund existing CLTs (there is a separate start-up grant of £5000 for communities to set up a CLT) and bridge the gap between creation and commencement of development. Some members felt that a minimum of five members in a CLT was not sufficient to represent the community, but a motion to increase the membership to at least 4% of the community was defeated, and so a CLT is eligible to bid for this fund even if it has only five members. The other point of contention was in specifying a minimum number of affordable houses in the scheme, and a motion to state a minimum of affordable housing was defeated; the current eligibility criterion is that 'The proposed project must contain an element of affordable housing'. It was also decided that a draft allocations policy should not be compulsory, even though there are many existing examples of allocations policy to use as exemplars as a draft.

In a separate item £543,400 was allocated to much-needed improvements, including refurbishment of the working environment, to the Portley Hill Depot. A further £282,550 was retained in reserve to meet the need to incorporate renewable energy on the site, including EV charging, which is good forward planning.

Our Councillors' Surgery will be the first face-to-face one for some time, on Wednesday 25 May 6.00-7.00pm at Reach Village Centre or you can meet us at the Dyke's End from around 7.00pm.

*Cllrs Charlotte Cane and John Trapp*

# M&P

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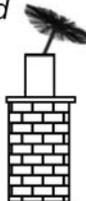
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## *Welcome to our Village*

### **RECENTLY ENJOYED**

- **Fame the Musical** Produced by Bottisham Village College staff and students, this was a great evening out for all parents, carers and neighbours in the village who attended. Lots of home grown and neighbouring local talent to be proud of.
- **Play Reading Evening** Enjoyed by a small but excited group, wishing to explore the world of script titles and playwrights in a friendly, relaxed atmosphere.
- **Litter Pick** Once again well attended by neighbours and included many delicious home baked goods created by wonderful residents, the collection of and safe disposal of litter was of great benefit to our local wildlife.
- **Treasure Hunt** Organised by the Bottisham Airfield Museum, to celebrate the reopening of this local attraction.
- **Easter Egg Hunt** At our local Holy Trinity Church, providing entertainment for families during the holidays
- **Live Music** At the Bottisham Community Sports & Social Club, where there are many opportunities to join in on disco's or listen to live performances throughout the year

### **REGULAR VILLAGE ACTIVITIES**

- **Toddler Group** every Tuesday (term time only) 09:00 at The Holy Trinity Church
  - **Meeting Point** every Wednesday 10:30 in the Poppy Room, Bottisham Community Sports and Social Club
  - **Carpet Bowls** every Wednesday 19:15 at Bottisham Village College
  - **Bottisham Book Club** every (first) Wednesday of the month, 19:30 at The Bell Pub
  - **Bottisham Baking Club** every (second) Wednesday of the month, 19:30 at The Bell Pub
  - **Wool & Wine** Wednesdays every (third) Wednesday of the month, 19:30 at The Bell Pub
  - **Bottisham Boardgame Club** every (fourth) Wednesday of the month, 19:30 at The Bell Pub
  - **Bottisham Men's Walking Group** every (last) Friday of the month 09:30 (For further details contact Ian Cole on 01223 812573)
  - **Storytelling** every (first) Saturday of the month 10:30 at the Library
- If you have a village group, club, society, or event you would like to advertise*

*continued on page 15*

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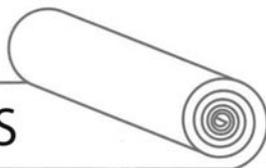


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## THINGS IN THE MAKING

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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](mailto:enquiries@bottishamvc.org)
- **Lego Club Leader Wanted** – Bottisham Community Library are looking for volunteers to if interested email [enquiries@bottishamvc.org](mailto:enquiries@bottishamvc.org) ask for Sylvia

## COMMUNITY HERB BED UPDATE by Sarah Brown

“Jan, Bernadette and I gave the herb beds another thorough tidy recently. We also planted some new herbs, including three types of Thyme, Marjoram and the Sage that was kindly donated. These will remain in their pots for now, within the herb beds, as we plan to give them an overhaul once the spring flowers have finished blooming.

Seed sowing has commenced and we have young seedlings of Fennel, Black Onion (both were kindly donated) and more Thyme, which will be potted on and placed into the beds when they are ready. Basil and Parsley will also be sown to include this summer.

We still don't have a sign for the herb beds, so if you have an idea for one, that would be in keeping with the area beside the Village sign and memorial, we would love to hear from you. We welcome Judy and Rehanna as volunteers and will be inviting them to join us when they can. To contact us, please email [brownsjc46@gmail.com](mailto:brownsjc46@gmail.com).”

