



# Village Voice

The newsletter of the villages of Bottesford, Easthorpe, Muston & Normanton November 2007 Issue No. 32

## Welcome to Bottesford

**The second group of children from Chernobyl to come to the Vale on the 'Friends of Chernobyl' scheme had a wonderful four weeks in Bottesford. The children all live in Mogilev, Belarus, right in the heart of the radiation zone.**

They start coming at 7 and attend Bottesford Primary School, thanks to the kindness of the headmistress. They also have various activities so that they have a month of fresh air, good food and fun. This year, the children settled in very quickly with their host families, who take them every year, for 5 years.

The children had their eyesight tested, a dental check and treatment, all free, thanks to local businesses. The 'Friends of Chernobyl Children' provide the children with clothes and shoes for the winter - as they only arrive with a paper bag of underwear.



In order to bring the children and teachers to the UK, and pay for the trips and various expenses, the Group needs £12,000 **each year**. Monies come from fund raising events and from kind donations. Can you imagine putting your 7-year old child on a bus for many hours with children they do not know, flying for the first time without you and then to be met at the airport by strangers, then to travel for more hours to be met by yet more people they do not know and taken to an unknown house. This is how desperate parents are for their children to have respite care. For more information or to help with fund raising, please contact Anne Ablewhite on 01949 842259 or [anneablewhite@hotmail.com](mailto:anneablewhite@hotmail.com)

### Wind farm proposed on land near Normanton airfield

'Infinergy' has started to investigate 'Thackson's Well' near Long Bennington as a possible wind farm site. The proposed wind farm is at an early stage of development and environmental surveys are being carried out. Local residents were consulted at events held in Allington and Long Bennington in October.

The proposed wind farm will comprise 10 turbines that will be up to 125 metres/410 feet high (blade tip height), with a maximum rotor diameter of 90 metres. More information can be found at [www.thacksonswellwindfarm.co.uk](http://www.thacksonswellwindfarm.co.uk) or pick up a leaflet in the library. Contact email: [info@thacksonswellwindfarm.co.uk](mailto:info@thacksonswellwindfarm.co.uk); Free phone 0800 980 4296, or write to Freepost Infinergy Ltd (please ensure you write this address exactly as it is written here).

### What do you think about....?

Bottesford Forum is a new way of sharing your thoughts about life in Bottesford, giving you the opportunity to look at existing topics and add your thoughts – or why not add a new subject to see what others think about something that's a burning issue for you? Go to [www.bottesfordforums.co.uk](http://www.bottesfordforums.co.uk) and see what's happening.



Follow me to page 2  
for some important  
news.....

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## More from the Ducks.....

You may know that the Vale of Belvoir Lions are pretty busy at this time of the year. We always help them out every Boxing Day at the Bottesford Annual Duck Race but there again I wouldn't expect them, well not all of them anyway, to paddle in the River Devon. We're on holiday at the moment and unable to return just yet. We know all about a pride of Lions but believe me they're not too proud to ask for help and would welcome anyone prepared to assist them with forthcoming events here in the village and around the Vale. They'll be starting with Bonfire Night on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November and of

course Santa and his sleigh will, once again, be collecting for local Charities. Dates in December are yet to be confirmed but I would suggest you give John or Phil a call on 842773 or 843034 if you would like to give them a hand at either the bonfire or in becoming one of Santa's 'little elfers'.

If we don't see you before, do your best to give them a hand and we'll meet up with you on Boxing Day!



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## Brains of Belvoir

The annual 'Brains of Belvoir' quiz, organised by the VOB Lions Club, took place in a packed VC hall. Sixteen teams, with over 80 people attending, competed for this prestigious title. The defending champions, your very own Double Vees (Village Voice) were in no mood to relinquish their title easily. Given the fact that no team had successfully defended their title there was therefore no great surprise that, despite a creditable joint second place, the eventual winners were "Village People".



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## THE New Years Eve Ball

Tickets for the New Years Eve Ball at the Village Hall, organised by the Gala committee, are going fast. The tickets are £45.00 each, with a glass of bubbles on arrival, a 3 course gourmet buffet, music from a live band and fireworks at 12.00 (provided by the VOB Lions). Tickets from the Malt House Deli or Kathryn Hinsliff-Smith on 842333. Strictly over 18 only.

