

June 2020



THE  
*Cresset*



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

## 10 WEEKS AND COUNTING!



One gets used to anything after a while and lockdown is no different. Not saying one likes it, one just gets used to it.

So much so that last week I took the car out to check that it still works and immediately got a feeling of being ‘out, escaped’! But that was combined with a strange feeling of exposure, of risk and danger. Silly really and it passed soon enough.

To give the car a run I drove to Brampton to have a look at the progress on the A14.

Well, what a difference when you haven’t seen it for a while. Three or four lanes of 70mph all the way with no apparent speed cameras (bet they are hidden somewhere!).

There are cameras all right, which monitor the traffic and as there are no hard shoulders, only emergency laybys, they need to watch out for broken down vehicles on the inside lane. I just hope they are watching 24/7.

Work is still being done and I should think the final finishing touches will take us up to the original finishing date of the end of the year. The last 10 weeks of reduced traffic must also have helped the engineers to speed through the work quicker.

It has also been noticeable how much quieter the traffic has been. That combined with occasional North winds has meant being able to sit in the garden in virtual silence with only nature’s soundtrack to break it.

A Woodpecker drumming 400yds away, calling to another one 100yds in the opposite direction of our garden. Pheasants croaking away in the field behind the house and the arrival of the swallows and swifts.

One of our tit boxes started off with eight, yes eight eggs laid which given the size of a blue tit is incredible. Don’t tell the kids, but only two fledged just this week. Early enough for them to maybe try again.

One further delight worth relating was an evening two weeks ago. It was still light enough not to have closed the curtains, but getting dark enough to have the standard lamp on, while we sat by the window playing crib (we have played a lot of crib lately!). Suddenly a roe deer with it’s fawn came up onto the lawn from the ditch and started grazing about while the fawn did what all youngsters do at that age in the evening..... went daft! Like lambs do when they find their feet, he went racing up and down the grass, jumping and leaping about, then racing back to mum, who seemed total unphased. After about 5 mins. they disappeared through the hedge into the neighbouring garden and we returned to our game. Wonderful.

It behoves all of us to be sensible about the progress to the ‘new’ norm. Seeing crowds on the beach at the weekend, totally ignoring the social distancing, is of great concern. People when asked, responding with “well it’s unlikely I’ll die from corona”, ignorantly misses the basic simple fact. “You may not have it, or suffer from it, but you can pass it on to others, who may not be so lucky”.

It goes without saying, but needs to be highlighted, just how much we are indebted to those people who carry on doing those essential jobs which we normally take for granted.

Not just the nurses and doctors who really are at 'the coalface', but those others who serve us every day and put themselves in the forefront of risk. From our postmen, bin men, bus drivers and paramedics. To the RNLI, mountain rescue and ambulance men and women. To the shop staff who carry on their work as we expect them to do without complaint. A special mention too for our own village shop, who have gone above and beyond. Soon too, we will be asking teachers and school staff to take up their work again (some already have) and they will be dealing with all the constraints that there will inevitably be.

To all of them we need to say thank you. Not just with a clap at the door (how many nurses hear that anyway?), but next time we see them, say it.

A note stuck to the wheelie bin could mean a lot. If you get on a bus, pause to express your thanks when you pay your fare. A thank you to the checkout staff will also go a long way.

Stay safe and think of what you may do to help others and don't lower your guard about spreading the virus.

*Peter Walker*

# THE CRESSET NEEDS YOUR HELP.

To assist in the distribution of the Cresset when we start printing again, we are looking for people to join the rota group who split up the magazines and take them out to the team of distributors who then deliver them around the village. With the right number of volunteers this is normally only required once every 3 or 4 months and takes just a few hours.

**If you would like to join us and help out, then please contact  
Ian Cole on 812573**

## THE LATE JOYCE RANK

Geoffrey and Peter would like to thank everybody for the lovely cards, letters and well wishes after mum passed away on the 17th April. These have meant so much to us both in these difficult times and reflect how much she will be missed in the local community.

We would especially like to thank Sue Giles who conducted a lovely service for the close family at Cam Valley Crematorium. It is hoped that we will be able to hold a memorial service in the church when restrictions are lifted. We would also like to thank everybody who made donations to the British Red Cross Society.

Thank you all.



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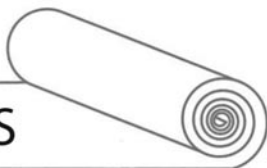


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I start off the Parish Council report by wishing everyone well. Hopefully, by the time of reading, restrictions will have eased off slightly. Thanks must go to all key workers and the NHS at this unprecedented time, but also to all residents of Bottisham. Everyone who has abided by the government restrictions and who have taken on new roles, be it that of teacher or helping in the community. Very early on, the Revd. Sue Giles and Councillor Bill Sunner at Bottisham Stores, set up a community group to help those over 70 and the most vulnerable. This offers a home delivery service from the local shop and pick up of prescriptions etc. They received many offers of help from volunteers in the village. This has been a successful venture and we thank them both for their work on this. Thanks also go to Councillor Sunner for arranging a donation from the village shop to Red2Green who, especially in these times, were thankful for the support.

We had no Parish Council meeting in April. The government had to make changes to legislation for authorities to be able to hold online meetings and this was approved in time for our meeting at the beginning of May. We therefore held our first Parish Council Zoom online meeting which went smoothly enough. All subsequent meetings will be held this way until further notice. Residents are still able and welcome to attend; you just need to contact me before the meeting, so I can send you a link to join. Please note the Annual Meeting, due to be held in May, has been cancelled and no future date has been arranged as yet.

