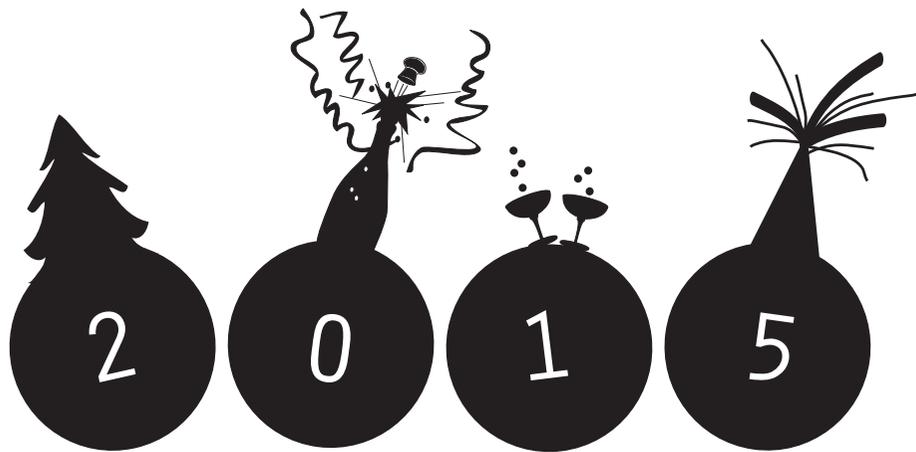


THE *Cresset*



HAPPY NEW YEAR

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



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A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OUR READERS

I hope you were all able to have an enjoyable Christmas break and did all the things and saw all the people that you wanted to see. I also hope you were friendly with those that you had to see! Christmas apparently is the third most stressful time after divorce and house selling!

Turkey all done and no more pigs in blankets for another twelve months. New Year resolutions need to be taken up in earnest or the old ones wheeled out again for another airing.

The New Year gives us all the excuse, if we need it, or the opportunity at least, to start something anew. Whether that is career, relationships or the way we go about things. We should all sit back and assess whether what we do is achieving what we want. If it is not doing so, then there is ultimately only one person who can change that.

Enough philosophising from me. On to more immediate things that affect us here in Bottisham. Planning application now in for the new housing development on the old Crystal Structures site and the outcome may well be decided by the time you read this. It is hoped that it will provide not only new housing, but an element of local employment as well.

The outline plans for the additional houses in Ox meadow have been publicised and will no doubt be submitted shortly. If you have any interest in the growth of this village, and I am sure you do, then remember you can always see the planning applications on line when they are submitted and the Parish Council also receives copy of those plans. It is the parish council who then makes its comments to East Cambs District Council who are the planning authority. Each month all planning applications that are submitted are notified in The Cresset with their reference number. You can use that to go on line to the ECDC website and see for yourself the progress and detail of the application.

So what do we have for you in this New Year's magazine.

Tony Jolley's article is always worth a read each month and this month particularly. Tony keeps his eyes and ears on all things Bottisham and makes pertinent comment. Gerry Daish, our Sports Nut is always a good read and there are also a lot of other articles and information to keep you abreast of what's going on.

Speaking of information, Lode has established an on-line archive as a village record and Coral Hatley writes to invite contributions from our village as well. She also makes the suggestion that Bottisham should use the same website to establish our own on-line record.

I am sure there is a lot of material in existence in peoples' homes and it would be wonderful if it could be gathered together and made available for us all to see. Do have a read at Coral's article and also the website. If that inspires you enough perhaps you could be one of the group who could put it together.

You will also see a letter from Ione Evans and Rich Braun regarding the changes taking place at the pool and sports centre. At the time of writing it appears that the college governors will not be changing their minds and the pool will not be available for public use during the day. It seems to be a case of bolting horses getting away, when the door should have been fixed years ago.

It now seems one of these inevitable changes which come about as money gets tight and volunteers are always hard to find. Compound that with today's obsession with Elf 'n Safety and the 'Ah, but what if' mentality and the world will gradually grind to a halt.



(Editorial continued on page 2.)

(Editorial continued.)

Fortunately there are still one or two who carry on regardless and make life enjoyable for themselves and those around them.

I know which one I would rather be. A much more satisfying outlook.

Keep taking the tablets and don't allow the doom merchants to drag you down. PW



LET'S DANCE

Come and join us dancing on Saturday evenings in the Main Hall at Bottisham Village College. We will have music for Ballroom, Latin American and popular Sequence dancing.

10th January
14th February (black tie optional)
14th March
18th April
9th May (black tie optional)

Time: 7.30pm to 10.30pm

The cost is £10 per couple, which includes interval tea/coffee. You are welcome to bring along your own refreshments. There is ample parking on site. For further information please contact: Frank and Sue Hancocks, 01638 741159 or check out our website: www.letsdanceclub.org.uk

*Let's Dance Club is a "not for profit" organisation established to provide dances for the community.

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Copy deadline for next issue is 14 January.

Please send material to the editor at cresset@bottishampc.org.uk

Have you thought of advertising your business in **The Cresset?**

Email the Editor for details: cresset@bottishampc.org.uk

Holy Trinity, Bottisham - Services in January 2015

Sunday 4th	11 a.m.	Holy Communion Revd Elizabeth Caswell
Wednesday 7th	8 p.m.	Compline by Candlelight led by Dr Sarah Maxwell
Sunday 11th	10 a.m.	Benefice Communion Revd Sue Giles Marsh
	11 a.m.	Morning Prayer Dr Sarah Maxwell
Sunday 25th	No service in Holy Trinity	
	10 a.m.	Benefice Communion in Lode

From this month there will be a change in the pattern of services in the 5 churches in the Anglesey Group (the Benefice), largely forced by the lack of availability of ordained ministers to help the Revd Sue to keep the full range of services in all churches. There will now be two services each month shared by all congregations. Please note that these shared services are at 10 a.m. Details of other services in the Benefice are on the notice board in the church.

BOTTISHAM COMMUNITY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday 31st January - 7.00 for 7.30

The Royal British Legion Social Club

£7.50 per person to include a ploughman's

Maximum 6 per table



Please contact Sylvia Overton 811792 or Margret Coles 812199 to book a table

Saplings Pre-School Playgroup

**Based in Bottisham Primary School grounds,
we offer lots of fun & structured play with
caring qualified staff in a safe environment.**

Playgroup for 2½ years onwards

Sessions run on a Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and

Friday morning, 9am - 12noon and afternoons

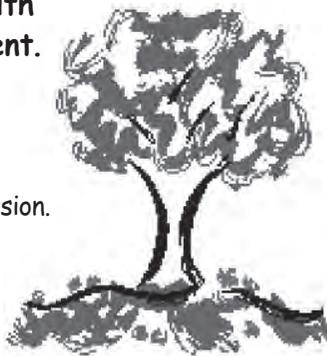
12.15 - 3.15pm depending on demand. £10.00 per session.

