

February 2017



THE 
Cresset

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



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February already!

Where does the time go? It was like yesterday we were putting the Christmas tree up and getting set for all that season of joy. Bit like after you set off a firework. Woosh, sparkle and bang!! Then dark, quiet and miserable. But hey! There is so much to look forward to.



Valentine's day is that traditional day when we all express our feelings for the one we love. It must be a blessing for those who don't like showing their emotions that they only have to show it once a year! Others of us who wear our hearts on our sleeves find it is just another day! Sorry I really must stop laughing. The rolled up newspaper on the back of my head is starting to hurt!

After the New year comes the annual self flagellation which is resolution time. Being good and dieting seem to be popular, so I am told. But it is February, so the promises may have started to fade.

If you are going to have a clear out in preparation for Spring cleaning, there is a good opportunity to de-clutter as the Bowling Club are once again having their annual Jumble sale at the Legion. It is one of their main fund raisers for the year so you would be doing them and yourself a favour if you were to take all those bits along on Saturday morning. Then you can buy back other people's bits to fill up the space!

Speaking of spring cleaning, Lode Parish council are organising a litter pick including coming up Lode Road. They have asked for Bottisham to also be involved. You will see the details in our PC report and if you could spare an hour or so on Sunday 5th Feb 2-4pm, you would be welcome to help cover our bit of the road.

This month in the Cresset I am delighted to see another report from the governors at the Primary School. Lots going on at the school and music and singing in particular having some great success. While the primary school is interviewing for a new head, the BVC has appointed Mrs. Jenny Rankine to take over as principal from Mrs. Evans who has moved up to head up the new Anglian Gateway Teaching School Alliance. With a large injection of funding we will be seeing quite a lot of development at the college.

Gerry Daish told me that the article he sent this month is the 50th one he has written. While thanking him for his support, it reminded me that I have been editing The Cresset for about 10 years, so have done a few myself. Anybody out there like to have a go?

We do appreciate the contributions that our regulars make, whether that is reports from all the organisations in the village, the articles written by others every month, or the information disseminated from Church services, to travel information. All are gratefully received, as is the support we get from all our advertisers. It is their advertising that helps cover the not insignificant cost of producing your monthly Cresset. Without it the magazine would not survive.

(continued on page 2.)

(continued from page 1.)

Different subject now. I have been reading up on the reports on the architectural surveys that were done before the Tunbridge lane developments. Both the current one at De Havilland Orchard and also the one done before Rowley Gardens was developed.

At Rowley Gardens, Roman coins, mosaics and ceramics gave evidence of more than one rural, possibly agricultural building there and what must have been quite a large development. Evidence of possibly a corn dryer or malting oven and of destruction by fire in around the 3rd century. More recently a team of archaeologists researching at the De Havilland orchard (Crystal structures) site, uncovered three high-status Roman buildings, which formed part of a rural villa complex dating from between around 200 to 400 AD. Some of the finds there are of quite 'high end' quality.

It is, I think, a good thing that all new developments require to do a ground survey as evidence of earlier habitation as it is soon lost under new groundworks and foundation ditches. Preserving the past is one thing, but at least recording its evidence before covering it up means we have our history recorded for ever.

Have a good February and keep warm.

Bottisham WI

We held our December Christmas meeting at Queens Court. This was a very informal meeting where we listened to Suzie Beatty, a Hospital Chaplain from Addenbrookes, accompanied on the keyboard by Paul. She sang several songs from the Shows most especially many George Gershwin favourites. She entertained us well before rushing to another engagement at Ely.

We had a Christmas Quiz while we enjoyed seasonal refreshments provided on a "bring and share" system. After coffee we were led in singing carols by Miriam Ogborn on the piano.

Proceeds from our raffle were given to Queens Court for their Minibus Fund.

Members had brought gifts of biscuits, chocolates, etc to be put into hampers by the parishioners of Cambridge City Churches for those in need as advised by Social Services, Schools and Doctors.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 21st February when Amanda Sutherland will give a talk entitled "A Creative Journey". Visitors and new members are very welcome to come and join us in our 99th year.

Sylvia Overton



Copy deadline for next issue is 14 February.

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

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NEW YEAR, NEW BROOM! HAVE A NEW YEAR CLEAR OUT!

BOTTISHAM BOWLING CLUB

Are holding their annual

Jumble Sale

SATURDAY 4TH FEBRUARY

At The Royal British Social Legion Club

Doors open 2.00pm - entry 50p

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The Anglesey Group Mothers' Union

On November 17th Ros Wright gave a very interesting talk on 'Why do we do that? - Christmas customs.' It was amazing to find so much that we did not know about Christmas. On December 8th we all enjoyed our Christmas Lunch with home-made food and attractive table decorations. We said a prayer for members of the Mothers' Union world-wide. We had a Christmas quiz followed by mince pies. Our raffle made £40.

On January 19th we have a Holy Communion Service led by Revd. Liz Caswell and on February 16th Michael Snodgrass is speaking to us about Red2Green 'Crafty Sow and Sew Project.'

Our meetings usually take place on the third Thursday of each month in Lode Chapel at 2.30pm. Copies of our 2017 programme are available in the five churches within the Anglesey benefice. You are most welcome to come along and join us .

Jill Jenyns

Bottisham Airfield Museum Update

Bottisham Airfield museum needs your help both with our consultation regarding the future of the museum and we need volunteers to help out at the museum.



We are currently talking to the Heritage Lottery Fund regarding a substantial grant to restore the original WW2 buildings (the old smokery buildings). The buildings need a lot of money spending on them but it is vital that this last remaining part of our local history is preserved. We need to persuade the Heritage Lottery Fund that there is a need for such an undertaking. We are therefore conducting a consultation exercise where everyone can have their say on the future of the museum and the uses of the buildings.

The trustees are exploring a number of avenues including creating an education space that would benefit the teaching of WW2 and local history in schools, we are also looking at various other uses for the site in terms of heritage and community use such as making it a heritage hub where a number of heritage style activities can take place.

So please have your say and the survey can be found online at:-
www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/bottishamairfieldmuseum

If you can't get online then please contact me on 07791 971799 and I can get a written copy of the survey to you.

