



Issue No. 52
March-April 2011

Village Voice

The newsletter of Bottesford, Easthorpe, Muston & Normanton



Bottesford Primary School Wins Two Awards

The School has been the proud recipient of two prestigious awards.

Firstly, they received the International School Award, managed by the British Council, in recognition of its work to bring the wider world into the classroom. Mrs McGrory, head teacher, said, "We are thrilled with this award as it recognised the work we do to develop pupils' knowledge about the world we live in."

Secondly, this is the fourth year the school has gained the Quality Mark for Primary Schools. Mrs McGrory said that, "Learning in Literacy and Numeracy is fundamental. This external validation celebrates the hard work of all the staff and pupils."

The photograph (left) shows Mrs McGrory receiving the award on behalf of the school from Peter Osborne, Chairman of Leicestershire County Council.

Barkestone Vocational Centre Opens at Belvoir High School

The school began using the Barkestone Vocational Centre at the beginning of this half term. This centre, which was



built on the site of the old pig sties, allows small numbers of Year 10 and Year 11 students to participate in some studies which are more vocational in nature, such as Beauty Therapy, Motorcycle Maintenance and Horticulture. The teachers from The Hub, in Melton, are teaching some courses and it is hoped that the choice of courses will increase next year.



The building is small so the number of children who can take the courses will always be quite limited as it is believed the core of Key Stage 4 teaching should be GCSE subjects for the vast majority of the pupils. The children are really pleased with their studies and with the centre. The staff at Belvoir High School is looking forward to seeing the skills that the children develop through their studies.

Vale of Belvoir Sure Start Children's Centre - The Vale of Belvoir Sure Start Children's Centre (CC) will be based at Belvoir High School in Bottesford, next to the Community Centre, and will serve the Vale of Belvoir. CCs provide a range of services to support children under the age of 5 years and their families, and include play and activity sessions, parent counselling, one to one support for families, advice on benefits and housing, parenting support groups, and health visitor clinics.

For more information on the Children's Centre and what will be on offer, please contact Milan Kanuritch, Rural Family Outreach Worker on 01664 502429 or 01664 502469.



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The Nurses were a big hit - Over 110 people attended the Vamos theatre's recent production of 'Nursing Lives'. The show was very well received and involved performers playing 13 different roles from a builder to a young boy, using a series of clever masks. The audience gasped when the actors came out at the end of the performance and showed that there were just 3 of them - not the 13 they had supposed!

If you want to make sure you get tickets for future shows why not add your name to the mailing list? Contact Susan Meech on s_meech@yahoo.co.uk

'Hell said the Duchess' - the next professional theatre show in Bottesford - Karen Tweed, Becky Price and Hannah James will perform a mix of traditional and original music, including airs from Ireland, France, Scandinavia and 18th century England, plus songs and dances from Northern England. As well as playing an evening of exciting accordion music, Hannah will entertain us with her clog dancing.

Tickets available from early April by ringing Gill on 842868 or from the Spar and the Deli.

Royal Wedding Celebrations in Bottesford - The Grantham Journal reported that children at the National Schools - including the Bottesford School - were granted a holiday to celebrate the Royal Wedding between the future George V and Princess Mary in 1910.

The future George VI and Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon were married in 1923. The Journal had no reports of Bottesford celebrations, although the school was closed that day. Our present Queen married Philip, Duke of Edinburgh on November 20th 1947; A.W. Ward (conductor), C.H. Jallands, C.T. Samuel, L.B. Box, Reuben Jackson, and W. Pacey rang a quarter peal of grandshire doubles on the church bells.

The wedding of Prince Charles and Lady Diana Spencer (July 29th 1981) did produce celebrations in the parish. The children in Muston received a commemorative mug, crowns and £1. Miss Norah Parkin, fundraiser for the event, was presented with some commemorative Wedgewood china. The Forget-Me-Not Club held a party in the Village Hall, where members lunched on ham and tongue, followed by trifle, and they enjoyed entertainment by Grantham Elsham Singers. Belvoir Road residents and friends held a street party (below), where the programme included fancy dress, a decorated bicycle, a wheelbarrow and pram race, knobbly knees and ankle competitions, sports and a tug of war, wet sponges and a celebration tea.



What will the Journal say about Royal Wedding events in Bottesford in 2011?