Pre-playgroup for 2 to 2½ years

Creative play sessions for 2 to 2½ year olds with

their mums, dads or childminders every Wednesday

morning 9.15 - 11.15am. £6.50 per session



Places now available, please call 01223 813226 for more information!

Rev. Sue Giles

We all need opportunities to make changes and to try new things and what better time than the beginning of a new year. The changing date is a marker in the sand, which allows both individuals and organisations to begin new things. We might decide to adopt a new lifestyle or to change the way we do things and an organisation might try new marketing strategies or develop a new focus. Change is an important feature of all living things and organisms that are unable to change and adapt to new circumstances are often the organisms that cease to exist.

The church, as the body of Christ, is a living thing. As such there are times when it is important for this family to change and to do things in a new way or with a new focus. It is sometimes a difficult balance to achieve. On the one hand there are the constant truths of God's love and holiness and the values of his kingdom, and on the other hand there is a need to present these truths afresh in each generation and to worship God in a way that honours him and inspires and engages modern communities. Through Advent our community pom pom art installation in Swaffham Bulbeck church captured people's imagination and allowed them to see in a tangible way the rich and diverse community that God has called us to be. In this coming year we are going to review the worship that is offered in the benefice to see how we can preserve what is good and of value whilst offering new things that might be of interest and help to those not immediately involved in the life of God's family.

One change is that for the first half of the year we will be holding a benefice service for all five churches in the group twice a month instead of the present once a month. Every second and fourth Sunday we will meet together in each village in turn. The villages have their own arrangements to help people to travel to these services so please do not be put off for lack of transport. The church wardens can give you more information. It is a great way to meet Christians from the other villages and to recognise that we are a part of something much bigger than our local church. Taking time to worship and study together will release energy and give us the opportunity to develop new worship. Families@5 is one of those opportunities. The worship is designed to be welcoming for families with children and gives them the opportunity to be involved in activities and to pray in ways that help them to talk with God. Families@5 is on the first Sunday of every month at 5pm in Swaffham Bulbeck School. Maybe this New Year you might like to come and find out more about the God who loves you. It would be the perfect moment to start something new.

Saplings Pre-school Playgroup

We hope all our children and parents have had a fantastic Christmas! The last few weeks of term at Saplings were full of festive activities and very glittery children! We must say a huge thanks to all those who came along to our Christmas Craft Workshop! It was a great success and both kids and parents really got into the Christmas spirit! Glittery fun was had by all! We managed to raise around £80, which will go towards the purchase of new toys and maintenance of the Play hut.

January sees Clare, our new play leader joining Bianca, Gill, Sue and the rest of the team. We look forward to welcoming her on board and helping her put her own stamp on Saplings.

We do still have places available in some of our sessions - Wednesday mornings for children aged 2 upwards, accompanied by a parent/carer, and Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday mornings for children aged 2 and a half upwards. Saplings is a great environment for children to learn and play with their peers, and a great pre-cursor to Acorns and then Primary School. Please contact us at the Play hut or via our facebook page - Bottisham Saplings Pre-School Playgroup.

Our new website should soon be up and running - watch this space!

Happy New Year from the Saplings Committee

Bottisham Bowling Club

Jumble Sale

Sat 10th January

at **The Royal British Legion Club**

Doors open 2.00pm • jumble from 10.00am (no shoes please)
Further details from Cindy King on 811220

AA

Burns Supper

Sat 17th January 7.30pm

traditional Burns supper

at **The Royal British Legion Club**

with Piper and 'Footlights' singers - £20 pp

tickets and further details from Jim Carswell on 812857

Anglesey Group Mothers' Union

Helen Banyard came to talk to us about 'Mothers' Union - Faith & Policy.' The Mothers' Union is grounded in prayer, worship and friendship. It was founded in 1876 by Mary Sumner, a clergyman's wife and now has 93,000 UK members and 4 million members from 83 countries worldwide. The main aim is to advance Christian values in family life. We were shown a chart which showed that the roots of the Mothers' Union is in its Groups and Branches. Four people work in the Faith & Policy office and, among other things, magazines such as 'Labelled for life - managing the commercial world as a family' are produced to help families with advice. We are responsible for our own finances. In 2011 'Bye Bye Childhood' was started. The commercial world is eroding the natural course of childhood.

The Prime Minister, David Cameron, asked the Mothers' Union to review the exploitation and sexualisation of children. We were given a circular '16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence.'

We support local services i.e. womens' refuges that offer support to victims and survivors. Victims often hide signs of abuse and care and kindness are very important when helping them.

The MU website is www.mothersunion.org if anyone would like to find out more information. Our meetings usually take place on the third Thursday of each month starting at 2.30pm. in Lode Chapel. On 15th January 2015 the Rev. Sue Giles will be taking a Communion Service, you are most welcome to come along and join us. We wish you all a very Happy New Year. *Jill Jenyns*

WEA News

Though not a keen gardener myself, I know there are many gardeners in the local area who will be interested Andrew Sankey's series of lectures entitled "Great Gardens, Famous Gardeners". Andrew will be looking at 8 famous gardens and their influential gardeners. We'll be considering the design and style of those gardens, what each gardener was trying to achieve, and the impression they had on other gardeners.

Gardens looked at will include Hidcote. Chatsworth, Blenheim Palace and Levens Hall. Join us at 10.00am on Thursday 8th January at the British Legion Social Club, Bottisham. But, if you want more information and wish to book a place, please contact Shirley Ellis on 811891
Gerry Cowley



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Lucy Frazer

AN INTRODUCTION

I wanted to introduce myself and thank everyone in Bottisham for giving me a warm welcome. Ten months ago I was thrilled to have been selected as the Conservative Parliamentary Candidate for South East Cambridgeshire to fill Sir Jim Paice MP's huge boots.

I am married to David and have two children. I was born and brought up in Yorkshire and I went to university in Cambridge. I have spent most of my working life as a barrister specialising in business law representing all types of businesses from sole traders, small and medium sized businesses as well as international corporates.

Since being selected I have given up my work to commit to you full time here.

I want to ensure that we get the right funding for our schools. I have arranged a meeting between the Education Secretary and the heads of our state secondary schools including Bottisham Village College to explain why funding needs to be increased. Recently I have visited or taken sessions in Bottisham Village College, Linton Village College, Impington Village College, The Meadow Primary School in Balsham and Kings Ely, The Shade Primary in Soham and ditton Lodge Primary.

I know we need improvements to our local road and rail networks to speed up travel to work, schools and shops. So I am working on a number of infrastructure projects.

And I want to ensure that here we have the right skills and the right jobs for the businesses in our communities.

I am standing for Parliament because I believe in equal opportunities for all. I am a governor of a state school and for eight years I have mentored young students. I want to ensure that this constituency has the best infrastructure and health facilities in the country that we can afford and I hope that the skills I have learned through my professional life will assist me in fighting for them.

