

March 2017



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



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Each month, when I come to write this introductory page to the magazine, I think about what the month's events are. December - Christmas, November - fireworks and remembrance, August, holidays etc. They are the easy ones. When I came to March, the first that came to mind was St Patrick's Day. I then looked up good old Google to see what else happens.



Well I wish I hadn't. There is a website (American of course) which lists all those 'National' days and boy, there are hundreds. Averaging about 6 each day, they range from the obscure like 'National French Bread Day' to the downright strange 'National lame duck day'!

You can even apply for your own national day. I would like to register the 'National tidy up PW's garden Day' when everybody can celebrate by coming round and clearing, weeding, cutting and pruning my garden. I am already confident that I will get as much support as the 'National pack your own lunch day', which is also listed.

The exception to all this frivolity is the more serious 'Red Nose Day on the 24th'. Please support (How about a sponsored try not to laugh event!)

Back to my first thought. St Patrick's Day is universally celebrated, but America seems to lead the way again with some big scale celebrations. New York puts on a parade which takes five and a half hours (yes 5½hrs.) to pass along 5th Avenue and Chicago even turns the river that runs through the city, green for the day. I bet there was a big shipment of the black stuff out of Dublin to make the global celebrations go with a swing. If you are inclined to join in the celebration then have a great day.

Locally we have a lot of other things going on in March.

There is an interesting concert of Jewish music in the church at Lode. To most people this would be a unique opportunity not to be missed.

Cambridge Past Present and Future has another selection of activities as they do each month with lots of things for young and old.

Bottisham WEA gives notice of another of their interesting presentations, this one on the 1947 floods which did much damage locally.

If you want to know what your Parish Council is doing then their notes give details, particularly about the work to be done in Tunbridge Lane. The suggestion of re-sighting the current speed humps which will be replaced by a big single one, must raise the question of whether we need another one at all. Perhaps lighting the ones we have and keeping them in some sort of good repair would be a good start (viz. the sink hole at the Bell Rd. ramp). I hope the views of the people living next to these planned placements will be taken into account. I know we would have some way to go, but take a look at Cherry Hinton to see where we could end up.

The Medical Practice Patients Group gives us their monthly update with very useful information and suggestions. They always invite contact and attendance at their meetings to keep us in the know, so don't miss the opportunity and reflect after the event that "I wish I had known".

(continued on page 2.)

(continued from page 1.)

The Village College has a range of adult classes and workshops covering a wide range of activities and potential hobbies which is open to all.

Easter egg hunts at the Primary school, Ceilidh dance at Quay and a quiz at The Legion add to the mix.

We have our regular items too. Gerry Daish gives us his welcome view on the wider sports world with a particularly referee's view of the proposal for football to introduce the video referee. While agreeing it to be a good thing in other sports, he feels that football is somewhat different with the on-pitch referee having a special status amongst sports adjudicators. I am not suggesting he has a biased view or anything or is being protective of position, but I am sure it is open to debate. One thing is for sure, it would get rid of some of the diva antics that we see from football players. How embarrassing for that £40,000 a week guy to see his apparent potential life-changing, leg breaking inflicted tackle replayed on the big screen as something usually seen in a non contact sport!

Lots more information on public transport from Paddy, with some disappointing news on Sunday buses. Use it or lose it is an oft used phrase, but sometimes things need to be there for the few who have no alternative.

Finally Tony has his view of the 'Jolley old World' (from the other side of the world, lucky man) and some good clarification of the use of the college grounds plus a tip to improve your car headlights!

There you have it. More information and entertainment than Donald Trump's twitter account!

Have a great month.

From Your Editor, Peter Walker

Bottisham WI

Our meeting in January was a little different and a good start to the New Year. Jamie Sugg a local artist from Swaffham Bulbeck painted a water colour of a rural scene before our very eyes and it featured on his web-site the following day. Following a career as a draughtsman and Project Manager for the National Trust he took early retirement. He had always wanted to be an artist and after watching Art demonstrations on You Tube he started his new career. He paints landscapes and portraits in watercolour, acrylics and pencil and showed slides of several of his works and commissions. The dog portraits were excellent. The Wicken Fen scene was completed in 30 minutes and he gradually built up the scene and perspective for us to admire. He uses a hairdryer to save watching paint dry!. He was an interesting speaker too and it was hard to accept that this was his first speaking engagement.

We heard that the Christmas Dinner held at the Newmarket Golf Club was a huge success and we have already booked for 2017 and that the Cambridge Group of Churches was able to send 31 Christmas hampers to the needy. The gifts we donated at our Christmas meeting were a good help in filling these.

Our next meeting is on our **AGM on Tuesday 21st March. Margaret Harrop one of our members will be telling us more about her travels.**

Visitors and new members are very welcome to come and join us in our 99th year.

Sylvia Overton

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Cambridge, Past, Present & Future

- A colourful month of activities



Healthy Walking at Wandlebury. CB22 3AE Thursdays in March: 10am or 10.30am-11am Join our healthy walkers for a Walking for Health accredited sociable walk around the park. Meet at the Stable Rooms at 10am for a longer walk or 10.30am for a shorter stroll. All welcome, suitable for all abilities. Free of charge and no need to book, but please arrive 10 minutes early to register if it's your first time. Donations towards the upkeep of the park are always welcome.

Nordic Walking at Wandlebury. Wednesdays 8, 22 March: 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

Willow sculpture weaving at Wandlebury. Saturday 4 March - 10.00am-4.00pm Learn and practice the basic techniques used for constructing sculptures, then allow your creative side to play! Adults only. £45 (members £40). Booking essential, numbers are limited.