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - MAY 2022

- **Village Yard Sale** Saturday 7th May - organised by a local resident, second of it's kind, to be run between 10:30 and 14:30, please contact [amyvcole@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:amyvcole@hotmail.co.uk) to join in
- **Live Music** Saturday 7th May – at Bottisham Community Sports & Social Club, starting at 8pm, £2 entry for non members, members free another chance to hear The Legionnaires 77
- **Library Book Sale** Saturday 21st May – arranged by our local Community Library, to be held at the Triangle.
- **Parish Council AGM** Tuesday 24th May – to be held in the main hall of the Bottisham Community Sports & Social Club from 19:30

*Please email [bottishamcommunityevents@gmail.com](mailto:bottishamcommunityevents@gmail.com) for inclusion online or join the Bottisham Events Facebook Group or send your poster direct to The Cresset Magazine Editor via [bottishamcresset@gmail.com](mailto:bottishamcresset@gmail.com)  
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## Bubbles Dahling

Everybody loves to celebrate with fizz! Well not technically true (including yours truly) but it is universally recognised that when there's a celebration it's often accompanied by the pop of a cork. There's something about that sound that brings a smile to people's faces and quite often a shriek of excitement.

This is all thanks to bubbles produced by a second fermentation process. Probably the two best known fizzy wines are Champagne and Prosecco although there are plenty of others including Cava from Spain.

Champagne, aptly named, comes from the Champagne region of northeast France. It's made with Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, and Pinot Meunier grapes. Prosecco originates in the Veneto region of Italy, just north of Venice. It's made from Glera grapes, the use of which for wine can be traced back to the Roman era.

The method of producing bubbles in each of these wines differs. Both wines require two rounds of fermentation—the second round is intended for carbonation, which is the part of the process that differs between Champagne and prosecco.

Champagne requires a traditional method of carbonation in which the wine sparkles while it's bottled. Prosecco, on the other hand, carbonates in stainless steel vats, a less time and money-intensive process.

Taste notes for Champagne include: Citrus fruits, white peach, white cherry, almond, and toast. Flavours for prosecco are sweeter: Green apple, honeydew melon, pear, honeysuckle, and fresh cream.

The price points for Champagne and prosecco differ in part because of their methods of production. Because Champagne requires a more hands-on and money-intensive process, it's generally more expensive than prosecco.

I'd love to hear what you enjoy drinking. Suggestions always welcome! Do drop me an email [vinophile7@gmail.com](mailto:vinophile7@gmail.com)

**Prosecco La Gioiosa Majestic** £14.99 reduced to £9.99 if you buy a mix of six bottles. Top notch Prosecco, extra-dry, fruity and floral. Expect a soft, creamy mousse with elegant notes of apple, stone fruit and blossom. It's fantastic with salmon.

**Scalini Prosecco Co-op** £8.50 Scalini means 'steps' in Italian. Step One: buy this. Step Two: invite friends to your place. Step Three: pop the cork. Step Four: pour and share this deliciously refreshing Prosecco!

**Veuve Monsigny Rose Champagne Aldi** £9.75 Aldi has developed a reputation for selling great tasting great value wines and this is no exception. An abundance of red fruit flavours complemented with hints of citrus to give the perfect fruit balance, this then gives way to lovely pastry notes leaving a lingering, well balanced flavour.

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## *Reasons to be Cheerful...*

In this mad crazy world in which we live, there are many things which upset or disappoint us. I 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.

- We've just bought a Microwave fireplace, We can spend a whole night in front of the fire in ten minutes.
- Europe's largest biscuit factory is in London where McVities make chocolate digestives (Inside the Factory).
- The real name of singer Barry Blue is Barry Green (Popmaster).
- The cashew nut is a member of the same family as poison ivy (Steve Wright factoids).
- A baby Echidna and a baby Platypus are both called a Puggle (Pointless)
- Selfies now cause more deaths than Sharks (Parade.com).
- The T-Rex's closet living relative is the Chicken (Parade.com)
- Bananas are the most common item sold by Walmart (thefactsite.com)
- A road sign on the A128 states-Brentwood, Chipping Ongar, Industrial Estates, Secret Nuclear bunker. That should throw them off the scent.
- The hashtag symbol (#) is called an Octothorpe (Parade.com).
- I find it strange that Hamburgers are made from Beef.
- 3 Strikes at Baseball and you're out. 3 strikes at Tenpin bowling and you're a legend.
- Wombat poop is cube shaped (Steve Wright factoids).
- Word of the month; - Hullabaloo.
- Why do people always say, "Hello there"? I'm not called there (Brian Lewis)

*Keep smiling - Peter Rayment*

## *News From Bottisham Adult Learning Association (Bala)*

BALA is affiliated to CALL (Cambridge Alliance of Lifelong Learners) which supports Adult Learning Groups in Cambridgeshire.

We are pleased to announce that on June 11th CALL has arranged a Day School to be held in Bottisham Community Sports and Social Club. Andrew Sankey, a popular tutor, will be presenting "Great, but Little Known Gardens". A day to interest all those interested in gardens and gardening. You might find suggestions for summer visits to places you may not have considered.

The cost is £18 to include the talks, tea/coffee and light refreshments. Please bring a packed lunch. The hall will open at 9.30 and the first session starts at 10.00. The Day School finishes at 16.00.

