

Love Living in Boffisham?

I've got some ideas on how to make a difference & make things happen in our village ...

> l've got energy & enthusiasm & enjoy building connections

I could turn my thoughts into actions

Yes, I'd be a good Parish Councillor I'd be good helping with local projects ... play areas, amenities, events, planning ...

Bottisham's Future Needs Local Voices Add Yours

Come along chat to us: Monday 6th October 7:00pm Sports & Social Club or for more information email: clerk@bottisham-pc.gov.uk

Hi, and welcome to your October Cresset.

As I write we are still getting some warm weather, but with some welcome rain as well. Grass has turned green again and the garden doesn't need the daily watering that was needed over this summer.



However, it was 'telling' this morning when I got up and noticed the central heating thermostat had kicked in due to the cooler air downstairs!

I try to wear my shorts as long as possible through the summer and put off as long as possible going back to trousers. But I doubt I will last September out!

October is an interesting month in the Calendar year. Like its Autumnal neighbours the name gives the clue to harking back to the time when the original Roman calendar had only ten months, starting with March. Winter was considered a time of inactivity and was simply not counted in the monthly calendar.

Later, the Roman king Numa Pompilius added January and February to account for those winter months. This addition meant that the months that were previously at the end of the year were now shifted forward, and October became the tenth month, even though its name still reflected its original "Octo" (eight) meaning. (Sept-7, Nov-9, Dec-10,)

Your magazine this month makes for an interesting read. Lots of articles of interest and information. Stuart Field gives us detail of the activities going on in the Church. He also sent me the cover picture of the wonderful sight of the avenue of cyclamens in flower in the winter walk at Anglesey Abbey. Speaking of which they also have their article detailing what is going on in October down there. Some magical things to take the children to (and for the grown-up kids as well!)

Mike White reminds us of the valuable work of the East Anglia Air Ambulance team and gives us the opportunity to support them with the sale of Christmas cards etc. (and have tea and cake as well!).

Gerry entertains and educates with another lovely article on birds, this time about the Peregrine falcon, that iconic bird of prey. Another entertaining read. Thanks Gerry.

Some months ago, we published the timetables for the new bus services (my apologies if you needed a magnifying glass to read). Well please take time to read John Austins update and information on accessing the live timings of the buses which come through Bottisham. The wonder of the internet does bring with it some really useful information if you get the App!

An article on support for living with Alzheimers makes dealing with that dreadful disease a bit easier when you know there is help out there.

Delighted to see that The Parish Council have got the Village College involved in creating an artwork to decorate the bus shelter in the High St. By the time you read this the winner out of the 400 entries should be announced and installation underway.

Finally, a reminder that the clocks go back this month on the 26th and we lose another hour of daylight. Then it really will be time to light the fire and draw the curtains!

More next month

Peter W

News From Holy Trinity Church Bottisham

As autumn settles in and the fields around us begin to show signs of gathering we are reminded of St Paul's encouragement in Galatians "Let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up" This season invites us to reflect on what has been sown, to give thanks for growth and look forward in hope for the fruits to come.



Our Holy Communion Service on 7th September was our last

for our Curate Rev. Dr. Rhona McEune. She has been with us for around one year, was ordained a priest on 28th June and has made a major contribution to worship in the Benefice over this period. We and the vicar will miss her greatly We wish her God's blessing as she and her ordained husband Patrick 'retire' to Norfolk where they will continue to support the churches around their home there. At this service we were very pleased to see a good attendance, including five children, who are of course the future of our church. Roger Bond, a Bottisham resident, kindly played the organ in the absence of Richard Ayres our regular organist who was on holiday. Rhona's last service in the Benefice will be at 10.30am on Sunday 28th September in Swaffham Prior.

By the time you read this we will have held our Harvest Festival service on September 21st led by our Authorised Lay Minister Sarah Maxwell with Wayne Marshall on the organ. As always, our flower arrangers gave us a magnificent display which was a joy to behold.

In the churchyard our summer flower area has had its annual cut and the grass removed. We are hopeful that next year more of the seeds which were sown earlier will germinate. Unfortunately, the very dry spring and summer meant that many did not germinate this year.

At the beginning of October work will commence on rectifying the items which need attention following our Quinquennial report on our fixed electrical appliances and circuits.

Our normal service pattern returns for October. On 1st October our on-line C by C, a short contemplative service, led by Sarah Maxwell will take place at 8.00pm on Zoom. Sunday 5th October sees our usual Benefice Holy Communion Service led by our Vicar Max Osborne at 10.30am, and Morning Prayer, led by Sarah Maxwell, will take place on 19th October also at 10.30am.

Our Regular Baby and Toddler Group each Tuesday continues from 9-11am. All parents, grandparents and carers are welcome with their children to enjoy chatting together, with games and toys for the children and refreshments for all. What a joy it was recently when I was able to greet the parents of a three day old baby, yes three days old, and a three week old baby as well as a good number of toddlers with their parents. The Peaceful and Prayerful Art Group, led by Ruth Blundell, transfers to Lode Church for the Winter months on Friday afternoons 1.30pm-3.30pm for the first four Fridays of the month starting in October.

We look forward to seeing you at one of our services or activities.

Stuart Field, Churchwarden

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NOTICE TO TRBL MEMBERS THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION, BOTTISHAM & DISTRICT BRANCH AGM

Further to the notification sent to members recently, this is a reminder for members, and notice of, the AGM of The Bottisham & District Branch of TRBL.

This will be held in the **Poppy Lounge of the Bottisham Sports and Community Social Club on Wednesday 29th October 2025, at 7.30pm.**

The purpose of this meeting is to assess the current situation as to the Branch's viability and the way forward for members for the future, as detailed in the member's letter or e-mail.

This will include the election of the two Officers that the Branch requires as a County supported Branch (CSB).

