



REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY



THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION, BOTTISHAM & DISTRICT BRANCH



REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE SUNDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2022 at 10.45am IN LODE

The Bottisham and District Branch of the Royal British Legion will be holding its Remembrance Day Service this year in Bottisham.

The Remembrance Service will commence at 10.45am outside the Church with the reading of the names at the memorial.

THE 11th HOUR of the 11th DAY of the 11th MONTH

At 11 o'clock on Thursday the 11th of November, the Nation will pause for the Annual **TWO MINUTES SILENCE** to remember the fallen, including those from recent conflicts. The Bottisham Royal British Legion Branch will hold a brief service of remembrance at the village sign and garden of remembrance, opposite the church in Bottisham, to which all are welcome. Assemble next the village sign at 10.50am.

LEST WE FORGET, GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE

The Bottisham Royal British Legion Branch has erected a small Garden of Remembrance, situated by the Village Sign opposite Holy Trinity Church. Anyone who may wish to do so is invited to place a Poppy Cross for personal remembrance. The Garden will be in place from Sunday 30th October until Thursday 17th November. Poppy Crosses may be obtained from any Poppy Seller, from the Community Social Club in Bottisham or the village shop.

Happy November!



Statistically the gloomiest month of the year. With the clocks changed, it gets dark earlier and the days get colder. Never mind, Christmas is round the corner. We know that because Tesco has been selling crackers and big tins of sweets since September!

Sad to see an institution like Rank Bros. closing in Bottisham. The illustrious name will live on in the world of scientific instruments, but the local impact will be lost. I would like to add my recognition of the benefits that this village has had from Rank Brothers over the years. From material support to the BVC, to floodlights and interior lighting for the church, the Rank family leave a great legacy.

While all the pomp and ceremony was going on in London, Bottisham had its own, with Jon Ogborn reading the declaration of the accession of King Charles III. Rosemary Jolley sent me a picture of the event.

Interestingly Jon, where he stands, would be on the left of our cover picture, facing the camera.

Taken, in I guess about 1890, it is of the then village shop looking across to where the vicarage now stands and beyond, that, if it had been there at the time, our house!

The date of the coronation has now been confirmed as Saturday 6th May, and hopefully with enough notice, some sort of Bottisham celebration could be organised. Not maybe at the same time, as everybody will be watching the telly, but that weekend.

Or how about a big village picnic (bring your own lunch!) with a big screen TV, held on the field behind the village college (I doubt there will be football that day, so they won't need it for that use.) Only a thought.

A packed magazine this month with lots to read and interesting articles. Particularly, there will be discussions raised over the proposal by Stagecoach to cut off the lifeline for many people which is the 11 and 12 buses. It should never have been allowed to get to the stage of termination by the company that signed up to run it and this must now be resolved. Both with a short-term resolution, and also a longer term reassurance of maintained service.

I could fill this page with the examples of disorganised idealistic infrastructure planning, from restrictions of only one car space for houses, to cutting down road space to put extra bus lanes in, with fines for transgression. To imposing £5 fines if you take your car anywhere near Cambridge, including Addenbrookes. Yet they allow the only alternative for many to be discontinued at a whim. "You couldn't write the script", as they say!



News From Holy Trinity Church Bottisham

The main news this month is that Rev'd Sue Giles has announced that she will be retiring at the end of January 2023. We are hugely thankful for all she has done during the 10 years she has been in the benefice, (not to mention nearly 40 years in the ministry) and hope her last few months with us bring us all great blessings. We will miss her, her hard work, generous spirit, and many gifts immensely, but appreciate that Sue and Jonathan deserve a very well-earned rest together!

There has been further discussion over the last few weeks regarding the floodlighting of the church. A very generous donor has offered to replace the existing halogen lights with lower wattage LEDs. However, we need initially to replace a single bulb to check that the whiter light from LEDs will provide acceptable illumination compared with the yellow glow of the existing halogen bulbs to which we have become accustomed. If the trial is satisfactory, the LEDs being more energy efficient, then we will have the prospect of having longer lighting hours and more lights on than at present – fingers crossed!

We had a memorable and most enjoyable coffee and cake concert with the folksinger Jancis Harvey on October 1st. We are looking forward to our next one on November 5th, when a very well-known local duo will be performing a programme of songs and words about England entitled "England, our England." Rex Freeman sang his first solo when he was four, entered and won his first competition when he was nine, and has sung as a soloist ever since. He will be accompanied by Rosemary Wheeler who commenced piano lessons at the age of five and has enjoyed a lifetime of making music. When she moved to Cambridge, she became involved with three operatic societies as their rehearsal accompanist. As the accompanist of the Cambridge Gilbert and Sullivan Society for many years she was also privileged to accompany many of the D'Oyly Carte principal singers when they performed in Cambridge. The final concert this year is on December 3rd, when I will give a talk entitled 'The History of our Christmas Carols', play my violin and will be joined by Sarah Maxwell (soprano) and Jonathan Giles (keyboard). I will outline the history of how we came to sing the now traditional carols at Christmas, as well as describing how the words and music, often written hundreds of years apart, came together. We will all sing a few verses of each carol together, as well as listening to Sarah's lovely voice. Put the dates in your diary now. The concerts will start at 10.30am, last just over an hour and entry will be £5 (children free), to include coffee and cake. All are welcome. Money raised will go towards the church building fund.

Julie Bristow is planning two candlelit concerts with her choir in the church on 10th December. There will be an afternoon concert at 4.30pm aimed at the elderly, those in the local care homes and those who do not wish to come out at night and an evening concert starting at 7pm. There will be a charge of £10. Money raised will go to local families who may be struggling at Christmas.

We have received quotes for the repair of the holes in the church roof which will cost in excess of £5,000, which will have to be met from our own church funds and individual donations. This comes at a time when our electricity costs have increased enormously, with estimated costs for heating for a church service around £100 and for a funeral £140.

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Our toddler group for children and their parents continues to be held on a Tuesday morning – anyone is welcome to join us. Permission has now been obtained from the Diocese for permanent removal of some of the now unfixed north aisle pews and this will give us a more versatile space.

We are expecting a number of visiting bellringing teams over the next couple of months and so you may hear them ringing at unfamiliar times.

Our Sunday services continue, in all the churches in the Anglesey Group and also on Zoom. You will be very welcome at any of them. There are usually two services per month in Bottisham at 10.30am on the first and third Sundays of the month. Please consult the Cresset or the church notice board for exact details.

Stuart Field, Churchwarden

Rank Brothers, Bottisham - Thank You

Back in my distant biochemical days in the University of Warwick I worked on mitochondrial respiration. A key part of this was a small incubation chamber with an integral electrode for measuring the oxygen content of the medium. We reckoned that it was the best you could buy anywhere in the world. The device had a label with the maker's name stuck on it: Rank Brothers, Bottisham. Little did I guess then that not only would we finish up living in Bottisham, but that I would get to know the Rank Brothers, Ed and Albert, very well. Sad that everything must come to an end, or at least change, but thank you, Rank Brothers, Bottisham, for a helping hand through life. I am surely not alone.