Local Wildlife Day. Sunday 26 March: 11am-3.30pm Part of the Cambridge Science Festival, fun day out for the whole family to discover amazing things about our wonderful local wildlife. Meet a live barn owl, chat with members of the Cambridgeshire Mammal Group. Study our local amphibians. Finish with a scavenger hunt. Free, drop-in event. All welcome. Children to remain accompanied. Donations towards the upkeep of the park greatly appreciated.

Bottisham WEA

In her series of lectures on Self Portraits Fiona Lucraft has revealed to members that everyone creates a self portrait. It may not be in the form of an artistic painting on view at a wellknown art gallery, but could be how you decorate or furnish your house, design your garden, write your memoirs or keep your diary. It is thought that Mary Shelley's Frankenstein could be her life story and that Van Gogh gave better portraits of himself in letters to his brother and sister. How are you creating your self portrait?

The Bottisham branch of the WEA is holding its AGM at 10.00am on Thursday 16 March at the Bottisham Royal British Legion in Downing Close, Bottisham. It will be very brief as the final session of this term's course on Self Portraiture by Fiona Lucraft begins at 10.30. All current and past course members are warmly invited to attend.

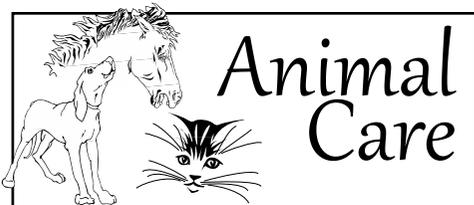
A date for your diary. It is 70 years since the floods of 1947 which caused such devastation in the Fens. The Cambridgeshire Federation of the WEA is holding a Day School to commemorate the event on Thursday 11 May. More details nearer the time.

Gerry Cowley

Services in Holy Trinity Bottisham in March

Wednesday 1st		Ash Wednesday
	7pm	Benefice Communion in Quy N.B. No Compline by Candlelight in Bottisham this month
Sunday 5th	11am	Holy Communion Revd Sue Giles
Sunday 12th		No service in Bottisham
	10am	Benefice Communion in Quy
Sunday 19th	8am	Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) Revd Sue Giles
	11am	Morning Prayer Revd Gina Radford
Sunday 26th		Mothering Sunday
	10am	Benefice All-Age Mothering Sunday Service Revd Gina Radford

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 (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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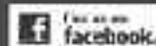
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Sue Giles THINKING ALLOWED

Many organisations and groups have a code of conduct that everyone is expected to agree to and work to. These codes may include standards of dress, how quickly a phone call or e-mail should be returned, the levels of confidentiality that apply, where and how data should be stored, what health and safety rules should be adhered to. In places such as a kitchen or a hospital these standards and rules can mean the difference between life and death. Fail to follow protocols on a hospital drug round and someone could receive the wrong medication, or the wrong amount, or drugs could go missing. Fail to follow the required labelling or hygiene rules and a customer could end up with severe food poisoning or an allergic reaction to a particular ingredient.

But what about in our own personal lives? What rules and standards do we adopt in our relationships and our behaviour? What code do you live by, what personal rules govern your actions?

For Christians, the Ten Commandments are a fundamental code directing our behaviour. These ten principles appear simple but have far reaching implications if they are fully applied. In the past many people knew what these ten commandments were. They were taught in school, in church and appeared painted on boards in many churches. Now many people might get one or two of the ten but would find it hard to name all of them. Are they out-dated or irrelevant, do they have anything to say to our modern society or to younger generations?

If you would like to consider this and explore the standards you live by, why not come and join us on our Lent course this year. We will be watching a short DVD on Thursday evenings in Queen's Court in Bottisham at 7.30pm beginning with the 10th Commandment and working backwards towards the 1st. There will be opportunities to discuss what we have seen at a later date either at Anglesey Abbey café or at other venues so why not come along and share your views and thoughts and hear how others feel about the ten best ways.

The first session is Thursday March 9th 7.30pm at Queen's Court, Bottisham.

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The great conductor Arturo Toscanini was sitting at his podium before a concert one evening. As the orchestra warmed up just minutes before the performance, a bassoon player approached him in fearful panic. "Maestro, I am very sorry, but my instrument has suffered an accident, and the E-flat will not sound. I am afraid I will not be able to play tonight."

Upon hearing this news, Toscanini went silent and closed his eyes. The bassoon player cowered in fear of his fury. The great conductor put his hands to his head and continued in silence, adding to the bassoon player's agony.

At last Toscanini looked up and said quietly, "Do not worry. E-flat does not appear in your music tonight." Toscanini had played through the entire concert in his mind, reviewing every note the bassoonist would have to play. With his intimate knowledge of the music, the conductor was able to reassure the bassoon player that everything would be all right.

As a follower of Jesus, I gain real peace, strength and comfort from the assurance that he knows what lies ahead for me and he will guide me through.

I have played trumpet / cornet in several bands and orchestras; I remember one conductor who was a well respected but very intimidating character who rarely encouraged the musicians but would highlight any mistake.

Some 'great' people make others feel small, but truly great people, make others feel great.

I still wonder at times what the future will hold and whether I have what it takes to do what is required of me. Through the highs and lows of life, I keep going, trusting that God knows the score and has good news for me. God says, "I know the plans I have for you ... plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." (*Jeremiah 29.11*).

If you would like to join a community of people discovering what it means to follow Jesus in this place and in these times, we would love to welcome you at RENEW, why not join us!?