If you are unable to attend, would you please send apologies to:-Bottisham.POC1@rbl.community or PNTW@live.com







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Services in the Anglesey Benefice

Wed Oct 1st	8pm	C by C (a short contemplative service) – online via Zoom
Sun Oct 5th	9am	Online service on Zoom
	10.30am	Holy Communion – Bottisham
	4pm	Village Worship - Quy Village Hall
Thur Oct 9th	10.30	Harvest Festival, followed by lunch - Lode
Sun Oct 12th	9am	Online service on Zoom
		Holy Communion - Quy
	10.30am	Family Worship – Swaffham Prior
Sun Oct 19th	9am	Online service on Zoom
		Morning Prayer - Quy
	10.30am	Holy Communion - Swaffham Bulbeck
		Morning Prayer – Bottisham
Sun Oct 26th	9am	Online service on Zoom
		Holy Communion (BCP) - Swaffham Bulbeck
	10.30am	Holy Communion - Swaffham Prior
Every Thur	10.30am	Holy Communion - Lode

Please check the Church notice board for any changes to these details; or email admin@angleseygroupparishes.co.uk, which is also the address to request the Zoom link. You are very welcome to attend any of these services.

Alzheimer's Society Dementia Support in Cambridgeshire

We have a team of fully trained Dementia Advisers who are here to support everyone affected by dementia or worried about memory, as well as their family members and carers. As well as providing information, we can help you to understand dementia better. For example, helping with communication, eating and drinking, washing and dressing, etc. We will work with you to find strategies to cope with the difficulties that you face.

Our staff will offer you a listening ear and a safe space to discuss the emotional impact of this. Our service is free and confidential, and can be accessed at any point and as often as needed

We can help you to access benefits and any other services that may support you. We can also help you to plan for the future. We have a range of services including one-to-one support, groups, information sessions and are available in over 60 GP surgeries around the county.

If there is any way we can help you, please give us a call on 01223 620962 or email at cambridgeshiredementia@alzheimers.org.uk.

BOTTISHAM BOWLING CLUB

100+ CLUB 2025/2026 End of August 2025 Prize Winners

1st Prize £35 Member No. 8
2nd Prize £25 Member No. 113
3rd Prize £20 Member No. 119
4th Prize £15 Member No. 72
5th Prize £15 Member No. 56
6th Prize £15 Member No. 125
7th Prize £15 Member No. 130
8th Prize £15 Member No. 46

BOTTISHAM CARPET BOWLS CLUB

At Bottisham Village College Henry Morris Lecture Room

Enter via main Reception

Term times only

Club Night Wednesday 7.15pm Thursdays League Matches

We are looking for new members to join our friendly social group

4 weeks free trial

Carpet Bowls is suitable for all ages and all equipment is provided by the club.

We are a friendly group, and new members are always welcome, so please come along and try your hand

Further details from:

Nora Watson 01223 812121 nora@gandnwatson.uk Richard Nichols 01223 812158 rlla bell@btinternet.com



Parish Council Report

The next full council meeting will be held by on Monday 6th October 2025, 7.30pm at the Poppy Room, Bottisham Sports and Social Club. All Parish Council meetings are open to the public. Please note that the clerk to the council does not keep regular office hours. Replies to emails and phone calls will be attended to as soon as is practicable. Details of upcoming meetings and Councillor Details are available from the Parish Council Noticeboard and from the website bottisham-pc.gov.uk.

PARISH COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION

The Parish Council wishes to announce that we have had some changes in the Chairmanship. At their meeting on 1st September 2025, Nadene Cundell was elected as Chair and Jon Ogborn is now the Vice Chair. The reorganization will allow Jon to focus more on the development of the New Cemetery, while Nadene will take over the responsibility of the day-to-day running of the Council. We are also actively seeking to recruit additional Parish Councillors to fill vacant seats. If you are interested in finding out more, please do not hesitate to contact me or Nadene for an informal chat

NEW CEMETERY

As you are aware from communications in the Cresset over the last few years, burial space in the current cemetery has been depleted, and we are unlikely to have sufficient space for more than 2 years. It has therefore become necessary to find an alternative site to continue with burials within the village. Unfortunately, this will come at significant cost, as the rules and regulations surrounding the development of burial grounds have drastically changed in recent years. As we have previously mentioned, the New Cemetery is still in the process of land acquisition, which unfortunately is no further ahead than stated in the last edition of the Cresset. If anyone has any specific questions about the project, please do not hesitate to contact me at clerk@bottisham-pc.gov.uk

FINANCE

We are delighted to announce that we have now concluded External Audit which no other matters being raised. A copy of the notice received from the External Auditor is displayed on the noticeboard and on the Parish Council's website.

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT

The Parish Council has been notified that Cambridgeshire Highways underwent a restructuring last month. This restructuring is intended to enable the officers to have a better understanding of their local areas and to address concerns more efficiently. As part of this process, a new reporting system has been introduced — the Aurora reporting tool — which went live on 22nd September. The site may look a little different from the current system and hopefully more intuitive. At the time of writing, the Parish Council have not yet seen the new system but are looking forward to receiving a presentation very shortly.

We would like to remind residents that defects can still be reported online at: https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-pathways/roadworks-and-faults

Continued on page 9

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Continued from page 7

Please try to be as accurate as possible when submitting reports and, if it is safe to do so, include photographs. These reports are used by officers to establish what requires urgent attention for safety reasons. On this site there is also a useful guide under "How long does it take to fix a road fault?".

