

July/August 2021

THE 
Cresset



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

We Stomped it!



On Saturday 12th June 2021, we completed the Broads Walk Challenge in 9 hours 24 minutes! The organisers snuck in an extra 5km, so we actually did 55km in this time!

Thanks to regular training walks, sheer determination, and hours of talking utter nonsense to each other, we crossed the finish line in good spirits.

We would like to say a big “THANK YOU!” to everyone who has supported us in our fundraising mission, without you we could not have done it.

The total raised for Bewick Bridge Community Primary (at the time of writing) is £1,476. The total raised for Bottisham Community Primary (at the time of writing) is £1,886.

We also would like to mention our raffle prize donors & thank them for making the event possible, it was a great success.

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The Quay Mill Hotel www.cambridgequymill.co.uk/

The Shed www.the-shed-pub.co.uk/

The Bell thebellbottisham.co.uk/

Lucy Gough www.lucygough.com/

National Trust www.nationaltrust.org.uk/anglesey-abbey-gardens-and-lode-mill

Clare Neal -Beauty and massage therapist, www.facebook.com/groups/2493523604050335

Mouse in the House www.facebook.com/search/top?q=mouse%20in%20the%20house

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Laura Probert www.facebook.com/bespokewreathsbylaura

Jacks Gelato www.jacksgelato.com/

Best wishes and thanks again, Lucy & Meleena.

THE EDITOR IS AWAY ON HOLIDAY!

Back in the day, that is all you would get and a blank page for the rest. However, technology nowadays means that armed with my laptop I can go anywhere and still bore you! I have even in the past been on the West coast of Canada staying with friends and been able to report back. However, this time we are in Scotland which is a lovely place to be just now (mid-June), not just because of the ever-present beautiful scenery, but also because we are away from the hot and humid weather which you are enjoying at home. I am not a fan of heat and anything more than about 23°deg, I can do without. Perhaps having been born in Scotland, it is in my genes that I prefer the cool.



Also missing from my genes is a love of football and being in Scotland when they have just lost 2-0 in their opening match of Euro2021, can be a depressing experience. The TV pundits build up the expectations so much that anything other than a 6-0 win puts everybody in a mood!

Not sure how long these Euros go on for, but they sure occupy a lot of TV time, or is that just the view of a non-football fan?

Out of sympathy Sports Nut said he wouldn't mention the Scotland match, however he does cover lots of other interesting sporting items in his article this month including football.

There are all the other regular items and Tim who writes the wine article (or is that a 'blog' to use the modern parlance) is keen to hear back from anybody who has tried his recommendations or who have other wine suggestions. Jolley Old World has his take on current affairs and Paddy keeps us up to date on transport matters. The PC report gives us an update on the moving of the Milton sewage works to Horningsea and Honey hill. Now referred to as a 'water treatment works' as if that makes it more acceptable. I am afeared that while this may not visually affect us here in Bottisham, it will not resolve the issue we have of the lack of capacity at our own sewage works where tankers still have to take waste away.

They always say the summer doesn't start till the schools break up, so perhaps the good weather will continue for some time yet.

If you are able to take advantage of the easing of lockdown and get away on holiday, enjoy it. There is the delay in the official easing, but if we are all sensible and follow the guidelines then we should be fine. However, it does raise concerns when you see some of these big crowd events where very few seem to be taking heed and are crowded together, drinking, singing and embracing.

I will now take advantage of being 'on holiday' and make this editorial briefer than normal.

Have a good summer, whatever you do or can do, and we will join up again in September. If you have items to include in the next magazine, I need them by 14th August,

PS. Our cover picture this month is of Bottisham and Lode station which was opened as Bottisham station on 2 June 1884, renamed Bottisham and Lode on 22 April 1897. It was closed to passengers on the 18th of June 1962 as part of the Beeching cuts and closed finally for goods on 16th of July 1964. Sad day!

Services in the Anglesey Benefice

- Sun 4 July** **Fifth Sunday after Trinity; Green**
9am **Online service on Zoom**, Village Worship Swaffham Bulbeck
10.30am **Holy Communion**, Bottisham
- Wed 7 July** 8pm **C by C (a short contemplative service)** Online service on Zoom
- Sun 11 July** **Sixth Sunday after Trinity; Green**
9am **Holy Communion**, Quy
10.30am **Family Worship**, Swaffham Prior – shown on Zoom, technology permitting
- Sun 18 July** **Seventh Sunday after Trinity; Green**
9am **Online service on Zoom**, **Morning Prayer**, Quy
10.30am **Holy Communion**, Swaffham Bulbeck, **Morning Prayer**, Bottisham
- Sun 25 Jul** **Eighth Sunday after Trinity; Green**
9am **Online service on Zoom**
10.30am **Holy Communion**, Swaffham Prior
- Sun 1 Aug** **Ninth Sunday after Trinity; Green**
9am **Online service on Zoom**,
Village Worship, Village Hall, Quy
10.30am **Holy Communion**, Bottisham
- Wed 4 Aug** **8pm** **C by C (a short contemplative service)** Online service on Zoom
- Sun 8 Aug** **Tenth Sunday after Trinity; Green**
9am **Holy Communion**, Quy
10.30am **Family Worship**, Swaffham Prior – shown on Zoom, technology permitting
- Sun 15 Aug** **Eleventh Sunday after Trinity; Green**
9am **Online service on Zoom**
Morning Prayer, Quy
10.30am **Holy Communion**, Swaffham Bulbeck
Morning Prayer, Bottisham
- Sun 22 Aug** **Twelfth Sunday after Trinity; Green**
9am **Online service on Zoom**
10.30am **Holy Communion**, Swaffham Prior
- Sunday 29 Aug** **Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity; Green**
9am **Online service on Zoom**
10.30am **Holy Communion**, Lode
- Each Thursday**
10.30am **Holy Communion**, Lode

