

September 2021



THE
Cresset



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



Bottisham Community Sports and Social Club

OPENING HOURS

Monday to Friday - 5pm to 11pm

Saturday - 12 noon to 11pm

Sunday - 12 noon to 8pm

IT'S GREAT TO BE GETTING BACK TO NORMAL.

The Main Hall and Poppy Lounge are available to hire for all your functions.

The England football team received fantastic support at The Club for the Euro's. Now it is time for the World Cup 2022 qualifiers. Come and cheer the lads on again. Get the dates in your diary now!

Thursday 2nd September	.....	Hungary v England K.O. 19.45
Sunday 5th September	.....	England v Andorra K.O. 17.00
Wednesday 8th September	.....	Poland v England K.O. 19.45
Saturday 9th October	.....	Andorra v England K.O. 19.45
Tuesday 12th October	.....	England v Hungary K.O. 19.45
Friday 12th November	.....	England v Albania K.O. 19.45
Monday 15th November	.....	San Marino v England 19.45

BT Sport available throughout the year.

Advance notice *Children's' Halloween party* **Saturday 30th October 17.00-20.00**

Just a reminder that membership is due for renewal on the 1st October. The cost to existing members stays at £20 each with new members subscriptions being £21 which in-cludes their £1 share in the club. New members are always welcomed.

Please come along and join us.

Please refer to the website. www.bottishamsocialclub.co.uk for the latest information.

If you wish to be kept up to date with the latest news, email bottishamcsasc@gmail.com with your email address and you will be added to the mailing list.

Come along to enjoy.

Darts / Pool / Snooker / Billiards / Cribbage / Dominoes / Bar billiards/Table Tennis

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CAMRA CAMBRIDGE AND DISTRICT CLUB OF THE YEAR

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bottishamcsasc@gmail.com www.bottishamsocialclub.co.uk

Firstly, credit to Jean Turney who took our seasonal cover picture of the field behind Beechwood Ave. It is reassuring to see that nature keeps the clock turning even if humanity tries to disrupt it! But it seems from a layman's eye, to have been a good harvest.



Farms nowadays seem to be doing one of two things. Either farming on a bigger and bigger scale by farming more and more acreages, sometimes several miles apart or diversifying into other activities as we have seen in Bottisham. Either way the traditional farm which existed 40-50 years ago no longer exists. That added to the 'dormitory' aspect of villages nowadays changes the feel of a village and losing what many people would like to see remain. But that as they say, is progress. Not me for one, but then others would say I am being naive or out of touch.

However, I know I am not alone. There is a great community feeling in this village which is there for all to embrace if they want to, and a like-minded view from many.

It may not be the same sort of 'community' that was there 50+ years ago, but it is there as a social grouping that we can all embrace and join.

Particularly after the impact of covid there is a real human need to re-engage with people and to get those social contacts re-connected (Honestly, I wrote this before I got Tony Jolley's article!).

Be that through the social groups like WI, or Gardening Club, Meeting Point or the Community Social Club "The Legion", joining together in social situations is the bedrock of society. Staying at home playing on your computer does us no good at all. Let's hope we can at least get back to where we were, before covid. That would be a good start point.

Over the summer (what summer, I hear you cry!) we have had a feast of sporting events and Sports Nut gives us his usual in-depth report. Incidentally Gerry let me know that this is his 100th 'Sports Nut' article. I say a big century thank you to him and also to all the contributors to The Cresset for their input.

As the Autumn draws forward there will hopefully be a resurgence of the activities that we have in Bottisham. The Clubs and organisations, the youth activities like Scouts and Guides etc. and the opportunity to meet up socially.

In Public Transport Matters, Paddy highlights stagecoaches decision to no longer print timetable leaflets, but to rely on online access. It strikes Paddy and me that not everybody has access to the internet, and I would hazard a guess that the profile of bus users would be more inclined to be in that group.

I note that both our Member of Parliament, Lucy Frazer and our District councillors are having 'surgeries' on Saturday 18th. They are there to give us the opportunity to raise areas of concern directly with our elected representatives. See their letters for the details

Finally, I hope we were all able to make use of what summer we had and If you weren't able to jet off to your usual sun spot, that you were able to have an enjoyable break wherever you were.

More next month. PW

Services in the Anglesey Benefice

EVERYONE IS VERY WELCOME AT ANY OF THESE SERVICES!

Wed 1 Sept	8 pm	C by C (a contemplative service), Online service on Zoom
Sun 5 Sept	9am	Online service on Zoom Village Worship , Village Hall, Qy
	10.30am	Holy Communion, Bottisham
Sun 12 Sept	9am	Holy Communion, Qy
	10.30am	Harvest Festival Family Worship , Swaffham Prior – shown on Zoom, technology permitting
Thurs 16 Sept	10.30am	Harvest Festival, Lode
Sun 19 Sept	9am	Online service on Zoom Morning Prayer, Qy
	10.30am	Holy Communion, Swaffham Bulbeck
		Harvest Festival Morning Prayer, Bottisham
Sun 26 Sep	9am	Online service on Zoom
	10.30am	Holy Communion, Swaffham Prior
	3pm	Harvest Festival, Qy
Each Thursday	10.30am	Holy Communion, Lode

Subject to current Covid restrictions

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Website: www.angleseygroupparishes.co.uk

Email: admin@angleseygroupparishes.co.uk – to request Zoom link

Bottisham Carpet Bowls Club

GOOD NEWS

We have had a meeting with Bottisham Village College and unless guide lines change we will be starting bowling on Wednesday 22nd September 2021.

We do not yet have any information regarding East Cambridge League restarting, but we will keep members informed.