Mike Young

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Services in the Anglesey Benefice

Wed Nov 2nd	8 pm	C by C (a short contemplative service) – online via Zoom
Sun Nov 6th	9am	Online service on Zoom
	10.30am	Holy Communion - Bottisham
	4 pm	Village Worship - Quy Village Hall
Sun Nov 13th	9am	Online service on Zoom
	10.50am	Royal British Legion service – Lode
		Remembrance services at Quy, Swaffham Bulbeck, Swaffham Prior
Sun Nov 20th	9am	Online service on Zoom
		Morning Prayer - Quy
	10.30am	Holy Communion , Swaffham Bulbeck
		Morning Prayer - Bottisham
Sun Nov 27th	9am	Online service on Zoom
	10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP) - Swaffham Prior
Every Thursday	10.30am	Holy Communion - Lode

Please check the Church notice board for current information;
or email admin@angleseygroupparishes.co.uk,
which is also the address to request the Zoom link.

WI

We held our Annual meeting in September and were reminded of all our activities during the past months. In common with Institutes throughout Cambridge and indeed the rest of the Country, member numbers have reduced resulting in lower income. However, our finances are healthy and with the return to Tuesday evening meetings in the New Year we may welcome more members. The committee were warmly thanked for serving in the past year and especially for the Queens Platinum Jubilee Lunch.

Susan Mersh is standing down as Treasurer but Jean Turney will replace her. All other members were adopted.

We shall be making a collection nearer Christmas time for the Salvation Army and cuddly toys, small stocking filler gifts and wrapping paper and Sellotape have been suggested. Toiletry gift packs for single mums and older children in care are also needed.

Our next meeting is Wednesday 16th November when Charles Bradford will be talking about The Gog Farm Shop

Meetings are held at 7.30pm in the Poppy Room. Hope to see you there. *Sylvia Overton*



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District Councillors' Report

Buses have been the main talking point for residents and politicians alike, since Stagecoach announced that despite taking Government money to sustain local bus routes still affected by the Covid passenger downturn, they were going to close large numbers of local routes anyway. These include the 11 & 12 services. With these services due to close on 30 October (all the notice Stagecoach have to give) the Mayor's Combined Authority—which is the public transport authority for Cambridgeshire & Peterborough - has launched a procurement with £1.7 million on offer to fill as many of the gaps as possible from the date on which Stagecoach leaves them until the end of March 2023. The Combined Authority Board will meet on Wednesday 19 October, when it will reach a decision on the outcome of the procurement. The County Council's Strategy and Resources Committee will meet on the 20 October where they can consider providing additional financial support if the Combined Authority's funding is insufficient. It is understood that there is a company who wants to run buses on the number 12 route, and we wait to see if a company has tendered for the number 11 route. Beyond March 2023, the Combined Authority will be making decisions on bus services as part of its annual budget and business planning process.

The actions of Stagecoach have shown that the current system - in place since the mid 1980s - where commercial operators compete for money-making routes, leaving local authorities to fund the loss-making but socially necessary routes, is unsustainable. So we hope the Combined Authority moves forward quickly with proposals to develop a reliable public transport network for Cambridgeshire. Ideally this would include franchising of bus routes, where profitable and unprofitable routes are bundled together to avoid the current cherry-picking.

On Monday 17 October the Greater Cambridge Partnership Board will launch the public consultation on its proposals for significant bus expansion over the next four years, paid for by a charge on driving in Cambridge from 2027. A set of exemptions, discounts, and refunds is also proposed in a number of circumstances. We will give details of the consultation in our next Newsletter, or you can check www.greatercambridge.org.uk/get-involved/consultations-on-consultcambs from Monday. The consultation closes on 23 December.

The cost-of-living crisis sees to get worse, rather than better. Gas and Electricity prices have been capped but we await details of the promised help for those of us on oil, lpg etc. Food prices keep going up and mortgages and rent are increasing. The County Council is collating information about the various sources of help for individuals and households struggling with the cost of living crisis. www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/council/communities-localism/support-with-the-cost-of-living

We know not everyone has access to on-line information and recommend that they contact Newmarket Citizens' Advice Bureau (CAB) on 0808 278 7868, Cambridge CAB on 0808 278 7808 or East Cambs Housing and Community Advice Service on 01353 665555.

Our next Surgery is on Wednesday 23 November 6.30-7.30pm at Swaffham Prior Village Hall.



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Cambridgeshire County Council Report

BUS SERVICES

The major topic of issue has been the withdrawal of 18 routes across Cambridgeshire, which affects the route numbers 11 and 12 locally, and is due to happen on 30th October.

The mayor of the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority (CPCA) is the Transport Authority for Cambridgeshire and came into office with the promise of improving the bus services across the County.

Earlier this year, the mayor failed in his bid to Government for funding for improved bus services within the County as the Government viewed his application was not ambitious enough. As an example, Norfolk County Council received £49.5m. Little has been progressed on buses since and we are left with the situation that we find ourselves in.

Stagecoach is losing substantial money on those 18, about £4.7m and have been for several years, but they have been subsidised by the more profitable routes.

I have lobbied Highways & Transport Committee members on Cambridgeshire County Council who did respond, but with no real help, and lobbied the Chair of the Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP), but with not even the courtesy of a response.

I have attended meetings with the A2B 1102 Group and with Newmarket Town Council and Suffolk colleagues to discuss what we can do on this situation.

The mayor has re-tendered the routes that are being withdrawn and the results of that tender exercise will be known on Wednesday 19th October and has offered £1.7m from unspent reserves to keep the services running in the short-term.

On 30th September, the Conservative Group on the Strategy & Resources Committee, which is the major decision-making committee at the County Council and which I am a member of, made a proposal to match the sum of £1.7m that the mayor was promising and ask the Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) to put in the same. This would have made £5.1m to save these services in the short-term, but the Lib-Dem ruling group on Cambridgeshire County Council rejected our proposal.

Our group was looking to get a short-term fix to allow a longer time to get a long-term solution.

There is a meeting of Strategy & Resources on 20th October, where the decision not to fund the shortfall may be re-considered depending on the outcome of the re-tender exercise.

I am a member of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee of the CPCA and at our next meeting on 17th October, the mayor is answering questions of members. I have tabled a question on bus services and will update at a later stage with the answers received.

This decision affects a considerable number of people, as I know from my role as Co-Chair of Governors at Bottisham Village College and the effect these closures could have on students, staff and parents getting to the College

CONGESTION CHARGING

The GCP have agreed to consult on implementing a £5 congestion charge between 7am and 7pm on weekdays across the Greater Cambridge area, which would include Addenbrookes.

There would be an efficient bus service costing £60m to run in Cambridge and the surrounding areas.

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Continued from page 9

The service would be funded by the Congestion Charge and fares, which will be low. There is no financial detail yet and I have great doubts as to how the figures will stack up.

The consultation will commence soon, and I would ask residents to get involved and give your thoughts. Any final decision will need to be agreed by a Full Cambridgeshire County Council.

I will continue to lobby for my residents to get the best possible Transport service in our area.

I am elected to represent residents and I will continue to do that, but if there is anything that concerns you, please contact me and I will try to fix it.

If any resident wants to meet me to discuss any issue, then please feel free to contact me. I want to hear comments from everyone, as that is the only way that I can truly represent you.

Alan Sharp Cambridgeshire County Councillor – Woodditton Division

Tel: 01638 507485/ 07794292941

E-Mail: Alan.sharp@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

***This A to B1102 Report is correct at
the time of going to press***

As you may be aware that on the 20th of September Stagecoach announced that the Number 11 will cease to run through the village and the Number 12 will cease to run as well. A to B1102 has been active to try and prevent our Village's from being cut off by this withdrawal. Firstly a meeting was convened by the chair of our group with Alan Sharp (County Councillor) and with Charlotte Caine (District Councillor) and many other Councillors and the principle of Bottisham Village College to try and create an action plan. It was announced by the chair of our group Johnathon Cook that both he and Emma Fletcher would use their Forthcoming meeting with Stagecoach to discuss this matter. So on the 30th the prearranged meeting with David Boden took place.

