



# Village Voice

The newsletter of the villages of Bottesford, Easthorpe, Muston & Normanton November 2004 Issue No. 14

## Shooting for Success: Sarah Collett - English Archery Champion

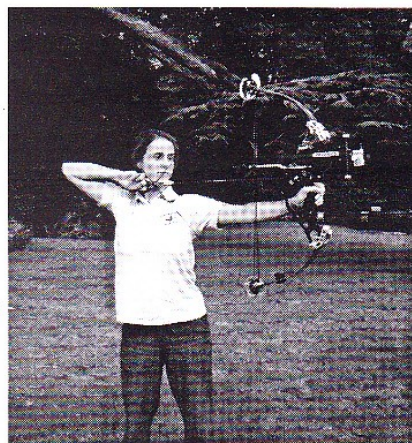
Bottesford resident Sarah Collett won the women's compound English Archery Championships on 1<sup>st</sup> August, with a score just 6 points short of the national record. A week later she took second place in the British championships and will shoot for the GB women's team in the world championships in 2005 in Madrid.

Sarah has been a member of Bingham archery club since 1994 having started in the sport at the age of 15. She is a master bowman and shoots most weekends all year round, either for Bingham, Nottinghamshire county squad, for England or the GB team!

Sarah trains 2 or 3 times a week in the winter and 5 times a week for up to 3 hours at a time in the summer. She finds archery addictive and says, "You always think that you can do better". She also says that the sport is both mentally and physically demanding, but that competitions are friendly and fun.

In her spare time Sarah teaches Japanese at Bottesford Community Centre. Sarah is a very dedicated and enthusiastic sportswoman and Village Voice wishes her every success in Madrid next year.

You can start in the sport as young as 8 (it has very strict safety rules). For more information about archery contact the local clubs or look on the National Archery Society web site [www.gnas.org](http://www.gnas.org).



## Ash Class Takes Its First Steps In Full-time Education at the Primary School



## BATS Supporters Needed

Bottesford Amateur Dramatic Society's next production on 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> March 2005 will be a comedy and rehearsals start in November. They are looking for some new blood to help them with this production, so if you yearn to be a performer or would like to help back stage or front of house, please ring Beryl Stott on 01949 842522.

## Updated Village Guide for 2005

An updated Village Guide is being compiled for publication in early March. People or groups who already have an entry will be contacted to check if their details are still accurate. If you are not listed at present and would like to be included, please contact Dilys Shepherd or Susan Meech (phone numbers on back of Village Voice) by the end of January 2005 at the latest.

Do we have any Village Voice reader who would be willing to help co-ordinate this project?

For more information, please contact Village Voice.

## Housebound Reader Service

If you are housebound (or know someone who is) you may like to know that Bottesford Library can help you. If you would like to borrow books or 'talking books' they can arrange for a volunteer to deliver them to your house so that you don't miss out on reading - or the enjoyment of listening to books.

Please contact the library if you are interested in this service and they will arrange a visit to discuss your preferences. Ring Bottesford Library (01949) 842696.



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**Coffee mornings raise funds for Muston  
Old School**

Every Tuesday you are welcome to join in a Coffee Morning at the Old School in Muston with home made cakes and plenty of chat from 10.30 - noon. The coffee mornings are part of the fundraising activities which aim to pay for repairs and improvements, most importantly a new toilet and cloakroom.

The school in Muston was built in 1834 and since that time it has served the community well, first as the village school and more recently as the Community Centre. Some work has already begun with generous grants from the Parish Council and the Vale of Belvoir Lions, but more needs to be raised.

**Your Views Wanted on Transport in the Parish**

The proposed Transport Questionnaire designed by the Health Check group provoked much discussion, at its September public meeting. The members agreed that they would welcome help devising questions and ensuring the answers were a fair reflection of village opinion. Have you had good or bad experiences using local public transport? What is your general impression? Please tell us by ringing Sallie Wocha on 0116 268 9711 or email [swocha@ruralcc.org.uk](mailto:swocha@ruralcc.org.uk).

