



Village Voice

The newsletter of the villages of Bottesford, Easthorpe, Muston & Normanton March 2003 . No.4

Village Hall

– Out with the Old...

Thanks to the generosity of many local people and the dedication of the Village Hall Committee, a new Village Hall for Bottesford is now under construction.

The old hall had served the Parish for well over 50 years but it was in desperate need of replacement to bring it in line with current building requirements. The hall was razed to the ground during January and now the main structure is starting to take shape and is on track for completion in July, with a grand opening planned for August 2003.

All the groups who used the old hall for their regular meetings have been found "safe homes" during the months of building work. They will be welcomed back to the brand new hall in August to enjoy greatly improved facilities - but with no rise in the hourly rate charged.

Building Bridges Sustrans Cycleway

£360,000 has been allocated by the Highways Agency for a footbridge over the A52 at Barkestone Lane. As part of the 'Sustrans' project, the bridge will benefit walkers, cyclists, and horse-riders in Bottesford by providing safer access to Redmile and the Vale. Some objections to the plans have been raised and the matter has been



Going...

Going....



Gone...



Flat!

SUSTRANS Proposed route

**Any views on this important local issue?
Contact the editor**



Map © Crown Copyright
Ordnance Survey

referred. A decision is to be made on whether there is to be a public enquiry if the bridge should go ahead.

Patrick Davis at Sustrans commented, "We shouldn't underestimate the need for a safe vehicular crossing of the A52 to cater for traffic from Muston and the Vale. However, this must be considered separately from the Sustrans question. It has taken almost ten years to get to this stage, it would be a shame to lose the funding as a result of a change in government policy on such matters."

Sustrans is a national charity to encourage cycling by developing a network of safe cycle routes. 6,000 miles of route-way has been completed since 1984. Locally, the planned route runs from Barkestone to Peacock Farm at Redmile, then along a track to Barkestone Lane. It leaves Bottesford via Orston Lane, over the level crossing, then by Longhedge Lane to Alverton. Here access will be gained to the disused railway track to Newark.

Experience proves that the cycle network has been of benefit to local communities, especially for family groups to enjoy walking and cycling in a safe environment.

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First 'Hoofsteps'

The first foal of the new year was born at Winterbeck Farm Stud last month. The filly, who is yet to be named, is pictured aged just 6 days, with her mother 'Rasmalai'. Look out for Derby runner 'Phoenix Reach' owned by the stud.

Vintage Club is 10 Years Old Sunday School Award

The Vintage Horticultural & Garden Machinery Club, which was formed in Bottesford in 1993 celebrates its 10th anniversary this year. With over 500 members nationwide and internationally, the club aims to preserve, restore and promote the use of old, traditional garden and horticultural machines. The club is also involved in competitive match ploughing. VHGMCC often takes a stand at big events such as the BBC Gardener's World Live at the NEC as well as attending village fetes and steam vintage shows. Many old machines have been saved from becoming scrap by the club. If anyone has any old equipment hiding at the back of the shed that might need a good home, contact David Smith, President on 01636 676510.

In December Samuel Illsley was presented with the Sunday School Shield in Church for his regular attendance and good contributions to the Sunday School activities. The Sunday School meets every second Sunday in the month. New members are always welcome.

Open Gardens

Are you a keen gardener? Would you be prepared to open your garden to raise funds for Bottesford and Muston Churches, over 2 days in June 2003?

If you are able to help please contact: Eileen Boyce (843317) or Christine Saunders (842596) by the end of March

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On the Right Tracks

Some of us may have a water feature in our back gardens, but not many could boast 110 metres (361 ft) of large-scale model railway! Steve Norman of Castle Close, Bottesford is a long-standing railway enthusiast and spends most of his spare time adding to, and developing his impressive two-loop layout, which includes four bridges and a tunnel. This incredible garden has to be one of Bottesford's best-kept secrets and Steve is considering opening it up to the public in aid of charity for one or two days later in the year. "If there was sufficient interest, I'd be delighted to show it off, particularly to anyone who has a real interest in building their own layout," he said. With a particular interest in American railways, Steve's locomotives and roll-

Passionate Palmers

Shirley Palmer of Normanton will find out, later this year, if her application to receive national collection status for her Heliotropes has been accepted. Shirley and John Palmer are both passionate about plants and have a large collection in their garden. Both studied horticulture and since their retirement have worked full time in their garden which now includes a woodland area. John describes himself as the labourer and Shirley as the real gardener in the family.

Shirley has been a member of the Royal Horticultural Society for 50 years and is currently Chair of the South

-ing stock are replicas from the American Union Pacific Company circa 1930 to the early 60s. His interest takes him to the States a couple of times a year where he spends time with fellow enthusiasts on the American railways. His most memorable railway moment came on one such trip to New Mexico in 1999 - he was involved in a train crash while riding on a mountain snow plough train, leaving him and his companions to trudge through deep snow to the nearest road for help.