If you would like to contact me to ask me anything or get involved do email me on lucyfrazer.southeastcamb@gmail.com

Lucy Frazer QC • www.lucyfrazer.org.uk

Parliamentary Candidate for South East Cambridgeshire (Conservative)

Bottisham Local Charities Trustees

- ▶ Local Charities can offer support to people with a minimum of two years residence in the village
- ▶ If you receive additional state benefits for pensions, housing or disability you may be eligible for help with household bills
- ▶ If you are starting a course of Higher Education you can apply for help with buying text books
- ▶ If you are starting an Apprenticeship you can apply for help with buying tools and equipment

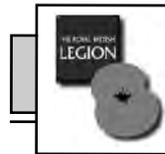
Applications are also invited from widows or widowers to receive a quarterly pension from the above charity. Applicants must be of good character and have lived in the Parish of Bottisham at least seven years.

Please contact the clerk to the trustees for an application form. All applications will be treated in the strictest confidence.

Coral Hatley, *Clerk to the trustees*

e-mail: coralhatley@gmail.com • Tel: 811457

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The Royal British Legion Social Club

WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH AT THE LEGION SOCIAL CLUB

Line Dancing every Tuesday and Wednesday

(except the first Wednesday in the month.)

Bingo every 1st and 3rd Sunday

Saturday 3rd January 2015 - 4pm until 8pm

KIDS DISCO WITH TUNES FROM DISCO DAVE.

free entry - non members very welcome

An evening out for all the Family

Saturday 17th January

Burns Night Dinner

Names on the board at the Club

Monday 19th January 8.00pm

The Royal British Legion Social Club Bottisham & St James's A.G.M.

All members welcome

Coming up in February

♥ 14TH FEBRUARY - VALENTINES NIGHT ♥

Cocktail Bar and Rat Pack Cabaret

22ND FEBRUARY - PROM AND WEDDING FAIR

On Sunday 7th December we held the Tacky Dangly Charity Event in aid of The East Anglian Air Ambulance. We would like to thank all the stall holders who attended and the members and staff who gave up their time to prepare for the event, before hand and on the day. Also those who supported the event on the day. And lastly to Santa and The Elves for being there. If you weren't able to attend on the day, do have a look on the Clubs Facebook Page for pictures and comments on the event.

At the time of going to print we haven't heard from The EAAA as to exactly how much was raised but will let you know next month.

Don't Forget The Regular Activities For You To Join In And Enjoy
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Hall and Poppy Lounge room hire available for all your functions

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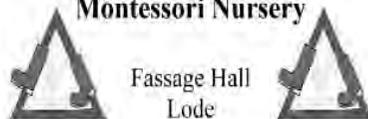


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At a Glance

JANUARY

- 6/13/14/20/21/27/28 BRBL Line dancing
- 2 Precept funding deadline date
- 3 Library re-opens
- 6 BBPCPAGB 2014 Inter-Federation Print Exhibition Portfolio.
- 13 BBPC PDI League Competition No. 2. Judge: David Steel of Cambridge Camera Club.
- 15 MU - Communion service with Sue Giles
- 17 Bowling Club – Burns night dinner and ongawns
- 20 WI Daniel and Mel Crosset speaking and demonstrating “Mime”
- 20 BBPC If only I Had..... Members discuss their entries in last week’s competition.
- 27 BBPC ‘Jpeg-v-RAW’ Ian Wilson delves into the pros and cons of images in both genres.
- 28 GC Stephen Poyser continues his story of bees.
- 31 Lib Library Quiz night at The Legion

FEBRUARY

- 3/10/11/17/18/25/26 BRBL Line dancing
- 3 BBPC Print League Competition No. 2. Judge: Gordon Bramham, Upminster.
- 10 BBPC John Margetts ARPS’ will talk about The Royal Photographic Society awards.
- 17 BBPC ‘Sports Photography’ presentation by Harish Chavda ARPS
- 24 BBPC ‘Photoshop & Elements 12 - Demonstration’ tips and techniques by Ken Payne,
- 25 GC 7.30pm in the Poppy lounge

MARCH

- 3 BBPC Projected Image League Competition No. 3. Judge: Andy Gutteridge AFIP,
- 10 BBPC Professional wildlife photographer Colin Edwards, talks about his work.
- 17 BBPC Flash photography explained by Roy Essery DPAGB, Colchester Camera Club.
- 24 BBPC Print League Competition No. 3 Judge: Dr Julie Hutson.
- 25 GC 7.30pm in the Poppy lounge

GC = Bottisham & District Gardening Club meets at BRBL Poppy Restaurant at 7.30pm; BRBL = Bottisham Royal British Legion Social Club; BBPC = Bottisham & Burwell Photographic Club meets Tuesdays at Lode Chapel 7.30pm - Non Member £2; WI = Meet at the BVC Lecture Room at 7.30pm; Lib = Bottisham Community Library Assoc.; MU = Mother’s Union meet at Lode Chapel 2.30pm Third Thursday. • This list is a ‘quick view one liner’ with brief details and a contact number if possible. Please let the editor have details by the 11th. E-mail;- cresset@bottishamPC.org.uk

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Living in Hope.

For the last five years one of my annual challenges to myself has been to see how many different species of British birds I can see in the year. This is good fun and gives me a focus for my birdwatching, which is one of my main interests. My target each year is to see two hundred different species. I've never managed it yet! To put that into some sort of perspective, the current record for the number of species in a year is 386. To do that you have to be prepared, at a moment's notice, to drop everything and travel anywhere from the Scillies to the Outer Hebrides to try and spot a rare migrant! Needless to say I have neither the time, the money or the inclination to do that! The best I have managed is 195, but that included a special guided birdwatching holiday in Scotland. This year so far I have 192, with three weeks to go before my time runs out and I have to start all over again on January 1st. Can I possibly see eight more different species in that time? I doubt it very much, but you never know, and I live in hope. And if not this year, perhaps next year?

Last evening, at our weekly get-together, a group of men from RE:NEW were discussing the nature of the hope we have as Christians. Hope is at the very heart of the Christian faith. Not just hope that there might actually be something beyond this life, but that there is something which can transform and renew our lives right now, bringing meaning and real hope into the present. In our discussion we wondered if hope was a strong enough word, and whether expectancy, or expectation, might better – more positively and dynamically – express what we mean by our Christian hope.

The New Testament includes a letter from Peter, one of the twelve disciples of Jesus, in which he writes: *'Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead...'* [1 Peter. Chapter 1, verse 3] Through faith in Jesus the living hope we have is a living expectation. Another New Testament writer put it this way: *'Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.'* [Hebrews. Chapter 11, verse 1]

My hope of getting my 200 birds this year is practically zero! My expectancy of a future which is beyond anything I can imagine is 100%!

May 2015 be a year for you in which you find a living hope to sustain you through whatever the future may hold for you. We at RE:NEW wish you a very Happy New Year! We would love to welcome you at any of our meetings and we would love to share with you the reason for the hope we have. Why not let 2015 be the year when you come and see what we call 'The Bigger Picture'?