In April we were saddened to lose Christine Bryant as Councillor, following her move out of the village. She had served on the Parish Council for over 25 years and we thank her for her commitment over the years and wish her well for the future. This now leaves us with one vacancy and details of how to apply are in the Cresset and on our website.

At the start of our May meeting, Councillor Jon Ogborn agreed to remain as Chair and Councillor William Clarke agreed to stay as Vice Chair for the coming year.

County Councillor Shuter reported that the County Council have been sending out lots of information during this unprecedented time and said congratulations were in order for all officers at the County for the work they have put in. He felt online Zoom meetings were the way forward, especially when you considered the unnecessary journeys people were undertaking to attend meetings. C/Cllr Shuter had a list of people in the area who were shielded but reported that the majority of people did not need any help, as they already had friends/relatives to help out. He asked that if anyone became aware of someone who fits this vulnerable category and needs some help, to contact the County Council.

He reported that Highways were undertaking to fill as many potholes as possible, whilst the roads were quieter, and they filled nearly 2000 in the last week of April. C/Cllr Shuter apologised for the recycling centres closing, but said at the time they were unable to comply with the government regulations on social distancing. If all goes to plan they should now be open, but not for commercial waste. It will just be for individuals taking a car load, but it does need to be essential waste. Cllr Shuter said that they knew fly tipping would become a problem with the recycling centres being shut.

The District Council have set up a **Covid 19 Support hub**. Information about support can be accessed on **01353 665555 covid19@eastcambs.gov.uk** and on the website **www.eastcambs.gov.uk**.

At the time of writing, online comments were still being accepted for the application for the retirement village and we hope a decision will soon be made on this application.

The District Council, who cut our village grass, have managed to cut the majority of the village, but are having difficulties as they have so many staff self isolating. The village grass, churchyard and cemeteries are usually cut every 2 weeks but, due to the current situation, these cuts may be adhoc for the majority of the season. Once again, thanks must go to residents who have realised the situation and, without complaint, have cut the grass verges outside of their homes. Councillor Peter Martin cut the ‘triangle’ area by the shops and I know people have been doing their bit by picking litter up etc. Until things are back to normal we would encourage people to support the village in this way if they are able.

We have asked the District Council to liaise with Sanctuary Hereward regarding the footpath in Downing Close by the Social Club. They removed the broken paving slabs and then left some hardcore, which is more of a trip hazard than the slabs they removed. Someone has also mentioned the trip hazard of shingle/stones from people’s driveway being swept out onto pavements so please take care to sweep up if you have stones in your driveway.

There has been a problem with villagers walking on the field running behind Beechwood Avenue. This has occurred because the end of the footpath next to the proposed retirement village has been cleared, allowing unrestricted access to the field. There are no notices, but please be aware there is not a public right of way across the field. When using the footpaths throughout the village, please be aware that there are crops growing in the fields and do not let your children or dogs run over and damage them.

Some good things have come from the lockdown. People are getting to know their village and the people in it much better with the walks they are taking. The East Cambs Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator had been due to talk at our Annual Meeting, with a view to encouraging more Neighbourhood Watch areas. With the recently increased community awareness, this is something that residents may want to consider. I can put you in touch with him if you are interested and hopefully, when we are able to, he will be able to come and talk at one of our meetings.

The development of the new cemetery off of Lode Road is moving ahead. Following recent discussions with our ‘New Cemetery’ Working Party, our consultants are drawing up detailed plans for consideration by Council and the village. However, things are moving slowly at present with the current Covid 19 crisis.

Once again, thank you to everyone who has helped out in any way they can, whether that be with the village helpline, supporting neighbours and friends or helping keep the village tidy and presentable.

*Claire Fullwood – Parish Clerk [clerk@bottishampc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@bottishampc.co.uk) 07914 219732*

## **BOTTISHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

# **COUNCILLOR VACANCY**

**There is currently a vacancy on the Parish Council.**

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

Jon Ogborn – Chair Tel: 07486 372780

or Claire Fullwood – Clerk Tel: 07914 219732 (e-mail: [clerk@bottishampc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@bottishampc.co.uk))

## *Planning Notes*

- 20/00139/CLP 14 Peacock Drive, Erection of a small side extension, single storey to the left side (W) of existing building NEW APPLICATION
- 20/00376/FUL 1 College Close, Single storey pitched roof extension, NEW APPLICATION
- 20/00421/FUL 6 Trinity Close, Single storey rear extension to form new family room and kitchen NEW APPLICATION
- 20/00147/FUL, Blandford Lodge, London Road, Six Mile Bottom, Proposed new entrance with dropped kerb, APPLICATION WITHDRAWN
- 20/00103/FUL, 139 High Street, To install 14 solar panels on roof facing main road, APPLICATION APPROVED
- 20/00281/FUL, 20 Cedar Walk, First floor side extension, rebuilding porch with lean to roof over and garage, APPLICATION APPROVED
- 20/00353/FUL, 6 Cedar Walk, Proposed construction of ground floor rear extension, first floor extension and new entrance porch to front, APPLICATION APPROVED

## *District Councillors' Report to Parish Councils*

Due to the restrictions to control Coronavirus, the District Council cancelled all its meetings up to the end of May. Following the change in the law, allowing on-line meetings, we pressed the Council to resume its meetings. After several Parish Councils had held successful meetings using Zoom and Skype, the District Council finally held two Planning Committee meetings. The Annual Council Meeting will have been held by Zoom and will be available on YouTube at [www.eastcambs.gov.uk/meetings/council-21052020](http://www.eastcambs.gov.uk/meetings/council-21052020).

