



Village Voice

Issue No. 44
November - December 2009

The newsletter of Bottesford, Easthorpe, Muston & Normanton

The Fourth Plinth

Jules Tobin was selected to take part in Antony Gormley's 'One and Other', one of 2,400 people who had one hour alone, high up on the 4th plinth in Trafalgar Square. Jules spent her hour in-role as the 'Storyshaper', through storytelling, performance and poetry while wearing an amazing costume designed by Carole Lee of Long Bennington. Her aim was "to bring part of our beautiful rural landscape to this magnificent cityscape." Jules commented "I felt like a living sculpture up there among the domes and clocks, above the traffic and the people below. I look forward to the day in the future when my son will take his family to Trafalgar Square and show them the plinth where grandma once stood."



Muston Flower Festival

The Muston Flower Festival raised an impressive £1,400 for St. John the Baptist Church. The church looked wonderful with wedding dresses, bridesmaid and page boy outfits belonging to Muston residents, along with floral wedding cakes, bouquets, posies and buttonholes. Visitors were also able to enjoy home-made cakes at The Old School. Church Wardens, John Ives and Hugh Wadsworth would like to thank all who worked so hard over the three days of the Festival.



Lady of the Vale Art Exhibition at St Mary's Bottesford

During an August weekend over 200 visitors to St Mary the Virgin helped judge an art competition for the best painting of the church. Margaret Hayward's splendid watercolour got the most votes and in equal second place were Michael Fowler and Sheryl Lee. Embroidery and felt works were also displayed for sale as works of art. The exhibition also gave people of any ability, using any 2D media, an opportunity to sell their work. Stalls at the event raised £500 for the Diocesan retreat house and a further £500 was raised for St Mary the Virgin from the art exhibition and sale of cream teas. Thank you to the committed team who made this a successful event.





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Super New High School



On 19th September, Belvoir High School was officially opened by the Leader of the Leicestershire County Council, Mr. David Parsons. Lots of pupils, all very smart in their new uniforms, were eager to show visitors around their state-of-the-art new block and the refurbished, older class rooms. The opening was very well attended. Whole families, grandparents, parents and brothers and sisters were shown round. Parents who had attended the 'old school' were saying how it wasn't this good in their day. Grandparents commented rather wistfully that they wouldn't mind being at school themselves in such marvellous surroundings!

Bill Roberts Memorial Innovation Award

As a founder member of the Vale of Belvoir Lions, it was felt there should be a lasting memorial to Bill Roberts – a stalwart of the local community. After much discussion and consultation involving Bill's immediate family, it was decided that a trophy bearing his name should be awarded annually to a pupil of Belvoir High School. The cut glass trophy, entitled the 'Bill Roberts Memorial Innovation', will be retained at the school on permanent display and the winner will receive a smaller suitably engraved glass trophy.



2009 Bottesford & District Gardens Association Show

This year's show attracted over 500 entries, well up on last year despite a growing season that has not been without its difficult cold and dry spells. Entries were of a good standard, but there were some classes with no entrants including Top Tray Award, longest carrot and several of the flower and pot plant classes. Hugh Spencer, Show secretary, said "As a tentative vegetable exhibitor, I am persuaded that I could have entered several more classes myself without disgrace and certainly shall next year. It's great fun, a very enjoyable social event and you might even surprise yourself!"

Vale Villages in Transition

Vale Villages in Transition held 6 environmental talks in Bottesford in the early autumn. These were well attended and enlightening, covering issues including Climate Change, Zero-Carbon Homes and Composting.

There will also be one further event this year, on Friday 4th December at Bottesford Baptist Church. This will comprise a short entertaining film entitled 'The Story of Stuff', followed by an opportunity to hear more about what Vale Villages in Transition is all about. To find out more in the meantime take a look at www.valevillagesintransition.org.uk, email info@valevillagesintransition.org.uk or telephone 07918 713694.

LIEUTENANT Richard H. 'Rickie' Donger, RNVR (d.o.b. 15.5.23)

Richard Donger is one of many men in this country and abroad, who fought hard battles to keep our freedom. Richard used to farm in Muston but now lives in Bottesford, having handed over the reins to his family.