For further details and to book a place, contact [www.call-ed.org.uk](http://www.call-ed.org.uk) email [info@call-ed.org.uk](mailto:info@call-ed.org.uk)

*Helen Cole*



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# ***Bottisham Community Sports and Social Club***

## **OPENING HOURS**

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

## **WHAT'S ON AT THE CLUB**

### **THE LEGIONNAIRES<sup>77</sup> ARE BACK**

After their very successful evening back in October Legionnaires<sup>77</sup> are returning on Saturday 7th May. Free entry for members and £2 for non-members.

### **DRINKS DRAW**

Weekly, commencing 1st May we will be running a drinks draw. Squares will be sold at £2 each and the winner, who must be in the club at the time of the draw will win vouchers for 20 drinks. The draw will alternate between Fri-day, Saturday and Sunday. The first draw will take place at 6.00pm on Sunday 1st May. The date and time of the next draw will be announced after each draw and advertised in the club. Please purchase your tickets from the bar.

### **DON'T FORGET WE HAVE BT SPORT AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.**

Saturday morning premiership games and most European games being shown.

### **COME ALONG TO ENJOY.**

Darts / Pool / Snooker / Billiards / Cribbage / Dominoes / Bar billiards/Table Ten-nis.

We have two full size Snooker tables, two Pool tables and a Bar Billiards table.

### **COCKTAILS AT THE BAR**

Have you tried our new cocktails yet? Strawberry Dacquiri, Espresso Martini, Pornstar Martini, Sex on the Beach and French Martini.

Along with all the usual drinks we have a new premium pale ale, Icebreaker, 4.5%abv. Come along and give it a try

### **HALL AND POPPY LOUNGE ROOM HIRE AVAILABLE FOR ALL YOUR FUNCTIONS.**

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Please refer to the website. [www.bottishamsocialclub.co.uk](http://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](mailto:bottishamcsasc@gmail.com) with your email address and you will be added to the mailing list.

## **CAMRA CAMBRIDGE AND DISTRICT CLUB OF THE YEAR**

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

Thirty members enjoyed the Annual lunch on March 13th at Newmarket Golf Club. Our March speaker was Jackie Lince from Mill Blossom Flowers in Lode who demonstrated making a spring flower wreath and a floral basket (which made excellent raffle prizes) whilst telling us about her recently formed business.

She had previously worked as an accountant but decided 2 years ago to provide fresh flowers for every occasion. She had to miss out on training courses because of Covid restrictions but with lots of advice from Facebook floristry connections and local flower growers she has really enjoyed herself and made firm foundations for a successful business. She has started growing her own flowers.

She doesn't use Oasis, but chicken wire for her arrangements which is very Eco friendly.

Her philosophy is that flowers definitely cheer you up, a good idea to accept after the pandemic.

Please come on Tuesday 24th May when Nick Dobson will tell us about Fuchsias - The Three Virtues. Sounds intriguing.

**We meet in the Poppy Room at the Club at 7.30.**

*Sylvia Overton*

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

**Covid Spring Vaccination Boosters:** The Practice are only doing these for patients at the Nursing Homes. Other eligible patients will be contacted when available.

**Retirement Village:** We are pleased that the appeal has been dismissed so that the Practice will not have the extra pressure that the development would have brought. Thanks to Dr Keith, who made a very eloquent statement to the enquiry.

**Staff:** Dr Harrison has returned to duty and Dr Ramsden, a salaried GP, will be starting at the beginning of May.

**Paramedic:** Ellie works alongside the duty doctor with minor illnesses and on home visits..

**Regular Meetings:** Please note that we are returning to 6pm and on Thursdays as we used to do before the pandemic. However we will continue on Zoom for the time being.

So next meeting is **Thursday 26th May 2022 at 6pm**. If you wish to join our Zoom meeting, please email our chairman at [s.j.gilson@btinternet.com](mailto:s.j.gilson@btinternet.com) who will send you a meeting invite.

*Bottisham Medical Practice Patients Participation Group*



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

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Change of plan at the March meeting when the arranged speaker had to cancel. Maggie Harrop brought her talk forward and told us about her continuing holiday adventures – this time to Georgia. I know from various members that this was enjoyable but I can't report in detail as I missed the meeting due to Covid.

Ideas are wanted from members as to how to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee and also members to volunteer to arrange the August meeting.

We shall be joining the Community Library Association at the Triangle on Saturday 21st May when they have their book sale. We shall have a Tombola Stand.

**Make a note in your diary for Wednesday 18th May when Lucy Lewis will tell us about the First Female Bomb Disposer**

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

*Hope to see you there. - Sylvia Overton*

## MAKING MASTERPIECES at Swaffham Prior V.H.

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At our March meeting we studied the Mothers' Union theme for the year 'Transformation Now'. Julie Sale began by referring to the examples of change and thinking 'outside the box' that Revd' Sue Giles had spoken about during our Holy Communion Service in January. Moving on to look at the lives of three people whose lives were transformed by life experiences. Dame Cicely Saunders, founder of the modern hospice movement. Having suffered from back pain as a nurse, studied to become an almoner (medical social worker). Her involvement with the terminally ill led her to read medicine, and she went on to open the first hospice St. Joseph's, London in 1967.