It was revealed that the 11 was viable coming from Cambridge but then after it crosses the A14 it then becomes loss making. Although during the peak periods (before 9am in the Morning and after 3.30pm) it covers its costs. So the decision was to cease the service on the 30th of October. The number 12 is a different story.

The mayor of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough put both bus franchises out to tender it was the 12 that attracted Stephenson's of Essex to rescue the service. The company already run a non-stop service From Bury to Newmarket and was willing to extend the service to Cambridge. It is important to say this will be non-stop. The chair of our group and Emma Fletcher are seeking a meeting with Stephenson's to see if this bus could stop at the bus stops at the first copy Entrance (what used to be the white swan). Just to pick up and to drop off. There has been as yet no agreement on this. Everyone including Councillors and A to B1102 are trying to be proactive in trying to come up with an alternative that works for all the villages affected by the withdrawal. There are meetings going on up to the 30th of October and hopefully when you read this there will be an alternative in place.

Steven ODell

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Parish Council Report

I am sure that everyone in the village is aware that one of the biggest challenges for the Parish Council has been the task of developing a Play Area within the village (a very difficult matter to resolve). Underlying this is the fact that the only land actually owned and managed by the Parish Council is the Cemetery!! We must remember that there is a significant amount of open space around the village, not least the grounds and sports facilities at the village college - which are a real benefit to residents. However the dearth of play equipment (especially for use by pre-school children during school hours) has been highlighted in formal surveys undertaken in 2011 and 2017, and informally, in the comments made by concerned residents. Having grandchildren of my own, I am more than aware of the need and, like many residents, often visit neighbouring villages to use their superior play areas.

So what facilities are there currently? The Parish Council holds a license from Anglian Learning permitting use of the play equipment in the grounds of Bottisham Primary School outside school hours and during holidays, when the facilities are not otherwise in use. Apart from this, there is a small Play Area within the Ox Meadow development. Following the survey in 2017, a resident's working party was set up and this identified two areas as having potential to fill this need. The preferred option was the Dirt Hills, an area of land adjacent to the Primary School. This land is privately owned by the Park Estate Residents Association, who decided that they did not wish to make the land available for this purpose.

The other option was the open space within the Ancient Meadows development, which is owned by East Cambridgeshire District Council (ECDC). The Parish Council was advised that, prior to any decision by the Finance and Assets Committee of ECDC, the residents of Ancient Meadows would need to be consulted. This was carried out during the summer and the vast majority of respondents did not support having such a facility in this location. The anonymised details of the responses have now been shared with ECDC and we have asked for their views in light of those. If ECDC are not willing to provide land for use as a play area, we have asked if they would consider releasing S106 and CIL monies to assist the village in purchasing land. Past surveys also indicated a desire from residents for a larger play area serving a range of ages - which could not be achieved on the land currently available.

But there is positive news that not everyone may be aware of, which is that the Council has secured a commitment to the building of a new pre-school play area off Bell Rd. This is a reserved matter within the planning consent given for the pending development of 50 new homes to the south of Petersfield. This will help serve the growing number of young families in that area and will benefit other residents too.

Another major challenge for the village has been the decision by Stagecoach to cease operating the 11 & 12 bus services. These are vital for residents and those who travel in to study and work in the Village College. As I write, much work is being done to secure services beyond 31 October. While I don't know the outcome, what I can say is that this has galvanised a lot of people and organisations to work together. We are grateful for the way in which an important local organisation (the A to B1102 Group) has brought together the

Continued on page 17

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interests of the villages in East Cambridgeshire linked by the B1102, including Bottisham. Both the Parish Council and the Village College are linked into the group, which is very effectively engaging with the Combined Authority for Peterborough and Cambridgeshire, which has responsibility for transport issues. I also wish to record my gratitude to our County Councillor, Alan Sharp, and to our District Councillors, Charlotte Cane and John Trapp, who are working very hard to secure a good solution for us.

The Churchyard path is an important route for people walking around the village. Part of the path has broken up since last winter, making it more risky to walk on. The Parish Council has had responsibility for maintaining the Churchyard since it was closed for burials more than 100 years ago, and has arranged for this section of the path to be resurfaced. I trust you will agree it is a great improvement.

I have frequently mentioned our need for more people to join the Parish Council and am delighted that Jawahar Swaminathan was co-opted onto the Council on 3 October. That means that 10 of the 12 seats on the Council are now filled. Please let me know if you would be interested in filling one of the two that remain.

Finally, you will see elsewhere in this month's Cresset a request for help in distributing the magazine. I would like to recognise and thank Peter Walker (Editor) and all those who contribute to and distribute The Cresset - a great source of village information, as well as being a good read.

If you could give The Cresset team some of your time, it would be greatly appreciated and would give you the satisfaction of making a real and positive contribution to village life. Just ask anybody who helps at the moment.

Jon Ogborn - Chair of Parish Council

Planning Notes

A) NEW APPLICATIONS

22/01057/FUL – Howgar House, 41 Bell Rd CB25 9DF

Construction of 2, 2 bedroom, 2 storey semi-detached dwellings with garages and additional parking.

22/00936/TPO & 22/01133/TRE – adjacent to 133 High Street, CB25 9BB

T1Conifer, Prune to give 2m. clearance from property/ G1Beech, prune to give 1.5m clearance from garage

22/01157/VARM – Site to south and east Ox Meadow, Bottisham

To vary condition 11 (Landscaping) of previously approved 21/00984/RMM for Approval of Reserved Matters application for access, landscaping, appearance, scale and layout of 16/01166/OUM for outline planning application for residential development of up to 50 dwellings, new vehicular and pedestrian access from Ox Meadow, public open space including allotments and associated infrastructure

B) PLANNING APPLICATIONS APPROVED BY ECDC

22/00835/FUL – Northfield Farm, Lode Rd, Proposed replanning of internal space in existing office building

22/00858/FUL- 14 Beechwood Ave, Single storey extension and alterations

22/00907/FUL – 20 Beechwood Ave, 2 storey side extension with new pitched roof to garage

22/00897/FUL – Poplar Lodge, 141 High Street, Install 7 solar panels to roof



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The Performing Arts in Bottisham

I enjoyed reading Rosemary & Tony Jolley's articles on Bottisham Players in the last two month's Cressets. It brought to mind my own experiences starting in the late '60's, when as a new young teacher at the College I was privileged to be part of a vibrant performing arts scene.

The operatic group Rosemary mentioned became the Bottisham Operatic Society, which under the direction of the redoubtable George Barker mounted annual productions including performances of operas by Rossini, Mussorgsky, Schubert, Bizet and Britten (the first amateur performance of the first act of Peter Grimes). Later, the society became Bottisham Opera, a smaller group with an ambitious repertoire of smaller cast operas – Monteverdi's Orfeo, Holst Savitri, and a memorable production of Britten's The Turn of the Screw, with Bottisham's Sarah Maxwell as Miles. The group subsequently moved to Impington Village college, where they were warmly welcomed, eventually morphing into Choir 2000, a group which still gives regular performances of major works.

Still on a musical note, the College supported three adult choirs, two in Bottisham and one in Fulbourn. These groups were also part of the Inter Village College Federation, and gave annual concerts in such venues as King's Chapel and Ely Cathedral, always with a professional conductor (Sir David Willcocks, Sir Stephen Cleobury, Tim Brown and others), professional soloists and a pro/am orchestra. In the eighties a Community Choir was established for senior pupils, parents and choralist friends in the community, directed by David Bray and Martin Gent (Warden at BVC) with performances being given locally and in Jesus College Chapel. Martin also ran a series of residential Singing Weekends open to young people and adults, based on the Euro Cantat model.