The museum also needs more volunteers. We will be opening on a regular basis to the public - initially on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month and will need volunteers to help man the museum and help with the conservation and presentation of artefacts, serve teas and coffees etc. So if you can spare a few hours then please get in touch on 07791 971799 or at jasonwebb@bottishamairfieldmuseum.org.uk

Following the success of the Christmas film event we will have regular film nights with fish & chips at the museum. The first of these will be the film 'Memphis Belle' on Friday 17th February at 7pm. Cost to include fish and chips will be £7 - please email me at:-

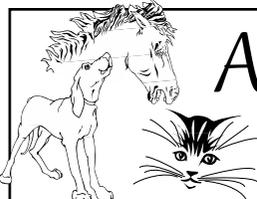
jasonwebb@bottishamairfieldmuseum.org.uk to book a ticket or phone on 07791 971799.

Jason Webb - Chairman of the Trustees

Services in Holy Trinity Bottisham in February

Wednesday 1st	8pm	Compline by Candlelight <i>Led by Dr Sarah Maxwell</i>
Sunday 5th	11am	Morning Prayer <i>Mike Proctor</i>
Sunday 12th		No service in Bottisham
	10am	Benefice Communion in Lode
Sunday 19th	8am	Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) <i>Revd Lawrie Marsh</i>
	11am	Holy Communion <i>Revd Sue Giles</i>
Sunday 26th		No service in Bottisham
	8am	Holy Communion in Swaffham Prior
	10am	Benefice All-Age Service in Quy

Benefice services are services shared by the five churches in the Anglesey Group (Bottisham, Lode, Quy, Swaffham Bulbeck and Swaffham Prior). Details of these services can also be found on the Bottisham pages of the Anglesey website (<http://angleseygroupparishes.co.uk> or simply put 'Holy Trinity Bottisham' into Google). Any late changes in times or places of services will be given there, along with details of any funerals or weddings in Holy Trinity.



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Sue the Vic. WRITES

Endings and beginnings are complicated and often interwoven - these threads may be particularly clear as a new year starts; a marker in the flow of time. Sometimes it is good to be able to draw a line under a year, which may have been painful or challenging. I took a wedding on New Year's Eve for a couple who wanted to be able to mark a transition from a difficult time for their family to a new and hopeful beginning as they start their married life together.

For some reading this letter, the last year may have brought heartache that can never be left behind, yet somehow they have to turn to the coming year to make the most of the precious time that remains for them. For some, this year brings exciting possibilities and new opportunities that draw them on. New beginnings come with a mixture of feelings.

New beginnings are very much a part of our Christian life too. At every service we have the opportunity to reflect on the actions we regret and the poor choices we have made and to bring them to God.

Some would say Christians are overly concerned with sin and wrongdoing but those who practice this discipline know that what is most important is not our mistakes but God's forgiveness and the promise of a new start that we have in Christ. There is an amazing freedom that comes from letting go of what has been done, because it can't be undone and moving on to a new day with new opportunities to learn and grow. Forgiveness like the New Year enables a change of direction, a radical break with the past and the opportunity to try the same things again with renewed energy and commitment and with God's grace and help.

It is not just individuals who need mechanisms for allowing change and new beginnings. Communities and countries across the world also need the same opportunities but collective new beginnings are more complex still.

As we grow into this New Year we hope and pray not simply for our own fresh start but for a new beginning for the people of Syria and the Yemen and many other communities. A beginning that will allow some healing and the possibility of peace and hope for a better future.

Litter Pick Day

Sunday 5th February from 2-4pm.

This is a request from the village of Lode with Longmeadow to our neighbours to help with this important annual clear up. We are hoping to not only do our own village, but we also do the roads to Bottisham, Quy and Swaffham Bulbeck. We are rather hoping that anyone who feels this is important would do a section of road and meet us half way. It is important that no children help and that high Vis jackets are worn and great care is taken not to step out into the road in case there is a cyclist going past. Let us know if you can do any part, even if the date we have chosen is not convenient and you prefer to do another time. *Thank you*

Fran Platten (Lode Parish Council) - 01223 813 016



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Just a crutch?

I remember, during my first week at university, hearing one of my friends dismiss the Christian faith as, 'just a crutch'. The comment wasn't aimed at me directly, but I was offended, hurt and angered by her words. As an 18 year old man with his first real taste of freedom and independence, learning to fend for himself in the world, the last thing I was prepared to admit was being in need of a 'crutch'.

Do you ever think back to experiences or conversations you've had and wish you'd had more time to consider your response? Or wonder how you'd react if you were having the same experience or conversation knowing what you know now, however many years later?

My response to the next person who claims my faith is a crutch will be, "What does a crutch do?"... "Have you never needed or do you not expect to ever need the help of a crutch?"

I am more than happy to hold my hand up and my head high to the reality that my Christian faith is at times a crutch for me to lean on, helping me to stand and continue to move forward when I am not strong enough in myself.

I would also assert, as does adventurer Bear Grylls in the first Alpha Film Series Video (www.youtube.com/watch?v=CmeSw6KVweU), that my faith is so much more than a crutch - it is more like a backbone, shaping who I am and enabling me to stand tall and strong through life; and more than that, at the heart of my faith is the experience of being known by God, being loved to death by Jesus and having life in Him through the power and help of the Holy Spirit every day.

If humans are the measure of all things, then I am deeply fearful of the future. If God is real, Jesus lived, died for me, and rose from the dead and if the claims of the Bible are true - then I am full of hope! I urge you to resist making an ultimate decision to reject Jesus Christ and the claims of scripture, before first exploring them for yourself.

Do get in touch if you'd like to explore these things within the RENEW Church community, we'd love you to join us on the adventure.

Rev'd Alan Brand

RENEW Church Services in February 2017.

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

A crèche is available if required. All are welcome.

The Alpha Course continues: Two opportunities - Sunday morning or Monday evening.

