

October 2017

THE *Cresset*



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



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“I'm so glad I live in a world where there are Octobers.”

- L.M. Montgomery, *Anne of Green Gables*



October is one of those months which can almost encapsulate a whole year in terms of weather and the seasons. Bound by a inescapable drift towards winter, it can surprise us at any time and usually does with a step back to a brief balmy warm echo of summer, or tip us sharply into a reminder of what is coming.

Variety is the spice of life and I for one am so pleased to live in a country where there is such a variation in the weather. While we love the hot summers (when we get them!), I would not like to have that for 365 days of the year like some countries in the middle East. Similarly I like a keen clear cold frosty day, but would not want to suffer the extended winters of say Northern Norway

All four seasons in one day may be a joke of a quote, but the temperate climate we have, being as we are, on the Eastern side of the Atlantic ensures that we get plenty of variety, but avoid the extremes. Just have a thought for those folks in the Caribbean and Florida who have been devastated by hurricane Irma.

Lots of rain may cause occasional problems here, but it makes the countryside green and grows our crops. We also are happy to avoid the extremes of rainfall that they have in monsoon areas of the tropics.

Talking about growing things while changing the subject, what a great garden club show we had this year. Entries were up and encouragingly there were a lot more junior entries. Introducing this sort of thing to children of primary school age can set a whole generation on the road to growing, cooking and making, which has to be better than computer games and ‘surfing the net.

Inevitably I looked at some of the entries with envy, but at others with a “I could have put something in that class and might have won”. Trouble is I was saying that after the entries closed and the judging complete. Next year I must get it done in time.

Parking at the shops gets a lot of people commenting. Some for creating more parking space creating lay-bys and those who think that that is not a good way to spend a lot of money for a couple of extra spaces, which would soon not be enough again.

Getting people out of their cars when in the village and walking or cycling would be a better focus for us. I still get amazed at parents loading up their cars and driving their children to school for a distance measured in yards not miles (or metres if you are below that certain age). The schools themselves surely have a responsibility in this, to advise and educate both the children and the parents.

I do hope you enjoy reading your village magazine. If there are things you would like to see included, then do let me know. I know our regular features are well read but there may be others who would like to contribute. We have regular contributors of articles and reports

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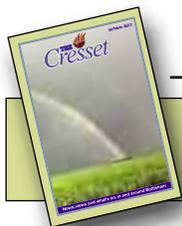
which we appreciate greatly and make interesting reading, but we would always appreciate more.

Do you have some hobby or interest which you could report on? These don't need to be articles every month. Tales of adventures you have undertaken, or experiences you have had, will often be of interest to others.

The other thing that we love to get are photographs of local scenes in and around the village. Your handywork could grace the cover of *The Cresset* just as this month. Captured by Julia Green by being in the right time at the place (down the Wilbraham Road), it makes for a stunning picture. Portrait layout is ideal, but I can usually crop to suit.

Enjoy this month's offering and take care. More next month.

Your Editor, Peter Walker



'COVER PICTURE this month was taken by Julia Green looking SE from the Wilbraham Rd. Sunshine & Showers could be the title. Thank you Julia.'

Anglesey Group Mothers' Union

In July a Member of Bottisham Airfield Museum was booked to talk to us but had to cancel. At very short notice Richard Ayres gave a beautifully illustrated talk on the garden at Kirtling Tower. In 1533 Kirtling Tower was acquired by Lord North who was Assistant to Thomas Cromwell to do with the dissolution of the monasteries and their land. Lord North was a lawyer to Henry VIII and Elizabeth I and said to be the wealthiest person in the country.

The Fairhaven family moved from Anglesey Abbey to Kirtling in 1995/1996. Richard worked at Kirtling Tower for 9 years overseeing the creation of the outstanding new garden. Originally, there were a great many old English wild tulips (the only collection in the country) snowdrops and cowslips.

Very sadly the Fairhavens' son, Rupert, died of malaria and 60/ 70,000 new tulip bulbs were planted in his Memory. Everyone who worked there and all family members joined in and 55,000 were planted on the first day.

Richard showed us many lovely slides of this fantastic garden – it would take too long to describe the whole garden in this article. We are most grateful to Richard for giving us such an excellent talk at such short notice.

In August we held our Summer Afternoon Tea at Scotsdales Garden Centre in Horningsea. We were given a delicious cream tea with fresh scones, sandwiches and cakes – our thanks to the staff at Scotsdales, we all thoroughly enjoyed ourselves.

Our meetings usually take place on the third Thursday of each month in Lode Chapel at 2.30. Our next meeting will be on October 19th. Everyone is to bring along a favourite possession and we hold our 'Autumn' Bring & Buy Stall. You are most welcome to come along and join us.

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Cambridge, Past, Present & Future

- A colourful month of activities



Tilly the Travelling Tearoom at Wandlebury Sundays 1-22 October: 11am to 5pm On most Sundays throughout October, visitors can purchase hot and cold drinks and a variety of tasty homemade cakes and cookies from Tilly the Travelling Tearoom, close to the Tadlow Granary. Tilly will also be selling delicious ice cream from the Saffron Ice Cream Company.

Healthy Walking at Wandlebury. CB22 3AE Every Thursday: 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 Wednesday 4, 18 October: 1pm, 2pm, 3pm start Enhance your wellbeing and fitness with this friendly fortnightly Nordic Walking group at Wandlebury, led by Wellbeing Coach/Nordic Walking instructor Oliver Glynn. There are three levels of walk: 1pm for those with restricted mobility, 2pm for a healthy lifestyle speed, 3pm total beginners. Poles can be borrowed free of charge if required. No charge for the restricted mobility and healthy speed walks, for total beginners the cost is £15 per hour - **please book**. Contact Oliver on 07947 835522 or info@nordicwellbeing.co.uk

Hinxton Watermill Open Day and Village Hall Teas Sunday 1 October: 2.30pm-5.30pm Drop in and explore this impressive 17th century working watermill, built on a site dating back to the Domesday Book. Much of the machinery inside remains in good working order. Children can take part in the 'Where's Ratty' contest! CambridgePPF members free, non members £3 for adults, £1 for children.

