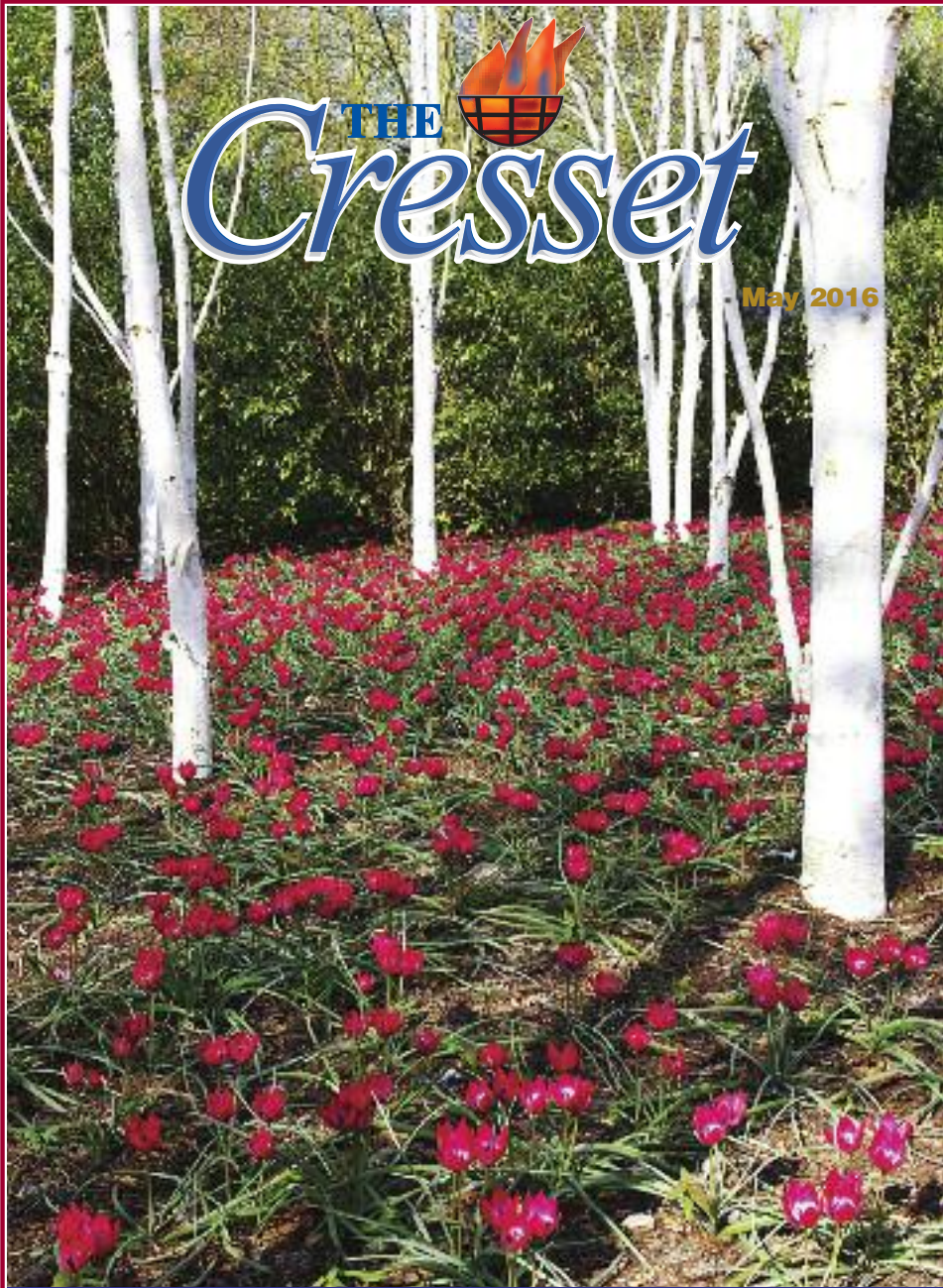




THE
Cresset

May 2016



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

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Welcome to the May edition of your Cresset

*May's a month of happy sounds,
The hum of buzzing bees,
The chirp of little baby birds
And the song of a gentle breeze.*



At one point I thought we were repeating last year and having our summer in March, but it has been a typical spring so far this year with sunshine and showers. The flowers are coming along, but as ever the weeds have had a kick start as well!

I did have some thought for the residents of Thriplow who were advertising their famous daffodil weekend on the 16th April. With the early mild weather we have had, I was deadheading long before that. I suspect the best for their show may have passed.

Being editor of The Cresset can be a double edged sword. On the one hand you can get great satisfaction from informing the village of what is going on and at the same time being well informed of everything that is happening in and around Bottisham. However when you get things wrong, (senior moment?), that can be the other side of a sharp blade.

Embarrassment comes when you get things wrong as I did last month in advising the date of a quiz at The Legion on Armed forces day weekend, in aid of The Royal British Legion Bottisham Branch. The double edge of that sword came with the number of people who picked me up on my mistake. It is however satisfying to know that so many people actually take the time to read it.

To make clear, the quiz, as it says in the 'What's on at The Legion' this month, is on the 25th JUNE, not May as it said last month. So if you noted the date, make sure it is the right one.

So duly encouraged, I will carry on to fill this page with useful or interesting info. At least that is what I will try to do.

John Overton has come up with the goods again this month in sending us our cover photograph of the white birch trees at Anglesey Abbey with a carpet of flowers which he is reliably informed are a variety of tulip called 'Little Beauty'.

John is fast becoming our "Photographer in Residence"! I am sure there are a few other budding Terence Donovan/David Baileys out there, so don't let him steal all the limelight.