Steve is secretary to the East Midlands branch of the National G Scale (Garden scale) Society. Anyone who is interested in finding out more about transforming their garden into a model railway can contact Steve for further information on 842332.

Lincs. Gardens Association and the Lincolnshire branch of the National Council for the Conservation of Plants and Gardens, as well as being on the committee of the Bottesford and District Gardens Association.

Their garden includes a large selection of hardy and half hardy perennials including Heliotropes, Hellebores, Hostas, Peonies, Salvias and Sempervivum.

Their garden (the Homestead) is open to the public on March 16th and May 11th 2-6 p.m. this year to raise funds for the Red Cross. There will be a plant stall and refreshments. Shirley and John sell plants almost all year round so ring them on 842745, if you would

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Send us your news!

We are always looking for stories of interest to all ages so, if you have anything to report that you think someone in the Villages might like to know, give the Editor a ring, her telephone number is on the back page. We're particularly interested in personal stories – achievements, special birthdays and anniversaries.

We can't guarantee that we'll be able to

Senior Section

The Senior Section of Bottesford Guides is a group of girls aged 15–18 who support our community by spending time each week doing voluntary work with Rainbows, Brownies and Beavers and fund-raising for local and national groups

They also ensure *they* have a good time by arranging activities like bowling and cinema trips for themselves. District Guide Commissioner Kay Perthen comments "Without these girls the groups would find it difficult to operate. They are invaluable in our work in the community"

If you are interested in spending 2003 joining the Senior Section or finding out more - ring Kay on 842934

include every story as space is limited, but if your news is of broad interest and relevant to the villages, we'll do our best to put it in.

All the volunteers who are involved in writing and producing VV work very hard and we always welcome new members who are willing to help out. Meetings take place on the first Tuesday of each month in the Community Centre. If you're interested please come along.

Top to Toe Treatments

A complete range of beauty and complementary health treatments is now available at Mane-Line hair salon on Queen Street, Bottesford. Vicky Saffaris, a qualified beauty and aromatherapist, offers everything from aromatherapy, pedicure and manicure, Indian head and Swedish massage and reiki healing, to beauty therapy treatments. Vicky also teaches relaxation classes.

Beauty treatments include hair removal, ThalgoFacials, non-surgical face lifts and body wraps. A bridal preparation package is also available.

For further information telephone Vicky on either 843381 or 850891.

Health Matters



NHS Direct – What is it?

NHS Direct is a 24-hour confidential service staffed by nurses and professional health advisors who can offer help and advice. If you are telephoning with a health complaint, the staff will type the symptoms you give into a dedicated computer programme and decide on the best course of action. Advice can be given on existing conditions together with local health services such as doctors, dentists and out-of-hours pharmacies. They will also have information on self-help or support organisations.

There is a walk-in centre next to the BBC building on London Road in Nottingham. Here you can get healthcare advice and treatment for minor injuries and illnesses. They are open from 7am to 10pm daily and you don't need an appointment although it shouldn't be treated as a substitute for your local GP or hospital.

Contact no: 0845 4647

E mail - www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk

The Community Centre has a number of self-help guides "Not Feeling Well?" supplied by NHS Direct.

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What's On...

March

- 9th 10.30am North Nottinghamshire.
8.5 miles of easy riverside walking.
Vale of Belvoir Ramblers group.
Contact Eileen on 875769.
- 11th 2pm. Let's Circle + talk on student
marking. Alan Pizzey. U3A
Contact B Cain for venue 842305.
- 13th 7.30pm Fuller room
Sounds of Lincolnshire.
Speaker: Mr Malcolm Knapp.
Local History Society
- 16th 10.30am. Robin Hoods way
13 miles. Belvoir Ramblers.
- 16th 2 – 6pm. The Homestead,
Normanton. Open Garden
in aid of the Red Cross. Plant stall
and refreshments. S Palmer 842745.
- 18th 7.30pm. Baptist Chapel. Mr Pat Pre
ston will talk on his years in the
Royal Navy. Visitors welcome
Cost £2.00. Women's Institute. Con
tact B Cain 842305.
- 20th 7.30pm. Lounge bar of the Red Lion,
courtesy the Landlord. Monthly
meeting. Bottesford Environment
and Conservation Volunteers.
Contact B Pizzey 844026.
- 23rd 10.30am. Padley Gorge/ Froggat
Edge. Not too difficult, lovely views.
Vale of Belvoir Ramblers group.
- 30th 10am Cotgrave woods. 5.5 miles
easy walking. Belvoir Ramblers.