Wonderful Wandlebury - History Fun Day at Wandlebury. Saturday 7 October: 12pm-4.30pm A variety of activities on offer at this popular history day that's packed with fun and learning for the whole family. Have a go at traditional Iron Age crafts for children including shelter building, bushcraft, weapon and shield making, Iron Age cooking and jewellery making. Try your hand at archery, games, animal trails, and to check out beekeeping with the Cambridge Beekeepers. Entry is free but there will be a small charge for selected activities and games. There will also be opportunities to buy some items.

Fungal Discovery Saturday 14 October: 11am-1pm Be guided around Wandlebury Park and hear from an expert all about the fascinating array of fungi that thrives at this time of year. Suitable for all levels. Adults only. £5 (£4 for members). Booking is essential.

Dracula Part I: Jonathan Harker's Journal Friday 13 & Saturday 14 Oct at The Leper Chapel: 7.30pm Martin Prest and That's My Cue Productions presents Dracula Part I: Jonathan Harker's Journal at the Leper Chapel, bringing the first part of Bram Stoker's masterpiece to life in this spellbinding one-man show. For more information & tickets email thatsmycue@outlook.com

Basket Weaving Sunday 15 October: 10am-4pm Relaxed day for adults at Wandlebury Park. Weave a simple basket as you learn the basic techniques, guided by an experienced basket weaver. Tools, tea, coffee & biscuits will be provided, but bring a packed lunch. £45 each (members £40). Beginners & improvers welcome.

Continued on page 6

Continued from page 5

Vital Spark Theatre - workshops at Wandlebury Country Park for half term Monday 23 October:

10am - **Pumpkin Soup adventure** 2-6 years - £5 per child

11am - **Unlocking Autumn secrets adventure** 2-6 years - £5 per child

12-3pm - **primary age Autumn Adventure with a hot potato snack** - £20 per child

Cambridgeshire-based company that specialises in working with young people in a creative way through drama, dance, music and the creative arts. Booking essential: www.vitalsparktheatre.org or email Katherine@vitalsparktheatre.org

A Pleasing Terror - M R James Ghost Stories at the Leper Chapel, Fri 27th & Sat 28th

October: 7.30pm Don't miss out on a night of fright as the acclaimed Robert Lloyd Parry of the Nunkie Theatre Company recounts two of the eeriest tales by the master of the English ghost story, M R James. Tickets £12 (£10 concessions) here: www.nunkie.co.uk, or contact robllloydparry@hotmail.com. Dress warmly. Suitable for ages 13+. Newmarket Road, Cambridge, CB5 8JJ - opposite Cambridge United. Note that there is no parking or facilities at the chapel itself. Please park in nearby streets or come by bus or on foot.

Halloween Fun! Saturday 28 October: 4pm-7pm There'll be spooky goings-on at

Wandlebury today with a fun evening of Halloween howls! Come along in fancy dress if you wish, then carve your own scary pumpkin sculpture followed by a guided twilight walk around the park. Warm up with hot drinks around a fire - bring marshmallows to toast if you wish. This year there will be a bewitching storyteller sharing spooky tales. Early booking is recommended. £15 per pumpkin (£12 for members). Children must be accompanied.

Bottisham WI

We did not hold a traditional meeting in August but went to London for the day and visited the Houses of Parliament. We had been due to have our local MP Lucy Fraser speak to us in June but this was cancelled as the election intervened but she was able to arrange for our visit.

Following the necessary strict security precautions we met in the Westminster Hall to divide into 2 groups and admire the timbered ceiling. This is where members of the Royal family and other important people lie in state and where the Queen and foreign visitors e.g. Barack Obama, Nelson Mandela address Members of Parliament and those from the House of Lords because as we later saw both their chambers are too small even for their own groups. The House of Lords designed by Pugin is most ornate with plenty of gold leaf but the commons is more normal and in these days of TV is known to us all. Our guides were excellent and had many amusing stories as they took us through the many corridors pointing out the paintings and sculptures. Lloyd George has to stand on a plinth to make him the same height as Churchill! The guides explained too the serious fire of 1834 and the consequent rebuilding and the damage caused during the Blitz. The building is currently undergoing many repairs both inside and out.

We were actually in the middle of our tour when the chimes of Big Ben ceased for 4 years. Where will we all be when Big Ben chimes again???

Our next meeting is on **Tuesday 17th October** when Barbara Redman WILL BE HOSTING ANOTHER CRAFT EVENING. These have proved very popular in the past. The meeting will be held at will be held at Queens Court at **7.30pm**

Visitors and new members are very welcome to come and join us

Sylvia Overton 811792

Services in Holy Trinity Bottisham in October

Sunday 1st	11am	Harvest Festival <i>Rev'd Elizabeth Caswell</i>
Wednesday 4th	8pm	Compline by Candlelight <i>led by Dr Sarah Maxwell</i>
Sunday 8th		No service in Bottisham
	10am	Benefice Communion in Swaffham Prior
Sunday 15th	8am	Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) <i>Rev'd Sue Giles</i>
	11am	Holy Communion <i>Rev'd Professor Gina Radford</i>
Sunday 22th		No service in Bottisham
	8am	Holy Communion in Swaffham Prior
	10am	Benefice All-Age Service in Swaffham Bulbeck
Sunday 29th	11am	Holy Communion <i>Rev'd Sue Giles</i>

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). Any late changes in times or places of services will be given there, along with details of any funerals or weddings in Holy Trinity.

Rev'd Sue Giles writes

At the end of this month we will be celebrating the Christian festival of All Hallows or All Saints' Day. The celebration is based on the belief that there is a powerful spiritual bond between those in heaven and those who are part of the Christian community on earth, the Church Triumphant and the Church Militant. We are joined in our worship of the living God wherever we may be. The festival is celebrated by Christians from many different traditions and in many countries across the world and unlike the commercial celebration of Halloween with its macabre outfits of ghosts, ghouls, witches and wizards, All Saints' Day commemorates all the good things that human beings have done, all the holiness, love and faithfulness that they have brought to the world through their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Some of the saints have done this even though faced with opposition and martyrdom. The saints may be well known and important to many or unknown except to those whose lives they touched. It is not a celebration of their importance or the scale of the legacy they left but of their faithfulness and way in which they have held the light of Christ in the world.

It is a time when many people across the world visit the graves of relatives to tend them and decorate them with flowers. In some places they light the graves with candles and may have special food to celebrate the precious lives remembered. All souls day, the day after All Hallows is the day when people often remember family members and friends who are important in their lives.