All equipment provided and anyone interested in joining us, do come along on a Wednesday evening , 7.15 pm at the Village College, or please contact any of committee members listed below:

Peter Hofton	01223 811191
Richard Nichols	01223 812158
Nora Watson	01223 812121



Contents

Parish Council Notes	5 & 7	Bottisham Village College Library.....	21
District Councillors' Report.....	7	Why taking down statues probably isn't the end of the world	23 & 25
Letter from Lucy Frazer our MP at Westminster.....	9	News from Bottisham Medical Practice Patients' Participation Group	29
Planning Notes	11	Public Transport Matters - It does!	31
Bottisham Adult Learning Association (BALA)	11	Thoughts of a Sports Nut	41 & 43
News from Wicken Fen Nature Reserve.....	13	Jolley Old World.....	45 & 47
Mothers' Union	15	East Anglian Air Ambulance	49
Sales, Wants and Swaps.....	17		
News from Tim... a Vinophile	19		

Bottisham and District Gardening Club

We held a meeting at the end of July and there was overwhelming support for the Gardening Club to carry on, but this is dependent on forming a new committee and finding new (possibly younger) members.

We do have a volunteer who has agreed to take on the position of programme secretary. We have in the past had monthly speakers with an outing in July/August and had a lunch usually in March or April. This could become a different format with a new committee and membership.

We meet at the Bottisham Community Sports and Social Club on the 3rd Tuesday of the month.

We shall be holding our Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 26th October when decisions will be made. We shall be having a PowerPoint presentation by yours truly entitled "2019 Another Good Year" at this meeting. Obviously pre Covid!!!

We are looking forward to seeing all our members and possibly some new faces.

We hope that our Club will be able to continue.

Sylvia Overton

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Parish Council Notes

I am writing when I trust you will be enjoying holidays and greater freedom to spend time with family and loved ones. I hope that we can look forward to a more normal Autumn, in particular for schools that have worked to overcome so much disruption during the past couple of years.

One element of life that has been suspended over this time is the Annual Parish Meeting. The normal expectation is that each parish holds such a meeting once a year between 1 March and 1 June. We are planning a staged return to normality with a meeting at 7.30 pm on Thursday 14 October in the Hall of the Bottisham Community Sports and Social Club. In the past, the format has been a meeting lasting around 2 hours where the Parish Council, together with key organisations operating in the village, made presentations and responded to questions. This year we are experimenting with a different format, with a formal meeting lasting approx. 45 minutes. This will include presentations made by me as Chair of the Parish Council and the County and District Councillors who represent this ward. Afterwards, we will have an informal session where those addressing the meeting, together with our Schools and local Community Police Officer, will be available around the Hall to provide information and answer questions from individuals. I do hope to see a good number of you there.

The Parish Council has a residents Working Group preparing plans for a new Cemetery, as the current one is very nearly full. We are working closely with the National Trust, as the owner of the site in question, who are concerned that the final design reflects their values and objectives. Things have been delayed pending the return of key National Trust staff from furlough. However we are now close to agreeing a draft for an attractive and practical design, that we believe will serve the community well. We plan to also present and discuss these plans with residents at the Annual Meeting.

You may be aware that outline planning permission was given in 2019 for a development of up to 50 dwellings on land east of Bell Road adjacent to Petersfield and Ox Meadow. The Parish Council has been invited to comment on a second application, which provides more detail about the development and reserved matters. The Parish Council held an “extraordinary” meeting on 2 August to consider its response. We were pleased to see that issues which we had raised at the outline stage were presented more fully in this application. Firstly, the development provides a good mix of houses, maisonettes and bungalows suitable for individual people and families at all stages of their lives, with 40% of the development “affordable”. In its response, the Parish Council stressed the importance of prioritising people from the village for affordable housing before it is offered more widely. There is provision for allotments, which is currently a significant lack within the village. The plan also provides for a pre-school play area, which we believe is a very important amenity. Finally, our response stressed that there should be no further incursion into the Green Belt within the village boundary. If you want to see the details of this application, please visit Current Planning Applications East Cambridgeshire District Council (eastcamb.gov.uk) and enter the reference 21/00984/RMM.

Finally, I would like to draw your attention to a matter raised by a resident. A key life-saving facility is a defibrillator and it is important we all know where one is located in the

Continued on page 7

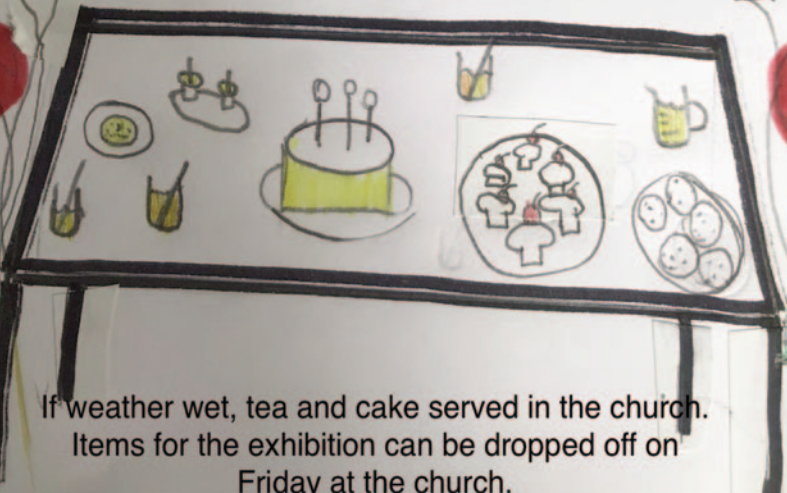


Open CHURCH
Saturday 11th September 10-6 pm

An exhibition of crafts,
photographs and paintings by
local people.

POP-UP CAFE IN THE VICARAGE
GARDEN 2-6 pm.

Come and chat with friends
£3.00 for tea and cake.



If weather wet, tea and cake served in the church.
Items for the exhibition can be dropped off on
Friday at the church.

Continued from page 7

event of an emergency. I am pleased to inform you that there is one available for public use outside the Bottisham Sports and Community Social Club in Downing Close. Full instructions are available by the equipment.

Jon Ogborn - Chair, Bottisham Parish Council

District Councillors' Report

Thank you to everyone who responded to the District Council's public consultation on cycle ways and footpaths which started before the Covid lockdown. Following this consultation, the District Council is working with the County Council to improve cycle ways and footpaths. East Cambs is paying for feasibility studies for cycle routes across the District, in order to support bids to the County Council for funding. One of the routes being considered is Swaffham Prior-Reach-Burwell. As well as looking at new routes, East Cambs are asking Parish Councils to comment on the condition of existing cycle ways and footpaths.

