

September 2025


THE
Cresset



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

IMPORTANT ROADWORKS INFORMATION

A14 junction 36 to 42 – resurfacing and drainage renewal

Dear Customer

I'm writing to tell you that we plan to carry out resurfacing and drainage renewal on the A14 between junctions 36 and 42 in both directions. Once complete, drivers will enjoy a safer, smoother and better-marked road that drains more effectively.

We plan to complete this work between Monday 21 July to December 2025. We will work weeknights only, weather permitting.

To carry out the work safely, we will need to implement some closures on the A14 between junctions 36 and 42 as detailed in the table below.

CLOSURE	DATE/TIME	DIVERSION
A14 westbound between junctions 36 and 42, both lane one and lane two closures	Monday 21 July to Friday 8 August. (8pm to 6am daily)	No diversion required
A14 between junctions 36 and 39 - full westbound closure	Monday 11 August to end of September 2025. (9pm to 5am daily)	Drivers heading westbound on the A14 from junction 39 should exit the A14 at junction 39 and join the B1506. Follow the B1506 and then join the A1304 through Newmarket. At the first roundabout, take the third exit onto the A1303. Continue on the A1303 until you reach junction 36. From there, you can rejoin the A14 and continue your journey westbound. Drivers wanting to get to the A11 can use the same diversion route and join the A11 via Six Mile Bottom.

Once we have completed our work on the westbound section, we'll then start working eastbound on the A14 between junctions 36 and 42. We plan to start work at the beginning of October 2025 and will continue through to December 2025. At the same time, we'll also begin further improvements between junctions 39 and 42. We'll be in touch again soon with further details on this.

How to find out more

For the latest information, please visit our dedicated webpage <https://nationalhighways.co.uk/our-roads/east/a14-junction-36-to-42-resurfacing-and-drainage-maintenance/>

If you would like more information, please contact us on 0300 123 5000, or by email at info@nationalhighways.co.uk

Where has This Summer Gone!



Or is it just me getting older? This summer seems to have flown by, (as does time generally). We started off early with some great weather in April, then the dry hot summer produced for us at least, a bumper crop in the garden. The water butts were emptied several times. I am always amazed how quickly they refill with a seemingly small amount of rain. Yet never seems enough to soak the ground down more than a couple of inches. Surprisingly, we never got to a hose pipe ban, which some other areas did. But it may be yet to come.

Usually, we only get a few peaches on our one tree, which often never get fully ripe, but this year we were able to fill bowls with the juicy fruit and I even had them sliced on my corn flakes!

Elsewhere we read about wildfires causing major damage, but thankfully we didn't have that problem here either this year.

Well September traditionally brings the start of Autumn with Schools back and a look ahead to the shorter days and a start for lots of those activities which don't need the warm weather or being outside.

Lots of the village clubs and societies start their programme of events this month after a break and there are articles in the magazine from many, with an invite to join in. Those invites are genuine. All will welcome you and you will have the opportunity to meet new friends and take up new interests.

Talking about meeting friends and I am reminded just how busy Lexi's new coffee, cake and bakery venue seems to be in the old garage site. Ideally, using the old forecourt allows sitting out even if it is raining! Always seems busy when I go by. The Bell also seems to be doing well.

Due to planning issues, we now know that Budgens is not coming to Bottisham which pleases some. Also controversial is the proposal to have an Italian takeaway on the site despite I understood a block on 'cooking' on site in the planning.

Potholes seem to be beginning to be dealt with although as I write the gutter sides in Bell Road are still very rough and need completely re-laying. I'm not holding my breath.

In the magazine this month Bird Brain gives us a great read and information that should turn us all into bird watchers. Fascinating, thank you Gerry.

PC Notes updates us on the various issues and projects which are ongoing. Some seem to have been ongoing for a long time. Pleased to see cutting through the red tape with some common sense will let prospective allotment holders get on with their work. That looks like firstly clearing all the weeds, then getting the autumn planting started.

(continued on page 2.)

(continued from page 1.)

If you have a case for funding now is the time to ask as the Parish Council starts work on the Precept. Remember if you don't ask you won't get. I shall need to start writing the letter now.

Finally, for the magazine cover, I have used a picture sent to me by Stuart Field of a recent wedding and it reminded me just how beautiful our church can be. Most of us, me included drive by and don't give a thought about just how lucky we are to have it at the centre of our village. It raised a thought in my head as to just how many weddings must have taken place there over the Millenia. Given that the church has been there for more than 800 years, that must be counting in the thousands. If walls could only speak. Fresh flowers are always there and with the Harvest Thanksgiving service this month, there is sure to be a lovely display.

Enough of my ramblings. Enjoy the read and there will be more next month.

Your Editor

News From Holy Trinity Church Bottisham

There have been several activities over the past two months which have seen large numbers of people visiting the church. Firstly, I must mention the hugely successful concert featuring Wayne Marshall OBE, one of the best internationally recognized organists in the world. On Saturday 19th July the church was packed with over 100 persons to enjoy a masterful presentation of a number of well-known pieces as well as an improvisation on the theme of Eastenders! Over £1000 was raised towards the church building fund. Many thanks to all of you who supported us.