April

- 6th 10.30am Althorp Northamptonshire.
10 miles. Pretty villages.
Vale of Belvoir Ramblers group
- 8th 2pm. Rutland: small but beautiful.
Richard Adams. U3A.
Contact B Cain for venue 842305
- 8th 7.30pm. Fuller room. "You and your
Allergies". Open meeting,
Belvoir Vale Patient Group
- 10th 7.30pm. Fuller room. Archbishop
Cranmer. Spkr: Rev D Bridge-Collins
Local History Society
- 13th 10.30am. Gratton Dale/Youlgreave.
8 miles. Limestone Dales.
Vale of Belvoir Ramblers group.
- 15th 7.30pm. Baptist Chapel. Mrs Gillian
Clarke will talk on her years at
number 11 Downing Street. W.I.
- 17th 7.30pm Red Lion Lounge Bar
B.E.C.Volunteers
- 27th 10.30am Rutland, Welland valley.
7.5 miles. Hills, valleys and viaduct.
Vale of Belvoir Ramblers Group.

May

- 4th 10am Wreake valley. 5.5 miles.
Easy riverside walk.
Vale of Belvoir Ramblers Group.
- 8th 7.30pm. Fuller room. Local His
tory Society The 18th Century
Post Office Michael Honeybone.
- 11th 10.30am Hickling/Kinoulton. 7.5
miles. Belvoir Ramblers.
- 11th 2-6 p.m. Homestead, Norman
ton. Open garden in aid of The
Red Cross. Plant stall and re-
freshments.

Calling all Clubs and Societies

Do you belong to or run a club or society
In the summer we will be printing a com
prehensive guide listing clubs and socie
ties in the Bottesford area. There is no
charge to be included and the guide will
be delivered to every household in the
four villages. Don't be left out, give us
your details: name, what you do, where
when you meet. Contact: Susan Meech,
tel. 843402 or email S_meech@yahoo.co

Are you interested in BATS?

The Bottesford Amateur Theatrical Soci
ety, known as BATS, is a small friendly
group and currently has about 20 mem
bers.

The group was formed in the mid 70s a
over the years has worked hard to pro
duce some excellent local entertainment
including pantomimes, thrillers, comedi
and even cabaret evenings, performing
various venues throughout the Vale of
Belvoir.

The group normally presents two produ
tions a year at the Bottesford Village Ha
and are always looking to welcome new
members – on stage or back stage. Th
are hoping to get a new production rea
for the opening of the new Village Hall
if you are interested in joining them con
tact Andy MacDonald on 843531.

Friends in Need

The fund-raising group, Friends of Bot
tesford Primary School is looking for a
new co-ordinator. This voluntary role,
which involves organising numerous
fund-raising events and general admini
stration, will become vacant at the begi
ning of the summer term. If you are er
getic, dedicated and have good leade
ship skills and you fancy a new chal
lenge, contact Liz Featherstone on
844525.

Letters



Flood Signs

Dear VV

Whenever the water starts to go over the road by the Church someone comes out and puts a sign up on both sides of the bridge. However, they are placed so close to the water people are not aware that there is a flood until they are nearly on top of it.

The signs would be more helpful if they were placed on the main road, with a direction to take Station Road as a detour. The same should be done on the other side of the flood.

This would save people from reversing up the hill to turn around, which is not only quite dangerous, but also disturbing for the residents of Rectory Court whose entrance ends up being used as a turning circle.

One measure that could be adopted to help stop the water flooding over the road, should be the regular maintenance of the drainage holes. If these holes were kept free from branches and leaves when there is torrential rain there would not be so much flooding.

If people think they can get through the water, they should use their common sense and crawl through in second gear, and not at speed as this only makes the water go up against the wall, which in time causes trouble. The wall by the side of the bridge has only just been rebuilt.

Name and address supplied.

Parish Council News

A meeting was held on 9th December 2002. Unfortunately the minutes for January's meeting were not available at the time of going to press.

Skateboard area

The Youth Club leaders and the Drug Project Co-ordinator held a meeting when the PC offered to lease, to the County Educational Authority, a piece of land off Grantham Road at a peppercorn rent to enable the County Youth Authority to establish and maintain their own skateboard equipment.

Street Lighting Belvoir Road

This is provided by the County Council and meets their standards.

Parish Charities

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Postcode confusion

Dear VV,

'Why does the Post Office insist on persisting in the fiction that Bottesford is in Nottingham?

Both the Road Atlases of G.B. published by the Ordnance Survey Office and the Automobile Association respectively list, correctly, two Bottesfords in this country, one in Lincolnshire and one in Leicestershire. It is very unhelpful to a would-be visitor to find no listing for "Bottesford, Nottingham." Surely we are not the only residents who have had the experience of being phoned by an expected visitor with the plaintive enquiry "Where are you? I can't find you anywhere in Nottingham."

