



Village Voice

The newsletter of the villages of Bottesford, Easthorpe, Muston & Normanton March 2005 Issue No. 16

Local Group "Wagstaff" - in the top 6 of the nation!

A young Ska-Pop-Punk band, based in and around Bottesford, that goes by the name of 'Wagstaffe', recently reached the final of the National Battle Of The Bands. The group, consisting of singer Jack Collins, guitarist James Hackett, bass player Tom Stuttard and drummer Chris Barham, was formed three years ago and has played at a multitude of gigs all over the country including prestigious venues like the Nottingham Ice Arena and featured regularly on Radios Nottingham, Leicester and Derby.

Wagstaffe increased their list of achievements by competing in The National Battle Of The Bands - the largest competition of its kind in Europe. Their first round heat in October 2003 had over 500 bands competing. They completed 5 rounds of tough competition, and became one of only 6 bands left competing for the title. Wagstaffe won their semi-final with the highest score so far recorded in the entire competition. Congratulations on doing so brilliantly!

For more information visit www.wagstaffemusic.co.uk - where mp3s of Wagstaffe music, are available to download, email them on - info@wagstaffemusic.co.uk or telephone Jack on 843245.



Have you got a band you want featured in Village Voice - please contact us!

Bottesford Primary School News



Sycamore Class (year 5) recently visited the Galleries of Justice in Nottingham. They spent a very exciting, if sometimes scary, day learning of crime and punishment in the past. The Gallery's guides explained examples of the ways criminals were tried, convicted and punished. The punishments to the children seemed very harsh. The cells prisoners lived in, their clothes and the work they did, were horrible. They dressed up and played parts in the trial of a boy accused of stealing and saw the laundry and bedroom of female prisoners. A jailer made them do marching drill and told them where squares on the front step showed where the gallows had been.

Belvoir High School

The school's main hall is being refurbished after 50 years. The library has been relocated and a new I.T. suite has been installed.

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Sunday: 12noon-3pm

Sunday evening quiz - a mixture of

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*Meetings and party bookings
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Tim Bartrop-Village Warden

Tim was born in the East End of London and the first 10 years of his working life was spent as a teacher. He then became a Nursery Man after his father-in-law but found that with a growing family to feed, he could not grow enough to make a living so he started doing other people's gardens for them.

In 1984 Tim answered an advert for a 'Village Handyman' for one day a week and, as he had most DIY skills, the Parish Council took him on. He is a self-taught carpenter and gardener.

This job has now grown to two days, Mondays and Fridays, when he can be seen with his Village Warden vest on.

The Clerk to the Parish Council, Mrs. Barbara Taylor, allocates work daily. Tim enjoys being outside and no two days are ever the same. Bottesford is one of the largest Parishes in Leicestershire and he is kept busy doing jobs such as clearing footpaths, repairing stiles, picking up litter, erecting and maintaining all 22 of the public seats, clearing out under the road at the 'Ducks Crossing', erecting and maintaining fences, looking after play areas, laying grit, putting up the Christmas Tree and planting the 75kgs of mixed Daffodil Bulbs which the Parish Council buy each year.



Bins Wheel into Bottesford in April

The twin wheeled bin service is expected to start in the Borough in the week beginning Monday 11th April. Melton Borough Council will be sending out a 'Green' newspaper in February to all residents explaining the new service. For more information about the scheme ring Raman Selvon on 01427 502502 or email: RSelvon@melton.gov.uk.

Village Guide 2005/6 -Now Available

The latest Village Guide has been put through your letter box with this copy of Village Voice. Thank you to all those who provided us with information and especially to Dilys and Steve Shepherd for their hard work on the layout.

The Guide is also available electronically on the Bottesford Today web site at www.bottesford.org.uk and spare copies are kept in the library.

'Shut That Door!'

At the Parish Council meeting in December it was mentioned by the Police that there had been a few opportunist thieves at work in the villages. Even though people were in the house at the time of the robbery, thieves were able to take handbags that were either left on the kitchen table or in full view of a window. The robberies took place because a door or window had been left open. It only takes a few seconds for someone to try your door to see if it is unlocked, snatch your belongings and be gone, long before you even hear anything. Always put your belongings out of sight. The old Larry Grayson saying 'Shut that door' does not apply any more to modern living but 'LOCK THAT DOOR'.