BOTTISHAM VILLAGE COLLEGE ARTWORK

The Parish Council requested assistance from the Village College on a project that they are undertaking to improve the appearance of the bus stop on High Street. The College students were tasked with creating designs for posters that were representative of Bottisham and its values. The Parish Council were delighted with the response and over 400 designs were received. These were all reviewed and reduced to 18 for Full Council review. After much difficulty, the Council narrowed this down further to six entries. These will now be presented to our MP, Charlotte Cane, and County Councillor, Jonny Edge, who will have the challenging task of selecting the winner.

If you need any further information relating to anything raised in this report or anything you wish to bring to the attention of the Parish Council, then please do not hesitate to contact me via email, clerk@bottisham-pc.gov.uk or via phone 07369248998.

Sam Chambers-Turner - Clerk to the Council

Cambridgeshire County Council Report

LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION

The development of proposals for new 'unitary' authorities is ongoing. Your district councillors John Trapp and Charlotte Cane have shared a link to the county council survey, which sets out the case for the preferred option of the County Council and all our local parishes. Please offer your feedback for this option to help us together fight for the best outcome.

Interestingly, fresh analysis from Westminster shows replacing the 21 two-tier systems across the country with 58 new unitary councils with populations as low as 300,000 could end up costing £850 million over five years and deliver no long-term savings. If they stick to 500,000 populations, this will hopefully favour the preferred local option.

ADULTS & HEALTH

Cambridge Children's Hospital contractor appointed

A building contractor has been appointed to Cambridge Children's Hospital, which will be built on the same site that houses Addenbrooke's and Royal Papworth hospitals. Bouygues UK is expected to start within the next 18 months.

'Good' rating for adult social care services

Cambridgeshire County Council's adult social care services have been rated as 'Good' by the Care Quality Commission (CQC), with its assessment finding that early support and flexible options are helping people stay independent longer.

www.cgc.org.uk/care-services/local-authority-assessment-reports/cambridgeshire-0825

Continued on page 11



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- Full cover for cancer treatment Many policies do not cover cancer in full
 we are able to advise on your current level of coverage













For further information, please call Simon Lively at M&L Healthcare Solutions -

FREEPHONE 0800 145 5838 or 07710 993990

Email: simon.lively@mlhs.co.uk

quoting ref: The Cresset

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Continued from page 9

CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

Improvements in support for care leavers

The County Council has improved the support and stability it provides for care leavers in Cambridgeshire, according to a recent Ofsted report.

https://files.ofsted.gov.uk/v1/file/50285468

Could you be a foster carer?

Having attended numerous events for our children in care over the past month, I wanted to take the opportunity to raise awareness of foster caring.

Cambridgeshire Fostering Service is looking for compassionate individuals and families across Cambridgeshire to become foster carers. By offering a stable, loving home, you can make a life-changing difference for children and young people who are unable to live with their families.

Fostering doesn't have to be a long-term commitment; the council also needs carers for short-term fostering and respite care.

Follow any of these channels to find out more:

- 0800 052 0078
- www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/fostering-and-adoption
- Facebook www.facebook.com/CCCFosteringService/
- Instagram www.instagram.com/cambsfostering/

HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORT

New highways system to go live in September

The County Council's new system goes live on Monday 22 September. The current system will be taken offline on Thursday 18 September.

The new system should vastly change the experience of its predecessor and will give more transparency of; reported issues, work ordered and will retain issues through to satisfactory completion of quality checks.

This is going live shortly after a re-structure of the highway's maintenance teams, designed to deliver a more effective service for all. Having met with this new team and sharing all of the local issues known to me, I am confident we will start to see far improved outcomes across our area.

Cllr Jonny Edge, 07974 348141, jonny.edge@cambridgshire.gov.uk

Planning Notes

New applications:

- 25/00257/FUL, 2 Thomas Christian Way Bottisham Cambridge Cambridgeshire CB25 9DX. Part single and part two storey side extension.
- 25/00399/NMAA (PP-14293940), 12 Peacock Drive Bottisham Cambridge CB25. Non material amendment to previously approved 25/00399/FUL for single storey rear extension and two storey side extension to provide improved access through property together with ground floor shower and toilet facility.
- 25/00964/TRE (PP-14300110), 89 High Street Bottisham Cambridge CB25 9BA. T1 Sycamore at rear of property Remove deadwood (over 25mm diameter and 100mm in length).
- T2 3x Hornbeam Reduce height (by 2m) and spread (by1.5m)
- T3 5x Silver Birches Trim to give a 2m clearance to building

a) Planning Applications approved by ECDC:

25/00819/TRE (PP-14213793), 2 Stocks Close Bottisham Cambridge Cambridgeshire CB25 9BY. T1 Yew Tree - Fell.

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District Councillors' Report

There was very little activity in the Council in August.

The Leader of the Council is still pursuing Option B (with East Cambs joining Fenland, Huntingdonshire and Peterborough) for the Local Government Re-organisation. The County Council has organised an online survey so that residents can have their say to their proposal for re-organisation, and this can be found on https://yourvoice.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/your-future-councils/. The survey closes on 3 October 2025, so do please engage with it as soon as possible.

SURGERY

Our next surgery will be on Thursday 30 October at Brinkley Memorial Hall from half past six o'clock and after an hour we propose to go to the Red Lion in the same village. The County Councillor, Jonny Edge, will also be present.

It is not only at surgeries that you can contact us; residents can always contact us by email, letter or telephone at any time.

Cllrs Charlotte Cane MP charlotte.cane@eastcambs.gov.uk and John Trapp john.trapp@eastcambs.gov.uk

Help Choose the Next Blue Plaque for Cambridge

A local charity is asking for help to commemorate exceptional people in the Cambridge area. Cambridge Past, Present & Future is inviting nominations for the Cambridge & District Blue Plaque scheme, which celebrates people and events that made a lasting impact locally, nationally or globally.