The group is also desperate that someone should volunteer to be secretary to help Sallie, and is looking at constructive activities for young people and the possibility of a carnival. If you have any comments to make please get in touch with Sallie.

Many of us are puzzled by the name "Village Health Check" and have suggested it should be changed because the first impression is that it's something medical. However, a look at the website [www.villageoftheyear.org](http://www.villageoftheyear.org) shows that it is nationwide and we're stuck with it!

**Progress on Sustrans Bridge over A52  
(National Route 64)**

Progress continues to be slow on the promised construction of a bridge over the A52 at Bottesford by the Highways Agency. Though funding has been renewed, increased cost estimates and the halving of the Highways Agency's Vulnerable User budget, continue to destabilise this project.

Signing of the route between Market Harborough and Melton Mowbray is complete; signing between Melton Mowbray and Bottesford will hopefully follow shortly. (Copied from the Sustrans web site - [www.sustrans.org.uk](http://www.sustrans.org.uk)).

**New Autumn Classes at the Community Centre**

A taste of France\*, 10.00-12.00 Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> November. For families with children aged 4 and above. Combine French and cookery skills while learning how to create a French festive dish.

European Computer Driving Licence, Monday 7.30-9.30pm from November 1<sup>st</sup> - the popular qualification in IT for those with some previous learning in this subject.

English for Pleasure, Tuesday 12.45-2.45pm from November 2<sup>nd</sup> - a chance to read novels, plays and poetry that you might not try on your own.

Christmas Crafts, Friday 9.45-11.45am from November 5<sup>th</sup>, making cards, tree decorations and floral art.

Family History, date to be arranged - trace your family tree using the Internet Dyslexia Workshop\*, Thursday November 11<sup>th</sup>, 10am - noon. Find out more about dyslexia and how to get help if you or someone you know is affected.

Booking is essential so phone 01949 844199 now to book your place or to find out more. Courses shown as \* are free.



## Singers Success!

A Male Voice Choir has been successfully launched in Bottesford. The numbers have been steadily growing but they are always on the lookout for new members.

Paul Wilcox, a very able musical director, is leading the Choir. The members are all enthusiastic chaps, with a mixture of experience.

If you are interested in joining the Choir, turn up at 7.30 p.m. on a Monday evening at St Mary's Church in Bottesford. (The Choir isn't linked to the Church but meets there, for which it extends its thanks).

You may well be entertained by these gentlemen in the coming months!

For further information please contact Dermot Daly on 842491

## Giant Conifers Get The Chop

Time was finally called on two giant conifers in West End Close, when Leicestershire County Council felled them in early September. The conifers stood over forty feet tall and were planted by the developers 34 years ago. Initially there were three trees, but one was badly damaged by gale force winds a few years ago, and was removed for safety reasons.

In 2001 the Parish Council proposed that the second two be felled, but following a public consultation, they were left standing. Recently, after pressure from residents, the County Council revised their plans and the two conifers have been removed. A resident commented, "It's a shame two healthy trees had to be cut down, but unfortunately they were over-sized for their surrounding landscape and were a potential hazard in high winds".

## Ray and Lena

Ray – and Lena

Ray and Lena Morton have retired as Caretaker/cleaners of the VC Hall. At a recent committee meeting, Chairman, Ken Greasley, presented Ray and Lena with gifts, and thanked them for their excellent service over the last few years. Ken paid tribute to the way Ray had helped and supported the committee during the first year in the new building.



## The Flood of 2001

Those of us who lived in the parish in July 2001 will have vivid memories of the night the waters of the Devon and the Winterbeck arrived in Muston, Easthorpe and areas around Bottesford High Street. Since that time the Bottesford Action Group (BAG) has been working to identify the causes of the problem and suggest how any future problems could be alleviated.