We love to feature local and seasonal photographs on the cover now that we have them in full colour, so do send them in. Portrait framing is ideal with the detail in the centre. Send them to Bottishamcresset@gmail.com

Talking about regulars, we have three contributors who are stalwarts in coming forward every month with interesting and informative articles. Gerry Daish has expanded his repertoire of sports over the 3+ years he has been writing for us and now writes something for everyone in his well informed piece.

(continued on page 2.)

(continued from page 1.)

Tony Jolley keeps us up to date with lots of topical issues and inevitably raises some controversial points which clearly get some response. His welcome articles are all the better for it.

Then Paddy James gives us all we need to know about using public transport. Given the amount of travel she and Jimmy must undertake to be so well informed, it is surprising that we see her so regularly in the village at all.

A particular thank you to those three 'authors' and also to those many others who send in their reports each month. Keep them coming. It is what makes the magazine.

We will also soon have a regular update on the activities of the Cricket Club whose season gets off to a playing start on the 11th May. Always looking for new recruits, they would welcome support both on and off the pitch. So why not give that most traditional of summer sports a try or just go along to watch. If you like watching it on the telly, why not pop along and watch the real thing!

Enjoy your Cresset this month and let us know your thoughts.

Peter Walker

Copy deadline for next issue is 14 May.

Please send material to the editor at BottishamCresset@gmail.com
NB new email contact

Have you thought of advertising your business in *The Cresset*?
Email the Editor for details: BottishamCresset@gmail.com



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.

14th May (Black and White Ball)
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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J&J DRAKE

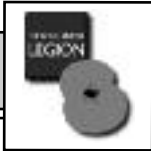


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The Royal British Legion Social Club

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

Member's draw, Meat draw and Play you cards right every Friday

OPENING TIMES Mon-Thurs 5-11pm : Fri 5-12pm : Sat-11.45-12pm : Sun 12.-11pm

Saturday 14th May SENIOR CITIZEN MEMBER'S NIGHT FISH & CHIP SUPPER

With live music from 'Panache'

Free entry for Senior Citizen members and spouse/partner

Please book your place and menu choice with a member of staff before Wednesday 11th May.

Saturday 28th May FAMILY FUN & DANCING WITH AJ'S DISCO

Entry on the door £2 per child

COMING UP IN JUNE

Saturday 4th June - Open Mic. Night 8 till late
Saturday 18th June - Elvis will be in the building!
25th June - Armed Forces Day - BIG QUIZ NIGHT

In aid of the Royal British Legion Branch Fund 7.30pm Start

Teams of up to 8 £3 per person

Book your Table with Kate at the club or to 811402 Nibbles available at the bar

Come and support your local Royal British Legion Branch

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31 Downing Close, Bottisham, Cambridge CB25 9BA
Tel. 01223 812063 www.britishlegion.org.uk/branches/bottisham



Addenbrooke's Charitable Trust (ACT)

A lottery with a difference

The Addenbrooke's Charity Lottery is open to people who are aged 16 and above and players have the chance to win up to £25,000, while at the same time helping to make a difference for patients at Addenbrooke's and the Rosie hospitals.



The regular weekly draw costs from just £1 per week and at least 50p for every £1 entry will help support patients across the hospitals.

Community support has been threaded throughout the hospital's history since it opened in 1766 thanks to a gift of over £4,500 left by Dr John Addenbrooke in his Will. Now, 250 years later with the addition of this new fundraising initiative, the tradition remains strong.

Money raised helps ACT fund cutting edge technology, additional specialist services, vital research and extra comforts for patients over and above what would be possible through NHS funding alone.

Recent examples include a new bespoke critical care response trolley to enable faster delivery of care; development of new approaches for treating lung cancers and a children's heart scanner, so sick young patients with complex problems can be scanned on the ward, to name just a few.

Bridget Tring, ACT's supporter development manager said: "We're thrilled to officially launch this new way of supporting patients in the hospital's 250th anniversary year. Weekly participation will help ACT to quickly and flexibly address areas of greatest and most urgent patient need. We are so grateful to all our supporters who help make this possible, and we hope to welcome many more through our exciting new lottery!"

To sign up for the Addenbrooke's Charity Lottery, please go to
www.act4addenbrookes.org.uk/lottery or for more information email
lottery@act4addenbrookes.org.uk or call 01223 217757.

Bottisham Local Charities Trustees

- 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.

For further information or an application form, e-mail the Clerk at coralhatley@gmail.com or telephone 811457

Copy deadline for the next issue is 14 May. Please send material to the editor at
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Services in Holy Trinity Bottisham in May

Sunday 1st	11am	Family Service with Baptism Revd Sue Giles
Wednesday 4th	8pm	Compline by Candlelight led by Dr Sarah Maxwell
Thursday 5th	7.30pm	Ascension Day service in St Cyriac's, Swaffham Prior
Sunday 8th	11am	Rogation Service in the churchyard (unless wet)
Sunday 15th		No service in Bottisham
Whit Sunday	9.30am	Benefice Communion in Quy
	11am	Benefice All-Age service in Swaffham Bulbeck
Sunday 22nd	9.30am	Benefice Communion in Swaffham Prior
Trinity Sunday	11am	Benefice All-Age service Revd Sue Giles
Sunday 29th	11am	Holy Communion Revd Sue Giles

Please note the varying times of the services. Benefice services are services shared by the five churches in the Anglesey Group (Bottisham, Lode, Quy, Swaffham Bulbeck and Swaffham Prior).

Cambridge Summer Music - Music in Quiet Places. Chamber music in Holy Trinity - a concert not to be missed. Section principals from the Orpheus Sinfonia will be playing two very popular chamber works, Dvorák's string quartet in F major, the 'American', and Mozart's Clarinet quintet.

The concert is on **Friday 20 May at 7.30pm**. Details of how to obtain tickets, £15, online are on a separate notice in this issue. They will also be available on the door. The Orpheus Sinfonia is a London-based orchestra of young professionals - more information about them is to be found on their website.