So far, 43 blue plaques have been installed since 2001, including for Thomas the Tank Engine author Rev. W Audry, the suffragette campaigner Millicent Fawcett, the mathematician and code-breaker Alan Turing and the wartime food nutritionist Elsie Widdowson. The most recent plaque was installed in the village of Foxton in May for paleoanthropologist Louis Leakey.

The plaques are put on buildings that are relevant to the person or event and are visible to the public.

Penny Heath is the Chair of the charity's Blue Plaque Committee, a group of volunteers that decides whether a nomination should be taken forward, she is keen to receive suggestions for new plaques, "as we look around our city and villages, we can understand our past from historic buildings and archaeology but the people who made our history are no longer visible and are often forgotten to time. Blue plaques help make some of those people and their achievements visible again, so that they can be known by current and future generations. People are often unaware that someone remarkable lived in their neighbourhood and it's wonderful to be able to share their local history with them."

Nominations can be made by email to enquiries@cambridgeppf.org with details of the person/event, why they deserve a plaque and the building it would be put on. Nominees must have died at least 10 years ago. Nominations are especially welcome where supporters are able to help raise funds for the plaque.

A full list of existing plaques and more details about nominating can be found at www.cambridgeppf.org/blue-plaques



Fassage Hall is a community facility located on the edge of the recreation ground next to the children's play area in the village of Lode.

It has a 12m x 6m main hall, lobby, well equipped kitchen, patio area, toilets.

The recreation ground is also available to hire and there are sports changing facilities in a separate wing of the building and accessed through a separate entrance.

See website for further details— https://fassage.lemonbooking.com Bookings can be made through the website or contact:

Via email: clerk@lode-pc.gov.uk or phone 07369 248998





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Bottisham Community Library Association

October – It's to be hoped that by the time you read this all our issues with the library computer system have been sorted and we have full internet access again. Thank you for your patience!

If you enjoy reading crime novels why not look out for our selection of Classic Crime. Writers like Joesphine Tey, Dorothy L Sayers and, of course, Agatha Christie, still stand up well against more modern crime writers.

The Book of the Month is one of my favourite authors – Anne Tyler. 'Three Days In June' is a short novel full of her usual wry humour and excellent observational details.

Congratulations to those children who completed the Summer Reading Challenge. We enjoyed seeing and hearing about the books you chose.

Lego Club and StoryTime will be on Saturday October 18th at 10.30. Younger children will enjoy our collection of Duplo.

The date for the Mobile Library visit to Downing Close, Bottisham is **Thursday**, **September 23rd** in the morning.

Keep Reading!



Village Litter Picks 2025 We need your help!

We have a wonderful small group of volunteers who regularly help out, but we need more volunteers to get around more of the village every month, so if you can spare an hour and a half on a Saturday, please do come along.

Fresh air, friendship and looking after our wildlife Bring your gloves and join us for refreshments afterwards

Starting Location	Date	Month
Bottisham Village College (sports centre car park end)	11	October
Bottisham Community, Sports & Social	8	November
Bottisham Community, Sports & Social	6	December
	U	

All events, once a month on a Saturday, starting at 10:00am Ways to keep in touch:

- ✓ Join the Bottisham Village Litter Pick WhatsApp Group
- ✓ Visit either the <u>Bottisham Events Facebook Page</u>
- ✓ Visit the <u>Bottisham Community Group Facebook Page</u>



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We would love to see you at Bottisham Community Sports & Social Club



OPENING HOURS

Monday to Thursday 5pm to 11pm Friday 3:30pm - 11pm Saturday 12 noon to 11pm Sunday 12 noon to 9pm

Non-Members are always very welcome.

If you would like to join the membership fee is just £20 per year plus a £1 share in the first year.

Members benefit from reduced prices over the bar and cheaper entrance for events.

Regular events

Happy hour or hours! Every Friday from 3:30pm until 7pm

£1 off every alcoholic drink.

Everyone is welcome, table tennis and other games available for the children too.

The Friday Meat Draw follows Happy Hour at 7:30pm

£80 pounds worth of prizes each week.

Every Saturday Morning from 10am until midday is Sausage Saturday

Pop along to the Poppy Room for a bacon or sausage bap with refillable tea/coffee for only £2.50 - nonmembers are very welcome.

Last Friday of each month is 'Open Mic' night.

Your chance to entertain or just listen to the local talent - Entrance is free to all.

WHAT ELSE IS ON?

Saturday 25th October - Children's Halloween Fancy Dress Disco - FREE ENTRY

Dress in your favourite costume and dance the night away - 4:30pm - 7:30pm

Saturday 8^{th} November – Race Night in aid of the Poppy Appeal

Entrance free, place your bets, buy a horse.

Saturday 22nd November - Sissy Lea is back - If you like drag then this is for you! 8pm start - ENTRANCE IS FREE

Monday 15th November - Newmarket Town band and our Big Christmas Draw Sing along to your favourite Christmas Songs - ENTRANCE FREE

NEW YEARS EVE PARTY - See the New Year in with 'The Jjars'

Live music, food, decorations and lots of fun.
Tickets are £15 for members and £20 for non-members.

Please refer to the website. www.bottishamsocialclub.co.uk for the latest information. If you wish to be updated with the latest news, please email bottishamcsasc@gmail.com

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Public Transport Matters

This month I'm writing about how to get hold of information on the village bus services **Firstly, knowing the bus timetables:**

- The complete bus stop timetables for this village were printed in the July issue of this village magazine.
- However, since then, the time of one journey on the TIGER 4 (T4) towards Addenbrookes (the second one of the day, that used to leave the Mandeville stop at Burwell at 07:52) has changed and it is now 10 minutes EARLIER (on all days Monday to Saturday). The roadside timetables shown at bus stops have, unfortunately, NOT changed so they will still show the old times for this journey. Times of other buses on T4, T5 and 12 have NOT changed.
- You can check the latest timetables by going to www.bustimes.org. Once you're in that website type the name of your village in the Search Box (e.g. Bottisham, Lode or Swaffham Bulbeck), and then you'll get a list of bus routes serving it.
- Click on the bus route you want and you'll then get two timetables for the 'Timing Points' on that route (one for each direction). If the stop you need isn't in that list click on 'All Stops' to get the timetable for all the bus stops on the route.

