



Issue No. 65
May/June 2013

Village Voice

The newsletter of Bottesford, Easthorpe, Muston & Normanton

Elizabeth Jones wins Young Chef Shield

Keen young cook Elizabeth Jones competed in the northern district final of the Rotary International Young Chef Competition. Elizabeth (15) of Bottesford was the highest-placed Melton area competitor. She earned her place in the district final by winning the Melton area heat, held at Belvoir High School, where she is a pupil. Her prize included two mornings of coaching by head chef David Ellams at Stapleford Park Country House Hotel.



Excellent first Ofsted inspection for the Vale of Belvoir Out Of School Club

The Out of School Club, based in the Children's Centre on Belvoir High School's Campus received some great comments from Ofsted who said that 'children are enthusiastic and motivated to learn in this good quality setting and older children are very good role models'. They also said that 'the environment is well organised and the outdoor areas enable the children to have freedom to explore, be physically active and have first hand experience of the seasons and weather'. There are spaces available before and after school and for the summer scheme which runs for two weeks from the 29th of July.

Bottesford Primary School- latest news

During the Spring term the primary school children have taken part in various activities. Years 3 and 4 took part in the Vale Choral Festival. Other children took part in the Grantham Music Festival enjoying the experience of singing and playing to an audience as soloists. 'UNICEF Day for Change' raised £146.50, and Red Nose Day another £509 which included money from the Friends of the School disco and also some voluntary contributions.

Muston Pancake Supper

Approximately 30 Mums, Dads, Grandparents and children met in the Old School on Shrove Tuesday evening for a Pancake Supper. As many as you could eat for only £4.00 and including drinks just had to be a bargain. John and Hugh - supervised by Jo - carried out their duties as Church Wardens and were in charge of the 'tossing' and only a couple finished on the floor. A suitable claret was served to the adults with soft drinks for the children. Around £85.00 was raised for church funds and an enjoyable evening was had by all.



£600 raised for Red Nose Day at Belvoir High School

Mr Ainsworth said, "I'm delighted to be able to report that the Red Nose Day fundraising is in excess of £600. This is made up of Non Uniform Day contributions alongside a fabulous Cake Sale, a very tricky quiz and various other activities around the school. A huge thank you to all who have contributed towards a very successful event." - *BHS weekly update*



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Bottesford Happenings in 1953, 1963 and 1973 as reported by the Grantham Journal

In **1953** it was reported that the Earl of Rutland Hospital was going to be converted into four self-contained flats. Melton & Belvoir RDC decided that school children could not have time out of school for potato picking.

By **1963** it was recognized that Bottesford had lagged behind with provision of housing for the elderly. Discussions since 1960 resulted in the building of Warwick Flats at a total cost of £35,000. Alderman Harvey opened the building in July 1963. Eighteen self-contained flats consisted of a bed/sitting room and kitchen and each resident had access to a shared bathroom and separate toilet. Central heating, lighting and alarm bell connection to a resident warden, Mrs George Anyan, were included in the rent of £1.10s a week and there was also a large communal room. There were no objections to a primary school on Barkestone Lane from Melton & Belvoir RDC. The school was completed in 1977.

At a parish council meeting in January **1973** it was noted that the village tollgate and the stocks were in need of repair. The Cross needed re-pointing as well, these actions would preserve village history. In June Belvoir High School Sports Hall was officially opened.

Dear Reader,

This is your Editor, writing to you from the twenty third floor of my publishing empire, surrounded by a hive of activity as news hounds rush in with the top stories for the latest edition. But despite the world wide reach of my news network there is always that nagging doubt that I may have missed a great story about you or your friends. The problem is how can I be certain that the Village Voice always covers all the top stories?

It is you who holds the answer. Get in touch and make sure I don't miss your team's great win; that very notable anniversary; the thousandth member of the such-and-such club; or simply an interesting tale of village life or people, past or present. Simply drop me a line either via our website: where you will also find some helpful guidance for your article ("newsletter style guide"), or get in touch via the contact details on the last page of each issue. I may have to edit your article to make it fit, but I will try to ensure that you are happy with any necessary revisions. The printing presses are waiting to roll. I'm holding the front page. I just need you to give me the story.