Peter Wells

RE:NEW Services in January 2015.

We have activities for children and young people at all our morning services, and a crèche is available if required. All are welcome.

*4 January 10.30am – RE:NEW The Bigger Picture (Bottisham Primary School)
With Holy Communion*

11 January 10.30am – RE:NEW Café style (at the School)

11 January 6.20pm – Traditional service. (Lode Chapel)

18 January 10.30am – RE:NEW The Bigger Picture (at the School)

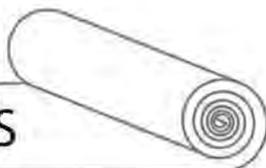
25 January 10.30am – RE:NEW The Bigger Picture (at the School)

25 January 6.20pm – Traditional service. (Great Wilbraham Chapel)

*For more information about any of the activities of RE:NEW please contact
Rev. Keith Morrison on C.813055 or Peter Wells on C.812388.
Email: pandawells@cheerful.com Or visit our website at www.re-new.me.uk*

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If you have a paper village archive it's worth considering joining CCAN. The site is a convenient way for villagers to access their history and is viewed from all over the world by home-sick emigrants or people tracing their ancestors. In the mean time we hope to create spaces on our site for Bottisham, Quy, and Swaffhams in the New Year. We welcome electronic copies of anything of interest so there is no need to part with a treasure and wonder if you'll ever see it again – just scan and send to lodearchive@gmail.com.

We look forward to hearing from you.

*Coral Hatley
Lode On-Line Archive Co-ordinator*

Copy deadline for the next issue is 14 January.
Please send material to the editor at cresset@bottishampc.org.uk

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JANUARY 2015 BULLETIN

Looking for something new to do in 2015? Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service is looking for volunteers in all areas to join our successful Community Champion scheme. Community Champions encourage local residents to carry out fire safety checks in their homes, visit community groups and educate about fire safety and escape plans. The Service provides a wide range of activities from which to choose, all geared to help keep our communities safe from the risk of fire. It also provides training and uniforms. Anyone interested in becoming a Community Champion should call Rachael Brown at Cambridgeshire ACRE on (01353) 865038; email rachael.brown@cambsacre.org.uk or log on to <http://cambsfirechamps.org.uk/>. Cambridgeshire ACRE coordinate the Community Champions Scheme on behalf of CFRS.

And don't forget to make a New Year Resolution to test your smoke alarm by pressing the 'test' button on the device, and those of your elderly relatives and neighbours too, regularly once a month. To find out if you are eligible for a free home fire safety check, call 0800 917 99 94. Find us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram by searching @cambsfrs. If you are concerned about any aspect of fire safety or risk, please call CFRS, or me on 811600.

Michael White

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Do you have questions about cancer? Do you need financial help because of the effects of cancer? Are you caring for someone with cancer? We can help. The Macmillan Information and Support Team will be at **Newmarket Hospital** on the second Tuesday of each month. The next visit will be between 2pm and 4pm:-
Tuesday 13th January 2015 **Tuesday 10th February 2015** **Tuesday 10th March 2015**

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Please note there is now a £2 charge per family for sessions unless otherwise stated. Concessions are available. All Adult Learning Course are FREE.

Stay and Play

Mondays from 9.30am-11.30am at Bottisham Children's Centre and St Andrews Primary School, Soham (at Soham Children's Centre during holidays)

Thursdays from 9.30am-11.30am at Burwell Sports Centre

Little Movers Wednesdays

Soham Children's Centre
12.45pm-1.45pm - 0 to 1st birthday, 1.00pm-2.00pm - 1 to 2nd birthday
Bottisham Children's Centre from 12.30pm-2.00pm - 0 to 2nd birthday

Sun Dads 3rd Sunday of month, 10.00am-12.00pm at Burwell Sports Centre.

Well Baby Clinic 1st and 3rd Tuesday of month 12.30pm-2.00pm at Bottisham Children's Centre. NHS services are free.

Rhyme Time Mondays 2pm-3pm at Soham Children's Centre

International Saturdays 10am-12pm at Soham Children's Centre

Walk on the Wild Side Mondays 1.15pm-2.45pm - Outdoor fun for little walkers! Call for location details.

FREE Listening Skills Course (with crèche) Four week course on Tuesdays from 3rd Feb 9.30am-11.30am at Soham Children's Centre. Are you interested in becoming a Children's Centre buddy or befriender? Or are you interested in learning counselling skills? Please call to book!

FREE Maths Course (with crèche) Tuesdays 9.30-11.30am from 21st April until 7th July at Soham Children's Centre.

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Bottisham And District Gardening Club

David Butler came to our November meeting to show slides and talk about his walking holiday in Jordan. He had visited Petra with the magnificent Monastery building carved directly into the red sandstone and walked through the narrow gorge to the Treasury. The red sandstone has a lot of iron within it and the occasional rain gives it its distinctive red colour. He had also enjoyed a walk through one of the desert areas carrying at least a gallon of water and had seen several Bedouin groups.

He also showed slides of a recent holiday in South Africa especially views of Table Mountain. He had climbed this spurning the cable car reserved for lesser mortals and spent a night in a hotel on the summit.

Stephen Poyser will be returning to the Club on **Tuesday 28th January** to continue his story of bees. We shall hear about **Honey – from Hive to Table**.

New members are welcome, subscription is only £12 a year and we have a good programme arranged for 2015.

Sylvia Overton

Copy deadline for the next issue is 14 January.

Please send material to the editor at cresset@bottishampc.org.uk

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Parish Council Report

We are pleased to welcome a new member to Parish Council. Mr Nick Jerman who lives in Tunbridge Lane was welcomed to his first meeting in December. Nick and his wife have lived in Bottisham for the past 10 years and have 2 children. At the same time, we are sorry to receive the resignation of Councillor Paul White, changes in the workplace meant it was difficult for him to get to meetings as he was often working away. We thank him for his hard work over the past 2 years. This leaves us with two vacancies. If anyone is interested in joining Parish Council please contact either myself or our Chair, Christine Bryant. With 2 proposed planning applications for development of land off of Bell Road and also one at Tunbridge Lane there will be a lot happening in the next couple of years. A new cemetery is also planned and a children's playground is never far off the agenda. It would be particularly beneficial to have someone on Parish Council who lived close to the planned development off of Bell Road to represent those residents that live in the area.

A revised application for the development of 24 dwellings at the Crystal Structure site on Tunbridge Lane has been received. Councillor Buchanan worked quickly to ensure that all residents affected by the application were contacted and given the opportunity to view and discuss the plans. Issues of concern are traffic into Tunbridge Lane, although some money will be provided by the developer to deal with this by way of a raised apron and the speed humps may have to be moved which we were aware of when they were put in but this will be at no cost to ourselves. Although Parish Council still stick to the principle that Bottisham does not need and cannot cope with extra houses, this is a brownfield site and is within the local plan so the plan was accepted by the Parish Council.