All are welcome. Please get in touch if you'd like to join in. Contact Alan (Details below)

5th Feb. Breakfast from 10.15am - **Alpha #5** (Bottisham Primary School)

Mon. 6th Feb. Evening meal at 7.30pm - **Alpha #5** (at the School)

12th Feb. Breakfast from 10.15am - **Alpha #6** (Bottisham Primary School)
Followed by shared lunch

12th Feb. 6.20pm - **Evening Worship.** (at Lode Chapel)

Mon 13th Feb. Evening meal at 7.30pm - **Alpha #6** (at the School)

19th Feb. Breakfast from 10.15am - **Alpha #7** (Bottisham Primary School)

Mon 20th Feb. Evening meal at 7.30pm - **Alpha #7** (at the School)

Sat 25th Feb. **Alpha Away Day.**

26th Feb. Breakfast from 10.15am - **Alpha #11** (Bottisham Primary School)

26th Feb. 6.20pm - **Evening Worship.** (at Lode Chapel)

Mon 27th Feb. Evening meal at 7.30pm - **Alpha #11** (at the School)

*For more information about any of the activities of RENEW Church please contact:
Rev. Alan Brand on C.812558. Email: alanbrand77@icloud.com
Or visit our website at www.renewchurch.org.uk*

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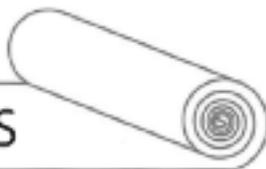


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Nordic Walking at Wandlebury. CB22 3AE Wednesdays 8, 22 February: 1pm, 2pm, 3pm start

Get into the rhythm and enhance your wellbeing and fitness levels with this friendly walking group led by Wellbeing Coach/Nordic Walking instructor Oliver Glynn. Three levels of walk: 1pm start for those with restricted mobility, 2pm for healthy lifestyle speed, 3pm total beginners. NB: Poles can be borrowed free of charge if required. Restricted mobility and healthy lifestyle walks free of charge, £15 per hour for total beginners. Contact Oliver on 07947 835522 or email: info@nordicwellbeing.co.uk

Conservation activity - Coppicing & Coppice products at Wandlebury. Sat. 4th Feb

11.00am-3.30pm Join the Cambridge PPF team re-coppicing hazel stools to increase biodiversity in the woodlands and sorting and cutting coppiced branches to learn more about their uses. Tools provided, wear warm waterproof clothing, sturdy footwear and bring a packed lunch. Adults only. Free event. Booking essential, numbers are limited.

Advanced basket making at Wandlebury. CB22 3AE. Saturday 4th Feb,

10.00am-4.00pm Refresh and extend previous simple basket making experience, try new patterns, an oval basket, or adding handles. Adults only. £45 (members £40). Booking essential, numbers are limited.

Willow sculpture weaving at Wandlebury. CB22 3AE. Saturday 4 March, 1

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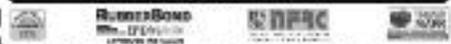
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Another of our parish councillors, Julia Latif has unfortunately resigned due to her business really taking off and we thank her for her hard work and wish her every future success. This now leaves us with 2 vacancies which we need to fill and I urge anyone who wants to take more of a part in what happens in their village to make contact with either myself or our Chair, Christine Bryant for more information. Contact details are in the Cresset. With several housing developments taking place, a planned new cemetery and thoughts of putting together a neighbourhood plan and a playground, these are just some of the things happening at the moment and we need some residents help with this as we currently have only 9 parish councillors. If you feel you have something to offer or some spare time on your hands then please get involved. Your village needs you!

After some complaints regarding the building site at Tunbridge Lane I spoke to the foreman of the site who confirmed that a sweeper comes in and cleans the roads and pavements 3 times a week. He also chipped away part of the ramp which was very close to the speed hump and spray painted it to make it more obvious to cyclists. As there is no pavement on the other side of the road for people to walk on, the mud at the entrance to the site was more of a problem and the foreman will try to keep this clean as much as possible but did point out that several large lorries were accessing the site everyday making this difficult during the winter months. We have also received notification that Tunbridge Lane will be closed from the 5th to 31st March whilst they do work between Rowley Gardens and Ancient Meadows.

Our County Councillor reported that the streetlights in the county will no longer be dimmed. They are now looking at installing LED lighting which could save money instead and are investigating this further. The road gritting routes have also been revised. It had initially been reported that by cutting back on the routes that were gritted a £695K saving could be made. Two months into the project has found that this saving is more likely to be £295K which was not a sufficient enough saving to warrant reducing the routes so they will therefore be as before.

We have received notice that the A1303 by Spring Hall Farm Barns will be closed for 24 hours on the 28th February whilst Anglian Water carries out essential work. A one lane system will operate during this time.

Lode Parish Council are doing their annual Lode litter pick and asked if once again volunteers from Bottisham would do Lode Road on Sunday 5th February. Two of our parish councillors will be out doing this if anyone would like to join them. After the success of the Clean for the Queen campaign last year, Keep Britain Tidy plan to deliver an annual clean up every March. Lode Parish Council are getting involved with this and we hope that Bottisham can also join in. Although we do have litter pickers in the village doing the main through routes it would be great if residents could take the time to pick up any litter they see whilst out walking and even take the time to clean areas that are not often cleaned such as the walkway along the A1303. If you need to borrow a litter picking stick I have some available for borrowing.

Continued on page 17

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Continued from page 15

There are several dog litter bins around the village now which are highly used. It has been noticed now the cold weather has started that some dog owners are depositing the full plastic bags in the salt/sand bins around the village, particularly in the one opposite Pound Close. Please note this is not what they are for and it is not particularly pleasant for residents wishing to use the salt for the pavements in icy weather. Please use the dog bins provided or take it home with you to dispose of, thank you.

Following on from the report in last months Cresset initial survey work on the site for the new cemetery will begin 17th January with the trenches and dip wells being dug on the 19th. The dip wells will be measured weekly but if the levels are low through the winter months we may not need to measure through the summer.

We have been looking at tenders for our grass cutting contract for the new season and after discussion have decided to change to East Cambs District Council who offered the most competitive quote. The season starts in March depending on the weather. Although we have provided the contractor with detailed maps on the areas throughout the village to be cut we have found from experience that it takes a couple of months to settle down and for the contractors to get to know the area so if you find that an area by you has been missed out please let me know.