This year we are having a celebration of All Souls' Day that everyone is welcome to come and share. It is a time to remember family and friends from whom we have been separated by death. A time to hear their name spoken as we remember the part they have played in our lives. Remembering is an important dimension in the life of communities, the enquiry into the Grenfall Tower disaster began with silent remembering.

November 11th will be marked by silence too, so it is good that there is a time and place to name and remember before God the people who have touched our lives. It is good to give thanks for them and to re-affirm their importance in our lives. This year the service will be held at Lode Parish Church on Sunday October 29th at 3pm followed by refreshments. If you would like a name read out as part of the service please can you e-mail it to suethevic@btinternet.com.

God bless - Sue



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MAKING PEACE, PUTTING OTHERS FIRST...

There was rich man who lived in the desert. Of all his possessions he was most proud of his 17 camels, signs of his riches. The rich man was coming to the end of his life so he thought he had better make a will. He decided to leave half his wealth to his only child, a third to his grandchild and a ninth to his nephew. This seemed fair, everyone was happy.

When the rich man died, his will was read, and the riches began to get distributed. All was going well, until they got to the camels. The child came up to the camels and began to claim his share... but then stopped. Eight and a half camels? Not possible! What do we do with the half? The grandchild gave it a go. Five and two thirds of a camel? Who gets the hump? The nephew then calculated his ninth. One and eight ninths of camel? The hump is mine!

They stood and faced one another. What would they do? They argued and fought violently for days, on the brink of war, they couldn't come to a solution.

A poor man who lived next door had witnessed what was going on and he tentatively approached the heirs. "What's the problem? Can I help?" The child, grandchild and nephew looked at him in disgust - they were rich, he was poor, what could he do?

The poor man said, "I will give you my one camel, everything I own, add it to my old neighbour's estate, it could help". The three heirs shrugged their shoulders & muttered under their breath, but they decided an extra camel couldn't do any harm.

And they tried again:

The child, a half of now eighteen camels - 9 CAMELS

The grandchild, a third of now eighteen camels - 6 CAMELS.

The nephew, a ninth of now eighteen camels - 2 CAMELS.

They looked at each other and began to grin, and then they noticed in the corner a camel, just standing there, waiting to be taken...the poor man's camel, left over. They led it next door and tied it up for the poor man to re-claim.

WHAT'S SO IMPORTANT ABOUT THIS STORY?

It reminds us that in the midst of conflict, sometimes it takes a different perspective to bring peace. It reminds us that sometimes to bring peace we need to give up something of ourselves. It reminds us that if we pause to reflect, the solution might be easier than we first thought.

The world is full of conflict and instability. This kind of instability doesn't start with someone waking up one day and getting their weapons ready. It starts with a culture of my; a culture of want; a culture of take. For the three heirs the solution was simple, but their feelings of entitlement meant they couldn't see it. May we be like the poor man, prepared to give of ourselves to make peace. He is the truly rich person in this story.

Curious about RENEW Church? We would love to welcome you to one of our services. Come and see!

Rev'd Alan Brand

RENEW Church services in October 2017

We have activities for children and young people at all our morning services, which are held at Bottisham Primary School unless otherwise stated. All are welcome.

Croissants, fruit and drinks are available before Morning Worship from 10.10 am.

1st October.	10.30am.	Morning Worship
8th October.	10.30am.	Morning Worship Followed by Shared Lunch.
8th October.	6.20pm.	Evening Worship at Lode Chapel.
15th October.	10.30am.	Morning Worship
22nd October.	10.30am.	Morning Worship
22nd October.	6.20pm.	Evening Worship at Lode Chapel.
29th October.	10.30am.	Morning Worship

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

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September's meeting was the first since July and was a quiet one with several councillors and the Clerk away on holiday. County Councillor Mathew Shuter reported that the consultation on Children's Centres is ongoing. There is a proposal to close the Centre in Bottisham and the County Council is keen to hear the views of local residents. Parish Council feel the current Centre is in an ideal location and offers excellent facilities for young children and will send in comments to the Consultation reflecting this. County Councillor Shuter also hopes to have news about funding for improvements to the A1303 over the next few weeks. You may well also have noticed that a project is currently taking place to cut back the undergrowth which is slowly making the footpath along the A1303 unusable.

Lysander Close, the new development off of Tunbridge Lane is nearing completion and residents have been moving in for some time now. Part of the plans for this was to have a footpath which linked to the current footpath in Ancient Meadows. Part of the footpath is in place but allocated parking spaces and siting of fencing mean it is unusable and it also does not connect to Ancient Meadows. We have brought this to the attention of our District Councillor who is looking into this further. We will also write to Bloor Homes regarding this and also if any plans for the open space at the entrance to the site are have yet been made.

Parish Council thanked Mr John Hutchinson for the voluntary maintenance work that he has been carrying out in the cemetery recently and other areas of the village for some time. Councillor Jolley is investigating the possibility of having a village traffic warden, shared between a number of villages and will keep us updated on how this progresses.

Councillor's Bryant and Ogborn recently visited Gamlingay Parish Council and their new cemetery. We are just beginning on our journey to have a new cemetery off of Lode Road as the one in Downing Close nears capacity. We first visited Gamlingay several years ago when we were trying to locate a suitable site and the cemetery there was not yet open although they were able to share lots of useful information with us. Now it is open for use. They have a permanent bore hole and continue to test water levels. It has taken them 10 years from first identifying a site to be able to use the cemetery so we realise we have some way to go.

Lastly, most people in the village will be aware that we currently have very little play provision for children especially pre-school age children. We have tried unsuccessfully over the years to identify a suitable piece of land for this use. We are now looking into this again but firstly want to establish if there is actually a genuine demand for pre-school play areas and to seek views on whether such areas should include play equipment or be left as open space. As was mentioned in the last Cresset a questionnaire has been prepared which will be delivered to every household in the village mid-October to be returned by the first week in November. We ask that residents complete this either online or return to collection points in the village. These will be detailed on the questionnaire. Parish Council will then analyse the responses to this and decide if we move this forward. Please look out for the questionnaire. We need residents input into this and if the responses show there is a need we would welcome volunteers from the village to assist the Parish Council in taking this forward.