The vehicle activated signs (VAS) have not yet been installed on Bell Road. There was a suggestion that the sign should be moved due to vehicles being parked where it was due to be installed but we have no way of knowing if this will always be the case or if it is just temporary. Highways have suggested delaying the VAS installation for 6-12 months. Cllr Buchanan pointed out that due a planning application awaited from the Bell Road Masterplan it may be advisable to wait. We will check with East Cambs District Council if this is acceptable to them as they hold the S106 funds to pay for the traffic calming.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

14/01143/FUL 65 Bell Road: Two storey side extension, single storey front porch extension and single storey rear extension; NEW APPLICATION

- 14/01188/FUL, The Bungalow, Swynford Paddocks: Revised application of previously approved 14/00509/FUL for construction of garden store/stables; NEW APPLICATION
- 14/01239/FUM Crystal Park, Tunbridge Lane. Erection of 24 dwellings, new access and associated works (demolition of existing buildings); NEW APPLICATION

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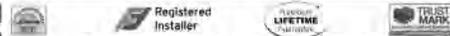
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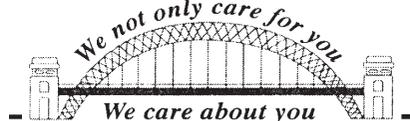
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Informed voting— is there such a thing?

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Many people say that voting is a waste of time. The sentiment is that all politicians do their own thing, don't listen just argue amongst themselves. Surely we should find out what our parliamentary candidates stand for in a General Election?

On Saturday 7th February there will be a opportunity to do just that. The prospective candidates, Conservative, Labour, Liberal Democrat, UKIP and the Green Party will present the party views and answer some questions.

Questions to the candidates should be submitted to the Ian Woodroffe: ian@goldtraining.co.uk, 4 Station Road, by the 26th January 2015. There may be time for some questions on the day.

There will be an optional retiring collection for the Mosquito Project in Mara-Tanzania.

Refreshments will be available.

In the second half of the morning 11.30-12.30 there will be Parish Council Poster presentations on the achievements of 2014 and the vision for 2015. These presentations will be on finance, the denny, the pavilion redevelopment, transport and highways, the cemetery, footpaths, Gutter Bridge and Denny woods.

Copy deadline for next issue is 14 January.

Please send material to the editor at cresset@bottishampc.org.uk

Have you thought of advertising your business in **The Cresset**?
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Bottisham Community Library Association

We should like to thank George Perry who has been a Library volunteer for many years especially for covering the Friday evening sessions. He also sold books that were likely to fetch a good price for us on Amazon. He has decided to retire for family health reasons. We shall miss him.

We attended the College Christmas Market and raised over £140 – considering we were only charging £1 for a hardback book and 50p for a paperback we sold a lot of books! Purchasers, especially the children were pleased with the good quality and variety of the books on sale. Thank you to all those who donated books and the helpers on the day.

The **Christmas Quiz** is still on sale in the Library. It costs a £1 and you have until 30th January to complete it.

We have applied to Waitrose Community Matters Charity Scheme at the Newmarket Branch for funding for book purchases so please support us with your little green token when it is our turn to be one of the collecting points.

Please come to our **Library Quiz evening 31st January 2015** at the Royal British Legion. More details in the advert elsewhere in the magazine.

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Public Transport Matters

Various changes and takeovers are happening – the family run Whippet coaches has been taken over by an Australian-based company, Transit Systems. It will be interesting to see what routes they may decide to set up.

The much-mourned DFDS ferry route from Harwich to Esbjerg in Denmark, which closed at the end of September, is to be replaced, it is hoped, by a smaller company Regina Lines. They hope to start services from Easter 2015. They would like people to e-mail their support. There is a website with details. There has been competition as to who should take over the running of the East Coast rail route between King's Cross and Edinburgh. It has been run by the Gov't with profits going to the taxpayer not shareholders - £1billion in 5 years. French companies have been interested but now the £3.3 billion contract has been won by Richard Branson of Virgin with Stagecoach, who already operate the West Coast Line.

Patrick McLoughlin, the Transport Secretary, says it will mean new trains, improved links, better services and a 50% increase in seats by 2020 as they hope to invest £140 million. It is an 8-year contract and the Govt. should receive £3.3bn.. Monopoly issues have been denied by the Department of Transport. First Group, once Britain's biggest train operator, lost out again. Crossrail2 costs have increased by a third to £27.5bn – the second major new railway line below London – Cheshunt to Epsom. The original Crossrail is on budget at £15 billion linking Heathrow and Canary Wharf by 2019. Funding mechanisms are being explored. The HS2 project could be speeded up, it is suggested by the British Chambers of Commerce, if more compensation was paid to homeowners – 150% of their property's value as in France rather than the 100% as is presently suggested. It is not, of course, all about money in my view – people do not want to see their family homes destroyed!

Locally, plans progress for the new rail station near the Science park. £44million has been earmarked by Network Rail for the project. The city station is the busiest in the region and it is hoped that pressure on it will be eased when the second station opens. The figures from the Office of Rail Regulation (ORR) for 2013/4 show 9,825,000 entries and exits at Cambridge – double since the turn of the century. It is hoped that the project will unlock jobs and benefit communities in Hunts., E. Cambs. and Fenland. Abellio Greater Anglia is set to invest more than £10m in a new programme of improvements to stations and trains across the network including Cambridge. New seat covers and painted interiors for the service between Cambridge and Liverpool St.! More customer service staff at the stations and a replacement of the automatic ticket gates at Liverpool St. so that there can be mobile ticketing, print-at-home ticketing and future smart-ticketing schemes. It could ultimately cost £30 million – no wonder fares are increased! Increases are due at the beginning of Jan. 2015. Community transport services like Dial-a-Ride are much appreciated and S. Cambs. District Council's service support grant scheme offered £8,500 to applicants in December.

The Park and Ride ticket saga continues and it is benefitting our local services as more people decide to use them. My belief, as always, is Use them or Lose them! New signs have been installed by Stagecoach at several of the stops giving details of how to text for bus times. The bus stop sign on the High St. opposite Stocks has also been installed. Cars parked at bus stops cause problems for bus drivers and passengers. Bus drivers need to park at a kerb so that people can climb aboard more easily – elderly people on walking sticks, mums with toddlers and pushchairs – the step up to a bus is quite high.

I wish you all happy travelling in 2015 – to wherever you may roam! Rail info: 08457 48 49 50 • Traveline: 0871 200 22 33. Happy travelling!

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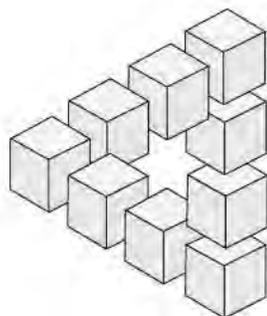
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Thoughts of a Sports Nut

A happy, healthy and prosperous New Year to all Cresset readers. May you go about your business in peace and harmony, enjoying honesty, fairness and respect at every turn.

