

# Village Voice

The newsletter of the villages of Bottesford, Easthorpe, Muston & Normanton May 2008 Issue No. 35

## The Community Heritage Notice Board – what's it all about?



Neil with Michael, Angela and Gillian, on a cold March day!

You will have spotted the smart new notice board erected on the wall of Bottesford Co-op Store a few weeks ago. You may have perused the pictures and articles on it and wondered how it came about.

It is the work of the village's Heritage Lottery-funded Living History Project and was put up with the generous agreement and support of the Co-op. Herbert Daybell is thanked for getting the ball rolling, and the Manager Daran Hewitt and Branch Manager Lisa Buckberry are also thanked for arranging for it to be securely attached to their wall.

The intention is to dip into the Living History project's collection of pictures and stories, with a new display every week or so. We will also announce local charitable events, but cannot display commercial or political material.

It is hoped that village residents will find the board interesting and be reminded to tell us more about past people and events. Please add comments via the 'Message Board' on our website [www.bottesfordhistory.org.uk](http://www.bottesfordhistory.org.uk) or email Neil at [info@bottesfordhistory.org.uk](mailto:info@bottesfordhistory.org.uk).

## Vale of Belvoir and the Wind Turbines

The proposed wind farms near the four villages of the Parish have caused heated debate in recent weeks. Village Voice takes an impartial view of these developments. However, we do feel it is important to present information to enable residents to make their own decisions. A summary of recent activity includes:

### Thackson's Well

The Thackson's Well wind farm proposal was turned down by South Kesteven District Council in March. The company seeking to develop the wind farm, Infinergy, has appealed against this decision. Communities around the proposed site now await the outcome of the appeal.

The Infinergy website states: "We are a wind farm development company committed to renewable energy to help preserve our planet"

### Palmer's Hollow

The company seeking to develop this site is Ridgewind which has applied to erect a temporary mast to measure wind speed and direction, less than a mile north of Bottesford. Documents available on <http://www.grantham-online.co.uk/ppimageupload> show this proposed wind farm could be located approximately 1.5 km east of the village of Bottesford and have up to eight wind turbines.

The **Belvoir Locals Oppose Turbines** (BLOT) group is working to challenge these developments. BLOT website states it 'is not opposed to the development of sources of "clean" or "renewable" energy, nor to offshore wind turbine development. It is opposed to onshore wind farms, particularly in proximity to residential communities, because of their inefficiency and their potential impact on the health and quality of life of those living or working nearby.'

The Bottesford Chat Forum on [www.bottesfordforums.co.uk](http://www.bottesfordforums.co.uk) has an ongoing discussion on the wind turbine issue, and you may read about it also at [www.thacksonswellwindfarm.co.uk](http://www.thacksonswellwindfarm.co.uk), [www.infinergy.co.uk](http://www.infinergy.co.uk), [www.ridgewind.com](http://www.ridgewind.com), and [www.blot-online.org](http://www.blot-online.org).

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## What have you been missing?

Why not go and see what you have been missing out on - and see what your friends and neighbours have been involved in - at Bottesford Community Centre.

A photographic exhibition of work by learners will be held at Bottesford Library in the week starting Saturday May 17<sup>th</sup>, showing students involved in pottery, jewellery making, using beads, and watercolour painting.

The new programme for September is now available. For your copy, please contact the Community Centre on 844199 or email [jhmadgwick@leics.gov.uk](mailto:jhmadgwick@leics.gov.uk)

## Our Chernobyl children will soon be here...

The group of children from Chernobyl will be with us for their second annual visit on 6<sup>th</sup> June. Their month's stay will include attending the Primary School on most days, and you may see them around the village in their free time with their host families.

Although only here for a month, this amount of time gives their immune systems a boost and helps them to combat the adverse affects of the contaminated food and air in their home town of Belarus. It also gives them wonderful memories to last until their next visit.

It takes a lot of time and effort to fund and arrange their visits to the Vale. If you would like to help in any way please call either Anne on 842259 or Helen on 844072.

## It's Playtime!

With the advent of a new Parish Council last May, it was decided to look at re-vamping the children's play areas in the village. Late last year Jane Davey, whose job title is Bottesford Neighbourhood Community Builder, told the Parish Council that she had successfully applied to the Local Network Fund of Leicester and Rutland Community Foundation for a grant of £7,000 towards new play equipment - but that it had to be spent by the end of January!