BAG has been instrumental in setting up the Upper Devon Flood Risk Partnership, bringing together many organisations with a local interest in resolving any problems with our watercourses - including the Environment Agency, Parish Council, the Belvoir Estate and Newark Internal Area Drainage Board. This group has already developed useful plans and refinements to support the local 'early warning system'. The first phase of its work is now complete, with its final report expected to be ready by March 2006.

If you want any more information on BAG please contact Brian Kelk on 842241

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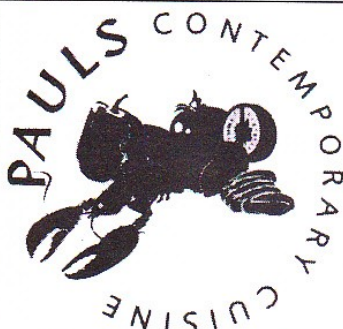
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## The Bottesford 'Poachers'

A sunny spell in August saw 35 Bottesford Guides and Guiders enjoying a week of fun and friendship at 'Poacher' - the International Camp held every 4 years at the Lincolnshire Showground. With another 35 visitors going to the Poacher Open Day - from the Rainbows, Beavers and Cubs - Bottesford was certainly well represented. One of our Guide camps hosted a group of 14 Belarussian girls - giving these visitors the wonderful experience of life at camp with their new British friends. What did they do all week? Crafts, abseiling, orienteering, roller-skating and countless other activities - including making friends with guides and scouts from all over the world.

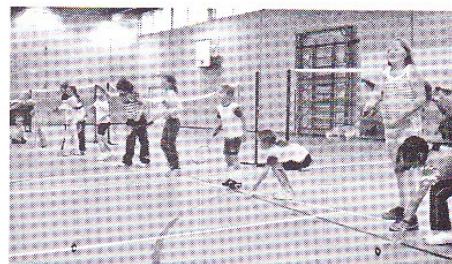
Our local Guiders and Young Leaders worked hard as part of their teams to ensure everyone had a week they will never forget - well done to them!

## The Scout Hut Land

The local Scout Commissioner recently presented the case for their ownership of the land next to the Scout and Guide hut, to a Tribunal in Nottingham. The Tribunal Judge has taken the evidence away for consideration and as Village Voice goes to press we are still awaiting the outcome. Lets hope it's good news for our local young people - and their leaders!

## Brownies Enjoy a Taste of Badminton

The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Bottesford Brownies enjoyed an evening of badminton in the Sports Hall at Belvoir High School in September. Mike Bennett from Bottesford and Elaine Spray the Development Officer for the Nottinghamshire Badminton Association introduced them to the sport. More than 40 Brownies took part and thoroughly enjoyed the session.



## The Second Litter Pick

Ten bags of rubbish were collected at the second village litter pick on 25<sup>th</sup> September.

Organiser Fred Stott said "There appeared to be a reduction in the amount of litter dropped and we hope that this trend will continue. This will help us towards our aim of becoming the best-kept village in Leicestershire".

There were 10 people helping with this litter pick, including a few newcomers. Melton Borough Council provided bags, pickers, gloves and jackets. Fred hopes to repeat the pick in the future. If you wish to volunteer or need more information contact him on 842522.

## Grandfather and grandson win four trophies at the Gardens Association Show

Peter and Joe Hallam, grandfather and grandson, from Swinderby, took four trophies at the village show including the Everard cup for the most points in show. The number of entries in the arts and craft, home craft and children's classes was up on last year. Secretary Harold Derry wrote that "even the beers and wines were better supported than in 2003".

Sadly the illness of two of the show's best competitors - Sid Wilson and Jim Glover meant that the flower and vegetable sections were much depleted this year. Winners were Jacqui Francis (Top tray), G Parker (Margaret Wootton cup), H Derry (Edward Auckland award), Lucy Hackett and Ephraim Morton (Children's Jubilee cups), Colin Love (Beer and wines), Mrs Minckley (Home craft), Mrs J Norris (Arts and crafts) and Mrs R Maule (Hazel Preston cup for needlework).



