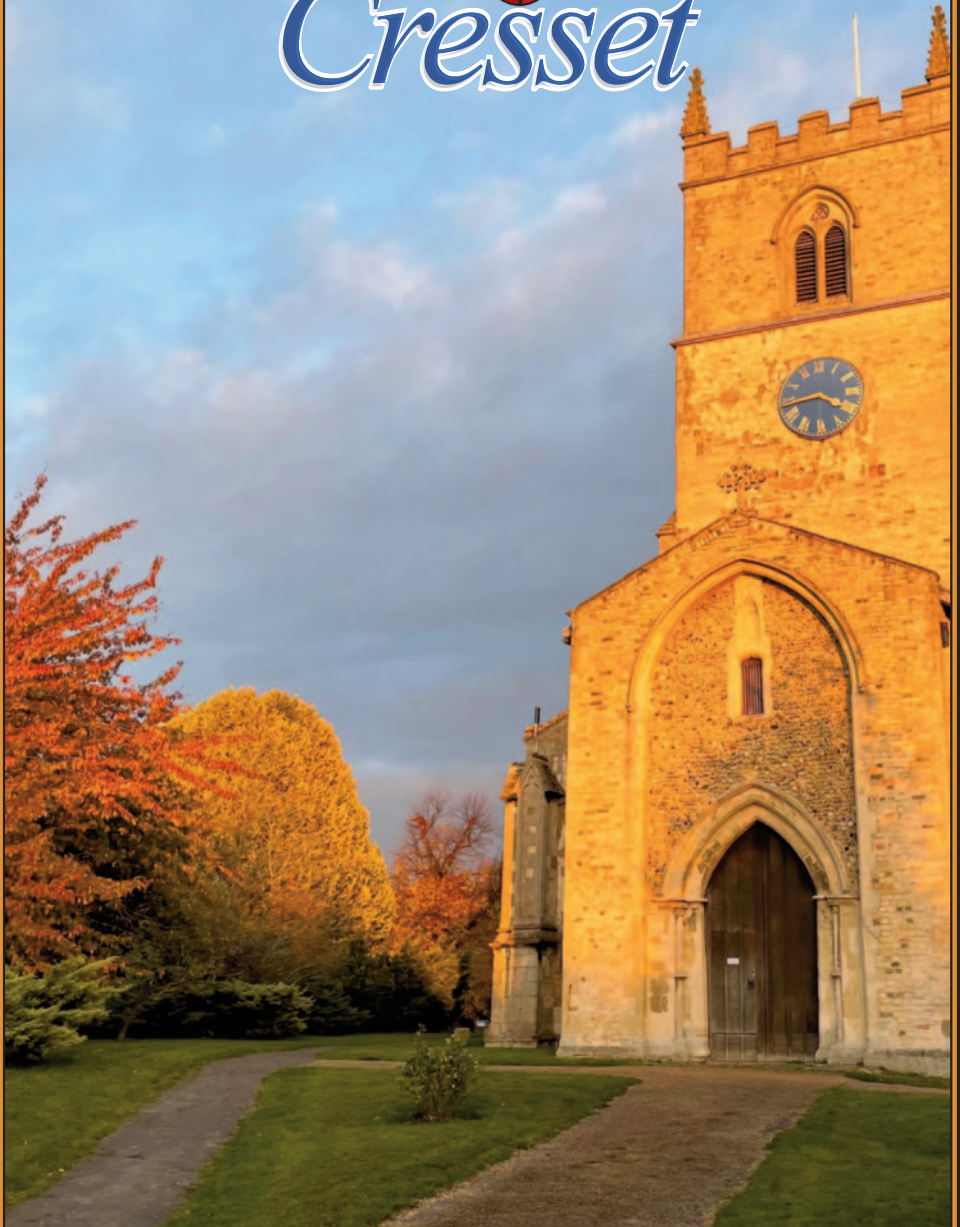


October 2024



THE  
*Cresset*



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



## Village Litter Picks 2024

Fresh air, friendship  
and looking after our wildlife  
*Bring your gloves and join us  
for refreshments afterwards*

Starting Location	Date	Month
Bottisham Village College (sports centre car park end)	12	October
Queens Court Care Home	16	November
Bottisham Community, Sports & Social	14	December

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](#)

# Newmarket Community Cinema

The Stable, High Street,  
Newmarket.



**October 21st: A Cock and Bull Story (Tristram Shandy) (2005) (15)**

**November 18th: The Old Oak (15)**

**December 16th: A Good Woman (2004) (PG)**

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](mailto:richardjbowler@outlook.com) or phone 01638 666810.

### Welcome to your October Cresset.



This month's magazine is full of useful information and interesting reads. There is an article from Robert Stevens which gives a fuller picture of what is planned in the area surrounding Bottisham with regards to 'The Greenway' and cycle routes into Cambridge. There is also more detail regarding Bottisham Itself in the Parish Council report.

You will also see in the Parish Council notes the confirmation of a donation to The Cresset of £1000. This supports the inclusion of all the parish notices and reports which the Council send in and helps in a small way to contribute to the almost £12,000 annual cost of compiling and printing the monthly magazine which is then distributed to every household by a wonderful team of volunteers, managed by Ian Cole.

Advertising charges, together with contributions from most of the organisations in the village is what covers this cost. In recent years we have lost many of the larger business advertisers, estate agents, building societies etc. who have withdrawn from local advertising.