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Mozart Clarinet Quintet in A major

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www.cambridgesummermusic.com



RE:NEW Church Family

Hold on to what gives you life...

"During the bombing raids on World War II, thousands of children were orphaned and left to starve. The fortunate ones were rescued and placed in refugee camps where they received food and good care. But many of these children who had lost so much could not sleep at night. Finally, someone hit upon the idea of giving each child a piece of bread to hold at bedtime. Holding their bread, these children could finally sleep in peace. All through the night the bread reminded them, "Today I ate and I will eat again tomorrow." (Linn, *Sleeping with Bread*, p.1)

This excerpt is from a book that has really impacted my life. I can imagine the sense of peace and stillness in the camp on the night the children first had the opportunity to hold onto something life-giving rather than the fear, uncertainty, pain and sadness - things that do not give life.

The book centres around 2 questions:

1. For what moment today are you most grateful?
2. For what moment today are you least grateful?

I don't always immediately recognise the significance of words shared or events that occur. Sometimes it's only after taking time to reflect over my day that I'm reminded. I always thank God for the joyful moments in my day, and try to thank the people who have been involved too.

A friend of mine has been working in Calais with Syrian refugees; in a conversation about why they risk their lives hiding in or under lorries attempting to get to England, the refugees responded, 'We are dead already, we have lost everything, we are worthless'. I find this heartbreaking. I pray that these refugees would have the equivalent of a chunk of bread to hold through the night, something that gives them hope, something that gives them life.

I want to be involved in conversations and actions that cause people, on reflection, to be grateful for the moments we shared that day. What can you say today? What can you do to bring joy to someone, to make peace? Think over the last day or so. For what are you most grateful? Give thanks. For what are you least grateful? It's important to recognise these moments, learn from them; move forward holding on to what gives life.

At RENEW we share our good news stories, and our struggles when we gather for worship. You would be made very welcome at any of our services.

Thank you for reading! - Alan

RE:NEW SERVICES IN MAY 2016

We have activities for children and young people at all our morning services.

A crèche is available if required. *All are welcome.*

1st May	10.30am	RE:NEW The Bigger Picture. With Communion (Bottisham Primary School)
8th May	10.30am	RE:NEW Café style (at the School)
8th May	6.20pm	Traditional service. (Lode Chapel)
15th May	10.30am	RE:NEW The Bigger Picture (at the School)
22nd May	10.30am	RE:NEW The Bigger Picture (at the School)
22nd May	6.20pm	Traditional service. (Lode Chapel)
29th May	10.30am	RE:NEW The Bigger Picture (at the School)

For more information about any of the activities of RE:NEW please contact:

Rev. Alan Brand on C.812558. Email: alanbrand77@icloud.com
or Peter Wells on C.812388. Email: pandawells@cheerful.com

Or visit our website at www.re-new.me.uk



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Councillor's Brown and O'Dell recently attended a seminar concerning the Draft Transport Strategy for East Cambs. Cambridgeshire County Council has drafted a transport strategy to tackle the current and future transport pressure in and around the district and to help support growth in East Cambridgeshire. The purpose of this strategy is to provide a detailed policy framework and action plan of potential transport improvements for the area addressing current problems. Both were extremely disappointed that Bottisham did not seem to feature and no area in the south of our district seemed to be represented at all apart from the cycleway from Lode to Quy being mentioned. Although it was agreed that the new Soham railway station may alleviate traffic problems here slightly if fewer cars were trying to get into Cambridge. Our County Councillor Mathew Shuter agreed and said he has asked for this whole strategy to be looked at again. District Councillor Alan Sharp also agreed and has already spoken with officers at the District Council regarding this.

We have been notified by the County Council that they are proposing to change the speed limit from 40 to 30 on the Swaffham Road and Quy Road. This would cover the area at the Lode crossroads from Anglesey Abbey to the pedestrian crossing which all thought made sense.

Grass cutting season is upon us again. We have also had some work done in the cemetery ready for the spring. The footpath has been cleared of moss and the shed door has been replaced where the wood had gone rotten. Last year saw some work to the trees in the cemetery and now we are looking at those trees that need attention in the churchyard.

Regarding a new cemetery, Councillor Ogborn reported that the National Trust is chasing Lord and Lady Fairhaven who are the tenants to gain access to the site on Lode Road for environmental testing. This is proving to be a problem which we hope will be solved soon otherwise we will be too late for testing and this will put us behind by another year.

Parish Councils new website is now fully operational. We held a website preview event at the library which several people attended. Thank you to Margret Coles for kindly providing tea and cakes. Please do take a look at the website which can be found at www.bottishampc.co.uk

Finally a reminder that our Annual Meeting is being held on Thursday May 26th which everyone is welcome to attend. It would be lovely to see some new faces as well as the familiar ones! This is your opportunity to find out what is going on in the village and to speak to parish councillors.

PLANNING NOTES

16/00178/CLP 46 High Street, Certificate of lawfulness of proposed use for proposed loft conversion

16/00177/FUL Swynford Paddocks, London Road. Proposed 2 storey side extension and new timber feather edged boarding to existing dwelling. Approved By East Cambs District Council

16/00131/FUL 2 College Close. Single and two storey extensions to existing dwelling
Application Approved By East Cambs District Council

16/00119/FUL 35 Beechwood Avenue. Demolition of existing garage and erection of two storey side extension including integral garage. Application Approved By East Cambs District Council

16/00074/CLP 12 Cedar Walk. Certificate of lawfulness of proposed use for single storey side extension.



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ANNUAL MEETING OF BOTTISHAM PARISH COUNCIL

THURSDAY 26TH MAY 2016, 7.30PM

IN THE POPPY ROOM

At the ROYAL BRITISH LEGION SOCIAL CLUB

If you have any items which you wish to be put on the agenda or an organisation wishes to report on their activities during the past year please contact the clerk by Thursday 12th May.