You would think these qualities would be an apt aspiration of any world governing body in sport wouldn't you? At the very least, you would think that an organization that fell somewhat short of these lofty ideals, would mobilize every effort in rooting out any problems, holding individual 'bad eggs' accountable, and proceeding in a transparent way to cleaning up their act... wouldn't you?!

Not so, evidently, when it comes to that unaccountable cartel, that web of corruption, that nest of vipers known as The Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA). The details of the Qatar debacle are well documented and I won't bore you with the folly of how the despicable FIFA executives shamelessly bartered their votes around the world before awarding the 2022 World Cup Finals to a tiny, virtually non-footballing nation in the middle eastern desert, where people will undoubtedly die, should the competition actually go ahead in the summer.

The most sense spoken on the topic to date, has come from former FA Chairman David Bernstein who recently suggested that the European nations should withdraw from FIFA, boycott the next two World Cups and consider forming their own competitions in opposition. It sounded like Bernstein had been borrowing his ideas from a certain S.Nut of Bottisham (see Cresset November 2013), but why on earth did he not have the backbone to share these views when he was in post? To compound the impression that this was nothing more than empty rhetoric, the current (soon to be 'ex-') FA secretary Alex Horne scotched any such notions by adding, with piercing insight, "*The World Cup is a fantastic tournament and we want to be playing in it... I don't see us boycotting the World Cup.*" Disappointing eh? But I still don't think the 2022 tournament will be played in Qatar. Watch this space!

So Lewis Hamilton finally became the fourth Briton to win a second World F1 Championship when he scored his 11th victory of the season in an emphatic performance in the dramatic day/night Grand Prix in Abu Dhabi. Well done Lewis - the best driver in the best car, following in the footsteps of the British greats of the sport: Graham Hill (1962, 1968), Jim Clark (1963, 1965) and Jackie Stewart (1969, 1971, 1973). But what a nonsense for the final race to be the subject of the tawdry rule of 'double points', thus undermining the very essence of an 8 month campaign to determine which individual, support team and which car has the best combination of speed and endurance.

Having already won more than 50% of the GPs in the season to date, Hamilton stood to concede his well-earned crown to Nico Rosberg if his team mate could win the final race and he finished lower than second. As it happened, a ruthless start from Hamilton and some technical problems for Rosberg ensured that justice was done, but if lady luck had smiled in a different direction on the day, the situation could easily have been turned upside down, leaving the credibility of the sport in tatters.

Of course we can all see the reasons why... it was a cynical ploy to maintain public interest - thus keeping the sponsors happy - by not allowing the winner to be decided until the bitter end. The vested interests must have their drama, eh, as if there isn't enough drama in bundles of metal, fiberglass and human flesh & blood hurtling round a track at 200mph within inches of each other! An unworthy 'sell out' in my humble opinion. But, sadly, they are not the first sport to sully their principles for filthy lucre, and I doubt very much they'll be the last. (Stop Press: the FIA has scrapped the rule for next season - hooray!)

(Sports Nut continued on page 49.)

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(Sports Nut continued.)

In the meantime, we are all left with a stark reminder of the risks of participating in competitive sport following the tragic death of Australian cricketer Phil Hughes due to a one in a million moment of misfortune which all sports followers will hope does not precipitate an over-reactive safety clampdown. Our thoughts go to his friends and family, just as they do to those of F1 driver Jules Bianchi, who remains in a coma after his horrific crash in Suzuka, and Michael Schumacher, who is severely disabled from his skiing accident. Thankfully, there is better news about Edson Arantes do Nascimento (Pele to you and me) who, at the age of 74 is recovering from a recent kidney condition. I for one can hardly contemplate a world without the God of Football in it!

TTFN.

Gerry Daish

Bottisham WI

The shopping trip to Norwich was most enjoyable giving time for shopping or meeting up with friends and family. It was not without incident though, one of the passengers from Swaffham forgot her purse so the coach driver made a detour for her and then on the return journey he missed the Quy roundabout exit from the A14.

Our November speaker was Barbara Kettel from the Cambridge City Food Bank - a combined Anglican, Catholic and Community Church project which has been in operation for 3 years. Over 1000 claims for food boxes to cover food for 3 days (which also include menu ideas and gas or electricity tokens) were issued last year to those less fortunate living in the Abbey and Kings Hedges wards. Referrals are made by recognised agencies - churches, doctors, schools or housing officers and recipients can have up to 3 visits. We wrongly assume that Cambridge is an affluent area but the high end employers employ many people on less than the minimum wage and on zero hour contracts who suffer from the high costs of housing here Members had generously donated 3 tables of items and it was piled high with fruit juice, tinned rice and vegetables, pasta and biscuits, toothpaste and shampoo but it was noted that this would not fill enough boxes for one week's demands. She was an inspiring speaker and made us realise that there are many in the area less fortunate than ourselves. Please look up the website to see how you can help.

Our **Christmas Party** was held at the Primary School when Lucy Bunce played the harp and sang accompanied by her father Barry on the guitar after we had eaten our "bring and share buffet". We were treated to many Christmas songs arranged by them and joined in with several carols. A very calming evening bringing us the true spirit of Christmas.

The raffle proceeds were donated to the Headway Charity. Meg Barrett had spoken of the excellent work done by this group in providing rehabilitation for people suffering from brain tumours and accidents.

Christmas Food items brought by members will be included in hampers for those in need throughout Cambridge.

Our speaker on Tuesday 20th January will be **Daniel and Mel Crosset** speaking and demonstrating "Mime". This meeting at 7.30pm will be held in **Hall 2 at the Village College** and not in the Lecture Room.

Sylvia Overton

Copy deadline for next issue is 14 January.

Please send material to the editor at
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Jolley Old World

Are we being Duped!

Firstly, Happy New Year to everyone! Well, hopefully we've all made it through to the New Year without trauma and thus celebrated the arrival of another New Year in suitable style. Different families tend to celebrate the season in diverse ways and probably none more so than ours with a long standing tradition of an 'outdoor' BBQ over Christmas - come rain or come shine.

But alas, the local, national and worldly issues that seem to trouble us in 2014 show no sign of abating. On the other hand how much of what we read and hear is trumped up by political figures and or fuelled by the media? As Franklin D. Roosevelt said in his inaugural address; the "Only Thing We Have to Fear Is Fear Itself." But still the mainstream political class don't get it do they; the more they attempt to 'rubbish' the underdog the more likely the underdog will come out as the winner. Be careful; be very careful with May 2015 just around the corner!