On the previous Friday evening a smaller, but no less enthusiastic audience, enjoyed a private concert performed by adult members of the Eclipse Choir trained and conducted by local voice coach Julie Bristow. The singers, many of whom sang solo for the first time, performed in front of close family and friends to the obvious delight of all.

Large numbers enjoyed the Baptism of Bella Vann-Fleming during a Holy Communion Service on July 6th conducted by our newly ordained Assistant Curate Dr Rhona McEune. This was the first Holy Communion Service over which Rhona had presided in Bottisham since her ordination as a priest in Ely Cathedral on June 28th, much to the delight of us all.

Over the summer holidays we have had the pleasure of welcoming a number of bell ringing teams from around the county with many ringing a 'quarter peal', which lasts around 45 minutes and comprises 1260 changes. Our own bell ringers rang prior to our services twice each month and also at the joyous wedding of Bottisham couple Ben Topham and Danika Nowakowski at the end of June.

There are always 'housekeeping' jobs to be done in the church. At the end of last year, we had our Quinquennial inspection of the church fabric which revealed a large number of items which needed attention. In July we received the Quinquennial testing of our internal

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fixed electrical items report, which hardly surprisingly revealed several items which will need attention in the next few weeks.

Our normal service pattern returns in September. On Sunday 7th September we have our usual Benefice Holy Communion Service at which another local organist Roger Bond will play in the absence of Richard Ayres on holiday. We are expecting a good crowd to attend our Harvest Festival service on September 21st to be led by our Authorised Lay Minister Sarah Maxwell with Wayne Marshall kindly standing in for Richard on the organ. Our flower ladies have promised a fine floral display and donated food will be given to the local food bank. We look forward to seeing you at one of these services.

Our Baby and Toddler Group starts again after the school holidays each Tuesday from 3rd September from 9 -11am. All parents are welcome with their children to enjoy chatting together, with games for the children and refreshments for all. The Peaceful and Prayerful Art Group , led by Ruth Blundell will meet in the church on Thursday mornings 4th, 11th and 18th September from 10.30-12.30am.

We look forward to seeing you at one of our services or activities.

Stuart Field, Churchwarden

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Services in the Anglesey Benefice

Wed Sep 3rd	8pm	C by C (a short contemplative service) – online via Zoom
Sun Sept 7th	9am	Online service on Zoom
	10.30am	Holy Communion – Bottisham
	4pm	Village Worship - Quy Village Hall
Sun Sept 14th	9am	Online service on Zoom
		Holy Communion - Quy
	10.30am	Harvest Festival Family Worship – Swaffham Prior
Sun Sept 21st	9am	Online service on Zoom
	10.30am	Harvest Festival – Bottisham
		Holy Communion - Swaffham Bulbeck
Sun Sept 28th	9am	Online service on Zoom
		Holy Communion (BCP) - Swaffham Bulbeck
	10.30am	Holy Communion - Swaffham Prior
	3pm	Harvest Festival - Quy
Every Thurs	10.30am	Holy Communion - Lode

Please check the Church notice board for any changes to details; or email admin@angleseygroupparishes.co.uk, which is also the address to request the Zoom link. You are very welcome to attend any of these services.

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH BOTTISHAM



SUNDAY 21st SEPTEMBER 10.30AM

Led by Sarah Maxwell, organist Wayne Marshall

All invited – come along to sing your favorite Harvest Hymns and enjoy the floral decorations and refreshments afterwards.

Food donations to the local foodbank

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Parish Council Report

The next full council meeting will be held by on Monday 1st September 2025, 7.30pm at the Poppy Room, Bottisham Sports and Social Club. All Parish Council meetings are open to the public. Please note that the clerk to the council does not keep regular office hours. Replies to emails and phone calls will be attended to as soon as is practicable. Details of upcoming meetings and Councillor Details are available from the Parish Council Noticeboard and from the website bottisham-pc.gov.uk.

20MPH SPEED LIMIT

As you may have noticed recently, there has been a public consultation on the proposed 20mph scheme. The consultation has now closed and the scheme will need to be reviewed and assessed, along with the public responses, by the Highways and Transport Committee at Cambridgeshire County Council. We will report back when we hear the outcome from the Committee.

NEW DOUBLE YELLOW LINES AT THE TRIANGLE AND OPPOSITE THE BELL RD JUNCTION

We have been notified by Cambridgeshire Highways that the final designs for the proposed double yellow lines have been prepared. The Parish Council will be reviewing these proposals at the September meeting and will be providing feedback to the project team. The next stage will be a public consultation, which will be conducted in the same manner as the consultation for the 20mph limits.

ALLOTMENTS

The Parish Council are still waiting for the land transfer to happen, but we have been reassured that all parties are focusing on this as a matter of urgency. As the deadline for registering interest in the allotments has now passed, provisional allocation of plots has been made to those residents who expressed interest. Currently we still have 4 plots that are available, and anyone wishing to be considered should register their interest with me and allocation will be on a first come first served basis.

FINANCE

Public Rights

The period of public rights has now finished and only one request was made to receive any information about the Parish Council's finances. At the time of writing, the External Audit has not concluded. However, the auditor has until the end of September to ask the council for further information. Once the audit is complete, the relevant documents will be displayed on both the noticeboard and on the Parish Council's website.