Rev Alan Brand

RENEW Church Services in March 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 to join in - Sunday morning or Monday evening.* All are welcome. Please get in touch if you'd like to join in. Contact Alan (*Details below*)

Sunday 5th Breakfast from 10.15am

Monday 6th Evening meal at 7.30pm

Sunday 12th Breakfast from 10.15am

Sunday 12th 6.20pm

Monday 13th Evening meal at 7.30pm

Sunday 19th Breakfast from 10.15am

Monday 20th Evening meal at 7.30pm

Sunday 26th Breakfast from 10.15am

Sunday 26th 6.20pm

Monday 27th Evening meal at 7.30pm

Alpha Course (Bottisham Primary School)

Alpha Course (at the School)

Alpha Course (Bottisham Primary School)

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Evening Worship. (at Lode Chapel)

Alpha Course (at the School)

Alpha Course (Bottisham Primary School)

Alpha Course (at the School)

Alpha Course (Bottisham Primary School)

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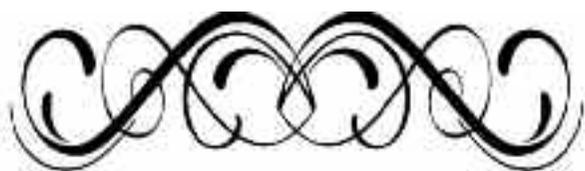
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Parish Notes

We are happy to welcome Mr Lino Di Lorenzo to Parish Council. He applied for one of the vacancies and was co-opted onto Parish Council at our last meeting and we very much look forward to working with him.

It has taken some time but the County Council assure us that work will be carried out as soon as possible to repair the subsidence in the High Street close to Elston Interiors. Highways did make a temporary repair but will be digging up the road to see what is going on underneath within the next few weeks. Other potholes in the village have been repaired very quickly which is good news. If you see a pothole or any other problem with the highway it is very easy to report this on the Cambs County Council website and it should then be dealt with very quickly.

I have had some queries regarding the Tunbridge Lane road closure as obviously this affects a lot of residents who live down here or who wish to visit the doctor's surgery. The road will be closed to allow for construction of a raised table in the carriageway outside of the new Bloor Homes development between the dates of 5th-31st March but will be open to pedestrians. The raised table will replace the set of speed cushions which are currently in this location. Parish Council will, over the next few months be thinking about where the speed cushions could be re-located in the village and seeking advice from County Council Highways on suitable sites.

Following on from last months Cresset may I please remind dog walkers to use the dog bins provided or take the bags home with you. I am awaiting the County Council coming to clean out two of the salt/grit bins in Pound Close and Tunbridge Lane where people have put dog excrement, some in bags and some not. Not great when we are about to hit a patch of icy weather and have nothing to put down on the roads! If dog walkers would like more dog bins in the village please let me know locations and I will look into this.

Some residents had queried if we would have the electrical recycling again. This was something that took place every 6 months. I contacted Wisser Recycling who informed me that they had had a serious fire at their premises and would not be back in business again for some while so this will not be possible at the moment.

The initial survey work for the proposed new cemetery in Lode Road has been done. Three high risk areas were identified and dip wells have been put in there. The first signs are encouraging and the water levels are looking good even after a heavy week of rain and the consultants are pleased.

The planning application for the extension to the Village College has taken a long time to sort out; a compromise has now been reached regarding access to the playing fields outside of school hours. Work on the new sports areas will start within the next couple of weeks.

Claire Fullwood - Parish Clerk

Planning Notes

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Bottisham & Burwell Photographic Club

After the unseasonably mild weather for the Christmas break, member's attended the first meeting of the New Year on the 10 January 2017. Members were able to see the EAF 2016 Annual Exhibition Portfolio. This was a DVD presentation of selected photographs from the Annual Exhibition held at Wingfield Barns, Eye, Suffolk, which enabled our members to appreciate the type of photographs that are taken across other country clubs. The winning shots were also included.

On Sunday 5 February 2017 the club took part in the East Anglian Federation of Photographic Societies (EAF) PDI (projected digital image) Competition at The Fulbourn Centre. 33 Clubs from all over the East Anglian Region took part in this annual competition. Bottisham & Burwell Photographic Club were positioned joint 7th with Welwyn Garden City Photographic Club, which was an improvement on last year's result. The competition was won by Beyond Group from Ipswich, 2nd Thurrock Camera Club and 3rd Wayland & District Photographic Club, Norfolk.

Dates for this year's EAF Exhibition are Saturday 29 April until Sunday 14 May 2017, at Wingfield Barns, Eye, Suffolk. Please check the EAF website: www.eaf.org.uk - for further details of opening times.

FUTURE CLUB EVENTS:

Tuesday 14 March 2017 'PHOTOGRAPHY USAF STYLE!' A team from Mildenhall Air Base will talk about projects set to enhance their photographic skills.

Tuesday 21 March 2017 'BARBIE'S INDIAN TAKE-AWAY' Digital presentation by Barbie Lindsay EFIAP/b MPAGB FBPE, based on her recent trip to India.

Tuesday 2 May 2017 'ON TOP OF THE WORLD - NEPAL BY MOTORCYCLE' Digital presentation by David Steel DPAGB, Cambridge Camera Club.

Further details of our programme can be viewed on the website, see below.

The club welcomes guests to any meeting at our venue, Lode Chapel CB25 9EW on Tuesday's from 7:30-9:30pm. Fee £3.00 including refreshments, refunded on joining.

Annual subscriptions: Adult: £40, Joint Membership: £67, Student: £21. Refreshments 50p.

For further details contact: Hon. Secretary. Mrs Daphne Hanson DPAGB APAGB

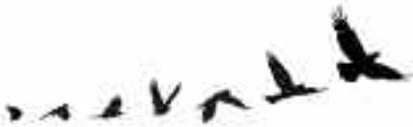
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Barry Coles Publicity Officer

Copy deadline for next issue is 14 March.