The Council staff are mostly working from home.. People should still phone the switchboard number - 01353 665555, or the Direct Dial number if they have it, and they will be put through to the member of staff. Waste bin collections have continued as normal and fly tipping will be collected if reported, although staff will not check through to see if there is anything to identify who left the rubbish.

Only 74% of the businesses thought to be eligible for grants to support them through this pandemic have applied. If you know of anyone who might be eligible, please encourage them to apply via the District Council. They should email their name, business name, business address and phone number to [covid19businessgrants@eastcambs.gov.uk](mailto:covid19businessgrants@eastcambs.gov.uk) or telephone the Council on 01353 665555.

Unfortunately, our call-in requesting a 6 months delay to the decision to cease funding the CAB in Ely was rejected. As a result of losing the funding from East Cambs the CAB in Ely has now closed. East Cambs DC have expanded their services to cover the housing advice which CARC used to deliver.

We are holding our surgeries and 'Meet your Councillors' by Zoom. The next one is Tuesday 23 June – please contact [john.trapp@eastcambs.gov.uk](mailto:john.trapp@eastcambs.gov.uk) for the link if you want to join.

Because we can't get out and about, Charlotte has set up a Facebook Page where she posts latest information. The address is - [fb.me/charlottecanelibdem](https://fb.me/charlottecanelibdem)





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## *Public Transport Matters*

Yesterday, the 13th May, the Government decreed that we could now use public transport for essential travel to work or for hospital visits but it has also said that anything is preferable to public transport and has promoted cycling, walking and even using our own cars. I still do not see passengers on the buses passing by my window as they travel down Bottisham High Street. Pictures have been shown of London Underground with packed carriages and it being very difficult to maintain a 2 metre distance. People are generally being very wary of catching the virus. I mentioned in my last contribution that this could go down in history and be a subject for study. Mention is being made of the Black Death in the 1300s and the Spanish flu in 1918. Just this morning I heard on Radio Cambridgeshire an appeal from the Mass Observation archive representative for people to send in their day diaries that record their life under these lockdown conditions. They compare them over the years and see how views on situations change. Hitler was considered a good bloke and Churchill as a failure initially! There is much criticism of the government and various individuals now – will those views change when, hopefully, this is all over and we look back on things? There is a web page for Mass Observation. It is based at the University of Sussex.

I would be very wary of using public transport at the moment although Stagecoach assure us that all handrails and surfaces are regularly cleaned. Drivers have been infected and some have died.

Of course, our local village magazines are a good source of information about our experiences and the activities that are available to us. My grandson, aged 10, had been asked by his teacher to write up his family tree and a cousin had been hunting through the family archives for him. The Lodestar last month had an article about the long march from a concentration camp to freedom. One of my uncles had had to do that and my cousin, his daughter, was soon looking up all the details of that and his arrival home. I had a day off school in Royston when he visited my mother and me. He desperately wanted to go shopping for an ice cream. We found a little ice cream shop up some steps on Royston High St. I was 8 years old but can still remember the look of bliss as he licked his ice cream. It turns out that another cousin, the daughter of the Tate and Lyle employee – my uncle - is still in touch every Sunday with one of the children with whom I played in the sacks of sugar, as I mentioned in my article last month. This is indeed history.

The lockdown has been a disaster for some of the travel companies and also for tourism – Cambridge, Ely, the National Trust, Newmarket with its horseracing, etc. Companies are trying to think positive under very difficult circumstances and still plan for the future. I have contacted Shearing's coach company since my return from my weekend break in mid-March. I was assured that drivers would be furloughed and also that they still hoped to run the October weekend break. We shall see! There are so many places we can usually visit from our villages by public transport – Bury St. Edmunds, Ely, Newmarket, Cambridge and by taking the National Express from Newmarket we can visit Norwich, Gt. Yarmouth and Lowestoft. Let us hope that the cases of the virus do gradually decrease. We are an island and should have been much more stringent in not letting people come here from already infected countries or at least testing them on arrival. Better late than never is I suppose the situation now.

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*Keep safe, keep well. - Paddy James*

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## **FIRE SERVICE SUPPORTS NHS BLUE LIGHT COLLEAGUES ON THE FRONTLINE**

Nine on-call firefighters from Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service have been seconded to the ambulance service.

They are temporarily seconded to East of England Ambulance Service NHS Trust (EEAST) while they experience high demand during the Covid-19 pandemic.

They are now in their new roles and are using their skill as blue light trained drivers to assist in driving frontline emergency NHS ambulances alongside EEAST paramedics.

A wholetime firefighter from St Neots has also been seconded to EEAST. He temporarily returns to work as a paramedic, a role he did before becoming a firefighter in 2018.

### **LATEST UPDATES**

#### **FIREFIGHTER COOK JUNIOR SHOWS OFF HER SKILLS**

A budding young firefighter has been practising her skills during the pandemic lockdown. Three year old Darcey Cook has been showing off the rescue and firefighting skills she has picked up from her firefighter dad Jamie.

A great activity for you to try with your little ones at home!

#### **PETERBOROUGH STATION SUPPORTS LOCAL HOSPICE**

A Peterborough based fire station has donated more than £1,000 to a local hospice. Staff at Dogsthorpe Fire Station raised the money through their sports and social club. After seeing a social media post from Sue Ryder Thorpe Hall Hospice highlighting the need for support, White Watch agreed with the rest of the station to arrange a donation.