Following on from last months Cresset we have now had a reply from Bidwells who are the agent for Peterhouse College regarding the proposed new site of 50 dwellings off of Bell Road. They have said that they realised through the District Council that we had so far been unable to locate any land for a play area in the village. They were therefore prepared to put in a small pre-school play area on the open space on the site which would not require them taking out any properties. This is a great result and we will continue to look at all other areas of land which may be used as small play areas throughout the village.

Claire Fullwood - Parish Clerk

Planning Notes

16/01250/FUL, Land adj 17 Howlett Way, Demolition of existing garage/workshop and construction of 2 no. one bed apartments. APPLICATION APPROVED BY ECDC

16/01292/FUL, BVC, Installation of a new floodlit fullsize FTP and floodlit tennis courts, ancillary works including erection of a machine store. APPLICATION APPROVED BY ECDC

COUNCILLOR VACANCY

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If you wish to apply or find out more information please contact:

Christine Bryant - *Chair* Tel: 811767

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Claire Fullwood - *Clerk* Tel: 07914 219732
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Happy New Year!

This term, starting the new year with energy and good intentions, teachers will be refocusing on attitudes to learning, aiming to make these second nature to all our pupils. These attitudes are:

- Try new things
- Don't give up
- Push yourself
- Imagine
- Improve
- Understand others
- Concentrate

These 7 key actions sound like good advice to us all! Certificates will be awarded in Celebration Assembly each week for children felt to have exemplified one of the 'attitudes to learning' in their work.

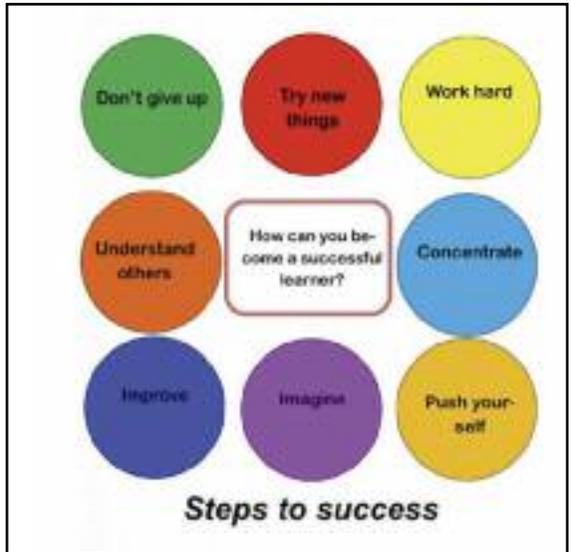
In Key Stage One the topic is Travelling Through Time and in January the children went on a school trip to investigate fossils and dinosaurs at the wonderful Sedgewick

Museum. The fun continues in February with a drama workshop and a Gripping History Day.

Key Stage Two have geography-based topics this term. Y3/4 are looking at Extreme Environments and there will be great excitement as Y4 go on their first residential trip at the beginning of February to Burwell House. The Y5/6 topic is Fair Trade. Through this topic the children will learn about where our food comes from, how it is grown, working conditions and how farmers are paid for their produce. Year 5 go to Flatford Mill for a couple of nights later in February, on what is an action-packed trip that will build confidence and store up memories.

There is good news about the school Song, A Big Bottisham Welcome. Out of a substantial group of schools from the region, Bottisham Primary School's song received most plays and so the children have been formally invited to take part in the Sing For Your School closing festival at the Corn Exchange in March. Mrs McMahan, Willow Class Teacher and Music specialist, told me, "Rest assured we are going to be busy perfecting our song, and adding in some choreography elements!" I look forward to seeing it.

Sarah Wormald, Chair of Governors.





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February Bulletin

On-call firefighters are a vital part of today's fire and rescue service, providing an efficient, effective service that gives emergency cover to more than 90 per cent of the UK. In Cambridgeshire they make up 56 per cent of CFRS workforce.

On-call firefighters are men and women who may have other jobs but are also able to provide evening, daytime or weekend cover. They are not based at a fire station but carry a pager and respond to emergency incidents as and when they happen. They may be at home, working for themselves or for a nearby company, or out in their local community (staying within a five-minute travel time of the fire station) and are generally located in rural communities, small towns and villages.

They receive an annual wage to reflect the time they commit to being available plus additional payments for attending incidents and drill nights (one evening a week for two hours).

If you would like to find out more and perhaps become an on-call firefighter, please go to our website at www.cambsfire.gov.uk and search for 'On-call firefighter' under the Careers section.

Also, please remember to 'Keep Testing' your alarms regularly - smoke, CO and Burglar alarms.

THINK SAFE - STAY SAFE. - *Michael White*

For the latest news, incidents and safety advice, or to contact us, log on to www.cambsfire.gov.uk. Sign up to email alerts and find us on Twitter, Instagram, YouTube and Facebook.

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Night

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

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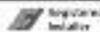
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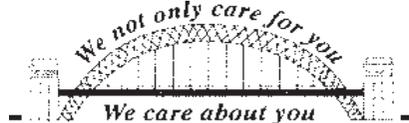
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Bottisham Medical Practice Patients' Group

NHS STAY WELL THIS WINTER: A guide to dealing with winter ailments is available on website <https://nhs.uk/stay-well> and also on the Practice website. With the well advertised current pressures on GPs and hospitals it is important to keep healthy. Please remember that the ambulance service and the Accident & Emergency departments are for serious and life threatening cases. Healthwatch advice is:

- **Pharmacy** - your pharmacy can provide confidential, expert advice and treatment for a range of common illnesses and complaints without having to wait for a GP appointment.
- **Call NHS 111** - available 24 hours a day and free to call. Connects you with the out of hours doctor service. Also provides mental health crisis care if you choose option 2.
- **Your GP surgery** - make an appointment with your GP or telephone for advice for an illness or injury that won't go away.
- **Minor injuries units** - usually a shorter wait for less serious injuries and illnesses that still need to be cared for quickly.