Ann Langran gave an account of the famous Italian composer Giuseppe Verdi. At the age of 27, after his second opera had been a flop and losing his wife and both infant children to cholera, fell into a time of deep despair. He planned to give up composing altogether. When a producer sent him the text for a proposed new Biblical opera Nabucco, which he threw on the table with disgust. In his own words "The roll of paper opened out; and without knowing quite how, I found myself staring at the page and my eyes fell on the words 'Fly, thought on the golden wings'" This gave Verdi a jolt, and he began writing obsessively to compose many of our famous and well-loved operas. Following this we had a time of reflection whilst listening to The Hebrew Slaves Chorus from Nabucco.

Julie concluded with how Archbishop Desmond Tutu's career was transformed. Having wanted a medical career, but unable to afford this he trained to be a teacher. After two years of teaching he resigned, and went to theological college in Johannesburg and was ordained in 1961. He went on to become the first coloured Anglican Bishop of Johannesburg and elected Archbishop of Cape Town in 1986. In turn during his career Desmond Tutu brought about transformation by becoming one of South Africa's most well-known human rights activists, winning the 1984 Nobel Peace Prize for his efforts in resolving and ending apartheid.

Learning of these life changes brought thoughts of those people whom we know personally, or how situations in our own lives that have instigated transformation.

Our meetings are usually held on the third Thursday of each month in Lode Church at 2.30pm. On the 19th May our speaker will be Wendy Lovell: on the topic of 'Coping in the Pandemic'. You are most welcome to come and join us.

*Ann Langran*

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

*Please send material to the editor  
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## *Public Transport Matters*

I think this is a year for a Staycation holiday. The news at present is not good for people trying to cross the Channel by ferry due to the problems with P and O ferries after so many experienced staff were dismissed and untrained staff taken on in their place. They are failing checks as I write. Many different skills are required. The Channel can be choppy and you have to manoeuvre the ship into port. There are long traffic queues on the motorway approaching Dover and I feel sorry for anyone travelling by coach including the drivers trying to keep passengers comfortable. Airports too are having problems with staff absences due to Covid.

We live on an island surrounded by sea with good connections by coach or train. Beautiful countryside and historic towns and cities. Hills to climb and sea and lakes to swim in. When I worked in Cambridge and Ely tourist offices we were able to show people brochures containing all the delights available. Sadly the Cambridge office closed partly due to Covid but I think the situation is being considered. Nowadays people can search on the web. Ely office is open.

I enjoyed visiting places by Stagecoach and then I could tell other people about them. Liverpool and its museums is a favourite and the northeastern coast. We wait to learn whether Stagecoach has finally decided which company it is connected with. There are queries about the German connection. Stagecoach East has brought back its 7 days a week city sightseeing tours. It visits 18 stops around the city including University of Cambridge colleges.

Our 11 and 12 buses continue to run usually to time. We are asked still to wear masks to protect ourselves and others. Many drivers have caught Covid. The number of passengers has slightly increased but many people have decided to work from home. School pupils do need to travel to Cambridge and that can be expensive.

In trying to cut staff costs the Transport Secretary is discussing closing ticket offices at train stations but the unions are against it as they say the staff help travellers including those without access to a computer for ticket booking. From next year trains will be run by private companies under Passenger service contracts to replace the franchise service system which collapsed during the pandemic.

The East West rail system has a new chief executive officer called Beth West. She previously worked for Balfour Beatty responsible for civil engineering and building projects.

Alstom has been awarded a contract for replacement of signaling in the Cambridge area - almost 700 items of 40-year-old equipment on 200 km of route. Automatically controlled half barrier crossings including Waterbeach, Dullingham and Six Mile Bottom are being converted to manually controlled barriers with obstacle detection. Improvements are planned for Ely station with a new ticket office, booking hall, ticket gates and waiting room with work stations and charge points.

Arguments about the East West rail link continue. The trains would run on high banks by people's gardens. There will not be a link from HS2 to Wigan. That has now been scrapped.

Train line is under review.

Go Ahead has the Southern and Thameslink rail franchises back. You can now go all the way from Portugal to Singapore by train! Enjoy.

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*Paddy James*



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## *News from Wicken Fen Nature Reserve*

As you walk through the Fen, the signs of spring are all around, from bittern booming in the distance, to cuckooflower and ragged robin flowering amongst the fen foliage. Ranger John recommends a wander around the Adventurers' Trail at the moment, as you can enjoy the full spectrum of what nature has to offer on this walk.

We've already welcomed new additions to the grazing herds, including 5 foals – all males! Last year we had the opposite, so nature is evening things up this year.