All subject to Covid restrictions

Please check <http://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/7378/benefice> for current information; or email admin@angleseygroupparishes.co.uk, also the address to request the Zoom link.

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Dear Editor

In the June 2021 edition of the Cresset, Jolley Old World pondered the differences between the Greys and Millennials. I came across the following some time ago.

A self-important student explained to a senior citizen why it was impossible for the older generation to understand his generation. "The young people of today have television, jet planes, space travel, nuclear energy, computers, mobile phones....."

The Grey responded "You're right, son, we didn't have those things, so we invented them. Now you arrogant little upstart, what are you doing for your next generation?"

Ted Southcombe

VIC QUY

Val and family wish to thank all those who sent cards and sympathy wishes at the passing of Vic.

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Parish Council Notes

Alongside the Parish Council's focus on our immediate environment, we also keep an eye on developments in the surrounding area which may impact on the village. You will doubtless be aware of the plan by Anglian Water to relocate the Cambridge Water Treatment Plant from the site in Milton. The outcome of the first stage of consultation is that, despite a number of respondents stating that the plant could be rebuilt on its existing site, the plan is to build a new plant on greenbelt known as Honey Hill. This is located north of High Ditch Road which runs from Newmarket Road to Fen Ditton. The second stage of consultation begins on 22 June, when information packs will be distributed to all households in the surrounding area, including Bottisham.

Cllr John Wilson has attended two meetings on behalf of the Parish Council. He has summarised the key issues that could affect Bottisham as being odour and increased traffic around the Quy roundabout (dependent on the chosen access point). He was assured that the 26 m. high digester towers would (probably) not be visible from Bottisham. We hope that the information packs will give more detail about the plan, so that residents can assess the potential impacts for themselves and make their own responses to the consultation. The Parish Council will continue to assess the impact on the village and respond to consultations.

On a more local note, there have been a number of recent incidents of graffiti around the village and in the newly renovated bus shelter. I would ask any residents who spot graffiti to report it to ECDC - the link is on the Parish Council web-site. Any offensive graffiti will then be removed by ECDC. Unfortunately, as the bus shelter is Parish Council owned, the cost of removing the graffiti here fell on the residents of the village. The renovated bus shelter also experienced some vandalism of the roof and guttering. The Council sought the support of the Village College to ensure that the very small number of people responsible for the damage were warned about the consequences of further incidents. The Council values its partnership with the College in caring for the environment we share and is grateful to the staff for working with us to resolve the issue.

My final note is to acknowledge the effect that the unusual summer is having on our environment – long grass! The high rainfall in May meant that contractors were unable to work on some days, while the grass grew much faster than usual. That, coupled with equipment breakdowns, meant that the verges, Cemetery and Churchyard, were left uncut for a much longer period than planned. The areas that the Parish is responsible for have now been cut but, at the time of writing, some paths for which the County is responsible are still showing the effect of the warm wet weather. We hope that normal service will resume from now on.

As I write it appears that “freedom day” may be delayed a few weeks. However, I trust that all residents are still able to enjoy the weeks ahead of (hopefully) warm weather and I wish you all a good break over the summer.

Jon Ogborn, Chair - Bottisham Parish Council



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Planning Notes

NEW APPLICATIONS

- 20/00671/FUL, Chalk Farm, Newmarket Road CB25 9BD. Change of use of amenity land and construction of a hard-surfaced tennis court and associated development
- 21/00783/TRE, Rose Cottage, 127 High Street, CB25 9BA. T1 Apple Tree – Fell because too large for space and the apples fall on the pavement causing problems for walkers

PLANNING APPLICATIONS APPROVED BY ECDC

- 21/00501/FUL, 17 Peacock Drive, Bottisham CB25 9EF. Proposed rear extension, window alterations and new front porch
- 21/00591/FUL, The Glebe, 113 High Street, CB25 9BA. Demolish rear extension and replace with new. 2 replacement windows to side elevation of existing house.
- 21/00069/VARM, Swynford Paddocks Stud, London Road, Six Mile Bottom. To vary conditions 1 (Approved drawings), 6 Remediation Strategy), 7 (Foul Water Disposal) and 8 (Surface Water Drainage) of previously approved 18/00653/FUM for Refurbishment of existing racehorse stud.

District Councillors' Report

Unfortunately the strategy of ECDC Council that it would hold Zoom meetings as in the previous year, and that the results of any voting on motions or resolutions would advise the Chief Executive was deemed illegal. The Planning Committee met at the Hive, but unfortunately there was no livestreaming. Other Committees are meeting at the Grange, with very restricted access for the public.

