

Village Voice

The newsletter of the villages of Bottesford, Easthorpe, Muston & Normanton September 2008 Issue No. 37

A Prestigious Award for the Living History Community Heritage Project



Each year, the Nationwide Building Society makes awards to "individuals and groups who give their time and energy to ... the community". This year, the Bottesford Living History Community Heritage Project has been selected as East Midlands regional winner in the Heritage-Groups category for 2008.

Neil Fortey said "This is an unexpected and most welcome accolade, and we wish to thank those who were so generous as to nominate us. The project is made up of a group of people who all give their time as volunteers. None are professional historians. They all deserve to be thanked and congratulated for their patient work. We also want to say thanks to all the people who have given us their knowledge and memories, copies of photos and other heirlooms, and their enthusiasm, support and guidance. Without your participation the project would have sunk without trace. As it is, we have come a long way in

less than two years, and hope we are succeeding in giving a bit of pleasure as well as adding something to the local history of the East Midlands."

The award was presented to Neil and some of the hardworking team on the 29th July at the Galleries of Justice in Nottingham. The picture shows (L to R) Barbara Pizzey (project secretary), Neil Fortey (project coordinator) and Dorothy Baines (project treasurer).



Open Gardens

Despite the vagaries of the British weather the Vale of Belvoir Lions Club held an Open Gardens event over the weekend of 5th & 6th July 2008 – with 14 gardens 'open' in Bottesford and Easthorpe. The weather conditions over the two days contributed to a lower turnout than expected, however those hardy souls - complete with waterproofs and brollies - were delighted at the results achieved by those individuals who had worked so hard to present their gardens at their best. Without them this fund-raising event could not have taken place. An excellent sum of over £500 was raised which will support the on-going **Lions Clubs International** appeal 'Campaign SightFirst II Day' in addition to the Lions' Laser appeal for Newark Hospital.

In keeping with the theme of eliminating causes of blindness one garden gave the opportunity to experience it from a blind person's perspective. Visitors were given the option of being blindfolded, led through the garden and then enjoying it fully with sight 'restored'.

For more information on the Lions' 'Campaign SightFirst II' see http://www.lionsmd105.org/NewsEvents/MediaReleases/Lions_Clubs_Media_Archive_2008/Lions_Clubs_Campaign_SightFirst_CSFII.htm



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Edward Halliday
with the village
Voice Trophy

High School Awards

This year's Village Voice Annual Award for Speaking and Listening was won by Edward Halliday. He was chosen by the English Department for his work in class and also for taking a leading role as 'Buttons' in the school's production of Cinderella. This year's guest speaker was Sean Lamont, international Rugby Player who plays for Scotland, and is a former Belvoir High School pupil.



l-r: Mr Sherwin (Headteacher),
Credit Cup winner Hannah Tomkins,
Pupil of the Year 2008 Ryan Hutchinson,
and Sean Lamont.

Primary School Awards

This year the school has had two Year 5 classes, so because there were more children entering the competition, we decided to award a 1st and 2nd prize and two highly commended to both classes. The children went on an overnight 'residential' and they were asked to write a persuasive letter describing the things they had liked most about Beaumanor House. Most of them recommended the food, in particular sausages and chocolate cake! It was all new and exciting as was the novelty of sleeping in a dormitory.



Above, 1st Prize Winners, and
below, 2nd Prize Winners

As usual, picking winners was very difficult. First in CS class was Emily Sewell, and second Abigail Innocent, and in AL class, first, Holly Young and second, Elizabeth Jones. Highly commended were (l-r): Peter Mumford, Ephraim Morton, Christina Palmer, and Brodie Evans-Snow.



Pupils Take Part in Special Concert.

Pupils from the Primary School took part in a special summer concert in St Mary's church on 6th July, when they joined members of Sinfonia Chorale. The programme included songs about the weather, then the children and the Chorale together performed Captain Noah and his Floating Zoo. The children had produced pictures illustrating the story which were displayed around the church. Mrs Liz Mills and Mrs Elizabeth Harris prepared the children for the concert. They sang extremely well.

Please look at the adverts

With this edition of the Village Voice we are starting a new year and if you read through the adverts you will notice that some of them have changed.

The majority are from local people and we hope that you will consider them when you need the services they offer.

The adverts pay for the printing of the Village Voice, so everything that we can do to keep local people working is a bonus.