In May 1940 when he was just 17, Richard answered the call of Anthony Eden and joined the 'Local Defence Volunteers', later known as the Home Guard. In 1941 he enlisted in the Royal Navy and in 1942 transferred to HMS Raleigh. Richard spent time on HMS Nelson in South Africa, the Middle East and Scapa Flow and then the Northern Patrol protecting Russian convoys. He saw action in the North Atlantic, and was at the start of the U Boat and bombing attacks in the Mediterranean, with continuous day and night attacks and bombing by Stukas and Junkers. He took part in Operation Torch, the Landing in North Africa and the Pedestal Convoys to Malta, for which he was granted the Freedom of Malta. On his return to Gourock aboard the SS Sobieski, accompanying ships were sunk in a U Boat attack, and as there was no English signalman on board Richard had to be on continuous Signals Watch. He was a Beachmaster for the D-Day Landings and despite being seriously wounded, continued to direct arrivals as they dodged German fire. He was awarded the Croix de Geurre and his actions were mentioned in Despatches.

He has been to places too numerous to mention, but without people like 'Rickie' our lives could have been considerably different.

DON'T FORGET TO BUY A POPPY

The long established and well respected Royal British Legion was set up in 1922, originally to help veterans of the First World War. The Legion continues to help casualties of all conflicts in which our troops have been involved. One of their main fund raising efforts is the Poppy Appeal held every year in the two weeks preceding Remembrance Sunday.

Despite some of these casualties receiving compensation, a large number of ex service and dependants have to rely on benefits. This is one area where the Legion can step in to help by supporting members of the Legion and eligible ex Servicemen/women and dependants. This can include medical help, support for people with disabilities, assistance with bills and care in their residential homes. The Legion also run a number of factories, staffed by disabled ex service personnel, where the poppies are made. In future years the demands on the Legion is likely to increase, so when the poppies appear in October please give generously. Every penny collected goes to the Poppy Appeal.

Remember, the contributions from our villages help the Legion continue the good work started 87 years ago. If you are interested in helping with the collections please ring Alex Robertson on 842784.



Alex meets Princess Anne at Sennecy-le-Grand

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The Guides Centenary Launch Party in Bottesford

The launch of this special 100th year took place in Bottesford on Saturday September 5th at the Bottesford Scout & Guide Hut. Entertaining displays of photographs and memorabilia provided vivid insight into the strong tradition of guiding in Bottesford. Guests participated in guiding activities and centenary certificates were issued. Tea, coffee and liberal helpings of cake were also freely available. For those who were still peckish, the campfire cooks produced the 'infamous camp breakfast' - egg-bread, beans and bacon! A fund raising raffle and donations raised £492 for guide funds and the day culminated with the cutting of the centenary birthday cake.



Guider Jill Bagnall

Village Voice visits the Melton Times

Volunteers from Village Voice visited the Melton Times recently to talk to Michael Cooke (editor) and saw how the paper was put together. They also asked Michael how things in the newspaper industry have changed over the past decade. Susan Meech, joint editor, said: "It was a very useful visit and we were all encouraged to find that our editorial process and procedures were fairly similar to those at the paper."



Pictured, from left, are Phil Salathiel, Diana Taffs, Anne Ablewhite, Sue Middleton, Susan Meech, Gill Chiswell, Tony Taffs and Jen Salathiel PHOTO: Michael Cooke

BLOT has launched a fighting fund

The BLOT fighting fund will help protect the Vale of Belvoir against Ridgewind, who have lodged a planning appeal for a proposed development of 8 wind turbines (328 ft high) mast & access roads etc. The proposal has turbines much closer to our villages and brings many families within the distance where wind farm neighbours in other parts of the country are experiencing problems, resulting in a number having to abandon their homes. The BLOT objection and photographs are available to view in Bottesford Library. ALL donations, large or small, are welcome and needed to fund experts to represent our community group at the planning inquiry in February. Cheques, payable to BLOT, can be sent to: BLOT, Endcliffe Farm, Allington, Grantham, Lincs. NG32 2DJ or by PayPal via our website www.blot-online.org

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What's On in November..

