



# Village Voice

The newsletter of the villages of Bottesford, Easthorpe, Muston & Normanton. January 2009 Issue No. 39



## Geoff Capes Entertains the W. I.

Geoff Capes, international athlete, celebrity 'Strong Man', magistrate, and President of the Budgerigar Society, was the guest speaker at the November meeting of the Bottesford Women's Institute. In a talk full of anecdotes, he spoke of his first encounter with athletics at the age of six. By the age of 15 he had become a junior international shot-putter.

Geoff retired from competitive athletics in 1980 with 67 international caps and a U.K and Commonwealth record shot-putt of 71 feet 3½ inches. On turning professional he entered 'Strong Man' competitions and Highland Games. Geoff is now a Sports Science lecturer and national coach at Loughborough University, in charge of the British shot put squad. He also heads the Lincolnshire Throws Academy at Boston.

Geoff emphasised that he liked to do 'fun things' such as Strong Man competitions and advertisements - he once 'broke' 10 VW cars! As well as advertising, he has appeared in a variety of TV programmes and is due to appear in 'Celebrity Ready Steady Cook' competing against Henry Cooper. Geoff's talk revealed how much he appreciated the opportunities that have allowed him to use his sporting talent, and the humour in his presentation was very well received.

**Geoff Capes with WI member Margaret Taylor**

## The Wind Turbines

The Planning Inspectorate has turned down the appeal by Infinergy. The full Appeal Decision can be read on [www.blot-online.org/images/stories/appealdecision.pdf](http://www.blot-online.org/images/stories/appealdecision.pdf). The BLOT (Belvoir Locals Oppose Turbines) website [www.blot-online.org](http://www.blot-online.org) continues to provide information on this issue as they may still have to oppose the building of further turbines now that Ridgewind has decided to submit a planning application.

## Our Rail and Bus Services:

- Did you know East Midlands Trains were planning cuts to our rail service?  
Bottesford commuters did not take this lying down! Following a meeting between passengers, local councillors and directors from East Midlands Trains, the latter announced that they had decided to reinstate both of the cancelled evening rail services from Nottingham to Bottesford, acknowledging they had made a mistake in cancelling them in the first place, and that the effective campaigning by Bottesford people had made them reverse their decision.  
Bottesford commuters are now looking at what they need to do to ensure Bottesford has better representation at future consultations. For more information check [www.keepstoppingourtrains.co.uk](http://www.keepstoppingourtrains.co.uk), or contact Andy McDonald on [andy.mcdonald@live.co.uk](mailto:andy.mcdonald@live.co.uk), or 07971 749708, if you wish to help the campaign.
- There is now a bus service between Bottesford and Nottingham, the Number 55.



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Weds Village Hall 7.15pm to 8.45pm  
Fridays Village Hall 9.30am to 11.00am  
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**Enquiries: Ann 0115 9118905**

## Alex Robertson – Poppy Appeal Organizer

For the last ten years Alex Robertson has been the Poppy Appeal Organizer for Bottesford.

The son of a soldier, his roots led him to joining his school's cadet corps and then the army where he was commissioned and served with the SAS in France, Germany, and Norway, during the war, alongside Lord John Manners, the present Duke of Rutland's uncle. He was demobbed in 1947 and then made a career in banking until retirement in 1985. Alex and his wife moved to Bottesford, where they saw the sign 'Please Drive Carefully, Ducks Crossing' and decided that this must be a good place to live!

They were volunteers as Samaritans locally, he the treasurer and Sheila 'a listener'. Also, Alex joined the Hose and Harby branch of the British Legion, and later took over the Poppy Appeal Organizing for the village. He says "It has been very

gratifying as the amount collected has steadily increased over the years, and this year was £2198, the highest ever, but age is creeping up on me and I would like to pass the organizing of the Poppy Collection to someone else".

Could YOU step into his shoes and take on this most rewarding and essential of tasks?

Phone anyone on Village Voice.