We are working with Parish, District and County Councillors from Bottisham, Great Wilbraham, Little Wilbraham/Six Mile Bottom and Fulbourn to consider a cycle route between Bottisham and the Wilbrahams. The current suggestion is to utilise the wide verge (ca. 2metres: owned by the County council) on the road from the A1303 past the air museum and across the A14 bridge to the Wilbraham Road to form a cycle path alongside the highway. To provide a full active travel route, this path would need to be linked to a crossing of the A1303, repairs to the footpath between High Street and Bell Road Bottisham (in need of repair in any case, whether or not there is a cycle path), and Sheffield cycle stands at the bus stop for the No. 12 bus.

East Cambs has created an Audit Committee, which Charlotte is a member of. This committee considers the findings of Internal and External auditors, the Annual Governance Statement and the Risk Register. Charlotte requested that several senior officers attend the Committee to answer questions about their areas of responsibility. Unfortunately, the Chief Executive decided that it was not appropriate for most of these officers to attend. As a consequence, many of the questions raised at the Committee were not answered on the day and we were promised answers after the meeting. The meeting was held on 26 July and as at the time of writing (14 August) no replies have been provided.

One of the queries was why officers considered the risk of "Loss of... access to ICT systems due to... or weaknesses in the IT infrastructure" to be "unlikely" given that the Council's email service had been down for over 48 hours on two separate occasions this year already. We warned that the explanation given for the most recent failure suggested there would be another failure in the near future. Although we didn't get answers about what was being done to avoid further failures, we did get agreement that Internal Audit would bring forward their planned review of the IT infrastructure and business continuity arrangements. Unfortunately, a few days later the email system went down again. It is now back up, but it is not clear how stable it is and whether any emails have been lost on the interim. This illustrates the importance of an honest assessment of risks, so that management can concentrate resources on avoiding the highest risks.

Our next Councillors' Surgery and meet your Councillors will be on Tuesday 21 September 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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Monday and Wednesday

9am-3pm

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

9am-12.30pm



Letter from Lucy Frazer our MP at Westminster

I know this year has been very tough for so many people, but it has been great to see how our local communities have pulled together to help those in need.

After an immensely successful vaccine rollout we are slowly able to see life return to normal. We have seen that effective vaccines are a vital part of ending the COVID-19 pandemic. Through vaccination we can reduce hospitalisations and see fewer deaths. The vaccine rollout, which is the largest inoculation programme this country has ever launched has been a truly remarkable achievement.

In the spring I had the opportunity to visit Staploe Medical Centre to find out more about how staff and volunteers have worked tirelessly to deliver the rollout in our region. The organisational demands of this challenge have been vast, but staff and volunteers have gone above and beyond to ensure everyone who is eligible and wants a vaccine can receive one.

Throughout the pandemic volunteers in every village have made a significant effort to help those in their communities and I wanted to let you know that I am organising a COVID Community Champions Awards to recognise the efforts of those who have made a contribution during this tough time for our area and country.

If you would like to nominate a local individual to thank them for the work they have done across Cambridgeshire then please email me on lucy.frazer.mp@parliament.uk with:

- Your name
- Your address
- Your email
- Name and contact email of the person you are nominating for the COVID Community Champion Award
- The reasons why you are nominating them

The closing date for nominations is the 30th September. I will be announcing the winners in the autumn, and holding a special event in Parliament to recognise their hard work.

Like many people, much of my time has been spent dealing with the virus and its impacts but I have also managed to ensure that work continues with local organisations on local issues.

Many constituents have been in contact with me to raise their concerns about the relocation of Anglian Water's waste water plant. Anglia Water are now consulting on its scheme.

I have met with Stow Cum Quy, Fen Ditton, Horningsea, Teversham and Milton parish councils along with the Honey Hill Action Group to hear directly their thoughts and concerns about this proposed development. As your Member of Parliament I am putting together my response to this consultation, and will be directly raising your concerns.

I will be holding an open surgery serving constituents in the Stow Cum Quy and Bottisham area on Saturday 18th September and will be at the Bottisham Sports and Social Club "The Legion", at 1.00pm to 2.00pm. Don't forget if you need help with accessing local services or have a question or a query that I may be able to help with, then please email me on lucy.frazer.mp@parliament.uk.

Best wishes Lucy

SG LAW

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Planning Notes

New Applications

21/00984/RMM, Land off Bell Road, Bottisham, Approval of Reserved Matters, access, landscaping, appearance, scale and layout of 16/01166/OUM for residential development of up to 50 dwellings, new vehicle and pedestrian access from Ox Meadow, public open space including allotments and associated infrastructure

21/01058/FUL, 4 Maple Close, CB25 9BQ, 2nd storey extension over existing storey, ground floor extension at rear, relocation of front door, new window in west elevation

b) Planning Applications Approved by ECDC, 21/00783/TRE, Rose Cottage, 127 High Street, CB25 9BA, T1 Apple Tree – Fell because too large for its space and all the apples fall on the pavement causing problems for walkers

21/00644/FUL, 1 Tunbridge Lane, CB25 9DU, Single Storey extension; carport and lean-to roof

21/00638/FUL, 52 Lode Road, CB25 9DJ, Render finish to be added to existing property, forming of new vehicular access and parking, removal of existing vehicular access and parking, erection of new boundary fencing

21/00756/TRE, Orchard House, 179 High Street, CB25 9BB, Tree works

21/00873/TCON, Car parking area to rear of 2 to 20 Howlett Way, Bottisham, Tree works

21/00972/TRE, The Vicarage, 86 High Street, CB25 9BA, Tree works

Street Trading Consent granted to Edie Ices to trade as mobile ice cream vendor, selling ice cream and associated products between the following hours: Monday to Sunday 12.00 to 19.00 hours

c) Planning Applications refused by ECDC

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

Bottisham Adult Learning Association (BALA)

A new course '**HOW THE BRITISH ISLES WERE FORMED**' - a geological history of Britain presented by Bev Fowlston will start on Thursday 30th September.