Claire Fullwood – tel: 07914 219732 clerk@bottishampc.co.uk

ALL WELCOME

Bottisham & Lode Cricket Club

Hopefully by the time you read this the April showers will have passed and we will be ready for a summer season of cricket.

Last year was a mixed one for the club. We reached the semi-final of the Junior Cup, only to be beaten by the eventual champions from Wilburton. Our Saturday league form was not quite so consistent and unfortunately relegation from division 1 was confirmed with a couple of games remaining. Our midweek evening team finished as runners-up in division 2 of the Cambridge Business League for the second year running, which was a great reward for a lot of hard work.

However, the overwhelming success of the year was how the team came together, we had a few players depart at the start of the year, but the rest pulled together and it became one of the most enjoyable seasons that we have been a part of. Commitment to the cause was high, with some especially outstanding fielding performances and often bodies being put on the line to win matches! We also held various social events throughout the year and I am sure that the BBQ and water slide will be back out on a sunny Saturday evening in Lode this year.

We play all our home games at Lode (not many in May!) and it would be great to see some support over the summer.

Wednesday 11th May	Home vs Swaffhams
Saturday 14th May	Away vs Wimblington
Saturday 21st May	Away vs Fulbourn
Wednesday 25th May	Away vs Madingley Mulch
Saturday 28th May	Away vs Chippenham
Wednesday 1st June	Away vs NAPP

If you would like to know more information, are interested in playing or would like to get involved in any way, please contact me on 811109 or visit our website: www.bottishamlode.play-cricket.com

Martin Wilson, Secretary, Bottisham & Lode CC

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 Contact: Phillip Phone: 01223 563 626
 E-mail: info@peacock-archers.org
 Website: www.peacock-archers.org
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Bottisham & District Gardening Club

One of our favourite Speakers, Peter Jackson of Scotsdales, came to our March meeting to tell us about scented plants. His favourite subject is 'scent is the most important of our senses.'

Peter showed many superb slides of scented plants not only from his garden but around the world. Many Plantsmen are re-introducing scent into their plants, even tulips, clematis, violas and cosmos are having a stronger perfume.

Peter stressed the importance of dead-heading and feeding throughout the flowering season. He also suggested planting wallflowers, freesias, nicotianas and lilies in tubs to give a wonderful fragrance while sipping a glass of wine on the patio in the evenings. Members had many questions for Peter which he was very happy to answer.

14 May **The Plant Stall** will be held on the Triangle also with the Library Book Stall and WI Cake Stall.

15 June **Annual Outing to RHS Wisley**

16 July **The 40th Anniversary Garden Party** in Tricia McLaughlin's garden for present and past members

26 July **Clare College Garden evening visit**

Speaker for 24 May meeting is Roger Hance FRPS **Nature Through the Seasons**

Visitors are always welcome to the Poppy Room TRBLegion

Carolyn Bangs www.bottishamgardeningclub.co.uk

WEA News

Members who enjoyed the series of lectures by Wendy Barnes on the English invasion of the New World in the 17th Century, will be pleased to hear that Wendy will be returning to Bottisham for the Spring session in 2017. She will be letting us know what life was like in local villages at the time of the Domesday Book. Before that, in September, we will be welcoming back Laurence Staig who will be talking about Documentary Films.

For those members who would like to know more facts about what has been named "The Biggest Decision in our Lifetime", there is a WEA daytime meeting at Huntingdon Library on Wednesday 8th June entitled "The Big Debate, Better in or Out?". You can find more information at www.wea-cambridgeshire.co.uk or call Vera on 01480 216391

Gerry Cowley

Bottisham Summer Evening Tennis

Bottisham Tennis recommences 27 April and then every summer Wednesday evening from 6.30pm-8.0 pm (cost £3pp). We play mixed doubles of a variable standard on the school carpet courts, usually 3 sets of 30 mins each, swapping at each changeover.

Players have to book by email each week to ensure we get 8 or 12 players. Bookings taken on a first come first served basis. New players are welcome. Please contact Charlie Platten to book (charlie.platten@gmail.com).

NB. No bookings are taken through the School Sports Centre

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Anglesey Group Mothers' Union

We welcomed Elizabeth Caswell as guest speaker at the February Meeting. She gave us a most interesting talk about the 'Family Tree' of the Church in this country and how it came to have the shape it does. Looking at how the Church first began with Jesus and branched out with his disciples - forming the roots (foundation) of the Tree. We reflected on the differences between denominations over the years how this has changed and created branches of the Tree. Elizabeth shared with us one of her own personal experiences of the Tree changing shape. She trained as a Congregational Church minister, but in 1972 The Congregational Church of England and Wales united with the Presbyterian Church of England and became The United Reformed Church, resulting in Elizabeth becoming a URC minister. Elizabeth also gave us a short time to reflect on and discuss with fellow members our own personal Church Tree and the shape it has formed over the years.

In March we held our Spring Social afternoon and Bring and Buy Stall. Mothers' Union is Celebrating its' 140th Anniversary this year, and members used their creative skills to make bunting and paper-chains in preparation for forthcoming events. These were used to decorate St. James' Church, Lode for the Deanery Lady Day Service on Monday 4th April. Later in the year we will be using them for our Celebration Tea in August and Deanery Coffee morning in October. A total sum of £60 was raised on the Bring and Buy Stall.

Our meetings take place on the third Thursday of the month at 2.30pm in Lode Chapel.

Wendy Lovell is our guest speaker on 19th May, and she will be speaking to us about 'A Day in London'. You are most welcome to come along and join us.

Ann Langran

East Anglian Air Ambulance

East Anglian Air Ambulance (EAAA) features in a new TV documentary programme on SKY 1 - 'Air Ambulance ER', the first broadcast of which was on Monday 11th April at 9:00 pm. Produced by Tern TV, this astonishing six-episode documentary captures the incredible lifesaving work which our doctors, paramedics and pilots achieve every day, bringing pre-hospital emergency medical treatment to patients across East Anglia.