Patchwork Pledge - Inspire LeicesterShire and Age Concern (now called 'Age UK') would like your help to create a 'London 2012' inspired pledge blanket in aid of Age UK, by getting people involved in creating a crocheted or knitted 6" woollen square. When completed the squares can be taken into a Leicestershire Age UK shop or posted to Inspire Leicester-Shire, Room SK008, SportPark Loughborough University, 3 Oakwood Drive, Loughborough, Leics LE11 3QF.

See www.inspireleics.org.uk/patchworkpledge.html for more information.

Grantham & Sleaford Hospices - Grantham's GIFTS Hospice merged with St. Barnabas Hospice, Sleaford, last year. Joining forces, while retaining both hospices, has ensured Lincolnshire remains at the forefront of clinical care and enables them to meet new NHS funding criteria. (Continued at the bottom of page 3)

Bottesford Community Centre is still open for business!

Despite appearances they are still up and running even though they are surrounded by building works. They are still offering courses in Arts, Computing, Languages, Sports and much more, the building work and bad weather doesn't stop them.

They are grateful to all their loyal learners and would love to welcome new people as well. It doesn't matter how nervous you are or if it is a long time since you tried to learn anything new. The Centre has experienced tutors and small classes and it is a great way to meet other adults and make new friends. There is even have a crèche for some sessions.

As an introduction to the Centre they are offering some FREE courses, which need to be prebooked. *Save a Baby* (first aid) Wed 9 March 10.00-12.00; *Computing for the Terrified* Weds 16 March 12.25- 2.45 for 5 weeks; *Crafty Creations* - A series of 5 workshops for beginners who don't feel confident (please contact Centre for dates & times).

To find out more, or to book a place, visit the Centre, which is next to Belvoir High School, or telephone 844199, or email: Julia.Madgwick@leics.gov.uk or

Maneline Cake Bake

One year on from being diagnosed with cancer and now feeling very well, Rosemary, (right), with the help of staff and friends, recently held a cake and coffee week in her hair salon. They raised £240 for "Ovacome" the charity for ovarian cancer.



WI news –

what we did in 2010

Have you often thought about joining the Bottesford Women's Institute but wondered what exactly we do at our monthly meetings? Well, here's a taste of what we got up to last year! We had a very full programme of events, with speakers on a variety of topics, including the Citizen's Advice Bureau, Fairtrade products, Jewellery, Nutrition and Arthritic Care, Nottingham Story Telling and Stars of Stage, Screen & Radio.

Last year's activities included walks in the Vale, meals out, a Christmas party, bring-and-buy sales, trips to the National Memorial Arboretum and Chatsworth at Christmas. At the theatre we saw *The Full Monty* and an evening with Hannah Gordon. At a county level members got involved in the Newark Show, quizzes and competitions, holidays, coffee mornings, darts, jewellery making, skittles, poetry, rug-making, golf and curling. We also take an active role in lobbying the government on important national WI resolutions.

Bottesford WI has over 50 members but there is always room for more. So, if you are interested in becoming a member or you just want to come along to one of our meetings as a visitor, contact either Angela Kapellar on 842043 or Marian Orr on 843629.

(Cont. from page 2) Services available are Day Care, Hospice at Home, and Welfare Benefit advice. There will also be a Bereavement Group.

The Grantham Hospice is being refurbished and extended and plans to re-open in April. The Grantham Journal is running an appeal for the Hospice called the 'Brick in the Wall' to help raise £40,000 towards this work by organising fundraising events. This includes a Table Top sale on Sunday 6th March 12.30pm – 3.30pm, and a 'Big Breakfast' on Sunday 13th March from 9am – 11.30, Adults £4.00/Children £2.50, with tickets from the Spar, both events in our Village Hall. More information available from the Hospice fundraising dept. on 01476 591010.

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GALA 2011 - A letter from Nigel Davies of the Vale of Belvoir Lions:
I regret to say that the Vale of Belvoir Lions will not be holding a Gala in 2011. Many factors have influenced this decision, but primarily it was felt that the event, coming as it does at the end of a series of bank holidays - Easter, followed by the Royal Wedding and then May Day - will suffer from a lack of support. Many people - both Gala visitors and helpers - will want to take advantage of the long period of state holidays to take a break away, and those that don't will be involved in organising street parties and celebrations for the Royal Wedding which is only three days before May Day.