Please send material to the editor at
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Bottisham Community Primary School

WHERE EVERYONE COMES FIRST

The Governors are delighted to announce that Rachael Johnston, who stepped up to become Acting Head Teacher for this academic year, has now been appointed as permanent Head Teacher from September 2017. Rachael has brought great energy, enthusiasm and commitment to the role and it is wonderful that the school will continue to thrive and develop in her very capable hands.



Earlier in the term, Foundation and Key Stage 1 had a tremendous, nay ‘Gripping’, history day learning all about life in Cambridge Castle and how to joust. Meanwhile, Year 4 pupils had a lovely time at Burwell on their first ever school residential trip, playing ‘Burwell Fox!’ and singing around a campfire. In March it is the turn of Year 6: they are off to Hilltop to learn orienteering, climbing and other outdoor pursuits for a very grown up 4 nights away. It is a highlight of the Year for them and good fun before the more serious work of SATs takes over!

Year 3 and 4 are currently preparing for their end of term production. This year it is *Alibaba* and the *Bongo Bandits* which should be great fun as we are promised “that it will be full of wonderful acting, singing and the odd joke or two!”

And finally, out of a substantial group of schools from the region, Bottisham Primary School children have been formally invited to sing their song, *A Big Bottisham Welcome*, 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 busy perfecting our song, and adding in some choreography elements!" I look forward to hearing all about it.

Sarah Wormald, Chair of Governors.

School Office: **01223 812084**; office@bottisham.cambs.sch.uk.

Keep up with school news via Twitter: www.twitter.com/BottishamPri

or the school website: www.bottisham.cambs.sch.uk



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March Bulletin

Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service (CFRS) are committed to supporting the safety and wellbeing of residents in all of the communities that we serve.

CFRS have a programme of Safe and Well Visits to provide sufficient information to support you and, with your permission, refer you to selected partner agencies who will be able to support you further. We will not share your data with marketing companies or for any other purposes. Our visit will last no longer than 60 minutes is completely **FREE** of charge and will assess five key elements:

1. Fire safety in the home - including cooking, general safety and escape plans.
2. Falls prevention - including simple remedial action such as replacing light bulbs or taping down loose carpet.
3. Alcohol use - alcohol related illness in the over 65s is on the increase! We can provide helpful information.
4. Stay well and warm - can you afford to heat your home? Do you have regular access to hot meals? Do you have access to all the services available to you?
5. Crime reduction - CFRS can provide advice on making your home more secure and, in addition, advice to help make you less vulnerable to scams or fraud.

You are under no obligation to answer any questions that you do not want to, but the more information with which you provide us, the better we will be able to support you. We can also provide advice in relation to promoting the health and safety of individuals with, for example, hoarding concerns, as well as providing valuable information to care providers.

During March CFRS will also be raising awareness of the fire risks associated with smoking, with National No Smoking Day on the 8th. Smoking, we find, is a significant factor making someone more at risk of fire, for example, when combined with poor mobility, health problems or just being elderly, it increases a person's chance of having a fire - perhaps with life-changing consequences.

Here are some tips to note or give to friends and family who smoke:

- Never leave a burning cigarette or pipe unattended.
- Always use a proper ashtray and make sure that the contents are cold before tipped into the bin !
- Never smoke in bed, and avoid smoking in a chair if you are likely to fall asleep.

Most importantly, fit a working smoke alarm and test it regularly. Don't forget to also test the smoke alarms of those you love. If you have an elderly or vulnerable relative, friend or neighbour, visit them to make sure that they have a working smoke alarm. If they don't, that is something we can provide as part of a Safe and Well Visit.

To find out if you are eligible for a Safe and Well visit please Enquire online. Alternatively, if you are unable to apply online or have a query about an enquiry form that has already been submitted, please telephone 0800 917 9994.

Opening times - weekdays All Year are 9am-5pm. Further enquiries - please Visit our website and search for "Safe and Well"

For more information on any aspect of personal safety, including on firework and bonfires, please log-on to www.cambsfire.gov.uk, follow us on social media or call **01480 444500**

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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.

**March 11th,
April 1st and May 13th (Floral May 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.

January and February may be the 'doldrums' of the year but EAAA are planning well ahead for fund-raising activity to contribute to continuing the vitally important work being undertaken.

EAAA's ability to be on-scene anywhere in the 5,326 square mile region within 25 minutes with its enhanced A&E level treatment gives patients the very best chance of survival and recovery.

You help us do this – together, we save lives

If you are planning to participate in an exciting challenge such as a parachute jump, trek, climb or cycle ride and could support EAAA, please get in touch. We'll provide plenty of guidance to help you reach your target. This September will be the fifth anniversary of National Air Ambulance Week. If you have a special reason to celebrate and/or raise money please do consider helping EAAA. If you supported us in 2016 - Thank You.

Contact us by telephone – 01763 262697 or via barbaramcgee@eaaa.org.uk

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outside play area

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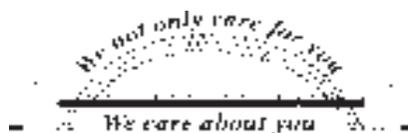
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Bottisham Medical Practice Patients' Group

Dispensary Easter Arrangements 2017: Our Christmas arrangements seemed to work really well so we are repeating the process for our Easter break. Remember Easter is late this year April 14th and 17th, so please ensure that you request your repeat prescriptions in plenty of time.