There will be ten sessions finishing on 9th December with a break for half term (Thurs 28th October). The lectures will be one and a half hours starting at 10.30am with a fifteen minute break.

We meet at the Bottisham Community Sports and Social Club in Downing Close. The cost of the ten-week course is £40 with £5 joining fee for new members. Registration and payment will be made at the first session.

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 bottishambala@btinternet.com

Helen Cole

M&P

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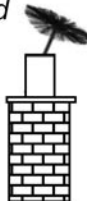
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News from Wicken Fen Nature Reserve

‘Footprints’ Community Engagement Project

Our community engagement activities for September include an exciting cycling adventure using the Mobile Adventures app (working with Healthy You: East Cambridgeshire District Council). You’ll be able to explore areas of the wider reserve and local villages by bike, solving clues about local places and heritage along the way. We’re also planning outreach talks and activities in schools (working with Ely Museum) and with local organisations. Keep the date for our Vision Festival on Saturday 2 October, when we’ll be showcasing project activities, volunteer opportunities and celebrating the Wicken Fen Vision. We will shortly begin recruitment for community archaeology and local walks leader volunteers; if you’d like to express an interest in either of these opportunities, please email julia.hammond@nationaltrust.org.uk To keep up to date with all our new community engagement activities see <https://bit.ly/WFFFootprints>

Mucky Pups returns

Mucky Pups monthly outdoor adventures for under 5s will start on 15 September led by experienced staff from Burwell House. Sessions will be 10:30-12:00 or 13:30-15:00 at Wicken Fen. Booking is essential – please contact Burwell House on 01638 741256 or email burwell.house@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

‘Murmurations’ - 17, 18 and 19 September

This site-specific theatrical experience was written by playwright Steven Waters whose recent *Song of the Reeds*, starring Mark Rylance, was on Radio 4. Tangled Feet theatre ensemble will be selling tickets for performances via Eventbrite. You can find a link to ‘Murmurations’ information on our website homepage (see link below).

Farewell to MOTHER...

It’s your last chance to see MOTHER... After 2 years in place on Moore’s Drove, the Studio Morison artwork will be decommissioned w/c 27 September, so do take the chance over the next couple of weeks to have a few moments sitting and contemplating in this unique space. There will be a final event on Saturday 25 September to celebrate its time here; more information can be found at www.wysingartscentre.org ; tickets via Eventbrite.

For the latest information please visit our website and keep an eye on our social media feeds www.nationaltrust.org.uk/wicken-fen

Copy deadline for next issue is 14 September.

Please send material to the editor at
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Tea Time



With the lifting of government restrictions, our first meeting since pandemic regulations began was planned for Thursday 19th August.



There was a tea and cake afternoon to celebrate the 145th Anniversary of Mothers' Union and our being able to meet up as a group again. The event was held in St. James' Churchyard Lode. To add that little bit of fun to the afternoon members have been invited to wear something blue and yellow if they wish (the MU colours). It gave us a great opportunity to chat and catch up with each other, and give some time to discuss how we all feel about moving forward comfortably with future meetings in a 'new normal' way.

Ann Langran

MEETING POINT IS BACK!

BOTTISHAM MEETING POINT

We were so pleased to see so many of our regular members and many of our volunteers back again in the **Poppy Room at the Community Sports and Social Club** on 21st July.

It has been a long 15 months and it was evident that all of us have missed meeting for coffee and a chat and to see everyone looking so well and glad to see the end of the Covid restrictions.

A very warm welcome is extended to anyone wishing to join us at 10.30am on Wednesday mornings. Have a cuppa, a chat and meet new friends.



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“Cheers” from Tim.

It's the dog days of the summer, we've had the Euros, then Wimbledon and of course my favourite, the Olympic Games, filling our television screens. But what to drink? How about a good, old-fashioned pint of beer?

Not so long ago you generally drank bitter or lager. If you worked in a foundry in the Midlands, you might drink mild and if you enjoyed the craic you'd sip admiringly on a pint of Guinness. Nowadays there has been an explosion in Craft Ales from microbreweries such as Lord Conrad's in Dry Drayton. Beer is popular again, although it's a lot stronger than it used to be.

Not surprisingly, 93% of beer is water, and although minerals in the water play their part it is the other ingredients that give it such distinctive flavours. Essentially beer is made by mixing water, a starch source such as malted barley, brewer's yeast and a flavouring, for example hops. Darker beers are top fermented and the lighter lager beers are bottom fermented. The strength can vary from 3% (or even alcohol free) to 14% or higher. Historically when it was used as a thirst quencher for working men after a day in the fields or in a factory it was low in alcohol but these days it is enjoyed and savoured by all and varies much more in strength.

Amazingly beer is the third most consumed drink in the world after water and tea. It is available draught, in cans, in bottles and even plastic carry out containers. Some people brew it at home, some people only ever drink one brand but most people have tried and enjoyed many types of beer.

Local breweries aren't a new phenomenon. Every town had a brewery and that's pretty much what the locals drank. Globalisation during the second half of the 20th century resulted in some large conglomerates that swallowed up all the small breweries. Thanks in part to the pressure group CAMRA, some small breweries survived. These include Adnams from Suffolk, Fullers in London and Harveys from Sussex. Around the turn of the century microbreweries started to spring up around the world especially in the USA (possibly as a revolution against their tasteless mainstream beers). Now it seems that every pub has at least one offering of a “craft ale”, often with an unusual name.

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

Recommendations (all available at The Bell)

London Pride - Fullers Brewed to 4.1%, this tawny-coloured premium ale borrows sweet raisin, biscuit and dried-fruit notes from the crystal malt, while fresh, piney herbs emanate from the hops. Rich, smooth and elegant on the palate, it draws to a clean, satisfying finish with beautifully balanced bitterness.