## Bottesford Transition Town

If you are concerned about climate change or Peak Oil you may wish to support a group that is looking to make Bottesford a Transition Town. The Transition Towns movement ([www.transitiontowns.org](http://www.transitiontowns.org)) already includes a number of towns and villages in the UK (including Ambridge) that are involved in activities in preparation for a reduction in availability of oil. For example, supporting local food groups, car share schemes, supporting local purchasing, bulk buying, and swap shops.

If you would like to find out more about Bottesford Area Transition Town, please get in touch with Melissa Schofield-Linnell, on 01949 851203, or email [BottesfordTransition@googlemail.com](mailto:BottesfordTransition@googlemail.com).

## Natural Burial Site

The Parish Council is looking into having an alternative burial site but need some land to use. Natural Burial Sites are on the increase and are a complete change from head stones in a grave yard. If you would be interested in offering some land please contact Barbara Taylor, 843611.

## Fundraising Successes for Friends of Bottesford School

This year's fund raising by Friends of Bottesford Primary School has already included three events - the annual Jumble Sale which raised over £300; the Auction of Promises, with over 60 promises, raised over £2,800; and the annual Christmas Fair.

The committee is hoping to secure sufficient funds to purchase outright an activity trail for the main school costing over £10,000.



## Guiding News

What does Guiding mean to me? Friendship, fun and helping others are the obvious answers but really, it means a lot more than just a few words. It's been 12 years now since I first joined Guiding and became a Rainbow. Since then, I've progressed through Brownies and into Guides where I have stayed on as a Young Leader. The experiences during this journey have been amazing, ranging from trips to the seaside, to my first camp, to an international jamboree in Denmark. I have made so many friends, gained so many memories and learnt so many lessons that I really couldn't imagine life without Guiding. I want to give other girls the ideas and opportunities that I have had, and, most of all, to inspire them to do that little bit more in life. Therefore I am currently completing the adult leadership scheme so, on my 18<sup>th</sup> birthday, I will become a fully warranted adult leader. In January, I am setting up a new Senior Section unit in Bottesford for girls aged 14 – 18 years who wish to volunteer in Guiding as Young Leaders, set and work towards personal and team goals and above all, have fun with like-minded individuals. We plan to meet roughly once a fortnight for 1-2 hours from January; look out for posters around Bottesford or ring me on 843054 for more details.

**Rosie Redfern, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bottesford Guides**

## Brown Owl Goes Inca

Our Brown Owl, Adelle Glossop, has been selected to represent Girlguiding overseas and to lead a group of girls going to Peru next July. The group will be helping build a nursery with the charity Kiya Survivors high up in the Sacred Valley, paying £5,000 towards the cost of the building. They will work with disadvantaged children, running workshops for the older children, living in the community and exploring the locality. Adelle needs to raise £2,500 to go on the trip and to carry out this worthwhile work and will be organising fundraising events after Christmas, so please make sure you support these.

If you would like to know more about the charity, the trip or can offer any financial support please contact Adelle on 01476-870548 or [aanda@glossop243.freereserve.co.uk](mailto:aanda@glossop243.freereserve.co.uk)

## Bookworms in our Pre-School



A group of young Bottesford Pre-School readers with the books donated by Village Voice.

**Beat the Winter Blues** - Join a class at Bottesford Community Centre. See back page for details.

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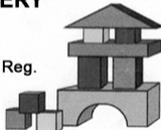
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## John Simpson – Church Organist

John grew up on Chapel Street Bottesford, where his parents owned the village bakery. His parents paid 1/6d for a weekly lesson by the Church Organist Mr Fred Carter and four years later he was able to play for the Methodist Church Sunday School. He played the chapel Estey American Organ which had been donated by a Mrs. Norris until he got married and moved to Long Eaton.

On his return to the village, he played the electrically blown Gwelph reed organ in Chapel, followed by Compton 2 manual and pedal organ for over 27 years. After the Chapel refurbishment a new electronic Italian Viscount purpose-built church organ was installed in 2001. John finds this organ really light to play with lots of preset stop combinations available which transpose in exact semi-tones so that it never needs tuning.