However almost like a mini 'yellow pages', The Cresset is a valuable source of contact information for local trades and services and these trades get a lot of their business through it. Let's hope they continue their support. I often see on Facebook, somebody looking for a plumber or electrician or plasterer etc. Well, if they look through The Cresset, they will often find the answer to their search.

In this month's magazine, 'Bird Brain', Gerry Daish, writes about the red kite. Gerry has written 20 articles now on British birds (yes 20, I couldn't believe it either), and he tells me that he enjoys sharing his knowledge with our readers.

The Social Club shares detail of what is coming up towards Christmas and also what good value it is to be a member.

You may have seen the work that has been started on the Rank Bros. site by the new owners. Replacing the sheet roofing has started and will be the first job to complete. You will also see the E.C. Autocare advert, on the back cover, indicates that they will still be there for a while yet. They also have their other site behind Brian McKay's on Newmarket Rd.

Then Peter Rank tells me that the new owners have said they will be writing shortly to let us know what they have planned for the site. He said he will also tell us what has happened to the scientific instrument side of the business which Peter ran until he retired and still carries the 'Rank Bros.' name.

Finally, a note to encourage everybody, especially the under 25's to read the article by Cllr. Nadene Cundell about the Tiger bus pass. Showing the bus driver a picture of your pass on your phone will not cut the mustard. You must carry the actual card.

Our cover this month is a lovely picture I have had on file for a few years, so long I have lost the detail of the author. If you recognise it as yours, let me know for a mention next month.

Have a great Month and enjoy 'the fall'.

*Peter Walker - Your Editor*

## *News From Holy Trinity Church Bottisham*

Most of us have problems keeping up to date with the maintenance required on our house or flat. Imagine how the Parochial Church Council (PCC) feels about its responsibility for maintaining a Grade 1 listed church such as Holy Trinity Bottisham! The Quinquennial Architectural Report is one of the key processes which assists the PCC in the care and repair of a church building, for which it is legally responsible. It gives an overview of the repair needs of the building, and lists the repairs required according to their priority. Under the



provisions of the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction and Care of Churches Measure 2018, a church must be inspected at least once in every five years by a suitably qualified and experienced professional. Fortunately, we have such a person who came to inspect our church in mid September following a previous visit in 2019. Unfortunately, shortly following his previous visit Covid and lockdown severely restricted our ability to do some of the work needed. His new report will highlight what needs to be done, the urgency as well as the provisional costings of his recommendations.

It was very pleasing to see one Sunday afternoon in early September, a very full church to celebrate the baptism of a child, from a well-known local family.

The term time Toddler Group has started with a flourish with many mums and their children attending (from 9am on a Tuesday morning). If you have young children, why not try it out?

The 'Peaceful Prayerful Art Group' on a Thursday morning in church from 10.30 – 12 Noon is proving to be so popular that Ruth Blundell, who organises this, has extended it into Thursday afternoons, for September at least. This is for anyone over the age of sixteen and for all skill levels. For further details why not contact Ruth on [ruthblundell@hotmail.com](mailto:ruthblundell@hotmail.com) or just turn up and see what is happening?

Our services for October will follow our usual pattern with our vicar, Rev Max Osborne leading Holy Communion on the 6th of October and Sarah Maxwell, our Morning Prayer on the 20th of October. Sarah also leads a contemplative service, C by C, at 8 pm on the first Wednesday of each month. This includes Taize chants and times of silence. It takes place via Zoom and lasts about thirty minutes. If you are interested, do contact [admin@angleseygroupparishes.co.uk](mailto:admin@angleseygroupparishes.co.uk) to obtain the Zoom link.

We hope to see you soon at one of our services.

*Stuart Field, Churchwarden*

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## *Bottisham Community Library Association*

Many of our young readers completed the Summer Reading Challenge, which was Marvellous Makers this year. Medals were presented to the finishers on Saturday 14th September and congratulations if you were one of them. Thank you also to the parents who regularly bring their children into the library and encourage them to read.

We held a sale on the Triangle on 7th September with Lode WI and Bottisham Gardening Club and were fortunate to have good weather. All three stalls did well with Lode WI selling all their cakes well before noon and our vast collection of surplus jigsaws soon disappeared. It turned out to be a good social event too and we may well repeat it next year. If you have been saving books and jigsaws that you wish to donate, we have made some space for them now.

A reminder that the mobile library visits Downing Close on the last Thursday of the month at 10.30 a.m. They have free NHS hearing aid batteries, stamps and replacement ferrules for walking sticks.

The next Lego Club and Rhyme and Story Time Session will be on 12th October at 10.30a.m.