MISSED APPOINTMENTS: Despite the demand for appointments, there were still 77 missed appointments in December. Please ensure you inform the surgery if you are not going to attend so that the slot can be allocated to another patient.

COMMUNITY NURSES: Following our meeting with the CEO of the Trust responsible, he has written to explain why they are being moved from their Practice base. The Clinical Commissioning Group has decided that district (community) nurses should work with other professional staff dedicated to the care of people with long term conditions and the elderly in teams, which in due course will include social care staff. He thanked us for our efforts to bring our concerns to his notice and assures us that the new arrangements are an attempt to try and improve resources for the growing number of people who require them. A copy of this letter will be on the notice board in the surgery.

PRACTICE NURSE: Michelle has joined the practice nurse team part time.

DISPENSARY: Thank you to the patients who ordered their repeat prescriptions and collected the same in good time, which helped ease the pressure over the busy Christmas period.

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 walk with our accredited walk leader Steve Gilson starts at 11.00 am from the surgery car park on 3rd and 15th February and 3rd and 15th March 2017. Do join Steve for a walk he would be delighted to see you. Anglesey Abbey walks continue on Thursdays at 10am from the reception area.

*****REPEAT PRESCRIPTIONS:** Due to demands on the Practice, turn round time for repeat prescriptions as from 23 January 2017 will be **72 hours**.

NEXT MEETING: Patients' Group will meet on 23 March 2017 at 6.30pm at the surgery.

Bottisham Patients' Group



The Royal British Legion Social Club

WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH AT THE LEGION SOCIAL CLUB

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Bingo every 1st and 3rd Sunday.

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BOWLING CLUB JUMBLE SALE 2.00pm

Bring items from 10.00am

Saturday 4th February

QUIZ NIGHT FOR THE LIBRARY

7.00 for 7.30pm

£7.50pp including a ploughmans. Up to 6 per team.

See separate advert for details.

Saturday 11th February

DANCE TO 'THE BEAVERS LIVE'

Advance tickets at the bar £8 members, £10 non members

Tickets on the night £10 and £12

Saturday 18th February

THE LEGIONAIRES ARE BACK FOR A FUND RAISING DANCE

In aid of Magpas

Come and dance to all your favourites

Saturday 25th February

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The Royal British Legion Social Club

Bottisham Royal British Legion Social Club held their AGM on Monday 16th January. It was very pleasing to see the number of people who attended. It was the occasion when the club committee was elected. It saw the re-election of Vicky Crown as Chair and Peter Walker as Hon. President with two new members of the committee, Brian Lewis and Matthew Appleby. The accounts for last year showed a healthy position and thanks were given to all those involved in the organisation and running of the Club including our hard working Steward, Kate Rowe.

The main item on the agenda this year was the discussion of a review of membership subscriptions and the plan to introduce a new system of renewals. Changes in the way the Legion HQ manage the British Legion membership (which members of the affiliated Social Club here in Bottisham also need to be members of) has meant that they no longer collect or manage our local Social Club subscriptions.

With only 4 against, out of the 75 people attending, it was agreed that from next year's renewals, the club would collect locally, an annual £5 Club membership. The way this is to be collected will be communicated to all members before the start of the next Club year in September. The Club will continue as a Royal British Legion Social Club and members will continue to be members of The Royal British Legion (TRBL) and Pay their Legion membership as before.

The Club generates a lot of support for TRBL and the work that it does and it is good that we will continue to do that. At the same time it will make the administration of the Social Club here in Bottisham that much easier for all concerned. A win win for all.

If you have never been to the Social Club, do pay us a visit and have a drink. You may want to take a membership form away with you. Just ask at the bar. You will see our 'What's on' advert every month in The Cresset. Feel free to come along as a guest to any of these events and join in a key part of the social life here in Bottisham.

You will also see that the hall and rooms are available to hire. We regularly host weddings anniversaries, birthdays and wakes with full facilities available from bar service to fully certified catering kitchen for professional use. Information at the bar or from our secretary at bottishamrbl@aol.com

 <p>BOTTISHAM MEETING POINT</p> <p>every WEDNESDAY 10.30am – noon</p>	<p>in The Poppy Lounge at The Legion</p> <p>A place where you can meet old friends, make new friendships, relax, chat and enjoy coffee, cake and biscuits in a friendly relaxed atmosphere.</p> <p>EVERYONE WELCOME</p> <p>ADMISSION FREE</p>
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East Anglian Air Ambulance

Just before Christmas, East Anglian Air Ambulance (EAAA) carried out its 20,000th mission since inception in 2001.

We are now well into 2017 and EAAA is continuing its life-saving work across the Region. To do this it needs cashflow - a considerable sum in fact. Many fund-raising events have been, and continue to be, organised and for these the recipients of the service provided are extremely grateful. So too is EAAA. If you work within or are associated with an organisation, which could help, please get in touch or talk to me. Or you could sign up to our Lottery - a weekly chance that comes in multiples from just £1.

Interested? Then visit our website - www.eaaa.org.uk/weekly-lottery - and follow the instructions for a safe and secure way to join, and to read 'the small print'. If you prefer to speak with someone please call 01603 489400.

On another note, you may be interested to know that the 'Cambridge Roar' set up by Tony Murdoch, at Quy Mill Hotel, and others has selected East Anglian Air Ambulance as one of its three charitable beneficiaries for the coming year. Great News. Please keep a weather-eye open for news of its activities and events.

www.cambridgeroar@btinternet.com Together - We Save lives.



Michael White

MASSIVE SPRING JUMBLE SALE

**The Fassage, Lode
Saturday 18th March from 2-4
Entrance adults £1 and children free**

Please come along and support us as we attempt to recycle all your unwanted clothes, shoes, toys, books, bikes, small bits of furniture, pots, pans bric a brac, etc. etc.

The autumn Jumble sale raised about £700 of which £200 went to 4 different charities and £500 to Lode Parish Council for play equipment and useful things in the village. It is amazing how much money it generates, and we are very grateful for the support people show us in giving Jumble and then coming along and buying it all back again! Just perfect. Put the date in your diary and we look forward to seeing you on the 18th.

