

Village Voice

The newsletter of the villages of Bottesford, Easthorpe, Muston & Normanton July 2006 Issue No. 24

Village life at its best - who could ask for anything more?!



The Winning Olympic Scarecrows (above)



May Queen Emma Woolhouse with Jemma Briggeman (right) and Louise Baker.

Festival Queen Celeste Drouin Davis and King Ryan Buckley



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Village Voice goes into colour!

Every year the July issue of Village Voice is packed with wonderful photos of local events. So that everyone can enjoy them even more, this year we have decided to print them in colour. We hope you like them!

A Message from Friends of Bottesford Primary School

This year's Scarecrow Festival, held over the weekend of 20th and 21st May, was a smashing success. The weather may have been diabolical on Sunday but thankfully lots of brave people still came to the School and participated in our Olympic celebration. The day kicked off with an Olympic style ceremony and this was followed by lots of displays throughout the afternoon. The festival King and Queen, Ryan Buckley and Celeste Drouin Davis, were very regal and performed their royal duties perfectly. The winning Scarecrow entry came from the Musson family in Silverwood Road and the Friends of Bottesford Primary School would like to say a very big thank you to them because they very kindly donated their winnings back to the Primary School. All in all, despite the weather, the day was a big success. Thank you to everyone who helped with organizing and manning the stalls, it couldn't have been done without you. Finally thank you to the community of Bottesford, Easthorpe, Muston and Normanton for supporting this event and participating in the Scarecrow Trail.

An update on the HGVs

We have been advised that any complaints about HGVs passing through Bottesford should now be addressed to the Police, either through a dedicated e-mail address: weight.restricted@leicestershire.pnn.police.uk or by calling 0116 222 2222.

May Day Gala – your village needs you.

On 1st May Bottesford enjoyed another successful May Day Gala – despite the cool and blustery weather. Many thanks to the Village Hall Committee for their organisation of the day, to the Vale of Belvoir Lions for running the barbecue and to the Friends of Chernobyl Children for arranging the traditional Fun Run.



The Gala was officially opened by Ken and Eunice Greasley. They were presented with a wooden planter and a buxus plant to mark their retirement after an impressive 60 years joint service on the Village Hall committee. Another high point of the Gala was the crowning of the May Queen Emma Woolhouse, who was attended by Jemma Briggeman and Louise Baker.

The gala raised a magnificent £1000 for Village Hall funds, and other voluntary organisations such as the Guides, and the Vale of Belvoir Lions Club were also able to boost their funds whilst providing residents with an enjoyable afternoon.

Without the Village Hall Committee, the Gala would be unlikely to take place. A member of the committee told Village Voice "the event stretched our resources to the limit - we are desperately short of the active committee members needed to make such an event in the village work well". If you are interested in helping them arrange events for the village, please contact Marilyn Robinson on 844289.

The Homestead Open Gardens

Why do they do it you might ask? Three times a year Shirley and John Palmer of the Homestead, Normanton, open their gardens to the public for the charities National Gardens Scheme and the British Red Cross. For the first opening in March the wind was biting cold and it snowed. In May, the second opening, it was cold and it rained! So let's hope on 24th September they get a glorious Autumn day! On the plus side, the refreshments in the farmhouse kitchen are always excellent.

So why *do* they do it? John said, "It's a lot of work getting ready for visitors, but it is for a good cause and we meet some nice people".

And keen gardeners, it seems, always turn up, even in the rain.

Bottesford Living History

Members of the Bottesford Environmental Conversation Volunteers and Local History Society have successfully bid for a Local Heritage initiative grant that will enable a Community Heritage Project to start in Bottesford this September. The Local Heritage initiative is a partnership between the Heritage Lottery Fund, Nationwide Building Society and the Countryside Agency.

The project is designed to enable people from across our community – both young and old – to join in creating a living oral and pictorial history of Bottesford. This is planned to be based on the personal memories of people who have lived in the village for many years, plus an archive of photographic and other information on the village and its residents. There will be leaflets, exhibitions, an information pack, a website and a drama 'event' designed to encourage residents and visitors to enjoy our historic community better.

Look out for details of a public launch of this project. In the mean time, if you have any ideas and would like to be involved, then please call Neil Fortey, Bottesford Heritage Warden, on 843320 or contact neilfortey@metronet.co.uk

Clock this!

It's amazing what you learn at a Local History Society meeting. During a talk in

April on 'The History of Clocks' by Mr Roy Conder, we were shown a picture of an object the size of a small table, a metal frame with cogs and cables; not an instrument of torture, but a church clock. We have one like that in Bottesford church, says Mike Saunders (church warden). It transpired that this clock was to be moved. Thinking he meant taken away, and that a piece of Bottesford history



was going, we asked if we could visit the church to investigate.