## New Autumn Programmes

Now that 'summer' is over you may be looking for something new and interesting to do in the evenings. The various clubs and groups in the village have unveiled their autumn programmes and new members are always welcome. There are lots of organisations in the village including; The Local History Society, Women's Institute, Mothers' Union, and Forget Me Nots. There are Book Groups and a Theatre Group, also The Vale of Belvoir U3A and the Arts Society. We are spoilt for choice. All the information can be found in 'What's On' in Village Voice, or the 2007 Village Guide. Copies are available from the Library or on Bottesford Today [www.bottesford.org.uk](http://www.bottesford.org.uk). The Community Centre also has new courses, phone 844199.

# Bottesford 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Horticultural Show

The show held on 8<sup>th</sup> September attracted a record number of entries despite challenging growing conditions in mid 'summer'!



Photo by David Middleton



Jacob Clint's winning 'Collection of Garden Flowers in a Jam Jar'  
Photo by David Middleton



Tom Keegan's winning 'Garden News Top Tray'  
Photo by David Middleton

The quality of exhibits exceeded all expectations. Of particular note was winner Tom Keegan's entry for 'The Garden News Top Tray' class. Tom modestly put it down to 'beginner's luck!' Children also entered many imaginative and high quality entries. Jacob Clint is pictured holding his winning 'Collection of Garden Flowers in a Jam Jar'.

The show is subsidised by sales from the Garden Association's shop on Grantham Road, opposite the Easthorpe Road junction. It is open Sundays from 10.00am to 11.30am and on Wednesday evenings from 6.30pm to 7pm (not December & January). The Chair of the Association, Noel Carolan, encouraged everyone to support the shop in the coming season in order to secure the future success of the Show.

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## YOGA

Monday 10.45am to 12.15pm Bingham Leisure Centre

Monday 1.15pm to 2.45pm - Bottesford

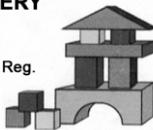
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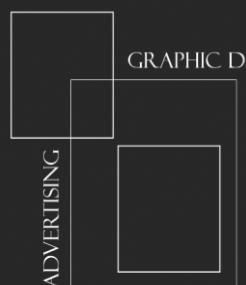
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# Team Zimbos - the wacky Bottesford motorists have done it again!



Following the 2006 success, when a £100 VW Sirocco was driven over the Alps to Naples, raising funds for cancer charities, this year a similar challenge managed to get a £95 Volvo over the Alps to Prague. As Howard said "The Volvo ran faultlessly, used no oil, no water, nothing!"

'Czech Wrecks' involved one hundred rubbish cars in a test of man and bodge to keep old bangers going for 1,500 miles over difficult terrain.

£1,000 was raised for Macmillan Cancer Relief. For more information go to [www.zimbos.org.uk](http://www.zimbos.org.uk) or contact Howard Matthews on 07961 070540 or at [howard.matthews@btinternet.com](mailto:howard.matthews@btinternet.com)

## Sophie, back home from Venezuela

Back in March last year readers were informed that Sophie Carter was planning a trip to Venezuela in 2007. Here is Sophie's brief resume of that trip:

"Whilst in Venezuela I undertook two very different treks: one through the rainforest and the challenging climb that was the tabletop mountain, Roraima. By far the most rewarding part of my trip was visiting the remote Amerindian village of La Poncha where we helped to concrete the floor of their school. It was wonderful to see people who are perfectly content, whilst having no cars or computers— even the children had no toys to play with, but instead played with the local wildlife. After all our efforts there was some time for sightseeing, which included a boat trip to see the dolphins and a trip to Angel Falls.

However, this life changing experience would not have been possible if I had not raised the money needed, therefore I am very grateful to all the local people who made kind donations and offered their support. All the work that went into the preparation made the trip itself more worthwhile and it was an amazing experience that I shall never forget."



offered their support. All the work that went into the preparation made the trip itself more worthwhile and it was an amazing experience that I shall never forget."