Village Voice needs a cloud

The volunteers who produce Village Voice are looking to move with the times and to set up a virtual secretarial role using cloud computing. We want to be able to store our archive of paperwork using a virtual file hosting service that all the committee can access via a password. This will save us all storing information both on paper and our computers. As a charity we are looking for a service that is very low cost or free. We think we understand the principles of cloud computing but do not have the skills to set up a virtual file system. We don't even know how to choose the best service – **Dropbox; Google Drive; Microsoft's SkyDrive**. If you have good IT skills and can help us to set something up, and then show us how to use it, we would be really grateful. Please contact :

Susan Meech on 843402 or email:vv@bottesford.org.uk

Knitting Bonanza

Thank you to all the volunteers who responded to our appeal to knit jumpers for the 'Fish and Chip' babies in Africa. To date we have over 500 but more will be welcome. For more information or to get involved contact Judith Wells on 01949 842804.

Cars in the river

Two vehicles became stranded recently attempting to cross the River Devon fords, one on Devon Lane and one on Rectory Lane (Duck's Crossing). 'It is very unwise to attempt to cross these fords when the river is high and fast flowing. The diversion via Grantham Road and Station Road only takes a few minutes longer. It is safer and much cheaper than the cost of recovering and repairing a vehicle that has been swept away'. (*Neighbourhood Watch*)



News from the Parish council

Bottesford Youth Council

The Youth Council is now developing very well and has eight active members who meet every other week. Council members are creating a questionnaire to use at the Primary School and Belvoir High School to find out what is truly required by our younger residents. This is an excellent initiative, so thank you to all involved.

Earlier this year some members of the Youth Council went to London to visit the Houses of Parliament. In her report, Amy Hinsliff-Smith described their very long day, the highlight of which was learning from their guide how parliament was run and seeing where the Queen opens parliament each year. The trip included a visit to the London Eye, 10 Downing Street and Buckingham Palace where photographs were taken.

Welcome to Anne Daly and Ian Smith

After almost two years of being short of councillors we are delighted to welcome Anne and Ian to our Parish Council team which means we are back to our full strength of nine. We will provide some pen-pictures of all our councillors over the next few months.

Anne's e-mail address is anne.daly@bottesfordpc.org.uk and Ian's is ian.smith@bottesfordpc.org.uk

Neighbourhood Plan

A big thank you to everyone who returned our questionnaire and attended the drop-in sessions regarding the Neighbourhood Plan. This is a vital piece of work and we will be looking for volunteers to help us create this over the next few weeks. Please keep an eye on our website and Facebook page. Our dedicated e-mail address for all comments and enquiries is neighbourhoodplan@bottesfordpc.org.uk

A Neighbourhood Plan is a community led framework which enables the local people to guide the future development and growth of an area in the way that they feel best suits their needs. They relate to the specific use of land, whether for housing, social activities, protection of specific areas, economic growth etc. and once a Plan has been examined and approved by the Local Authority it will be used to determine planning applications – provided it meets the basic conditions of national policy. Should Bottesford decide to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan, then it would be up to the local people to step forward to air their views in order that they may guide development in the best possible way – so if it happens, don't leave it to others.



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The Easter bunnies twitch their whiskers

Children from **Bottesford Pre-School** visited Warwick Flats before Easter to sing songs to the senior citizens and present them with some cakes they had baked themselves. The songs were about the Easter bunny looking for eggs and everyone had a lovely time!



Apologies to our Readers for the poor quality image provided.

Gardens Wanted

The Vale of Belvoir Lions Club is organising the Bottesford Open Gardens 2013, to be held on Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th July from 10am to 4pm each day. We need your help to make this local event a success. It is in aid of Grantham Food Bank, Bottesford Skatepark and Bottesford Scouts and Guides. If you live in Bottesford or Easthorpe and would be willing to open your garden as part of our event, please contact Teresa Buckley on 01949 842820.

The Homestead

John and Shirley Palmer opened their gardens in Normanton to visitors in aid of the National Garden scheme on 2nd March. A total of 62 visitors enjoyed the day and together with three gardening clubs who visited on other days, a total of £370 was raised. The money will go to a number of charities which are supported through Gardens Open for Charity.



Scarecrow Festival on 22 and 23rd June

On Saturday 22nd you will have the chance to follow the trail and discover all the fabulous scarecrows. On Sunday a fête will be held announcing the winner— come along and join the fun, there will be stalls, attractions and games. This year's theme is 'favourite children's books' and if you want to join in the fun you can pick up an entry form from one of the local businesses in the village.—*Friends of Bottesford Primary*

Christian Aid Collection 12th—18th May

During this week, red envelopes will be dropping through your letter boxes and then picked up a day or two later. We know times are hard but please give what you can. Good use will be made of your donations.