We're hoping that by the time you read this we'll also be hearing cuckoos out in the reserve. You can always ask in the Visitor Centre for the latest wildlife spotted or check out our social media channels.



### **Footprints Community Engagement Project**

We're looking forward to meeting our local communities over the summer at local fairs, feasts and festivals. Do come and say hello and find out more about the reserve, the Vision and our community engagement project. We'll be at the following events: Reach Fair 2 May, Ely Eel Fair 5 June, Waterbeach Feast 11 June, Burwell Carnival 25 June and Soham Pumpkin Fair 24 September.

For further information about the reserve, including facilities and opening times, see: [www.nationaltrust.org.uk/wicken-fen](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/wicken-fen)



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quoting ref: The Cresset

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It maybe that we can expect more borrowers as I have read that the price of paper is rising rapidly and is going to affect the price of paperbacks. Save money and borrow from our large stock for free.

Expect the library to be busy on Friday 6th May evening session. The majority of our volunteers will be meeting up then. We have several new people who have recently joined our association and as we only have 2 per session at a time we rarely meet the others. We promise to be quiet!

**Please support our annual book and jigsaw sale on the Triangle for the morning of Saturday 21st May from 9.00am. Bottisham WI will hold a Tombola stall then too. Please pray for good weather.**

*Sylvia Overton*

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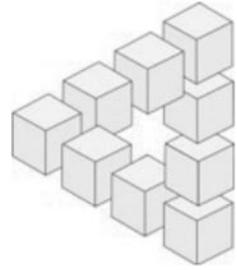
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## *Thoughts of a Sports Nut*

For the second month running, I write this column with a heavy heart as Putin and his Barbarians continue their unspeakable crimes in Ukraine. But, sometimes, out of the darkness of depravity there emerges the light of human compassion and selflessness which restores our faith in humanity among the masses. Two particular, heartwarming stories have caught my eye in the last four weeks.

During my days as a refereeing tutor, I got to know a young, football-mad Ukrainian – a referee and futsal player – whose work in the technology sector brought him and his family to Cambridge. Within three weeks of the Russian invasion of his homeland, he had crowd-funded an ambulance full of medical and logistical supplies, which he then drove across Europe to deliver it personally to a refugee centre in Krakovets, near the Polish border. Whilst in transit, he is on the way to raising another £10k for a second one, and I guess he'll continue until... well, I'm not sure he's thought further ahead than that at the moment.

The other story concerns Edinburgh-based Hibernian FC, or rather, their fan club. Hibs had been drawn away to Dnipropetrovsk in a UEFA Cup tie in 2005 and, while in the town, a group of supporters befriended the staff and children of the local orphanage. They formed a charity, Dnipro Kids, and subsequently continued to support them from afar. When the bombing started, Steven Carr, the charity's chairman, flew to Ukraine, hired a bus, personally collected the 50 children and their carers, and took them by road to Lviv, from where they moved on to Poland before flying to London. They are now in the safety of Edinburgh homes until such time, if ever, their homeland is safe to return to. The power of sport, eh...!

In the light of all that's going on in Eastern Europe, it was especially distasteful for Russia to put in a bid to host the 2028 and 2032 European Football Championship finals. Obviously, that's just a piece of posturing by the gangsters who rule Russia, given that they're currently suspended from international football, but one wonders if the joint UK & Ireland bid for the same (dubious?) privilege is also optimistic, given the Wembley debacle last June! The outcome of the bidding process should be known by the time this Cresset hits your doormats. My money is on Turkey!

Decisions, decisions... The England & Wales Cricket Board have a big one to make in the aftermath of England's awful series defeat in the West Indies. That is: whether Joe Root hangs onto his captaincy for the home Test series against New Zealand or whether he plays under someone else's leadership. The trip to the Caribbean was supposed to herald a new dawn for England following the departure of Chris Silverwood as head coach but, the toothless attack and fragile batting produced only more of the same, culminating in an embarrassing defeat inside three days in the final Test. Despite his prolific run-scoring, Root has now led his side to only one victory in the last 17 matches, but it's difficult to see who, within or without the current squad, could be considered a suitable replacement. In the meantime, England's Director of Cricket, Sir Andrew Strauss, has announced a root-and-branch review of domestic cricket which, presumably, will focus on the critical balance between the county game and limited overs formats... It can't happen soon enough!

In other parts of the world, and in other sports, a row has been rumbling on over whether a transgender woman – that is a man who, by virtue of drugs and possibly surgery, presents himself as a woman, can compete against women in sports designated as female only. Absurd though it sounds, an American person identifying as female Lia Thomas won the US national colleges 500-

*(Sports Nut continued on page 47)*

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***(Sports Nut continued.)***

yard freestyle, even though he is still physiologically a 6ft 1in man dwarfing the other competitors. The National Collegiate Athletics Association seemed to overlook the fact that, as a man, Thomas was nothing more than a ‘middle-order’ average competitor, but was massively faster than the best women. As the story gathered momentum, British Cycling made a common-sense decision to prevent transgender Emily Bridges from competing in the Women’s National Omnium Championships, but then it emerged that the England Universities’ women’s football team had controversially selected a 6ft tall transgender goalkeeper after some predictably outstanding performances for Hastings United Women!