When ordering in March & April you can order two months' worth if you are going away, so you have enough to cover you over the holiday period

It helps us greatly if you request all your items together and allow a little longer when ordering more than one month, 3 to 4 working days will be very helpful. If you are going away for longer we can only arrange a maximum of 3 months' supply of medication. Please speak to dispensary staff who will help you with these arrangements. You don't need to speak to a GP to order your medication.

Also please remember to collect your medication in a timely manner, as space is limited! Thank you for your continued help and support. **Beverley Weller-Lewis, Dispensary Manager.**

Home Visits: The Practice prefers to treat patients in the surgery where there are better facilities for examining and treating patients. Home visits are, therefore, only available for patients who are truly housebound because of illness or disability (where travel by car would cause deterioration in a patient's condition or result in unacceptable pain or discomfort). They are also more often required for the terminally ill and the bedbound. Please remember that several patients can be seen in the practice in the time that it takes to make one home visit. If the problem is with transport then please contact the surgery for help as there is a patient car service.

Equipment Amnesty: If you have any items of NHS equipment no longer in use, such as wheelchairs, crutches, sticks, hearing aids, commodes etc. please bring them to the surgery during opening hours. If you are unable to transport such items then please contact reception.

Community Nurses: Following their move to multi-disciplinary teams, we would wish to know if you experience any difficulties with the new way of working. If so then please let the surgery or our Chairman Steve Gilson on 01223 811021 know.

Proposed Road Closure: We have been told that Tunbridge Lane will be closed from 5th-31st March to allow road works between Rowley Gardens and Ancient Meadows. There will be a marked detour to access the surgery via Swaffham Bulbeck. Please allow extra time to get to your appointment.

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. We would welcome help with running the group.

Walks for Health: The next walks with our accredited walk leader Steve Gilson starts at 11.00 am from the surgery car park on 3rd and 15th March, 7th and 19th April 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.

AGM: This will be held towards the end of April. Details to follow next month and will also be on the surgery notice board.

Next Meeting: Patients' Group will meet on 25 May 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

Line Dancing every 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 4th March

Bowling Club Race night

1st race 7.30 – Come and have a flutter!

Wednesday 16th March 8.00pm

TRBL Bottisham & District Branch meeting

Poppy Lounge - All members welcome

Saturday 1st April

Dance to Jam Pact

8pm start Member £4 Non members £6

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Copy deadline for next issue is 14 March.

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Senior Tap	5.15-5.45pm
Senior Ballet	5.45-6.30pm
Ladies Ballet	6.30-7.30pm

Wednesdays

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email :- jane@newburydance.co.uk
Tel.:- 01223 812154

Thank you to all for the huge effort that was made to make Lode, Longmeadow and the roads around neat and tidy for the next year. We were brilliantly supported by many Bottisham residents who came up to meet us on the road between Lode and Bottisham, and for doing the road between Bottisham and Swaffham Bulbeck.

As last year, the bags were weighed down by a sea of small wine bottles on the verge from Lode to Bottisham. Oh dear, these and Costa coffee cups are a scourge.

Thanks also go to East Cambs and Dave White and his team who delivered extra bags and then organised the collection by Veolia of the massive pile of bags, mattresses, car parts at 8 o'clock on Monday morning. Marvellous service and much appreciated.

It looks lovely so thank you all,

Lode Parish Council Feb 2017

LETTER FROM ROBERT STEVENS TO LPC

Last Thursday I collected six bin bags full of litter plus many car parts from the verges on the B1102 between the crossroads and Longmeadow. Charlie happened to say over coffee on Sunday after the litter pick that he noticed a lot of rubbish still there. I went again on Tuesday and noticed that the hedges and rear growth had been cut since last Thursday. I collected almost exactly the same amount again, but some of it looked very old and was half-buried.

Veolia have a contract with ECDC to keep streets and roads clean throughout all of East Cambs. When and where requested, Veolia has to do litter picks at no extra cost to ECDC. Seeing there are risks involved in doing this on the 60 mph B1102 (especially when having to retrieve full bags in the car), I suggest we formally request Dave White at ECDC that this road within the parish is cleaned every winter by Veolia and that we do only light work (eg one bag at a time) on the verges throughout the year, as we do on 30mph roads in the parish.

Regards - Robert Stevens

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Bottisham Community Library Association

Thanks to all who attended our 3rd Annual Library Quiz held at the Royal British Legion. We are grateful to Bill Sunner from Bottisham Stores who donated 2 raffle prizes and the 6 bottles of wine as prizes for the winning team. We are grateful too to Carole and Ian Faulkner who set and asked the questions and to Jeff Kempster who arranged the Music Round. The committee and volunteers worked hard to provide an excellent ploughmans on the interval.

We raised £500 which will be used to partly pay our recharge to the College.

A reminder that we now have jigsaw puzzles at the Library available to borrow free of charge. Donations of puzzles are welcome to get the scheme started.

Sylvia Overton

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Public Transport Matters

Well, some good news today and some not so good news. Every day the Cambridge News features a photo sent in by a reader and today it was of the new Cambridge North station, due to open, I think, in May. It is hoped that it will help relieve Cambridge traffic congestion. However, on booking the Sunday bus this morning I was informed that it will run for only two more Sundays due to lack of support and finance. Use it or lose it. I had hoped that they could renegotiate the terms and come round the villages but it had to stick to the main A1303 and so difficult for older people to access. Since 2005 council supported bus services in rural parts of the country have reduced by 40 per cent leaving many communities that rely on public transport high and dry. It is being dubbed the Beeching of buses. A Bus Services Bill is being introduced to Parliament, which would give local authorities stronger powers to plan and protect their local bus services.