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"A real sense of community here"

Kim McKeggie is a Bottesford resident. Yet it is only a few months since she left her home in Washington DC. Born and brought up in New York, she moved to Washington at 18 to complete her education - but a trip to Scotland changed her life when she met her husband Stuart. So does Kim enjoy life in Bottesford *more* than New York and Washington? Most definitely, yes!



Kim is extremely enthusiastic about her new life in our village. She says "there is a real sense of community here". Kim puts a lot of this down to people being able to walk around the village, to the shops, schools and pubs, whereas in America there are few pavements, and people opt to drive everywhere, missing out on any opportunities to interact with people, except at work. She finds it lovely to be "liberated" from her car and enjoys the fresh air - even if the weather is not always kind.

She comments that people here are "laid back and friendly, with a good sense of humour" and that they enjoy life. She loves our beer, wildlife, countryside and our traditions, our local shops and restaurants - and she was delighted with the Duck Race and Morris Men on Boxing Day. She was thrilled when carol singers came calling on horseback - so much so that she telephoned her sister in America during the singing. But does she miss anything about America? Yes she does - home Pizza deliveries!

The Royal Mail

Did you know that the Bottesford Sorting Office has moved to Bingham? If you need to collect or post items of mail the new office is open Mon-Fri 07.00-12.00 and Sat 07.00-12.00 and the address is:

Unit 6
Cabourn House
Moor Lane
Bingham

To locate the Sorting Office, go to Bingham Market place and Moor Lane is the road alongside the ladies clothes shop called Farthingales. Go to the end of Moor Lane (by the railway line) and take the pathway to your right to find Cabourn House.

Royal Mail has also advised that there will be some changes to existing delivery rounds, including changes to the times of your delivery. Any queries about the new service can be made to the Customer Service Centre on 08457 740740.

World premiere of "Access Rights"

At Bottesford VC hall on Fri 11th & Sat 12th March 2005 Bottesford Amateur Theatrical Society (BATS) presents this new play by Mark Pugh. "Jo's just about to sit her GCSEs when her parents split up, her dad's new girlfriend is a cleaner, and her mum's new boyfriend is a pompous millionaire psychiatrist. Add into the mix around 200 cans of 'Happy Shopper' lager, a pub landlord who's wanted by Interpol, and a granny who thinks she's a Bond Villain bent on world domination, and you have a recipe for a hilarious night."

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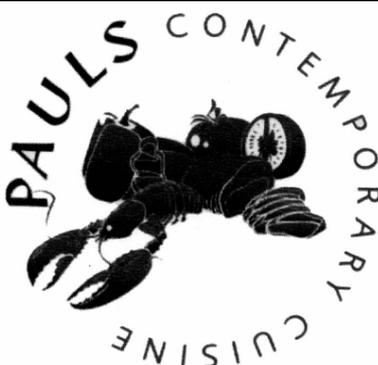
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'Thank you' Bottesford

- for helping the Tsunami appeal

Eileen Boyce would like to thank everyone for the generous donations for the Tsunami appeal, on behalf of St Mary's Church Bottesford. A total of £1,585 raised in just two weeks, from a coffee morning, collections in church and £500, donated by the church. The money has been sent to Christian Aid who is working in the disaster area.

On Thursday 23rd December nine enthusiastic members of Bottesford Primary School's recorder group gathered in Queen St to play seasonal carols to the passing shoppers. All, despite the wind and the cold, had a great time and a total of £32.31 was raised. The school also raised over £1,000 through donations of pocket money, a toy sale and doing jobs around the home.

The High School has raised over £600 by selling white ribbons (the colour of mourning in some eastern countries) and is planning a non-uniform day and a 'Battle of the Bands'.