Secondly, you'll want to know how the buses are actually running - bus journeys can sometimes be delayed or even cancelled, despite operators' best efforts to run them to time.

- For information on any Cancellations on Stephensons 12 make sure you have the SoE Buses app on your smartphone. If you open it you will get notifications of any cancellations of those buses that day. No similar app is available for the T4 or T5, but cancellations of buses on these routes are unlikely
- For information about where buses actually are (so you can see if your bus is running late) go to the www.bustimes.org website again but this time click 'Map' near the top of the screen on the right. Then click the circle (with four points) symbol at the top right of the map: This will centre the map where you are. You will see lots of little coloured boxes with numbers in them moving slowly along roads on the map: these represent buses and the number on the box is the bus route number.
 - * For the T4, you can also use the Stagecoach app: the Live Map feature there shows the actual position and progress of buses running on the T4.
 - * For Stephensons 12 you can also use the SoE Buses app and the Travel Map feature within that.

John Austin

DR ALAN AND MRS FRANCES STEWART

Jenny, Caroline and Malcolm would like to thank everyone in Bottisham for the kind messages of sympathy and support they have received following the recent deaths of their parents

Dr Alan and Mrs Frances Stewart.

Thank you to everyone who attended their funerals at Cam. Valley crematorium.



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Bottisham Bird Brain

The Peregrine Falcon has figured heavily in recent Bird Brain articles and I think it's about time it had a feature of its own, especially as you can travel a few miles down the road to Cherry Hinton or Cambridge and be pretty sure of seeing one! There was a time when a special journey to coastal cliffs or quarries was required but, in recent decades, Peregrines seem to have recognised the advantages of tall, man-made structures and have successfully expanded their range far and wide across the UK. Bridges, cathedrals, university buildings, and various spires (as well as rock faces) can all provide a quiet ledge, high above potential disturbances, on which to scrape a simple nest.



The height, of course, affords a nice, easy launch point as the bird merely has to step effortlessly into space to achieve

instant, controlled flight. Not that the Peregrine lacks energy or ariel ability... it is one of the most accomplished, and probably the fastest, flier in the avian world. But no hunter wants to waste energy which can be put to good use in the quest for food.

My first sighting of a Peregrine Falcon (Falco peregrinus) was on the south-west coast of Wales and I'm ashamed to say that neither I, nor my camping pals, recognised it at first! We had emerged from our tent, bleary-eyed, first thing in the morning, to see a fast, dark bird passing high over the campsite and disappearing over cliffs behind us. Without binoculars, it could have been a pigeon or a rock or stock dove, but we decided to nip down to the beach to examine the cliff-face anyway (any cliff-face is always worth a scan!). Things were pretty quiet... a few gulls were evident and the odd jackdaw mooching between crevices. Then suddenly, a Peregrine – a tiercel (male) – appeared in a stoop from nowhere and hammered, feet first, into a lone Jackdaw, catching it in its talons on the second attempt. We literally jumped for joy at our first Peregrine 'kill' as the raptor disappeared to enjoy its meal and we subsequently trained our telescopes on that cliff until we found the nest with the hen bird no doubt sitting on eggs (it was late May). We also realised that our morning fly-past was also a Peregrine and was as regular as clockwork for the few days we were there.

Colloquially known as a 'black-cheeked falcon' in Australia and a 'duck hawk' in North America, the Peregrine is the world's most widespread raptor - present virtually everywhere except for the polar regions. This is probably not a totally natural distribution, with human introduction having played a part, but it is not surprising that they have thrived so widely given the distribution of their staple food source – pigeons and doves. The use of certain pesticides in many areas of the world had caused a serious decline in Peregrine populations by the 1960s, but they have recovered spectacularly since the ban on the use of DDT in the 1970s and '80s. This is not to say that they do not still suffer from deliberate poisoning by

(Continued on page 23)



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Newmarket Community *** Cinema

The Stable, High Street, Newmarket.

Monday October 20th - Official Secrets (15) Monday November 17th - My Old Lady (12)

Monday December 15th - The Penguin Lessons (12)

Doors open at 6.30pm with the film starting at 7.30pm. Admission is £6 which includes free refreshments. If you would like to reserve seats, please email richardjbowler@outlook.com or phone 01638 666810.

(Continued from page 21)

those seeking to protect their prey, and from the theft of their eggs for collections or falconry, but they are no longer endangered as a species, and the UK population is c. 1500 pairs.

How do you identify a Peregrine Falcon? Firstly, the sexes are similar in plumage but a male may be up to 10cm shorter in overall length than the female. (This sexual dimorphism is common in birds of prey.) So, we're looking at a bird larger than a Kestrel, c. 40-50cms in length, with broad, pointed wings and a relatively short tail. The back and top of the wings are blue-grey, the chest is light with barring, and the head features a white face with an obvious black 'moustache'. And if you get a good view of a perched bird, you'll notice a piercing black eye with a striking yellow eye ring, and bright yellow feet.

Quite often though, you'll see a Peregrine in flight first, showing its whitish underparts and square-ended tail (which may be fanned if the bird is soaring). Level flight is what I would call 'purposeful', but the real treat is to see the bird hunting. Its method is to soar to a great height, then after identifying its prey, diving with folded wings into a high-speed stoop before usually hitting its victim's wing first, so as to protect its own body. The top stooping speed is the topic of much debate, and Peregrines have been reliably measured at 114mph, but unconfirmed studies are said to have recorded over 200mph, which would make this species the fastest creature on earth!