Birra Moretti - Heineken An authentically Italian quality lager brewed with passion and the finest quality ingredients. A special blend of quality hops creates a well-balanced lager with some hoppy and fruity notes, finished with moderate bitterness and a clean aftertaste.

Banks's Mild - Banks's The beer that fuelled the foundries and factories of the Black Country! A beautifully balanced beer, smooth and full bodied with a malty, warming and slightly fruity taste. It's very easy drinking - “Cheers”

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Since 18th May we have been open on a reduced scale on the following sessions,
TUESDAYS 6.00-8.00,
THURSDAYS 3.00-5.00 and
SATURDAYS 10.00-12.00.

A big thank you to those who have visited us.

We hope to be able to re-introduce the following additional sessions from 1st October

TUESDAYS 3.00-5.00,

WEDNESDAYS 10.00-12.00

FRIDAYS 6.00 – 8.00 ie. back to our original session times.

This is dependent on the majority of our volunteers being available.

Community computers and photocopying machines will again be in use.

You will need to wear a mask, sanitise your hands and sign in. A similar situation to when we had our limited opening sessions last year.

Please remember that any payments for fines or purchases are to paid in CASH.

Our recent Book sale on the Triangle raised over £130 not bad at 50p per book. Thank you to those who made donations to our funds on the day.

We shall have to concentrate on fundraising soon as income from fines was Nil to March 31st (previous year £569) so watch out for dates for further book sales and possibly another quiz early next year.

We are looking to add to our group of volunteers. If you are computer literate and can manage a few sessions each month we should be pleased to welcome you. If you wish to become involved, please let a volunteer know and training can be arranged.

We shall be holding our AGM covering 2 years to 31st March 2021 at 7.30pm on Wednesday 29th September in the Poppy Room at the Bottisham Community Sports and Social Club

Please support us. It's your library

Sylvia Overton

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Why taking down statues probably isn't the end of the world

In the last edition of the Cresset, J.O.W touched on a subject that I feel wasn't done justice, and decided that I should throw my hat in the ring. Recently there's been a lot of discussion about statues, or more specifically, taking them down. In the wake of the 2020 George Floyd protests there's a greater push than ever to remove statues of those involved in the Confederate States of America, the slave trade, and colonialism. In this piece, I'd like to take a look from a slightly different angle. Rather than "should we remove them", I want you to ask ourselves "should we leave them up?"

To start with an example that I sincerely hope isn't considered controversial, is the monument to the confederate president Jefferson Davis in New Orleans that was removed 4 years ago. It was raised in 1911, over 45 years after the US civil war, by the United Daughters of the Confederacy. This group had a very large hand in romanticising the slavery that occurred in the pre-war south, strongly supported the KKK, and likely caused the strange fetishism some people have for the confederate flag. To top it all off, the opening ceremony was 'whites only'. It wouldn't be hard to argue that this was not only to memorialise Jefferson Davis, but to glorify what the Confederacy stood for.

Now I ask, should New Orleans have left a statue commemorating the leader of a rebellion that attempted to preserve the slavery of black people, said statue having been raised by a group that attempted to distort the history of the Confederacy and its purpose? No. It's a statue that shouldn't have been put in the first place, nor should it be left up, not only because it may embolden those who have racist views to act on them, but because leaving it would actually contribute to a false history, the myth of the lost cause.

This leads me to a rebuttal of a very common argument against the removal of statues. "It's removing history". If you can only read one part of my diatribe, please let it be this one as it's one I feel very strongly about. This is objectively and figuratively incorrect.

It's not removing history in any sense. The events of the past happened, and we have far better sources to improve our understanding of it such as diaries, records, and previous historical works. The only information that can be gleaned from a statue is the statue itself. Take the statue of Edward Colston in Bristol as an example. The only information it can offer is that it was "Erected by citizens of Bristol as a memorial of one of the most virtuous and wise sons of their city AD 1895".

Not much at all really. It doesn't shed light on his career, or tell us anything that he did, good or bad. In fact, Edward Colston's involvement in the slave trade was somewhat unknown to most until the last few decades. I certainly didn't know until recently. It's possible that it was unknown even to those who erected the statue 174 years after his death. The most you can say is that someone in 1895 liked the idea of him enough to fund a statue of him.

Historians have learnt about his actions not from statues, but from far more useful sources. Ironically, in the future when historians and academics look back and examine this

Continued on page 25



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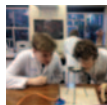
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Continued from page 23

issue, they'll have hundreds of sources to refer to, being interviews, news stories, and editorials on the matter. A great irony is that an act that is supposedly removing history is creating more.

If anything, the statue may have obscured history, as people may have accepted the depiction of a faultless and virtuous man, and not feel a need to question his past.

This in turn leads to the purpose of these statues. Were they produced to create an accurate portrayal of the person depicted, or to inform people of any questionable deeds in their life? No. They were designed to laud and commemorate, not encourage critical analysis. They were made to tell people "This person was good".

It's been suggested that information boards could be placed by these statues to educate people about the individuals depicted, to provide context, and to inform people of any behaviour we would nowadays deem immoral.

While I don't fully protest the idea and could understand it in less cut and dry circumstances, we must again consider the purpose of the statues. To memorialise and commemorate. To forever hold a place in the public eye. If the matter is about education, why couldn't we create a new memorial to remember those who suffered unjustly because of them? In addition, in my opinion, a visual depiction captures the eye a lot more than dry text on a faded board. A picture says a thousand words. The cast of a regal, noble lord will catch more attention than a small plaque next to him.

This leads me to my last question which is simply "for what reason should we care if they're taken down?". If we can agree that a long dead individual's actions were abhorrent by today's standards, and that the statues themselves don't contribute to historical understanding beyond themselves, why take offense to their removal? Why should we show apathy to living feeling humans who may be more aware of the ripples of the past that shaped their present than ourselves, and yet bleed our hearts for unfeeling bronze? Why insist they remain when it's difficult to see any benefits to them remaining, and the few they have could be achieved in other ways?