I would like to thank those who offered to support us in 2011. We will be looking for your support again when we launch an even more spectacular Gala for 2012!

Santa's visit - The Lions always have a special treat in store for the children of the Vale of Belvoir at Christmas time, enlisting the help of Santa and some local helpers to visit the local villages over several nights and bringing a smile to the faces of people of all ages!

This year the weather was exceedingly cold, with snow lying and sub-zero temperatures. Santa and all his helpers thank everyone for their generosity in helping them raise more than £4,000 for the Dove Cottage Hospice and other local Charities - an impressive amount.

Duck Racing - Boxing Day means one thing in Bottesford - the Vale of Belvoir Lions Annual Duck Derby. The weather was cold, with sub-zero temperatures, and consequently the River Devon was frozen with large clumps of solid ice accumulating at the church footbridge and a centimetre of sheet ice over the top of the river for most of the length of the race. This had to be cleared by volunteers before the little yellow ducks could take to the water!

In the grounds of St Mary's Church you could buy bacon cobs, roasted chestnuts and mulled wine. The Foresters Morris Men also entertained the crowds, collecting on behalf of the Lions. The total raised for local children's charities was £1,155.62. A great result.

Leicestershire Police - the January public meeting. - On January 17th, around 60 people attended the meeting organised by the Parish Council at the Village Hall to discuss the proposed closure of Bottesford Police Station. The Chief Constable of Leicestershire, Simon Cole, and Councillor Barrie Roper, Chair of the Police Committee, were also asked to comment on possible cutbacks to policing in the Vale. Simon Cole said that present levels of policing could be maintained as long as savings were made. Cost cutting included the sale of the Police Station in Bottesford and proposals to establish a police base in a room at the new community facilities currently being built at Belvoir High School.

Members of the audience commented on the lack of promised public consultation, problems that could arise from police being based at the school and that initial low costs might not protect a long-term police presence in Bottesford. However the police did take account of the necessity of making sure that Bottesford was not isolated from the rest of Leicestershire by its distance from other police stations and by its position on the A52.

The Chief Constable assured the meeting that the Police Station would only be sold when the new arrangements for policing in the Vale had been set in place. The Parish Council proposed to set up a sub-committee to consider any possible community use of this Grade 2 listed building.

Belvoir High School has said that they are pleased that the police will maintain a presence on their site. It is hoped that the centre will be completed by Easter and ready to open shortly afterwards.

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What's On in March...

Fri 4 th 10-10.30am	Wriggly Readers at Bottesford Library. Songs, rhymes, etc.
Fri 4 th 2pm	Women's World Day of Prayer. Bottesford Methodist Church. Speaker Mrs Rowena Ward-Barrow. Followed by refreshments.
Fri 4 th 7.45pm	Vale Villages in Transition film "The Power of the Community". How Cuba Survived Peak Oil. VC Hall. Admission free. Refreshments. 07812 564 059
Sat 5 th 7.30pm for 8pm	Millionaires Casino Evening. VoB Lions for Kidney Research. VC Hall. £12.50 pp. includes buffet. Bar. Smart casual. Phone 844538 for tickets
Sun 6 th 10am	VoB Ramblers – East Bridgford to Kneeton, 6 miles. Back along Trent. (Opt refreshments at end by NSPCC £3). Contact Jan 0115 9825600.
Sun 6 th 12.30pm	Table Top Sale – VC Hall. In aid of Grantham Hospice. See page 2
Tues 8 th 2pm	U3A – Between Engagements – Colin Bower. VC Hall.
Weds 9 th	Health Walk to Orston (Time to be arranged, takes 45/60 mins) Meet outside Welby Practice, Walford Close, all welcome. Leader: Sue 843280.
Weds 9 th 7.30pm	Ash Wednesday Communion Service, St Mary's Church
Thurs 10 th 7.30pm	Local History Society. Fuller Rooms. 'Travellers' Views of the Vale Over the Last Four Centuries' – Michael & Diana Honeybone.
Sat 12 th View-ing 12noon	Auction. Bidding from 1.30pm, Dove Cottage, Stathern. Items accepted 9am to 4pm in the week prior to auction. Refreshments.
Sat 12 th 2pm – 6.30pm	Green Day. www.valevillagesintransition.org.uk . Energy saving advice, local produce, suppliers & installers. Childrens activities/refreshments. Contact 07812 564 059
Sun 13 th 9/11.30	Big Breakfast, 9 -11.30am. VC Hall. Adults £4.00 Children £2.50. See page 2.
Mon 14 th 7.15pm	Annual Parish Meeting and Parish Council meeting. Fuller Rooms. Residents may question/comment prior to the meeting at 7.30pm.
Tue 15 th 7.30pm	W.I. 'Down to Earth Gardening' – Stuart Dixon. VC Hall.
Thurs 17 th 2.30pm	Bottesford Methodist Friendship Group. The speaker at years first meeting will be Revd. Lesley Taylor in the church schoolroom. Refreshments served, everyone welcome. Details from Glenys Bradshaw 842893.
Sun 20 th 2.30pm	East Mids Orchid Society. VC Hall. Members' Meeting (all welcome).
Sat 26 th 7pm for 7.30	VoB Lions Annual Music Quiz. For Nottingham Multiple Sclerosis Therapy Centre. £6.50 pp incl supper. To book, call Nigel Davies 07973377726.
Sun 27 th 10am	Spring Fayre (Senior Sect Guides) in Scout Hut. For table ring Teresa, 07815 712110
Sun 27 th 10.30am - noon	www.belvoirgoodasnew.co.uk . Childrens clothing etc for 0-10 years. VC Hall. In aid of Newborn ICU, Nottm Neonatal & Breast Cancer Research.
Thurs 31 st 2.30pm	Bottesford Methodist Friendship Group. Speaker - Fred Manning - A Day in the Life of a Magistrate. (Other details, see 17 th March)