Budget

The Parish Council are busy preparing documentation for the budget review by the Finance Group. This usually occurs in October and is approved by Full Council in November. Following this the Council makes its precept request in January. If there are any local groups or clubs that may wish to be considered for any section 137 funding in the financial year

Continued on page 9

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26/27, it is imperative that you contact me before the beginning of October so that I am able to present this to the Finance Working Group at their budget review. If anyone is not sure how this may work for their organization, please do contact me so that I explain how the funding works.

NEW CEMETERY

The land acquisition for the new Cemetery is slowly progressing. We are in the final stages of approving the terms of sale with the National Trust and hope the lawyers acting on behalf of ECDC will soon be able to proceed with the compulsory purchase. We are currently expecting to go out to tender this autumn for the construction phase. Once we have agreed on a contractor and costs, we can then begin the process of applying for a Public Works Loan. This includes a survey of residents to gain their approval. We hope to approve the survey itself at the September PC meeting, so that it can “go live” immediately the loan cost is known. It will be made available in the Cresset and on-line.

PROJECT PLAY

The open space adjacent to the new Bottisham Meadows development, on which the Parish Council and ECDC plan to develop play provision, is still to be transferred to ECDC. However, the working group have provided the ECDC Open Space manager with an initial brief to commence discussion on what might be achievable and potential costs. Wider consultation with residents will take place after these initial discussions are completed.

If you need any further information relating to anything raised in this report or anything you wish to bring to the attention of the Parish Council, then please do not hesitate to contact me via email, clerk@bottisham-pc.gov.uk or via phone 07369 248998.

Sam Chambers-Turner - Clerk to the Council



NOTICE TO MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION, BOTTISHAM & DISTRICT BRANCH

Further to the notification sent to members recently, this is a reminder for members and notice of the AGM of The Bottisham & District Branch of TRBL.

This will be held in the Poppy Lounge of the Bottisham Sports and Community Social Club on Wednesday 29th October 2025, at 7.30pm.

The purpose of this meeting is to assess the current situation as to the Branch's viability and the way forward for members for the future, as detailed in the member's letter or e-mail.

This will include the election of the two Officers of the Branch required as a County supported Branch (CSB).

Please keep a note of the date or if you are unable to attend, would you please send apologies to:- Bottisham.POC1@rbl.community or PNTW@live.com



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Charlotte Cane MP's Community Update

As your MP, I've been out across Ely and East Cambridgeshire, meeting residents, visiting local businesses, and listening to your concerns.

Recently, I joined paramedics at Ely Ambulance Station, witnessing firsthand the dedication of our emergency services and the challenges they face. I continue to press ministers on the growing NHS dental crisis—our area is a 'dental desert'—and the lack of access to GP appointments, a concern raised by many constituents.

With numerous renewable energy projects underway, I continue to raise concerns about large-scale battery storage facilities planned nearby. I've pressed ministers in Westminster on battery safety and launched a petition demanding stronger regulations and mandatory consultation with local fire services. Please sign and share: bit.ly/batterystoragesafety

On education, I'm advocating for urgent reform in SEND funding. My colleagues and I propose capping profits for private SEND providers at 8%, following research showing some firms making tens of millions with profit margins over 20%. These profits often go to offshore firms while families struggle for support. Funding meant for SEND children must be spent on their education—not shareholder profits.

Supporting local businesses remains a priority. I visited Harry Specters chocolate factory in Ely, whose founder was awarded an MBE for employing young autistic people and promoting independence. I also met with Tiger's Eye in Milton, a start-up improving women's performance and breast health, including developing a high-performance bra for women in combat roles.

To help businesses connect and thrive, I've launched a local business network, with our first roundtable held in July and more events planned. I've also started a publicans' network, recognising the vital role pubs play in our communities. At our first meeting at the Three Kings in Haddenham, issues raised included VAT relief on food, rising business rates, and employer national insurance contributions. If we want our pubs to survive, we must support them—use them or lose them.

I've recently been back out on the doorsteps in Sutton, Burwell, and Stretham, listening to residents and taking their concerns forward. I'm proud to share that my team and I have now helped close over 6,000 constituent cases—thank you to everyone who's been in touch.

If you need support or would like to book an advice surgery appointment, please email charlotte.cane.mp@parliament.uk or call 020 7362 1601. Alternatively, if you run a local group or business and would like to meet, I'd love to hear from you—please don't hesitate to get in touch.

With best wishes - Charlotte

P.S. Keep up to date with my work for Ely & East Cambridgeshire by signing up to my newsletter here: bit.ly/newsfromcharlotte

*Charlotte Cane, MP for Ely & East Cambridgeshire
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a) New applications:

25/00715/FUL (PP-14113143), 2 The Old Garage 56 High Street Bottisham Cambridge CB25 9DA. Change of use from Class B2 (General Industrial) to Class E(e) to facilitate the operation of a local veterinary practice.

25/00766/FUL (PP-14155811), 14 Bendish Lane Bottisham Cambridge CB25 9FP. Single storey extension to the side/rear of the property, with new windows and roof lights.

25/00779/FUL (PP-13952142), 74-76 Beechwood Avenue Bottisham Cambridge CB25 9DB. Demolition of a pair of semi-detached dwellings and construction of four , access, parking and associated infrastructure.