Jo Dew, Director of Fundraising said: "Air Ambulance ER will give our generous supporters, the chance to see what we do and how we turn their donations into lifesaving missions."

Tern TV have also said the following about the documentary series - "With unprecedented access to Air Ambulance teams from Cambridgeshire to Cumbria this astonishing documentary series tells the stories of the men and women who save lives daily as they take A&E to the roadside. With camera rigs inside the helicopters, at base and on the ground we witness every minute of the action as the emergency unfolds."

To all those who currently support EAAA, a huge 'thank you' - please continue to support our very important work. If anyone has any fundraising event in mind and you would like to support EAAA, please let us know.

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Michael White

www.cambridgeshirechildrenscentres.org.uk
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 (ages 0 - 5)
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Stay and Play (£2 per family)
 Fun session for families and children under 5.
 Bottisham Children's Centre: Mondays 9.30-11.30am
 Soham Children's Centre: Tuesdays 9.15-11.15am
 Bowwell Sports Centre: Thursdays 9.30-11.30am

Little Movers (Free)
 Chit and play session for families and children (ages 1 - 2)
 Soham Children's Centre: Wednesdays 2-3pm
 Bottisham Children's Centre: Wednesdays 12.30-2pm

NHS Well Baby Clinic (Free)
 Baby weighing and advice from NHS professionals.
 Mandeville Hall: 2nd and 4th Tuesday of month 12.30-2pm
 Bottisham Children's Centre: 1st and 3rd Tuesday 12.30-2pm
 Soham Children's Centre: Every Thursday, 1.30-3pm.

To see our full timetable or get more information
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Bottisham Community Library Association

The closure of libraries continues not here in Cambridgeshire I'm pleased to say - 350 have been closed by Councils in the last 6 years. In Herne Hill there has been a demonstration sleep in to protest at the closure of their Carnegie Library gifted by the philanthropist Andrew Carnegie in 1906. Librarians are steadily losing their jobs and much more reliance is being given to volunteers. Not a job with many or any career prospects.

Alan Titchmarsh is a man after my own heart. He wrote recently that try as he might he can't bring himself to say farewell to his beloved books. He has over 5000 of them and they really need to be thinned out and he will one day apply the principle of BIBO one book in and one book out. I have recently taken books I have read down to the Library and then bought more from the sales trolley! He says his friends will always be left on the shelf.

Perhaps you are made of sterner stuff and would be happy to donate any good quality books or DVD's to be either placed on the shelves for borrowing or for our next sale. Please bring them to the Library at one of our sessions.

We are holding our next Triangle Book Sale on Saturday 14th May together with the Gardening Club Plant stall and the WI Cake Stall. Please support us.

Sylvia Overton

Copy deadline for next issue is 14 May.

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

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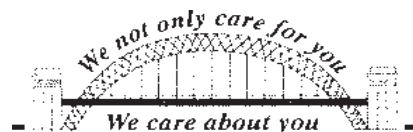
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- Saturday 14 May:** 1.00pm to 4pm - Wandlebury Country Park. CB22 3AE. **Beginners Tree Identification** - Acquire the basic skills of tree identification and put skills to the test with a tree trail. Booking essential. Adults only. £6 (members £5)
- Sunday 15 May:** 2.30pm to 5.30pm - Hinxton. CB10 1RD. **Hinxton Watermill Open Day** - Volunteer guides on hand to show you round our working watermill. Adults £3, children £1. Members free. No need to book.
- Sunday 15 May:** 2.00pm to 4.00pm - Bourn. CB23 2SU.
Bourn Mill Open Day - Come and see inside one of the oldest mills in the country. Adults £3, children £1. Members free. No need to book.
- Tuesday 17 May:** 7.30pm - Wandlebury Country Park. CB22 3AE. **History of Wandlebury Talk - Find out about Wandlebury's fascinating history at this free talk.** Booking essential.
- Saturday 21 May:** 8.30pm - Wandlebury Country Park. CB22 3AE. **Amphibian Evening:** Learn about our resident amphibians. Aimed at adults and accompanied teenagers. Free event, donations appreciated. Booking essential.
- Tuesday 31 May:** 10.00am to 12.00noon - Wandlebury Country Park. CB22 3AE. **Half term event for accompanied children: Muddy Fingers.** Have fun building dens and stick towers. £8 (members £6). Booking essential.
- Wednesday 1 June:** 10.00am to 12.00noon - Wandlebury Country Park. CB22 3AE. **Half term event for accompanied children: Beginners orienteering.** Learn to navigate your way round specific routes using a map and compass.

As always, bookings can be made by emailing: bookings@cambridgeppf.org and further information about all our events can be found on www.cambridgeppf.org

JANET CARLTON

John, Wendy, Anita and Roland would like to thank everyone for their cards and kind thoughts on the recent untimely and sad loss of Janet. It was a great comfort that so many people were able to join us at the service held in tribute to her life. We appreciate the many donations received for Alzheimer's research UK. In her memory.

We would also like to thank the staff of Hilton Park, particularly the Queen's Unit, for the wonderful care and kindness shown to Janet in her final weeks.



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NEWS RELEASE



May Bulletin

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If you know someone who you think might benefit from a free visit from fire service staff, call 0800 917 99 94. You can also contact us through our website, www.cambsfire.gov.uk where you find information about keeping vulnerable people safe from fire. Remember – Fire can kill!

And don't forget to test your smoke alarm - and that of elderly relatives – by pressing the 'test' button on the device. If a smoke detector 'peeps', other than whilst being tested, it is a sure sign that the battery requires replacement. Please ask a friend if you are unable to do this.