*Happy Reading - Margret Coles*

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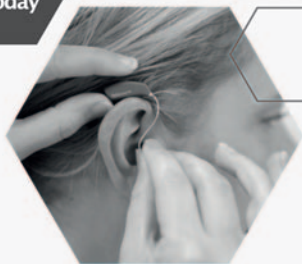
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## *Services in the Anglesey Benefice*

<b>Wed 2nd Oct</b>	<b>8pm</b>	<b>C by C</b> , a contemplative service, online via Zoom
<b>Thurs 3rd Oct</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Harvest Festival</b> , followed by lunch, Lode
<b>Sun 6th Oct</b>	<b>9am</b>	<b>Online service</b> on Zoom
	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b> , Bottisham
	<b>4pm</b>	<b>Village Worship</b> , Quy Village Hall
<b>Sun 13th Oct</b>	<b>9am</b>	<b>Online service</b> on Zoom
		<b>Holy Communion</b> , Quy
	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Harvest Family Worship</b> , Swaffham Prior
<b>Sun 20th Oct</b>	<b>9am</b>	<b>Online service</b> on Zoom
		<b>Morning Prayer</b> , Quy
	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b> , Swaffham Bulbeck
		<b>Morning Prayer</b> , Bottisham
<b>Sun 27th Oct</b>	<b>9am</b>	<b>Online service</b> on Zoom
	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b> , Swaffham Prior
<b>Each Thurs</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b> , Lode

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

### **FASSAGE HALL, LODE**

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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>  
Bookings can be made through the website or contact:  
Via email: [clerk@lode-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@lode-pc.gov.uk) or phone 07369 248998

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# *Parish Council Report*

The next full council meeting will be held by on 7th October 2024, 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](http://bottisham-pc.gov.uk).

## **CRESSET GRANT AWARD**

The Parish Council are very grateful for the hard work the editor and his team of volunteers put into publishing and distributing The Cresset. It is a vital means of communication within the village, and a digital version is also posted on the Council website for those who prefer to read it that way. Until recently advertising revenue fully funded its publication. However, along with many publications, The Cresset is faced with significantly higher printing costs and declining advertising. As a result, they approached the Council with a request for a grant to sustain their service to residents this year. Recognizing its value to the whole community, and after careful consideration, the Parish Council resolved and have recently made a grant to The Cresset of £1000. The Cresset is editorially independent of the Council, and the Council would like to clarify that this grant will not impact on that.

## **COUNCILLOR CO-OPTION**

We are very sad to announce that Councillor John Wilson has decided to retire from the Council with immediate effect. We would like to publicly thank John for all his commitment and hard work over the years and we will miss his valuable input to all areas of work that the Council undertakes. However, we are pleased to announce that Keith Morrison was co-opted to the Council at the September meeting, and we are looking forward to working together. This still means that we have a vacancy for another Councillor, and anyone who is interested in stepping forward to help shape the community, should in the initial instance contact the Clerk.

## **TREES AND HEDGING**

There are several areas down Bell Road and along the A1303 that require the vegetation and trees to be trimmed. County Highways have been in contact with landowners, who will be trimming back some of the trees and hedging very shortly. However, there is difficulty in identifying responsibility for some of the trees in this area, which is delaying things. We are hopeful of making progress on this soon to allow the works to go forwards.

## **BOTTISHAM GREENWAY**

Following feedback from residents, the Council made an application to the Local Highway Improvement (LHI) fund for the whole village to become a 20-mph zone. We

*Continued on page 9*

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*Continued from page 7*

have been notified that determination of the 24/25 funding has unfortunately been delayed until October 2024. But we are optimistic it will be awarded, given the challenges faced on our roads.

This application influenced our discussion with the Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) about the Greenway scheme. The GCP recognised that, once 20 mph was established throughout the village, there was little value in running the Greenway through the centre of the village. So we were pleased to recently receive notification from the Director that they have accepted our recommendation – which is that, after exiting the A1303 into Bell Rd, it will come only as far as the back entrance to the Village College, just before Wisbech Close. This will provide pupils and residents with a wide dual use path at a busy access point into the village – while avoiding significant unnecessary disruption in the centre of the community.

The Council had also requested that the Swaffhams Greenway might be extended from the Lode cross-roads towards Bottisham. This was not accepted but, to quote the Director, “Lode Road to Bottisham will be included in the brief for the next tranche of the Greenways.” So we may see improvements to this important access point in the years ahead.

## **POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

At the September meeting, the Parish Council have updated and adopted various policies that will aid with the smooth running and the transparency of the Council. Copies of these are now available on the Parish Council’s website. There are still a few that are outstanding, but it is hoped that all the policies will be in place before the end of the year. I would personally like to thank the Councilors that have been heavily involved on this major project.

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](mailto:clerk@bottisham-pc.gov.uk) or via phone 07369248998.

*Sam Chambers-Turner - Clerk to the Council*

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## ***Planning Notes***

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### **a) New applications:**

24/00603/FUL 21 Parsonage Barns CB25 9EG. Single storey extension to rear.

24/00861/FUL 1 A Jenyns Close. Single storey side extension and replacement UPVC windows and doors.

24/00840/CLP 19 Jenyns Close CB25 9DS. Box dormer to the rear of the dwelling for a loft conversion.

24/00834/FUL Rothbury Cottage, 122 High Street, Bottisham. Single storey side extension.

### **b) Planning Applications approved by ECDC:**

24/00481/FUL 26 Peacock Drive, Bottisham. Single storey rear extension and internal alterations.

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# *District Councillors' Report*

There has been very little activity in the East Cambs District Council in August.

## **CHANGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

One of the Conservative members has become an Independent, and so the distribution of membership is now: 14 Conservatives, 13 Lib Dems, and 1 Independent. We shall see how this affects decision-making within the Council, but it could be significant.

### Waste collection

The working party on waste collection has made recommendations to the Operational Services Committee that will be discussed at its meeting at the end of September, and it could mean a weekly black bin (smaller than the other two bins in order to encourage recycling) to replace black sacks, and a weekly food waste collection in smaller bins.