For the younger generation there was a flourishing Saturday Music School, which offered choral, ensemble and instrumental coaching and tuition. One of my first theory pupils there was an eight year old Tom Poster, who now enjoys a busy professional career, often popping up on Radio Three.

The Music Society flourished under Martin Gent and others and offered performance opportunities for high quality local musicians and groups. Tom Poster returned as a young adult, and I also brought an eighteen year old Edward Dusingberre for a violin and piano recital. Ed was leading the NYO at that time, but has since become leader of the internationally acclaimed Takacs Quartet, based in Colorado. I am pleased to say that I am still in touch with both Tom and Ed. One highlight of the year was the annual visit of the Hertfordshire Chamber Orchestra, conducted by Howard Williams and Adrian Leaper, both now well known on the national orchestral scene.

The College for many years organised a series of Orchestral Workshops, when players from the area would spend a day rehearsing music from the standard orchestral canon, mostly directed by Alan Rochford from Anglia Ruskin University, and administered by the College Adult Education Department and Angela Humphreys

Many people will remember Amadeus Boldwicket's Red Hot Peppers, a trad jazz outfit, which had grown out of an ad hoc group of day school staff, which under the leadership of ace trumpeter and Deputy Head John Humphreys developed a strong local following.

continued on page 21

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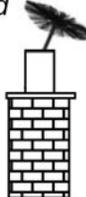
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On the dramatic front there was much activity in the late '60's. in addition to The Playmakers there was an ad hoc group of actors, led by polymath Arthur Arnold, the Adult Tutor at the College (a senior position) and Mick Lovley, the hugely talented drama teacher at the day school. They produced such plays as *The Recruiting Officer* (Restoration comedy), *Lady Audley's Secret* (Victorian melodrama), *Hotel Paradiso* (French Farce), *Happy Haven* (John Arden, performed in masks), and *Le Medicin Malgre Lui* (Moliere – in English). This last play was also performed al fresco in the garden of The White Swan and was followed by a demonstration of *Dwyle Flunking* (look it up!). Subsequently the later Adult Tutor, Joan Waters produced such classics as *Macbeth*, *King Lear* and *St Joan*, with notable performances by Ken George (Youth Tutor) and Ted Valentine.

Away from the College the Parish Church ran a choir, which sang weekly services, with special services at Christmas and Harvest Festival. Bottisham Handbell Ringers also performed at venues throughout the area.

Most of these activities no longer operate, but it is good to see the recent series of concerts arranged at the church by Stuart Field.

Roger Bond



Anglesey Group Mothers' Union

Our meeting held on 15th September reflected on the recent death of HM The Queen. Patron of The Mother's Union. It was also the 90th birthday of member Enid Bucket and members sang 'Happy Birthday' to her. A vote of thanks was expressed to Jill Jenyns and Julie Sale for providing afternoon tea and venue respectively for our summer tea in August.

Guest speaker was Elizabeth (Liz) Caswell, who gave a very interesting talk about her United Reformed Church ministry. Starting with a brief history of the United Reform Churches. This was a coming together of Congregational and Presbyterian Churches on 5th October in 1972, making this their 50th anniversary year. Liz was ordained in 1973, so has always been a United Reform Minister. As a Minister, you have a number of roles e.g., chaplain in a hospital or the Services. All ministers are the same, there's no hierarchy as in other churches. Liz has been a Moderator for 11 years and was Moderator of the General Assembly presiding at Assembly meetings and other meetings and events around the UK. URC Ministers wear "what they like" and Liz didn't wear a "dog collar" until she went to Kenya.

When Liz became Moderator, her husband had a new Stole made for her. Liz had brought this Stole with her and explained that the design demonstrated her belief that we "Walk by Faith" following the Bible but also that we need symbols/items to see. Liz explained that the symbols on her Stole represented events throughout the Church's life. A manger (birth), a cross (crucifixion), an open tomb (resurrection), flames (Holy Spirit), wolf, cow, bear, lamb, all mentioned in the Bible plus a dog and rabbit. The Stole is exquisitely hand embroidered and there are companies that make (embroider) Ecclesiastical items, Stoles, Altar clothes etc. At the end of her talk Liz answered questions from the audience.

Our meetings usually take place on the third Thursday of the month, at 2.30pm in Lode Church. Hazel Williams, Ely Mothers' Union Diocesan President, will be joining us as our guest speaker on 17th November. You are most welcome to join us.

Ann Langran

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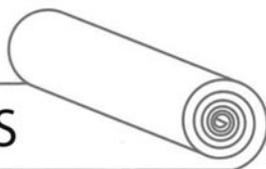


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November is always an interesting month at Anglesey Abbey. Preparations in the house for Christmas at Anglesey Abbey are underway and a delivery of 30+ Christmas trees is soon to arrive!

The House is closed to visitors from 1st- 30th November, but we can't wait to welcome you to Christmas at Anglesey Abbey from 1st December- 2nd January. Enjoy seasonal sparkle as you explore the richly decorated ground floor rooms in the House. In the wider estate, visit the sensory winter garden, indulge in festive shopping, and embark on a wintry adventure in the Hoe Fen woodland play area.

Entry to the House is by pre-booked timed ticket only. Pre-booked tickets are free to book and will need to be presented to the Welcome Team upon arrival. Entry is free for National Trust members, and normal admission applies to non-members.

A pop of autumn colour can still be found across the wider estate, walks along Jubilee Avenue and Coronation Avenue have a frosty feel to blow away the cobwebs. When exploring the gardens, you will be amazed by the array of statues throughout the gardens. In fact, the collection assembled by Lord Fairhaven is widely believed to be one of the finest collections of garden statuary in the country. Throughout the spring and summer, a team of volunteers clean the statues to help conserve them and keep them looking their best.

Winter Lights tickets are on sale and are quickly selling out. This year the event will be open every evening from Friday 9- Wednesday 21 December. Alongside a variety of artists and performers we'll be continuing our partnership with local author Robert MacFarlane, and illustrator Jackie Morris. The Lost Words and The Lost Spells poems, music and illustrations will thread throughout the experience. Visitors to Winter Lights 2022 will see magical projections of Jackie's nature illustrations, as well as new versions of songs and poems from the books throughout the route. Independent street food vendors nestled in the Orchard area and refuel after your night-time adventures with the many tempting treats on offer.

For more information about Christmas at Anglesey Abbey and Winter Lights 2022, visit our website and keep an eye on our social media channels.



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National Trust logo in the top left corner. A large illustration of a bird in flight is on the left. The background is a dark blue forest with light trails.



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11th November - Race night in aid of the Poppy Appeal

26th November - Bowling Club Quiz Night

3rd December - Children's Christmas Party with 'Calamity Jane'

4th December - Craft Fair

19th December - It's the Christmas Draw and singalong with 'Newmarket Town Band'

24th December - see Christmas in dancing to the sounds of 'AJ's disco'

31st December - NYE party with 'Emma & The Dinosaurs'



World Cup Matches at The Club

Monday 21st November at 1pm

Friday 25th November at 7pm

Tuesday 29th November at 7pm

Ad hoc bar work available, please contact the club for more details.

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.

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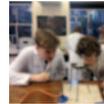
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News from Bottisham Medical Practice Patients' Participation Group

FLU – Please contact the Practice for flu vaccinations, the details of who is eligible is in the following link. Those not eligible under the NHS can have them done privately.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-flu-immunisation-programme-plan/national-flu-immunisation-programme-2022-to-2023-letter>

WINTER - WHAT IS THE ADVICE?