# SPOTLIGHT ON...



## Spotlight on 'The Local History Society'

Would you like to know more about 'Changing Bottesford' or 'The Grantham Canal' or whether 'Shakespeare lived in the Vale'? Then come along to the Fuller Rooms, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month at 7.30pm and meet the members of the Local History Society. Whether you are new to the village and want to learn more about Bottesford, or whether you have lived in the village all of your life and would like to share your memories with other people, you are very welcome.

The Society was founded way back in the seventies when Michael Honeybone – our local author and historian – held weekly classes in the Community Centre. It was then taken over by his wife Diana Honeybone, again on a weekly basis which later became monthly meetings.

Michael has written several books on Bottesford and the Vale of Belvoir, and his energy and enthusiasm have seen the Society grow from humble beginnings to the thriving Society it is today.

Regrettably, Michael and Diana have now left the village and moved to Norwich, but they remain Joint Presidents and will continue their involvement with the Society, returning to speak at the March 2005 Meeting.

The Society has a healthy membership and invites speakers on varying topics as well as having visits to places of historical interest.

New members are always welcome and if you wish to come for just one lecture – as a guest – there is a modest charge of one pound.

A full programme has been planned for the 2004-2005 season and details can be seen on the parish notice-boards or in "What's on" in the Village Voice.

## Car Park Proposed for Methodist Church

Plans have been submitted to Melton Borough Council for a car park for 14 cars off Devon Lane, Bottesford. This will involve relocating the entrance gate, railing and wall to provide an enlarged entrance.

These and other plans can be seen on the Melton Borough Council web site – [www.meltononline.co.uk/planning](http://www.meltononline.co.uk/planning) and comments can be returned electronically to the Planning Department. Alternatively, the Parish Clerk has paper copies – contact Mrs Taylor on 842229 – if you wish to see them.

## Bottesford Crime figures August 2004

Total number of recorded offences in August was 11, which was down on 14 for 2003. Total detected offences was 1 – same as 2003. Crime Statistics for Bottesford (all offences) can be found on the Leicestershire constabulary web site at <http://www.leics.police.uk/>. Go to the Melton Mowbray Policing Unit and then to Bottesford - crime statistics.

## Wheel bin trial over

Melton Borough Council has been testing the use of 'wheelie bins' in part of the Borough over recent months. The trial will be evaluated and the results will help the Council decide where and when to introduce wheelie bins in the rest of the Borough.

For more information contact Raman Selvon on 01427 502502 or [RSelvon@melton.gov.uk](mailto:RSelvon@melton.gov.uk)

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## November

## What's On ...

Mon 1 <sup>st</sup> 7.30pm	Village Voice committee meeting. Community Centre, all welcome.
Fri 5 <sup>th</sup> 6.30pm	Fireworks & BBQ. Field opposite church, for Lions Charities. 844289
Sun 7 <sup>th</sup> 4.00pm	Church Choir singing Faure's Requiem in St Mary's Church.
Mon 8 <sup>th</sup> 7.15pm	Parish Council meeting, Fuller Rooms, Bottesford
Mon 8 <sup>th</sup> 7.30pm	Vale of Belvoir Ramblers AGM Rutland Arms Bottesford. Contact 875769
Tue 9 <sup>th</sup> 2.00pm	U3A Creative Christmas. Speaker: Lynda Kennard. VC Hall.
Thurs 11 <sup>th</sup> 7.30pm	Local History Society 'Grantham Canal and Its Restoration'. Speaker: Chris Tizzard. Fuller Rooms.
Sat 13 <sup>th</sup> 10.00 am – 12 noon	Coffee Morning in aid of St Mary's church funds in the Fuller Rooms.
Tues 16 <sup>th</sup> 7.30pm	W.I. A Christmas Decoration. Speaker: Maureen Wright.
Sat 27 <sup>th</sup> 7.00 for 7.30pm	"Hoe-down" at the Village Hall. In aid of the Lord Mayors Appeal. Tickets £7.50 inc. buffet supper. Bar available. Contact Gerald Pedge 842619