Rosie May Memorial Fund Update

The Rosie May Memorial Fund now stands at £25,000 and, once again, we would like to express our thanks and gratitude for the unerring support shown by the village. It is our wish to give back to the village, with the money raised, something that will be not only a reminder of Rosie May's life, but a facility that will enhance Bottesford and be used by the entire community. We have submitted a proposal to the Parish Council for a bandstand to be built on Jubilee Green. For details and comments on the proposal please go to www.rosie-may.com. Mary & Graham Storrie

Trafalgar weekend October 21st to 23rd

On Friday 21st October 2005 communities are being encouraged to organise Trafalgar Day lunches and parties.

If you wish to receive more information on organising an event over The Trafalgar Weekend call 01725 516456, 01425 654790 or e-mail

info@trafalgarweekend.co.uk.

It's a dog's life

Melton Borough Council employs a Dog Warden whose responsibilities include catching people who fail to clean up after their dog by awarding an on the spot fine – up to a maximum of £1,000. The Dog warden responsible for our Parish visits us regularly and is planning out of hours visits to known problem areas. Dogs are the victims not the offenders.

If you find a stray dog:

Return it to its owner wherever possible.

Contact Melton Borough Council during office hours on 01664 502502 (Mon to Fri 9a.m to 5 p.m.)

Take it to the nearest police station or take the dog to the stray dog kennels at Waltham on the Wolds - call 01664 464872.

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March

What's On ...

Weds 2 nd 2pm to 4pm	BBC project 'World War II – The People's War' Bottesford Library
Thurs 3 rd 1.30, 2.30 & 3.30pm	'Getting started on the Internet'. Free sessions with tuition at Bottesford Library
Mon 7 th 7.30pm	Village Voice committee meeting. Community Centre, all welcome.
Tue 8 th 2 pm	U3A 'Let's Circle' Review & displays of Circle activities. 'Healthy Eating', speaker Pauline Stephens. VC Hall.
Thurs 10 th 7.30pm	Local History Society 'Changing Bottesford'. Speakers Drs Diana & Michael Honeybone. Fuller Rooms.
Fri 11 th 7.30pm Sat 12 th 7.30pm	B.A.T.S. 'Access Rights' A modern comedy by Mark Pugh For details and tickets see posters around the village.
Saturday 12 th 10.30am	Litter Pick. Meet at the Fuller Rooms.
Sun 13 th 2 – 6pm	National Gardens Scheme, Open Garden & Plant Sale. Refreshments. Entry £1.25 (children free). 'Homestead', Main St. Normanton. Mrs Palmer 842745
Mon 14 th 7.15pm	Annual Parish Meeting followed by Parish Council meeting. Fuller Rooms, Bottesford. Parishioners may ask questions and make comments.
Tue 15 th 7.30pm	WI 'Images of Nepal', Speaker Mrs Sybil Blackett. VC Hall
Thurs 17 th 7.30pm	Environmental & Conservation Volunteers (BECV), VC Hall. Public and new members welcome.

April

Mon 4 th 7.30pm	Village Voice committee meeting. Community Centre, all welcome.
Thurs 7 th 1.30, 2.30 & 3.30pm	'Getting started on the Internet'. Free sessions with tuition at Bottesford Library.
Tue 12 th 2.00pm	U3A 'The Burtons of Smithy Row'. Speaker: Val Henstock. VC Hall.
Thurs 14 th 7.30pm	Local History Society. 'Military History of Belton'. Speaker Mr Les Staniland. Fuller Rooms
Mon 18 th 7.15pm	Parish Council meeting. Old School, Muston. Residents are welcome as observers. 15 minutes public participation period.
Tues 19 th 7.30pm	WI 'Dance Demonstration' Mrs Ann Gibbons. VC Hall
Thurs 21 st 7.30pm	Environmental & Conservation Volunteers (BECV), VC Hall. Public and new members welcome.

Important: To publicise your event in the 'What's On' column for May & June, please ring 844823 or email d.taffs@btinternet.com by 26th March.



The Parish Council on 10th January pointed out that people who put notices on telegraph poles must remove them after the event. If they are left in the poles the staples and pins can cause damage, and the pole may fall down.