I mentioned Southend Borough Council buses in my last article but I recently visited Southend and Leigh on Sea and found that the buses were run by several different bus companies - Arriva, First, Regal Busways and Stephensons. I hope that you now have up-to date copies of the local Stagecoach 10/11/12 timetables, which are dated 1st Jan. 2017. They are in the Bottisham bus shelter display containers and also the Post Office in Bottisham. Newmarket library also has them. Some buses are later and some earlier and this can affect students' and others access to their due arrival times at school and work. I was annoyed at the cancellation of the 4.35p.m. 10 bus from Cambridge to Newmarket via the villages. I did, however, think perhaps there was a reason! I chatted to a young woman on the bus and she was pleased because she did shift work and could now adjust her times to catch this 4.55 p.m. bus rather than the even later bus, which she had been using. As the 10 to Cambridge leaves 10 mins later and returns 10 mins earlier from Cambridge it does cut the shopping time available!

The plans for the upgrade of the Ely railway junction and the re-opening of the station at Soham after more than half a century has taken a step forward. It is hoped to include the scheme in the next round of spending, which begins in 2019. It could cost £500 million but provide a windfall of jobs as it would include improvements to the Wisbech line and benefit the economy across East Anglia. Greater Anglia's managing director speaks of £1.4 billion investment as the entire fleet of trains is to be replaced in 2019-2020.

There is a suggestion that no-frills mini trains could offer a route to reopening lines that Beeching shut. Under present plans it could be tested on the Northern Rail network, linking Manchester, Leeds and Newcastle, as well as serving thousands of miles of branch lines. They will be light weight, which means less power is needed. The distance between Oxford and Cambridge is only 67 miles but access is difficult by train - you need to go via London for the quickest route. Now the government is backing £100 million of funding to restore the Varsity Line link.

continued on page 41

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continued from page 39

Train users are finding the ticket machines difficult – those at Meldreth are unable to catch trains because of faulty machines and a lack of staff at the station. If you have paid too much for a fare from a ticket machine you may be able to get a refund according to the Office of Rail and Road. Some people are being issued with penalty fares, when they haven't paid enough. This is all being considered by the rail companies, who complain that they are restricted due to the government rules covering rail fares.

Nationalise the railways? Apparently they are already state-owned because they are mainly run by the national companies of Germany, France, Italy and Holland! But there is talk of the Department for Transport taking over the running of the Southern Rail franchise due to the chaos there caused by the strikes.

The slow train from China did arrive in Barking at the London Eurohub terminal via the Channel Tunnel after 18 days crossing 7 countries and 7,500 miles and stuffed with £4million of socks, cloth, bags and suitcases. It was greeted by costumed dancers, drummers and some posing as dragons. It had left Yiwu in Zhejiang province. It costs half the price of air freight.

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Happy travelling! *Paddy James*

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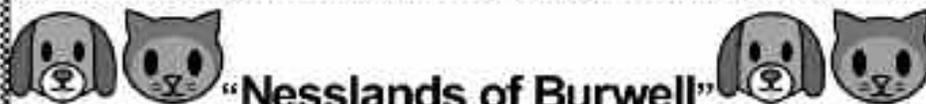
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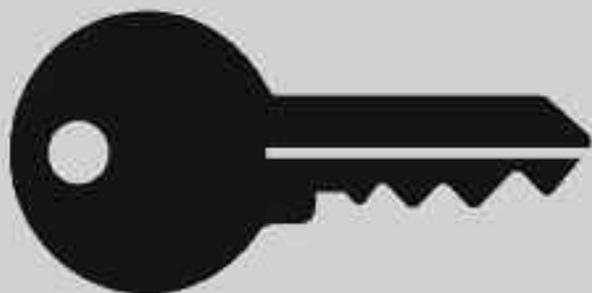
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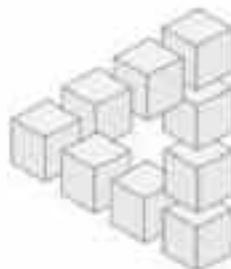
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Charity Ride



Bottisham resident James Plaistow is cycling from Lands End to John O'Groats to raise vital funds in aid of UNHCR dealing with the plight of millions of refugees across the globe.

"Refugees are people just like you. The difference is they have been forced to flee their homes "explains James. Today, on earth, one in every 122 people has been forced to flee their home because of conflict, persecution or violence. Of the world's refugees, more than half are children - children whose short lives have been shaped by war, fear and loss. UNHCR have stretched resources to help more people than ever before. From Syria to Central African Republic, Iraq to South Sudan, UNHCR is present in all of the world's conflict hotspots, working around the clock to extend protection and lifesaving aid to millions.

James will be riding an average of 70 miles a day for 14 days with a rest day in Keswick "Knowing that I am raising much needed funds for this essential cause will help me keep those pedals turning when I will just want to give up ".

If you are able to sponsor James riding with Team Black Squirrel that would be absolutely fantastic. See his just giving page at www.justgiving.com/teams/Blacksquirrel.

Alternatively you can text donate by texting UNCR 99 £amount to 70070. Many thanks for your support.

Community Listener Volunteers Needed

This is Lizzie, she is one of our local Healthwatch Cambridgeshire volunteers and is helping us with a new project to look at how health and care services communicate with people who have a sensory loss.

Lizzie's told us "I am a service user myself and have disabilities so I rely on good healthcare and support, such as having a good relationship with the GP."



Our volunteers are people like you who live or work in Cambridgeshire. You know the place you live and the people in your community. We need your help to talk to more people about Healthwatch and find out what care is like for them.