Using Zoom, John attended the Better Public Transport - Cambridge Eastern Access Project: to note the recommendation that Phase A on-line improvements to Newmarket Road should be advanced to OBC stage, with a longer term Phase B plan to develop a high quality public transport route connecting Coldhams Lane and a relocated Park and Ride site on Newmarket Road to be developed further if the draft Greater Cambridge Local Plan indicates that the Marshalls site will be allocated for development and land made available; presumption of access via Coldhams Lane rather than the Tins, and potential improvement to the Coldhams Lane roundabout; also potential for reallocation of roadspace on Newmarket Road and Coldhams Lane, and to improve the Cambridge to Newmarket Line in the longer term, with twin-tracking and additional stations—GCP should support EWR Consortium and Network Rail in maximising the potential benefits of this asset.

Regrettably the Administration is not engaging with GCP to any great extent, although almost half the District will be affected by these proposals, even more so when the GCP considers the Northern Access.

Our next Councillors' Surgery and meet your Councillors will be on Wednesday 21 July at 6.30 p.m. This will be held by Zoom – Meeting ID: 865 7631 8040, Passcode: 490667. If you prefer to join by telephone, the number is 01314 601196.



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Report from Alan Sharp, newly elected County Councillor

It gives me great pleasure to write to you as your newly elected Cambridgeshire County Councillor.

Having previously represented Bottisham on the District Council, it was good to meet many familiar faces, whilst speaking to as many people as possible during the election campaign. I am currently the District Councillor for the Woodditton Ward and am Chairman of the District Council.

I would like to thank those who voted for me. However, I will represent all residents regardless of which way they voted to the best of my ability and look forward to serving you for the next four years.

As well as my time as a District Councillor representing Bottisham, I have strong links with the Bottisham as I am co-chair of Governors at the Village College, so understand a lot of the issues that residents of the village face.

The County Council held its annual Meeting on 18th May at Duxford, the choice of venue being to adhere to social distancing rules. There have been no further meetings of the County Council or its committees since. The first committee meeting is due on 22nd June.

I have been appointed to the following committees: -

Highways & Transport Committee / Children & Young People Committee / Audit & Accounts Committee and Pension Fund Committee

I will report more on the workings of the County Council over the coming months, but if there is any issue that needs my attention, then please contact me.

Alan.Sharp@cambridgeshire.gov.uk Tel: 01638 507485 Mobile: 07794292941

Alan Sharp Cambridgeshire County Councillor – Woodditton Division

Dear Editor

I have not lived in Bottisham since 1962 but do get to see The Cresset sometimes and saw where someone was wondering about the old Court House. In the late 1940's there was a Sergeant Brown and a PC. Atkinson living at the back of the Court House and I believe there was also a room for holding a prisoner. I remember my brother had to appear at the Court when he was about 14 as our dog had bitten someone. I think my mother listed him as the owner to probably get a more lenient sentence! I cannot remember what the sentence was! I am not sure how often they held the sessions.

The main person at the Court was a rather formidable lady, I think her name was Miss Francis, and I believe she lived at Fulbourn. Lord Fairhaven was another member of the panel, and also Freddie Fry of Longmeadow.

I am still in touch with Sgt. Brown's daughter Beryl and will ask her if she has any memories of special events at the Court.

Avril Hart

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This year Mother's Union celebrates the 145th anniversary of our founding and the centenary of the passing of our founder. As a movement, started and sustained by the strength of Mary Sumner's vision of women supporting one another, we continue to thrive all these years later. This summer, we also mark 100 years since her death, making remembering her remarkable, inspiring life all the more poignant.

At the time of writing, if the easing of restrictions moves forward as planned, we are tentatively looking at coming together as a group, during the summer. Our last meeting was in February last year and what a wonderful way to mark our first meeting to celebrate the anniversary and incorporate the Mothers' Union 'Summer of Hope' Appeal. The appeal will raise funds to support women throughout the world. More information on this can be found on the website <https://www.mothersunion.org>

Ann Langran

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 landline Phone Number to BottishamCresset@gmail.com. Max. 5 Items. Entries by 12th of the month for next months issue.

DESCRIPTION	PRICE	TEL
Car roof rack - gutter fit and adjustable.	Free	811792
Brand new exercise step	£15	811119
Pine shelving (dresser top) 90 cms by 90 cms	£20	812676
2 Nelson type antique dining chairs , black ebonised wood with brass detail and cane seats.(some damage to cane seating)	£50	812676

Dear Editor

If Northfield farm is so bothered about a few people enjoying walking on the edges of their fields I suggest they erect signs, as I have no idea to where they are referring.

Also come on guys and gals still lots of litter around the village including face masks - you can't blame it all on the kids.

All the best, Stuart Bennett

Copy deadline for next issue is 10 August.

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

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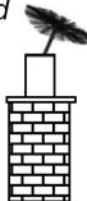
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Bottisham Community Sports and Social Club

It has been great to welcome back some of our members since the 12th April, and hopefully we will see many more now we are gradually getting back to normal.