“Trans Athletes Face Huge Fight for Equality” screamed the headlines on behalf of ‘trans’ rights. “What about the rights of women?” retorted the women’s rights lobby, in the face of a backlash of ‘transphobia’ allegations. In an interview on American TV, even Martina Navratilova, a fierce campaigner for LGBTQ+ rights, agreed that transgender women competing against biological women was unfair and she criticised the IOC for not taking a firmer stance on the issue to date. (Remember we’ve already had a ‘trans’ weightlifter competing against women in the last Olympics.) Interestingly, Navratilova quoted her transgender friend Renee Richards, the former tennis player, in the interview: “She (Richards) agrees with me... and it would be hard for people to call her transphobic, right?”

Call me old-fashioned, but surely a relevant factor for a man considering a sex-change should be that he relinquishes his aspirations to participate in competitive athletics, unless it’s against other similar individuals. Whilst the IOC sits on the fence, deferring decisions on eligibility criteria to individual sports federations, Lord Sebastian Coe, President of World Athletics, laments, “The integrity and future of women’s sport, is very fragile if we don’t get the regulations right.”. How difficult can it be, for goodness’ sake? The Sports Council’s Equality Group, itself, has stated that “testosterone suppression is unlikely to guarantee fairness between transgender women and natal females in gender-affected sports... (due to) retained differences in strength, stamina and physique.” It seems to me that a simple genetics test would provide a very manageable solution, with only a double X chromosome securing a place in women’s competitions. Otherwise, how long will it be before the majority of world records in women’s sport are held by men?!

As my Cresset deadline looms, the two worlds of Women’s Football and the movie industry are celebrating the 20th anniversary of the iconic film “Bend It Like Beckham”. The effect of this film on female football is virtually immeasurable. It told the story of a British Indian girl who, against the wishes of her Sikh parents, joined a football team and became successful. Although it was a romantic comedy in essence, the film brought together a number of cultural themes which inspired a generation of female footballers. It ranked in the top 10 films of 2002 in India, Australia, South Africa and the USA, grossing \$104 million, and spent 13 weeks in the UK’s no.1 spot. Bizarrely, the film was also the first ever Western film to be screened in North Korea! It also precipitated the establishment of professionalism in women’s football, culminating in the formation of the FA Women’s Super League in 2010. Now, football is the most popular sport among women and girls in the UK, with 3.4 million participants; and the UEFA European Women’s Championship Final to be played at Wembley in July is anticipated to be a sell-out. Heady stuff, eh!

*TTFN - Gerry Daish*

*The worst form of inequality is to try to make unequal things equal - Aristotle*



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## What Next?

Firstly though, I hope you weren't duped by the April JOW article about 'Polar Foil' which is of course an anagram of 'April Fool'. Some may recall a similar wheeze a few years ago on the topic of Post Codes which had quite a few in a tizzy with one industrious reader who saw it as a genuine business opportunity.

"Appeal Dismissed" was the very welcome verdict delivered by the Planning Inspector on Thursday 7th April. This means that the plans for the proposed Retirement Village on the meadow and field at the southern and north eastern end of the High Street respectively will NOT be going ahead. No doubt the Parish Council will put something similar in their article. But the Inspector's Report does raise some issues for the future, mainly for District Council to resolve, but also matters that we as a village should be aware of. It is a warning to us (as a village) and to the District Council to put our respective houses in order. Whilst acknowledging that a new Local Plan (LP) was underway the Inspector was very critical of the East Cambs 2015 Local Plan and implied that it was 'not fit for purpose' especially concerning some policies apropos Housing and Growth. There was a demonstrable need for residential care for the elderly in the area yet there is an absence of a proactive strategy in the development plan to address such need. He was also very critical of the lack of Affordable Homes coming forward and the 'approach' adopted by ECDC when looking for and assessing potential sites for Retirement Care Accommodation.

I mention above that it is a time for the village to 'put its house in order' and by that I mean to reconsider having a 'Neighbourhood Plan' (NP) that clearly delineates where village growth should, and should not be. A NP was embarked upon several years ago by the Parish Council but the apathy from villagers (yes, you and me) meant that it could not be carried through. Another factor for the NP being put on the backburner was the assurance given by the Strategic Development arm of the District Council that Green Belt and Conservation protection status would see off potential development. Well, we now know differently...

However, a NP is not the sole responsibility of Parish Council. The driving force must come from within the community itself as a vast amount of demographic data has to be gathered and analysed before decisions are made and voted on by the village. Only when the village has voted on and approved the plan can it go forward to the District Council for scrutiny to ensure it reflects both Local Authority and National planning policies. When approved, which could be anything from typically 2 to 5 years; potential developers will know precisely where they can and can't build in the village. This will at least give residents some peace of mind but until that day comes you can bet that more predatory proposals will come forward - and this is why the Inspectors implied warning must be taken very seriously.