Keep warm – keep windows closed to keep the cold air out, eat hot meals and hot drinks.

Wearing layers keeps you warmer than one thick jumper. Get exercise but ensure warm clothing is worn when outside. Hypothermia is a real risk in cold weather.

Help with heating costs – look into the cold weather payment <https://www.gov.uk/cold-weather-payment>

Vaccinations – keep up to date on flu vaccine, COVID boosters, shingles vaccine and pneumococcal vaccination – prevention is better than cure

Buy some “self help remedies”– paracetamol, disinfectant cream, rehydration salts/sachets, throat sweets, Lemsip can really help to have available for when you need it.

Getting help if you are unwell – pharmacists and 111 can provide help and advice as well as the GP surgery

What helps the GP? It can be really helpful to have your own thermometer, blood pressure machine and oxygen saturation probe as if you are unwell a more rapid assessment can be provided and you can monitor your improvement or deterioration on advice from the GP.

Look in on elderly neighbours – do they need extra help? Call AGE UK helpline on 0800 678 1602. More info on: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/seasonal-health/keep-warm-keep-well/>

Dispensary: Reminder that for repeat prescriptions there is still a 5 working day turn around so this does not include Saturdays and Sundays, which are non-working days. Please do not try and collect sooner.

Due to Brexit, COVID-19 and issues with sourcing raw materials there have been delays beyond our control in sourcing some drugs. This changes daily and the practice cannot predict from one day to the next what drugs may be out of stock. The local Clinical Commissioning Group provide regular updates regarding stock issues and the dispensary team work closely with the GPs to source suitable alternatives to ensure patients always have their medications. These supply issues are nationwide.

There is an excellent prescription delivery service, as we run this service 5 days per week (Monday to Friday) for the delivery of repeat medication. Please enquire at the surgery if you are interested in the service.

Social Prescriber: Chloe has returned to duty as the Social Prescriber for the practice. She can support you to access a wide range of activities and resources in your local community. Examples of this include - benefit / housing advice, anxiety and mental health support, carer support and advice. Please see the practice website for more information. Alternatively, if

continued on page 29

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Continued from page 27

you would like to book an appointment with Chloe then please contact reception on 01223 810030.

Walking: There is a Wicken Fen Wellbeing Walk on Fridays 10-11am. This is a regular, easy paced, sociable walk. They meet in the Visitor Centre at Wicken Fen on Friday morning ready for a 10am start. The walk will be around 2 miles in length at a relaxed pace, taking approximately an hour. The Anglesey Abbey Health Walks are every Thursday leaving promptly at 10.00. The assembly point is behind the garden centre, by the bike shelter. The walks are fairly brisk, and last about an hour. The distance is about 3 miles.

The Patient Participation Group: We are looking for new members to join the committee, all patients of this Practice are eligible. Please contact our chairman as below to find out more information and how you can be involved

Regular Meetings: Next meeting is Wednesday 23 November at 2pm. If you wish to join our Zoom meeting please email our chairman at s.j.gilson@btinternet.com who will send you a meeting invite.

Community Library

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The library is dangerous- Don't go in.
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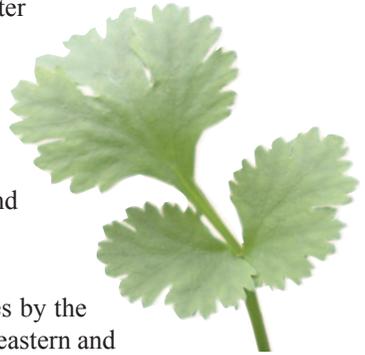
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Community Herb Bed News

October has been a quiet month, as we have needed to water much less often. However, we will continue to dead head the pansies and weed the beds, keeping them tidy for the community to enjoy.

Please contact us via brownsjc46@gmail.com if you would like to make suggestions etc. Any favourite herb recipes that you would like to see included, please send them to me. Thank you, Sarah Brown.



‘HERB OF THE MONTH’ - CORIANDER

Coriander may have been introduced to the British Isles by the Romans. It is a widely used culinary herb, used in middle eastern and Asian cuisine and is also widely used in North and South America.

The coriander plant produces a herb from its leaves and also a spice from its seed.

GROWING

I have tried numerous times to grow Coriander from seed, with mixed success. It is quick to bolt, but if left to flower, you can harvest and store the seeds for using in spicy dishes.

Try sowing Coriander seed in light well-drained soil in April-May, thinning the young plants to approx. 8in apart. To collect the seed, watch carefully as they fall with no warning as they ripen.

You can also cut the whole flower stem and leave the seeds to ripen and dry on clean paper towel, in a warm place, then store the seeds in an airtight container. Coriander is a relative of Parsley. The leaves have a tangy taste, which most people enjoy, however some people complain that it tastes like soap!

RECIPE FOR CARROT AND CORIANDER SOUP

Ingredients

1tablespoon olive oil / 1 onion / 1teaspoon ground coriander / 200g floury potatoes / 450g carrots

1.2 litres vegetable stock / A large handful of fresh coriander

Directions

Chop the onions, then fry them in the olive oil gently for 5 mins until softened, in a large pan.

Peel and chop the potato and add to the onions with the ground coriander. Stir for 1 min.

Peel and chop the carrots, adding them with the stock to the pan.

Bring to the boil, cover and simmer for 20 mins.

Pour the soup into a blender, then blend it until it is smooth. You may need to do this in batches.

Taste and add seasoning if required.

Enjoy!

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Public Transport Matters

Public transport is very much in the news at the moment due to Stagecoach proposing to cut 18 bus routes including the 11 and 12. These routes are essential for children to get to school and people generally able to get to work, the shops, the doctors, the hospital or just to have a happy visit somewhere to family, cafés, etc.

The Greater Cambridgeshire partnership and local councils are getting together to try to find a solution and the finance needed. Charlotte Cane updated me yesterday on the plans. Tenders have been put out and companies have until October 19th to apply. Stephenson's have already suggested they could run the 12.

I wrote to them suggesting that they slightly change the route by going via Quy and turn right at the Anglesey Abbey and Lode junction. Bottisham residents have long expressed a wish that the 12 stop could be easier to reach. They suggested Bell Rd. but there are problems with congestion by the Coop.

Apparently, there are often hold ups as you travel through Quy. There is a suggestion that the local buses could be franchised like Transport for London. There could be money coming from the Greater Cambridgeshire partnership and the Cambridge county council.

Charlotte told me the dates had been set for the meetings. An article in the Newmarket Journal did say that while the Conservatives had voted that a sum of money could be added to that offered by the Mayor in the Greater Cambridgeshire partnership the Labour, Lib Dems and Independents had voted against it. I have now been assured that it was because they did not know how much money was being suggested. Let's hope things can be sorted so that we can continue to have the 11 going through the villages and linking us to Cambridge, Newmarket, Bury and Ely.

Lucy Frazer in her email yesterday said that she had met the Managing Director of Stagecoach East and conveyed her anger and concern and asked him to reconsider. She points out that it is a devolved matter and has to be sorted out by the Mayor and the combined authority. As our MP she hopes to meet the Mayor.

She points out that the Government has made a significant amount of money available to protect bus services until the end of March. Our local Parish councils are on the case and there are many petitions.

We need the buses!

There are problems with strikes by railway workers which have also affected people going about their daily lives or on holiday. The Transport Secretary Anne-Marie Trevelyan says a deal can be done but will require compromise.