It was decided to purchase the Junior Commando Bridge (Walford Close) and the Spiral Spinning Top (Grantham Road), which have now been installed. As a change from the normal bark chippings there is a more environmentally-friendly play sand surface which has the same fall resistance properties, but with an added play value to the younger children. The Parish Council see this as the first step in the renovation of the play areas and will be holding an exhibition of ideas in the near future to ask parents and children what type of equipment they would like to see in the village.

The Parish Council would like to thank Jane Davey and the Leicester and Rutland Community Foundation for their help in improving the play facilities in the village.

## Success For Bottesford Ballet Dancer!

On Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February, Bottesford's Emily Griffith attended an audition with more than 100 other 12-18 year old hopefuls at the Royal Concert Hall in Nottingham for a chance to dance with the English Youth Ballet. After a two hour dance class Emily was delighted to hear she had been successful!

She will train with the English Youth Ballet in July and after all the hard work and dedication, will appear in three performances of Giselle at The Royal Concert Hall on 1st and 2nd August.

Emily, a former pupil of Bottesford Primary and Belvoir High School now attends Walton Girls' High School and has been dancing since the age of four. She attends tap, modern, and ballet classes at The Welland School of Dancing in Stamford and has been a member of The Rosie May Dance Academy for two years where she enjoys being taught routines by West End dancers. She recently secured a place with The Lincolnshire Dance Academy, a group established to help develop talented local dancers.



## Melton and the Vale Schools -

### Reorganisation News

New classrooms will be built at both Bottesford Primary School and Belvoir High School as part of the £35m project to reorganise educational provision in Melton and the Vale.

In order to keep people informed of developments, Leicestershire County Council has produced a glossy newsletter 'Partnership News' and copies are available in Bottesford library. It also has a page on the County Council's web site [www.leics.gov.uk/meltonvob](http://www.leics.gov.uk/meltonvob).

### Primary School News

To add to its already green credentials - having been awarded the International Eco Schools Green Flag, last year - the Primary School is to have roof-top solar panels. These are being funded through the Co-operative Group's Green Energy for Schools Scheme. The Government is also contributing through its Low Carbon Building Programme.

Head Teacher Louise McGrory said that this technology will add to the children's learning and understanding of environmental issues. They will be able to see a screen displaying how much energy is being generated and how much less carbon dioxide is being created.

We have reported previously in Village Voice the Primary School's dedication to the environment. Amongst other activities, it has an Eco club dealing with everything to do with green issues including having a wild garden (constructed with adult help). It is one of the first schools in the Vale to run a 'healthy' tuck-shop.

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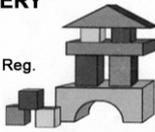
  
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## Talking Newspaper

Village Voice is pleased to have been able to give a donation to the Grantham and District Talking Newspaper, now in its 25<sup>th</sup> year. Mrs Pat Honey, until recently a reader for the organisation, tells us that they operate on Friday mornings, when the Grantham Journal is scoured for interesting articles. These are read onto a tape which is replicated and distributed - at no cost thanks to Royal Mail - to registered listeners.

Talking Newspapers are a success, thanks to the hard work of volunteers and the kindness of fundraising organisations such as The Lions. It receives no public grants.

For information about receiving the Talking Newspaper, becoming a reader or giving a donation, please call 07786 120826 (Fridays only).

## Meet the authors...

### The Bottesford Living History Drama Event.

On Sunday May 4th the Bottesford Living History (BLH) group will recreate and capture some of the atmosphere of Bottesford in the Fifties. This original drama event has been put together by a writing team led by Julia Tobin. Julia sought out an enthusiastic and creative group of writers; David McCormack and Sue Mackrell



from Hinckley and Bottesford writer Val Woolley, to develop a number of plays based on original tales of old Bottesford.

The team was keen to bring the legend of Laurel and Hardy back to Bottesford within their plays, and thanks to David's witty "A Fine Mess at the Bull" they have achieved that. Sue's inspired "Tales and Ales" celebrates one of Bottesford's own celebrities

Julia with Sue Mackrell, David McCormack and Val Woolley (l - r)

and Val's play, "The Cricket Team", is evocative of Bottesford in the early fifties and is a great dramatic vehicle for the young actors in the cast. The productions include a scene with Head Teacher Mr Dewey placing a sixpence on the cricket stump as an incentive for the boys to bowl each other out, the schoolgirls' skipping rope stretched across the Grantham Road (unthinkable now!) and Laurel and Hardy standing in the box window of the Bull Inn. Bottesford in 2008 is a different world to how it was in 1952 and without the transcriptions of the oral history interviews these plays could not have been written.