## **MEET YOUR COUNCILLORS**

Our next surgery will take place on Tuesday 22 October from 6.30 to 7.30 at Brinkley Village Hall

*Cllrs Charlotte Cane and John Trapp*

## *East Anglian Air Ambulance*



I am aware that the majority of readers of this magazine, know of East Anglian Air Ambulance and the amazing life-saving work it undertakes. Due to our proximity to the airport in Cambridge, it is not unusual to glimpse one of our helicopters overfly the Village. Whatever their mission, their ability to carry it out is down to the ongoing support and generosity of people like you. Thank you.

1 in 4 of our missions is to cardiac arrest patients, like Sam....

Sam suffered a cardiac arrest whilst enjoying a family day out in Great Yarmouth. She received immediate bystander CPR, followed by advanced critical care from EAAA and a transfer to hospital. Together, these crucial elements established Sam's chain of survival and ultimately saved her life.

This 'chain of survival' is vital for someone in cardiac arrest and comprises four essential steps. Each step relies on the others to increase the chances of saving life. In these cases, the advanced care that EAAA brings to the scene is more effective when immediate CPR and defibrillation is delivered. If someone collapses in front of you, would you know how to recognise cardiac arrest and help save their life?

Thanks to the generous support of the public and volunteers, EAAA provides CPR and defibrillator training free of charge helping communities to acquire the abilities to save a life - literally at their fingertips.

Please continue your very generous support for this amazing life-saving charity however you can. Many of our missions, and lives saved, are funded through gifts in wills and our weekly lottery drawn every Friday. For information on how you can help, please contact through our website <https://www.eaaa.org.uk> or by email to; [info@eaaa.org.uk](mailto:info@eaaa.org.uk) Together, we can save lives.

*Michael White*



## “Protecting our Nation’s Hearing and Vision”



**Please come to hear first hand** about this exciting study which is going live this Autumn.

Professor Rupert Bourne, who is leading this national study, will discuss the study in more detail and you will have the opportunity to ask questions to the team and find out more about preventable sight and hearing loss.

### **What is this study?**

It is an NHS study, approved by the Research Ethics Committee and is the first community-based study of its kind in the UK.

The pilot study is taking place across 15 randomly chosen community sites for people aged 50+ in Cambridgeshire & Peterborough from September this year and results from this pilot will be used to inform a multi-million pound national study.

We will be recruiting 50 people from Godmanchester who will be randomly chosen by their household’s address.

### **Why are we doing this study?**

We need high quality, up-to-date data on hearing loss and eye health, so that we can understand how to improve and deliver services more efficiently and effectively and also plan future services and improve outcomes for the UK population. In population studies like this, it is just as important to understand how many people have normal vision and hearing, so everyone who is invited is encouraged to take part even if they believe they have no concerns. Other studies, such as the Australian National Eye Health study found that 1 in 5 people examined were unaware of a potential vision-impairing eye health issue.

### **How the study will work**

If your household is randomly selected then anyone over 50 in your household will receive a text message from their GP offering the opportunity to take part in the study and a digital link to register interest.

A small team including health professionals and volunteers will also visit each household to explain the study in more detail and offer a brief vision and hearing screening measurement at your home.

An online and telephone contact centre will then book participants in to visit a community study site local to you. There, participants will have more in-depth screening with specialist staff involving state-of-the-art equipment and will be asked questions about their general health needs and access to services, taking approximately an hour. Each participant will receive £20 to thank them for taking part and will receive a report. Staff will be able to remove impacted ear wax at the time of the appointment.

If participants are found to have a new vision or hearing problem, they will be referred, via the appropriate local pathway, to receive treatment.

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## **TAKE CHARGE AND BE SAFE!**

Over the last year or so, Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service has seen an increase in fires involving lithium-ion batteries. E-bikes, e-scooters, mobile phones, laptops, game console controllers, cordless tools and garden machinery, all use lithium-ion batteries that can heat up and catch fire if not used correctly.

Keep safe by following our top tips for charging safety:

- Charge batteries when you are awake and alert
- Do not charge e-bikes and e-scooters in escape routes
- Only use the battery, charger and cables supplied by the manufacturer
- Before you go to bed, check anything still charging is switched off
- Do not overload sockets.

Lithium-ion batteries can't be disposed of in your regular household recycling. Doing so can cause fires, either in the refuse vehicles or at the waste processing centres.

- Never put any kind of battery in with your household rubbish or recycling!
- Any kind of battery can cause a fire if not disposed of correctly and safely.
- This includes vapes or other e-cigarettes as well as standard batteries.
- Fires involving batteries cause damage to refuse vehicles and roads, causing widespread disruption.

Find out where you can dispose of batteries by visiting <https://www.recycleyourelectricals.org.uk/>.

## **Get your own home fire safety action plan!**

Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service is committed to supporting the safety and wellbeing of residents in all our communities.

We have an online home safety check that you can fill in to make sure you're keeping your home fire safe. Using our online home safety check, you can carry out your own fire risk assessment to make sure you are keeping you and your family safe from fire. Our online tool takes you through some simple questions about you and your home and provides an action plan that you can download and print. You can carry out a check for yourself, or any family members.

Start your check by visiting: <https://www.cambsfire.gov.uk/home-safety/home-fire-safety>.



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## *The Bottisham and Swaffhams Greenways*

The twelve Greenways, which are financed by the Government via the Greater Cambridge Partnership under its City Deal, aim to encourage healthy and environmentally-beneficial cycling and walking, as well as reducing congestion. Where possible, the paths will be three metres wide, providing safe, direct and easy travel and passing for cyclists, walkers and those with mobility issues.