Claire Fullwood - Parish Clerk

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Planning Notes

- 17/00911/FUL The Gables, 11 Bell Road, Construction of 4 bedroom, two storey detached dwelling with double garage plus a single garage for no. 11 Bell Road, APPLICATION WITHDRAWN
- 17/00994/VAR Church Farm House, 69 High Street, Variation of condition 1 and 4 of previously approved 16/01240/FUL, demolition and rebuilding of outbuilding as garage and studio. APPLICATION REFUSED
- 17/01216/FUL ,Land at Bell Road (rear of Public House), Construction of a 3 bedroom dwelling house with car parking, cycle and refuse storage. Demolition of sheds and fences to rear of public house to create 10 additional parking spaces and a new amenity area with a new vehicular access. Reduce boundary wall along Bell Road to reduce height from. M to 0.6M, NEW APPLICATION
- 17/00454/FUL Tunbridge Hall, 60 Tunbridge Lane, Variation of Condition 1 (approved plans) of previously approved 17/00454/FUL for construction of swimming pool changing room/garden room to be built of brick under a slate roof NEW APPLICATION
- 17/00311/FUL Bottisham Heath Stud, London Road, Retrospective planning application for stables and , additional groom accommodation on land at Bottisham Heath Stud. APPLICATION APPROVED
- 17/00821/FUL 1 Rowley Gardens, Single storey rear extension, APPLICATION APPROVED
- 17/0828/VAR, Swynford Paddocks, To vary Condition 3 (materials) of 16/00177/FUL for the proposed side extension and new timber feather edged boarding to existing dwelling and alteration to porch.
- 17/00933/FUL 4 Rowley Gardens, Single storey rear extension, APPLICATION APPROVED
- 17/01202/FUL, Focal Point, Newmarket Rd, Temporary replacement storage unit, APPROVED
- 17/01293/FUL, 113 Lode Road, Demolish existing conservatory plus outbuilding and erect single storey rear extension, NEW APPLICATION
- 17/01400/FUL, 1 Beechwood Avenue, Construction of a new detached garage following demolition of existing outbuilding, extend roof over porch and new roof light in dining room, NEW APPLICATION
- 17/01427/FUL, 19 Tunbridge Close, Single storey extensions to rear and front and first floor extension to side, NEW APPLICATION
- 17/01511/FUL, 6 Mulberry Close. Proposed single and two storey extensions. NEW APPLICATION

We have also received a pre-planning application advice for a proposed communications apparatus at Tunbridge Lane, Bottisham

Copy deadline for next issue is 14 October.

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

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Public Transport Matters

Shortly before the village magazines were dropping through your letterboxes telling you of the 23rd July changes to the 10/11/12 buses, I came home to find a box of Stagecoach 10 and 11/12 timetables on my bins with a note from Alan of Stagecoach telling me of the new changes to the buses from the 3rd September 2017! He had changed all the display notices at the bus stops but how to let everyone know! When I asked people whether they had the new timetables they, of course, replied 'yes' and waved a 23rd July one at me. There were notices in the buses but they were underneath information on the Bank Holiday changes and it was not very clear that the notice also was about the local buses changes. Bottisham post office and the bus shelters with little containers in Bottisham should have timetables (they do disappear fast!) and I was able to give a few to a Lode resident and a Swaffham Bulbeck resident so hopefully a few arrived in the post offices there. The timetable containers on the buses are often empty or have timetables for the 9 service.

It is, of course, all on the Stagecoach new timetables website. Newmarket library downloaded lots of copies of this. David had kept them informed. There are lots of leaflets about public transport on the ground floor of the library.

I hope that the new Grafton Centre will also include an information point like they used to have. It was useful to have Premier Travel and leaflets by the little café at Drummer St. but that closed. We say 'use it or lose it' but people need to know what is available. There has been an outcry over the cancellation of many Whippet services mainly to the villages to the west and south of Cambridge. Things are slowly being taken over by other small companies with Council support. It is on the web. The Big Green Bus Company is running the 110, 114 and 117. The 114 is the useful one that goes from Drummer St. Bay 7 to Sainsbury's 4 times a day. Save time and money with Plusbus, linking buses to train travel - buy it at a station or online. The city sightseeing bus is a convenient way to show visitors round Cambridge. It goes out to the American cemetery and south to the University Botanic Garden and includes the colleges and the Museum of Cambridge. It runs every 20 minutes and leaves from stop 9 at Drummer St. You can hop off and on at places of interest to you.

I have visited Cambridge North station again using the citi 2 bus from St. Andrew's St. There is to be a Costa café opened this month and a Co-op store in November. There will not be a ticket office but just the machines but there will be staff on hand to help. There is good parking and I did wonder whether it might benefit local people here to use it for travel to London. It is down Cowley Road opposite the Science Park. There are fast trains that only stop at Cambridge and then direct to King's Cross. They have information leaflets on display including one headed 'North Cambridge bus times and ticket guide' and it also has a map. The plans for a station at Addenbrooke's are under discussion but it will have no parking. There is no space for one. Options are being considered. Also under discussion are the plans for a proposed Park and Ride site to the west of Cambridge and three possible options for a busway link between Cambourne and Cambridge. This is not popular with the local residents.

As Cambridge is so congested, should we go underground to create a major transport hub? Parker's Piece and the old Cavendish Laboratory site were mentioned by the Greater

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Cambridge Partnership as possible entrance sites for the proposed network. However, there are many other suggestions being put forward in the columns of the Cambridge News. A similar system to Stansted, perhaps, in a ring going round the city?

Rail fares are set to rise due to inflation. Season tickets cost 6 times what they cost on the Continent as train companies pay out millions in dividends to shareholders.

Eurostar is in talks to offer through trains to Bordeaux without having to change at Paris. Is too much money being spent on HS2 rather than the long awaited plans to modernise railways in Wales, the Midlands and the North? However, there are plans to introduce bi-mode trains on the Midland and Great Western mainlines. These have diesel engines but are also part electric so they can run on electric sections of the track. They will be faster, have more seats and better onboard facilities. Crossrail cock-up? No station at London city airport - this is now being planned. Sir Terry Morgan, chairman of Crossrail, is the new chairman of City airport! Mention has been made of the great contribution made at the time of Dunkirk by the railway - the men and equipment had to get to the small ships. South Western Railway is investing £1.2 billion over the next 7 years to provide new trains, more seats and faster journeys between London Waterloo, the South and South West. The Caledonian Sleeper overnight to Scotland is having a revamp - updated and modernised. Plans to electrify the rail link between Oxford and Cambridge have been abandoned because of concerns over cost and the timescale. They will use diesel trains.