Please bring jumble from 10.30-12 in the morning of the sale. Thank you.

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Bottisham Community Library Association

INNOVATION AT THE LIBRARY FOR THE NEW YEAR. We are going to have **jigsaw puzzles** to borrow free of charge. We shall store them on the bottom shelves which have by tradition been kept empty of books. You will only be able to borrow one puzzle at a time and we trust that all the pieces are in the box. Donations of puzzles would be welcome to get the scheme started. We hope to have a table in the children's corner with puzzles available to be completed

Do take a look at the **Large Print Books** available on the shelves – they cover a large range of current fiction by popular authors.

We recently asked borrowers to suggest new titles for us to buy. These have been voted for and we shall be buying the requested copies in the next few months. This has been made possible courtesy of the Waitrose Community funding scheme.

Saturday Morning Art Club still meets weekly and don't forget the **Story time and Rhyme time** on the second Saturday of every month.

I hope you will be able to come to our **3rd Annual Library Quiz on 4th February 2017**. See the separate advert elsewhere in the magazine

Sylvia Overton

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Public Transport Matters

The important thing locally recently has been the change in timing for all three bus services - 10/11/12. I had written to Stagecoach on the importance of keeping paper timetables as so many people, not just the elderly, do prefer a paper version to slip in their pocket or wallet, etc.

I was pleasantly surprised when a Stagecoach chap rang the doorbell and carried a large box of 11/12 timetables in and deposited it on my hall floor. A few days later I saw the Stagecoach van draw up again and a box of 10 timetables joined the earlier one. I have since been distributing these in Newmarket and locally in Bottisham. The PO and the bus shelters should have some. Newmarket Library and the TIC at the Newmarket bus station do now also have an independent supply. All the timetable containers in the buses usually are empty so I am now carrying a little supply with me and putting them on the buses!! My Christmas presents from Fen, my 16yr. old granddaughter, came in a lovely little gift bag and I am finding that very useful as a carrier!

I overheard an elderly couple at Newmarket bus station discussing the problem of their ignorance of the new timings as they don't use the web. I handed them the two timetables - to their delight! We boarded the bus and I felt a tap on the shoulder as I was offered a tube of sweets! I did, however, decline it.

Another interesting thing has been the long 2½ page article by Andy Campbell of Stagecoach in the 'Cambridge business' magazine for January - free each month in Waitrose - and also in the Cambridge News. He outlines his ideas for solving the congestion problems and encouraging more use of public transport. He envisages a new bus station at Drummer St. The present one would be turned into a green space and a new one be built on the present toilet block site and extending into the bowling green area. He would like a tunnel under the city for the use of electric cars so there would be no pollution problem. The cars could then, like Boris bikes, be hired at the Park and Ride sites. He has learned from the University Engineering Dept., probably from my late husband's own Soil Mechanics colleagues, that the local soil is clay based and suitable for tunnelling. It is an interesting read as he also discusses many other problems including street parking and the problems caused to his buses as well as Stagecoach improvements to ticketing of fares.

The new North Cambridge £50 million station will be the first new Cambridge railway station for 170 years. Network Rail say it is on target to open in May. Cambridge Science Park and local residents will have easier access to a station. There will be three platforms - London outbound, London inbound and King's Lynn via Ely. There will be a ticket office, shopping facilities, seven barrier gates, a 450-space car park and a covered 1,000 space, two storey cycle park partly lit by solar roof panels. The platforms are linked by a 27-metre bridge and lifts large enough to accommodate cycles. It is also linked to the guided bus route. Local business bosses are welcoming the new station.

Cambridge's central station was built in the 1840s, opening to passengers in 1845 and was about a mile from the colleges - it is said to keep disturbance to dons and students to a minimum. I think there have also been other suggestions. The number of people using Cambridge central station has rocketed to 11 million a year. In 1997 there were under 4 million arrivals and departures. There are still very mixed views on the new arrangements at the station. There is a fares hike of 1.8 percent from Cambridge to London. It is said that we spend 6 times more on rail fares than Europeans do. They have special family and other combination tickets.

There have been several instances recently of cars ending up on the guided busway and there are calls for clearer signs.

continued on page 41

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I am sure you have all read quite enough about the Southern Rail strikers and the misery that they are causing to train users. Apparently you can claim for your unused tickets but not for the taxis/ buses/ child care etc. that you have had to use just to get to work, hospital appointments etc. There really must be a better way. I feel that if you sign up to a job in a public service then you really should consider all the dangers you could be causing if you withdraw your services by striking.

I have happy memories as a youngster of the Southend Borough Council buses – apparently they still run.

The new Flybe schedules for the flights from Stansted to Newquay in Cornwall from March 26 have been announced. There is a suggested fare of £29.99 one way but you would probably need to book in advance as it is a busy route.

A new silk route?! There is now a freight train from China to Barking – a 7,400-mile journey along an ancient trading route. A diesel engine has set off from Yiwu in east China bound for Barking in London with 34 carriages and £4 million of socks, clothes, bags and suitcases in tow. The trip will take it over mountain ranges, around deserts and across the vast Russian steppe. It takes two weeks to the Channel tunnel after crossing seven countries. It is to revive the fortunes of the ancient Silk Road that Marco Polo travelled from China to the Mediterranean around 1300. It will run once a week for a trial period. Changes in track gauges mean that the containers are reloaded several times. The return journey will again be laden with cargo - timber, meat and wines.

