



Village Voice

The newsletter of the villages of Bottesford, Easthorpe, Muston & Normanton May 2007 Issue No. 29

May Day! May Day! Monday 7th May is Gala Day!

Gala day is fast approaching, but the hardworking team is not sending out a distress call! Preparations are on course with the arena programme promising continuous entertainment throughout the day, along with over 40 stalls and sideshows at the VC hall and football field.

Would you like to be part of the logistics team for the Gala and help on the day?

Preparing the field, managing the arena, marshalling the external events etc requires considerable manpower - and womanpower. If you can spare us some time and would like to be involved, even if only on the day, please contact John Ronan 842773.

The result of the May Queen competition will be announced on the new Gala website which is updated regularly: <http://www.bottesford.org.uk/Gala.htm> Don't forget that the Gala is not all that's happening that weekend:

The annual Vale of **Belvoir Arts Society Art Festival** will be in the Methodist Chapel, Devon Lane (Sat, Sun and Mon);

The **Living History** display will be in The Fuller Room, Grantham Road (Sat, Sun and Mon);

And during the weekend there is a variety of activities planned at **St Mary's Church**, including parachuting teddies from the tower, timed tours of both the tower and the church, morris dancing, a cake stall and light refreshments.

May Day Gala – Fun Run

The fun run this year will raise money for Friends of Chernobyl's Children. Please support this event as it offers an opportunity to exercise and have fun, whilst supporting a worthy cause.

The run is approximately 3.5 miles around the village, with marshals situated at regular check points.

Registration starts at 9am at the village hall and the run commences at 10.45am. Entry is £3 per adult, £1 per child or £5 for a family of four. There are prizes up for grabs, for each of the age groups.

'Getting to know you session' at Bottesford W.I., March 11th 1977



Among those pictured are: Mrs Eileen Boyce, Mrs. Edna Taylor.
Who were the other ladies?

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Blues Brothers hit town!

Bottesford and District Pre-school Playgroup recently partied through the night to the swinging sound of the Belvoir Academy, who entertained their audience to a brilliant evening of swing, blues and contemporary music. The dance floor remained full all evening, and a good time was had by all.

An impressive £1,000 was raised which will fund a new dressing-up area at Playgroup. Thanks to everyone who worked hard to make this evening a success and to those who gave their support.

Pipe Dreams to Pipe Work!

Ever wondered how Bottesford Playgroup began? Read on!

In 1966 Irene Pacey, a trained nursery nurse, and willing parents, started a Playgroup for two mornings a week in the Village Hall. Committee members took turns in helping and each session cost 2/6d (12½p). After 13 years the refurbishment of the Village Hall led to a search for new premises, and as the new primary school had opened the Fuller Room was empty and the Church gave permission for Playgroup to use it. As numbers grew, two rooms were needed for sessions every morning and some afternoons. Thirteen years later and, again, new premises were needed



and Jo Fernandez, the Community worker, asked Mr Reed, then High School headmaster, for suggestions and he offered his school garden. Together these two spoke to Leicestershire County Council who tentatively said "Yes". Mick Booth offered to draw the plans and persuaded the committee that they could do it. True community spirit shone through. Irene says "At least half the village was involved. To raise money we held dances, sales and coach trips—anything to get some money!" The total cost was about £28,000; there was money from the Parish Council and an interest-free loan from Melton Borough Council. So many people were involved but a few need special mention; Herbert Turner as "Clerk of the Works". He planned the work each week contacting volunteers, ordering materials, etc. Nev Bagnall was responsible for woodwork and roofing and Christine Kitchener was treasurer. Many gave their time and labour and, without this, Irene says there would not have been the building we have today. Jean Turner was the organiser and Chair of the Play Group Committee for many years. Leicestershire Council were strict with frequent inspections; the contract hadn't been given to a builder but to a village determined to succeed. The project took 2 years to complete before opening for business in October 1988. From a few children attending



two mornings a week the Play Group now opens 5 days a week for 25 children. The success of this pipe dream was recognised by Prince Charles; Irene and Jean went to London to collect an award for Community Projects. How proud and grateful we should be to those involved.