- ◆ You will listen to people within your local community who have used health or social care services. This may be your family, neighbours and friends, or people you meet within your local networks.
- ◆ You may visit local groups, chat with people and record what they have to say.
- ◆ You might talk to people about Healthwatch Cambridgeshire. This may involve giving a short presentation, or working with us on a display stand.

We will give you training and support, as well as paying agreed out of pocket expenses.

As a Community Listener, you could also train to take part in our 'Enter and View' visits to local health or care services. This is our legal right to visit places that provide publicly funded health or care services, to see and hear how people experience care. In the last year, we have visited Addenbrooke's and Hinchingsbrooke Hospitals.

Contact Heather or Elizabeth for an informal chat. Call **01480 420628**, email enquiries@healthwatchcambridgeshire.co.uk or visit www.healthwatchcambridgeshire.co.uk

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Thoughts of a Sports Nut

So much seems to have happened in the world of sport in the month since my last missive, I feel I am struggling to keep up with it all. For starters, no sooner had I pressed 'send' on February's Sports Nut than the controversial planned closure of Kempton Park racecourse in 2021 was announced. This could (arguably) be good for Newmarket, though, because the £500m being raised by turning Kempton Park into a massive housing estate is going towards the funding of a new all-weather track 7 miles down the A1303. Will it happen? Who knows? But I can see a few lawyers finding the going 'good' over the next 4 years!

Then on 12th January, we lost Graham Taylor OBE to a sudden heart attack, an event which underlined the fickle nature of sports followers and especially the sporting press. Once reviled, despised and cruelly insulted in the red top newspapers of the day, after his England football team failed to reach the 1994 World Cup finals, Taylor's passing precipitated a cacophony of tributes that cast him as a knowledgeable, articulate commentator and a genial, generous and thoroughly decent man. I know at least one former top-flight linesman who might have a different view but I guess anyone can have a moment of weakness when debating offside decisions in the heat of the moment!

Which brings me to the topic of video assistance, a technology which is being trialled by various national FAs and could be used in next season's FA Cup. Yes it works in cricket and tennis and rugby and gridiron, but please, please, everyone, remember that the precious characteristic of football is the flow, the impetus, the continuity, the intensity, call it what you will; but insert stoppages for every contentious decision (which, sadly, is most of them in this day and age) and you lose a fundamental appeal of the 'beautiful game'.

I don't have a problem with goal-line technology because it's a matter of fact whether the ball crosses the line or not. But once we stray into the world of opinion, I fear that – far from eliminating the arguments - a video referee would multiply them and further undermine the man in the middle. How often have you been sitting next to someone watching the same match on TV and disagreeing about what you have seen. Sooner or later, someone has to take responsibility for the ultimate decision and, in my humble opinion, the person best placed to do that is the referee a few yards away. What actually needs to happen is for players and managers to stop treating referees as 'the enemy' and start respecting the decisions made – 95% of which are perfectly correct anyway.

I also noticed that the England & Wales Cricket Board (ECB) was promoting the British Ethnic Diversity Sports Awards, urging people to vote for Lancashire & England's Haseeb Hameed and Yorkshire's Azeem Rafiq... What's going on here? I'm wondering why on earth we need such an award? Is this not racially divisive? Social media has been alive with expressions of incredulity from all flavours of ethnicity. In fact I detect that the Asian community feels more insulted than anybody... with comments from people whose names I cannot pronounce posting refreshingly rational sentiments such as "Patronising..." and "Ain't they just British?"

(Sports Nut continued on page 49.)

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(Sports Nut continued.)

Whilst I fully appreciate the reasons for the rise of what is unkindly known as political correctness but which is, in fact, simply a drive for equality, I rather like American actor Morgan Freeman's take on countering racism: "How to stop racism? Stop talking about it. I'm going to stop calling you a white man and ask you to stop calling me a black man."

At the time of writing, the Six Nations Championship is in full swing and England have just extended their winning run to 16 games by defeating Wales in a nail-biting contest that demonstrated one of the key qualities of Eddie Jones' gritty team: belief. But there is a lot of rugby to be played yet, and perhaps more dramas to be discussed next month.

And by then we should know the identity of the next England Cricket captain after Alistair Cook's resignation. Ben Stokes and Stuart Broad are apparently in the running but my money is on Joe Root who has surely earned the opportunity with his assuredness, consistency and sheer class. It would be good, too, to see Cook still opening the batting and returning to the form that made him one of the all-time great test batsmen

Anyway, I'll finish with another story that caught my eye recently, raising an eyebrow in the process! Southampton Town striker Charlie Austin used to play for semi-professional Poole Town and he is now in the big time (Big Time Charlie perhaps?). Poole Town FC are struggling to improve their home ground to meet their league's ground-grading requirements and need to raise £70,000 quickly pay the bills and avoid relegation. On hearing that the club that gave him his first break in football was in urgent need of a sum roughly equivalent to a week's wages, what do you think the millionaire footballer did? Yes, in a bid for local immortality, he generously offered Poole Town's directors free use of his box at Southampton's St Mary's Stadium to entertain potential investors!

Sorry folks, I'm speechless now!

TTFN Gerry Daish

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A concession nearly lost!

By the time you get round to reading this contribution R and I will have started our return home from what we hope will have been a trip of a lifetime. I'm therefore submitting this rather shorter than normal article late in January so that Peter can meet his editorial deadline for the March edition. We always promised ourselves that at the point of our respective retirements we'd go on a trip we've always wanted to do. My choice was to visit Alaska to see the glaciers, bears and whales and to ride the Rocky Mountaineer - it was fabulous. And now it's now the turn of my 'better half' who, having retired last year, has chosen Asia and the Antipodes.