Sun 1 st 10am	Vale of Belvoir Ramblers. Bingham 6.5m. Info: 01159825600
Sun 1 st 4pm	All Souls Service, St Mary's Church
Sun 1 st 7.30pm	'The Mystery of Irma Vep'. Comedy at VC Hall. Tickets from Malt House Deli, Spar Shop or Sue on 842215.
Every Tues, 10.30am - midday	'Little Angels' for mums & pre-school. Refreshments, craft & play, finishing with a short act of worship. St Mary's Church
Thurs 5 th	Vale of Belvoir Lions Bonfire and Fireworks, see P7 for times
Fri 6 th 10am	Wriggly Readers at Bottesford Library (half hour)
Sat 7 th 10am - 1pm	Coffee Morning at Baptist Church in aid of the Tear Fund. Fair Trade Gifts, Jewellery, Cards etc
Sun 8 th 10.30am	Remembrance Service - St Mary's Church.
Mon 9 th 7.15pm	Parish Council meeting. Fuller Rooms. Residents may address the council with concerns or questions for first 15 minutes.
Tues 10 th 2pm	U3A, 'The Real Queen Mother' – Jean Townsend - VC Hall
Thurs 12 th 2.30pm	Women's Fellowship AGM. Methodist Church
Thurs 12 th 7.30pm	Local History Society. Fuller Rooms "The Work of the War Graves Commission in & after World War II" John & Kay Carne
Sat 14 th 2-4.00pm	Official re-opening of Scout Hut after refurbishment. Old photos on display & refreshments
Sun 15 th 2 pm	East Mid. Orchid Society, VC Hall. M Armstrong 842668
Tues 17 th 7.30pm	W.I. 'A Christmas Table Decoration'. Susan Elliott. VC Hall
Sat 21 st 9.30am	"Dads Allowed" Dads & toddlers session. Baptist Church.
Thurs 26 th 1.30pm	Dove Cottage - Lingerie/Bed-wear Sale. Admission free.
Thurs 26 th 2.30pm	Women's Fellowship. Methodist Church. John & Norman Entertain
Sun 29 th 4.00pm	Advent Carol Service, St Mary's Church.

And in December..

Tues 1 st 7.30pm	Gardens Association - AGM - VC Hall
Fri 4 th 10am	Wriggly Readers at Bottesford Library. (half hour)
Fri 4 th 7.30pm	Vale Villages in Transition. 'The Story of Stuff' a short film about sustainability. Baptist Church. All welcome.
Sat 5 th 7.30 to 12.30am	Open to all! Football Club '80s Disco at VC Hall. Fancy Dress optional. Tickets £5 from Teresa Morgan, 842517
Sun 6 th 10.30am	Christingle and Toy Service - St Mary's Church
Sun 6 th 11am	The Bottesford Toy Run by Triumph Owners @ Red Lion
Mon 7 th 7.15pm	Parish Council meeting. Old School Muston. Residents may address the council with concerns/questions for first 15 mins.
Thurs 10 th 2.30pm	Women's Fellowship Carol Service – Methodist Church
Sun 13 th 10.30am	Carol Service – Methodist Church
Sat 19 th 9.30am	"Dads Allowed" dads & toddlers session. Baptist Church.
Sun 20 th 10.30am 6.00pm	Nativity Service – Baptist Church Carols by Candlelight – Baptist Church
Thurs 24 th 4pm 6pm	Family Service - St Mary's Church Family Service with the Archdeacon of Leicester - St Mary's Church
8pm 11.30pm	Christmas Eve Communion - Baptist Church Midnight Mass with the Archdeacon of Leicester - St Mary's Church
Fri 25 th 10am 10am 10.30am	Christmas Day Celebration - Baptist Church. Christmas Day Worship – Methodist Church Informal Family Communion - St Mary's Church.
Sat 26 th 11am	Boxing Day Duck Race—Mulled wine & mince pies in St Mary's



WALKS FOR HEALTH

Bottesford Health Walks take place on the 2nd Wednesday of the month, at 12.45pm in the Welby Practice car park. New walkers from any G.P. practice are welcome. Walks last about an hour and take place in Bottesford and surrounding villages. A Health walk is a purposeful brisk walk undertaken on a regular basis which can make you feel good, give you more energy, reduce stress and help you sleep better. It can keep your heart strong and reduce blood pressure. Almost

anyone can do it and it's an ideal opportunity to make new friends. Details available in Whats On and at the Welby Practice or contact Volunteer Walks Leader Sue Dunsmore on 843280.