## ★ SPOTLIGHT ON...One of life's lovely ladies

★ During August the friends of Pauline Tapnell were invited to her surprise 70<sup>th</sup> birthday party. All her family, with the exception her son Francis who lives in Australia, were there to celebrate.

★ Pauline was born in Leicester but grew up in Braunstone with her mother, father, brother Dennis and sister Margaret. At five years old Pauline went to boarding school near Birmingham and later in Hertfordshire, leaving school with seven O and three A levels. She went to London for a shorthand and typing course and took this up as career in Leicester and, later, in Nottingham.

★ Pauline married Roy in 1966, whom she met through the Anglican young people's association. They had four children: Adrian, Margaret, Francis and Lucy. (Francis rang from Australia at one minute past midnight to wish Pauline 'happy birthday').

★ Pauline has had four guide dogs. The current one is nine year old Unis. If you see them in Bottesford you will know that Roger Bannister would have trouble keeping up with them.

★ Pauline has always been a keen churchgoer enjoying services at St Mary's. She is a member of the Third Order of the Society of St Francis and the Church Mission Society. She is an enthusiastic member of the Mothers Union in Bingham and Bottesford. Pauline brings a lot of happiness to her family and friends and her infectious laugh is a joy. HAPPY BIRTHDAY, PAULINE.



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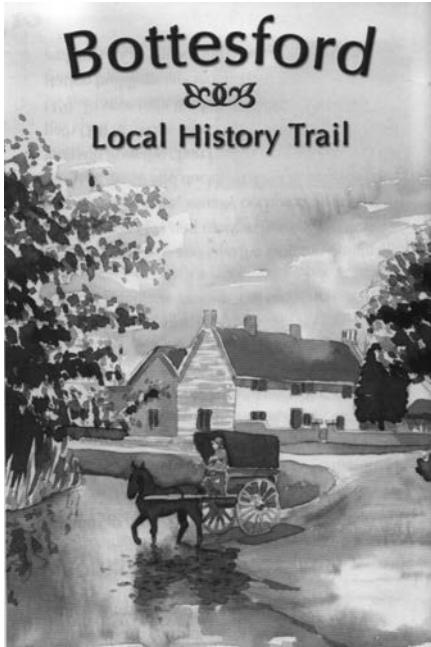
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## Bottesford Local History Trail leaflet



*Explore the historic village*

Two easy walks around Bottesford, in the vale of Belvoir, Leicestershire

© Bottesford 'Living History' Community Heritage Project, 2007.

Origin of the image is the Record Office for Leicestershire, Leicester & Rutland.

This colourful leaflet has been published by the Living History Project and describes two easy walks around the village centre and Easthorpe, featuring historic buildings and landmarks along the way. The best thing is it's free and is available from Bottesford library and other places such as the parish church.

Neil Fortey, the project coordinator, says "There's a lot to see, from medieval earthworks to contemporary architecture. We live in a modern, expanding village, but peel away the layers and you travel back through the centuries to the Tudors and earlier. The evolution of farming has been played out in this quiet corner of Leicestershire. It escaped the full effects of the industrial revolution, and only now is the modern world threatening to swallow it as population and housing pressures bear down."

Now in its second year, the project plans further leaflets in coming months as well as a second Local History Exhibition in 2008. Check out its interactive website at [www.bottesfordhistory.org.uk](http://www.bottesfordhistory.org.uk) where you can add your pictures and memories, or just have your say.

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## What's On in November...