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Saturday- 4pm to 11pm

Sunday- 12 noon to 8pm

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Bottisham Airfield Museum is re-opening on Sundays from 23rd May until the end of October. Our new attractions include our Mustang experience where you can sit in a WW2 fighter aeroplane, our new improved coffee shop and our all new gift shop.

The museum tells the personal stories of those involved in the airfield in an engaging way that is suitable for all age groups – we are also launching a treasure hunt for kids.

Volunteers have been busy over the last few months (as much as COVID has allowed) improving our displays and making the museum a much more pleasant place for our visitors.

If you would like to visit – you would be most welcome. We are open on Sundays 10:30am to 4pm. We are now charging a small admission fee for adults, but children are free.

You may just wish to visit our ‘Flying Tractor Café’ and sample our new selection of delicious cakes. We have a comfy seating area and guest Wi-Fi.

We have a free parking area and indoor/outdoor seating around our coffee shop.

We also have a group of WW2 re-enactors who will be setting up a real-life army camp at the museum over a number of weekends during the summer.



continued on page 17



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This and other events will be published on our website and our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/bottishamairfieldmuseum>

<http://www.bottishamairfieldmuseum.org.uk/visitor-info/>

Our address is, Wilbraham Road, Bottisham, CB25 9BU

If anyone is interested, we are always looking for more volunteers. Currently we have 3 volunteer teams – one helping meet and greet visitors, another helping in the coffee shop and shop and another one maintaining and restoring exhibits.

Our ambition is to grow the museum and be open more frequently once we have grown our volunteer team.

The museum can be contacted at info@bottishamairfieldmuseum.org.uk or at 01223 813952.

We look forward to seeing you.

Chris Kenny, Bottisham Airfield Museum



Copy deadline for next issue is 10 August.

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

K.J.P.

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News from Tim...a Vinophile

The classic TV comedy sketch about wine buffs will often feature expressions such as “gooseberry”, “burnt tarmac”, “cat pee” or even “peaches with hints of elderflower”. All of these descriptions could be used when discussing one of the most popular and widely drunk wines, sauvignon blanc.

This wine comes in many guises. Are you a lush tropical-fruit fiend or more of a citrus sauvignon swigger? Do you favour a gentle herbaceous hit or the bolder flavours of a barrel-fermented sauvignon? It’s worth finding out what you like because not only is sauvignon blanc our most popular white grape by far (selling a third more than pinot grigio), but the spectrum of flavours that it can display is remarkable.

The sauvignon blanc grape originates from the Loire valley and Bordeaux region in the west of France. During the eighteenth century it was paired with cabernet franc to produce what we now recognise as cabernet sauvignon father to some fabulous red wines. It prefers a slower growing time to allow the acidity and sugar levels to balance. The soil can also make a difference. The gravel in the Loire valley soil impart spicy, floral and mineral flavours unlike the fruitier Bordeaux versions.

It may have started in France but the sauvignon blanc is one of the most commonly grown grapes in the world. New Zealand is well known for its combinations of citrus and tropical fruit flavours with an underlying grassiness, the most celebrated being Cloudy Bay from the Marlborough region. The cool maritime climate promotes the slow growth required to give that acid/sugar balance. Chile and South Africa both provide fabulous value for money sauvignon blancs although most countries have now worked out how to make this perennial favourite.

This time of year is a great time to drink sauvignon blanc. Served chilled it can be drunk by itself or with fish, chicken, pasta, cheese (particularly goats cheese) or even sushi. Two of the most popular versions sold in the UK are Oyster Bay and The Ned. Both safe, dependable examples of the genre.

Next time you have a glass, don’t just dive in. Swirl the liquid round your glass then breathe in the fumes. Smell those grassy gooseberries and tropical fruits beloved of television sketch writers!

I’d love to hear what you enjoy drinking. Drop me an email vinophile7@gmail.com

RECOMMENDATIONS

Panul Sauvignon Blanc Vinedos Marchigue, 2019 - £8.50 Corney & Barrow, Newmarket.

In the Lontué valley sub region, winds from the Pacific Ocean cool the grapes and concentrate delicate aromas and flavours. Panul Sauvignon Blanc is zesty, herbaceous and extremely refreshing.

Tesco Finest South African Sauvignon Blanc - £7.50 Tesco. A classically styled Sauvignon Blanc, brimming with gooseberry and exotic fruit flavours. Made by Johan Gerber from some of the best Sauvignon Blanc grapes, planted in the rich soil of the Stellenbosch wine region.

Irresistible Explorer’s Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc - £7.50 The Coop. A classic example from New Zealand. Citrus fruits, peaches and grassiness abound.

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Bottisham Village College Library

Is your son or daughter a student at Bottisham Village College? As part of the Bottisham experience, all students can use their Cambridgeshire Library card to borrow quality books and resources! Access to the Library is currently limited but that does not mean students cannot borrow books. The Library Delivery system has been set up so our school community can send in their book requests and receive a school loyalty card as an incentive in the process (earning the chance of receive chocolate-based rewards). To find out more, students can contact the Librarian. Services online are still running as normal with plenty of e-books, audio books, e-newspapers and the student Britannica is available to view. Resources to support your children with their reading and writing are available for you to browse on our website (www.bottishamvc.org/college-life/the-library), Please do check the website for up-to-date resources as well as our Twitter feed (@BVCLib) for Library related news and information.