John is now 70 years young and, on behalf of the Chapel, would like to extend a warm welcome to anyone who would like to either sing in their congregation or play the organ. They would also like to reintroduce harmony singing – BBC Songs of Praise watch out!!



## Visit to Belarus – Chernobyl Children

In October Richard Willis, Helen Sewell, and Anne Ablewhite, went on a private visit to see the new group of children and their families, and to be shown around Mogilev where they live. They visited twelve families in two days, and saw for



themselves how the children live. They were struck by the lack of material possessions because everything there is so expensive. For example a pair of children's shoes would cost them half a month's wages. The families were very grateful for everything that we sent back with the children each year, especially the vitamin tablets which they cannot buy but which really help their immune systems.

While in Belarus they also went to see the first group of children who came to Bottesford from Gomel and had been hosted for five years. Unfortunately Eugeni, who stayed with Richard and his family was going into hospital to have a growth removed, he is on the right of the picture. Ivan, however, who stayed with Anne, had grown from a very thin gaunt child into a lovely teenager. He is now taller than Anne and it was so rewarding to see that the five years of respite care had really helped him. You can see Ivan and Eugeni outside a shop with a copy of the Village Voice which they both love to read as it keeps them in touch with so many people in the Vale



# SPOTLIGHT ON...

## Judith Wells

During a service at Leicester Cathedral in October, Judith Wells was licensed by the Bishop of Leicester to be a Lay Reader to the nine parishes that make up the Belvoir Team of Churches.

Over the last three years Judith has studied at Leicester University so that she can now 'Lead, preach and teach'. The course Judith undertook included studying theology, liturgy, pastoral issues, world faith and church history.

Judith will now carry out more services in the parish, can conduct funerals, assist at baptisms, and take Holy Communion to those too unwell to attend church.

If you want to contact Judith she is available by calling the Benefice Office on 842859 or by e-



## Worship Anew in 2009

'lastSaturday@6' is a new initiative for prayer and worship in Bottesford. Meeting at 6pm on the last Saturday of each month (alternating Prayer and Praise Meetings) this is an opportunity for exploring and expressing faith in an informal setting. Organised by Churches Together in Bottesford, an open invitation is extended to all.

The first meeting at 6pm on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2009 is in the Chapel on Devon Lane and will be a prayer meeting. February's meeting will also be in the Chapel, and will be a time of praise and worship.

For information contact Daphne Cassidy, 843100, and Rev Lesley Taylor on 842952.

## What is 'The Benefice Office'?

The Benefice Office is the administrative hub of The Belvoir Team of churches.

Judith Wells co-ordinates bookings for all weddings, funerals, baptisms and for any contact you would like to make with members of the Belvoir Team. This also involves ensuring members of the team are available to conduct the many services within the parishes each week.

The Benefice Office is based within St Mary's and is open from Monday to Thursday, 9 to 2.30pm. Judith is on hand in the office to welcome any visitors, and she also runs the popular 'Pram Club' on Tuesday mornings from 10.30 – 12 noon.

More information on St Mary's is available on the website [www.stmarysbottesford.co.uk](http://www.stmarysbottesford.co.uk). To contact The Benefice Office call 842859 or e-mail [stmarysbottesford@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:stmarysbottesford@tiscali.co.uk)

## Farewell to Richard Lane

Richard Lane became the pastor of Bottesford Baptist Church in September 1997, and he and his wife Anne moved to the village with their three daughters Kate, Rachael, and Elizabeth. The family will be relocating to Broadstairs in Kent in January when Richard takes up his new post at The Baptist Church, St. Peter's. We wish them well in their new home.



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## What's On in January...