2013 Vale of Belvoir Lions Music Quiz

The hotly anticipated annual music quiz attracted a near to sell out crowd and competition was fierce between the fourteen teams. After 10 rounds of battling, there was only one clear winner out front with 151 points: the team who called themselves 'Slightly Shop Soiled'. Well done to them. Thank you to all the teams that took part, we hope to see you all again next year. Big thanks to all those who put this event together, especially quizmaster Lion Matt and Lion Andy. The total profit for the event was £701.02. A great result.—*Vale of Belvoir Lions*

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What's On in May...

Thurs 2 nd 2.30pm	Methodist Friendship Group, Church Schoolroom. 'Dance and Ice', speakers Jo and John Ives. Refreshments will follow. All are welcome. Details – see 16 th .
Sat 4 th 10am – 4pm Sun 5 th 2pm – 4pm Mon 6 th 10am – 4pm	Vale of Belvoir Art Society Spring Show at Methodist Church, Devon Lane. Original art and prints for sale. Enquiries: Gill Thomson - Hon Sec, 01400 281025
Mon 6 th 10am – 4pm	GRAZE THE VALE – FOOD & GIFT FAIR. 3 venues – Vale House Belvoir, The Chequers Inn & The Manners Arms. Food & Gift Stalls, fun dog show, cookery demonstrations, open mic & much more. Organised by the Vale of Belvoir Tourism CIC who have chosen Dove Cottage to be their charity for 2013. More info at http://www.valeofbelvoirtourism.com/
Thurs 9 th 7.30pm	Local History Society. Fuller Rooms. 'Laurel & Hardy – A Life in Comedy' – Dave McCormack.
Sun 12 th 10am	VoB Ramblers. Stamford, 10 miles. Moderate walk. Call 0115 9825600 for a free programme or check http://www.ramblers.org.uk/
Sun 12 th 2.30pm	East Midland Orchid Society. VC Hall. Dr Lauren Gardner of Writhlington School.
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.
Tues 14 th 2pm	U3A - 'Richard III' Speaker: Jean Townsend - VC Hall
Tues 14 th 7pm	VOBAS present an evening with Geoff Kersey giving a watercolour demonstration at the Methodist Church, Devon Lane. All welcome. Tickets £4 on the door. Enq 01400 281025
Thurs 16 th 2.30pm	Methodist Friendship Group, Church Schoolroom. Leonard Thompson will be demonstrating Painting on Silk. Refreshments served. All are welcome. Further details Glenys Bradshaw, 842893.
Tues 21 st 7.30pm	W.I. - Resolutions & Annual Supper - VC Hall. Contact Marion Orr 843629
Weds 22 nd 2pm - 4pm	Police Team Beat Surgery. Zaro's Coffee Shop, Queen Street. Come along and have a chat to your Local Police Beat Team about what matters in your Community.
Thurs 30 th 2.30pm	Bottesford Methodist Friendship Group. Members are invited to spend the afternoon at a member's home. Details from 01949 842893 or 01949 859845.

And in June ...

Weds 5 th 7pm	VoB Ramblers. Southwell, 6 miles. Contact: 0115 9825600.
Mon 10 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.
Tues 11 th 2pm	U3A – 'Below Stairs at Belvoir Castle' Betty Elmer. VC Hall
Thurs 13 th 2.30pm	Bottesford Methodist Friendship Group. Chapel schoolroom. The Queen's Maundy visit to Southwell Minster – speaker, John Meredith, former Head Verger at Southwell Minster. Refreshments. Details Glenys Bradshaw 842893.
Thurs 13 th	Local History Society - Annual Summer Outing
Sat 15 th 6pm - 9pm	Wine, Roses & Music – An Evening Soiree. By invitation of Frances, Duchess of Rutland at Belvoir Lodge, by Belvoir Castle. Tickets £13.00, Concessions £7.50, in aid of Dove Cottage Day Hospice
Tues 18 th 7.30pm	W.I. - 'Back Talk' by Thomas Jeppersen. VC Hall.
Weds 19 th 7pm	VoB Ramblers. Harlaxton, 6 miles. Contact: 0115 9825600.
Sat 22 nd Sun 23 rd	12 th Scarecrow Festival, by Friends of Bottesford Primary School, and on Sunday, the Lions Famous BBQ.
Sun 23 rd 2.30pm	East Midland Orchid Society. VC Hall. Phillip Seaton 'Hunting orchids in Cuba'.
Weds 26 th 4pm to 6pm	Police Team Beat Surgery. Zaro's Coffee Shop, Queen Street. Come along and have a chat to your Local Police Beat Team about what matters in your Community.
Thurs 27 th	Methodist Friendship Group will be visiting Allington Manor for Afternoon Tea.
Sun 30 th 10am	VoB Ramblers. In the Dukeries, Sherwood Forest. 8 miles. Contact: 0115 9825600.