Parish Council Notes



13 December

The Council are concerned about the white lines on the bridge on Belvoir Road, as they feel they may cause an accident. Most dog bins are being emptied weekly. Kissing gates will not be widened, since this would allow bikes to go through them.

10 January

There are only 3 police officers operating in this area, instead of 6
Two replacement notice boards are to be built
Parish footpaths should be walked more often by residents
Bus shelters are still being considered

Youth Club closed temporarily

The youth club is currently closed whilst refurbishment takes place. Meanwhile the club is running trips out every Monday. It is hoped that it will re-open some time after Easter, when opening hours may change. For further details ring Sam Evans (youth worker) on 01949 844531.

Senior Guides needed

The Senior section of the Guides is open to Girls aged 14 – 26. They meet every 2nd Monday from 7.30 – 9pm to chat and plan activities, including outings, camps and working towards qualifications e.g. the Leadership scheme and Queens Guides Challenge.

The District Commissioner commented "these Guides are treated in a more grown up way and lots of their activities are unaccompanied by adults or leaders". For more information ring her on 842934.

Error in last Village Voice

In the Parish Council notes of 11th October under the item on a planning application for the industrial development on Orston Lane, we omitted the word 'old'. The line should have read 'may involve a road being constructed direct to the *old* A52'. Our apologies for this error.

The picture of Bottesford's Sunday Side 1980-81, in last months issue was a happy reminder of the wealth of fine memories Bottesford holds for me. (If any one does not recognise me I'm the one on the back row far right).

I want to take advantage of the Village Voice to express the gratitude our family feels towards those villagers of Bottesford and district, who's caring and comforting attitude helped our family cope following the nightmare we entered following the arrest of my son Paul.

Nigel Smith

The Scarecrows return! (with their buckets and spades?)

Put Sunday 22nd May into your diaries now to make sure you don't miss the 3rd Bottesford Scarecrow Festival. The scarecrows are involved in a joint venture with Leics County Council, to make the event "Bottesford by the Sea" as they arrange for a delivery of sand and other seaside necessities to ensure our parish has a wonderful day! Watch out for more information nearer the time.

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Fridays Cricket Club 9.30am to 11.00am

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Sports News



Apology to Gordon Geach

Sorry Gordon, for spelling your surname incorrectly in the last issue of Village Voice. Your redesigned web site for the football club (www.bottesfordfc.co.uk) is excellent.

Cricket training in full swing

Although the cricket season does not start until April, training is already well underway at the indoor nets at Trent Bridge. If anyone would like to come along please get in touch with Simon Silverwood on 01949 842148 or email: simon.silverwood@btopenworld.com

Over £2000 raised at over 70s disco

The football club would like to thank all those people who came to the disco to support the club. Thanks also to the volunteers and the people who donated auction prizes.

Players needed for Under 14s team

To help the team continue last year's success in the league new players are needed from school years 8 and 9. Players train on Wednesday evenings from 6 – 7pm at Belvoir High school. If you would like to join the team ring Paul Forster on 844083.

Under 9s football update

The boys have shown tremendous commitment in what is a strong league, and at the half way point they are mid table. They are also through to the semi final of the Cup. Training is on Saturday morning 9.45 to 11am at Belvoir High School. For information ring Chris Hart on 843391.

Under 16s Manager vacancy

Would you like to become the Under 16s Manager for the start of the next season? If you are interested please call Danny Gribby 843858.

Football club veterans

The veterans' team is for players in their 30s, 40s and 50s who wish to play competitive football. The team competes in the Notts. veterans league. They are always on the look out for new players so give Chris Hart a ring if you wish to join them on 843391.

Bottesford Football Club 2004/2005

Village Voice Contact information

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

Deadline for May Issue: Sat 19th March

E mail: 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.



Veterans

Back row: Bud Hart, Ian Sanderson, Denis Eyre, Simon Fern, Paul Adams, Jim Sheardown, Tim Redman, Dave Wilkins

Front row: Bob Crawford, John Robinson, Roy Walton, Jonathon D'Hooghe, Rob Giffiths, Sean Austin

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