This is not a clock with a face and hands. Nothing is visible on the outside. It is thought to have been made by a local blacksmith, around 1600, and is located on the platform from which they ring the bells. Its function was to chime on the hour to tell the farm workers the time. It is still in working order but because someone would have to climb the stairs weekly to wind it up and because it chimes every hour, day and night, the sound might not be appreciated by present day villagers. However, it was not being removed, only relocated a few feet because it was restricting the space needed by the bell ringers.

Renovation work is being undertaken in the church tower and a new ceiling is being installed above the bells which will muffle the sound of practice, and shutters will be opened when there is a service or on special occasions so that the bells can be heard in all their glory.

Da Vinci Belvoir

When you see the film 'The Da Vinci Code' you might think that the outside of Castel Gandolfo, the Pope's summer retreat, looks vaguely familiar. That's because it is in fact the exterior of Belvoir Castle. The filming was done from a helicopter and, because the cast and crew came well prepared, was completed in one day.

The castle staff were made to keep well out of shot, and it has been suggested that they read the book because it is expected that the castle will have many more visitors as a result of the film.



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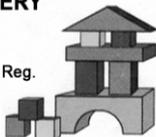
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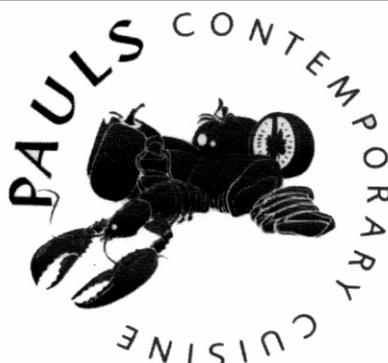
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Friends of Chernobyl's Children



Photographed above during their first visit, with Friends Joy Simpson (top left) and Richard Taylor, are the two teachers and the girls (l - r): Tatiana, Vika, Ksenia, Alina, Anastasia, Lisaveta, and the boys: Efgeni, Artsem, Ivan, Geera.

Richard told us "In 2001 we had the idea to bring children over from Belarus who were susceptible to the effects of the fallout from the Chernobyl Nuclear Disaster. Our hopes were that we might give them a better chance to fight off these possible problems by helping to build up their immune systems. Well, judge for yourself by comparing the photograph above which was taken when they first arrived with the one below which was taken this June".

In the picture below, Richard has arranged the group in exactly the same positions, except that Lisaveta has been replaced by Masha (far right).

He reminds us that next year a fresh group of youngsters will start a five-year cycle of visits, and that new host families and helpers are much sought after.



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What's On in July...

Sat 1 st 10.30am – 11.30am	Parish Council Surgery. Fuller Room
Thurs 6 th 2pm - 4pm	Library - Internet Taster Session & How to Publicise via the Internet. Booking essential - 842696
Fri 7 th	FOCC Children & Interpreters depart to Belarus - Tissue Time.
Sat 8 th (to Sat 9 th Sept)	Library – The Reading Mission. A free activity scheme for children of school age or about to start. Awards.
Sat 8 th from 2pm	Bottesford Skatepark Jam, Grantham Rd playing fields BMX and Skate competitions from 2pm, followed by live music, BBQ, licensed bar, Bouncy Castles, face painting, stalls and loads of other fun and games.
Mon 10 th 7.15pm	Parish Council meeting. Fuller Rooms. Residents may question the council and make comments prior to the Parish Council meeting.
Tues 11 th 2pm	U3A 'Garden Party'
Tues 11 th 7pm	VoB Ramblers – Whatton etc 9km. (Linda - 876146)
Fri 14 th 10-10.30am	Wriggly Readers at Bottesford Library. Babes to young children; songs, rhymes, stories - 842696
Fri 14 th 7.30pm	Chernobyl Children's Choir - Southwell Minster. Tickets £6 (£5 concessions). Contact Robert Crampton, 01636-830708.
Sat 15 th 7.30pm	Conservative Association Summer Party. BBQ & bar. Tickets & details - Martyn Stubbs - 842750
Tues 18 th 7.30pm	W.I. 'Caring for Your Feet' – Speaker Claire Walton. VC.

And in August...