Thurs 1 <sup>st</sup> 1.30-3pm	Dove Cottage, Canal Lane, Stathern. Sale of branded underwear and, bedwear. Free admission, all welcome.
Sun 4 <sup>th</sup> 10.30am	St Mary's Church - Toy Service
Thurs 8 <sup>th</sup> 7.30pm	Local History Society. Fuller Rooms. "Commonwealth War Graves Commission" – Rev John Carne
Sun 11 <sup>th</sup> 10.30am	St Mary's Church - Remembrance Service. Guest preacher - Revd. Lesley Taylor (Methodist Minister)
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> 10.30am - noon	Coffee Morning – Methodist Church, Devon Lane. In aid of Dove Cottage, Canal Lane, Stathern.
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> 7.15pm	Parish Council meeting. Fuller Rooms. Residents may question the council/make comments prior to the mtg.
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> 2pm	U3A, My Farcical Career on a Cruise Ship as a Passenger Liaison Officer – Colin Bower - VC Hall
Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup> 9.30am	"Dads Allowed" dads & toddlers session. Baptist Church. Served with bacon or sausage baps
Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup> 10.30am - 1.30pm	Annual Christmas Fayre in St Mary's including: books, cards, St Mary's Flower Guild, homemade cakes, jams, Fair Trade, etc., many stalls. Free admission.
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> 2.00 for 2.30pm	East Midland Orchid Society, VC Hall. Lecture "Orchids of Turkey", Gianpiero Ferrari. All welcome. Mike Armstrong 842668
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> 7.30pm	W.I. "Personally Yours" Chocolates – David Stone VC Hall.
Saturday 24th 2pm	Christmas Fayre @ Muston Old School. Gifts, bric-a-brac, tombola. Refreshments available

## And in December...

Sun 2 <sup>nd</sup> 10.30am	St Mary's Church Christingle Service
Sun 2 <sup>nd</sup> 4pm	St Mary's Church Advent Carol Service
Mon 3 <sup>rd</sup> 9.30am	U3A Outing to Thurnsford
Tues 4 <sup>th</sup> 7.30	Gardens Association AGM VC Hall
Sun 9 <sup>th</sup> 11am	Bottesford Toy Run.Triumph Owners MCC @ Red Lion. Motorcyclists welcome, bring a new/nearly new toy. 01780 762531
4pm	Christingle Service, St John's Church, Muston
Mon 10 <sup>th</sup> 7.15pm	Parish Council mtg, Fuller Rooms. See November.
Tues 11 <sup>th</sup> 2pm	U3A Christmas Party, with Melton Mowbray U3A Singers "Christmas Collection". VC Hall
Thurs 13 <sup>th</sup> 4pm	Community Carols in the VC Hall
Thurs 13 <sup>th</sup> 7.30pm	Local History Society. Fuller Rooms. Christmas Party
Fri 14 <sup>th</sup> to Mon 17 <sup>th</sup>	St Mary's Church. Christmas Tree Festival. Free entry.
Sat 15 <sup>th</sup> 9.30am	'Dads Allowed' (+mums) toddlers @ Baptist Church.
Sun 16 <sup>th</sup> 11am	Nativity - Baptist Church.
4pm	Carols @ St John's Muston. Followed by mince Pies and mulled wine
6pm	Carols by Candlelight - Baptist Church.
Tues 18 <sup>th</sup> 7.30pm	W.I. - Christmas Party - VC Hall.
Sun 23 <sup>rd</sup> 10.30am	Carol Service – Methodist Chapel
Mon 24 <sup>th</sup> 4pm	Family Service for 5 years and under - St Mary's Church
6pm	Family Service for 6 years and older - St Mary's Church
8pm	Christmas Eve Communion - Baptist Church.
11.30pm	Midnight Mass— St Mary's Church??
Tues 25 <sup>th</sup> 10am	Christmas Day Celebration - Baptist Church.
10.30am	Informal Family Communion - St Mary's Church.
Weds 26th 11am	Duck Race. Mulled wine/mince pies in St Mary's

To publicise your event in the 'What's On' column for January-February, please ring 844823 or email d.taffs@btinternet.com by 25th November.

# Letters



## Help Needed

Message: On 20 August my vehicle was parked on Station Road East in Grantham. It was hit by another vehicle and that kind person left a note with their name and contact information. Unfortunately I have misplaced that note and am appealing for this person to contact me again. My mobile telephone number is 07966 531207. All I can remember from the note is that the person lived in Muston.

Jane Mellor, [info@jcma.co.uk](mailto:info@jcma.co.uk)

## Parish Council Notes



### 13 August

Byron Rhodes advised that more crimes are being reported since the introduction of the 101 phone number.