Societies and groups are invited to 'Showcase' their activities at a special regional event on Saturday 27th September at the Salvation Army Centre, Ladysmith Road, off Saffron Road, South Wigston, LE18 4UZ. There will be representatives of clubs and societies from all over the county showing how they have helped their local community. It will be a fantastic venue for your club to receive recognition for the work that you do and could highlight your club for training and funding opportunities! An attendance allowance and reimbursement of travel costs is on offer. Please contact Elaine Underwood, Rural Development Worker, Voluntary Action Melton, 01664 485307.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Ruby and Leslie Calcraft who celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary (60th) on June 19th. They had an 'open house' party for family and friends and instead of presents, requested donations to the Air Ambulance service which raised £300. Richard, the postman, duly arrived with a card from the Queen. Ruby and Leslie were married in Muston Church in 1948 when clothing coupons were needed to buy new clothes. So a dress to be worn only once was out of the question, and Ruby used hers to buy a blue dress and hat that she could use again, and afterwards they went by train to Scarborough for their honeymoon. Leslie worked on the land much of his life, but latterly as a gardener and handyman until retirement. His hobbies have been cricket and fishing. Ruby had worked in a bank, but as was typical for many women at the



time, had to 'retire' on marriage. She has had many jobs since, including working for Skinner's Butchers, for egg producers collecting, washing and packing, and also potato picking, and of course, has brought up her family. As she said, you had to take any work you could get. Ruby is an accomplished needlewoman and knitter, and until recently a keen gardener. Ruby and Leslie have two daughters, one son, four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren, spread between the Isle of Wight and Scotland.

Bottesford woman becomes Professor of Education



Frances Gordon, elder daughter of Gerald and Annie Norris, has been appointed Professor of Interprofessional Education at Sheffield Hallam University. On 25th June she delivered her inaugural lecture to an audience of family, friends, colleagues and other visitors.

Frances was brought up in Bottesford and after school at Belvoir High School and Melton, went on to qualify as a nurse at Leicester Royal Infirmary. She relocated to Aberdeen where she became a lecturer in nursing and gained a master's degree and PhD. She has worked in Africa, London and now Sheffield, where she teaches students from all health professions to work collaboratively with each other, with the aim of improving the quality of care people receive in health and social services. Congratulations on your great success, Frances!

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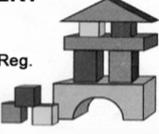
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Scarecrows in the Vale

The 6th year of the Scarecrow Festival was held in June and this year's theme was Fathers. Judges were the Rev. Richard Lane, Phil Salathial of the Vale of Belvoir Lions and Louise McGrory of the Primary School. There were 33 entries from Bottesford, Normanton, Muston and Easthorpe with the winner being Little Jacks Farm and Nursery. (Photos courtesy of Bottesford Today)

The day's event made £1,800, with £300 being donated by the Vale of Belvoir Lions. All of the money raised is going towards new playground equipment at the Primary School which will be installed over the summer holidays.



The judges with some of the contestants

Bottesford Local History Summer Outings

This year's outing was to Whisby Nature Reserve and Doddington Hall and Gardens, near Lincoln. To help us fill the coach, members of Long Bennington Local History Society were invited to come along, and we had a reciprocal arrangement to support their outing to Tissington Hall in Derbyshire. Both visits were to private historic houses which are also family homes, and they arranged tours exclusively for us. Both houses have beautiful gardens and are well worth a visit. BLHS's next meeting is in the Fuller Rooms on Thursday September 11th - new members most welcome - just turn up! See 'What's On'.

Stop Press:

The '55' bus service: Village Voice has been told this service may be changing soon. If you use it, and want to find out more, call Nottingham County Council Transport Manager on 0115 9340706.



SPOTLIGHT ON...



Who or what is BLOT?

BLOT - 'Belvoir Locals Oppose Turbines' - is a group of people from villages within the Vale of Belvoir that was formed in 2007 in response to a planning application for wind turbines to be sited in the Bottesford/Normanton/Long Bennington area. Its supporters have specialist knowledge in engineering, health, education, wildlife, ornithology, history, and farming.

BLOT spokesman Peter Caswell says "BLOT is opposed to on-shore industrial wind farms 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. BLOT is **not** opposed to the development of clean or renewable energy resources, nor is it opposed to off-shore wind turbine development." Peter added "The group was triggered into action after attending a local 'Road Show' - the information that was provided bore no resemblance to what we have found out independently."

Collecting and disseminating information, printing leaflets, organizing meetings, and above all, funding the professional help needed to oppose planning applications, costs thousands of pounds.

"If 800 supporters were able to donate £50 each we would achieve our fighting fund target. That is the size of the problem", said Blot spokesman Peter Caswell. For more information see BLOT's website www.blot-online.org or send donations payable to BLOT, P.O. Box 9425, Grantham, NG31 0DR.