The title "A Grand Day Out or Mr Dewey Takes Charge" was given to us by Neil Fortey and the pamphlet is testimony to the design skills of Bob Sparham. BLH looks forward to seeing you at 2pm on May 4th, at the original Bottesford Church of England School, in the Fuller Room.

## One of 'The Few'

*One of 'The Few'*, written by John Shipman, features the experiences of his father, local man Ted Shipman (Wing Commander, RAF), and Hans Kettling (Luftwaffe) during World War II, and includes the activities of RAF 41 Squadron, and air battles over the UK. It is available from the publishers, 'Pen and Sword', or by contacting the author by email: [j.m.shipman@ntlworld.com](mailto:j.m.shipman@ntlworld.com)

You can get more information at the website [www.bottesfordhistory.org.uk](http://www.bottesfordhistory.org.uk) and the link to 'New publications about Bottesford people'.

# SPOTLIGHT ON...

## Bottesford Gala Committee

This year will be the 30<sup>th</sup> Bottesford May Day Gala and the Gala Committee has been working tirelessly since last year to ensure that it is a success. The committee aims to secure a more permanent Gala through a programme of fund-raising events throughout the year, including the very splendid New Year's Ball. Applications were also made for grants from the National Lottery 'Awards for All' for £4,570 and Melton Borough Council for £500, and both were successful. The money has been used to purchase vital safety and security equipment in addition to much needed storage facilities. The committee is formed from representatives of the Vale of Belvoir Lions, Friends of the Primary School, Village Hall Committee, Bottesford Football Club, St Mary's Parochial Church Council and Friends of Chernobyl's Children. The goal of the group is to increase community spirit, for which they all work hard and share their infectious enthusiasm and 'can-do' attitude. They would welcome any support and ideas for future events and are aiming to build on the recent revival and success with an opportunity for local organisations and charities to raise much needed funds. If you want any more information, contact this year's Chair of the Committee, Phil Salathiel on 843034.



Pictured are some of the committee. Left to right: Frances Stapleton, Kathryn Hinsliff-Smith, Marilyn Robinson, John Ronan, Dawn Roberts, Phil Salathiel and Martin Roberts. Not able to be present: Anne Ablewhite and Norman Robinson.

## VV meets BBC

On 21st February, the Village Voice committee, plus a few of our volunteer distributors, were shown round the BBC in Nottingham. It was a truly memorable evening and we all learned a lot about how both TV and radio news is put together. We went round the whole building including the TV and radio studios and the editing suite and were introduced to several of the presenters including Des the new weatherman.

We were all made to feel very welcome and encouraged to let the BBC know of any local news stories that we would like them to cover, so we told them about the May Day Gala (above). They are happy to receive information from anyone, so if you have any ideas you should call the EMT forward planning desk on 0115 9021930 or email: [emt@bbc.co.uk](mailto:emt@bbc.co.uk) with the details.

If your group would like to go on a tour please contact them by email at [emt@bbc.co.uk](mailto:emt@bbc.co.uk) or by writing to BBC East Midlands Today, Broadcasting Centre, London Road, Nottingham, NG2 4UU, to see when they can accommodate you. Tours take place on a Thursday evening for parties of 10 to 14 people, but the occasions are limited by operational needs so you must book.



Village Voice team rather fancy themselves in Dominic and Anne's EMT studio

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## What's On in May...