No doubt we all witnessed in one way or another, the appalling scenes on so called 'Black Friday'. America can be proud of many things in its history but 'Black Friday' and 'Trick or Treat' are certainly not amongst them. If the inexcusable and heartless images witnessed in the media are an example of a diverse culture then I for one would rather that diversity go elsewhere. And shame on the retail outlets for promoting such frenzy and for getting caught up in the hysteria. Let's hope they all learn from their mistakes rather than perpetuate them - enough said!

In the form of local matters let me bring you back if I may to my article in the December issue about the Bell Road Masterplan. This matter seems to have struck a chord with a few of you judging by the casual conversations I've had in the street. Having now researched the matter in some depth it would seem, the 'village' has been duped!

To my dismay the residents' responses to some questions in the 2013 Masterplan consultation compiled by East Cambs and based on information provided by David Wilson Homes, particularly Q4, have been interpreted to indicate that Play Areas are not wanted as part of the new Bell Road development and that Play Areas should be located elsewhere in the village - WHERE may I ask? But not one; no, not one response categorically states that a Play Area shouldn't be built as part of the new development. Yet a converse analysis has been arrived at so allowing the space to be allocated to Allotments instead. Besides which the conclusion reached doesn't even match the question asked...

Clearly 'mischief' has taken place somewhere along the line in pursuance of possibly a hidden agenda and thereby the wishes expressed by the local community in the 'Consultation' have not been taken on board in the Masterplan. Not their fault on the face of it but perhaps Parish Council would like to look into rectifying this!

What's your experience like of getting into Cambridge these days? I've heard it said in somewhat similar words; when will the so called 'champions of industry' and planners wake up to the fact that Cambridge is full beyond sustainable capacity. It's virtually choked to death by a dysfunctional road infrastructure trying to support a commuter network poorly served by a farcical public transport system. I must admit that I do have some empathy with this viewpoint! Others go on to argue that an unhealthy bias in favour of cyclists is adding to the torment of other road users who have no option other than to use a car. Coincidentally 'cyclists' were put into 'Room 101' the other evening! It's also contended that new housing, great chunks of which is being bought 'off plan' by 'foreign' investors, is priced to attract 'commuters'. The reason given is that very little of this housing is affordable even to those working in Cambridge or thereabouts on above average salaries.

(Jolley ol' World continued on page 54.)



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(Jolley continued.)

And now we read of some brainless suggestion to build upwards of 30,000 more new homes in and around Cambridge to allow for further growth! Someone somewhere has surely lost the plot! That's at least 60,000 more cars and 75,000 more people who will want to get in and out of Cambridge and that is in addition to the current build. Councillors and planners who suggest that the majority of these new inhabitants will use public transport are living on planet 'twaddle'. Simple economics suggests that growth is not a prerequisite for commercial survival or for 'quality of life'. Cambridge has more than secured its place in the world as a centre of excellence for education, science and engineering but if it is to retain this niche it must have protection, not expansion – less can be more! Some commentators suggest it's time for the Cambridge 'phenomenon' to move further afield so as to benefit other less prosperous areas. They go on to say that local consolidation and respite must be allowed to take effect if 'quality of life' means anything - if not Cambridge and its environs will suffer the misery of one enormous clogged up building site for decades to come...

There's not unsurprisingly considerable political positioning going on concerning the NHS and how much more is to/has to be spent to protect it in support of a growing population. I was therefore stunned to read that missed appointments alone cost GP's a staggering £162m a year - not to mention the 'human' cost to those that are genuinely unwell. The report goes on to mention that most A&E visits are for trivial complaints and that missed outpatient appointments cost hospitals £700m a year. Top it all up and those 'wasters' amongst the population cost the NHS a colossal £1bn a year at least!! And then you add to this the estimated sum of £15bn put aside for outstanding 'no win no fee' compensation claims. Do people realise that that these compensation payments come out of the same NHS pot. By all means if you have valid grounds on which to make a complaint then do so and then, unless the compensation is required to actually support the life of a patient, hand the cash back so that someone else might benefit from the appropriate medical treatment.

Jesse Norman in the FT suggests "a better way to stop 'the worried well crowding out the genuinely sick' would be to send everyone who uses the NHS a personalised statement at the end of the year," (such as HMRC is doing now to show where your tax goes). A good idea and possibly the more people understand the cost of their healthcare, the more responsibility they'll take. TJ

"Always travel first class – or your children will". – Bev Williams

To the Editor

Dear Editor,

Dogs again!

Once again I walked the High Street of Bottisham this afternoon and narrowly avoided treading in 3 heaps of dog poo. You know who you are, letting your dog do this and not clear up. I can only imagine you have your dog wandering off lead or on one of those long leads and completely ignore what your dog is doing!! Please take responsibility and realise this is not acceptable behaviour.

As for owners who walk and leave their dogs off lead, perhaps you should have regard for other people. You may think your dog is under control, but it is not. It can wander into the road and cause an accident and kill a child. Once again it is not the dog at fault but the owner who should know better.

Name & Address supplied

(To the Editor continued next page.)

(To the Editor continued.)

Note from the Editor: I recognise that many dog owners in this village are both a lot more responsible than may have been the case in the past, and also that we are much better than many other towns & villages, but this letter obviously reflects that there are still one or two who let the side down. It is also an offence not to be equipped to clear up your dogs 'doings'.

Dear Editor

Re Bottisham Sports Centre - Swimming Pool

I am one of many people who was devastated to learn that Bottisham Village College (BVC) (now an academy) has decided to end Daytime Community use of the Swimming Pool (which was built with considerable help from the Community).

Daytime users of the pool come from a wide geographical area, not merely the local villages and the facilities are rated highly c.f. other pools in the Cambridge area. The users include:- Pensioners, Non-drivers, Disabled people & those with reduced mobility, people with Depression & other Mental Health problems, the Lonely, Parents with young children /or children at school, workers on Lunchtime break, families of people working in Cambridge from the UK and abroad (including short term contracts and students) and Patients who have been advised to exercise on medical grounds because of obesity, joint problems etc. A large proportion of these people would not be able to come and swim in the evening, including preschool children which are a very important group given that opportunities for school swimming are falling and children need to learn to be safe in and around water.

Swimming is an accessible form of exercise which can be done even at times when other exercise is difficult, painful or impossible. Buoyancy helps when walking is a problem and can reduce pain in e.g. knees, back and neck - as one swimmer confided, 'this is the only place I don't hurt'. We have had swimmers exercising to keep fit, lose weight and rehabilitate from injury, surgery, strokes etc. At one time there was talk of 'Prescriptions for exercise' but apparently the Sports Centre did not accept these.

We have been told that the income from users does not cover the cost of our using the facilities at BVC. As far as pool users are concerned this cost is the sum of the wages of 2 lifeguards at £8 per hour and presumably a contribution to the overheads of the building (which will continue to be a liability whether we have daytime use or not). We have not been given financial details. We believe that it is hard to recruit life guards but this is unlikely to improve for evening sessions as young people might want to 'get a life'!