Rail info: 08457 48 49 50 Traveline: 0871 200 22 33

Happy travelling! - Paddy James

Bottisham Village College

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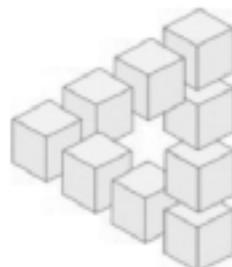
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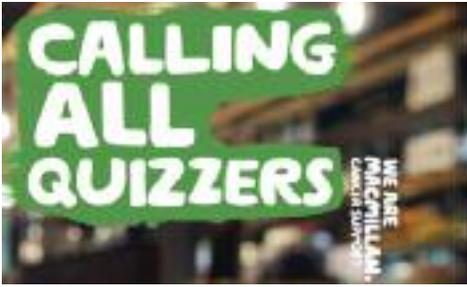
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Calling all Quizzers



The Macmillan Mammoth Quiz is back, now in its 9th year with a brand new, brain-teasing quiz for 2017. The Mammoth Quiz organised by the Oundle Macmillan Committee is Macmillan's nationwide quiz. Simply put, it is the same quiz, being held on the same day, at the same time, throughout the country. The mammoth quiz even holds the Guinness World Record for the world's largest simultaneous quiz. **WE NEED YOU TO**

HELP MAKE THE 2017 MACMILLAN QUIZ THE BIGGEST AND BEST YET.

Macmillan are looking for local groups and individuals across the UK to host a quiz on 24th February 2017 to raise vital funds for people affected by cancer. It's a really fun and easy way to raise money for Macmillan, and you can hold your quiz anywhere from the local pub or bowling club to the office or school. Previous participants have commented "It was a great Quiz and everyone enjoyed it tremendously" and that "the questions are so interesting and catch the imagination".

It is free to sign up to host a Mammoth Quiz. You will then be sent a welcome pack with a 2017 quiz and fundraising materials. All that is left for you to do is book a venue and sell tickets! **To register for your 2017 quiz pack, find out more about the Mammoth Quiz call Macmillan fundraising manager 07894566608 Jessica Levin or email fundraising@macmillan.org.uk**

Bottisham Community Library Association

Quiz Night

Saturday 4th February

7.00 For 7.30

Royal British Legion

£7.50 Per Person

TO INCLUDE PLOUGHMANS

Maximum 6 Per Table

—————
Please Contact

Margret Coles 812199 To Book A Table

Thoughts of a Sports Nut

A little while before Christmas, the ‘Sporting Equals’ lobby group published an audit of ethnic minority participation in sports administration, with the disturbing news that only 26 of 601 sports board members are from BAME backgrounds. For the statisticians, that’s around 4%, against the total BAME content of the UK population of 17%.

Personally, I don’t think it’s at all helpful to lay any blame for shortcomings in sports administration at the door of racial or ethnic divisions because, for historical and cultural reasons, the development of a layer of BAME senior administrators is always going to be a work in progress as the minorities in all walks of life become increasingly empowered and confident.

Who, then, joined me in a little chuckle before Christmas when five elderly white men, formerly the holders of senior positions in the English Football Association, declared that “The Football Association is outdated, held back by ‘elderly white men’ and unable to counter the power of the Premier League”? I mean, it wasn’t exactly news that the ‘blazers’ had continuously failed assert any authority over the Premier League juggernaut, but for Messrs Dyke, Triesman, Bernstein, Davies and Horne to lash out in this way after having been paid handsomely for their own inadequate efforts, I thought was a tad rich, didn’t you?

Whether Damian Collins MP, chairman of Parliament’s Culture, Media and Sport committee will heed their pleas for government intervention to push the FA into a programme of reform, we’ll have to wait and see. In the meantime, the commercial imperatives of the Premier League are taking the beautiful game ever further away from the 11 million-plus people engaged in grass roots levels.

As if we needed any further evidence of administrators losing the sporting plot, it recently emerged that cheerleading had been given provisional recognition as an Olympic sport... yes ‘cheerleading’! This means that this activity (I can’t bring myself to call it a ‘sport’ yet!) will benefit from a grant of £19,700 a year from the International Olympic Committee in the run up to the 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo, where you can expect it to entertain you alongside other new events such as surfing, climbing, karate and Muay Thai (yet another martial art). Call me old fashioned if you like, but I am firmly in the ‘Citius, Altius, Fortius’ camp when it comes to Olympic events, or at least settle for things which can be scored objectively!

And the madness doesn’t stop there... FIFA president Gianni Infantino has floated a proposal to expand the 2026 Football World Cup Tournament to 48 teams – adding an incredible 16 teams to the current format. (Note that it never seems to carry the title ‘Finals’ any more!) The various Federations met in mid January, and duly gave the initiative their full support like obedient acolytes. Infantino assures us that “The decision should not be financially driven, neither in terms of revenue or costs. The driver should really be the development of football and boosting football all over the world.” Who is he trying to kid?!

I hope you enjoyed my little football anecdote in December. I was reminded of another amusing incident recently when our cycling group pedaled past the Wickhambrook recreation ground. (With apologies to the Middle Aged Men In Lycra who have already heard this story!) It must have been 10 years ago when, as a newly qualified referee, I was appointed to run the line there on a county senior league fixture. There is no separate sports pavilion so the referee and his two assistants were shown into the community hall to change in an odd little space which we quickly discovered was the wing of the stage! There was only a curtain between us

(Sports Nut continued on page 49.)

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(Sports Nut continued.)

and the stage but there was no-one in the main hall so we thought little of it. As is customary on 50 per cent of matches at that level, we were being watched that day by an FA assessor – a somewhat humourless, grey-haired gentleman who was inclined not to suffer fools gladly. The game was duly completed in sweltering heat and we returned to our temporary home to await the assessor’s debrief. So there we were, partially undressed, enthusiastically discussing the finer points of the officials’ performance, when a tweedy, rather haughty looking lady poked her head round the curtain and said “Would you mind being quiet please. I have a meeting of clairvoyants in the hall and they’re in silent meditation. Do you have permission to be in here?” The assessor rounded on her, “Yes, we’re here for the football and this is a private dressing room. We’ll only be a few minutes so please leave us to finish.” The posh lady was taken aback, “Well it’s just that we didn’t know you were coming!” Cue the punch line from the assessor: “I thought you were bloody clairvoyants...!!” (Lady exit stage left.)

TTFN - Gerry Daish

Lode Tennis Club Quiz Night

Shake off those winter blues! - why not get out and about and meet loads of friends at our fantastic Quiz Night on Saturday 25 February 2017. It will be held at Bottisham British Legion, 7:00pm prompt for 7:30pm start for teams of six. The ticket price is £7.50 per head which will include a supper, and there is a bar available for you to buy drinks.