#### **GET CREATIVE WITH OUR POSTER COMPETITION**

Home learning? We're here to help. We've launched a poster drawing competition for kids across Cambridgeshire.

All you need is a sheet of A4 paper. To enter DM us a photo on social media or email [pressoffice@cambsfire.gov.uk](mailto:pressoffice@cambsfire.gov.uk).

#### **CREWS COME TO THE AID OF ADVENTURING SHEEP**

Crews were called to assist some curious sheep near Coates this month. Initially firefighters from Whittlesey, Dogsthorpe and Stanground were called to rescue a sheep near a water pumping station. They successfully reunited the sheep with its herd and returned to their stations. However, the sheep clearly enjoyed its adventure and told the rest of the pack of its travels and they were called back once again.

## **STAY SAFE OUTDOORS**

If your daily exercise is taking you near water, make sure you take extra care near the edge. Follow these top tips to help you stay safe. Most importantly, don't panic.

## **BE WATER AWARE**

If you're lucky enough to have a garden, please think twice about having a garden fire. They can quickly get out of control, and could lead to you putting yourself and our firefighters at risk. You should also be considerate of neighbours, especially those who are ill. The smoke can aggravate health conditions, such as covid-19.

## **THE LATEST INCIDENTS ATTENDED**

Want to find out what incidents we've attended in your area? Head over to the incident feed on our website, which is updated every weekday. For large incidents, make sure you're following our Twitter feed - @cambsfrs.

## **THE LATEST INCIDENTS**

### **LOOKING AFTER YOUR MENTAL HEALTH**

The coronavirus outbreak has changed all of our lives. During times of uncertainty, we can feel anxious and stressed. Feelings of isolation, boredom and loneliness are natural. It's important we keep talking to each other.

For advice on looking after your mental health during these challenging times, visit the 'Now we're talking' website.

For more information or to get in touch contact us at [firefire@cambsfire.gov.uk](mailto:firefire@cambsfire.gov.uk) or on 0800 9179994. Like us on Facebook for regular updates [www.facebook.com/cambsfrs](http://www.facebook.com/cambsfrs) or follow us on Twitter @cambsfrs.

## *Dear Editor*

A GRAND THANK-YOU to all our Local Volunteers, taking our grocery orders and delivering from our Bottisham Stores within a few hours and delivering repeat medications around our Surgery's catchment area. That also applies to friendly neighbours too.

Without them many Parishioners would be left high and dry.

Meantime, here's a chuckle. Back in July 1988, dear old Mel Walden in the Parish Council noted "The search for a site to locate a children's play area is hotting up"!

Well, it's taken a while, so let's wish the P.C. success this year or next when hopefully the National Trust will sell, withdraw their proposed covenant and allow it to be on part of the three acre sight in Lode Road.

Thanks to you too for keeping Cresset going via the P.C. Website till our deliverers are able to do so safely.

*Alfred Laister*

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Ken's family would like to thank everyone who stood in the pouring rain to watch his funeral cortege pass on the way to Bottisham cemetery on Wednesday 29th April. We were all very moved by the number of people on the roadside – Dad would have been surprised as he never expected recognition for the things that he did. He celebrated his 100th birthday in February and was amazed at the number of cards and lovely messages that he received then.

Dad lived a long and very full life which he enjoyed to the full. He had a wonderful memory and many tales to tell which we will all miss but fortunately he recorded many of these in his memoirs which we published in 2016.

Dad was born in Norfolk in 1920 and was lucky to survive as he was only 3 and a half pounds in weight! Dad's family moved to Alton, Hampshire in 1925 and he had a happy childhood. This is where his love of nature and the environment started when he roamed the countryside around north Hampshire and Surrey. He left school aged 14 and joined the Royal Marines in 1937 where he served for 23 years – these years shaped his life.

Dad was drafted to HMS Dorsetshire he sailed to join the ship, then based in China, on a voyage which took six weeks. Before World War 2 he visited Australia (attending the events to commemorate Australia's 150th Anniversary), Hong Kong, Shanghai and northern China. Whilst he was in Shanghai he fell ill with cerebral spinal meningitis and he was lucky to survive, of the 13 people who contracted it only 3 survived.

When WW2 started HMS Dorsetshire was deployed in the Indian Ocean and South Atlantic, tasked with intercepting armed raiders and escorting convoys which Dad found both very tiring and boring, although he enjoyed some brief runs ashore in Cape Town where he made some lifelong friends. HMS Dorsetshire took part in two of the battles that have been made famous in films - the Battle of the River Plate and the sinking of the Bismark.

After returning to the UK for a brief spell Dad was drafted to HMS Frobisher which was based in Mombassa and for the next couple of years he patrolled the Indian Ocean and visited many ports and islands including the Maldives, Seychelles, Mauritius and Bombay (Mumbai) and Colombo. In March 1944 they returned to the UK to prepare for D Day, sailing via the Suez Canal and escorting a convoy through the Mediterranean. On D Day HMS Frobisher was part of 'Force D' and was stationed just off Ouistreham supporting troops landing on SWORD beach. Dad said that his abiding memory of D Day was of the deafening and continuous noise.

In April 1945 Dad was posted to Sri Lanka (then called Ceylon) where he started for training for jungle warfare. This stopped once the war with Japan was over and Camp 39, where Dad was based, became a transit camp for Royal Marines who had been stationed in the Far East. Each week small groups arrived in the camp and, according to Dad, a good time was had by all before those in transit embarked on repatriation ships on their way back to the UK for demobilisation.