Of course, special adaptations have evolved to enable Peregrines to withstand the air-pressure of such extreme speed. The lungs are protected by means of bony spurs inside the nostrils to disrupt the airflow, and the eyes have a third eyelid – the nictitating membrane – which sweeps the eye horizontally to keep the cornea moist and clear any particles of debris. I guess you are more likely to see the exhilarating spectacle of the stoop at an open coastal site, rather than in Cambridge, but keep your eyes on the sky wherever you go... you never know!

STOP PRESS

A couple of extreme rarities turned up in the UK this summer. Firstly, a pair of Zitting Cisticola (formerly known as Fan-Tailed Warbler) bred in Walberswick, raising four chicks, which is a first for the UK mainland. This bird, with the partially onomatopoeic name ('zitting' apparently describes its call!), is an insectivorous bird of grassland and recent increases in sightings in France and England suggest that it is expanding its range.

Then, in August, a Black-Winged Kite turned up near Splatt Bridge in Gloucestershire, which is only the UK's second-ever recorded sighting of this magnificent raptor, the first being only two years ago. How exciting if this bird – normally a resident of southern Europe – is expanding its range too!

TTFN - Gerry Daish

Her house is air. She comes downstairs on a turn of wind. This is her table. She is arrow.

At two miles a minute the pigeon bursts like a city.

From 'Peregrine Falcon' by Gillian Clarke (National Poet of Wales 2008-2016)



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A QUARTER OF A CENTURY HAS FLOWN BY!

6th September 2025 saw East Anglian Air Ambulance celebrating its 25th anniversary. In passing this epic milestone, we are reflecting upon the impact made possible through a shared vision and sustained support from people like you.

From small beginnings of flying one day per week, to the pre-eminent 24/7 lifesaving charity in East Anglia, every step forward has been driven by our supporters and communities. Each pound generously given has helped pack our crews' kit bags, assemble the wide range of sophisticated life-saving equipment and provided our two top-of-the-range HS145 helicopter's high-tech blades.

Our Doctors, Paramedics, Critical Care Cars and Helicopters are comprehensively equipped to carry A and E promptly to the scene.

You have 'turned the wheels' of our Critical Care Cars and have been by our side every time the 'phone has rung!

The ways through which you choose to support the Charity never cease to amaze! Whether you've donated, volunteered, played our weekly lottery, hosted a fundraiser or taken on a personal challenge, your kindness and endeavour, concern for others and creativity have made and are continuing to make a difference.

Thanks to you, over 27,000 people - people like you - have received critical care when they needed it most - often during that vitally important first hour.

But the need for life-saving care doesn't stop, and neither can we. Apart from undertaking life-saving missions, the charity also offers extensive after-care, first aid and CPR training.

Please do join our teams to help further our rewarding life-saving work in and around our community.

You might choose to leave a bequest in your will for example, so contact us via: info@eaaa.org.uk and 0345 066 9999. Together, we save lives.

Michael White

PS. We are having two EAAA Christmas Card sales days (diaries etc too) on 23rd and 24th October at 11 West Walk (garden gate) - including 'BOGOFs' - so do come along. £5 to include tea/coffee, cake and a raffle ticket!

Copy deadline for next issue is 14 October.

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

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News from Bottisham Medical Practice Patients' Participation Group

PRACTICE UPDATE

New NHS Ten year Plan and New GP Contract changes:

In July 2025 the government published the "NHS ten-year plan". At the end of August we were notified of compulsory GP contract changes which are due to come into force in October, these have not yet been finalised and we are only 3 weeks away! (at the time of writing) This is very short notice for us to make substantial changes to the way we work and we are having urgent discussions with how we can make this work for patients and our staff. Changes include online triage and total triage meaning all incoming calls are reviewed and then a clinician decides what appointment is booked, most surgeries do work this way now, we have held off until it has become compulsory. As part of the ten-year plan the government would like all patients to have access to "neighbourhood health care hubs" serving 50,000 - 250,000 patients. We have serious concerns about this and are passionate about maintaining patient continuity and our surgery as we know it. Dr Keith was invited to The Houses of Parliament on 11th September to speak with the All Party Parliamentary Health Group and shared her concerns with MPs of the impact of this new plan on our surgery and all GP surgeries. Please bear with us during these changes, be patient and kind to our receptionists and staff.

Reminder about expectations from patients:

We are here to help you. Violence, intimidation and shouting will not be tolerated. Any patient who is aggressive towards any member of staff will be immediately removed from our list.

Nurse Prescribers

We now have multiple nurse prescribers in our team. You may be given an appointment with a nurse prescriber when you hoped for a GP. The nurse prescribers all have access to a GP if they feel one is needed. If reception offer you an appointment with one of our nurses please accept this to save the GPs for the patients whom the nurses are not able to see

PPG next meeting:

Thursday 9th October 6.30pm., at the surgery, with a talk from Dr Tom Shackleton on cholesterol and statins with an opportunity for questions and answers on this topic

COVID And flu vaccinations: This autumn / winter we are able to offer both COVID and influenza vaccinations. The criteria are specific on who can have what vaccine.

Continued on page 29



Wednesdays

At Bottisham Sports & Social Club! 7:30pm

Relaxed social gatherings!

Every 1st Wednesday of the Month

Baking Club Every 2nd Wednesday of the month

Wool & Wine Every 3rd Wednesday of the month

Board Games Every **4th** Wednesday of the month

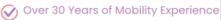
All events, start at 7:30pm, at the Club, Members and Non-Members welcome, late-comers welcome, discover new hobbies and join your neighbours in a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere.