With that, I leave you with the words of a man whose likeness stands above the doors to Oxford, a centre of enlightenment and wisdom.

Kit "Brave New World" Turner

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Key Facts – April 2021

Number of appointments – 3373 (equivalent to 57% of our practice population)

Number of Face to Face appointments – 1392 (41%)

Number of patients seen the same day – 2807 (83%)

Number of patients seen in less than 3 days - 3043 (90%)

Number of patients seen in less than 7 days – 3263 (96%)

Only 1% patients did not attend their appointment – 99% attendance rate

Since January 2021 our practice team has been helping deliver nearly 20,000 COVID vaccinations at East Barnwell Health Centre as part of the Cambridge City Primary Care Network; we also delivered vaccinations to our local nursing and residential home patients.

We have implemented different ways of working during the pandemic and are continuing to do all we can to provide care that is safe for our patients and protects our staff.

In order to ensure that our clinical team can continue to offer safe and timely care to our patients in the face of this unprecedented demand, please consider whether an appointment is necessary, or if one of the services below may be more appropriate.

Pharmacies can provide over the counter medications for hayfever, insect bites, colds, sore throats and much more along with general advice for minor ailments.

The Minor Injuries Unit in Ely is available if you think you need an x-ray or have minor cuts and bruises which need dressing.

Please contact your local dentist in relation to dental issues, we cannot prescribe medications for dental problems.

Patients are also able to refer themselves to Physiotherapy Services and to the Psychological Wellbeing service without seeing a GP – details available on our website.

111 are available for general advice and will guide you to the right service if you're unsure where you need to go.

Please support our GPs and staff at this difficult time

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Public Transport Matters - IT DOES!

New Stagecoach bus time tables were published on July 25th. Some times are the same and some a few minutes earlier. I have contacted Stagecoach. They will not be providing printed timetables. It is all on the website. They will be putting timetable information on the display panel at bus stops but are short staffed so can't say when. Nigel my useful contact has moved away. Bus drivers can also be helpful. Buses now are back in Drummer Street Bay 8.

Stagecoach say they are having to adjust to a different pattern of use as many people now continue to work from home.

There is still controversy over both rail and busway local plans. I spoke to a friend in Little Eversden and they have not been contacted although they would be badly affected by the proposed East West rail link. Their MP is on the case and writing in the Cambridge News about several proposed local transport projects. Dr Nik Johnson the new Mayor is also writing about the East West rail link through St. Neots. Train trips are greener than flights but can cost twice as much. Railways are facing losses due to Covid travel restrictions. Flexi tickets were supposed to save money for people working some days from home but it is now suggested that they might be paying 55 pounds more each day.

The HS2 is still causing arguments about its planned route. There isn't enough cash to finish the HS2 in the North ministers have been warned. Shelving the Leeds leg could wreck the plan to level up the UK. Crossrail is running about 3 years late and 4 billion pounds over budget. It will be 40 years before diesel trains reach the end of the line due to the slow pace of converting lines to electric power.

Arriva reminds us to get our concessionary bus passes and GWR - Great Western Railway - tells us we can book at GWR.com on our app or at a station. We could be paying for Eurostar until 2025. Services are down 88 per cent.

Each of Germany's ten largest cities has at least one mass transit system like the London Underground.

You don't have to find a bus or use a taxi. China is speeding ahead with a 370 mph levitating train but the tracks have yet to be built.

Rail info - 08457 48 49 50 Traveline - 08712 00 22 33

Happy travelling - stay safe and well - Paddy James

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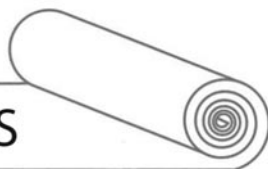


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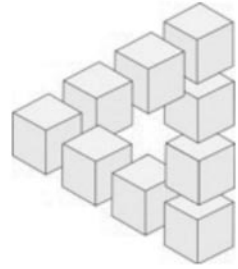
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Thoughts of a Sports Nut

Well, what a summer of sport we are having in 2021. I hope I can do it justice within a couple of pages!

The event that sparked the greatest number of column inches in the media was the 2020 European Football Championships. I'm sure you all know the result so I'll share my reflections with you. I was: Proud – of the effort and honesty of the England players throughout; Grateful – for the integrity and intelligence of Gareth Southgate in getting England to the final; Hopeful – that the careers of some of our young players continue to burgeon and bring even more success in upcoming tournaments; Elated – to witness England's dismantling of Germany in the second round on the same day that Mark Cavendish won his 31st Tour de France stage; Disappointed – by England's inability to take advantage of their early superiority in the final; Frustrated – at the failure of referees to punish the so-called 'dark arts' despite an apparent clamp-down on 'simulation'; and Disgusted – by the behaviour of thousands of Englishmen (and women) at Wembley on final day, something, sadly, which speaks volumes about the general standard of respect for others in our broken country.

The upshot is that you'll find me at the Social Club for games in future. I've had enough of so-called England fans spoiling my enjoyment of our adventures. Some of you may know I've had my say in the national press and I've also written to The FA main board suggesting they take more robust measures to control their members, at least inside the stadiums but, to date, no reply has been forthcoming. So, after 15 years of globetrotting from Wembley to Warsaw, Paris to Prague and Manaus to Moscow, I'm leaving it to Messrs Lewis, Pilgrim and Shearing to fly the Bottisham flag henceforward (pandemic permitting of course!)

As mentioned above, the exploits of Mark "The Manx Missile" Cavendish in the Tour de France added some real British spice to the race despite the underwhelming performance of the UK-based Ineos Grenadiers team. Cav, riding for Deceuninck-Quick-Step as a replacement for their injured sprinting star Sam Bennett, rolled back the years to take four stages and equal Eddie Merckx's all-time record of 34 stage-wins! The remarkable thing is: Cavendish is 36 years old and had not won a significant race for the previous four years... surely this must rank as one of the greatest comebacks in any sport, ever!