Dad arrived back in Portsmouth in October 1946 and qualified as a Gunnery Instructor. On New Year's Eve 1947 he met Mum, Dorothy, at a dance and they married a few months later in August 1948. He was drafted onto HMS Bermuda and Mum and Dad lived in Cape Town for two and a half years which they both enjoyed immensely. They returned to the UK just in time for the Queen's Coronation and Dad was one of the thousands of servicemen and women who lined the route of the Coronation procession.

Dad became a Royal Marine Commando after completing the gruelling training and became Troop Sergeant Major of 42 Commando and then 40 Commando. He spent the next couple of

years either in Cyprus, at the base in Malta or on exercises around the Mediterranean before leaving the Royal Marines in 1960.

Dad had loved his time in the Marines and so the transition to civilian life was a challenge. He joined Schweppes and worked in various locations including Fareham, Staines and the Head office in London before transferring to Chivers Factory in Histon and moving to Bottisham in 1964. Dad moved into Personnel and became a member of the Institute of Personnel Management – dealing with people suited his character. He also threw himself into village life, joining the PTA, taking up woodwork classes, and becoming involved in various fund raising groups, including the Entertainment subcommittee at the Village College which he chaired for 9 years during which time they organised many memorable events. In the late 1960s Dad was also a Youth Leader at Bottisham Youth Club three nights a week, driving the mini bus around the local villages to take people home at the end of the evening.

Dad was instrumental in raising the money to buy the Bottisham Scout hut, leading a group of enthusiastic other people to raise the £8000 needed to buy the Chapel (a great deal of money in the 1970s). They organised jumble sales, coffee mornings, waste paper collections, a couple of Donkey Derbies (each of which raised almost £1000, an unbelievable amount at the time) and an annual themed event which they called a Coroboree.

He retired from Chivers in 1982 and spent the next 37 years involved in numerous village activities. He was Chairman of the Gardening Club for many years, and in his 90s became its President. He was Vice Chair of Bottisham British Legion for over 20 years and then became President of that too. He organised the local annual Remembrance service for over 30 years and arranged parades and services for many RBL anniversaries. He was also an active member of the Cambridge Branch of the Royal Marines Association as first President and then Chairman. He was involved in the production of the Cresset and organised the distribution for many years as well as being part of the team which stapled the magazine together each month (until the current ready stapled booklet was produced a few years ago).

Mum and Dad had an active social life and had many friends in the village. For many years they enjoyed holidays and trips organised for the Gardening Club by Peacock Travel. He was also a regular contributor to both the Lode Star and the Cresset writing on behalf of the Gardening Club each month for over 35 years, although he professed to know very little about gardening he was quite an expert and his garden was always immaculate. He enjoyed the Annual Gardening Club show and until very recently came away with cups, trophies and 1st prizes each year.

Over the years Mum and Dad celebrated their milestone wedding anniversaries with many of their friends in the village and elsewhere, - their 25th at a party in the Primary school, their 40th at the College, their 50th in Fulbourn, their 60th in Newmarket, their 70th in the British Legion. All of them memorable and very enjoyable events.

Dad had good health most of his life. Despite being diagnosed with kidney cancer at the age of 84 (which resulted in the removal of a kidney in the early days of keyhole surgery) he continued to be very active until a few months before he died – still walking without a stick. He had a heart attack at end February 2020, a few weeks after his 100th birthday. Although he recovered enough to return home his heart had been too badly damaged and he died at home on 9th April.

Dad will be missed by all who knew him. Many of the condolence cards talk about how he had been a positive influence on their life and that he was a true gentleman. He was also a wonderful husband to Dorothy for 71 years, father to Vivienne and Anthony and grandfather to his four grandchildren – we were lucky that he was in our lives for so long. When the current restrictions are lifted we will hold a celebration of his life for his friends and family.

*Viv Ottaway (Ken's daughter)*



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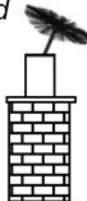
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## *News from Bottisham Medical Practice Patients' Participation Group*

### **IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM DR SHACKLETON:**

I am very grateful to our patients for the support and consideration they have shown the surgery over the last few weeks.

I know many of you have been living with symptoms and delaying your normal follow up and investigations. This has allowed us to focus on managing the impact of coronavirus.

Whilst we are still trying to minimise the number of people attending the surgery to reduce risk of transmission of COVID19 I am also concerned that people with serious symptoms may not be contacting us either due to fears about having to attend hospital or because they are worried about taking up a GP appointment during the pandemic. I wanted to reassure you that if you have symptoms which are causing you significant concern, we are still here to support you. This will initially be as a telephone or video call but if it is required, we will see you face to face in the surgery with infectious control measures in place.

We are trying to provide some blood sampling facilities but these are limited. Patients are able to get bloods taken at a clinic in Newmarket Hospital if agreed with your GP.

I wanted to say a big thank you to the wonderful volunteers and staff who have worked tirelessly to deliver medications to patients.

Please have a look at the information detailed below by our wonderful Patient Participation Group.

We are constantly reviewing the situation and trying to find the right balance to maximise your safety and health as we continue through this pandemic.

*Many Thanks - Dr Tom Shackleton*

### **We hope everyone is staying safe and well and keeping to the current guidelines.**

**However** - If you do have a health issue please see Dr Shackleton's message above about how the surgery is working at the moment.

**Medication:** Prescriptions are now being delivered by volunteers to save patients having to visit the surgery.

**Cancer Research UK's video:** Cancer Research UK has produced a short video to encourage people to contact their GP if they are worried they may be showing early symptoms of cancer. It is important to contact your GP if you are concerned about cancer symptoms.