Jean Turner and helpers

The Friends of Chernobyl's Children (FOCC)

The FOCC is getting ready to welcome a new group of children to our village for a month long visit this September. The group is arranging various outings for the children, but they need volunteers to help drive them around. If you have some time on your hands or a couple of afternoons free please ring Anne Ablewhite on 842259 or e-mail her on: anneablewhite@hotmail.com

GIFTS Hospice Fundraiser at the Village Hall

The GIFTS fundraising table top sale at the VC hall in March was well supported by both sellers and buyers. A good range of merchandise was available including cakes, bric a brac, books, costume jewellery. The Redmile church fundraising tombola was very eye catching as it featured a tree with leaves showing the winning, and losing, numbers. Holly Pacey, pictured, was hoping to sell a number of items that she no longer needed.



Holly Pacey enjoying the GIFTS Hospice fundraiser at the VC Hall in March

GIFTS is a charitable organisation which

provides practical, social and emotional support to sufferers of a life-threatening illness, their family and carers.

Bottesford Living History Project launches its website

The Living History Project group will launch its website at the project's May Day Exhibition in the Fuller Room on May Day Weekend (May 5 - 7, 10 till 5). The website is for the whole community, and the group wants to encourage people to help to build up a picture of the history of the village and to record village life as it is today.



Accessing the Living History site is simplicity itself, go to www.bottesfordhistory.org.uk and you'll find a host of information and a 'Messages' section. Most importantly, it also includes a 'Log In' section where you can register your name and e-mail address in order that you can add your own material - this could be a comment on something you have seen on the site, or your own original article in words and pictures. Your contributions may then be included on the site for all the world to see, subject to editorial checking. Articles from young people, for instance recording village life as it is today, are especially welcome. If you need access to the internet, you can use the computers in the Library (the librarians will help get you started).

To keep up to date with the project you can read the Living History Archive that the group plans to keep in the Library, along with a quarterly Newsletter. Make sure you take the opportunity to check out what's happening with the project on May Day - and on the internet - and get involved! For more information contact Neil Fortey on 843320.

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Book group bids farewell to professional author

The Bottesford Bookworms book group is pictured with author Sally Spedding. Her books include 'Come and Be Killed'; 'Prey Silence'; 'A Night with No Stars' and 'Wringland'. The group learned a lot about writing books for publication as well as being introduced to a new literary genre – crime books in translation.



*LtoR: Back row Susan Meech, Elaine Marlow, Ros Willis, Val Lever, Sue Middleton
Front row Jill Hotson, Sally Spedding, Mary Foster*

30th Annual Show

The Bottesford & District Gardens Association is making plans for its 30th Annual Open Show which takes place on Saturday 8th Sept in the VC Hall. Gardeners young and old are encouraged to enter, and the time to be planning your vegetable crops is **now!** Seeds, compost and garden sundries are available at competitive prices from the Association Shop, profits from which go towards funding the Show. The shop, situated on Grantham Road, opposite the junction with Easthorpe Road, is open on Sundays 10 - 11.30am and on Wednesday from 6.30 - 7pm. If you would like to join the Association speak to a committee member at the shop or contact Heather Clint, Secretary on 843480 or Heatherclint@aol.com

Christian Women's Group

A year ago a group of Christian women decided to set up a family-friendly fellowship group. They come from different churches and backgrounds but unite in their desire to improve their relationship with God. Their meetings, on Monday mornings, start with coffee, cake and toast.

The aim of the group is to improve their understanding and faith in God and to support each other along the journey. This may sound "deep", but they have a great time together. They have visited Fair Trade events and a New Wine Women's day, and a visit to a Retreat is planned soon. The group has completed an ALPHA course on women and female emotional security, and are presently doing a Lent study on William Wilberforce. Anyone interested in joining this merry crowd is very welcome. Call Kelly on 843776 or Nicola on 843636

Coming to BBC Toddlers

A Toy Library is coming to BBC Toddlers. Based at Bottesford Baptist Church, Queen St., BBC Toddlers offer parents and carers the opportunity to borrow, for a small fee, good quality toys. The group meets twice a week, on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9.30 am to 11.30 am from birth to 4+. They are planning an outing to Sundown Pets Corner on 16th and 17th May. For more information contact: Margaret Isdale on 843687 or Helen Dixon on 843704.