The overall Tour was won at a canter by 22-year-old Slovenian Tadej Pogacar, his second successive victory which suggests he is on his way to establishing his place among the Tour 'greats'. When someone is this much better than his peers, questions are always asked about possible pharmaceutical assistance but all the evidence to date is that Pogacar is simply a supreme, clean athlete whom the world should stand back and admire. While we're at it, let's spare a thought for Australian rider Simon Clarke who put the footballers' famous fragilities into perspective by riding the final 18 (yes, eighteen!) stages of the Tour with a fractured back after crashing on stage 3. His explanation? "Why would I throw in the towel...? I'm here because I love it"!

This year's Wimbledon produced two unsurprising champions in the shape of Serbian Novak Djokovic and Australian Ashleigh Barty but British interest was piqued by 18-year-old Emma Raducanu, who beat two top-50 players on her way to the last 16. She then retired, feeling unwell, during her next match when trailing to Aussie Ajla Tomljanovic, which met with a mixed reception from the media; but, once recovered, she explained herself in an engaging TV interview where she described the experience as "the best week of my

(Sports Nut continued on page 43)

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(Sports Nut continued.)

life". One hopes she is strong enough to deal with the inevitable weight of expectation next time around.

Another unsurprising champion, given his stunning rise to the top over the last year or so, was the USA's Collin Morikowa in the British Open Golf Championship. Incredibly, this was his seventh major win in an 11-month period, but the 'golden moment' of the tournament must surely go to England's Jonathan Thomson who struck a sensational hole-in-one on the 16th hole on Day Two!

On to Cricket. What does everyone think of The Hundred? I am an old-fashioned Test Match lover, but I must admit The Hundred is my new guilty pleasure! Not only do most matches result in thrilling finishes but it's a joy to see the big crowds – especially the families and children – enjoying the spectacle, with the smiles on the pitch matching those off it. The Women's game has garnered terrific exposure too, producing matches of skill and excitement equal to the men.

I don't think the England Test team are having quite as much fun in the series against India! In a drawn, weather-affected First Test, only a magnificent century by skipper Joe Root prevented England from being trounced due, in my humble opinion, to a surfeit of one-day-style batting. Grr! It was good to see quick bowler Ollie Robinson returning to the fold with a 'five-fer', though.

Neither was there too much fun to be had by the British & Irish Lions in their tour to South Africa. In a Covid-disrupted tour, Warren Gatland's team went down by two Tests to one, after winning the first; no disgrace in that, but the antics of South Africa's Director of Rugby – openly contemptuous of Rugby's sporting culture left a sour taste that one hopes will not be copied elsewhere.

And so – to the Olympics! The absence of crowds muted the atmosphere in the athletics stadium but there was no shortage of thrills and surprises for us armchair viewers. And the shocks started early: Anna Kiesenhofe's amazing breakaway in women's Road Cycling race to win gold for Austria; Ashleigh Barty's first round defeat in the Tennis; GB's medal hope Jade Jones' first round exit in the Judo. Then we saw Qatar's Mutaz Essa Barshim and Italy's Gianmarco Tamberi voluntarily sharing the gold medal after an exhilarating High Jump final; our own Charlotte Worthington nailing a golden 360-degree backflip in the BMX Freestyle; an incredible world record run from Norway's Karsten Warholm in the men's 400m Hurdles; and Tom Daley winning his first gold medal after 12 years of toil in the diving pool.

Obviously, I can't mention all our GB successes – it was a really good Games for us: 4th in the medal table, despite the disappointing performances of the excessively-funded Rowing contingent! But I must just say that I will never, ever tire of watching Jason Kenny tear away from the field in the men's Keirin on the final day to secure his seventh Olympic Gold (to accompany his wife's mere five)!

If I may play 'one-good-one-bad' to finish... Good: with the exception of the Balding/Scott studio 'banter', which missed the mark for me, I was impressed with the BBC's commentary and punditry personnel, particularly on the athletics, where Gabby Logan and co. showed their class in abundance, yet again. Bad: is anyone else concerned with the growing number of young children competing in the Olympics – some as young as 12? Just ask gymnast Simone Biles, or even cricketer Ben Stokes, about the pressures of elite sporting competition... I think we saw too many kids carrying the hopes of nations (or governments?) on their shoulders when they should be having fun in the school playground! Surely, there's a case for a minimum age?

TTFN - Gerry Daish



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‘VILLAGENESS’...

Every generation at some point in their lives refer back to the ‘good old days’ and I must admit to being as guilty as most. When I look back I also become very envious when I go to other villages and see what they are doing from a community perspective. Where they can still boast a close community feel and pull together to organise and to promote community events. I then reminisce and think to myself; “Bottisham was once like that...”

Over recent times we have witnessed the demise of the village drama group – the Bottisham Players, the Bottisham Opera Society, the Bottisham Badminton Club, the Church Choir Concerts and more. Other clubs and societies in the village such as The Gardening Club and Photo Club I understand are finding it difficult to continue and may have to disband for want of new members. Much of this has not been helped with the Village College morphing into an Academy thus losing that close community ethos - causing difficulties for decades’ old local groups to continue meeting there. I’m not sure what has happened with the Tennis or Swimming Clubs! Others have commented that there are broader matters influencing the natural village environment which require better communication and more rigorous reflection. I do empathise wholeheartedly but in order to benefit from ‘villageness’ you need the resolve of a willing community to make things happen.

As Bottisham has grown I’ve frequently heard it said that we’re missing a nucleus to which we can turn to stimulate or to inspire a ‘Community Feel’. I have even heard it said that new housing development in Bottisham has created communities within the wider community and that younger generations are not interested in getting involved in local matters or in a village feel. This is a bit of a sweeping statement because I know of the effort some have and are putting in. But is this wider perception true and is there any evidence that supports it?

Like many during the ‘lockdown’ periods we took to socialising with friends near and far using tools such as Zoom and Microsoft Teams. The topics were numerous but more often than not the topic of ‘community’ cropped up. Examples were conveyed as to how some villages get together to promote a particular community project or objective. Often overseen by a small nucleus of folk, this band of willing volunteers, let’s for the sake of argument call them ‘a forum’, involve themselves in the sort of ‘community action’ that often sits outside the scope or remit of a Parish Council. And what makes these ‘forums’ truly remarkable is that local people are willing to be co-opted in to help when a specific expertise or a vocational skill is needed. Two fine examples of Community Forums exist not far away in Fulbourn and Stetchworth – look them up on the internet to get an idea of what they do.