If your child is starting at the school in September, parents would have received a form for their child to own a card to use in our fantastic Library. As the Library is affiliated to the Cambridgeshire Library Service, parents are welcome to apply for a card for their child in advance, on the Library Service website: www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/libraries-leisure-culture/libraries. Even if you have sent your child's completed Library card form back, there is time to order cards online. Mr Ricketts, the college Librarian is now starting to process forms so if you would like to register for your child's card to use over the summer, please sign-up sooner rather than later. Alternatively, if your child is already a member of the service, they will need to bring their card to borrow books when they start at Bottisham in the next academic year.

Our Community Library run sessions for the public on Tuesdays (6pm-8pm), Thursdays (3pm-5pm) and Saturdays (10am-12pm). If any of our parents and local villagers are not yet members and would like to join, please do sign up on the Library Service website - we have a super range of books for you to enjoy!

Ben Ricketts, Librarian Co-ordinator

Bottisham WI

Two dates for members to put in their diaries.

14th July. Members will receive an invitation in their next monthly newsletter to enjoy a cream tea. Depending on government restrictions in place at the time (this report was written on 13th June) you will either receive a cardboard box and provide your own cuppa, or we shall meet at the Bottisham Community Sports and Social Club.

September 15th. This hopefully will be the start of a new season and meetings will then happen as normal but on the third Wednesday of each month. We shall meet at 7.30 in the Main Hall at the Bottisham Community Sports and Social Club for an AGM covering 2 years - after all we have not met as a group since February 2019.

Many thanks - Sylvia



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Bottisham Community Library Association

We were sorry to have to say good bye in June to Claire Enright who is moving with her husband to the Peak District. She has been a volunteer since we started in 2002 and has for the past few years arranged our rota. We wish her well and she will soon be the recipient of 2 teapots suitably engraved. Long story but manufacturers error!!

Two BOOK SALES have been arranged. Please support us as we have a lot of books for you to buy and even some jigsaws.

31st July 9.00 until 12.00 on the Triangle

21st August at 2.00 in the Main Hall at Bottisham Community Sports and Social Club.

We have arranged our AGM covering two years for Wednesday 29th September in the Poppy Room at the Club. We hope you can join us.

We hope to have our usual 6 sessions in operation in September and the community computers and photocopier back in use. All of course subject to government restrictions and College agreement. Details will be in my next report for the September magazine issues.

Sylvia Overton.

Knitted Hats For The Rosie Neo Natal Unit

Thank you to everyone who has knitted small yellow, red and green hats for this worthy cause. I should especially like to thank the lady who left the brown paper carrier bag filled with some beautiful hats, each in a little plastic bag at my door.

I have 156 hats to date and will probably have a few more by the end of the month.

Thanks to all the local villagers who responded to the cause. I am sure the Rosie will be well pleased.

Many thanks - Sylvia

Cambridge Open Studios



The region's largest art event is back this July. Artists will open their doors to the public over four weekends in July for the annual Cambridge Open Studios art event. Over 300 participants will be exhibiting at various locations in Cambridge, Ely, Saffron Walden and many surrounding villages. Among the huge range of specialisms will be: fine art, photography, pottery, photography, sculpture, illustration, textiles, jewellery, furniture making, and more besides. The weekends are: July 3/4, 10/11, 17/18 and 24/25.

Download the App and E- Guide Book via www.camopenstudios.co.uk from June onwards and start planning your routes. #COSart2021

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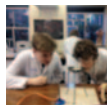
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Helen



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News from Bottisham Medical Practice Patients' Participation Group

ABUSE:

Please show respect to the staff at the Practice, they will not tolerate verbal or physical abuse, of which there has been an increase recently. They are working under difficult circumstances and are doing their best to help patients. Please exercise patience.

AGM:

This was held via Zoom on May 25th. The Chairman's report will be put on the surgery website along with the accounts and the notes. Chloe Baker and Ali McCarthy, Social Prescribers gave a presentation of their roles and work and Dr Keith spoke about Stress, Burnout and Depression with slides. Both of these very interesting presentations will be put on the surgery website.

Social Prescribers:

You can self refer for an appointment with the Social Prescribers, there is a form on the website and you can also book via reception.

Next meeting:

If you would like to join one of our Zoom meetings please email our chairman at s.j.gilson@btinternet.com who will send you a meeting invite. Next regular meetings Wednesdays July 21st and September 22nd at 2pm.

Bottisham Patient's Participation Group.

Well Done, Lucy.

Congratulations to Lucy Wolosyzn who has just completed a 55 km walk in under 10 hours on a very hot day on Saturday 12th June. Lucy did this in order to get sponsorship in order to raise funds for equipment for the primary school. Lucy being Lucy, did this and quietly managed to raise over £2,000 with support from her friends and folk she knew in Bottisham.

Lucy I have got to know as she is what I class as a doer and one of the first to help when Lockdown first started to Litter pick on the Village college area.

WELL DONE YOU, LUCY. No hugs but a big clap .

Hilda Buchanan

Copy deadline for next issue is 10 August.

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Public Transport Matters - IT DOES!

Wearing masks more people are now prepared to use the local buses but during the day the numbers are still low.