25/00810/FUL (PP-14198006), 119 Lode Road Bottisham Cambridge CB25 9DJ. Demolition of existing conservatory and construction of single storey rear extension in its place. Convert garage into habitable room.

25/00819/TRE (PP-14213793), 2 Stocks Close Bottisham Cambridge Cambridgeshire CB25 9BY. T1 Yew Tree – Fell.

25/00825/TEL (PP-14217443), Anglian Water Services Limited Sewage Works Tunbridge Lane Bottisham. Installation of digital communications mast.

b) Planning Applications approved by ECDC:

25/00560/FUL, Spring Hall Newmarket Road Bottisham Cambridge Cambridgeshire CB25 9BD. Conversion and part rebuild of cart lodge to create a single dwelling and associated works.

c) Planning Application refused by ECDC:

25/00583/HEN, 119 Lode Road Bottisham Cambridge CB25 9DJ. Construction of single storey rear extension which extends beyond the rear wall by 3.50m, has a maximum height of 3.60m, and an eaves height of 3.00m.

BOTTISHAM CARPET BOWLS CLUB

Henry Morris Lecture Room, Bottisham Village College

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Club Night Wednesday 7.15pm

League Matches, Thursdays

First meeting Wednesday 3rd September 2025

New members 10th September 2025

4 WEEKS FREE TRIAL

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Further details from:

Nora Watson 01223 812121 (email:-nora@gandnwatson.uk)

Richard Nichols 01223 812158 (email:-rlla.bell@btinternet.com)



Fassage Hall is a community facility located on the edge of the recreation ground next to the children's play area in the village of Lode.

It has a 12m x 6m main hall, lobby, well equipped kitchen, patio area, toilets.

The recreation ground is also available to hire and there are sports changing facilities in a separate wing of the building and accessed through a separate entrance.

See website for further details— <https://fassage.lemonbooking.com>

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Bottisham Community Library Association

September– and we are at the start of a new school year! Look out for a display of Children's Classics. We have had a lot of problems over the summer with no computerised library system available but hopefully the display can go head for the new term. Children might like to try something written quite a few years ago – 'The Railway Children', '101 Dalmatians', 'The Wizard Of Oz', 'What Katy Did', 'Treasure Island' etc – and adults might like to visit old favourites.

Look out also for the winner of the 2025 Women's Prize for Fiction, 'The Safekeep' by Yael van der Wouden and the winner of the Women's Prize for Non-Fiction, Rachel Clark's 'The Story of a Heart'. Both these books are on the shelves. Our Book of the Month is a picture book, 'Flower Block' by Lanisha Butterfield, a story about the power of nature and community.

Lego Club and StoryTime will be on Saturday September 6th at 10.30. Younger children will enjoy our collection of Duplo.

The date for the **Mobile Library** visit to Bottisham, Downing Close, is **Thursday, September 25th in the morning.**

Keep Reading!

The Library Presents

**The Library Presents returns this September
with a Fourteen week Autumn Season.**

The thrilling programme starts in September and includes music, puppetry, dance, circus, theatre, storytelling and workshops in arts, crafts and much more.

With 33 events hosted in 26 venues across the county, there is sure to be something for everyone.

Events in your area include:

Charlie Hooper-Williams (Music) and I'm Muslimic Don't Panik (Theatre & Dance).
Additionally, we have workshops with Textile Portrait, Fused Glass and Magic.

Thanks to public funding from Arts Council England, tickets are affordably priced between £3 and £9, with concessions available.

Guests can look forward to a unique and intimate experience, quite unlike anything offered by a traditional theatre or larger entertainment venue. Everyone is welcome - we aim to make our activities as welcoming and accessible as possible. Detailed access information for all activities is on the Events page on our website.

Tickets are now on sale. Take a look at the full programme schedule, pick up a brochure and purchase tickets in participating libraries and online www.library.live/the-library-presents

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Friday 3:30pm – 11pm
Saturday 12 noon to 11pm
Sunday 12 noon to 9pm

Non-Members are always very welcome.

If you would like to join the membership fee is just £20 per year plus a £1 share in the first year.

Members benefit from reduced prices over the bar and cheaper entrance for events.

Regular events

Happy hour or hours! Every Friday from 3:30pm until 7pm

£1 off every alcoholic drink.

Everyone is welcome, table tennis and other games available for the children too.

The Friday Meat Draw follows Happy Hour at 7:30pm

£80 pounds worth of prizes each week.

Every Saturday Morning from 10am until midday is Sausage Saturday

Pop along to the Poppy Room for a bacon or sausage bap with refillable tea/coffee for only £2.50 - nonmembers are very welcome.

Last Friday of each month is 'Open Mic' night.

Your chance to entertain or just listen to the local talent - Entrance is free to all.

WHAT ELSE IS ON?

Saturday 6th September - Bowls Club Quiz Night

A fundraising event for the bowling club

Saturday 13th September - Roy Orbison Tribute night

He is back again! The night includes a 'Ploughman's Supper'

Members £7 - Nonmembers £10 - Tickets at the bar

Saturday 25th October - Children's Halloween Fancy Dress Disco

Dress in your favourite costume and dance the night away - 4:30pm - 7:30pm

Saturday 8th November - Race Night in aid of the Poppy Appeal

Entrance free, place your bets, buy a horse.