On a more cheerful note places are being suggested for holidays by Eurostar from London so you don't have to fly - St Moritz for the Bernina Express, the Rhine from Mainz, take a train to Chur for the Swiss Alps and then on to St Moritz.

Happy travelling. Take care. Rail info - 08457 48 49 50

Paddy James



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News from Wicken Fen Nature Reserve

WINTER AT THE FEN

The crisp, winter mornings are a real pleasure to experience at the Fen – you can always warm up in the Ducky Hut Café with a hot drink and a delicious snack or treat afterwards. Look out for the return of hen harriers and short-eared owls to the reserve. Hen harriers can often be seen towards dusk, gliding over Sedge Fen looking for a safe place to roost. Burwell Fen is a good place to go to see short-eared owls – again, late afternoon is a good time to see them when they hunt for small mammals. Our friendly Visitor Centre team can advise you on the most recent sightings.

FAMILY FUN

Our winter woodland trail starts on Saturday 26 November; seasonal fun for all the family on Sedge Fen, normal admission applies. You can drop in anytime, no need to book.

Our Father and Mother Christmas at the Fen event is proving popular – book soon to catch those last remaining tickets. Details can be found on our website.

FOOTPRINTS: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROJECT

NEW WICKEN WELLBEING WALK – FRIDAYS 10-11AM

We've recently launched a weekly wellbeing walk at Wicken Fen. It's an easy paced, sociable walk of around 2- 2.5 miles. If you'd like to join us, please meet in the Visitor Centre at Wicken Fen on Friday morning ready for a 10am start. See our website 'What's On' section for further details.

FENS EAST PEAT PARTNERSHIP (FEPP)

Wicken Fen is one of the FEPP partner organisations. FEPP has been awarded a Nature for Climate Discovery Grant enabling us to carry out detailed surveys on the extent of peat degradation, peat depth and archaeology on 20 sites across Cambridgeshire.

We have recently started to survey peat depth on Verrall's Fen and will be working across several of the key areas for peat on the reserve. The surveys will help us create plans to restore damaged peat. You can find out more about the project and why peat restoration is so important at Fens East Peat Discovery Project | Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust (lincstrust.org.uk)

For the latest reserve information, please visit our website
www.nationaltrust.org.uk/wicken-fen

COMPANION AND HOME HELP REQUIRED

Companion and home help required at the weekend
for 2 hours on a Saturday and Sunday lunch time.

We are looking for someone to visit an elderly lady in the village. Duties would include heating a prepared lunch and making a sandwich or salad for later and having a general chat.

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Reasons to be Cheerful...

And earth shattering questions that need answers.

Why is half mast meant to be two thirds?

Can you eat a burger without looking inside first?

Can you eat a doughnut without licking your lips?

There is a fish and chip shop up north called “Frying Nemo”. (Steve Bennet)

Pulled out a nose hair today to see if it hurt. Judging by the reaction of the man asleep next to me on the bus, it seems pretty painful! (Facebook).

Did you know that Cardiff sixth form college has a campus in Cambridge?

The Honest burgers restaurant in Cambridge is in the same building as the former pub called The Red Cow. Medium rare or well done?

A Logophile is a person who loves words. In others words a “word nerd”. I thought it was where you kept your firewood!

Does anybody know Nanny McPhees first name?

There is a factory in Grimsby that produces 80000 Cod fish fingers every day. (Inside the factory).

Did you know that the Laurel and Hardy theme tune is called “The dance of the cuckoo’s “?

Word of the month: Flub.

To err is human. To arr is pirate.

You can't take anybody seriously when they have hiccups.

They say that “you can't have your cake and eat it”. I beg to differ.

Guy Fawkes had the right idea.

The 3rd of November is World Jellyfish day. It's not even a fish!

Keep smiling - Peter Rayment

**Have you ever stopped one morning to sit down to have a cup of coffee in the house on your own, and thought it would be nice to talk to somebody?
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Bottisham Bowling Club

The season has been challenging but enjoyable. Some matches went brilliantly, some were fine, but others were a disaster! Our A team finished middle of their League, the B team finished one higher than last year but still close to the bottom, but unfortunately our County Triples team propped up the rest of their League. However, win or lose we all had a most enjoyable time.

Terry Webb and George Buchanan, helped by the 'Green Team', who are overall responsible for our green, did a remarkable job, in spite of the heat and lack of rain and the grass held up remarkably well. It was fortunate that on the day that 40 degrees centigrade was predicted (and happened) our matches were postponed – it was difficult enough sitting in the shade let alone playing in the sun. Hidden from sight most of the time were Julie Bard and her team who must be thanked for keeping the clubroom spotless throughout the season.

The 'Big Bowls Event' on 28th May was a success in that 14 new people attended and gave their details as being interested in joining our club. We hosted a highly successful Ladies County Match in August, when a large crowd saw a keenly fought match witnessing Cambridgeshire win by a whisker in glorious weather.

We are looking forward to our Club Dinner on 12th November at the Newmarket Golf Club when our trophy winners for the season will be presented with their cups:

Men's singles: Simon Missing, Ladies Singles: Julia Green, Men's Pairs: Kevin Crisp & Ben Lawrence, Ladies Pairs: Julia Green & Cindy King after a very close game against Nora Watson & Jenny Gibson, Mixed Pairs: Julia Green & Graham Watson. Julia Green deserves particular congratulations for winning all three of the knockout competitions she entered.

We have our popular Quiz Night on 26th November 7-11pm in the Sports and Social Club. Teams of six – names to Hilda Buchanan Tel 01223 811689 or message our secretary Peter Clowes on 07756 431234 or email bottishambowlingclub@gmail.com Bottles of wine for the winners!

Our new website continues to be hugely successful with over 2700 visits since the site went live back in January. Most popular hits are the home page, club match results and the internal single and doubles knockout match results. Many thanks to Tony Kohlman for making the website such a success. All information about the club continues to be available so why not visit the website: www.bottishambowlingclub.co.uk to get more information. Why not give bowling a try next season? The green will open mid April 2023 – 'roll ups' start on a Tuesday afternoon.

Stuart Field

Copy deadline for next issue is 14 November.

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Bottisham and District Gardening Club

TUESDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 2022

Our speaker this month was Nigel Start and the subject of his talk was Coping with Climate Change. We have all suffered from the very hot summer this year, but Nigel has been giving this talk for 15 years now so has been aware for some time that we will have to adapt the way we garden. There are things we can be doing to cope with the greater extremes of weather.

Weather extremes mean hotter summers with less rain – we had no rain here from July until a very welcome storm in mid-September. So we must cope with water shortages, organising rainfall collection throughout the year in water butts, protecting the soil with a mulch, and porous drives such as block paving and gravel will allow rainfall to soak through.

Plant perennials rather than annuals and don't plant too close together. Plant little and often, preferably using RHS Award of Garden Merit plants which have a seal of approval following trials that show they will perform reliably in the garden. Nigel recommends hardy geraniums (which also do well in shade), lavender, salvias, Perovskia (Russian sage), erigeron (Mexican fleabane), ferns, wallflowers. Silver leaf plants and hairy plants do well. Roses have also done well this year and what a crop of apples we have had.

We have all looked at our lawns turning yellow and parched but they should come back to life after a decent spell of rain. Vulnerable plants include hostas, pulmonaria, summer bedding, and anything dwarf – all will need regular watering. The Q and A advice was to get as much rotted compost as possible in your soil NOW, try not to dig too much, and compost from councils is OK. All good advice which I for one will be following.