For more information on Infinergy and Ridgewind see their websites www.infinergy.co.uk and www.ridgewind.com



Glynn Marshall (1933 - 2008)



We are sad to report the death on 19th May of our cartoonist, Glynn. Though he lived in Grantham he was an active member of the Vale of Belvoir U3A, and was equally at home in Bottesford where he had many friends. Glynn was a talented cartoonist all his life and he made contributions over the years to Village Voice, like the one above of the Scarecrow Festival in 2005. Unfortunately he was not able to continue as he was ill for the last two years. He is sadly missed and we send our condolences to his wife Sheila and two sons, John and Craig, and five granddaughters.

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What's On in September..

Fri 5 th 10-10.30am	Wiggly Readers at Bottesford Library. Babes to young children; songs, rhymes, stories.
Sat 6 th 7 for 7.30pm	Belvoir High School 50 th Anniversary Gala Ball.
Mon 8 th 7.15pm	Parish Council meeting. Old School, Muston. Residents may question the council and make comments prior to the Parish Council meeting.
Tues 9 th 2pm	U3A; 'Privies Past & Present' – Speaker, Joyce Lucas. VC Hall
Weds 10 th 12.45pm for 1.00pm	Health Walk, meet outside Welby Practice, Walford Close. See posters in surgeries for details. All welcome.
Thurs 11 th 7.30pm	Bottesford Local History Society - AGM - Fuller Rooms - followed by a short talk by Neil Fortey on the progress of the Living History Community Project.
Sat 13 th 2.30pm	Bottesford & District Gardens Association. VC Hall. 31 st Annual Horticultural Open Show. If you would like to join, call Hugh Spencer, Secretary, 844234
Tues 16 th 7.30pm	W.I. 'Antiques and all you need to know' – Speaker Colin Young VC Hall.
Weds 17 th 7.30pm & weekly throughout the winter.	Bottesford Bowls Club. Whist Drive £1.50 incl refreshments. Everyone most welcome including new players. For further information contact Ray Smart on 07902837498.
Fri 19 th 7.00pm for 7.30pm start	Annual Brains of Belvoir Quiz organised by Vale of Belvoir Lions Club, in the Village Hall. Registration fee includes Supper. Interested, then pre-register your team of 6 by contacting Lions John Ronan on 842773 or Phil Salathiel on 843034. Watch out locally for posters with further details.
Sat 20 th 10.30am	Jumble Sale by Friends of Bottesford Primary School. Admission 50p. Refreshments available. Any donations can be left at the school reception from 2nd September. Un-sold items will be donated to Gifts Hospice
Sat 20 th 1.30pm	Dove Cottage Day Hospice - Auction (Viewing 12 Noon). All donations welcome during the week, please phone 860303 first. Bid for a bargain. Refreshments available while you view and during the sale.
Sat 20 th 6-11pm	FOCC Family Ho-Down at the Village Hall – VC Hall.
Sun 21 st 2 – 5pm	Open Garden Day for The Red Cross. The Homestead, Normanton. £3.00 (children free). Refreshments, plants for sale.
Sun 21 st 2.30pm	East Midlands Orchid Society AGM. VC Hall. Plant auction. New members welcome. Refreshments. Phone Mike Armstrong, 842668.
Sat 27 th 10.30 – 4.30pm	East Midlands Orchid Society Annual Show at Lowdham Village Hall. Admission £2.00 (£1.50 concessions, children free)

And in October..

Thurs 2 nd 1.30 to 3pm	Dove Cottage Day Hospice – SOS Clothes & Phoenix Cards Sale – Respected brands. Admission £2 includes refreshments.
Fri 3 rd 10-10.30am	Wiggly Readers at Bottesford Library. Babes to young children; songs, rhymes, stories. 01949 842696
Sat 4 th 10.30 – 12.00	Coffee and Cake Morning - with Jumble Sale - at Bottesford Bowls Club. Entrance £1. Further details please contact Sue Fisher, 842656 .
Sat 4 th 7pm for 7.30pm	Auction of Promises - Friends of Bottesford Primary School VC Hall, when over 40 promises will be sold. Tickets £5 per person which includes a Ploughman's supper. Licensed bar. Please contact Kathryn Hinsliff-Smith on 842333 or Donna Roberts on 07525 064 033 if you can help.
Weds 8 th 12.45pm for 1.00pm	Health Walk, meet outside Welby Practice, Walford Close. See posters in surgeries for details. All welcome.
Thurs 9 th 7.30pm	Local History Society – 'Dear Diary' - Speaker: Rowena Edlin-White
Sat 11 th to 18 th 10am - 6pm	Family History and Photographic Exhibition, St Peter's Church, Barkestone-le-Vale
Tues 14 th 2pm	U3A, 'The Real Queen Mother' – Speaker, Jean Townsend – VC Hall
Mon 13 th 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.
Sun 19 th 2.30pm	East Midlands Orchid Society, VC Hall. Speaker Robert Hawksworth 'Nature Photography'. Visitors welcome. Contact Mike Armstrong - 842668
Tues 21 st 7.30pm	W.I. - Edinburgh Woollen Mill – Fashion Show – VC Hall