And in April...

Sat 2 nd 8pm	VoB Lions Big Band Night. VC Hall. For details see www.voblions.org.uk
Sun 3 rd 10.30am	Mothering Sunday Service, St Mary's Church.
Mon 11 th 7.15pm	Parish Council meeting. Old School, Muston. See 14th March
Tues 12 th 2pm	U3A: The Flowers that Bloom in the Spring (G & S) – Michael Butler - VC Hall
Weds 13 th 12.45pm	Health Walk, Kilverton Lakes (approx 1hr) Leaders: Ian & Joan. Welby Practice, Walford Close. All welcome.
Thurs 14 th 2.30pm	Bottesford Methodist Friendship Group. Church schoolroom, Devon Lane. Speaker Valerie Henstock - 'I'd Love Your Job'. (See 17 th March).
Thurs 14 th 7.30pm	Local History Soc. Fuller Rms. 'So You Think You Know Nottingham. Pt 3', Peter Hammond.
Sun 17 th 10.30am	Palm Sunday Service – St Mary's Church.
Sun 17 th 11am	Bottesford Egg Run, from Red Lion. Contact John Bartlett 01780762531
Sun 17 th 2.30pm	East Midlands Orchid Society. VC Hall. 'Phragmipediums', speaker Andy Phillips. Non-members welcome, refreshments served.
Tues 19 th 7.30pm	W.I. 'My Life as a Headteacher' – Maggie Patterson. VC Hall.
Thurs 21 st 7.30pm	Maundy Thursday - Churches Together Service, Methodist Church.
Fri 22 nd 10.30am and at 11.15am	Good Friday. Walk of Witness starting at St Mary's Church & ending at Baptist Church with Good Friday Service (followed by coffee & hot cross buns)
12 noon	Good Friday - Stations of the Cross, St Mary's Church.
Sun 24 th 10.30am	Easter Sunday Service, St Mary's Church.
Thurs 28 th 2.30pm	Bottesford Methodist Friendship Group. Speakers Jean/Martin Tripp: Oberammergau.
Sat 30 th 7.30pm	Cranmer Singers in Concert. Further details from St Marys Benefice Office .

Have your say about local green space.

Leicestershire has some fantastic green spaces. If you feel strongly about green space in your local area, the County Council wants to hear from you. You can share your views by attending the next meeting of the Belvoir Community Forum at Waltham on the Wolds Village Hall on Tuesday 15th March 2011, 6.30pm for 7.00pm start.

If you would like any more information about the meeting please contact Peter Holbrook (chair of the Forum) by email at clerk@wotwatapc.org.uk

Parish Council keeps paths clear.