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What's On in...May

Thurs 3 rd 2 - 4pm	Internet Taster Session/How to Publicise via the Internet. Free 1 hr tuition @ the Library, booking essential, 842696
Sat 5 th to Mon 7 th	Living History Project Exhibition 2007, Fuller Room, 10am - 5pm
Sat 5 th 10am - 5pm Sun 6 th 2 - 5pm Mon 7 th 10am - 5pm	VOBAS Art exhibition - Methodist Chapel. Refreshments, lunches, cream teas.
Sun 6 th 10am-5pm	Dance for Rosie May 2007. Belvoir High School. Sponsored by Heart & Sole Dancewear. Refreshments & Yummy Chocolate Fountain. Spectators £2.00
Mon 7 th 10.30 - 5pm	Gala - VC Hall - A day of events. See posters.
Mon 7 th from 10am 10am - 11am 10.45am 11am & 2pm 11.30am 12 noon 1.45pm 2pm, 3pm & 4pm	St Mary's Church - Refreshments & cake stall. Organ Recital. Fun Run. Church Tour. Allington Morris. Teddy Bears Parachuting from the tower CMA Bikers Tower Tour
Tues 8 th 2pm	U3A "Healthy Feet - Comfortable Shoes". Martin Nunn (Hotter Shoes) - VC Hall
Tues 8 th 1.30pm - 3.00pm	Dove Cottage. Clothes Sale, quality clothing from well known companies, many items half price or less. Admission £2 includes refreshments.
Thurs 10 th 7.30pm	Local History Society. Fuller Room. "A School Boy's War" - Brian Gunn
Friday 11 th 10-10.30am	Wriggly Readers at the Library. Babes to young children; songs, rhymes, stories. 842696
Sunday 13 th 2 - 6pm	Open Garden Day. The Homestead, Normanton. £1.50.
Mon 14 th 7.15pm	Parish Council meeting. Fuller Rooms. Residents welcome as observers or address the council for first 15 minutes.
Tues 15 th 7.30pm	W.I. Resolutions. Sandra Thornley - VC Hall.
Sat 19 th 10am - 8pm	Open Garden, The Laurels, Bottom Street, Allington. Coffee, Tea, Evening Wine. Admission £2.50, children free
Sun 20 th 1.30 pm - 4.30 pm	Dove Cottage Day Hospice Tenth Annual Summer Fête, Admission only £2 per car. 860303
Sun 20 th 2.30pm	E Midland Orchid Society, VC Hall. "The Tokyo Dome Orchid Show Experience" - Brian Woodward. Non-members welcome.

And in ... June

Thurs 7 th 2 - 4pm	Internet Sessions, see 3rd May. To book, call 842696
Friday 8 th 10-10.30am	Wriggly Readers at Bottesford Library, see 11th May.
Mon 11 th 7.15pm	Parish Council meeting. Fuller Rooms. Residents welcome as observers or address the council for first 15 minutes.
Tues 12 th 2pm	U3A "The Crucial Lifesaving Work of the RNLI" - Robert Holland. VC Hall
Thurs 14 th	Local History Society - Annual Summer Outing
Sun 17 th 2.30pm	E Midland Orchid Society VC Hall. 'African Orchids' Colin Leakey. Non-members welcome. 842668
Tues 19 th 7.30pm	W.I. Handbell Ringers - Sue Glover. VC Hall.
Tues 26 th 7.30pm	Village Hall AGM - committee room. All welcome

Important: To publicise your event in the 'What's On' column for July & August, please ring 844823 or email d.taffs@btinternet.com by 20th May.