This topic of ‘community’ was covered in a previous article a few years ago, even so it is probably worth another airing so please forgive the repetition. Five years or so ago a short ‘survey-monkey’ questionnaire was set up with the aim of getting peoples’ views about social cohesion. A number of respondents felt more could be done to provide day time

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meeting places for groups with common interests, for example a drop in gathering with possibly daily newspapers and internet access for those normally on their own during the day. Whether this is possible within the current library arrangements with the Village College I'm not sure. I know that 'The Club' (formerly The Bottisham Royal British Legion) has started its Wednesday coffee mornings again. What came over as very popular ideas were a Village Fete, Village Fun and Activity Day, Patron Saints Days or even a (secular) celebration of Harvest Festival - after all we do live in an historical farming community. Club activities for children during school holidays also seemed popular. One idea I particularly liked was a monthly village cinema. May be we could build on this idea and offer a young people's cinema evening....

I had to smile when I saw this one; "I've found certain clubs and places in the village too snobbish". But seriously, is this true; is what is left of our clubs, societies, et al, elitist and unwelcoming?? Perhaps this perception should not be dismissed lightly... Other suggestions included a 'Welcome Pack' for new residents. Someone else commented that they do attend village events but it's always the same people who are sadly becoming fewer and fewer. Yes, I do agree and my view is that therein lay the answer - to find new leaders. Many of those who have traditionally been involved, whilst always willing to lend a hand, no longer have the physical or possibly mental capacity to lead. No disrespect to anyone intended. But maybe there are events and gatherings going on that some of us are unaware of. If so please remember that not everyone uses Facebook, Instagram, WhatsApp, etc.!!

Having found out from other communities about the indigenous potential that may lie dormant perhaps there is also hidden potential in Bottisham that would be willing to renew and to advance community participation? With lockdowns hopefully behind us we have a wonderful opportunity to rebuild 'villageness'...

JOW

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Brenda Liles; quoted in The Times relating to BBC presenters.**

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LIBRARY OPENING HOURS

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THURSDAYS

3.00pm-5.00pm

SATURDAYS

10.00am-12.00am

*Working in Partnership with the
County Library Service.*

Useful Information

Bottisham Website:	WWW.BOTTISHAMPC.CO.UK
Holy Trinity Church: Revd Sue Giles	812726
Roman Catholic Priest: Monsignor Eugène Harkness. Parish of St Philip Howard	01223 211235
RE:NEW/Lode Chapel: Rev. Alan Brand	01223 812558
Bottisham Surgery:	
Enquiries and Appointments	810030
Out of Hours only - Urgentcare Cambridge	111
Bottisham Library:	812354
Library hours: Monday Closed; Tuesday 3-5pm and 6-8pm; Wednesday 10-11.30am Thursday 3-5pm; Friday 6-8pm; Saturday 10am-12noon	
Cambridgeshire Police HQ:	01480 456111
Cambridgeshire Police:	(NON-URGENT MATTERS) ring 101 - In EMERGENCIES ring 999
Police community support officer Ann Austin PCSO 7353 at Ely Police Station	Contact through 101
1st Bottisham Rainbows/1st Bottisham Brownies: Kay Pearce	811055
Bottisham & District Gardening Club: Secretary: Julia Green	811467
Bottisham Bowling Club: Keith Gibson, Secretary	811049
Bottisham Carpet Bowls Club: Nora Watson	812121
Bottisham Community Primary School:	811235
Bottisham Cricket Club: Chairman: Will Allen.....	Chairman@bottlodecricket.co.uk - 07713 007757
Bottisham Local Charities Trustees: Clerk - Coral Hatley	811457
Bottisham Pharmacy:	812321
Bottisham Pool Association: Manager - Jason Rye	811121
Bottisham Royal British Legion Branch: Secretary. Peter Walker	811402
Branch Chairman: Dave Frost	www.Britishlegion.org.uk/branches/bottisham
Bottisham Scout Group: Group Contact: Linda Jones	813040
Bottisham Community Sports and Social Club: Secretary Graham Darling, Bottishamcsasc@gmail.com	812063
Bottisham Village College, School:	811250
Evening Classes, Clubs and Youth Club Information	811372
Bottisham W.I.: Secretary - Jenn White • mrandjw@btinternet.com	811600
Bottisham Youth Football Club: Jim Tideswell	812591
Cambridgeshire County Councillor: Mathew Shuter	01638 508729
East Cambridgeshire District Offices:	01353 665555
East Cambridgeshire District Councillors: Charlotte Cane 34 Swaffham Road, Reach	07976 607512
John Trapp 104 Commercial End, Swaffham Bulbeck	01223 812120
Girlguiding Bottisham District: Cambs East County office • www.cambseastguides.org.uk	01223 813917
Parish Council Chairman: Jon Ogborn	07486 372780
Parish Council Clerk: Jonathan Giles	clerk@bottishampc.co.uk - 07789 012761
Queen's Court Day Centre:	811905
MP for Cambs South East Constituency: Lucy Frazer, House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA	
E. lucy.frazer.mp@parliament.uk W. www.lucyfrazer.org.uk	
Cambridgeshire Trading Standards Helpdesk:	0845 3030666
Saplings Preschool:	813226
Milton Road Tip: Apr to Sept - Weekdays 9.00am-8.00pm: Weekends 9.00am-6.00pm	860674
Oct to Mar - 9.00am-4.00pm	
CRESSET Editor:	email: BottishamCresset@gmail.com
Treasurer, Advertising rates and payment: Rhona Walker, 94 High Street, Bottisham	811402
Distribution: Ian & Helen Cole	812573
Design/Artwork: ONG (Old Newton Graphics) • www.codge.com	01449 675548

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