Please refer to the website, www.bottishamsocialclub.co.uk for the latest information. If you wish to be updated with the latest news, please email bottishamesasc@gmail.com

31 Downing Close, Bottisham, Cambridge CB25 9DD Tel. 01223 812063

NAAFI Break

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Starting Location	Date	Month
Bottisham Community, Sports & Social	13	September
Bottisham Village College (sports centre car park end)	11	October
Bottisham Community, Sports & Social	8	November
Bottisham Community, Sports & Social	6	December

Further Information:

All events, once a month on a Saturday, starting at 10:00am

Ways to keep in touch with updates:

- ✓ Join the [Bottisham Village Litter Pick WhatsApp Group](#)
- ✓ Visit either the [Bottisham Events Facebook Page](#)
- ✓ Visit the [Bottisham Community Group Facebook Page](#)



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In the July issue, I mentioned the apparent anomaly of Jackdaws and Wood Pigeons living close to a Peregrine Falcon's nest and resolved to check out the respective parties' strategies.

Well, with a little assistance from AI, I discovered that the Jackdaws probably have a 'safety in numbers' approach because they like to nest in crevices and holes in cliffs which may or may not be favoured by Peregrines living on a nearby cliff face. It is likely that the Peregrines leave the local Corvids alone so as not to be targeted by 'mobbing' behaviour or constant harassment from groups of Jackdaws; and, anyway, there are usually other types of prey easily available at the Peregrine's preferred hunting time (dawn and dusk), including smaller birds and even bats. As far as the Wood Pigeons of Cherry Hinton are concerned, they nest in trees and bushes, so it's probably just a coincidence that there happens to be a Peregrine family nearby. They don't engage in mobbing behaviour but, knowing that Peregrines like to hunt in wide open skies, I'm guessing that the Pigeons consequently go about their business with a degree of caution, without straying too far from cover. Peregrine Falcons won't follow them into the foliage, but more about Peregrine habits in a future issue...

Anyway, back to the Corvid family. You may remember I have covered Jackdaw, Magpie and Jay previously but, apparently, I am not the only person who gets 'buttonholed' for advice on the differences between the various members of the family, particularly with the Carrion Crow/Rook confusion. So, by request, let's have a closer look... Admittedly, these two birds are remarkably similar: both black, both common, shared habitat, common diet, and similar size – c. 18 inches in length from tip of the beak to tip of the tail. Fortunately, though, there are several clues to correct identification if you know what to look for.

There's an old countryside saying that if you see a single Rook, it's a Crow, and if you see a flock of Crows, they're Rooks! Obviously, this is not wholly true, but it is certainly the case that Rooks tend to be more sociable, whereas Crows are more often seen in singles and pairs. Take care not to jump to conclusions, though, without considering the evidence...

Carrion Crow (*Corvus corone*): has a slightly tidier, sleeker, better-groomed appearance than the Rook and the beak is thick, with the maxilla curving downwards at the end to meet the mandible. It is all black, including the beak, and its voice is a harsh croak "kraaa". (NB. There is a sub-species of the Carrion Crow: the Hooded Crow (*Corvus cornix*), which is found throughout Europe but, in the UK, only in the north of Scotland and N. Ireland. It has a grey body, with black head and wings, giving it the appearance of wearing a gilet!)

Rook (*Corvus frugilegus*): all black plumage EXCEPT the beak has a straight, pointed, dagger-like shape and is light grey in colour. This is exaggerated by a whitish bare area on the front of the face, around the base, which makes the bill look bigger than it actually is. Rooks also have rougher feathers around the thigh than Crows, giving them a slightly 'tougher' appearance when walking, whereas the Crow's character seems a little more

(Continued on page 23)

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Monday September 15th

A Private Function (1948) (15)

Doors open at 6.30pm with the film starting at 7.30pm. Admission is £6 which includes free refreshments.
If you would like to reserve seats, please email richardjbowler@outlook.com or phone 01638 666810.

(Continued from page 21)

refined. These are subtle differences, though, and you would need a good look, so perhaps the Rook's higher-pitched, less raucous "kaa-aah" will help too.

Other black Corvids to consider would be the Jackdaw (*Corvus monedula*): similar habitat to Crows & Rooks but five inches smaller in length, with noticeable grey nape; and the massive Raven (*Corvus corax*): buzzard-sized (c. 25 inches), with a shaggy throat, and a resident of mountain and moorland, so very unlikely to be seen in Cambridgeshire apart from the odd one coincidentally flying through.

Understandably, Crows and Rooks have plenty in common. They will be found on arable land, pasture, wooded areas, parks and the like, although a large black bird in a coastal area, cliff or open shore is more likely to be a Carrion Crow. Food is varied. Both species will take grubs, worms, molluscs, insects and grain, with the Crow having a meatier diet that includes carrion, eggs and frogs, too; whereas the Rook relies more on vegetable matter including corn, potatoes, roots and berries. Both species will nest in trees, utilising twigs and dry grass: Rooks high up in large colonies (rookeries), and Crows, whilst happy in treetops, will also build on rock ledges and even on buildings.

By the way, in case it hasn't come up in a quiz recently, the collective noun for Rooks is a 'parliament'; for Crows, it's a 'murder'; for Jackdaws, a 'clattering'; and for Ravens, an 'unkindness'!