Parish Council Notes



12th February

Police reported local crimes including 2 burglaries in Walnut Road, 3 thefts from vehicles, and trouble at the station.

A bird box that had been given to the library, by the county council, has been donated to the primary school.

The Highways department has confirmed that the Sustrans bridge across the A52 will not now go ahead.

12th March

The Hands Trust charity will have a Christmas lunch in 2007, instead of giving out grants.

The drain under the High street has been found to be completely clear following a camera survey.

Police Community Support Officers to monitor parking on yellow lines from June 2007.

The Parish Council is keen to hear from anyone who disagrees with a planning application.

The police Crime and Disorder Committee has paid for the insurance for the skate park.

Litter picking

The Parish Council have been allocated some money from Melton Borough Council to pay for about 2 hours each week of litter picking. Hours to suit and all equipment provided. The job would suit anyone who is fit and active and would like to see the village kept tidy. If you are interested call Parish Clerk Barbara Taylor on 843611.

Sand bags

Sand bags that were provided for the flood are now falling apart and the Parish Council is looking for ideas to replace them. The new items would need to be light, easily stored, relatively inexpensive and capable of being moved quickly should the need arise. Contact the Council if you have any suggestions.

Keep on moving

Once again can we remind everyone to move off as quickly as possible when they come out of the Spar shop. This will free up space for someone else to park and help to prevent congestion in this part of the village.

Don't put your dog in danger....

Did you know that a farmer has the right to shoot any dog that is causing a nuisance to his stock?

Each year our farmers have the same problem – sheep worrying. Please don't let your dog off the lead near to animals, especially when they have young ones, and don't let them roam around the field on their own. Sheep worrying can cause the ewe to lose her lamb and she may also be attacked herself – either way it is an expensive loss to the farmer.

Don't risk losing your dog - keep them on a lead near animals.

Affordable housing request turned down - in 1947

(adapted from the Grantham Journal, April 1947)

The Air Ministry offered Nissen huts on Normanton airfield as temporary housing accommodation, pending the erection of permanent housing in Bottesford. At a meeting in Bottesford, this idea was rejected as totally unsuitable even though there was an urgent need for housing, with 45 people on the housing list. The rent was expected to be 5/- to 10/- per week (25p to 50p) but as there were no shops at Normanton and only a weekly bus to Newark, there was no advantage in accepting the offer. Melton Borough Council and the Parish Council thought that Bottesford deserved something better than hut conversions.

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Sports News



Bottesford Bowls Club calls for members – young and old!

If you fancy taking up a new sport, making new friends or being part of a community, why not become a member of Bottesford Bowls Club?

Subs night takes place on Friday 20 April 6.30pm – 8.30pm, but accepts applications for membership throughout the season. People of all ages and abilities are encouraged to join, whether they want to take part in competitions or simply play friendly matches. For those who are learning there is a practice night every Monday, no uniforms or special clothing required. There is also social membership for those who just want to soak up the atmosphere and be part of the bowling community.



It is necessary to become a member to take part in the Monday practice sessions. However, if you want to see if bowls is for you before parting with your hard-earned cash, get in touch and we will give you a tour of the facility and a practice run free of charge! Membership is £30/season, OAPs £26/season, junior members £15 and social £13 a season. For all membership and other queries, please contact Bernard Hawes on 843206.

Want to see what the bowls club is all about? Come along to their Gala Day on July 14, everyone's welcome!

Village Voice Contact information

Editorial:

Dilys Shepherd on 843505 or
Susan Meech on 843402

Advertising:

Anne Ablewhite on 842259

Deadline for July Issue: 20th May
www.bottesford.org.uk/village_voice.htm

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 or consequences which may arise from them. Views expressed in the Village Voice do not necessarily reflect those of the committee.

Stumped for something to do? Bottesford Cricket Club needs your help.

The Bottesford Cricket Club is looking for persons who are interested in Cricket and, in particular, managing an Under 13s and U15s team. These positions may suit a parent whose son is also interested in playing this grand old game. Interested, or need further details, then please contact Simon Silverwood at

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