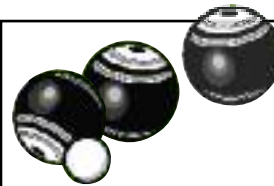
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Copy deadline for next issue is 14 May.

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Thoughts of a Sports Nut

There was a local media frenzy in April when we enjoyed a sporting sensation on our doorstep! Our very own Amie Fullwood made history by becoming the first Bottisham footballer to play in a final at Wembley! Amie was a member of the Bottisham Village College's Under-13 Girls' team representing Cambridge United in the final of the Kinder+Sport Football League Girls Cup. The final was played on 3rd April (the day of the Johnson Paint Trophy Final) and the Bottisham girls graced the hallowed turf with their effort and determination, only to be pipped 1-0 by a strong Shrewsbury Town side. But they enjoyed their memorable day at the home of football and earned the public admiration of their PE teacher Natalie Shenton, who declared to the assembled paparazzi, "The girls have been absolutely incredible!" Well done Amie!

Another local(ish) girl, Victoria Pendleton, originally from Mildenhall, also hit the headlines recently. The former Olympic and World champion track cyclist, who has transformed herself into a professional jockey, finished an impressive fifth in the St James's Place Foxhunter Chase at the Cheltenham Festival in March and offered this priceless quote when interviewed immediately afterwards "Pacha Du Polder is a really smart horse, he jumps beautifully, you can rely on him. Without him I wouldn't have been able to make it"! Conjures up quite a picture, doesn't it?!

A little further afield, the county of Yorkshire seems to have spawned a lot of success in various sporting fields this year. Freshest in our minds, of course, is Danny Willett's remarkable win in the Masters at Augusta after defending champion Jordan Spieth 'choked', dropping six shots in three holes in the final round. Willett was only two years old when Nick Faldo became the last Englishman to don the famous green jacket in 1996. (The USA has notched up 12 winners in that time!)

Only a week earlier, Sheffield boy Joe Root's heroics with both bat and ball almost brought a World Cup home in the Twenty20 Final against West Indies in Kolkata, before Carlos Brathwaite's dramatic four sixes in the final over snatched the title from the vastly improved England side. Incidentally, would anyone bet against star-studded Yorkshire winning a third County Championship in a row in the new season?

Leicester City's Jamie Vardy also happens to be from Sheffield. What a season he is having at both club and international level! Not only has he broken the Premier League record for scoring in consecutive matches (11), and looking favourite to pick up a Premier League winners medal, he has established himself in the England team just in time for the European Championship in June. The Bottisham boys watched him celebrate with a goal of the highest quality in the 3-2 friendly victory over Germany in Berlin in late March.

And Otley born cyclist Lizzie Armitstead has been on fire this year with victories in the Strade Bianche and the Trofeo Binda - both one-day classics in the new women's UCI World Tour - followed by a magnificent sprint finish in the Women's Tour of Flanders to win by little more than a tyre-width! She now sits proudly atop the World Tour standings and looks set fair for the three-day Tour de Yorkshire which is scheduled to finish in Scarborough on 1st May just as this Cresset lands on your doormats.

Let's move to the west now, but - staying with cycling - indestructible Welshman Geraint Thomas pedalled into the very highest echelon of his sport by winning his second stage race

(Sports Nut continued on page 45.)

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(Sports Nut continued.)

this year; and not just any old stage race either! He saw off a determined challenge from the famous Spanish 'contaminated meat' eater, Alberto Contador, to take the prestigious Paris-Nice title by four seconds over seven days of racing. This is the fourth Team Sky victory in five years in this event and is likely to make Thomas a marked man in 'Le Tour' in July.

Just before going to press we were hit for six by the sad news that diminutive James Taylor, the brilliant up-and-coming 26 year old Notts and England batsman, has been forced to retire with immediate effect, having been diagnosed with Arrhythmogenic Right Ventricular Cardiomyopathy (ARVC) – the condition which almost cost footballer Fabrice Muamba his life four years ago. As he contemplates life without participation in sport, we are reminded that life and health can be fragile, even for elite performers, and there are those whose livelihood is taken from them in a more dramatic way. Fortunately Nick Blackwell, who suffered a bleed on his skull in losing his British Middleweight title to Chris Eubank Junior, is well on his way to recovery after spending several days in an induced coma. But two Belgian cyclists were not so lucky in March... first Antoine Demoitie died in hospital in Northern France after being hit by a motorcycle during a race; then Daan Myngheer suffered a fatal heart attack during the Criterium International in Corsica.

BUT, please don't listen to the 'ban it' brigade, whichever sport happens to be 'punchbag' of the moment. It would be such a shame to sanitise physical competition to the point of, er, pointlessness, wouldn't it? There is no such thing as a completely risk-free competitive environment. So just take care of yourselves out there, people.

TTFN Gerry Daish

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Rights of Way and Public Open Spaces!

But firstly I have to express my deep disappointment that a respected reader of the Cresset has felt it proper to discredit the very serious points raised in my April JOW article a propos society's romance with Smart Phones. In fact since the piece was written much has been discussed in the media concerning the dangerous effects of mobile phone dependency and I also understand that one US state has proposed jailing pedestrians who are glued to phones on the basis that their use "while you walk is so moronic it should be a crime." Watch out! Oh too late - walked into the path of a car! But seriously, the problem areas singled out in the article were not of my making but the thoughts of psychologists specialising in this field. And so, with the presentation of all these danger signals I find it astonishing that anyone would want to slur the implications highlighted in the article by referring to the piece as 'regurgitated diatribe'. But then I ask, is this retort in actuality an attempt to offer an alternative point of view? I'll leave you to be the judge...