Sun 4 <sup>th</sup> 10.30am	Benefice Eucharist Service. St. Mary's Church. Rev Lois Warburton will preach her farewell sermon on her last day with us before leaving for New Zealand.
Sun 4 <sup>th</sup> 10am	VoB Ramblers – Langar (near the church) 5 miles easy walking. New members' special discount. Contact Linda 876146.
Weds 7 <sup>th</sup> 7.30pm then <b>every week</b> to April	Whist Drive, Bottesford Bowls Club £1.50 incl refreshments, all welcome. Ray Smart, 07902837498.
Thurs 8 <sup>th</sup> 7.30pm	Local History Society. 'Suffragettes & Granny Rawle' speaker Mick Rawle. Fuller Rooms
Mon 12 <sup>th</sup> 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 13 <sup>th</sup> 1.30pm and at 2pm	U3A AGM, followed by: 'Arrive Alive' – Driving Standards Agency. VC Hall
Weds 14 <sup>th</sup> 12.45pm for 1.00pm	Health Walk, meet outside Welby Practice, Walford Close. See posters in surgeries for details. All welcome.
Sun 18 <sup>th</sup> 2.30pm	East Midland Orchid Society VC Hall. 'Treasures of the Greek Islands' - Gian Piero Ferrari, natural world photographer. Non-members welcome. Mick Armstrong - 842668
Tues 20 <sup>th</sup> 7.30pm	W.I. Members' Night. VC Hall.
Fri 23 <sup>rd</sup> 7.30pm	The Opera Dudes 'Licensed to Trill' Entertainment in VC Hall Tickets £8 from the Spar Shop and the Malthouse Deli.
Sat 31 <sup>st</sup> 6.30 pm. to 10.00 pm.	Friends of Chernobyl's Family Hoe-Down – VC Hall. Bar, hot dogs, raffle Family ticket £15.00, Adult £5.00, Child a donation.

## And in February...

Fri 6 <sup>th</sup> 10 to 10.30am	Wriggly Readers at Bottesford Library. Babes to young children; songs, rhymes, stories.
Mon 9 <sup>th</sup> 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 10 <sup>th</sup> 2pm	U3A – Enjoying Buildings – Rodney Cousins. VC Hall
Weds 11 <sup>th</sup> 12.45pm	Health Walk (Start 1pm, takes 30 – 60 mins) Welby Practice. All welcome.
Thurs 12 <sup>th</sup> 7.30pm	Local History Society. 'History Beneath Your Feet', speaker Tony Lane. Fuller Rooms.
Sun 15 <sup>th</sup> 2.30pm	East Midland Orchid Society VC Hall. 'Hardy orchids' - Jeff Hutchins. Non-members welcome.
Tues 17 <sup>th</sup> 7pm	W.I. Annual Meeting and Supper. VC Hall
Weds 25 <sup>th</sup> 10am	VoB Ramblers – Allington 8 miles scenic walk. Rod 842487

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

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

# Letters



**SOUND OR SIGHT?** When the construction of wind farms for the generation of electricity is proposed two of the objections invariably raised are that they will be both noisy and ugly. In September my wife and I stood about one hundred yards from a wind turbine on the Eco Discovery Centre at Swaffham in Norfolk. It was a breezy day and the blades were revolving quite quickly but all we could hear was a faint and not unpleasant swishing sound. Seventy years ago very similar objections were made against the erection of Electricity Cable Towers or pylons as we usually call them. "They are ugly, the wind whistles as it blows through them." Fortunately common sense prevailed and the towers were erected throughout the country. How many towers are there in the Vale of Belvoir? They are so familiar that we hardly notice them. The same will be true of the wind turbines when common sense prevails again and they are erected.

The Reverend John & Mrs Kay Carne.

## Wriggly Readers

Bottesford Library is holding Wriggly Reader sessions on the first Friday of every month, between 10.00-10.30am. An enjoyable and informal rhyme and story session for babies and toddlers aged 0-4 years, along with their parents/carers. These are warm, fun sessions where families can join in with songs and stories in a comfortable environment.