Parish Charities

26 recipients were awarded a sum of £15 each.

Football Club

The club is in the process of applying for planning permission to site a mobile unit for changing facilities.

Fuller Room

The toilets are being refurbished.

Pension Services

Free pension and benefits advice is available on the first Friday of each month from 10am to 12noon in the Fuller Room. No appointments are necessary.

Extraordinary Meeting

This was held on Tuesday 4th February

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to discuss the trusteeship of the PC's role with the village hall.

Sports News



Football

U14's are doing really well, having won most League Games, and they are in the Cup Semi-Finals, so the double is well within their grasp. U12 are doing well with lots of enthusiastic children wanting to play.

Badminton

Bottesford Junior Badminton Club is entering the Newark and District Tournament on the 9th of March and has been invited to the All England Championships on the 16th of February.

The club has had more success with grants. Notts. Building Society gave £190.00 from their Spot Draw and the Melton Building Society gave £100.00 from their re-mortgaging scheme.

Saturday mornings - 13 - 14 year olds.
Friday evenings - 15 - 16 year olds.

The Adult Badminton Club's mixed and men's teams are having a mixed time, but the ladies are having a winning run. Contact: Mike Bennett on 843041

Bottesford Bowls

The Bowls Club are continuing indoors at the Belvoir High School. Len Hamer and Pauline Palmer won the First Division County League.

Vacancy at VV

VV is looking for a new Editor. Your current editor needs a rest!. Some experience of writing, public relations or journalism is helpful but not essential. If you would like to know more about what is involved, contact the editor, Sam Fells on 844263. Anyone who is interested in taking up the editor's post or simply be involved in helping to produce VV should contact Susan Meech on 843402

Village Voice

Contact information

Editorial: Sam Fells on 844263 or Lyndsey Young on 843868
Advertising: Jason Young on 843868 or Susan Meech on 843402
What's On: Susan Meech on 843402

Deadline for March Issue Wednesday 5th February

E mail: villagevoice@bottesford.org.uk

Whilst every care is taken in the printing of notices and advertisements, the committee accepts no responsibility for any inaccuracies which may arise or consequences from them. Views expressed in the Village Voice do not necessarily reflect those of the committee.

Free Internet Tasters at Bottesford Library

Call in to the library on the first Thursday of every month between 2.00 and 5.00pm, or phone 842696 to book a place. Whether you are an absolute beginner, or want to know how to make better use of the Internet, Bottesford Library can help. The sessions are small and informal, last about an hour, and are geared to what you want to learn.

If you can't get to the library on a Thursday afternoon, ask the library staff to arrange a session at a time more convenient for you.

Facilities available to use free of charge during library opening hours include: internet and e-mail, word processing, spreadsheets, presentation software, desktop publishing scanner

Facilities available online 24 hours a day at www.leics.gov.uk/libraries include library book renewal, library book requests, library catalogue and general library information.

Your Local Melton Borough Councillors

David Wright
8 Rutland Lane, Easthorpe, Bottesford NG13 0DG Tel: 01949 842610
Email: DavidW@bottesford8.fsnet.co.uk

Pamela Baguley
Orchard Farmhouse, 8 Chapel Street, Barketstone-le-Vale, Nottingham NG13 0HE Tel: 01949842652
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Crime Scene



Good News

The government has given additional funding for 37 Parish/Community constables in Leicestershire. Two are assigned to Bottesford: PC's Greet and Lee. They are dedicated to community work based at Bottesford and will **not** be seconded to other areas. This will ensure a positive local police presence with more foot patrols.

PW Charlie Maider can often be seen at the schools and will answer any queries you may have. Six PC's will, in total, cover Bottesford.

Leicestershire will have an extra 122 PC's over the next four years in addition to the community constables.

Statistics

23/12/02 to 08/01/03 there were 23 incidents; 4 car break-ins, 3 suspicious persons.

The remaining were minor incidents. There were no burglaries.

Volunteers

From March 1st there will be four volunteers in the station at the following times:

Wednesday evenings 6pm-8pm and Saturday mornings 9am to 11am.

Your police officers

The Bottesford area includes 50 villages covered by four officers: WPCs, Maider and Thornton and PCs Greet and Lee. They try to open the station on Queen Street twice a day, for 1 hour each, at 8am and 4pm.

Contact Numbers

General Enquiries

0116 2222222. This is Leicestershire Police Headquarters.

The switchboard will direct the query to Melton Mowbray Police Division.

The old number for Bottesford Police should not be used.

999-Emergencies

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