**Testing or Swabbing for COVID-19:** Testing or swabbing is an important part of the COVID-19 plans to ensure that people can return to work as quickly as it is safe to do so and take the appropriate actions if they test.

For all of the latest information about who is eligible to access a testing, and how to book a test at one of the national testing facilities located in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough please visit;

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested>

**Please note, all tests must be booked in advance.**

**Next Patient Participation Group Meeting: To be arranged when circumstances permit.**

*Bottisham Patients' Participation Group*



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# ***Bottisham and Burwell Photographic Club***

Since my last article, the world has changed. A lot. The world is locked down.

For those with a passion for photography it can be particularly hard. Photographer or not, we are all starting to get a little “cabin fever”. This has become a photographer’s bad dream. Landscape, street, nature, any photography has become very limited, and often near impossible.

This does not mean that your photography has to be on hold.....

I am sure those family members we are locked down with, and or our babies, are by now, tired of modelling for the camera. My cat will no longer come near me, and Bingo the bunny rabbit is now permanently grumpy with me.....

This situation does not mean we cannot stay creative while confined to our homes.

To help, I’ve come up with a few tips for you to scratch that photographic itch while we are all locked down...

## **1 – JOIN A PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY.**

I know. We are all locked in at the moment and cannot get out, so, bear with me on this. With the current situation I’m sorry to say that the Bottisham and Burwell Photographic Club have brought their season to an early end, and will not be holding any more meetings until September, but that does not mean that the club and its members have put their cameras down. And nor should you. The club, like many others, has an online presence which continues to operate. The club has a web site at [bottburpc.org](http://bottburpc.org) which is full of hints and tips for you and you can find details on how to join, even while in isolation. Plus, the club also has an open Facebook page for anyone with a photographic passion to join. Just look up Bottisham And Burwell Photographic Club next time you are visiting Facebook. Being part of a photographic group, online or in person, will help you make connections with other photographers, access great content for you to learn from and possibly provide some purpose to your photography during these times...

## **2 – LEARN FROM ONLINE BLOGS AND “YOUTUBERS”**

While you are online looking up the Bottisham And Burwell Photographic Club website and Facebook page, why not look up what other material is out there. The internet is full of great free photographic material. There are some great photographers out there giving out their advice which will help you to fine tune your skills. In fact, I have written a list of some I recommend, and you can find it on the club web site. Go have a look...

## **3 – HOW ABOUT A CHALLENGE? GIVE MACRO PHOTOGRAPHY A GO...**

As the lockdown does not allow us to see the bigger picture, how about looking at the small ones? There is so much to learn from the little details, and there is so much beauty in all objects. Macro photography is all about shooting objects up close. We all have access to flowers, textured walls, pets and many other cool looking objects to use as subjects. Just think a little differently...

I've some ideas to help you get "up close and personal" with your subject matter....

Make sure your subject is perfect - When you're working at such close focusing distances any imperfections become more noticeable and they can end up distracting the viewer or spoiling what could be an excellent shot.

- Switch to manual focus - When working close to a subject, autofocus tends to end up searching backwards and forwards for something to focus on.
- Avoid the shakes - Camera shake is more noticeable when working close to your subject so always use a tripod.
- Get in close, then add some space - By isolating part of a flower, insect or leaf you can create strong, abstract shots. So, find detail that interests you and really zoom in close, filling the frame with striking shapes and interesting patterns.
- Light your shot well – Where possible, use natural light, do not use your camera's built in flash.

#### **4 – RE-EDIT OLD IMAGES.**

Your photography is constantly evolving. I've become a better photo editor with time and right now love going back through old image files for retouching and editing. Results are almost always better than they were in the past, well, almost always, not to mention I get to try out new techniques and creative edits I've learnt in the time since the original image was taken. Try it in Black and White, make the colours warmer or colder, try some HDR, but not too much – GO NUTS!!!

#### **5 - IMPROVE YOUR SMART PHONE PHOTOGRAPHY!!**

I've said it before, and so has everybody else. The best camera is one you have on you at the time. It's very true. Today, even the most affordable phone can take amazing pictures. So, while out on your daily exercise try and get more acquainted with your phone's photographic capabilities and its available editing apps, so you are ready for when that perfect image finds you. You don't have to go with just your smart phone, if you have a camera – take that with you too. There is never going to be a better time to capture that empty street scene. Just mind the little bit of traffic that's still out there!

No one likes the feeling of being trapped inside for days or weeks at a time, just ask my family about living with me. Setting up some sort of routine and creating a new normal is a good way to keep yourself productive, and importantly, your mind healthy. I recommend setting up a daily to do or goal list, in our house we have a "Jar "O" wishes" for things to do after the lock down and if you don't have one already, make a home editing area for your photography. Having a dedicated space where you "go to work" with your images helps keep you on task, and possibly gives you something different to look at.

As always, thanks for reading, and remember to stay home, stay safe and get creative.

*Elliot Needham – Bottisham and Burwell Photographic Club*

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## *News from The Anglesey Group of Parishes*

We have been in lockdown since the 23rd March and familiar sights in the village such as the school (though it may partially open in June ), the pub and the church have also had to close. Some people have asked why the churches in our villages are closed? The simple answer is that the government has decreed it and our vicars and church leaders are bound to comply. That said, people see churches shut and think they are dormant. That is far from the truth but it raises the question ‘What is church?’ Church is not the building, church is the people who have responded to God’s call to honour him and do good in the world, in other words, to love God and love our neighbour as ourselves.