Ways to stay connected with updates:

- Visit the Bottisham Events Facebook Page
- ✓ Visit the Bottisham Community Group Facebook Page







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Continued from page 27

Influenza vaccines are available free on the NHS if you:

- Are 65 years or over (including those who will be 65 by 31st March 2026)
- Certain long term health conditions
- Pregnant
- · Live in a care home
- · Are main carer for older or disabled person
- Live with someone with a weakened immune system

You can get the winter COVID-19 vaccine if you:

- are aged 75 or over (including those who will be 75 by 31 January 2026)
- are aged 6 months to 74 years and have a weakened immune system because of a health condition or treatment

COVID & Influenza vaccination clinics:

SATURDAY 4th October and SATURDAY 11th October 9am – 1pm and throughout the week. Please call to book a slot or respond to the text message you will receive to book a vaccine.

Bottisham Medical Practice Patients Group



Anglesey Group Mothers' Union

Our August meeting was our Summer afternoon tea event, kindly hosted by Julie Sale at Station Farm, Lode. The weather being rather windy and changeable, we set up in one of the old farm buildings, which was cosy and very atmospheric (complete with manger fittings!)

We enjoyed tea, finger sandwiches, small cakes and strawberries – as well as the usual excellent company. Our collection also raised £100 for the Summer of Hope campaign, which is bringing hope to families in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), where conflict continues to uproot families and devastate communities.

One of our members was also pleased to report that our donations of sewing machines and fabric to the Cambridge Refugee Resettlement Campaign had been gratefully received by the refugee women who will use them for making their family's clothes.

Our next meeting is on Thursday 16th October at 2.30pm at the Fassage Hall, Lode. This will be our Autumn Social and Bring and Buy Sale.

All are welcome to join us.

Alison Martin

Copy deadline for the next issue is 14 October.

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





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Bottisham Airfield Museum Group (BAMG)

As the Museum heads towards the end of the season, we have one more event to come this year. On Sunday 5th October, we will hold our third and final Classic car, military vehicle and bike show of the season. As with previous events, entry is £7.50 for adults, free for under 16s, that includes entry to the showground and the Museum. Hot and cold food is available and our resident band "Back in Time" will be playing in the Hanger. Weather permitting, both our aircraft, the P51 Mustang and the Tiger Moth will be outside for probably the last time this year.

And now a bit of history.

Glenn Berge of Starbuck, Minnesota USA was involved in the USAAF's first fatal flying accident at Bottisham Airfield. As part of the 374th fighter squadron on his fourteenth mission from Bottisham on 5th March 1944, Second Lieutenant Berge's P47 Thunderbolt fighter encountered engine trouble after take-off. The aircraft crashed near Copley Hill Farm, Babraham killing the pilot instantly. His body was repatriated to the US and laid to rest in Minnesota. Today, a building at the Babraham Research Campus less than a mile from the crash site is named The Glen Berge Building in his honour.

In January and August 2025, his great-nephew Tom Blank visited the UK and one of our volunteers Martin took him to visit the Glen Berge Building, the crash site and our Museum. The Blank family has donated several items of Glen's including his Purple Heart Medal, all of which are on display in the Museum's USAAF room. We are indebted to them for letting the Museum have these personal items.

The Museum carries on with opening on Sundays and Wednesdays 10.30 to16.00 until Sunday 9th November, £5 Adults and under 16s free.

We look forward to seeing you.

DECODIDATION

Charles Cook - Museum volunteer.

Sales, Wants and Swaps



IF YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO SELL OR WANT TO BUY OR EVEN TO SWAP, THEN THIS PAGE IS YOURS TO USE. Send details of Item, price and Phone Number to BottishamCresset@gmail.com. Max. 5 Items. Entries by 12th of the month for next months issue.

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Red2Green

Red2Green is a registered charity celebrating 25 years of supporting and promoting adults 16+ with autism and learning disabilities. We are based across 2 sites in Swaffham Bulbeck and Bottisham; 2 converted barns (Harvey's and Granary) in Park End and our Community Garden on the Bottisham Village College site. We support 90 service-users, 5 days/week, 50 weeks/year.

What have we been up to?

Our Autumn term has got off to a lively start, full of visits, volunteering days, and plenty of our regular activities.

At the beginning of the month, our Aspirations Learners returned from their summer break, ready to dive back in. Later, we joined in the national celebration of Arts in Care Homes Day, collaborating with residents at Barchester Oaklands Care Home in Bottisham and Hamberley Grove Care Home in Fulbourn. Learners from our Aspirations service and Clients from our Options service teamed up for creative arts and crafts, decorating our value icons with recycled materials in line with this year's theme: Going Green!

We were also delighted to welcome volunteers from AstraZeneca to our Community Garden in Bottisham. Together, we planted a new hedge, brightened up our tool sheds with fresh paint, and made a range of seasonal candles. (If you'd like to buy some of these hand-crafted candles, they're available through Red2Green or directly from our Community Garden site, Monday–Friday, 9:30–4.)

On top of all this, Red2Green received a special mention in Westminster! Local MP Charlotte Cane highlighted our work during a debate on supporting neurodiverse people in employment at Westminster Hall, which was broadcast on Parliament TV. You can catch up on the debate via the Parliament TV website.

Ways you can get involved:

There are lots of ways you can help support Red2Green:

- Volunteering opportunities
- Start a fundraiser in aid of Red2Green
- Visit our Community Garden in Bottisham and buy some plants (Mon-Fri, 9:30-4)
- One-off or monthly donations
- Sign up to our monthly newsletter
- Follow our social media pages and keep up to date with all things Red2Green

For more information about the wonderful work we do at Red2Green, please visit our website red2green.org or if you want to get in touch, feel free to email us at info@red2green.org or call us on 01223811662.

Copy deadline for the next issue is 14 October.