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

To publicise your event in the 'What's On' column for November/December, please ring 844823 or email d.taffs@btinternet.com by 28th September.

Parish Council Notes



14 July

- The council will be sending out letters asking residents to trim back overhanging branches.
- The council is still exploring the issue of bus shelter(s).
- Discussion took place about reserves and how they could be spent.
- The council is considering dispensing with minutes and forms on paper.
- The council is looking to improve communication with residents.

In our last issue we promised you more information on 'Three Anniversaries in 2008'...

- Belvoir High School 50th birthday in 2008/2009.
- the opening of the Sports Hall in June 1973.
- Work on the Bottesford By-pass commenced in 1988.



Originally Belvoir High School did not have accommodation for indoor sports. When Alan Reed became head teacher in 1968 his first project was the building of a Sports Hall. With money raised by parents, public subscription, the Local Education Authority and events such as a sponsored walk - which raised £500 - the Sports Hall was built and on 16th June 1973, the Laurie Dewey Sports Hall was opened by his wife, Mrs J. Dewey.



The ceremony was attended by 1,000 people in the hall and 1,500 outside listening to the public address system. The hall was 'warmed' with displays of judo, fencing, trampolining and table tennis. Since then, the Sports Hall has been an asset to the school and to the wider community of Bottesford.



(Photographs courtesy of The Grantham Journal)

Work on the Bottesford By-pass finally began in 1988, having been first suggested in the 1920s. In 1927, traffic noise affected teaching at the old school and in 1948, crossing the A52 to reach the school dining hall in Queen Street was difficult. In 1967, a letter was written to the Grantham Journal saying that 'Bottesford was a terrifying and hair-raising Silverstone circuit.'

By the late '70s and early '80s Bottesford had become a notorious bottle-neck on the A52 with over 6,000 vehicles a day passing through the village. This finally led to 'official' plans for a by-pass when the Ministry of Transport held a public exhibition giving details of route proposals in 1983. After much lively local and national debate a public enquiry took place in April 1986 and the construction of the by-pass finally commenced in the summer of 1988.

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Sports News



Bottesford Junior Badminton Club tournament

The 8 - 12 year old category competed in a Badminton Festival including a variety of activities covering skills and drills on different courts. Congratulations to winner Rosie Booth and runner up Ben Holt.

The 13-16 age group was run with two group leagues. Congratulations to the two finalists who are shown in the photograph, runner-up Chris Tongue and now six time winner Luke Bennett.



Anyone for badminton?

With the Junior Club going from strength to strength, Mike Bennett is compiling a list for an adult beginners' group.

If you are interested in joining, please contact him on 843041.

Congratulations

Bottesford football coach Ian Seymour has recently achieved his Level Three in Coaching Football. (UEFA B Licence in coaching) This a fantastic achievement and has only been possible through many hours of hard work. Bottesford football club is striving to provide the best possible opportunities for the local youngsters and Ian's qualification will give the whole club a huge boost.

Winning events at Bottesford Bowls Club

The annual gala day attracted players and teams from across the region. The knock-out competition, saw teams of three compete throughout the day. Champions were club members Ivan Wakefield, Brian Garton and Brian Palmer

Another prestigious event took place on 27 July, when the Nottingham County Bowls Association invited clubs from the area to play against the Bottesford side. Bottesford were victorious! Bottesford Bowls Club is always looking to welcome new members, either as players or just in a social capacity. For more details call Pauline Palmer on 842212 or Bernard Hawes on 843206. Alternatively call in at the club's coffee morning on the first Saturday of the month.

Village Voice

Contact information

Advertising:

Anne Ablewhite on 842259

Editorial:

Dilys Shepherd on 843505 or Susan Meech on 843402

Deadline for Issue 38: 23rd September

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MICK MARKHAM

Gardens maintained, Grass mowed
Fencing, hedges & trees cut

Tel: 01949 842630