In the current climate the church has two main roles, to support the community pastorally and spiritually. Many volunteers from the church and the wider community support the struggling food bank in Newmarket. They facilitate shopping from the local shops, collect prescriptions and are working with the church schools, liaising with staff and working as governors. In this way they maintain and strengthen links to ensure the children know that our vicar and the church family still care for their wellbeing and have not gone away. Funerals are still taking place, although within current attendance restrictions and pastoral support is still being offered to the isolated or lonely or grieving amongst us.

The second role of the church is to offer spiritual help and guidance to any who want it. A worship service is available on a Sunday morning at 10.15am. There are various small groups which offer the opportunity to study the Bible and ask questions such as ‘where is God in the Corona Virus outbreak?’ During the week there are opportunities for prayer and quiet reflection, on-line or on paper, in addition to children groups. There was a service for VE Day with a video produced by staff and pupils at Swaffham Prior primary school and there will be a service for Ascension Day. All are available via Zoom and we would be delighted if you wanted to join us in any of these virtual meetings.

These are tough times but we can be comforted by the words of Christ who promised never to leave us , never to forsake us. Whether the buildings are open or closed, the church’s role is to fulfil that promise and bring light into dark days.

If you would like details of how to access and participate in any of our activities please contact Mike Procter L.L.M. on Tel 01223 813963 or Liz Butler L.L.M. on 811726

*Liz Butler*

## **THE CRESSET NEEDS YOUR HELP.**

To assist in the distribution of the Cresset when we start printing again, we are looking for people to join the rota group who split up the magazines and take them out to the team of distributors who then deliver them around the village. With the right number of volunteers this is normally only required once every 3 or 4 months and takes just a few hours.

**If you would like to join us and help out, then please contact  
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# K.J.P.

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## *Anglesey Group Mothers' Union*

### **In Memory**

Joyce Rank, indoor member of the Anglesey Group sadly passed away on 17th April aged 98. Joyce had been a member of MU for an amazing 72 years!

Her enrolment took place at the Bottisham branch in 1948. Following in the footsteps of her mother, Ruth Blincoe, she became enrolling member for many years. Joyce was a very active lady, especially with her knitting for many MU projects, and a well-known figure at local events in her role as Red Cross volunteer. When Susan Baker (MU Diocesan President) presented Joyce with her 70 year membership certificate, in January 2018, she was still knitting blanket squares for MU. The certificate was framed immediately and always on display thereafter in her home and later in her care home room. Her friends and fellow members will miss her, but rejoice to have known such a remarkable lady. Rest in Peace Joyce

## *Bottisham Local Charities Trustees*

Local Charities can offer support to people with a minimum of two years residence in the village. If you receive additional state benefits for pensions, housing or disability you may be eligible for help with household bills.

If you are starting a course of **HIGHER EDUCATION** you can apply for help with buying text books and equipment.

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*For further information or an application form e-mail the Clerk – Samantha Bramley  
bottishamlocalcharities@gmail.com or telephone 07725 512497/01223 294132*

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*Clerk to the trustees*

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### **“COUNTING OUR BLESSINGS” ...**

Last month JOW took the opportunity to republish some of the memories of Ted Norton concerning Bottisham pubs. And so, this month I would like to expand on some of Ted's ruminations....

#### **‘TED’S CHAT’**

“Well now, those inns and ale Houses which were mentioned last month: I wonder if you have found all the sites. If not, here we go:”

“The Swan, (now First Copy) you know; and this was a Post House of considerable importance, with stabling for some 13 horses; with ostlers (a man employed to look after the horses of people staying at an inn) and maids bustling about as the Stage Coaches came and went. Court Leets (an English criminal court for the punishment of small offences) were held at the Swan, and sometimes Petty Sessions at a later date. Now known as the White Swan but, in its heyday as a Post House it was just The Swan.”

“The George is directly across the road from The Swan; actually, now No 2 Bottisham Place. Tradition has it that \*Dick Turpin stopped at The George from time to time, and put his horse – Black Bess - in the small manger, now the pantry. Another con-temporary highwayman, \*\*Tom King, was taken by the Excise men outside The Swan.”

“Next to the Swan, now 183 High Street was the Rose and Crown. The Blackbird, but some say it was The Volunteer, was at Vineyards, 129 High Street; and the Golden Ball is No 90. The Queen's Head, at 66 High Street, is almost opposite the Anchor, now No 61.”

“What was The Plough is now the Bakery at No 22; across the way from The Bell. The Kicking Donkey was, at one time, at 51 Lode Road; and the Wait for the Bus (or in days gone by ‘Wait for the Wagon’) was that house on the left away out at the Lode crossroads. And I dare say there were others in our village which I have missed out.”

#### **TED’S TIPS:**

1. To keep bread fresh, store it with a well-scrubbed dry potato in the (bread) bin.
2. To keep cake fresh place an apple in the tin.

NOTES: \*Dick Turpin is remembered as a highwayman, robbing travellers whilst on horseback. He spent most of his criminal career as leader of the 'Gregory Gang', robbing shops, houses and lonely farms in Essex. It was only in the late 1730s that he started to work as a highwayman with the notorious Matthew 'Tom' King who was shot while trying to avoid arrest for horse stealing, Turpin then fled to Yorkshire. He took his mother's name of Palmer and carried on his traffic in horses.

He was eventually arrested over a trivial matter but during the investigation into the incident, Turpin's true identity and the extent of his crimes became known, and he was finished.

He was charged with stealing a black mare worth 3 pounds and a filly foal worth 20 shillings from Thomas Creasey at Welton, Yorkshire, on 1st March 1739. He pleaded not guilty, but was found guilty and hanged at York.