Why not get together with a few friends and make up a team and support your local club! Pick up the phone now while you are thinking about it! Contact Sally Jaggard 811848, or Lesley Pulvertaft 812901 to book places either for yourself or for a team asap!

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Spirit of the Age - the way we now live!

Well, 2016 has been quite a shocking, and at times horrible year. Many of our favourite cultural icons have died, there have been a large number of terror attacks and we are going through what some would call a time of political turbulence both at home and abroad. The doctrine of the Liberalist elite and globalisation have both been given a great big kick up the backside by the 'ordinary' citizens of the UK and America - which may soon be followed by similar events in Germany, France, The Netherlands and possibly Italy. Closer to home Cambridge looks as though it will become a permanent building site for the next 30 years or so and Bottisham, due to its proximity to a growth city and major transport infrastructure; is likely to continue a victim of predatory developers under the new Local Plan. Sometimes it feels like we have had wall-to-wall bad news all year. But in this small country of ours we have had some triumphs too, both great and small, so it really hasn't been all that bad. Notable successes have been those of our Olympians and Para Olympians, English Rugby Union, the UK Economy, UK actors and actresses and Business Entrepreneurs. And not forgetting for many - but possibly contentiously - Brexit.

Yet if we are to celebrate what we have achieved as an island nation we must also all recognise and embrace the enormous opportunities that lie ahead. And if we are to truly benefit from these opportunities we must surely start by renewing our acquaintance with 'responsibility' and believing in our abilities both as individuals and together. However, and regrettably, there are clearly some unwelcome issues in our society that need reflecting on if the nation is to navigate its new sovereign course with any esteem and success. Like many I suppose, I've been reading a lot over the holiday period and in doing so have picked out a few things apropos 'responsibility' covered in the national media that in my opinion are in need of an crucial fix.

Firstly some have suggested we must rid ourselves of this 'meism' attitude. That is to say to be more considerate of those around us and to step back and think about the consequence of our actions on others. I'm sure most of us can think of something anti-social we might have done! Say 'hello' when we're passing someone in the village rather than walk boorishly by, and take responsibility for the consequences of our own actions rather than blaming others and or the system.

And much has been reported of the misuse of the NHS and the enormous pressure the hospitals have been under over Christmas and New Year. I was appalled to read of the number of people who - determined to enjoy themselves to excess - decided to rebrand the NHS as the 'National Hangover Service'. Abuse of the service to this extent must surely come with a charge as should missed GP and Outpatient appointments. We must all ask ourselves to what extent are we - the population - responsible for the gravity of the situation right across the NHS today. Those of you who heard the Radio 5 Live phone in will know exactly what I'm talking about. Anyone who suggests the blame is solely with government must undoubtedly have a very prescriptive view.

But the NHS is not the only organisation to be misused we find out - the Overseas Development Aid (ODA) budget has also been exploited over many years by organisations purportedly acting on behalf of needy governments. It seems of the annual £12bn budget there have been huge payments made to corrupt nations, fat-cat consultants and on cash for

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projects such as a £9m funding for the Ethiopian variant of 'The Spice Girls'. Perhaps a better use of the ODA budget would be to tackle the problems of destitution at source and to assist with the costs of facilitating authentic refugees and asylum seekers. But there again may be responsibility for helping others should start closer to home with a return to the old adage that suggests 'Charity begins at Home'...

Then there is this obsession in 'progressive' society with re-writing colonial history and prohibiting the use of disapproving gesticulations - not forgetting the creation of 'safe spaces' where the views of 'white' philosophers are banned. Possibly even more chillingly though: this preoccupation with 'gender neutral' pronouns especially in primary schools. Being seven is tough enough indeed without 'gender studies' being thrown in as well. There is even a suggestion that we refrain from using terms such as 'ladies and gentlemen' and replacing 'he and she' with 'ze'!! Perhaps we should also include here the fixation by such people with Political Correctness in all of its worrying guises - where this mind-set is responsible for providing the shield and the momentum from behind which many odious deeds have taken place.

And finally if you are a regular user of social media be very careful to use it responsibly. Unlike a certain gentlemen who thought he was being clever by posting a video in which he innocently declared that everyone was 'cordially invited' to a birthday party. It was intended only for friends and family but ended up going viral. To date over one million acceptances have been received...

TJ

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Bottisham & District Gardening Club

No report to review this month, but we thought an overview of the club's proposed activities for the coming year might be of interest. We have an average of 50 members from Bottisham and the surrounding villages and meet on the fourth Tuesday of each month in the Poppy Room at the Royal British Legion. The membership fee is £15 p.a. and for that we have a variety of speakers; this year topics vary from 'The Quiet Gardens Movement' and 'Bach Flower Remedies and their Source Plants' to 'The Walled Gardens of Ramsey Abbey' and 'Yours and My Need for Plants'. Our club nights also include a raffle and free refreshments.

We have two outings each year, in June we have a local evening trip to a place of interest and in July a coach trip further afield (last year these took us to Clare College Gardens and RHS Wisley) - this year's outings have yet to be organised. We will also be holding our mini-market on the Triangle in mid-May, when alongside the plant stall we are now joined by the Library Association's book sale and the WI cake stall. We also have social events: a lunch during April and the Christmas social with mulled wine and mince pies.

The Annual Village Show will take place again in September. Members of the club have five free entries and the chance to go home with a trophy. Non-members are most welcome to enter but, while we have received some outstanding exhibits from non-members, unfortunately they don't get a trophy.

You don't need a large garden or gardening knowledge to join us and we look forward to seeing some new faces this year. If you would like any further information about the club, please don't hesitate to contact us. www.bottishamgardeningclub.co.uk

Tricia McLaughlin, Secretary

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It's expected the new monthly format will see more than 100 projects receive vital funding across Cambridgeshire every year. Funding will be awarded to projects that use and develop outdoor spaces in ways that will benefit their local community. We've already seen local groups, schools and charities benefit and look forward to seeing many more exciting projects come out of this initiative.

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Bottisham Scout Group: Group Contact: Linda Jones.....	813040
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