As we depart Donald Trump has been sworn in as the 45th President of the United States of America and is probably the leader of the most powerful country in the world. That being so he deserves our respect whether we hate him or love him. But how will he cope? Refusal to accept the result (as with Brexit) by using Street protests and delivering silly speeches by some in the 'arts world' is purposeless - they will change nothing. But in some ways isn't it refreshing to have an American President who is wholly and openly committed to putting his own country first. And the same could also be said of our own Prime Minister despite the mindless ranting from the likes of Diane Abbot. Ultimately President Trump and Theresa May will be measured against their own proudly declared standards - we can only reach our verdict on that basis Ms Abbot!

According to The Times our use of smart tech is making us all vulnerable because this increases what is referred to as our 'attack surface area'. Driverless cars, commercial drones, the 'Internet of Things', 'The Cloud'; we rush to embrace these new technologies without pausing to consider how vulnerable they are to manipulation by outsiders and other third parties. Some security experts have declared that the more smart technology we use the more we'll be hacked. There is evidence that hackers have already remotely seized control of drones. How long before terrorists do the same but with the possibility of a far more menacing outcome? Surely it's time we questioned the need for all this new stuff. Do we really need fridges to tell us we need more milk?

Changing tack - a big 'Well Done' to the whole cast and backstage team of the local Panto. A few first night nerves and technical hitches but that aside it was an enjoyable evening and fun - thank you so much...

Probably not many will know that the village very nearly lost community use of the College Playing Fields due to people walking their dogs - which are banned from the college fields anyway - and by those using the playing fields inappropriately during school hours. The village's right to use the playing fields goes back a long way and was a concession given to the village for the loss of the old recreation ground due to the war effort and then the need for social housing. But there has always been an understanding that such use is normally outside of school hours. And thankfully use of the track/path running parallel to the Bradford's Close perimeter fence - that allows access to the playing fields

(Jolley Old World continued on page 55)

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and access to and from Lode Road and Bell Road - has also been preserved. Unfortunately use will be restricted to outside of school hours. Although not an ideal solution for everyone it will however provide a safe route to and from the college prior to and after school thus avoiding the Bell Road/High Street junction. This is important as housing along the Bell Road corridor is set to increase. The compromise will also protect residents' long standing rights to use the track as a route to and from Bell Road and Lode Road.

And finally I came across some useful car maintenance tricks but please use them at your own risk and discretion. For cloudy headlights; smear some toothpaste on a clean rag and start scrubbing. The mild abrasive in the toothpaste should remove a thin layer from the degraded, cloudy lens surface, and will also fill in any little scratches. For chipped windows; as a short term fix for tiny cracks or holes, try filling in the damage carefully, on both the inside and outside of the window, with a bit of clear nail polish. That should make minor cracks or chips almost invisible. And for frozen locks; apply a dollop of hand sanitiser to your key and work it into the lock. The alcohol in the hand sanitiser should thaw the ice.

TJ

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Bottisham & District Gardening Club

Our January speaker was Joanna Crosby and her topic was 'The Horticultural History of the Apple, with advice from Ancient and Modern Gardeners'. Joanna is in the final stages of her PhD and was a very knowledgeable and enthusiastic speaker on all things apple: we learned a lot. She is also a member of the Trumpington Community Orchard project which is located next to the guided busway close to the Waitrose park and ride site. This is both an orchard and wildlife area and they hold monthly maintenance sessions at the orchard and welcome volunteers. They also have a number of special events throughout the year. If you are thinking of buying an apple tree or setting up an orchard (an orchard is 3 or more trees), please check out Joanna and/or the Trumpington Community Orchard Project on the web.

Unfortunately due to a death and serious illness we have had to revise our programme for this year. Michelle Bullivant, who was going to speak about Cherry Hinton Hall Park and Gardens, will unfortunately be in hospital but our February speaker is now Nigel Start on 'Growing for Show'. And sadly Barry Kaufmann Wright passed away over the Christmas period. Our April speaker is now Polly Howatt on 'Everything but the Squeal: food and folklore in the Fens'. The full revised programme can be found on our web pages. Our March meeting is on 28 March and Ken Nicholls will be talking about 'The Quiet Garden Movement'

I have been reading Ken York's recently published memoir 'As I Remember It', and it is a delight. Ken will be 97 years young when you read this and it brings home to us just how much the world has changed in his time. He was a Royal Marine regular, serving overseas for much of his early married life and during and after World War II. He moved to Bottisham in 1964 and very quickly immersed himself in village life, being involved in the purchase and renovation of the Chapel which is now the HQ for the Bottisham scout group, was Chairman of the Gardening Club for many years (and is now our President) and was one of the team which set up the Bottisham village magazine *The Cresset*.

Early warning that we have set the date for this year's **Annual Village Show: 9 September in the British Legion's Main Hall**. We hope that we will see entries from the whole district: we have sections on fruit and veg, flowers, baking, crafts, painting/drawing and photography. We also have a children's section and it would be nice to see a few more entries there. Our motto is 'Something for everyone, give it a go' and we hope you will – you might surprise yourself!

Tricia McLaughlin, Secretary - www.bottishamgardeningclub.co.uk

Copy deadline for next issue is 14 March.

Please send material to the editor at
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Police community support officer Ian Hawkins PCSO 7274 at Ely Police Station..Contact through 101	
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Bottisham Royal British Legion Club: Secretary - Suzy Woolley.....	812063
Branch Chairman: Dave Frost	www.britishlegion.org.uk/branches/bottisham
Bottisham Scout Group: Group Contact: Linda Jones.....	813040
Bottisham Sports Association: Graham Barker.....	812087
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Bottisham W.I.: Secretary - Jenn White • mrandjw@btinternet.com	811600
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