As many long standing residents of Bottisham will know; for decades well, since the late 1930s actually, villagers have used the College Playing Fields for various recreational pursuits and have crossed the College Playing Fields to access different parts of the village. Rights of community access were established many years ago and were given to the village by the then Local Authority to compensate for the loss of the village's Recreation Ground which, after the war, was turned into housing. What's more, over time 'public rights of way' have also come into existence by way of 'presumed dedication'. Presumed dedication refers to a long-established principle that long use by the public without challenge can constitute evidence that the landowner (was Local Authority) intended the area to be used as a public right of way.

Now, we've heard about the expansion proposals by the Village College to increase its intake due to population growth in the school's catchment area and in particular Bottisham itself. Whilst this is a necessary and welcome move will these plans also seek to remove the historical access rights we as a village have acquired to and across the Playing Fields? Remember that the land on which the College is built was donated to the County Council by local landowners for use as a Community establishment providing 'cradle to grave' education and recreational pursuits. I've heard it said that a cherished community amenity was 'stolen' from the village when the DfE granted Academy status. An emotional subject for some as we know but whether you support this perception or not; is it important do you think to ask that the Village College authorities allow these acquired rights to continue unhindered?

You may also have read in the editorial of the March Cresset that some residents are publicly expressing their opposition to a pledge made in recent political electioneering posturing that a 'Public Open Space' (POS) near to them be used as a village play area for pre-school children. Whether you agree or not with their objection or with the particular location; with so many new families moving into the village the call for such a vital amenity is surely overriding. After all a Public Open Space is just that, 'Public' – and not just for the sole use of one discreet neighbourhood. So why are we where we are and why is this particular POS being considered by the District Council?

(Jolley Old World continued on page 50.)

(Jolley Old World continued.)

I make no apologies in repeating that unusually, due to historical factors (some of which are referred to here), Bottisham has no Parish land on which to provide these amenities despite numerous and long attempts to find and to persuade local benefactors. For many decades the village has relied on the College Playing Fields, which alas are now out of Local Authority control, to provide such amenities. A 'Play Audit' carried out in this village around four years ago by East Cambs DC identified that, as a whole, Bottisham village is deficient in green open space and play areas by just under 30 acres. Moreover, the 'Bottisham Vision' questionnaire, also carried out by ECDC around the same time, gave all households the opportunity to state their views and aspirations concerning the future of this village. High on the list along with speeding concerns was a lack of suitable play areas for pre-school children. Thus with an increasing village population, notably young families, the District and Parish Councils incontestably have a duty of care to jointly attempt to rectify this woeful situation by considering every opportunity. But not only this, ECDC panning documents indicate that a planning condition was placed on the development to provide a play area with play equipment. The question now is whether this condition is still legally binding on the current land owner - the District Council...

No doubt in the weeks and months to come both matters will be given thoughtful debate before some difficult decisions are made.

TJ

*"There is only one way to avoid criticism:
do nothing, say nothing, be nothing." ARISTOTLE*

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Bottisham Medical Practice Patients' Group

Dispensary: Thank you to the patients who heeded the "Get your repeat prescription in early for Easter" advice. This made the dispensary service run much more smoothly during this busy period.

AGM and Talk: The Patients' group AGM will have taken place on 28th April with a talk on supporting carers. More details in next month's magazine.

Practice notice board: The new theme on the practice notice board this time is Hay fever and the time of year. If you visit the waiting room, there is a lot of useful information to read.

Patients' Group: The Patients' Group would be delighted to hear from you – please see the notice board in the waiting room for details, speak to the receptionist or look at the practice's website for further information www.mysurgerywebsite.co.uk/ppg.aspx?p=D81055 and see what your Patients' Group has achieved.

Walks for Health: The next walks with our accredited walk leader Steve Gilson start at 11.00 am from the surgery car park on, 13th and 25th May, 10th and 22nd June, 8th and 20th July. Anglesey Abbey walks continue on Thursdays at 10am from the reception area.

Next Meeting: Patients' Group will meet on 26th May at 6.30pm at the surgery. Come along to learn more about the Patient Group or if you would like to join us.

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To the Editor

I have just found a copy of the July 1988 Cresset, packing out a photo frame. It was an interesting find.

Those days it was copied on a Gestetner or Roneo machine and put together by hand by a group of volunteers.

Reading the PC Clerk's recent reports, here's a couple of interesting items in July 1988:-

"The search for a site to locate a children's play area is hotting up" (2016 – must be volcanic heat by now)!

"We are now looking again at the proposal to have a bus shelter in Lode Road" (2016 – still waiting, unless the one at Lode crossroad is it?)

Also:-

The Church Fete was held in the Primary School field and as well as usual stalls, teas and side shows, there was a Police Dog Handler, Fire Engine, Rose Show, Handbells, Judo demonstration, Fortune Teller, Horse Rides, Rifle Range, Childrens' sports, Dwile Twirling contest, Wicken Coronation Band and 'Beat the Goalie' (Guest from Cambridge United). Plenty to see/do and a good afternoon out.

Tony Newman gave a farming report. Ted Norton wrote a page of reminiscences including Mr. Tebitt a farmer of Bendysh who had a swarm of bees land on his bottom while bending over and it seems Ted's dad came to the rescue!

Maureen Rogers made a W.I. table cover on which she had embroidered all the Members' signatures. (Do they still have it?)

The Leisure in Retirement Club was going strong and had 93 members on a day trip to Stowmarket gardens/fishponds and tea.

Ken York wrote the report on the latest lecture at the Gardening Club and George Mitchell had a page of info and tips as to what/when to plant seeds etc.

Christopher Armstrong was our Vicar and filled 4(!) pages with news from around his 5 parishes plus his usual Christian message.

Hilda Buchanan was PC Chairman (Yes, that's how her position was described in those pre-pc days!) and she is still serving the Parish. Mel Walden was Parish Clerk and I remember he was red hot ensuring hedges didn't overhang and obstruct the pavements. Offenders were soon advised to prune back hard. Cresset Editor was Hugh Rogers, Joan Denison- Treasurer and Stewart Bell Advertising Manager.