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Happy travelling! - Paddy James

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Winter will soon be upon us and, as the colder months draw on, we begin using our fires, burners and chimneys once again to warm our homes. Chimney Fires continue to be a common occurrence in the winter months. We experience an average of 81 chimney fires a year in Cambridgeshire alone! To ensure that you keep your home safe from fire, please follow our Top Tips below:

- Whatever fire you have, or fuel you burn, it is vitally important to have your chimney swept to avoid a build-up of ash and soot
- Avoid burning resinous evergreen woods (that quickly build up soot)
- Burn only fuels suitable for your burner (eg: never burn anything other than wood in a wood burner)
- Do not overload the grate/ appliance
- Do not bank fires too high and remember to let them burn out well before you go to bed
- Check the hearth, floor and furnishings near the fire for hot sparks/embers
- Do not place objects on or over the mantelpiece which might cause you to stand too close to the fire in order to reach them
- Always use a fire/spark guard to prevent accidental fires and make sure it has the kite mark or that it conforms to British/European standards
- Inspect your chimney breast, particularly in the roof space. Make sure it is sound and sparks/fumes cannot escape through cracks or broken bricks
- For each slow burning period there should follow a quick burn to dry out unwanted tar/creosote deposits and to warm up the chimney again
- At the end of each burning season, and at least once during the season, the entire system should be cooled and thoroughly cleaned to maintain top performance.

Also ensure that Wood and Multi-Fuel burners are installed and regularly maintained by a qualified and competent engineer. You can refer to www.solidfuel.co.uk for further advice and information. ALWAYS also install a Carbon Monoxide (CO) (the silent killer) alarm in the room where the burner is installed

The next edition of The Cresset comes out around Bonfire Night - 5th November. Keep fireworks in fireproof containers, away from matches and heat and, importantly, children. Ideally, attend a centrally organised event and watch from a distance.

Every time you read The Cresset is a good reminder to Test your Smoke Alarms, ones that carry the kite mark or British Standard Number 5446 - please do it now. And remember - If you should have a fire, Get Out, Dial 999 and STAY OUT!

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.

Copy deadline for next issue is 14 October.

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



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Bottisham & District Gardening Club

Our main event of the year is the Annual Village Show and this took place again on Saturday 9 September in Bottisham British Legion. The day started for us at 8 am, setting up the tables with their black tablecloths to best exhibit all the entries. While we had a good number of entries (215 over the seven sections), we worried that the weather forecast, which was not good, would have an effect on the day. At 8.30 am exhibitors with their exhibits started to arrive and we were soon in full flow. At 10.30 the hall was cleared of all but the necessary judges and their stewards. The fruit and vegetables and the flower sections looked amazing; the baking; the crafts; paintings and drawings and the photography sections proved yet again what a talented lot we are. But the children's section, with their Lego models, jewellery, miniature gardens, paintings and drawings, decorated biscuits and hard-boiled eggs, was the best we've had – perhaps due to having Head Teacher Rachael Johnston as our Show Opener. Our thanks go to all the judges: Mike Corbett for the fruit and vegetables; Margaret Hofton for the flowers; Marion Sketchley for baking; Sandy McPhoenix for crafts; Karen Hunter for paintings and drawings, and of course to Rachael Johnston for all that she did on the day.

After a break for lunch and adding up the points, the show opened to the public at 2 pm and, right on cue, the heavens also opened – not just rain, stair rods! 'Oh no' we thought, 'Nobody is going to come out in this'. We were wrong; people of all ages were soon crowding into the hall to see the results of their efforts. With the buzz of excited chatter, it really felt like the community event we hoped it would be. Trophies are awarded to club members only, with non-members and children receiving certificates. The first-placed children also received a voucher from Scotsdales who, along with Bill Sumner at the Bottisham Village Stores, sponsored us again this year. Trophy winners included Frank Wright, Julia Green, Joan Berry, Enid Buckett, and me, Tricia McLaughlin. Frank Wright received the Lord Fairhaven Challenge Cup for 'Best in Show' for his onions. As an RHS affiliated society we receive a Grenfell Medal each year for the best arrangement of flowers and foliage and this was awarded to Meleena Walsh.

First places for the children went to Lyla Woloszyn and Bonita Mitchell for the under-5 section; to James Etches and Amelie Woloszyn for the 5 to 7 year-olds; and to Daniel Etches, Jorja Walsh and Imogen McLaughlin for the 7 to 11 year-olds. Congratulations to all of them, and also to the runners-up. It was a difficult section to judge.

Thanks must also go to our willing helpers on the day: too many to name here but especially to Margret Coles for her wonderful cakes (she makes them all herself) and Cindy King for the refreshment stall. Thank you to the setters-up and clearers-up, the washers-up, and the stewards who assisted the judges. We wouldn't manage without you. Thanks also go to you, the village community, for your efforts before and support during the day. You are what make the show a success. We hope to see you all again next year.

We also had the judging for the gardening club's Members' Competition, and the challenge this year was to grow a potato, provided by the club, in a container. The

continued on page 29

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containers were lined up at the front of the British Legion and, using Will Newman's accurate weighing scales, Dick McLaughlin and Ian Cole excavated and weighed the potatoes in the containers. First place went to Alf Laister with a yield of 2.7 kg; second place to Helen Cole with 2.6 kg; and third place to Ena Laister with 2.5 kg. Very close. The trophy was presented to Alf by Rachael Johnston at the end of the Show.

We will be holding our Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 24 October, 7.30 pm in the Poppy Room at the British Legion. Members will review the past year and voting will take place for committee members for the coming year. The evening will be rounded off with a glass of wine and refreshments. Please come along and let us know your views. If you are a non-member and would like to join the club, membership is only £15 per annum and you are then eligible for a trophy at the Annual Village Show. The full list of places in all sections of the Show will also be available.