Concerns were expressed about the frequency of litter and dog bins being emptied.

Grey recycling bins are being used for the wrong types of rubbish.

The Three Arch Bridge is to be re built.

Sewer pipes in Bowbridge Lane are to be investigated

### 10 September

Melton Borough Council are to trial a new collection system for food waste.

Bus shelters are still being discussed

## Anti-Social Behaviour - is it here to stay?

Residents of Bottesford may already aware of the mayhem that occurred between 18<sup>th</sup> August to 1<sup>st</sup> September. For this reason a public meeting was held, chaired by Rev. Stuart Foster, with a panel including Parish, Borough and County Council representatives, Neighbourhood Watch and the Police and was attended by around 100 villagers.

This expressed the depth of concern experienced by our community. The police stated there had been 33 incidents reported including throwing paint, stones and drink at houses, fighting, under-age drinking and being drunk and disorderly. With evidence and information received 7 young people were interviewed with their parents. Christine Sheardown, representing Neighbourhood Watch, spoke of her experience during these 2 weeks. She was alarmed how distressed and angry the callers were and how "if this has gone on for two weeks why hasn't it stopped", "why Bottesford is seen as a soft touch", "who will pay for the repairs". She said, "we all have a responsibility; those children involved, their parents in knowing where and what their child is doing, the police in providing an acceptable level of response and we, as a Community, in reporting each and every incident that happens".

It became apparent that anti-social behaviour and alcohol/drug-fuelled problems are a continuing experience. Why are some areas dumping grounds for litter? Why have some lost respect for our Community and those who live in it? Money is not the answer, as we have received grants for the Youth Club and the Skate Board Park, and our youth workers do a magnificent job. Each and every one of us holds a responsibility - we have so much in this village. Let's not destroy it.

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

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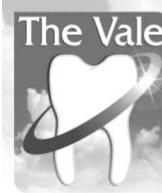
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# Sports News



## Luke Wright

Remember the article featured in the Village Voice Edition 9 back in 2004...."Luke James Wright - a name to remember and one to watch for the future" ?

As a result of injury to Andrew (Freddie) Flintoff, the very same Luke Wright was handed his England debut in the sixth 'Nat West' one-day international cricket match against India at the Oval in September. And what a debut it was – a magnificent 50 and sharing a century stand with Owais Shah who had his own unbeaten knock of 107. It was great to see Luke transfer his exuberant big-hitting county form; sweeping his ninth delivery for six and only nine overs after arriving at the crease he was recording the 200 with his sixth four, which took him into the 40s. Despite India's pulsating two-wicket win with only two balls to spare to level the series 3-3 they were eventually defeated in the seventh and final game by England. Naturally, Luke left the field to a standing ovation – not bad for a local boy making good! Finally, if you can't recollect the article and picture, have a look on the Village Voice archives on the Bottesford Today website at [www.bottesford.org.uk](http://www.bottesford.org.uk)

## Bottesford 'Monday Evening Fellowship Bowling' held their annual competition on the 9<sup>th</sup> September.

The winners were:

Main season's competition

Final night competition

Fancy Dress

Special Award

Noel Carolan, Des Musson and Steve Reek

Sue Fisher, Bob Donger, John Rogan

Robin Hood – Veronica Palmer, Ken Palmer and

Dan Sayer

Dad's Army – Eunice and Ken Greasley



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Deadline for January Issue: 20th Nov  
[www.villagevoice.bottesford.org.uk](http://www.villagevoice.bottesford.org.uk)

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Or: 12 The Paddocks, Bottesford

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## Campaign to Protect Rural England

Today our villages and countryside are facing greater threats than ever before. There are plans for massive housing developments in the next 10 – 20 years and other schemes, such as wind farms, could have a major impact on our countryside. A few people in Bottesford joined the Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) when the scramble-bikers were trying to get the bridleway to Allington opened up for their legal use. The CPRE lobbied Leicestershire CC on this issue. Now there are further threats to our area. If you are interested in joining CPRE and forming a Vale of Belvoir sub-group or would like further information, contact Pete Finch on 842933.

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