Public transport was a matter raised during the last elections. Buses but now also there is the problem of finding the best routes for the planned East West rail link between Oxford and Cambridge. There is a choice between a northern and a southern route. Both routes are being objected to as they come very near people's homes and will initially be diesel trains. Freight trains are planned to run during the night. It would be good to get lorries and trucks off the busy roads, but people will be affected by the noise.

We lived for 10 years in Little Eversden and I still have friends there and I was shocked to see a picture in the Cambridge News of the proposed high embankment with a train running along it only a short distance from a friend's house. There are campaign groups CBRR CamBedRailRoad and also Cambridge Approaches. The local MP Anthony Browne is involved, and I had positive news when I contacted his office. Lucy Frazer, our local MP has spoken on the radio and has been quoted in the newspaper. She is against the Northern route. I have friends in Dry Drayton who would be affected by that route. It makes it all seem quite personal!

Plans are being proposed for a different route by a local group so hopefully something satisfactory can be decided on. There are also plans to increase rail capacity through Ely EACE. There is a demand for more rail freight between the Port of Felixstowe and the West Midlands.

It would give better connectivity and reliability for passengers.

The metro system is being reconsidered since changes to the people who would have to make the decisions due to the local elections and the new Mayors

National Express has been badly affected by the fall in numbers during the last year, carrying just 8 pc of its usual numbers but it managed the situation by running just 13 pc of its normal coach timetable. P and O ferries is also fighting for survival due to the lockdown but also the post-Brexit problems causing reduced trade across the Channel. Taxpayers could have been footing the bill for Eurostar but shareholders have now agreed a Eurostar bailout. The cost of maritime shipping containers has continued to rise and the import of large goods from China is being transferred to trains.

Trainline ticketing system may open on the continent due to its problems since Grant Shapps in the government decided to set up a rival service. The stock lost 500 million pounds in value. It has usually sold 70% of the digital train fares.

The government is planning changes to the system running the railways. It will do away with the old franchising system. It will mimic the efficient concession system employed on the London Overground and the capital's buses. It will be named Great British Railways says the Department for Transport. They also say that they want train seats to be comfier.

The InterCity 125 service has ceased. The arguments about HS2 continue. Grant Shapps says it will go to Leeds.

Macron is restarting sleeper trains. There used to be 15. This one will be Paris to Nice at 29 euros or 19 euros in a shared compartment. There will be no dining car.

The Mid Norfolk railway was planning to open in June.

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Happy travelling - keep safe and well - Paddy James

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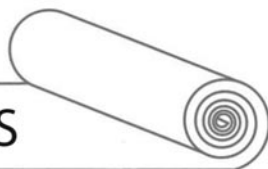


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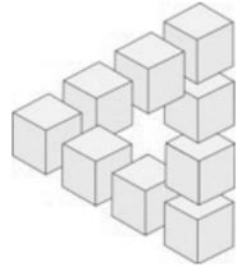
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Bottisham Adult Learning Association (BALA)

Some good news – I'm pleased to be able to tell you that we have a BALA course arranged for the Autumn Term.

The course is 'How the British Isles were Formed' a geological history of Britain presented by Bev Fowlston.

It will be a ten-week course starting on 30th September and finishing on 9th December with a break for half term (Thurs 28th October). The sessions start at 10.00 and finish at 11.45

The course will be held at the Bottisham Sports and Social Club and we will of course be following the covid guidelines at the time. The cost of the ten-week course is £40 with £5 joining fee for new members.

We are looking forward to being back and hope to see many of you again. Newcomers will be very welcome.

To register interest or for more information please email BALA@btinternet.com

Helen Cole

Bottisham Village College

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Copy deadline for the next issue is 10 August.

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Thoughts of a Sports Nut

So, the six Premier League clubs who proposed to join the ill-fated European Super League are to be fined a total of £20m by the Premier League. One would hope that this money could be cascaded straight down to less wealthy clubs in the English pyramid, which would be a small mercy, but – make no mistake – it’s only a small slap on the wrist! Each club, on average, will pay the equivalent of less than six months’ wages of a top player for attempting to wreck Football as we know it.

It would be nice to be talking about the actual football for a change, wouldn’t it, especially with the 2020 Euros finally under way. But, as a regular ‘live’ spectator, I feel compelled to weigh in with an opinion on the oh-so-boring ‘taking the knee’ controversy! In the light of what’s been said by the England players and manager, I have changed my stance slightly...

I no longer believe that the players are supporting the ‘Black Lives Matter’ (with initial capital letters) movement that many ordinary people find so disturbing. Why? Because they have said so and their manager has endorsed them, both in interviews and in a heartfelt open letter published through the mainstream media in early June. I think we should accept that the players’ honest view is that they are taking a stand (oh the irony!) against the vile and sustained abuse received mainly on social media by their black and brown-skinned colleagues. Something, for sure, needs to be done to combat these malignant tendencies in sport, indeed, in society. That doesn’t mean I think ‘the knee’ is the right thing to do, though, and it clearly isn’t working! There is a world of difference between saying that black lives matter (with small initials) and supporting ‘BLM’ (with caps), but the association of the phrase with the activities of anarchists and criminals is now too deep to be ignored, despite the footballing authorities distancing themselves from ‘BLM’ months ago. The trouble is, though, the players, understandably, do not want to be seen to surrender to the boo-boys. So where do we go from here?