Tricia McLaughlin, Secretary

East Anglian Air Ambulance



As with other Air Ambulances around the UK, EAAA continues to 'make a difference' to the lives of people from all walks of life, in the ultimate scenario saving lives. This valuable work is made possible by the continuing generous support from you, our readers, and the wider public. In addition to contributions, much support comes by way of fundraising of all descriptions including quizzes, golf days, walks and, locally the 'Cambridge Roar' at Quay Mill Hotel and Spa. A huge 'Thank You' to Tony Murdoch and his team, who put so much time and effort into the events at Quay Mill Hotel.

We have recently entered into a clothing bank partnership with the Salvation Army so please save your old garments etc as 50% of the revenue will come back to EAAA. To facilitate this we are looking for a corner of a car park or other location accessible to the public - this replaces doorstep bag collection so please contact us.

If anyone is thinking of holding an event to support EAAA, a Halloween Party or a cycle ride for example, please do let us know. Also, how about joining the EAAA Lottery with a chance of **winning up to £25,000!** To enter the weekly draw and accumulator, go to www.eaaa.org.uk or call 01603 489400. EAAA looks forward to hearing from you.

'Together We Save Lives'

Michael White

Copy deadline for next issue is 14 October.

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Bottisham Medical Practice Patients' Group

MENINGITIS AND SEPTICAEMIA VACCINE FOR TEENAGERS: Public Health England is calling for more take up in eligible young people of the MenACWY vaccine, which protects against deadly meningitis and septicaemia. Parents are being reminded this summer to encourage 18 year old children to get vaccinated. Those who have left school this summer, or aged 17 to 18 and are not in school (born between 1 September 1998 and 31 August 1999) are now eligible. The MenACWY jab has been 100% effective in protecting against four strains of meningococcal disease. The disease can be fatal and MenW is one of the most aggressive and life threatening forms. Many survivors are left with life changing disabilities, including brain damage and loss of limbs.

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 start at 11.00am from the surgery car park on **6 and 18 October and 3 and 15 November 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.

Next Meeting: Next meeting will be **Thursday 23 November 2017 at 6.30pm** at the surgery.

Bottisham Patients' Group

Bottisham Community Library Association

We are currently buying the Richard and Judy Autumn Book List and these should be available shortly. WH Smith provide a good discount if you buy the whole set of books and they have been good reads in the past.

We have had many donations and these new books (to us) have been displayed on the large table during the recent school holiday and have been flying off to borrowers like hot cakes. We have noticed that requests for books held by other Cambridgeshire libraries have not reduced since the re- introduction of the £1 charge.

We had over 50 young readers join the summer reading scheme and parents have been busy encouraging them to read their 6 books over the holiday. At the time of writing this, over half have completed the scheme and will receive their awards later in September.

The weekly Saturday Morning Art Club has started again and the Story and Rhyme time sessions continue to be held on the second Saturday of every month.

Our date for our Card sale has now been altered to Saturday 11th November. Our supplier now works for the Flamingo company but there may also be some Phoenix stock available. We will have catalogues available beforehand for you to place your order. Please support us in this venture.

Sylvia Overton.



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

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Bottisham British Legion Social club wins CAMRA Club of the Year Award! While also achieving and maintaining the Cask Marque



28th October - Children's Halloween Party

4-7pm £1 per child

Saturday 14th October - Quiz Night by Bottisham Bowling Club

Open to all - £3 per head 7.30pm Start.

Phone Hilda Buchanan on 811689 to book a table (Max. 8 people)

Nibbles available at the bar

4th November - Music and Dance with THE LEGIONNAIRES

11th November 8.00pm start - Race Night in aid of the Poppy appeal

Great fun night with a little flutter on the gee gees

18th November - Poppy Appeal Meal

A dinner in aid of the Poppy appeal

With Music from Jason, Roland and Victoria

£25 per head - Tickets and menu choices from the bar at the Club

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Remembrance Sunday

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION - BOTTISHAM BRANCH

REMEMBRANCE DAY PARADE AND SERVICE SUNDAY 12th NOVEMBER 2017 at BOTTISHAM

The Bottisham Branch of the Royal British Legion will be holding its Remembrance Day Parade and Service at Bottisham. The parade will assemble at 10.20am in the Legion Social Club car park and progress the church for the Remembrance Service to commence at 10.50am. Taking part will be contingents from the Bottisham Royal British Legion, Bottisham Scouts, Cub Scouts, Girl Guides and Beavers together with members of the Burwell detachment of the Cambridgeshire ACF. Everyone is most welcome to join us at this time.

THE 11TH HOUR of the 11TH DAY of the 11TH MONTH

At 11 o'clock on Saturday the 11th November the Nation will pause for the Annual TWO MINUTES SILENCE to remember the War Dead, including those from recent conflicts. The Bottisham Royal British Legion will assemble by the VILLAGE SIGN in Bottisham opposite Holy Trinity Church at this time to remember and to pay tribute to those who have lost their lives in the Service of our Country.



LEST WE FORGET, GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE

The Bottisham Royal British Legion will erect a small Garden of Remembrance which will be situated by the Village Sign opposite Holy Trinity Church.

Anyone who may wish to do so is invited to place a Poppy Cross. The Garden will be in place from Monday 1st November until Monday 13th November. Poppy Crosses may be obtained from any Poppy Seller or from the RBL Club in Bottisham.

 <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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Sales, Wants and Swaps



IF YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO SELL OR WANT TO BUY OR EVEN TO SWAP, THEN THIS PAGE IS YOURS TO USE. Send details of Item, price and Phone Number to BottishamCresset@gmail.com. **Together with name and address. (not for publication).** Max. 5 Items. Entries by 12th of the month for next months issue.