## December

Sat 4 <sup>th</sup> 10.00 – 12.00pm	Christmas Bazaar in conjunction with Christmas Tree Festival, in St Mary's Church.
Sat 4 <sup>th</sup> 7.30pm – 12.00pm	70's disco at the Village Hall in aid of the Football Club. Contact Alan Mellor 842021 for tickets
Sat & Sun 4 <sup>th</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup> 10.00 to 4.00 pm	Art Society Exhibition & Sale of Paintings Fuller Rooms
Sun 5 <sup>th</sup> 10.30am	Vale of Belvoir Ramblers Wymondham Leics. Start: Windmill Tea Room. Level walking, some woodland. 01476 574987
Sun 5 <sup>th</sup> 10.30am	Toy Service in St Mary's Church.
Mon 6 <sup>th</sup> 7.30pm	Village Voice AGM, Community Centre. All welcome.
Thurs 9 <sup>th</sup> 7.30pm	Local History Christmas Party & 'Music Hall Memories' 1900-1950 Alan Read
Sun 12 <sup>th</sup> 11.00am	'BBC Nativity' at The Baptist Church
Mon 13 <sup>th</sup> 7.15pm	Parish Council Meeting, Fuller Rooms Bottesford
Tues 14 <sup>th</sup> 2.00pm	U3A Christmas Party V.C Hall with music by Grantham Concert Band.
Tues 14 <sup>th</sup> 7.30pm	WI Christmas Party. Contact 842043.
Weds 15 <sup>th</sup> 4.00pm	'Community Carols' presented by 'Churches Together'. VC Hall. Tea/coffee & mince pies.



## What's On ...(cont...)

Sun 19 <sup>th</sup> t.b.a.	Vale of Belvoir Ramblers walk and buffet at Aslockton Village Hall. Tel 875769
Sun 19 <sup>th</sup> 6.00pm	'Carols by Candlelight' The Baptist Church
Fri 24 <sup>th</sup> 6.00pm & 11.30pm	6.00pm Christmas Eve. Come and Sing Carols in St Mary's Church. 11.30pm Midnight Communion.
Sat 25 <sup>th</sup> 10.00am	Celebration, The Baptist Church. (Bring a present!)
Sat 25 <sup>th</sup> 10.30am	Christmas Day Holy Communion in St Mary's Church.
Sun 26 <sup>th</sup>	The Baptist Church, no morning service.

For details of the Roman Catholic Church, Grantham, telephone 01476 563935

**Important:** To publicise your event in the 'What's On' column for January or February, ring 844823 or email d.taffs@btinternet.com by 25<sup>th</sup> November.

### Letters

With the darker evenings, could all customers of the newsagents on High Street, arriving by car, please be reminded to switch their headlamps off, or at least on to side/parking lamps when parked. (As Highway Code Section 214) Pedestrians including children crossing the road can be all too easily obscured from the view of other drivers behind the glare of headlamps from parked vehicles - increasing the risk of accidents in this busy area yet further. Furthermore, the use of headlamps by parked cars also makes it more difficult for drivers to safely appraise traffic flows on High Street when trying to emerge from Albert Street and the road opposite.

**David Townsend** (Member of Institute of Advanced Motorists)

I am a mother of two children at the village primary school and a registered child minder. I have lived in the village for 4½ years. At our school our children are being taught road safety and yet in Bottesford there is **NO** safe area to cross the main road. There is constant double parking in the centre of the village, the double lines are ignored and not enforced by the police, and the speed limit is regularly broken. Every-time I cross the road it is extremely dangerous to do so.

The government is trying to encourage us all to walk to school but the majority of parents will not do this due to the dangers involved.

It is not just the children, the elderly struggle to cross safely and it is not good enough. The problem is obvious to all that use the village, yet the issue is being ignored. In a village the size of Bottes-



ford, with such major traffic using the village every day, we desperately need a zebra crossing before someone is fatally injured.