Simples! We need an organisation like Kick It Out to step up, earn their corn, and launch an alternative campaign which would easily garner universal support. How about “Stand Up To Racism” or “England Against Racism”, perhaps with a linked arms gesture, or something along these lines? Anyone who objected to that would be displaying their racist nature for the world to see and the decency of the majority would undoubtedly prevail. If we don’t change the approach, this Punch & Judy show (“If you take the knee I’ll boo you.” “If you boo you’re a racist.”) will continue ad nauseum. Even John Barnes said that the knee is now an empty gesture and he wouldn’t do it if he were playing now! Personally, I’m already sick of it all, aren’t you? One thing I do know, though... it is idiotic to think that booing one’s team would inspire them to play better and improve their chances of winning!

It has been sad to see the media playing a major role in controversies in other sports, too. At the end of May, Naomi Osaka, the young Japanese tennis champion declined a post-match press conference during the French Open, citing anxiety and depression. This was met with

(Sports Nut continued on page 43)

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(Sports Nut continued.)

threats of fines and suspensions from the unsympathetic tournament organisers for breaking her contract with them. The story dominated the media for several days until Osaka voluntarily withdrew from the championship in order to remove the distraction for her fellow professionals! So where should our sympathies lay? Obviously, on a human level, there is no question that the heavy-handedness of the French has escalated a mental problem for the sensitive youngster. Shame on them for that. However, Osaka makes a highly desirable living from travelling the world, playing the game she loves, and how does she think the \$34m she earned last year is generated, if not by virtue of media contracts? A personal counsellor wouldn't make too big a dent in that grotesque sum, would it?

And now, at the time of writing, we have the cricket furore! Some low-life (presumably an 'investigative reporter') decided to ruin Ollie Robinson's England debut – and possibly his entire career – by revealing some embarrassing social media posts he wrote as a teenager. He immediately admitted his misdemeanour and issued a groveling apology. Stupidly, the ECB responded by suspending him and launching an enquiry which then turned up some other past material of a questionable nature from several more established players, including national hero Jimmy Anderson. A toxic can of worms, indeed...

My worry is: do we really want to live in a world where some snivelling tell-tale can pick on you, me, or anybody whose success they may envy, and hold us accountable for every single thing we've ever done over a whole lifetime? Who hasn't laughed at, or even told, a tasteless joke? And if we are to hold everyone to such exacting standards of purity, shouldn't we start with our politicians rather than our sports men and women?!

And in the meantime, England – minus Ollie Robinson – embarrassed themselves at the hands of the Kiwis in the Second Test and exposed their frailties for the world to see. India and – more worryingly – Australia must be rubbing their hands with glee at the prospect of facing England in the upcoming series (starting on 4th August and 8th December respectively).

Closer to home, Bottisham and Lode Cricket Club have enjoyed a cracking start to the season in Cambs Junior Division 1, beating Sutton, St Giles II, Camden and Madingley in their first four games to go top of the league. The unbeaten run came to an end at Coton, unfortunately, but it's great to see the club in such a healthy state – generously supported by several local businesses. Well done, chaps, for making this happen! Follow their progress on Facebook where you can find match reports, pictures and even photos of the scorebook!

With no Cresset in August, may I take this opportunity to wish everyone a safe, happy and successful summer, whatever your sport, and whoever you play for, or follow. There are plenty of massive events to look forward to: among others, The European Football Championships' final stages, the delayed 2020 Olympics, Wimbledon, British & Irish Lions tour of South Africa, Test Cricket series v. India, and, of course, the Tour de France. Wouldn't it be great to see Geraint Thomas crown a wonderful career with a second Maillot Jaune!

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TALKING POINTS!

Rod Liddle in the Times suggests that the public's ignorance of a few 'buzz phrases' shouldn't be mistaken for indifference. Liddle comments that "British identity is very important: the main reason for the Brexit vote and the Tory majority is a deep belief in the nation state, freedom of speech and the UK's history and traditions". There must be some rationale in this reflection as it seems dissent has been sufficient amongst National Trust members to have the NT chairman resign. The feeling is that the Trust had become too 'woke' in readily adopting fashionable left wing social, environmental and political causes, in particular the choice to publish a register of its properties with links to empire, colonialism and servitude. Add to these other fashionable left wing buzz phrases such as 'transgender' bathrooms, 'taking the knee' or the 'fate of statues' and you begin to recognise a 'lunacy' sweeping through our institutions where maths is racist and where physics must be decolonised.

But this lunacy is not recognised by a minority of graduate students at an Oxford College. They are so offended by a picture of the Queen that it has been removed from their common room on the grounds that Her Majesty symbolises the representation of colonial rule. Interestingly the campaign to have the picture removed was orchestrated by a visiting 'American' post graduate who perhaps has his own anti-colonial agenda! However, the majority of members of the Middle Common Room (MCR) have reacted with fury, saying they were angry that they had all been portrayed in a negative light by the decision. Of the 250 post graduate students at the college only 17 people attended of whom 10 voted to have the picture removed.