**\*\*Tom King:** was an English highwayman who operated in the Essex and London areas. His real name is thought to have been Matthew King. Some sources claim that he was nicknamed "The Gentleman Highwayman". His first crime together with Turpin was to steal a racehorse called White Stockings. On 2 May 1737, during a robbery that went wrong, King was shot, possibly by Turpin himself. Turpin rode off, and King later died of his wound.

**Keep healthy and remember; "stay alert, control the virus, save lives."**

And a quote for those who find the importance of a 'can do spirit' confusing:

**"People who say it cannot be done should not interrupt those that are doing it".** George Bernard Shaw. Irish 20th C Playwright

## *Thoughts of a Sports Nut*

Well, the lockdown world without sport continues for the time being and I hope everyone is getting infinitely fitter now that we are allowed limitless personal exercise...!

Let's start this bulletin with the answers to the last edition's silly football puzzle: -

The sun shone BRIGHTON the day we set sail for the ORIENT in a ship with a HULL riddled with holes. We sailed down the river which LEEDS to the sea. We waved to the fair maiden leaning against the MILLWALL. The CREWE was made up of Scots, Irish and others of the CELTIC races. The exception was the cabin boy named BRAD FORD whose job was to STOKE the boilers. He was illiterate, but won our HEARTS with his STIRLING efforts to improve his READING. He was sent to COVENTRY by the villains on board, who had brought their ARSENAL of weapons. They were a rowdy lot and, when drunk, they did in fact WREXHAM furniture. The voyage made my MOTHERWELL who had not had a holiday FORFAR too long. We landed LEYTON in the day on the SOUTHEND of the island, below where the locals BURY their dead. We crossed a stream and entered a dense forest where the WOLVES roamed freely. We PRESTON regardless and eventually met a group of RANGERS dressed in LINCOLN green. After a day's journey we caught some black fish in a BLACKPOOL and tried to get milk from a herd of cows, but they objected to having their HUDDERSFIELD (sorry about this one!) At last we came to our destination, the home of the Hawaiian monarch, the QUEEN OF THE SOUTH. She greeted us with a friendly ALLOA but was obviously upset, as her CRYSTAL PALACE had been smashed when the WALSALL fell down. While her NEWCASTLE was being built, she had to live in a sumptuous VILLA. When we found the treasure, we put the LUTON the ship, determined to put it straight in the CLYDEBANK or HALIFAX when we got home. That night we ate some DUNDEE cake and some CHELSEA buns for tea, also some OLDHAM which made us feel ill.

*How did you get on with the tricky challenge of the World Football Team with no two players from the same club or country? My own selection, if you're interested, was as follows:*

**GK** Yashin, Russia, Dynamo Moscow

**DEF** Paolo Maldini, Italy, AC Milan

**DEF** Bobby Moore, England, West Ham Utd  
**DEF** Dave Mackay, Scotland, Tottenham Hotspur  
**DEF** John Charles, Wales, Leeds Utd, Juventus, Roma, Cardiff  
**MF** Franz Beckenbaur, Germany, Bayern Munich, New York Cosmos  
**MF** Ferenc Puskas, Hungary, Honved, Real Madrid  
**MF** Roy Keane, Ireland, Nottingham Forest, Manchester United  
**ATK** Lionel Messi, Argentina, Barcelona  
**ATK** Eusebio, Portugal, Benfica  
**ATK** Garrincha, Brazil, Botafogo

In the meantime, the most extraordinary thing happened in Germany in the second week of May. The Bundesliga announced the resumption of competitive football and we were treated to bizarre scenes of 22 footballers on the pitch playing a ‘normal’ game in an empty stadium, whilst substitutes and backroom staff sat on the sidelines, wearing masks and socially distancing! Not only that; goal celebrations were also solitary affairs with players avoiding any contact even though they’d been tackling and grappling with opponents only moments before. Is it just me, or did this strike anyone else as completely bonkers?!

And the English Premier League is talking about a possible return to action as early as June! Whilst I understand the compelling reasons for wanting to complete the football league season, I cannot honestly see the sense in a June restart. We are still in the position of players having the choice of whether to train with their clubs, or to stay at home training in isolation and, looking at the bigger picture, at the time of writing we still have UK deaths numbering in 100s per day! Premier League CEO Richard Masters seems to be pushing 12th June as a potential restart date, saying: “We can appeal to fans not to congregate outside football grounds... or contravene government guidelines”! Really? Has he not seen the footage of crowded beaches and parks during the ‘strict’ period of lockdown?! I wish he was as keen to speak out about assisting lower league clubs in the aftermath of the pandemic, many of whom will surely face extinction if no external support is forthcoming.

I’m sure there is an uncertain future awaiting all manner of clubs, professional and amateur, across the whole spectrum of sporting activity. All we can do for now is to adhere to the government’s advice and use our common sense. I do hope you golfers out there are enjoying the privilege of being back out on the course though!

I’ll finish on another item of fun for you (with apologies to non-football enthusiasts). Obviously the more mature parties among us will have a slight advantage on this exercise, but have a go at picking your all-time national team from players who played during your lifetime. Name five substitutes too, and a manager if you like. I’ll name my own (England) team in the next edition.

*Stay safe everyone. - TTFN - Gerry Daish*

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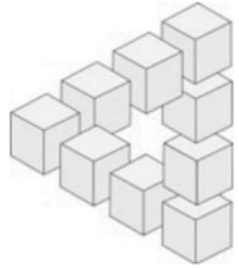
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