From a local perspective much weight for the dismissal of the appeal was put on the convincing evidence about the adverse effects on present and future healthcare provision.



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However the Inspector judged; “The effect of the proposal on local healthcare provision was not a reason for refusal of the application. The BMP provided evidence of worse outcomes from an academic paper, but those were in relation to care home residents and not therefore directly comparable to the appeal proposal”.

On the role of the District Council the Inspector commented that although he had dismissed the appeal; “...this does not reduce the importance I place on the Council’s persistent and meaningful under-delivery of affordable homes over the past 10 years. I therefore place substantial positive weight on the proposed affordable housing. The Council indicated that the weight to be applied to the proposed delivery of affordable housing should be tempered by the harm they claim the affordable housing buildings would cause to character and appearance. However, I do not agree with this approach nor the absence of a proactive strategy in the development plan to address such need. The Inspector further commented; “...the LP is out-of-date and in any event says nothing about the specific need for older persons accommodation, extra care or otherwise. At present, there are no retirement care villages in the District. There are no applications, no site allocations, and no predicted completions in the next five years for extra care accommodation”.

As for the suitability of Bottisham to host older persons accommodation and affordable housing he agreed with the appellant; “I agree, that the proposal is in an accessible location. Bottisham provides a range of services and facilities, and there would be good access to the town because of its proximity and because there are footpaths directly from the site to the town centre.

So what then actually saved the village from this ‘blot on the landscape’? By the skin of our teeth it came down to just two issues: a) the Inspector’s primary concern with the robustness of the appellant’s Alternative Site Assessment (ASA) model and b) protection given to the permanence of the Green Belt. In other words ‘not what it was but where it was’.

In his summing up the Inspector stated; “The submitted ASA is not robust. It has therefore not been adequately demonstrated that the proposal needs to be located in the Green Belt or that it would not be feasible to find a suitable site elsewhere. Additionally he commented; “only 3% of land in the District is Green Belt, and only three villages, including Bottisham, are sited in this Green Belt land. This makes it even more important that a robust ASA is provided to justify the use of Green Belt land. I place the onus for this on the appellant”. Moreover; “...there would be harm to the permanence, openness and some of the purposes of Green Belt land. There is also harm, albeit with only a low to moderate weighting, to the character and appearance of the area, the wider landscape, and the heritage assets of Bottisham Conservation Area”.

The Inspector concluded his report with this statement; “Overall, the other considerations, although including substantial benefits, also include a deficient ASA, and they do not clearly outweigh the harm to the Green Belt that I have identified, and the other harms. Consequently, the ‘very special circumstances’ necessary to justify the proposed development do not exist.

Whilst dismissal of the appeal is wonderful news for the village we can be confident that

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the land owner and his agents are unlikely to accept this decision in good grace. All around the Cambridge area the Axis consortium has clearly demonstrated that its *raison d'être* is far from the provision of elderly residential care but rather to find loop holes and flaws in planning policy to satisfy its rapacious appetite for profit! As custodians of this village's rural heritage we must not relax our guard if what we value is to be passed on and enjoyed by generations to come. A Neighbourhood Plan is in my opinion the way forward and we as individuals must put our indifference to one side and rise to the challenge.

**"If evil be spoken of you and it be true, correct yourself, if it be a lie, laugh at it." Epictetus - a Greek Stoic philosopher.**

*JOW*

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## *East Anglian Air Ambulance*



For EAA, 2021 will always be remembered as a 'milestone year' as it was the year during which we moved into Helimed House our new Norwich HQ, started flying 24/7 and started carrying blood on board every mission. As we progress, as a charity at the forefront of pre-hospital emergency care, we maintain a necessarily sizeable operation to provide exceptional levels of support for every one of our patients, both pre-hospital and through aftercare. To do this, we need to raise £15million annually to deliver and develop our 24/7 service by air and by road. EAAA thanks each and every one for the part played in ensuring that our doctor and critical care paramedic teams can be there to deliver that advanced pre-hospital care, whenever needed.

In previous articles I have done my best to describe the immensely important work undertaken by EAAA. Of equal importance is the support work undertaken by so many people from diverse backgrounds – our Volunteers. Apart from continuing to stress the financial support, without which no missions could be undertaken, I need to re-emphasise that its 'feet on the ground' upon which we rely.

There are many volunteering opportunities at EAAA, often interacting with the general public - its invariably good fun and always rewarding.

For 2022 we have scheduled many exciting fundraising events, the success of which will depend upon volunteer help, so there is always lots of scope to help out. From Trek 24 to hiking 24miles or kilometres plus many more, there are events to appeal to many – why not participate (by contacting EAAA website) or signing up to become a much valued volunteer. We really do need YOUR help. Go online today – please. Help make the difference for people like us who, perhaps through no fault of their own, urgently need the help of EAAA – NOW.