Through the National Bookstart scheme, every child receives a free Bookstart gift pack through their health visitor and Wriggly Reader sessions support that. The aim is to encourage a love of books from an early age and babies are never too young to join in! Book sharing is an enjoyable and important part of a child's development and is also fantastic for bonding. Bookstart empowers parent/carers to take the lead as their child's first teacher. Wriggly Reader sessions are friendly and informal giving families the opportunity to meet and make new friends. Parents can borrow from the wide selection of resources libraries have for young children.



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# Sports News



## Bottesford Bowls Club Gala Evening

The Club held its annual gala and presentation evening on 15th November to celebrate another successful year. In addition to presenting the winners of the various club competitions throughout the year with their trophies, the club was also celebrating two major league successes. The 'A' team won the Leicestershire County Bowls Club (LCBC) knock out cup for the first time and they came second in the LCBC Division One league.

The club is always happy to welcome new playing or social members; please pop along or call Bernard Hawes on 843206 for details.

## Bottesford Cricket Club Presentation Evening

This year's presentation night was held at the club on 29<sup>th</sup> November and well attended. This season saw the Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> Eleven (led by Nick Silverwood and Ian Hewson) winning promotion to the top division of the Newark Alliance.

Club awards included - 1<sup>st</sup> Team Batting: Nick Silverwood; 1<sup>st</sup> Team Bowling: Mike Fowler; 1<sup>st</sup> Team all rounder: Mike Fowler; 2<sup>nd</sup> Team Batting: Rupert Inglesant; 2<sup>nd</sup> Team Bowling: Jake Hutchinson; 2<sup>nd</sup> Team all rounder: Jake Hutchinson; 1<sup>st</sup> Team 100s: Nick Silverwood, Jamie Lambourne, and Mike Fowler; 2<sup>nd</sup> Team 100s: Rupert Inglesant; Glenn Sutton; 1<sup>st</sup> Team Bowling Performance: Ian Wright; 2<sup>nd</sup> Team Bowling Performance: Mike Haskins; Young Player of the year: Jake Hutchinson, and Long Service award went to Phil Teft.

## Winter Cricket Nets and Junior Cricket 2009

Bottesford will be using the winter nets at Nottinghamshire County Cricket Ground starting Sunday evening 11<sup>th</sup> January for 13 weeks.

Contact Simon Silverwood at [simon.silverwood@btopenworld.com](mailto:simon.silverwood@btopenworld.com) for details.

Junior Cricket will be run again by Ian Seymour with Kwik Cricket under-11 hard ball and under-13 hard ball, call Ian on 07931 301668.

## Bottesford Junior Badminton Club

As we approach the Christmas break, this autumn term has sustained healthy numbers. There are now two sessions for the 8 - 12 year olds on Monday 7.30 - 8.30pm and Friday 6 - 7pm, and the 13 - 16 year olds play on Monday 8.30-10.00pm.

Congratulations to both Ben Holt and Emily Bennett who have been accepted into the Lincolnshire Development Squad. Emily recently came runner-up in the Girls U15 final at Grantham. Also, congratulations to Luke Bennett who now trains with Leicestershire U17 team.

### Village Voice Contact information

#### Advertising:

Anne Ablewhite on 842259

#### Editorial:

Dilys Shepherd on 843505 or  
Susan Meech on 843402

#### Deadline for Issue 40: 23rd January

[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.

## Beat the Winter Blues

Join a class at Bottesford Community Centre, or give one as a present. Courses starting from January include -

**Arts:** Jewellery, Pottery, Kiln Glass, and Felt Making.

**Computing:** Digital Cameras and Photo Editing, Computing and Web page design.

**Languages:** Holiday French, Italian and Spanish, plus Chinese (Mandarin), Italian, Russian, French and Spanish at all levels.

Also available: Criminal Law, RYA Basic Navigation, Salsacise, Food Hygiene, Family History, First Aid and Cookery.

A daytime crèche available. Telephone 844199 or email [jhmadgwick@leics.gov.uk](mailto:jhmadgwick@leics.gov.uk) for more details or to book a place.

Vale of Belvoir

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