DESCRIPTION	PRICE	TEL
Table tennis table , full size. Old but serviceable.	£20	812335
Glass desk (originally from John Lewis) 122w x 76d	£10	812335
Wood effect desk 150w x 77d and matching pedestal unit	£10	812335
Single bed, divan , 2 drawers in base, good clean condition	£20	812335
Berry Auvergne Magilog 2920 electric fire	£15	812852
Wooden fire surround L145 x W19 x H103cm	£15	812852
Marble hearth L140 x W38 x H6 cm	£15	812852
Halfords 2 cycle car rack	£15	812852
Qualcast Hover Mower and Trimmer , working order and VGC	£30 ono	811352
Curtain poles : Wooden: 118cm incl finials	£5.00	813183
Ditto black metal : 250cms incl finials	£7.50	813183
Table , demi-moon shape, blue top, cream legs. H7 3x W75 x D37cms	£15.00	813183
Curtains : gold background with blue and brown circular pattern; fully lined. 1 : H225 x W195cms; 2 : H145 x W 270cms.	£25	813183
Cupboard : Blue painted; part open front; H97 x W53 x D 47cms	£25	813183
Quality Welsh dresser in dark wood with 2 leaded top cupboards. A few small scratches and wear marks but just needs a waxing and tlc.	£100 ono	07563153235
Playstation 2 with 2 controllers, 9 games and a brand new boxed steering wheel and pedals set. Hardly used	£45 ono	07563153235
Moorcroft table lamp in perfect condition with original brass fitting, no chips, quick private sale	£100	07563153235
Two pouffe, cushioned seats in brown leather, one which opens up for storage. Both in slightly used but good condition	£30 each	07563153235

Copy deadline for next issue is 14 October.

Please send material to the editor at
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Glenn Manchett Crews the Sanya Serenity Coast Yacht in the Clipper Round the World Yacht Race



Manchett's Group director, Glenn Manchett is currently a crew member on the Sanya Serenity Coast yacht, which is a part of the 2017 - 2018 Clipper Round the World Yacht Race.

Glenn is one of 20 on board for the next 11 months, racing against 11 other yachts. It is endurance at its highest level and Glenn has been stationed as the yacht engineer.

All crew members are expected to work sailing shifts of 4 hours on and 4 hours off with them getting as much sleep as possible in between!

Glenn was pushed to his physical limits in the Level 1 selection process to gain a place in the clipper world yacht race. He completed 4 levels of compulsory training including how to live at a 35-degree angle for prolonged periods while racing and learning to race with broken sleep as he sails through the night.

He will face furious storms in the South Atlantic, intense tropical cyclones in the North Pacific and roaring forties of the Southern Ocean and of course the biggest dread of all no wind at all!

On leaving Liverpool Albert docks he waved his family and friends off saying "I won't lie I'm bricking it, but I'm ready"

You can follow Glenn's yacht progress online here: www.clipperroundtheworld.com/race/standings

His boat and crew are on the Sanya Serenity Coast yacht and are lime green on the tracking map.

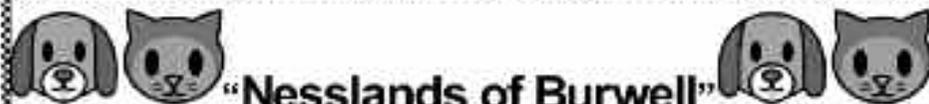


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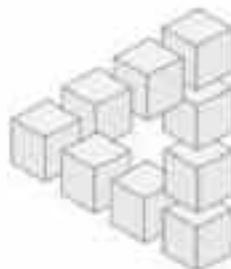
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Thoughts of a Sports Nut

At the risk of incurring disagreement and derision from those who know me, I'll say that I don't consider myself an angry person! However, there were a couple of things during the last month that really rattled my cage!

Firstly there was the astonishing decision of FA CEO Martin Glenn to pay £80,000 to ex-England women's footballer Eniola Aluko to stop her bleating about racism and bullying, allegedly perpetrated by the team manager Mark Sampson, after she had been dropped from the England squad. Not only had Sampson been cleared of ANY wrongdoing by two separate investigations - one internal and one independent - but Glenn took this decision himself without reference to The FA Board because it was 'below the threshold required for their approval'. Eighty grand, if you please! And of course this has sparked calls for a new inquiry from the professional agitators at Kick It Out and also from MP Damian Collins, the oily, self-serving chairman of the Digital Culture Media & Sport select committee. Yet another example of 'keep asking the same question if you don't get the answer you want first time'..! There are many ways to further the noble cause of racial equality in this country, but this sorry episode is not one of them.

Then there was the ridiculous furore precipitated by Jon Moss sending off Sadio Mane in Liverpool's match at Manchester City on 9th September. Ederson, the City goalkeeper had rushed out to head clear a bouncing through ball, only to be felled by the studs of Mane's boot tearing into his face. Shamefully, many of the so-called experts on TV, including the BBC's Gary Lineker and Alan Shearer, rubbished the decision and accused Moss of 'ruining the game', conveniently ignoring Law 12 of Association Football which defines 'serious foul play' as 'a challenge that endangers the safety of an opponent or uses excessive force'. The law does not mention 'eyes on the ball' or 'entitled to go for it', for very good reason. Football is dangerous enough played at the speed of the modern game without legalising such an assault. I have no objection to healthy debate on any aspect of football, but for broadcasters in such a position of influence to publicly pillory a referee in this way was utterly disgusting. I would urge anyone sympathising with their views to walk a mile in the ref's shoes before displaying their ignorance in future.

On to more positive matters. Disregarding the alarming number of dropped catches for a moment, hasn't this summer's test cricket been brilliantly entertaining? Joe Root has now won his first two series as captain, but not without receiving a fright from a plucky West Indian team who completed the third-highest successful run chase in England (322) to win the 2nd Test. Even the 3rd Test could have gone either way after 14 wickets fell on the opening day at Lords, but the redoubtable Jimmy Anderson, now in the exclusive '500 wickets' club, skittled out the WIndies' batsmen on the last day with 7 for 42 to clinch the victory and propel himself right into the heart of 'Best Bowler Ever' discussions! Personally I think there are several ahead of him in that particular competition, including one or two Englishmen (Trueman, Snow?), but it's a fascinating topic for a session in the Legion! What do you think..?

Well we didn't see Geraint Thomas in La Vuelta d'Espagna (he led the Sky team in the less demanding Tour of Britain instead), but we sure saw Chris Froome didn't we?! We know now

(Sports Nut continued on page 49)

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(Sports Nut continued.)

that Vroom Froome made history by becoming the first Briton to win the Vuelta and only the third man to win the Tour-Vuelta double (and the first since the Vuelta was moved from April to September in 1995). One of the best things about the race, even from the neutrals' point of view, was the up and down form of the main contenders in the general classification. Considering cycling will forever be living down its drug-infused past, it was gratifying to see riders giving everything one day, then suffering the consequences the next as their bodies gradually recovered without artificial assistance. Even Froome and Nibali, the top two, did not shine every day in their dogged duel for the title, but Froome has proved himself to be the best all-rounder on the planet and he even contested the final sprint on the run-in to Madrid to take the green points jersey in addition to the coveted red winner's jersey.