The Parish Council warden worked very hard in the snow and ice gritting the pavements to enable us all to get about and prevent accidents. He did not put grit on the ice as it does not stop it being slippery.

It's time to celebrate a 20th birthday.

The Friends of the Primary School are celebrating their 20th year and plan to run a number of events, including a celebratory summer picnic and BBQ and balloon launch on Friday 8th July at the school. Over the past 20 years it is estimated that Friends has raised over £100k - not bad for a group of volunteer parents who meet once a month.

If you were a member of the committee or helped them out they want to hear from you, as, with the help of Bottesford Living History, they are hoping to create an archive of written material, photos and oral histories. If you would like to help, contact Kathryn Hinsliff-Smith, current Friends Chair, on 842333.

Friends of the Primary School fundraising events

Over 50 people enjoyed an evening of Curling, organised by the Friends in January, which raised over £700. The event was very competitive with the defending team working hard but losing on the very last stone thrown.

Scarecrows are back!

The Scarecrow Festival will be held on 11th and 12th June. With the Royal Wedding in April, this year's Scarecrow theme will be "ROYALTY". Knowing how creative local residents can be we expect to see a few wedding scarecrows, Royal crowns, and carriages, or any twist on the theme. Entries forms will be available from April.

Goodbye to Judith in St Mary's benefice office

Judith Wells has decided to concentrate on her Reader ministry, of which she says "it is getting busier and I really enjoy it". In addition to the pastoral visits and funerals she is also taking services in the High Framland parishes - Croxton Kerrial, Knipton, Harston etc. Judith will still be running Little Angels on Tuesday mornings and editing the Belvoir Angel, so won't be disappearing completely.

Vale of Belvoir Art Society - Spring Exhibition

Saturday 30th April, 1st and 2nd May - 10 to 4pm Methodist Church Hall

Village Voice Contact information:

Advertising: Anne Ablewhite on 842259

Editorial: Dilys Shepherd on 843505, or Susan Meech on 843402

Deadline for Issue 53: 20th March.

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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.

Important: To publicise your event in the 'What's On' column for May & June, please ring 844823 or email d.taffs@btinternet.com by 27th March.

Sing-a-Rainbow music classes for babies to pre-school age. (One-hour sessions)
Bottesford Baptist Church - Mondays, 10am & 11am.
Harlaxton Village Hall - Tues & Thurs, 10am & 11am.
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Sport:

An outstanding year for Bottesford Bowling

In recent months this club has won the LCBC Division 1, the NCBA 3 x 3 Super League, come runners-up in the Newark league Division 1 and had a creditable performance in the Belvoir 3-wood League. They have won the Grantham Lee Trophy, were joint winners of the Newark Millennium Trophy and runners-up in both the Newark Hickman Cup and the NCBA Portland Bowl.

Club Night each Monday provides opportunities for learner bowlers to practice and advanced players to extend their knowledge and skill. Inter-club events, with a BBQ to follow, are always popular and well attended. During the closed season, September to March, social events continue to ensure that members are still involved with the Club.

The young members are already very successful, dispelling the myth that bowls is an older person's game, and new members of all ages are very welcome. Green fees and annual subscriptions are affordable and bar prices are competitive too!

For further information contact Paul Newton on 843159 or Paun3@aol.com

Bottesford Senior Badminton Club

Are you interested in meeting new people and getting fit? Then playing badminton may be the way to do it. The club meets on Fridays at Belvoir High School from 7 – 10 pm and welcomes new members. There are two men's teams, a lady's team and a mixed team who play in both the Melton and Newark Badminton Leagues. Contact Bruce Baxter on 843859 or rueandbruce@tiscali.co.uk

Belvoir Bottesford Badminton Club

Why not come and join in the fun? The Belvoir Bottesford Badminton Club offers adults the opportunity to enjoy exercise and competitive sport in a friendly atmosphere.



The club has been active for over 30 years and meets every Wednesday between 8-10pm at Belvoir High School. New members are welcome to turn-up for trial sessions at no cost and the club is always keen to help players of all abilities progress in the sport. The club enters teams into local leagues so the more competitive players can test their skills against other regional challengers.

If you'd like to find out more come along on a club night or call Ross Ryan on 07787 341529.

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