The Bottisham Greenway, if it follows the wishes of Bottisham Parish Council, will start near Wisbeach Close. This would already be on part of the National Cycle Network Route 51 which runs on the pavement along Tunbridge Lane and then from south of The Bell on Bell Road. There it already 2 metres wide, so would broaden to 3 metres by Wisbeach Close. The Greenway should therefore be safely accessible from other village roads if their speed limit is reduced to 20mph. There will be a Priority Crossing at the Albert Road junction in Quy. The path will run behind Marleigh with a Parallel Crossing for pedestrians and cyclists over Ditton Lane and will later be joined by the Horningsea Greenway, currently under construction.

Getting the Swaffhams Greenway from Swaffham Prior around the sharp bend on Greenbank Road in Swaffham Bulbeck is a problem. There is a low metal railing fence in a hedge only 2 metres from the road kerb and the pavement there has never been a shared-use path. A new path is really needed the other side of the hedge or along the existing public footpath towards Commercial End. There is no shared-use path either around The Denny, but the existing tarmac path at the back could be widened. Towards Lode, the path would be widened and the speed limit reduced to 40mph. Priority Crossings would be located across White Droveaway, Longmeadow and Lode Road, and a crossing with a wider refuge located outside Anglesey Abbey. In Quy there would be a crossing over Stow Road at the end of Main Street, and a new path around the edge of a field beyond Orchard Street, emerging opposite the Church where it would join the Bottisham Greenway.

Updated plans for both Greenways should be available soon. One would hope that widening the existing Lode-Bottisham shared-use path would be included, with a Priority Crossing on the Bottisham side of Lode Crossroads, as proposed on the Lode side. There would anyway be a saving from not having the Bottisham Greenway running from Pound Close around to Wisbeach Close on the road with the raised block-paved area by The Triangle.

*Robert Stevens*

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Copy deadline for next issue is 14 October.

Please send material to the editor at  
[BottishamCresset@gmail.com](mailto:BottishamCresset@gmail.com)



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## *Public Transport Matters*

This month there's nothing to report yet on the start date or timetables for the new bus services in the area, funded by the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority (CPCA), that were announced here in June.

However, there is a big Consultation out at the moment on whether our bus services should be under the control of the CPCA (i.e. Franchised), as they are now in London and in Greater Manchester, or whether they should be run commercially by the free market. The latter is the system we have now in Cambridgeshire (and in most of Great Britain). Under the current system the 12 bus is provided completely commercially, but the 11 bus is run under a contract that Stephenson's have with CPCA. So the Local Transport Authority (CPCA in our case) is paying for necessary bus services (e.g. the 11) to operate that otherwise the free market would not provide.

You can see the full Consultation on a special website that CPCA have set up at <https://cpc-a-yourvoice.co.uk/bus-franchising-consultation/>. There are also 'Drop-in' events where you can find out more about the different options that are being proposed and these are shown on the 'Key Events' page accessed from that website. At the time of writing there are two such events planned for Cambridge in October (Tuesday 8th October from 3 pm to 5 pm and Saturday 12th October from 10 am to 4 pm, both events being at Drummer Street Bus Station). There are also 'Drop-in' events planned for other locations such as Ely. The Consultation ends on Wednesday 20th November 2024. Do take the opportunity to have your say!

CPCA, as a Local Transport Authority, is, under current legislation, only able to seriously consider and implement bus franchising because it is both a 'Combined Authority' and has a directly-elected Mayor. But the new UK Government wants all Local Transport Authorities in England to have the opportunity to move to bus Franchising if they want it. So the UK Government's Department of Transport is currently running its own Consultation on that, seeking to arrive at a well-thought-out process that would be available to all Local Transport Authorities across England.

The new Transport Secretary (Louise Haigh) has expressed a strong belief in the value of the existence of bus services to the economy and to people's quality of life, so it wasn't too much of a surprise to see announcements in September about a new Buses Bill. The expected contents of the Bill include not just plans around Bus Franchising but also the encouragement of other initiatives to make the experience of travelling by bus more pleasant. We'll look forward to seeing the details in due course.

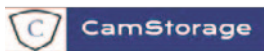
*John Austin*

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

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## **IMPORTANT NOTE WHEN USING YOUR TIGER PASS ON STEPHENSON'S BUSES**

**Under 25s in Cambridgeshire can use the £1 fare Tiger Bus pass within Cambridge (to and from Bottisham/Cambridge) with physical ID. This includes The Swaffhams.**

**IMPORTANT NOTE; YOU MUST CARRY PHYSICAL ID (ID ON YOUR PHONE NOT ACCEPTED)**

Apologies have been received from Stephenson's bus service along with clarification on the usage of the Tiger Pass.

They inform us that they have experienced an issue with this function on the ticket machine from Cambridge recently which has now been resolved.

The road staff / drivers had all been informed to sell the ticket once the GPS had picked up the area they were in.

However, this GPS facility, due to Bottisham & Swaffham Bullbeck being the worst areas for signal to their machines, hasn't worked and has been deactivated. (We can all relate to signal issues!)

There have been a few misunderstandings of late too, with the newer staff, on where they are location wise. This has been re-addressed.