FORTHCOMING - TUESDAY 22 NOVEMBER, 7.30 IN THE POPPY ROOM, BCSSC

Our topic for our next meeting is The History of Anglesey Abbey with speaker Helen Ackroyd. Our annual subscription remains at £15 per person and we are in the process of preparing another interesting programme for next year.

New members are always welcome.

Tricia McLaughlin

Letter

Dear Editor,

My name is Élise Lapaire and I am the new Adult Learning Manager at Bottisham Village College.

Our aim at the Bottisham Village College Adult Learning Centre is to provide a varied program of both daytime and evening courses. Whether you wish to learn new skills, expand your knowledge or just meet new friends it would be great to see you here.

We are also aware that our community is filled with talents and skills and at the Adult Learning Centre we are very keen to ensure every individual benefits from them. Should you wish to discuss becoming a tutor, we would be very pleased to hear from you.

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Thoughts of a Sports Nut

In late September, the Home Office announced that what was euphemistically called ‘disorder’ at football matches was now at an eight-year high. Pitch invasions were high on the list of misdemeanours and authorities are terrified that, sooner or later, a professional player is going to be seriously hurt. Last season, astonishingly, there were incidents reported from more than half of all matches in the top four divisions and 70% of those arrested were aged between 18 and 30.

Then in early October, The FA announced yet another increase in attacks on match officials in grassroots football. Forever an easy target, referees up and down the country are subject to all sorts of aggression from players, managers and spectators, ranging from spitting to death threats! There were 380 individuals banned for attacks on refs last year but it seems to make little difference. Scottish referees tried going on strike a couple of seasons ago and, recently, the Merseyside Youth League cancelled all matches for a weekend to draw attention to the problem. Sadly, these actions are merely drops in the ocean.

Readers may know that I have been involved in football governance for a few years now, currently working for an independent consultancy looking into misconduct at amateur level. Right now, I have 18 cases on my desk, of which 10 are from youth football (age 9 to 18). Nine cases are of abuse or threats to match officials, five involve spectators in youth football and I have four cases of racial abuse. Believe it or not, two of these games were friendlies!

What do the previous three paragraphs tell you, folks? I draw three main conclusions from this horrible picture. Firstly, that we have a serious cultural problem in the UK that is not confined to sports and this requires urgent government intervention (e.g. addressing the divide between haves and have-nots; bolstering law-enforcement services; getting a grip of the drug-taking epidemic; I could go on...). Secondly, the example set by professionals whose matches are televised is appalling, as is the tolerance of referees who constantly allow themselves to be surrounded and berated by snarling participants; no wonder the mums and dads on the Sunday morning touchlines, living the dream vicariously through their children, think the referee is ‘ruining the game’! And thirdly, that punishments for offenders are way short of the mark. How about a life ban for touching a referee? Or deducting league points from teams whose players misbehave? Or even kicking teams out who can’t control their spectators?

Draconian punishments would certainly help but, surely, it’s time for some joined-up thinking between the stakeholders! I say to the FA: ditch the obsession with numbers and concentrate on quality! And, for goodness’ sake, beef-up the training and development of referees so that they are better equipped and supported to deal with difficult situations! Oh, and get rid of VAR... wasn’t it the ‘magic bullet’ that was supposed to stop all arguments...? Yeah, right!

Whilst I’ve been despairing over the state of football, I continue to be enthralled by the world of cycling (and not just because my own exploits on two wheels with the CB25ers involve coffee, cake and beer)! The post-Grand Tour season has brought some truly stunning performances from some of the planet’s outstanding athletes. You may remember I mentioned Annemiek van Vleuten’s victory in the Tour de France Femme, a couple of months ago,

(Sports Nut continued on page 45)

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(Sports Nut continued.)

wondering if, at 39, this was her final swan-song before retirement. Er, no! Competing in the World Championship Team Time Trial in September, she crashed and fractured her elbow. Three days later, in the Road Race, she gritted her teeth against the pain to attack the race leaders 500 metres from the end of the 164-kilometre course, to crown her year with yet another rainbow World Championship jersey. Superwoman!

Perhaps there's a Superman in the making 'next door' to van Vleuten? Belgian rider Remco Evanepeol, fresh from his dominance of La Vuelta, stormed to victory in the Men's Road Race, thus – at the age of 22 - putting down his marker as a contender for all Grand Tours and Classics for years to come. And then, of course, there's an Italian with a genuine claim to the 'Superman' monicker. With two World Championship Time-Trial wins and six Grand Tour Stage wins under his belt, Filippo Ganna had a crack at the ultimate cycling challenge on 8th October – the UCI Hour Record – at the Tissot Velodrome in Grenchen, Switzerland. At 6ft 4in and nearly 13 stone, Ganna is a giant among elite cyclists in more ways than one! He smashed the record previously held by Daniel Bigham by over a kilometre, to set a new record of 56.792 km! That's over 35mph, people! He joins a pantheon of 'greats' who have previously taken on The Hour, including Chris Boardman, Jens Voight and Sir Bradley Wiggins, and one wonders if Ganna's effort will stand undefeated for decades! Superman... at least for now!

On the topic of superheroes, I see that Ben Stokes returned to the England T20 team in October in time to enjoy the second pre-tournament defeat of Australia in a warm up mini-series before the forthcoming World Cup. But such is the strength in depth of this England outfit – led with considerable style by Moeen Ali – it's by no means certain that Stokes will make the first choice XI. "We're dangerous" says Moeen, with a justified twinkle in his eye, having completed a 7-match series win in Pakistan during September.

But let's not get carried away with the fireworks of this format... we have the serious matter of an Ashes series in June and July next year and, in the meantime, we hope to find out whether the proposals offered by Andrew Strauss on behalf of the ECB are likely to be adopted across English and Welsh cricket. The aim is to redress the balance between the red ball and white ball games, whilst at the same time, easing the physical demands on players and, most importantly, producing the best Test team in the world! A tall order, I suggest, and it is out of the question that everyone will be satisfied with the final decisions. The proposals would cut the number of top division County Championship games and the number of T20 Blast games to 10 each per season, to make room for the One-Day Cup and The Hundred. But personally, I don't know why they don't just forget the Men's Hundred instead! Could it be the cash, do you think? I am a great admirer of Strauss but I must say I share the opinion of John Stephenson, current Chair of Essex CCC, that "reducing the amount of red-ball cricket is not the way to produce better Test cricketers". Time will tell...

TTFN

Gerry Daish

*"When money comes in at the gate, sport flies out at the window." -
Theodore Roosevelt*



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“What we need is a dose of realism!”

Due to a recurring back problem I was recently confined to a few evenings of TV during which I rapidly began to realise that what we desperately need in this country is a dose of realism. Realism about the society we share and a realism which recognises that some sections of society are much smaller than many may think.

Judging by TV broadcast material alone you might understandably assume that almost every middle-class family in Britain is interracial and that somewhere in the plot you will find a gay relationship. Collectively however, ethnicity, sexuality and gender diversity equate for just ten per cent of the population yet, on the particular evenings I watched TV, I would say that this representation was significantly and consistently exaggerated. Why is it I wonder that TV and Radio Programming; Drama, Adverts, Documentaries, News Coverage and Continuity Announcers for example, increasingly fail to reflect the mainstream audience?