What is more there is now a war within Oxford University itself between Colleges over the statue of Cecil Rhodes. The provost at Worcester College has instigated a university-wide protest against Oriel College for refusing to take down a Rhodes' statue. A group of academics led by the provost at Worcester College (known cynically as the "People's Republic of Worcester") have signed a letter saying that they will boycott Oriel students. For the record Rhodes made endowments to Oxford University to help set up the Rhodes' scholarship fund that enables students from once colonial countries to study at Oxford. Unfortunately these examples of 'wokeism' are thought to be common place in many academic foundations where a minority influence can demand and succeed in attaining unrepresentative change.

But before censuring colonial history outright perhaps holders of such anti-colonial views should consult with the countries that make up the British Commonwealth. The British Commonwealth or Commonwealth of Nations is essentially a group of 54 countries formed from the old British Empire who, despite their independence, wish to remain united in language and in a set of shared values involving democracy, human rights, education and most importantly the rule of law. None of these countries has been obliged to be part of the

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Commonwealth – it’s of their own choosing. And nobody has contributed more to the successful transition from the British Empire to the Commonwealth than the Queen herself. The resolve of the former colonies to enlarge the membership is clear recognition of the positive characteristics of empire. Of course the most recognised qualities of the Commonwealth are the Commonwealth Games and the Commonwealth Heads of Government legislature that deliver a steadying influence through a ‘Charter’ which brings together the values and aspirations of democracy, human rights and the rule of law. There is also the Commonwealth Scholarships scheme aimed at students from across the Commonwealth who would not otherwise be able to afford to study in the UK. By funding postgraduate studies in a range of different study formats, the scheme helps to support future innovators and leaders.

It’s very unfortunate then that fashionable left wing attitudes in the UK are predominantly advocated by highly educated metropolitans who can see nothing but injustice arising from ‘their truth’ of the days of empire. But does being highly educated necessarily endow them with the wider intellect and the indispensable ‘life skills’ for full participation in everyday society. Sadly this side of liberalist culture does not seem to twig the thinking of the more mature individuals who have graduated from the ‘University of Life’. The latter would argue that this ‘woke’ driven mind set is being manipulated and conditioned by a succession of fanatical single-minded agendas.

Better perhaps for University Authorities to recommend to academics and students alike the qualities of magnanimity, tolerance and perspective than to allow such absurdity to proliferate.

JOW

“The UK is a great democratic country in which we enjoy many freedoms that we tend to take for granted. We surely have made the world a better place... I hope that the current and future generation appreciate the value of the freedoms which we enjoy and will take on board their responsibility to preserve those freedoms and do all they can to respect them and to keep them. Remember with gratitude and reverence all those (British and Commonwealth soldiers) that fought and died for these freedoms”. Sgt Arthur Lawson, a survivor of Kohima.

Bottisham Carpet Bowls Club

Bottisham Carpet Bowls are anticipating, if restrictions allow, being able to restart club nights in September at Bottisham Village College. Further details confirming arrangements will appear in September Cresset.

Meanwhile anyone interested in joining us on a Wednesday evening , 7.15 pm at the Village College, please contact any of the committee members below:-

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Hilda Hardy

HILDA HARDY, a local Guide leader and district commissioner for Bottisham and Burwell, is celebrating after receiving the prestigious Anglia Brooch from Girlguiding Anglia in a virtual ceremony.

The Anglia Brooch is a regional award given in recognition of commitment and service over and above ‘the call of duty’ to guiding.

Hilda has held a variety of roles in over 50 years of faithful service to Girlguiding, from including district and division commissioner, local Residential Adviser for Guide and Ranger holidays and camps, supporting leaders to take their girls away on trips, and as part of the Jarman Centre Management Committee, running the Girlguiding Cambridgeshire East residential centre in Newmarket.

Local leader, Anita Laws, said, “Hilda is an excellent role model. Whatever the age or ability of the girls she is completely at ease with them. She is extremely calm and patient. She gets to know them, she listens to them and shows an interest in them as individuals.

While she has so much to teach them, she is always willing to learn from them and accept new ideas.”

Rahera, who was one of Hilda’s Guides and Rangers, said, “Even though Hilda is older than us, she is fun to be with. She will go with our ideas and will often join in with us. Hilda is one of us. We can be ourselves around her. We can have a laugh with her. We also learn a lot from her!”

County commissioner, Claire Course, said, “2020 has certainly not been what we expected, but our leaders and volunteers have risen to the challenge and adapted to a new way of guiding. We were delighted to be able to hold our annual awards event as a virtual event to celebrate how amazing our volunteers have been this year and over many years. They have shown how guiding has always changed as the lives of girls change and this year is no exception.”

Around 100 members and supporters of Girlguiding Cambridgeshire East were together for a virtual ceremony, celebrating the amazing volunteering that has continued despite the challenges of the last year.

Hilda said, “It was such a lovely surprise to receive the Anglia Brooch. As a Guide, I loved being outdoors, camping and gaining badges. As an adult leader, I have found teaching archery so rewarding. I have loved volunteering with Guides and Rangers. They are fun to be with and it keeps you young in spirit!”

Hilda Hardy at Guide camp (pre-Covid) in Norfolk making a new friend at a farm!



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