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







Successful entrepreneurs are givers and not takers of positive energy. Anonymous

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Landlines are changing. By January 2027*, traditional landlines will be upgraded with digital technology. This national upgrade is known as the Digital Switchover and will mean that landline calls will be made over the internet instead of the old telephone network. Telephone providers are responsible for switching customers to the upgraded service, but everyone is encouraged to check if and how the change will affect them.

DO YOU RELY ON A PERSONAL ALARM OR TELECARE DEVICE?

It's important to check how the Digital Switchover will affect you, especially if you also rely on personal alarms or telecare devices (like fall detectors or lifelines), which may stop working.

For many, the change will be simple. All you will have to do is plug your landline phone into a broadband router instead of a traditional phone socket. But if you don't have an internet connection at home, or if you rely on your landline every day, this change might affect you more.

3 THINGS YOU CAN DO NOW TO PREPARE FOR THE DIGITAL SWITCHOVER

- Call your phone company Ask if the change affects your phone line or any connected devices. Ask to speak to customer services and use the number on your most recent bill.
- 2. **Ask for help if you need it** A trusted friend, family member or neighbour can help you make the call to your phone provider or speak to your provider on your behalf.
- Watch out for scams Your phone provider will not ask for money upfront. If something doesn't feel right, hang up and call the official number.

The good news is landlines are not going away, you can usually keep your existing phone and number, and it's the responsibility of your phone company to quide you through the process.

We know that for many people, the landline is more than just a phone - it's a lifeline. That's why **Connecting Cambridgeshire** is here to help make sure no one is left behind.

Don't wait - call your phone provider today.

Local libraries and community champions providing information hubs for vulnerable residents

Recognising that older and more vulnerable residents are best supported in trusted, community locations, libraries are acting as information hubs for the campaign. Every library, including community and mobile libraries in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough have free printed information available about the Digital Switchover Particularly vulnerable residents for whom their landline is a lifeline should

Switchover. Particularly vulnerable residents, for whom their landline is a lifeline, should ask for a copy of the leaflet "Prepare for the Digital Switchover in 3 easy steps". For more information, visit:

www.connectingcambridgeshire.co.uk/digitalswitchover or scan the QR code.

* Deadline confirmed by Openreach at time of publication.



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Bottisham WI

For our August members' meeting a large group of us enjoyed a very leisurely afternoon tea at Scotsdale's in Horningsea where Abbi and her colleagues looked after us superbly. Not only did we have the opportunity for interesting conversation in good company but also time for a little shopping too! A most enjoyable event.

Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday 21st October at 7.30pm** when **Jacqueline and Helen** will be telling us about their Gambian Adventure. Do come and join us if you'd like to hear this talk.

We usually meet on the third Tuesday of every month at the Bottisham Community Sports and Social Club in the Poppy Room at 7.30pm. Talks are followed by refreshments offering the opportunity to meet and chat to others. We also have a number of smaller groups which meet at other times during the month to pursue a variety of cultural activities and support local charities.

Jennifer Clark

Bottisham Adult Learning Association (BALA)

CONTINUING ON OCTOBER 2ND

"FIVE WOMEN WHO MADE HISTORY"

Presented by Anne Stott

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 - Elizabeth Stuart: Queen of Bohemia, royal exile
 - Catherine the Great: moderniser of Russia

The course starts at 10.30 on Thurs 25th Sept, the last session on Thurs 23rd Oct.

BALA courses are held in the main hall at Bottisham Community Sports and Social Centre in Downing Close CB25 9DD We provide biscuits but ask you to bring your own drink. The cost of the course is £25 with an extra £5 for non-members. New members are

The cost of the course is £25 with an extra £5 for non-members. New members are always welcome.

Following the above course, starting on November 5th Jason Middleton will present 5 sessions on Precious Stones. More details later.

Any enquiries to Bottishambala@btinternet.com

Helen Cole

Copy deadline for next issue is 14 October.

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

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Anglesey Abbey



COMING UP AT ANGLESEY ABBEY

Earth Photo 2025 exhibition

Come and see a bold photography exhibition of shortlisted works from the international Earth Photo competition, displayed in The Orchard at Anglesey Abbey from 11 October to 23 November. Developed by Forestry England, the Royal Geographical Society and Parker Harris, the Earth Photo 2025 exhibition not only aims to stimulate conversations about our environment and the impact of climate change but is also a wonderful opportunity to engage with art and photography outside in nature.

Anglesey Abbey Halloween Trail returns

The Anglesey Abbey family-friendly Halloween trail is back again this year, with even more riddles and clues to solve. Come along for an immersive half-term adventure from 25 October to 2 November with plenty of spooky challenges along the way.

Trails are £6 per child, which includes a prize at the end of the trail. Booking in advance is advised to avoid disappointment.

The SnowmanTM trail

We're really excited to announce another fabulous Wild in Art sculpture trail coming to Anglesey Abbey this autumn and winter! Join us for an adventure with The SnowmanTM trail from 8 November 2025 to 4 January 2026, inspired by Raymond Briggs' heart-warming picture book, The Snowman. Enjoy a magical day out with the whole family in search of the twelve giant sculptures, each painted with designs inspired by the English carol, The Twelve Days of Christmas. The trail is free (normal admission to Anglesey Abbey applies).

Did someone say Christmas?

Father Christmas tickets are now live on our website – this year Santa will be making himself at home in the Lower Gallery inside the Anglesey Abbey house, surrounded by paintings and statues all festively decorated for Christmas. The decorated house will be open from 17 November (closed 1 to 16 November) and children can enjoy listening to the story of The SnowmanTM read in the Library every Thursday morning from 20 November to 18 December at 10am before the house opens to visitors. Head to our website to find out more and plan your visit! nationaltrust.org.uk/anglesey-abbey



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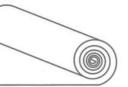


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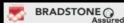
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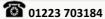
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