Throughout our late Majesty's reign, her recent jubilee and during the days leading up to and including her funeral we heard endless admiration from commentators and historians of the constancy, stability, social cohesion and moral guidance she brought to those she served. A moral guidance I might add that appears hard to find in some homes or in schools if local newsfeeds are to be believed, and even on TV! The values the Queen embodied are also the precious lifeblood of any democratic society. Yet there is daily journalistic comment concerning these values and how they are being furtively undermined by a very loud unrepresentative offshoot of society. Moreover, fashionable dogmas are being given undue recognition by a plethora of organisations and establishments who all seem to have been brainwashed into adopting the same mantra – that minorities are ‘cool’ and must be ‘celebrated’ and not questioned’.

To the majority of tolerant people in this country it does not matter one iota the diversity of skin colour, of accent, of gender or of sexuality. But should these characteristics ever come into play what IS critical is the reasoning behind it. No one has a mandate to revolutionise the way in which various components of society work harmoniously together – often referred to as the ‘social order of things’. The cynical would suggest that the call for more diversity and inclusion is a ruse to justify politically led alliances such as BLM, Stonewall, Mermaids et al. Supporters of these alliances use ‘virtue signalling’ to display their ‘wokeist’ empathy toward those who are said to have suffered or suffer social injustices. To be clear ‘virtue signalling’ is defined as; “publicly expressing or displaying opinions or sentiments intended to demonstrate one's moral correctness on a particular issue”. The English FA did this when ‘taking the knee’ and the English Cricket Board signalled their ‘moral correctness’ recently when flying the ‘Gay Pride’ flag next to the Union Flag at a recent test match...



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Some columnists, including Geraldine Scott in *The Times*, liken the act of virtue signalling to social engineering – something on which no one has been consulted and to which no one has given consent. The journalist Toby Young comments; “Institutions tasked with preserving our heritage and culture, such as Tate Britain, Kew Gardens and the National Trust, are busy holding themselves to account for their alleged links to slavery and colonialism, while the police, the civil service, the NHS and the Church of England and yes, Broadcasters have embraced the mantra of diversity and inclusion. Incidentally I read that the NHS employs over two hundred ‘Diversity and Inclusion Managers’ at a salary in excess of £77,000 each – how many nurses is that!!

The people in charge of these organisations do not think of these values as politically contentious, while those of us who do not fall into these categories – probably the majority – cannot help but feel alienated and disenfranchised. The feelings of moral duty are now not directed towards crown and country but to the cause of social justice”. Douglas Murray in *The Spectator* is also of the belief that this is having a demoralising effect on the portion of the British population who are still the majority. He comments; “One of the problems with the ‘more-diversity-the-better’ chant is that it makes the majority feel like they are not just a problem but THE problem”.

This surreptitious attempt at social engineering by racial and gender alliances is heightened by their demands for all types of organisations and advisory bodies to introduce diversity and inclusion training programmes. If they do not, their businesses risk being targeted and censured. The BBC has been warned by one of its own – Roger Bolton - that it risks a revolt from its majority audience if it continues to chase diverse audiences. Like other broadcasters it is overly focussed on diversity and inclusion and in so doing is in danger of neglecting and offending its existing audiences. Why change a winning formula such as ‘A Question of Sport’ where audience figures have since plummeted from over 5m to less than 0.8m??

If institutions continue to kowtow to illusory alliances there can only be two possible outcomes. One is that you demotivate most of the people, and therefore most of the talent. The other is that you store up a festering resentment and the message is lost. Whilst such factions must have rights and freedoms, this entitlement must not include the right to impose their dogmas on society’s majority - impositions on which no one has been consulted and to which no one has given consent.

Diversity in the main is a good thing but for it to work it must reflect a realism that some sections of society are much smaller than many may think.

JOW

“Social diversity is not a matter of intensity but of balance, order, rhythm and harmony”. Anon

Copy deadline for the next issue is 14 November.

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In the July/August article, I mentioned that an important part of the 'lifesaving process' is often early application of CPR – cardiopulmonary resuscitation. EAAA is committed to continual training of crews, supporters and members of the public in this process. Whilst many, particularly members of the emergency services, will be familiar with this, others will be much less so, or have no knowledge of it at all.

Please take a few moments to acquaint yourself with the Casualty Assessment Procedure, namely:-

Danger – firstly ensure your own safety – be aware of any danger to yourself, the patient and any bystanders

Response – check the patient for response – shake their shoulders and ask “are you alright?”

Airway – open the airway and ensure it is clear. Place your hand on their forehead and, with other fingers under the chin, tilt back the head

Breathing – Check for normal breathing for 10 seconds. If they are not breathing call 999, 112 or send another to call and to bring a defibrillator if possible

CPR – Start chest compressions and, if trained, combine with rescue breaths – 30 compressions 2 rescue breaths.

Hopefully, soon you will be joined by 'early responders' from the emergency services, including East Anglian Air Ambulance, who will take over responsibility to continue the treatment.

Wherever you are, it is always a good idea to ascertain where an accessible defibrillator is located – in your local community or away from home.

EAAA Community Mission is simple – we want to save more lives and minimise the impact of trauma and medical emergencies in the community.

To all who support our mission – thank you – and, to those yet to do so, there are many ways in which you might help – please get in touch – info@eaaa.org.uk

Together, with your help, we can save more lives.

Michael White

Copy deadline for the next issue is 14 November.

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

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- Hardcourts open for block booking enquiries and casual use.
- More swimming lessons.
- More Judo lessons.
- Aqua Zumba, Yoga and Zumba on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday respectively.
- Party facilities hire.
- Limited 3G, gymnasium and sports hall slots left for block bookers.

Email address: bottisham@anglianleisure.co.uk

Phone number: 01223 811121

Website: <https://bottishamvc.org/sports-centre/>

Create an account or membership:

<https://anglianleisure.leisurecloud.net/joinathome/MemberRegistration.aspx?refresh=637955739093968216>

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WELCOME TO MAGGIE'S CAMBRIDGE



What is Maggie's? Maggie's provides practical and emotional support to those with cancer, their family, friends and carers. The centre is a warm and welcoming place, with qualified cancer support specialists offering an evidence-based free programme of support which complements medical treatment.

Practical support includes information about eating well, coping with hair loss, or empowering visitors with information about their cancer treatment and benefits entitlements. Or visitors can talk to our psychologists and counsellors, explore their creative side through Art Therapy or get help to manage stress.

Then there is our kitchen table which is at the heart of our centre; a place where visitors can sit and chat with others in a similar situation, or maybe just take some quiet time with a cup of tea.

Examples of support can be anything from Art Therapy to Yoga, Men's Support Group to Menopause workshop, Living with Prostate Cancer to Brain Tumour Support Group. In addition, a cancer support specialist is always available for a chat and to listen. They will always meet a new visitor, help them decide what support best suits their needs and make the appropriate referrals. Read more about our offering on www.maggiescentres.org

Primarily we are a 'drop in' centre, Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm. Drop in anytime, but we are also happy to answer any questions prior to a visit on 01223 249220.

Maggie's, 21 Milton House, Puddicombe Way, Cambridge, CB2 0AD

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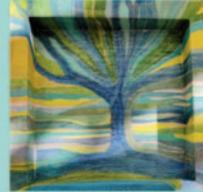
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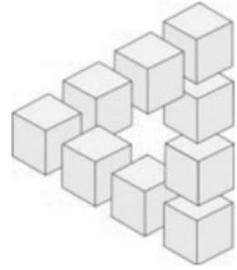
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Bottisham Royal British Legion Branch: Secretary. Peter Walker	811402
Branch Chairman: Dave Frost	www.Britishlegion.org.uk/branches/bottisham
Bottisham Scout Group: Group Contact: Linda Jones	813040
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Evening Classes, Clubs and Youth Club Information	811372
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