**Rebecca Paine**

I would like to express my thanks to everyone who helped and supported my fundraising events for my international Guiding trip to Mexico. I have recently returned from my trip where I spent time with underprivileged children and experienced the Mexican culture. I visited many places of interest including Aztec temples and cathedrals. Our Cabana, the Guiding World Centre, was a fantastic experience where I met people from all over the world including Canada and Jamaica. I had a wonderful time on the trip and am very grateful for the opportunity to experience a whole new culture.

Thank you again to all the people who supported me, particularly my Guide leaders, Jill Bagnall, Gill Smith and Cindy Bamford.

**Claire Austin**

### Parish Council Notes



#### Parish Council meeting 9th August

Parish rubbish bins are being well used. Play Bark delivered to the playground was not the correct quality. Holders of untidy allotments will be contacted by the Council.

#### PC News September

County Councillor Byron Rhodes outlined future housing plans. Discussions on the quantity of housing needing to be built locally will take place over the next year. Discussions would start soon on the Trafalgar Celebrations due to be held on 21-23 October 2005.

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# Sports News



## Junior football club news

Teams this year are mini soccer, under 8, under 9 and under 10, under 11, under 12 and under 14. There is a vacancy for a manager for the under 10s, if you are interested ring Bud on 843391.

Saturday morning coaching/training for boys and girls aged 5 to 12 is run by Sean Austin, for information ring 844006.

All the junior coaches are receiving approved training in both first-aid and child protection. The club would like to thank the team kit sponsors for the 2004/2005 season.

## Junior Badminton

Children at Bottesford Primary School were given a Badminton taster session as part of a developing sport within the school and Community initiative. They agreed it was enormous fun.

Bottesford Junior Badminton Club welcomes new members - contact Mike Bennett on 843041 for more information.

## Good season all round for the cricket club

Bottesford cricket club had a good season all round. The highlight of the year for club secretary Lynne Bradshaw was 'Alistair Culpin taking 9 wickets for 13 runs off 24 overs'.

For the first time the club hosted a 6-a-side competition for the Vernon Spick Trophy. For more information about the club and its teams ring Lynne on 843166.

## Bottesford cricketers play at county level

Seven cricketers from Bottesford played for county teams in the 2004 season: Luke Wright for Sussex County Cricket Club 1st team and also for England Under 19s, his brother Ashley played for Bourne in the Lincolnshire Premier League, and was joined by Richard Howitt.

Nick Silverwood and Sam Cliffe played for Leicestershire County Cricket Club under 17 and 16 respectively, Richard Copley also played for Leicestershire under 15s and Alex Sears for Lincolnshire under 15s.

Cricket nets start in January at Trent Bridge

Any cricketers interested in training at Nottinghamshire CCC's nets should get in touch with fixture secretary Simon Silverwood on 842148 or email [simon.silverwood@btopenworld.com](mailto:simon.silverwood@btopenworld.com).

## Winter sports at the cricket club

Bottesford Cricket Club is open almost every night throughout the winter for different sports, including ladies' and men's darts, dominoes and pool. If you would like to join one of the teams ring Lynne Bradshaw on 843166.

### Village Voice Contact information

Editorial: Dilys Shepherd on 843505 or Susan Meech on 843402  
Advertising: Anne Ablewhite on 842259

Deadline for January Issue: Sat 20th November

E mail: [villagevoice@bottesford.org.uk](mailto:villagevoice@bottesford.org.uk)  
Or: 12 The Paddocks, Bottesford

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.

## Is your child taking drugs?

It can be very hard to tell if your child is taking drugs, but there are some signs you should watch out for -

Increased money borrowing - are you sure they are spending it on lunch?

Mood swings - is this just teenage behaviour, or that of drug taking?

Are they hanging round with new friends?

Always offer a listening ear to your child. You may find it easier to communicate if you have information and knowledge on the subject, so call NHS Direct on 0845 4647.

Don't think that because you live in a lovely village your child will not experiment with drugs. There is already a worrying number of people in our parish who have a drug problem.

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