Wed 2 nd , 2pm - 4pm	Library – Superspies – for children 4-11yrs with parent/carer - drop in any time.
Thurs 3 rd 2pm - 4pm	Library - Internet Taster Session & How to Publicise via the Internet. Booking essential - 842696
Fri 4 th 6.30pm - 9pm	Dove Cottage Hospice, Stathern. BBQ. - 860303
Sat 5 th 10.30am – 11.30am	Parish Council Surgery. Fuller Room
Fri 11 th 10am - 10.30am	Wriggly Readers at Bottesford Library. Babes to young children; songs, rhymes, stories. - 842696
Mon 14 th 7.15pm	Parish Council meeting. Fuller Rooms. Residents welcome as observers and for 15 minutes at the start may address the council with concerns or questions.
Wed 16 th 7pm	VoB Ramblers - Denton - 6.5km. (Derek - 861578)
Sun 20 th 8-10.30pm	Social Dance - VC Hall. £3.50pp. (Hazel - 843234)
Wed 30 th 7pm	VoB Ramblers - Long Bennington - 5km. (Rose - 01476 574987)

For details of events, please use the phone number provided,
Important: To publicise your event in the 'What's On' column for Sept & October please ring 844823 or email d.taffs@btinternet.com by 31st July.

Revamped schedule for 29th Annual Horticultural Open Show

The 2006 Show includes a new trophy donated by Mr Jos Hobbelen and a revamp of a number of classes, including children's classes, which should generate additional interest from gardening enthusiasts young and old! Schedules for the Show will be available in August from various local outlets and the Association Shop on Grantham Road, Bottesford.

The show is organised by the Bottesford & District Gardens Association and will take place on Saturday 9th September 2006 in the VC Hall, Belvoir Road, Bottesford. Entries will be taken at the VC Hall on Friday 8th September from 7pm to 8.30pm and on Saturday 9th September from 8.30am to 10.30am. The Hall will be open for viewing entries from 2.30pm on the Saturday. Refreshments, a raffle and an auction of produce add to the day's events.

For information contact Heather Clint, Secretary, telephone 01949 843480 or email Heatherclint@aol.com.

Bottesford & District Gardens Association shop

If you need compost, weed and feed or blood fish and bone then you should go to the Association's shop located in sheds at the junction of Station Road and Grantham Road. Membership is £1 per year and the shop is open on Sundays 10am – 11.30am and Wednesday 6.30pm – 7pm (except during the months of December & January).

Kickboxing?

A new Kickboxing Club has started in Bottesford. Contact Adrian Danbury on 850336 for more information.

Letters

Thanks to football volunteers and welcome to old and new players.

Bottesford Football Club Committee would like to thank all volunteers of the club who have given up part of their weekends over the winter, to coach and manage the various football teams. Also thanks to all individuals who volunteered to officiate at matches.

Overall the season has been very successful and the club will field the following teams next season – U8s, 9s, 10s, 11s, 12s, 13s, 14s, 16s, Reserves, 1st Team and, as always, the Veterans. The new football season will be starting again in September and we are looking for old/new players to sign up. This year the club successfully launched training sessions for girls and there are plans to build on this next season.

For further information contact Chris Hart on 843391 or 842519.

Parish Council Notes

10th April

A grant has been offered towards the cost of bus shelters and the clerk has applied to county highways for the forms to enable the Council to apply for a licence. Forms have been submitted to enter the Best Kept Village Competition. The youth club committee has not yet been reinstated.

Four planters are to be sited at the main entrances to the village.

Belvoir Estates has provided the perimeter fence for the skate park.

Allotment rents have increased by 1p per sq metre. This is the first increase for 10 years.

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Sports News



Oh what a night!

In appreciation of the efforts of the Bottesford U13s football team during the 2005/2006 season their manager, Ian Smith, organised a surprise match on 19th May for his squad of players, supplemented with several guest players from the U12 and U14 sides. The venue - Meadow Lane home of Notts County football club, the oldest club in the football league - indeed the world. Two evenly matched sides were chosen and named appropriately Bottesford Forest and Bottesford County, managed for the evening by Ian Smith and Simon Hampson (U13s Assistant Coach) respectively. Admirably supported by vociferous parents and admiring fans alike, the players enjoyed a lifetime experience on a playing surface which, despite the long season, was a credit to the County ground staff and made all the more special by the enthusiastic welcome to all those attending.



The match finished 4-2 in favour of 'Forest' and culminated in a buffet supper in the club's Don Masson suite. Commemoration match pennants were presented to all those taking part including various individual awards by Mr Roy Parker, Financial Director of Notts County FC. Later he led a personal tour of the Board Room which is steeped in time-honoured history and tradition. For all those involved it will live in the memory for many years to come and, who knows, may be the catalyst for greater things for some of those involved. It would not have been possible without the vision and continuing enthusiasm of Ian Smith - for all those involved we offer our sincere thanks for a memorable occasion. Next stop Wembley!!

And finally - Scarecrow Bob!



Village Voice Contact information

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Anne Ablewhite on 842259

Deadline for Sept Issue: Sunday 23rd July

E mail: villagevoice@bottesford.org.uk
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