Village Notes

The **Macmillan coffee morning** organized by Barbara Taylor and Frances Stapleton of the Mothers Union, raised £340. Thanks to all those who supported the event.

We have **3 new Parish Councillors**: Julia Tobin, Joanna Jones and Fred Seddon

The new **Assistant Parish Clerk** is Teresa Patchett

Poop Bags are **free** from the Library so no excuses for not clearing up after your pet!

The recent **Village Quiz** raised £830 towards the purchase and siting of a defibrillator in Bottesford—a joint project between the Lions and the Parish Council.

'NO CALLERS'

Many streets are displaying the 'No Cold Calling' signs, but people will still call and say, 'I am not selling anything'. Do not deal with them. 'No Cold Calling' zones empower you to tell salesmen and Jehovah Witnesses to go away. Don't trust callers and **never** invite them into your home.

DON'T GIVE YOUR MONEY AWAY

If you receive a call from a 'bank' suggesting you move your money to a different account, or offer to give you some money, do not continue the conversation and **never** provide the bank details they are asking for. If you are harassed by anyone phoning or calling, phone the police on 0116 222 2222 or Brian Kelk, Neighbourhood Watch, on 842241 or 07717 496 093.

New year – new courses!

Start 2010 with a new interest. New courses for adults start in January at Bottesford Community Centre. For a programme call 844199 or email julia.madgwick@leics.gov.uk

NEWS FROM THE LIONS' DEN

The Lions are approaching their busiest time of the year.

Their first event is the **Firework Display**, along with a traditional bonfire.

Access to the paddock this year is opposite Rectory Court, off Normanton Lane.

Gate opens at 6.15 p.m. and the display will commence at 7.00 p.m.

Santa's collections will take place between 10th and 22nd December – details on local notice boards nearer the time. If you would like to help Santa at this magical time of year call Dermot Daly on 842491 or Simon Ashworth on 842189 to register interest or for more information.

At 11am on **Boxing Day** 500 intrepid ducks will race between Washdyke Bridge and St Marys Church. Ducks will be on sale at businesses in and around Bottesford, with a prize for the first six past the finishing line. The post festive crowds will also be entertained by the Foresters Morris Men.

The **New Years Eve Party** at the VC Hall, offers bubbles on arrival, a five course meal and a disco for just £39.50 per head. For tickets contact: Dermot Daly on 842491 or 07778351935, or Simon Ashworth 07968553241

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Sports News



Letter



FOOTBALL FATHERS

Why do some fathers think that swearing at their child's football match will help things along? The only thing it does is make the man look very small and is a great embarrassment to the child. On a Sunday morning it also echoes all around the village and not everyone likes to hear that sort of childish language.

SHUT UP DAD!

The start of a new football season in Bottesford

Whilst it wasn't so long ago that last season drew to a close, a new season is upon us! And it couldn't have got off to a better start. Firstly, the Under 11s collected the first trophy of the season by winning the tournament held at Great Ponton over the Bank Holiday weekend. Also, Saturday training started at Belvoir High School (9.45 till 11.00) at the beginning of September and it was a delight to see such an influx of new children. Chairman Danny Gribby said, "It's fantastic to see so many children at training – there was a real buzz about the place." For more details of teams and training, please contact: Ros Morton (Ages 5-14) on 01949 843633; Simon Hampson (Ages 15-18) on 01949 845180.



Village Voice Contact information

Advertising:

Anne Ablewhite on 842259

Editorial:

Dilys Shepherd on 843505 or
Susan Meech on 843402

Deadline for Issue 45: 23rd Nov

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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.

Pictured above are the Under 11s team with Manager, Dave Charlesworth:

Back Row (Lyndon, George, Sam, Lyle)

Front Row (Ryan, Jacob, Ben, Alex)

And finally.....a date for your diaries:

The Christmas Disco is booked for Saturday 5th December at the Village Hall. Tickets are only £5 each and are available from Teresa Morgan Please contact Teresa on 842517 or 07940 063670.

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

To publicise your event in the 'What's On' column for January and February, please ring 844823 or email d.taffs@btinternet.com by 23rd November.

Vale of Belvoir

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