Which reminds me of one other source of irritation for your Sports Nut during the month. Froome has ridden himself into the pantheon of all-time greats now. A five-time Grand Tour winner, Olympic medalist and a gentleman to boot. Why is he not revered by the media, and possibly the public, as he deserves? Is it because he happened to be born in Kenya? Or because he doesn't see eye to eye with Sir Brad? Whatever it is, I was incensed to find coverage of his progress during the Vuelta on the eighth line of news stories on the BBC Sport web page on one day - below such seminal items as "Garth Crooks' Team of the Week", and "Fancy a Game of Quidditch?"! Come on BBC... how about a shot at redemption in the Sports Personality of the Year at Christmas?

And finally, after two years of sniping on social media, a whistle-stop world tour that touched down in three countries in just four days, it was time to walk the walk for Messrs Mayweather & McGregor at the end of August in the IBF 'Junior Lightweight' bout, a contest that became known as The Money Belt! \$80,000 for a ringside seat, \$100m for the boxer and \$30m for the challenger 'converting' from Mixed Martial Arts, one has to pose the question: Was this sport or was it showbiz? Well, the art of 'boxing' survived the challenge, Mayweather protected his 50-0 undefeated record, the plucky MMA fighter gave a good account of himself despite having to abide by 'rules' for a change, the pay-per-view channels made a fortune, and the punters enjoyed the spectacle of a good scrap. I guess it doesn't much matter in the end if everyone was happy!

TTFN - Gerry Daish

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Is it time to topple Nelson!

Almost overnight the statues of 'great men' have become the target of a backlash on what is perceived to be 'white supremacy'. It has now raised its ugly head again in Britain where furious rows have once more broken out over proposals to pull down statues of the supposed 'imperialist' Cecil Rhodes and the assumed 'slave trader' Edward Colston. To those that advocate pulling them down, the statues celebrate the 'murderous careers' of slavers and imperialists and represent a version of history that must be challenged. But to the greater part of the country this campaign is an assault on history, truth and national pride. Allowances are continually being made by institutions for those deemed to be on the 'virtuous side' whereas those deemed to be too right wing or oafish are strung up at the first opportunity.

Much of the hullabaloo in Britain has been stirred up by the 'anti-white supremacist' campaigner Afua Hirsch who proclaims that thanks to "inertia, arrogance and intellectual laziness" Britons are not prepared to face up to their acrimonious past. She says that the sole purpose of such statues is to energise 'white supremacy'. Hirsch further asserts that colonial and pro-slavery titans of British history are still venerated. Furthermore she claims Admiral Lord Nelson to have been a 'white supremacist' and a supporter of slavery. But she makes no mention of the statue of Gandhi, being just one example, and his disdain for black Africans. Others of like mind also point to Britain's dark and uneasy history and suggest that this has been swept under the carpet. They too believe that the really toxic and divisive thing in our society is our failure to confront our true past and our identity and that the role that people like Nelson played has created the structural inequality that persists today. But they collectively fail to acknowledge the global achievements of the legacy left by the likes of Rhodes et al toward third world development and education.

I would seriously question whether anybody has ever looked upon the statues of Rhodes and or Nelson with the view that they are celebrating white supremacy. Such statues of famous people were not erected for their menace or supremacy and are certainly not perceived by those with a balanced intellect to be sinister. Instead these sculptures are cherished by many both at home and abroad as an inoffensive part of the architecture and fabric of British society.

May be it is those agitating to remove such statues who are guilty of this frenzied debate. Are they sure that their own deeds are not without imperfection - perhaps they should instead remove the plank from their own eye before condemning others and brush the chip from their shoulder. It is suggested that much of this statue obsession is just a form of showing-off that allows the (would be) smashers to flaunt their piety and fit everything around their own prejudices. Is it just blatant egotism that any one person or group of people see fit to appoint themselves the 'police' and true archivists of acceptable history. As much as some may want to challenge the deeds of prominent people and to change the passage of time we cannot erase it, it is there and it happened. In a civilised society we do not erase history but we study it and learn from it. If not, then when would the furious scrubbing of history cease? If British history and culture is so difficult to live with then those who find it distasteful have the same right that all other Britons have...

And so it is that I read of the EU's Brexit negotiators who also perceive British colonial nostalgia to be the cause of pedestrian like progress. But listening to the recent debate in

(Jolley Old World continued on page 55)

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Parliament it appeared that there was little evidence of any real substance coming from Brussels other than an insistence that a prescriptive sequence of rules must be followed. And now Guy Verhofstadt, one of the EU's chief negotiators, has soured relationships even further by directing yet more insults at Britain. But interestingly a comment was made by Michel Barnier recently that the British people must be taught what leaving the EU 'Club' will mean - a slip of the tongue maybe? Nonetheless what seems abundantly clear is that any proposal put forward by the UK team that does not fit exactly into the EU's political envelope is automatically 'returned to sender'. Moreover such proposals are dismissed by EU diehards as pure folly and are subjected to mocking slurs of disapproval - but not only by them but also in some quarters of the UK media. This leads me to conclude that the EU's elite logic is not the logic of business or markets; it is the logic of federal power. Naively I suppose I was hoping for a mutually beneficial (adult) negotiation, so it irks me to suggest that the more the insults flow from the EU, the more I am beginning to believe the UK Team must be doing a good job. But not, so it appears the BBC nor Her Majesty's official opposition. Both have apparently adopted the EU's Brexit agenda as the de facto position rather than support and advance the (marginal) decision made by the nation.

Given then that there is no going back on the UK's democratic choice to leave the EU is this really about finding the middle ground or a 'lack of flexibility and imagination' on the part of the EU with a tinge of retribution and blackmail thrown in...

And finally; a valued reader of JOW pointed out in relation to the Tim Farron article that Angela Merkel recently voted (openly) opposing gay marriage in Germany. Has this been covered by UK social media trolls and by the BBC, and has she stepped down as leader of her party and of her nation?

TJ

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Treasurer, Advertising rates and payment: Rhona Walker, 94 High Street, Bottisham.....	811402
Distribution: Ian & Helen Cole.....	812573
Design/Artwork: ONG (Old Newton Graphics) • www.codge.com	01449 675548

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