Sat 3rd 10am – 4pm	VOBAS Art exhibition - Methodist Chapel. Art by local talent in variety of media. Refreshments, lunches, cream teas. Contact Glenda Gibson 845106.
Sun 4th 2 – 4pm	
Mon 5th 10am - 4pm	
Sat 3rd 5pm - 9pm	Family Disco - VC Hall. Games, Activities, BBQ, Bar, etc. Adults £5, Children £1, Family £10 (2 adults + family children).
Sun 4th morning	Friends of Chernobyl's Children Fun Run around Bottesford. Registration 8am – 9.45am. Race starts 10am. All age groups welcome. Meet at Village Hall field.
Sun 4th 2pm	Bottesford Living History Drama Event. "Mr Dewey Takes Charge" starting at Fuller Rooms. Admission free. Contacts: Neil Fortey (843320), Jules Tobin (844323).
Sun 4th 10am - 5pm	Dance for Rosie May 2008. Belvoir High School. Spectators welcome, £2 admission.
Sun 4th & Mon 5th 10 am to 4.30pm	Art Exhibition Kinoulton Village Hall in aid of St Luke's Church Tower Repairs Fund. Details from 81563.
Mon 5th 10.30 - 5pm	<b>Gala</b> – VC Hall and on the field, 40+ stalls incl. FOCC Skittles & Cake Stalls. Entry & lucky prize programme £1/adult. Parade of Floats midday High St.
Mon 5th 10am – 4pm	St Mary's Church - Book signings by historian Michael Honeybone. Refreshments & cake stall. Tours of decorated historic church. Tower tours hourly. Bookings with Judith Wells 842859. Teddy Bears parachuting from the tower.
Thurs 8th 7.30pm	Local History Society. "Bess of Hardwick" – Margaret Harrison. Fuller Room.
Mon 12th 7.15pm	Parish Council meeting. Fuller Rooms. Residents are welcome as observers and for 15 minutes at the start may address the council with concerns or questions.
Tues 13th 2pm	U3A "Life on a Mixed Farm" - Juliet Hawley. VC Hall.
Weds 14th 12.45pm	Health Walk, meet outside Welby Practice, Walford Close. See posters in surgeries for details. All welcome.
Weds 14th 7pm	Annual Fashion Show for Friends of Chernobyl's Children by The Edinburgh Woollen Mill at The Baptist Church, Queen St. Plus Cake Stall. £3 admission. If you need help getting there, please call 842259.
Sun 18th 1.30 – 4.30pm	Dove Cottage Eleventh Annual Summer Fete. Shows, drama, dance, stalls, refreshments. Admission £2 per car.
Sun 18th 2.30pm	East Midland Orchid Society. 'Coelognes' - Malcolm Perry. Non-members welcome.
Tues 20th 7.30pm	W.I. Resolutions. Mrs Wilma Callaghan - VC Hall.

## And in June...

Mon 9th 7.15pm	Parish Council meeting. Fuller Rooms. Residents are welcome as observers and for 15 minutes at the start may address the council with concerns or questions.
Tues 10th 2pm	U3A "The National Trust (Gunby Hall)" – Colin Deeley. VC Hall
Weds 11th 12.45pm	Health Walk, for details see 14 <sup>th</sup> May. All welcome.
Thurs 12th	Local History Society - Annual Summer Outing.
Fri 13th to 22nd	Stathern Festival see www.stathernfestival.co.uk
Sat 14th & 15th	Scarecrow Event. Details: Primary School 842224.
Tues 17th 7.30pm	W.I. "The Crown Prosecution Service", Mrs M Wilson. VC Hall.
Sun 22nd 2.30pm	East Midland Orchid Society VC Hall. "Hydroponics" Justin Morgon Davis. Non-members welcome.
Tues 24th 7.30pm	Village Hall AGM – in the meeting room. <b>All welcome.</b>

And on **July 5th & 6th**, Open Gardens for The Lions. Show off the fruits of your labours for charity. Please contact Veronica Palmer 843265.

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

**To publicise your event** in the 'What's On' column for July and August, please ring 844823 or email d.taffs@btinternet.com by 25th May.

## Parish Council Notes



### Meeting Notes - 10th March

Four possible sites for affordable housing have been identified by the Housing Association and Melton Borough Council.

The bus shelter issue has not progressed following feedback from Leicestershire Highways.

The Council will pay the insurance on the skateboard park for 08/09 as a one-off payment.

It has also made a donation to the Scout Hut, towards refurbishment.

### Parish Council Warms-up the Fuller Room

The Parish Council is proposing to carry out a much needed refurbishment and renovation of the meeting room and kitchen. The room (next to the library and youth club) is used by a number of different societies and clubs as well as for regular Parish Council meetings.

It is proposed to put in a false ceiling – thereby conserving heat and helping with the acoustics. The kitchen will have a damp course put in and will have some floor insulation and a new covering. The kitchen will also benefit from new units, electric sockets, an oven and a new boiler.

## Police Corner

### Voice Your Views on Local Policing

The Leicestershire Police Authority is looking for volunteers to join their consultation panel. The Authority is an independent body which represents the community. It is not the police service and has no operational role. In partnership with the Chief Constable, it aims to ensure that an efficient and effective policing service is available to all of the citizens of Leicestershire.