We understand that BVC cannot (legally) subsidise community activities but do not accept that sufficient avenues were explored over the short period when Nuffield Health made their report (to say that community use was not viable) to see if there were ways of finding funds from elsewhere (within or outside the community) which, together with users' fees, could keep daytime swimming AND support the college in keeping this important facility going for the students of BVC and other schools which use it (Sports facilities are expensive to run and their existence and maintenance is so often due to local generosity that it seems unwise to lose local goodwill which might be needed in the future).

BVC, probably with the best will in the world, brought in an outsider, used to running very different sports' clubs, to give a report on viability, done with reference to an urban centre. Neither staff nor users guessed that the daytime use of the Sports Centre was in jeopardy. The public was not aware of the current and ongoing deficit, which was not stated in the notice for a public meeting, however we had noticed spending on renovation of public changing rooms and the swimming pool sports posters boasting of money raised for other charitable causes. The Community facilities are *(To the Editor continued on page 57.)*

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(To the Editor continued.)

poorly advertised although the use of parish magazines, notice boards and Post Office windows is cheap. When new users come to the pool they speak of having 'just discovered' it, as if it were a hidden asset!

Any attention and help you could give to ensuring the continuation of daytime community swimming at BVC would be greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Ione Evans

*(71, arthritis sufferer, unhappy to drive at night
or walk a mile on an unlit road in winter)*

Dear Editor

The family of the late Valerie Mitchell would like to thank all those who sent cards and messages of sympathy. A special thank you to all of Val's neighbours who did so much for her and a big thank you to everyone for their donations to Bottisham Doctors Surgery which amounted to £375. Also thank you to Sue Giles for her lovely uplifting service.

Yours sincerely

Sue and John Mitchell

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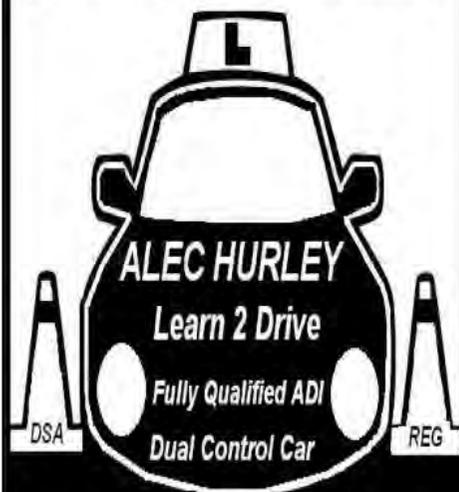
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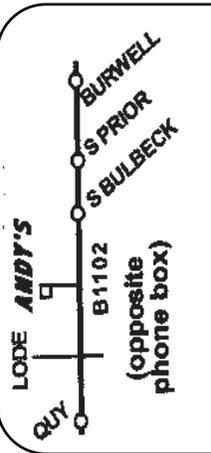
More money for General Practice • Here's proof that it's worth lobbying our politicians for improvements to the service we receive from our GPs. The Autumn Statement on December 3rd saw a major announcement about funding for patient care in general practice – with the Chancellor of the Exchequer, George Osborne, confirming that a £1bn fund has been established to invest in GP infrastructure over four years. The chair of the Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP) said, *"Together we have put pressure on the government to take action. As well as money targeted at GP infrastructure, the Chancellor announced that an extra £1.5bn will be directed to front line health services. The Chancellor's announcement shows that the government has listened to our concerns and agrees that general practice provides excellent value for money – with RCGP research showing that for every £1 of additional investment made in general practice, £5 is saved in other parts of the NHS. We also need urgent action to tackle the workforce crisis facing general practice. Only by recruiting 8,000 more GPs – as well as other staff – over the next five years will we be able to cut waiting times and ensure that practices can provide more flexible opening hours. Due to the fact that our population is growing larger and older, we are already 3-4,000 short of the number of GPs we need. To help keep the pressure up, if you have not already done so please use our online tool to lobby your MP, which you can find at <http://www.rcgp.org.uk/campaign-home/get-involved/write-to-your-local-politician.aspx>"*

Getting involved in the Patients' Group • The Patients Group is your group and the committee members are patients of the practice like you. We meet 6 times a year on the fourth Thursday of every other month, at 6.30 - 8pm at Downing Court, Swaffham Bulbeck. Our next meeting is on 22nd January 2015. There are vacancies for committee members so if you might be interested in joining us and would like to know more, please contact our Secretary Jenny Langdon at patientsgroup@outlook.com and arrange to come to one of our meetings.

Health Walking Group • There will be two PG walks in January, led by Steve Gilson, our accredited walk leader, on Wednesday 7th and Friday 23rd, starting from the surgery car park at 11.00 am. Anglesey Abbey walks continue weekly on Thursdays from the Visitors' Centre starting at 10.00 am. All patients are welcome on all these walks.

Wishing you a happy, healthy and peaceful 2015 • There is a lot of information about keeping warm and staying healthy during the winter months, e.g. at . If you still haven't had your 'flu jab phone the Practice on 01223 810030 to book an appointment. If you need urgent medical care overnight, at weekends or during bank holidays please phone Urgent Care Cambridgeshire on 111.

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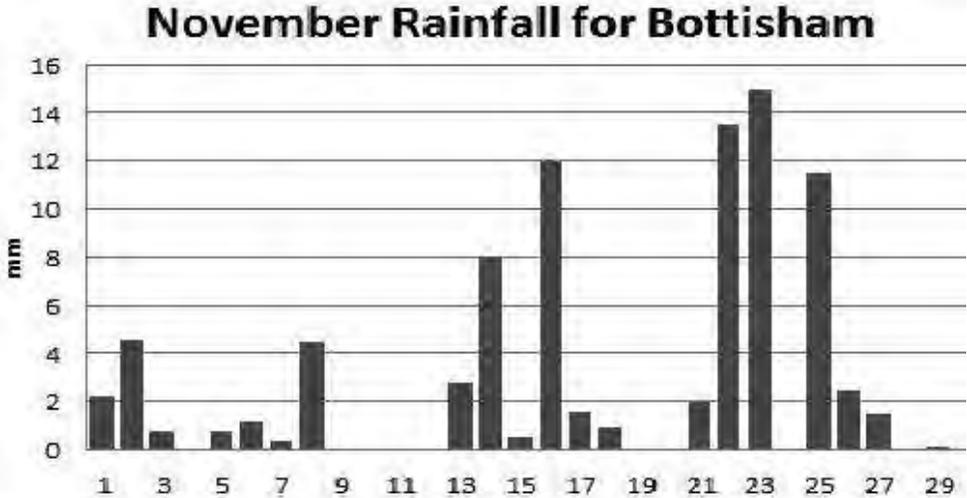
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The Rain Spot

November seemed a wet month but it was about average for our 20 years of 'rain watching'. It was 86.4mm with 10 dry days. More interesting is that we had 5 nights below zero compared with November 2013 when we had 11 nights of frost.
Terry Chapman



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