**IMPORTANT;** Please note that passengers **MUST SHOW THE PHYSICAL CARD...** not one on their phone as that won't be accepted. I know youngsters all live in the digital age but the physical card is the only way they are getting on the bus using the Tiger Pass!

Staff have been told that they must carry the passenger (as long as pass and ID shown) to avoid further complaints going forward.

*Cllr. Nadene Cundell*

## ***Bottisham WI***

Our August meeting this year was a local visit to the Bottisham Airfield Museum which was greatly enjoyed by 25 members. Many of us had made previous visits in its early days and were very impressed as to how it has expanded over the years. Our group was taken around by Charles Cook one of their volunteers and he gave good explanations of what the site was like in the war. The signage and displays were excellent and we all learned a lot.

I didn't know that the Squadron here provided one of the support units at D Day. Visits from families (usually American) who served here are always bringing new information and uniforms so it is constantly being updated.

We visited the main hanger where the Mustang now sits together with the jeeps. There is plenty of room for more promised exhibits. Visitor numbers are well up this year and one can quite understand why.

We returned to the Mess Room for a welcome cup of tea and cake. I can thoroughly recommend the carrot cake.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 15th October. Change of speaker from our published programme – one of our members Barbara Walden will talk about "Uganda Then and Now."

7.30pm in the Poppy Room and visitors are welcome.

*Sylvia Overton*



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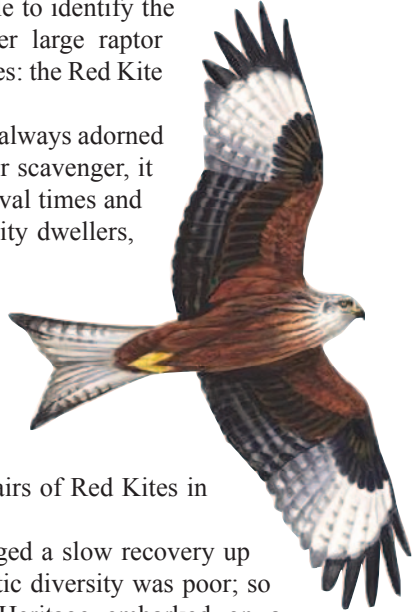


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## *Bottisham Bird Brain*

Now that readers are comfortable in being able to identify the Common Buzzard, let us consider that other large raptor frequently seen over our fields, fens and villages: the Red Kite (*Milvus milvus*).

You may be aware that the Red Kite has not always adorned this area in such numbers. Whilst, as a master scavenger, it was common throughout the country in medieval times and renowned for its closeness to humans, even city dwellers, 300 years of persecution by egg collectors and game keepers brought the bird to the brink of extinction in the British Isles. I'm guessing that the improvements in human sanitation during the 19th and 20th Centuries may have played a part, too; but the fact remains that, by the early 1900s, there was only a remnant population of five breeding pairs of Red Kites in west Wales.



Although the Welsh birds subsequently staged a slow recovery up to about 50 pairs, their productivity and genetic diversity was poor; so in 1989, the RSPB and Scottish Natural Heritage embarked on a conservation programme which involved the reintroduction of Red Kites in Scotland. Over the next 20 years, around 200 birds were introduced into Scotland from Swedish and German populations, then further releases in Scotland and England took place in the early 2000s using donor stock from the growing populations. The programme, supported by a number of feeding projects in Scotland, Wales and England, has been a spectacular success and the UK now boasts an estimated 5000 - 6000 pairs, perhaps 20% of Europe's breeding population. (It is not known to breed anywhere outside Europe.) The Red Kite is now 'green listed' as low concern, but efforts are still required to combat the use of illegal poisons in the countryside due to the Kite's preference for feeding on carrion. Fortunately (for them) there is plenty of road-kill available – less likely to be contaminated than dead foxes or other pests on managed land.

In the early 1980s I remember spending several damp and windy days in mid-Wales, looking for Red Kites and was finally rewarded with a single sighting - of a silhouette, high above a hill about half a mile away. This was unfeasibly exciting at the time... but contrast, now, a visit to one of England's strongholds – Buckinghamshire – where you're more likely to see 50 Red Kites than a single Crow! Our area, too, now has a thriving population, to the extent that it would be unusual to spend a couple of hours in the East Cambs countryside and not encounter this magnificent bird.

Anyway, what does *Milvus milvus* look like? It is one of the UK's larger birds of prey, a member of the family Accipitridae, which includes many other diurnal raptors such as

*(Continued on page 23)*

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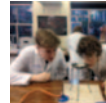
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*(Continued from page 21)*

Eagles, Buzzards and Harriers. Its plumage is mostly a reddish brown with a pale head and the primaries (flight feathers) are whitish with black tips which give the outstretched wings a ‘patchy’ appearance. But the stand-out feature of the Red Kite is its long, forked tail of orangey red/brown which distinguishes it from all other large birds. (Its close relative, the Black Kite – a smaller, darker bird with a shallower fork in the tail – is hardly worth mentioning in this context because of its status in the UK as an extremely rare vagrant). You may see slightly paler birds around, though. These will be juveniles, which won’t reach full adult plumage for up to a year and are somewhat reluctant to leave the nesting area for the first few months of their lives. They may even continue to be fed by their parents up to 90 days after hatching! They can live up to 25 years though, so there is no hurry!