If you would like to volunteer for the panel ring 0116 229 8980 or email [police.authority@leicestershire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:police.authority@leicestershire.pnn.police.uk)

The web site is [www.leics-pa.police.uk](http://www.leics-pa.police.uk)

### No Cold Calling

A No Cold Calling zone is an area where uninvited callers are discouraged. These areas have street signs and signs by residents' doors. It needs every resident in the zone to give their support.

How does a Cold Call zone get started? The police or Neighbourhood Watch representative will call on every house to speak to the residents and see if they are keen to be included in the 'zone'. If they are, they will then be given a pack which includes window stickers, information leaflets and contact telephone numbers. The neighbourhood of School View, Silverwood Road, Granby Drive and Hands Walk has already set up its zone, and fourteen other streets across the village have followed.

If you support the idea and want to help establish it in your street, please contact your NHW street coordinator or Brian Kelk on 842241.

## Good Eggs on Bikes

Bottesford has again hosted the annual Motorbike Easter Egg Run. 458 bikers from all around the area set off from the Red Lion with their presents of Easter Eggs for delivery to several children's homes in the Grantham area.

This tradition was started over fifteen years ago by the Triumph Owners Club, and the bikers will be back again for the Father Christmas Run in December.

## Dogs on Leads, Please!

With the better weather comes the opportunity to take your dogs for lovely long walks in our countryside. But please remember that your dog should be on a lead if you are in, or near, a field where sheep are grazing. Dogs can kill lambs and sheep and cause sheep to abort.

Remember:

- You are responsible for your dog's behaviour.
- A farmer can shoot your dog if it is out of control while it is close to sheep.

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# Sports News



## Cricket

Bottesford Cricket Club is looking forward to the new season starting in April. The club is expanding its youth section and would be pleased to hear from young cricketers interested in playing this year. They will be running three teams; a 'kwik cricket' side for Under 11s (up to year 6) playing on Sunday mornings, and Under 11 and Under 13 (year 8) hard ball teams playing midweek evenings.

Anyone interested should contact Keith Wright (U13s - 843775) or Ian Seymour (U11s - 844094) for more details.

## Football

At the start of the 2007/2008 season a decision was made that the Bottesford U15s and U16s would combine and play competitive league football at an U16 level. Albeit slightly disadvantaged because of older and slightly more experienced players to be found in opposing teams, Bottesford was not in the business of rolling over and lying down.

As a result of their enthusiastic management team, Simon Hampson (Manager), Phil Tonge and Ian Mutch (Assistants), the U16s have acquitted themselves well throughout. The team's endeavours and continuing battling efforts were duly rewarded by a place in the Grantham Football League Knock Out Cup Final. Held at the Meres Stadium, Grantham, against Harrowby United Junior FC, expectations and confidence was high amongst the players and a large travelling contingent of parents, supporters and friends provided welcome vocal support.

Alas, the fairy tale ending was not quite achieved on the evening, where some defensive and midfield frailties were cruelly exposed, which ended in a flattering 5-2 score line to Harrowby. The team has achieved a great deal in a very short time and has continued to show improvements.



Many of the team will be eligible to play again next season at this level, which augurs well for the future. They will all be ready for new challenges and, hopefully, new successes. Well done to everyone concerned!

## Tribal Fun at Easter

The weather at Easter may have been cool, but thanks to Melton Borough Council (MBC) funding extra activities for those not at school for two weeks, there was certainly plenty to do.

### Village Voice Contact information

#### Advertising:

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#### Editorial:

Dilys Shepherd on 843505 or  
Susan Meech on 843402

Deadline for July/Aug Issue: 25th May  
[www.villagevoice.bottesford.org.uk](http://www.villagevoice.bottesford.org.uk)

E mail: [vv@bottesford.org.uk](mailto:vv@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.

Events included a great day of competitive Skate boarding, BMX riding and rollerblading at the Bottesford Skatepark in partnership with Tribe Enterprises.

There was a free disco in Melton, with transport laid on from Bottesford, and some additional Youth Club evenings. Belvoir High School was also involved, with a 'climbing wall' event.

Melton Youth Services is planning more events for the May school holidays between 26th and 30th May, so make sure you look out for more information or call George Simpson of MBC on 01664 502405 to find out what's happening and when.

Vale of Belvoir

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