The magazine is full of interest and some of the advertisers are still with you!

Thought you might find this interesting.

Cheers – Alf Laister.

Dear Sir,

I feel compelled to take issue with Nick Martin's letter in last month's Cresset. With the exception of those writing reports for local organisations, there are only three people who take the time to contribute articles for the magazine. We may not always agree with, or be interested in what they say, but should always defend their right to say it. If the Jolley Old World has such a detrimental effect on Mr Martin's porridge he should turn the page, or better still, write something more illuminating.

Margret Coles

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Bottisham WI

Our March meeting is our Annual Meeting the only meeting of the year when we sing Jerusalem and where we heard about all we did last year – the Centenary of the WI Organisation. It is surprising how much we do. Interesting speakers, outings (usually on rainy days), craft meetings, darts matches and involvement with local events. Sally Kingman the Cambridge Federation Chairman said that one of the highlights of last year for her was the Celebration Centenary tea held at Bottisham Hall – a beautiful setting with an excellent tea served on genuine Bone China.

Our speaker was Vanessa Mann who collects old postcards, not as you would imagine for the pictures (although she did have a few albums with collections of female entertainers) but for the messages on the reverse. She becomes an amateur detective and genealogist by researching through the names of the recipient and sender and tracing the families. She has only been doing this for a few years and is finding that it becomes an obsessive hobby. She has managed to meet up with a few descendants who are so pleased to actually be able to be in touch with the past. Tweets and texts last only a moment and it is pleasing that postcards survive. A most interesting talk.

Our next meeting is **Tuesday 17th May** with Ruth Pym speaking on “**Fine Cell Work - Embroidery in Prison**” at 7.30pm in the Lecture Room at Bottisham Village College. *Do please come as a visitor - this sounds an interesting subject.*

Sylvia Overton

Public Transport Matters

Silicon Valley Express? Oxbridge Express? The names vary in the newspapers but apparently Lord Adonis, the infrastructure tsar, has made the 67 mile corridor between Oxford and Cambridge his next priority. One study is due to be published this autumn but another not until later next year. The region is considered to have huge potential as regards employment but the transport links are lacking. A letter in The Times points out that the link between the two universities was probably one of the reasons why Bletchley Park was chosen for the code-breaking base in the Second World War.

Lucy Frazer has visited Kennett Station to see the improvements to the platforms and waiting rooms there and a major feasibility study has been commissioned to bring a station for Soham a step closer. This has been done by Cambs. County Council and East Cambs. District Council and will involve Network Rail. It is needed to coincide with housing growth in the area. Work on the Cambridge North Station has already started – it will link the busway and other routes and stop people having to drive into Cambridge. The station at Addenbrooke's is also named in Network Rail's Anglia route study and things are looking positive. Abellio Greater Anglia has completed work to improve the first wave of four-carriage electric trains that operate on the Cambridge to Liverpool Street service. This is part of an additional £3.5m announced last December to cover fleet reliability, better cleaning and better presentation standards for trains and stations. Rail Minister, Claire Perry, recently visited Cambridge station to launch the Seft - South East Flexible Ticketing

(Public Transport Matters continued on page 56.)

(Public Transport Matters continued.)

- smart card for rail season tickets on the Cambridge to London Liverpool St. route. It could be extended to other parts of the Abellio network. The West Anglia Taskforce has had a meeting with George Osborne at Downing St. to highlight the demand for 2 new rail tracks between London and Hertfordshire. The improvement would support growth across London, Stansted Airport and Cambridge and link towards Crossrail 2.

The local Cambridge Liberal Democrats say that we need their detailed transport strategy as debate continues how best to implement the £500m City Deal to improve local infrastructure. It should cover Greater Cambridge with buses the mainstream choice in both urban and rural areas. A peak-hour congestion charge is under consideration to cut commuter parking, congestion and air pollution.

New 140 mph Japanese trains will mean a faster journey to Edinburgh within the next three years under a contract given to Hitachi. However, Christian Wolmar, the railway historian said this deal was not the most cost-effective way of acquiring new trains - an expensive train under a very complicated contract, he said - carriages should be leased directly from a rolling stock company.

Regarding travel in Scotland - VisitScotland, Scotrail and Caledonian MacBrayne ferries have linked to launch a cut-price travel pass. The Spirit of Scotland Travelpass - see scotrail.co.uk, call 0344 8110141 or buy a pass from a ticket office.

The migrant crisis has hit Eurostar as they have had to compensate travellers for delays. The situation has now improved due to fences being erected. Profits are down from £55m to £34m. Eurostar's high-speed plans now include Bordeaux in 4 hours from London as there is to be a new high-speed line to the city next year. Services to Amsterdam start from 2017 and services to Marseilles started last year. Don't forget seat61.com when planning journeys.

Fancy the Trans-Siberian railway? - 5625 miles from Moscow to Beijing - £532 through realrussia.co.uk for second-class sleeper tickets. Easyjet flies to Moscow from £103. Flyuia.com flies from Beijing to Heathrow from £250.

Iconic rail stations are being put up for sale by cash-strapped Network Rail - London Paddington, Euston and Waterloo and Birmingham New Street. Car parks, arches, depots, freight yards could also be for sale. The sale of landmark and much-loved old stations could prove politically sensitive. George Osborne has given backing to Crossrail 2 and High Speed 3 crossing the North of England but when will they ever be completed?

Success - National Express leaflets are now available in Newmarket library as David the volunteer is now back and sourcing info. The information point in the Grafton Centre is looking into it and has the National Express contact details. Yet another National Express customer services lady has promised me progress on sorting out the lack of info. at Newmarket High St. bus shelter.

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Happy travelling! - Paddy James

Copy deadline for next issue is 14 May.

*Please send material to the editor at
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