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# **Cambridge, Past, Present & Future**

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## **Wednesday 18 May, 10-12, The House, the Horse & the Holes in the Ground.**

Join the Wardens for a stroll around Wandlebury Country Park and discover some of the Iron Age and 18th century history of this Ancient Monument, country estate and stables. Finish at the 600 year old Tadlow Granary for a look at some archaeological finds. Please wear footwear and clothing for being outdoors.

Meet at the large noticeboard near the car park. Free event, suggested donation £3. No need to book.

## **27 May - 30 June, Cambridge Nature Festival**

The Cambridge Nature Festival will be a celebration of nature on our doorstep, as well as the wonderful people and organisations that work tirelessly for the natural world. Nature-based activities and events will be held in and around Cambridge and will include BioBlitzes, guided nature wanders, live music, wildlife ID workshops, art installations and much more.

The festival will also raise awareness of the Cambridge Nature network, a large-scale initiative to enable nature to recover in the Cambridge Area. This work is being partly supported by a grant from the government's Green Recovery Challenge Fund. [www.cambridgenaturenetwork.org](http://www.cambridgenaturenetwork.org).

## **Sat 28 May, 11.30-4pm, Wandlebury Wildlife Day**

Fun and informative nature activities for all ages. Free, drop in event. Part of the Cambridge Nature Festival. Activities include pond dipping, sweep netting, nature trail and much more.

## **Monday/Tuesday 30 & 31 May 8.30am-4pm, Holiday Bushcraft for 5-12 years**

Holiday Bushcraft at Wandlebury is designed for children aged 5-12 and is run by experienced qualified teachers from Wild Thyme & Embers, who will inspire children and share their knowledge and skills of surviving in the wild. The sessions focus on practical bushcraft and survival skills and follow a forest school approach encouraging self-confidence and sense of achievement. All basic bushcraft techniques suitable for this age range will be taught, including:

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- Seasonal woodcrafts / Fire lighting techniques / Wilderness cooking skills / Natural art and crafts
- Woodland games

The cost for each day is £38 per child.

Children need to bring a packed lunch and large water bottle (which can be refilled throughout the day) and dress for the weather. Please send children with a change of clothes and ensure they wear suitable footwear, preferably closed toe shoes such as hiking boots, wellies or trainers. Wild Thyme will take care of everything else including providing all specialist equipment as well as delicious snacks cooked on the fire!

Please book via the Wild Thyme & Embers website.

*Continued on page 57*



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### **Sunday 5 June, 2.30pm-5pm, Hinxton Watermill Open Day**

Come and look round this stunning working watermill that dates to the seventeenth century. On six Sundays during the summer the mill is opened and guides will show you how the mill works and tell you the history of this incredible building. There has been a watermill at this site since the time of the Domesday Book in 1086.

Children can take part in the popular Where's Ratty contest and have the chance to win a prize!

Owned by local charity CambridgePPF and run by dedicated volunteers the mill is set in picturesque surroundings on the River Cam, in the village of Hinxton. There are also walks along the river and picnic tables.

Members free, non-members £3 adult, £1 per child. No need to book

**Directions:** Wandlebury Country Park is on the A1307, 2.5km south of the Addenbrooke's roundabout. CB22 3AE. Parking is available on site and costs £3 per vehicle, members free. For more information: email [bookings@cambridgeppf.org](mailto:bookings@cambridgeppf.org), call 01223 243830 extension 207 or visit [www.cambridgeppf.org/whats-on](http://www.cambridgeppf.org/whats-on)

## ***Bottisham Bowling Club***

### **ROLL UP FOR A DAY OF FUN WITH BOWLS!**

The Bowls England Big Weekend is a national event and we are taking part in Bottisham on Saturday 28th May from 2.00pm providing the opportunity for you, your friends and family to give bowls a go. Up and down the country bowls clubs will be opening their doors to people who want to try a new sport, have some fun and meet new people. With the Commonwealth Games coming up later this summer, why not come along and see what makes this sport such an accessible and vitalising option for everyone!

1. Playing bowls is very doable. Whatever your physique, bowls is a sport for everybody and it will help improve your fitness levels and mental wellbeing.
2. Bowls is not expensive. To get going you don't need lots of new kit and our club is putting on this taster session for free.
3. After football, bowls has the second highest number of clubs in the country.
4. Compared to most sports, age and gender differences have less of an effect on a game of bowls, so it's a perfect sport to spend time and enjoy a bit of friendly competition with your family.
5. Bowls clubs are sociable places full of people looking to have fun, so bowls is a great way to relax, make new friends and feel part of your local community.

**Bottisham Bowling Club, 33 Downing Close, CB25 9DD.  
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<b>Treasurer, Advertising rates and payment:</b> Rhona Walker, 94 High Street, Bottisham.....	811402
<b>Distribution:</b> Ian & Helen Cole .....	812573
<b>Design/Artwork:</b> ONG (Old Newton Graphics) • www.codge.com .....	01449 675548

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