May I just round off with a couple of news items that have come to my notice recently. For the first time ever, a unified global checklist was launched in June, offering a single world taxonomy to assist ornithological research and conservation efforts. See www.avilist.org if you're interested.

Secondly, and perhaps a tad more exciting, Ospreys bred in East Anglia in June for the first time in 250 years. The pair has been seen courting at Ranworth Broad near Wroxham three consecutive years, they started building a nest in 2024 and, this summer, two chicks have appeared! Needless to say, the site is being monitored round the clock but visitors can view the excitement through a telescope and via CCTV.

TTFN - Gerry Daish

The way a crow
Shook down on me
The dust of snow
From a hemlock tree

Has given my heart
A change of mood
And saved some part
Of a day I had rued.

Dust of Snow by Robert Frost





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Bottisham & Burwell Photographic Club

Our club meetings ceased for the summer break, but quite a number of our members enjoyed a Club Outing to Felixstowe on Sunday 8th June. The weather was very kind to us with plenty of sunshine, although very windy and a little chilly near the Container Port. Images captured not only at the Port but at Landguard Fort, Dovercourt and Pin Mill will be entered in our projected digital competition for The Metcalfe Trophy to be held on 30 September 2025.

We now look forward to our new season which commences on the 9th September. This will be a social celebration of last season when we welcome new and returning members and Cups and Trophies will be presented to the award winners of our annual Print & PDI competitions. Members' prints and projected digital images from last season will be on display during the evening.

We have lots to look forward to in our new programme which runs from September to May and some of the highlights are shown below:

16 SEPTEMBER

An Introduction to Deep Sky Astrophotography by Max Dobres, which will be held on Zoom.

23 SEPTEMBER

An Evening of Panels by Chrissie Hart of Ipswich & Colchester Photographic Societies. Chrissie loves producing printed bodies of work and has produced numerous panels which have won awards at her local club which have also gone on to win the Chelmsford 4 C's Annual Panel Competition.

21 OCTOBER

Passion for Scapes by Kevin Pigney, Burwell. A digital presentation on Zoom by this local professional photographer.

28 OCTOBER

Dalmatian Pelikans of Lake Kerkini by Alison Jenkins of Ware & District PS.

We meet Tuesday evening from 7.30 pm to 9.30 pm at Swaffham Prior Village Hall (except the third Tuesday in the month when the meeting is on Zoom) and new members are always welcome. Visitors can attend a lecture for a small entrance fee of £4.00, which includes refreshments. Our annual subscription is £55.00 per Adult, £30.00 per Student, plus a weekly attendance fee of £1, which includes refreshments. For further information please contact our Secretary, Debra Bennett by Email at secretary.bandbpc@gmail.com or Tel: 07722 388770.

*Daphne Hanson DPAGB HonPAGB
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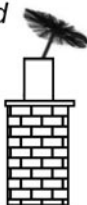
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News from Bottisham Medical Practice Patients' Participation Group

PRACTICE UPDATE

Dispensary: 2025 has been a challenge for the dispensary teams in terms of staffing. We are delighted to welcome Sophie our new dispenser to the team. We continue to offer home delivery for medication. Patients can request medication online, we encourage you to request medications via this method to avoid errors.

Enhanced practice nurse: we have welcomed Penny to our team who is a prescribing nurse and you may be booked in to see her or she may visit you at home if you are housebound. She has replaced our practice paramedic.

Medical students and GP Trainees: In August we welcomed two new trainees to the practice. They are qualified doctors and are training to be GPs which is a 3 year training programme. Each trainee spends between 6-12 months with us. Medical students continue to rotate through the practice. If you have a long term illness and willing to have a medical student visit you at home please let Dr Keith know!

PPG meeting: Thursday October 9th: with a talk from Dr Tom Shackleton on cholesterol and statins with an opportunity for questions and answers on this topic

Influenza vaccination clinics: SATURDAY 4th October and SATURDAY 11th October
9am – 1pm please put this in your diary now!

If you are interested in joining our meetings please contact our chairman Steve Gilson s.j.gilson@btinternet.com.. Or contact reception.

Bottisham and District Gardening Club

By the time we have our summer party in July it often seems that the season has only just begun, whereas this year we had already had a period of hot and humid weather so we were certainly ready to enjoy the fruits of the summer. We were treated to strawberries with cream and shortbread, washed down with a glass of Prims prepared by our committee members. Entries for the Don Bedford Rose Competition were a little down on last year due to the effects of the hot weather but Julie Bard produced a beautiful winning entry. The fun of the evening was provided by a game of Play Your Cards Right and Peter Bullock won the top prize. We finished off with a quiz and Joyce Fletcher outshone everyone with her general knowledge.

Our next meeting is on 23rd September, and in a change to our advertised programme, Katherine Mann will talk about Histon Manor, do come and join us.

We meet at 7.30 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month at the Bottisham Community Sports and Social Club. Non-members are welcome for a charge of £3.00.

Margret Coles

**Copy deadline for the next issue is
14 September.**

*Please send material to the editor at
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At our June meeting Julie Sale kindly spoke to us about life of Mary Sumner, the founder of the Mothers Union in 1876. Mary dedicated herself to raising her three children and helping her husband Revd George Sumner's ministry by providing music and Bible Classes. When Mary became a grandmother, she was keen to support young mothers. She believed that motherhood should be seen as a profession and viewed the role of women in bringing up a better society to be extremely important. She encouraged mothers from all social classes to support one-another, remembering how isolating motherhood could be.