As mentioned last month, the Common Buzzard is the bird most likely to cause confusion in the Cambridgeshire skies because both birds glide on wings angled upwards, but the elegant Red Kite is more rakish in appearance: longer wings with a clear ‘elbow’ giving it a ‘flappier’ style in flight and, of course, the unique tail shape. You may even be lucky enough to see them at the same time around here, although they’ll seldom interfere with each other.

Depending on where you are (and when!), you may find the Kite has a variety of local or colloquial names... e.g. whilst Chaucer referred to the easily-understood “Kyte” in his Knight’s Tale (c. 1390), Shakespeare switched between “Kite” and “Paddock” or “Puttock”. And in Scotland, the Kite was known variously as “Gled”, “Glead” or “Glad” – derived from its tendency to glide. In 1790 Robert Burns wrote of Kites feeding on human carrion after the bloody Battle of Killiecrankie: “I had fed an Athole gled, on the braes o Killiecrankie”. Good for the birds, but what a macabre thought!

*TTFN Gerry Daish*

Ah, could I see a spinney nigh,  
A paddock riding in the sky,  
Above the oaks, in easy sail,  
On stilly wings and forked tail.

John Clare (c. 1820)

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On the 9th August a group of Anglesey members joined 100 members from across the Diocese for the Mary Sumner Day Service (to commemorate our founder) in Ely Cathedral. Reverend Mike Banyard, Priest Vicar of Ely Cathedral and former Mothers' Union Chaplain led the service. Afterwards we viewed the Mother's Union Banner Exhibition in the Lady Chapel, which was held for two weeks 1st to 14th August.

The exhibition consisted of over 45 branch banners from churches across the Diocese, several of them over 100 years old, and many dating back to the 1950's and 60's. Two of our Anglesey banners were displayed. Bottisham, dedicated in 1962, and purchased by members donating one shilling at each meeting.

**Lode:** made by Dora Gale, and dedicated in 1960. The original drawing design for this was displayed alongside the banner together with a photograph taken at the banner dedication. A series of banners were made for the 100th Anniversary of Mothers' Union in 1976, each one depicting the work and projects the



Diocese supports. In addition to the banners, there were other commemorative items on display including kneelers, books, mugs, trinket holders and Mary Sumner's signature dated 1901. There were display tables with information on current Diocese and overseas projects, and a stall with MU cards and merchandise for sale. After the exhibition members enjoyed a packed lunch in Powchers Hall and time to chat and catch up with fellow members from around the Diocese.

*Continued on page 27*

# M&P

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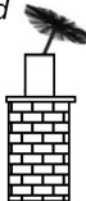
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*Continued from page 25*

Our meetings usually take place on the third Thursday of each month at 2.30pm in Fassage Hall, Lode. On 21st November Rob Needle, The Children's Society Diocesan Ambassador, Ely Diocese will be speaking to about the charities invaluable work with young people. You are most welcome to come and join us.

*Ann Langran*



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## ***Bottisham Adult Learning Association (BALA)***

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Join us for this series of 10 fascinating talks drawn from across gardens and garden history. Presented by Twigs Way - a professional garden historian, researcher, writer and speaker known for her entertaining talks and wide-ranging approach to gardens and garden history.

Each week we will explore a different topic starting with the Sun-Filled Gardens of the French Riviera. This will be followed by A History of Wrest Park, The Unexpected History of the Garden Gnome, A 'Swashbuckling' of Plant Hunters and Women in the Garden: Weeders, Writers and Illustrators. (This is the proposed order which may be subject to change).

The second half of the course will include: Exploring Traditional Wildflower Names, Artists and their Gardens, Gardeners Latin Explained, Vita Sackville West: A Life in and out of the Garden and lastly Plants for Pagans: Christmas Plants and Folklore.

There is something for everyone in this mixed border of garden-related delights as our tutor, Twigs Way, leads us down the garden path to discover places, plants, paintings and people.

The course will start on Thursday 19th Sept with a break for half term on 31st October and finish on Thursday 5th December. **Please note there will not be a meeting on 10th October.** The cost will be £45 for a 10-week course with an additional £5 for non-members.

Meetings are held at the Bottisham Sports and Social Club in Downing Close (CB25 9DD) from 10.30am. – 12.15pm.

**New members are always welcome.**

*Helen Cole*

Have you ever stopped of a 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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# *News from Bottisham Medical Practice Patients' Participation Group*

## **2024 VACCINATION PROGRAMME:**

From September 75-79 year olds are being offered a one off RSV vaccination (new this year) to prevent this infection which can cause pneumonia in adults and bronchiolitis in babies.

From October the annual influenza vaccination will be available here. The NHS do not permit GP surgeries to administer this before 1st October. There are weekend, evening and daytime appointments for flu jabs.

Please look out for invitations you may receive via text messages and book in via the link provided or call for an appointment. There are many clinics scheduled for each type of vaccination.

It is safe and recommended to have both vaccinations if you are in the at-risk group.

Covid vaccinations will be provided via the NHS vaccination hubs and not at the Practice this autumn.

**Physiotherapists:** There are two Practice physios, Becky and Dominic, who are both skilled at assessing you for all kinds of musculoskeletal injury and symptoms. You can book to see them directly through the reception often with a wait of only a few days. They can refer to hospitals and book investigations as required.

**Paramedic:** The Practice paramedic, Ellie, has completed her prescribing qualification. She is highly trained and can fully assess acute symptoms. She has access to GPs every day should a second opinion be required, and also can request all the investigations and referrals that a GP has access to.

Please use any of the team members when advised by reception to free up the GPs to see complex cases.