The Mother's Union grew from 60,000 members in 1892 to over 170,000 members in 1900, with branches world-wide. Today there are 4 million members across 83 countries, with Mary Sumner's work continuing at local, national and international levels, engaging in prayer, social outreach, and campaigning to promote stable family life and address issues such as poverty and violence.

We were joined at our July meeting by Alison Johnson who spoke about Literacy in Prisons- 'An outsiders guide to life inside'. Alison had spent 16 years teaching English in prisons, starting at a time when statistics showed that 60% of adults in prison had a lower literacy rate than an 11-year-old. She described to us the processes of in-depth training, staff members entering, being searched (on the way in and out), unlocking and locking gates whilst being on the alert all the time, and tutors being on their own with a group of up to 12 adults in a classroom for 3½ hour sessions. Within the group there would be students at various stages of their sentences (so could have been any of the categories at the beginning of their sentence, and women's prisons have all categories), and always one or more on suicide watch. Activities had to be varied to keep attention, but all without the use of computers! The main aim was always to gain qualifications to meet the funding requirements.

Alison concluded that it was a rewarding job – but it was not possible to ever know if you made a difference or not, as students would not always attend sessions and tutors were not able to know what they moved on to do once they left the class.

Our next meeting is on Thursday 18th September at 2.30pm at the Fassage Hall, Lode. We will be joined by Chris Wiseman from Save the Children.

ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US.

Alison Martin

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It's what we do

With the summer season coming to an end, I'm pleased to report the Museum had its best July ever with visitor numbers increased to a level that exceeded our expectations. The Museum would like to thank all those who attended our Bottisham at War 1940's weekend that was a great success, with two Spitfires from the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight making an appearance on Saturday. The weather on the Sunday unfortunately prevented the BBMF from flying, but we were delighted to have an unscheduled visit from a P51 Mustang that gave us couple of flypasts later on Sunday afternoon.

Those of you who drive past the Museum may be wondering what the building being constructed next to the Willbraham Road is. It's a Nissen hut to serve as a workshop for the military vehicle group that has joined the Museum from the Duxford Aviation Society along with some of their vehicles. The DAS Military Vehicle Group was facing disbandment due the closure of IWM Duxford's Land Warfare Hall, and we are very pleased to welcome them to their new home at Bottisham. One of the group's first tasks at the Museum will be the restoration of a WW2 vintage bomb trailer that the Museum has acquired.

On August 6th a wreath was laid in Bottisham cemetery in honour of Pilot Officer R.K.A. Andrew of the Royal New Zealand Air Force, who died aged 25 when his Tomahawk fighter crashed in Thetford Forest on August 6th 1942. P.O. Andrew had been returning to R.A.F. Bottisham from a training mission when he clipped a tree and crashed. The wreath was made by volunteer Kathleen Dawson and laid by her husband Peter Dawson. The story of the accident was recounted by John Overton.

The last **Classic Car and Bike Show** of the year will take place on **October 5th**. We expect over 200 cars and bikes coming to exhibit, the 'Flying Tractor' café will be open, hot food will be available and there will be live music in the Hanger. Entry is just £7.50 for adults, under 16s free, that includes entry to the Museum.

Helicopter flights by Adventure001.com continue during September and October, information and booking via Bottishamairfieldmuseum.org.uk.

Charles Cook - Museum Volunteer

Burwell and District Flower Club

We meet at the Gardinier Memorial Hall in Burwell, High Street Burwell at 7.15p.m.

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Red2Green is a registered charity celebrating 25 years of supporting and promoting adults 16+ with autism and learning disabilities. We are based across 2 sites in Swaffham Bulbeck and Bottisham; 2 converted barns (Harvey's and Granary) in Park End and our Community Garden on the Bottisham Village College site. We support 90 service-users, 5 days/week, 50 weeks/year. We are celebrating 25 years of Red2Green this year.



A huge thank you to everyone who joined us for our 25-year summer celebration on 22nd June in Swaffham Bulbeck! We're incredibly grateful for the continued support of our wonderful local community. Thanks to your generosity, we're thrilled to share that we raised £1,200 - a fantastic amount that will go a long way in supporting the vital work we do with adults with autism and learning disabilities across Cambridgeshire.

A special thank you to all the local businesses and individuals who helped make the day such a success, including Pimp My Fish, Black Horse, Barchester Oaklands, Scoopy Doo, Kirsty Wright, None the Wiser, Burwell Fire Station, and East Cambridgeshire Police. We couldn't have done it without you!

WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO SINCE?

Red2Green was Tesco Fulbourn's charity of the month for their community bookshelf initiative and kindly raised £256.44! We welcomed their community champion, Becca, to our site for a tour and to say a big thank you for their support. We were also thrilled to be Bottisham Village College's Summer Staff Raffle charity this year, where they raised a great £214.44 for Red2Green. We are appreciative of our ever-strengthening partnership with the college. We want to extend our gratitude to the wider community and say a big thank you for the continued support during our 25-year activities.

JOIN US FOR A SPONSORED 5-MILE WALK IN SUPPORT OF RED2GREEN!

We're thrilled to share that we're teaming up with the Black Horse Pub to host a sponsored 5-mile walk on Saturday, 27th September 2025.

The route will start and finish at the Black Horse Pub in Swaffham Bulbeck, followed by food, drinks, and a celebration to thank all our amazing participants and supporters.

If you'd like to take part and fundraise for Red2Green, please get in touch at info@red2green.org or call us on 01223 811662. We'll provide both digital and physical fundraising packs to help you get started.

Continued on page 35



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(Continued from page 33)

Stay tuned for updates on our social media and through the Black Horse Pub – more details coming soon!

WAYS YOU CAN GET INVOLVED:

There are lots of ways you can help support Red2Green:

- Volunteering opportunities
- Start a fundraiser in aid of Red2Green
- Visit our Community Garden in Bottisham and buy some plants (Mon-Fri, 9:30-4)
- One-off or monthly donations
- Sign up to our monthly newsletter
- Follow our social media pages and keep up to date with all things Red2Green

For more information about the wonderful work we do at Red2Green, please visit our website red2green.org or if you want to get in touch, feel free to email us at info@red2green.org or call us on 01223811662.



Wednesdays

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Wool & Wine

Every 3rd Wednesday of the month

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Every 4th Wednesday of the month

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Ways to stay connected with updates:

- ✓ Visit the Bottisham Events Facebook Page
- ✓ Visit the Bottisham Community Group Facebook Page

Copy deadline for the next issue is 14 September.

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



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Storyteller and author Chip Colquhoun gave a fascinating talk about How Cambridge Made England at our July meeting. While we've all heard much before about famous and influential people like Alan Turing, Stephen Hawking and members of Monty Python, Chip focussed on lesser-known people and the contribution that they've made. He took us back through history to the Kingdom of Anglia and gave some intriguing insights through his vivid storytelling. For those who wanted to know more Chip has published a number of highly accessible history books.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 16th September at 7.30pm when Leonard Priestley will speak about Stories of a Lorry Driver and Furniture Removal Man. Do come and join us if you'd like to hear this talk.

We usually meet on the third Tuesday of every month at the Bottisham Community Sports and Social Club in the Poppy Room at 7.30pm. Talks are followed by refreshments offering the opportunity to meet and chat to others. We also have a number of smaller groups which meet at other times during the month to pursue a variety of cultural activities and support local charities.

Jennifer Clark

Bottisham Adult Learning Association (BALA)

STARTING ON SEPTEMBER 25TH - A NEW 5-WEEK COURSE

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 - Isabella: Queen of Castile, patron of Columbus
 - Elizabeth Stuart: Queen of Bohemia, royal exile
 - Catherine the Great: moderniser of Russia

The course starts at 10.30 on Thurs 25th Sept, the last session on Thurs 23rd Oct.

BALA courses are held in the main hall at Bottisham Community Sports and Social Centre in Downing Close CB25 9DD We provide biscuits, but ask you to bring your own drink.

The cost of the course is £25 with an extra £5 for non-members.

New members are always welcome.

Any enquiries to Bottishambala@btinternet.com

Helen Cole

Copy deadline for the next issue is 14 September.

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



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Fun-filled autumn days at Anglesey Abbey

THE DAZZLING DAHLIAS ARE BACK!

The much-anticipated Dahlia Garden at Anglesey Abbey is now open. Planted in a sweeping rainbow formation, the garden boasts around 60 varieties of dahlia, providing splashes of early autumnal colour right up to the first frosts. The Dahlia Garden was designed by Lord Fairhaven in 1952 and to this day is one of the most popular seasonal displays in the Anglesey Abbey calendar.

100 THINGS TO WEAR BOOK LAUNCH

Join us at Anglesey Abbey for a special event celebrating 100 Things to Wear, the new book that uncovers the remarkable stories woven into garments from the National Trust collection. The event will include a panel discussion and a book signing following talks from the author, Property Curator, textile conservators, photographers and researchers. Copies of 100 Things to Wear will be available to purchase at this event and from the National Trust shop.

HERITAGE OPEN DAYS

Anglesey Abbey is opening its doors again for Heritage Open Days from 12 to 21 September and visitors are invited to book their free ticket to visit Anglesey Abbey online via the website. Enjoy the dahlias and carpet of cyclamen in the gardens and why not take a look around the plant centre to pick up some autumnal planting tips and pre-planted flower baskets?

The plant centre is also putting on an autumn planting fair for the weekends 6 to 7 September and 13 to 14 September as well as a 'dahlia day' on 21 September with specialist dahlia grower and flower show judge, Peter Wilson. Visitors can also come and see the Tailoring an Image fashion exhibition inside the house from 11am to 4pm (last entry 3.30pm).

ANGLESEY ABBEY HALLOWEEN TRAIL RETURN

The Anglesey Abbey family-friendly Halloween trail is back again this year, with even more riddles and clues to solve. Come along for an immersive half-term adventure from 25 October to 2 November with plenty of spooky challenges along the way. Trails are £6 per child, which includes a prize at the end of the trail. Booking in advance is advised to avoid disappointment.

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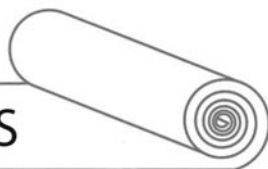


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