**Next Meeting: Thursday January 23rd 2025 at 6.30pm** in the waiting room. All patients of the practice are welcome to attend.

*Bottisham Medical Practice Patients Participation Group.*

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

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## *Bottisham Airfield Museum Group (BAMG)*

On August 11th, the Airfield Museum Group hosted its second classic car show of the season, featuring 200 classic cars along with their drivers and passengers. The event attracted over 600 visitors, making it the most successful day in the museum's history. If you missed this or the previous show, don't worry—we have one more classic car show scheduled for October 6th. Entry is £7.50 for adults, and children can enter for free. The band Back in Time will be performing in the Hangar, and hot and cold food will be available.



On August 28th, we had the pleasure of welcoming 26 members of the Bottisham Women's Institute for a guided tour of the museum. They were split into two groups, and Rob Berry and I enjoyed sharing the history of the museum with them. The tour concluded with refreshments in the Flying Tractor Café. I'm happy to report that they thoroughly enjoyed their visit.

August 31st marked our first Falconry Experience event. During these three-hour sessions, participants can observe, hold, and even have a bird of prey fly to their gloved hand. If you missed it, two more sessions are available on Sunday, October 27th. The cost is £24.50 for three hours. Please note that museum entry is not included, but the café will be open. To check availability, visit [www.adventure001.com](http://www.adventure001.com). This is the same company that operates our helicopter flights, with the final two flying days of the year on October 9th and 23rd.

The museum and café remain open on Wednesdays and Sundays until Sunday, November 10th.

*Charles Cook - Museum Volunteer.*

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It's the season for crisp autumnal walks and warming hot drinks! While the dahlias are still dazzling, the wider estate is full of autumn colour at Anglesey Abbey. Coronation and Jubilee Avenue are particular highlights at this time of year, as well as the carpet of cyclamen at the end of the accessible Winter Walk.

## OCTOBER HALF-TERM

Embark on a Halloween trail this half-term from Saturday 26 October to Sunday 3 November. Explorers will be given a UV torch to find hidden clues, and there will be some spooky challenges along the way. Are you up to the challenge?

Trails are £6 per child, which includes a clue card to fill in as you go, as well as a prize at the end. Please note that normal admission applies. You can book now on our website.



Photo credit: © David Oates Photography

## COMING UP THIS WINTER

Looking ahead, we're excited to announce that Wild In Art's 10 life-sized bear sculptures are coming to Anglesey Abbey from 19 November 2024 to 5 January 2025. **The Bear Hunt trail** is inspired by Michael Rosen's beloved children's story *We're Going on a Bear Hunt*, illustrated by Helen Oxenbury and published by Walker Books. Each bear has been painted creatively by ten national and international artists.

Head to our website to find out more about the sculpture trail and to book your tickets to see **Father Christmas in the house** for the first time this year at Anglesey Abbey.

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## Bottisham Community Sports & Social Club

31, Downing Close

Bottisham.

### OCTOBER PRICE INCREASES

The clubs bar prices normally increase from the 1<sup>st</sup> of October.

As our main suppliers increase their prices in March each year we have decided to bring our price increases in line.

**THERE WILL BE NO PRICE INCREASES BEFORE THE 1<sup>ST</sup> OF APRIL NEXT YEAR!!**

Members can continue drinking at the current low prices.

Examples are - Guinness £4.40  
IPA £3.50  
San Miguel £3.80

### MEMBERSHIP FEES

As our membership renewal date is here, we are pleased to say that the fee remains at just £20.

We were able to actually reduce the fee from £22 to £20 in 2018 and have not increased it since.

You can still be a member for this incredible fee and enjoy our discounted prices. Happy Days!!

Membership fees are due on the 1<sup>st</sup> of October.

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# Bottisham Community Sports and Social Club.



## OPENING HOURS

Weekdays – 5pm to 11pm  
Saturday - 12 noon to 11pm  
Sunday - 12 noon to 9pm

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Our outside games – Jenga- Connect 4, Quoits.

We also have lots of new board games to entertain the family, just ask at the bar.

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## WHAT'S ON?

**Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October - Roy Orbison Tribute Night with a Ploughman's Supper**  
**£5 members - £7 nonmembers - Tickets available from the bar now.**  
Stroll down memory lane with music from a Roy Orbison Tribute Singer

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October - Open Mic night**  
**FREE ENTRY**

Take part or just listen to the local talent.

**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> October - Children Fancy Dress Halloween Disco**  
**Members Children's entry £3 - Nonmembers £4 - Bring your parents in for free!**  
Dress like your favourite character and enjoy the party.

Also coming up

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> November - Bowling Club Quiz Night**  
**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> November - Drag Night with Sissy Lea**  
**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December - Newmarket Town Band and Christmas Draw**  
**Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> December - NEW YEARS EVE PARTY with Rendition**

**PLUS, do not forget the Open Mic Night on the last Friday of each month.**  
Come and listen to the local talent.

Please refer to the website. [www.bottishamsocialclub.co.uk](http://www.bottishamsocialclub.co.uk) for the latest information. If you wish to be updated with the latest news, please email [bottishamcsasc@gmail.com](mailto:bottishamcsasc@gmail.com)  
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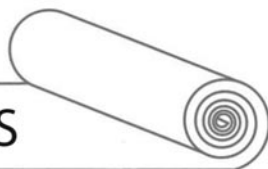


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## Useful Information

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