Important: To publicise your event in the 'What's On' column for July or August, please ring 844823 or email t.taffs@btinternet.com by **27th May**.

Have you lost a ring in the village hall?

A lady's ring has been found at the Village Hall in Bottesford. The nature of where the ring was found could indicate it had been there some time. Contact Marilyn Robinson on 844289.

Dear Village Voice

It won't be long before there is an accident on Keel Drive, Silverwood Road or Granby Drive. It's madness every week day morning and afternoon when hoards of parents bring/take their children to school/home. The residents of these roads take their lives in their hands attempting to leave or return at these times. I am asking if these parents could please have some consideration for the people who live on these roads. Leave their cars at home and walk the children to school, fresh air, exercise and learning road safety must be better than congested side roads and allowing your children to witness cyclists being almost knocked off their bikes. Me being that cyclist on many occasions.

Name and address withheld

Dear Sir

On receiving our 2013-4 Council Tax bill I was surprised to see that, whilst the charges for Leicestershire CC and Melton BC have remained the same as last year, the charge for Bottesford PC has increased by 90%. It would be interesting to hear from the Parish Council how they justify such a staggering increase in these difficult economic times.

Name and address withheld

Hair Razr's Mother's Day mini market and pamper evening

The event was held in aid of the Dove Cottage Day Hospice and was generously supported by local businesses and clients. The profits from the evening came to a grand total of £350.

New exciting autumn programme for courses starting in September 2013 at Bottesford Community Centre.

Copies will be available in the Library and at the Community Centre next to Belvoir High School. For more details or to request a copy of the new programme telephone, email or come and visit the Centre.

Telephone: 01949 844199 or Email: Julia.Madgwick@leics.gov.uk

The Methodist Quiz

The winners of the quiz were Hilary Strasburger and Muriel Martin. Many thanks to all who took part—£73 has been donated to Dove Cottage.

Coffee in the Community

Four places where you can drop in for coffee and a chat are:

The Schoolroom, Muston – Tuesday morning 10 till 12.00 approx. Having coffee in The Schoolroom has been an event in the Muston community for the last eight years or so.

Warwick Flats – a coffee morning on Tuesdays 10.30 – 12.00

Baptist Chapel - Friday morning 9 till 11. Again, this is a coffee morning with a long history. Volunteers have been making coffee here for the last 20 years.

Warwick Flats - Friday afternoon, 1.15-3.00. Knit and Natter BUT you don't have to knit!

Protect yourself against fraud

Fraud, particularly that using the internet or smart phone technology, is one of the fastest growing crimes we face today. The evidence of this is clear from the number of reports that NHW receives from residents, even at this very local level. For advice, or to report a fraud, visit the Action Fraud website <http://www.actionfraud.police.uk/>

or you can call them on 0300 123 2040 to discuss your situation with a specialist fraud advisor. As with many crimes the key is to avoid complacency about the risks. (NHW)

Sing-a-Rainbow music classes for babies to pre-school age. (One-hour sessions)
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Sports News



Bottesford Skate Park

is a free to use facility in the village which we are keen to keep open. If you are a skate boarder or BMXer, then Bottesford is most certainly a 'must ride' park on your list. There are often professional and semi-professional riders at the park with National magazine photographers taking action shots.

The park, however, does not run itself. Russ Symonds and Gordon Geach did a great job getting it up and running, but have now stood down. We would like to thank them for all their hard work. The new committee is: Ian Wright (Chair), Daryl Hurley (Vice-Chair), Alistair Yates (Secretary), Jackie Pacey

(Treasurer) and Martin Pacey (Committee Member). The park has been partly refurbished and we are trying to raise funds to complete the refurbishment before next summer. We are aware of litter being an issue and have a Litter Picking Rota organised within the committee and hope to rope in a few of the riders to help us too.

New members are always welcome so contact Ian Wright on 0115 989 9585 and get involved.

Cross-country success

Well done to Jonathan Mills, Harvey Young, Thomas Stokes and Harry Veitch from Bottesford Primary School who ran well to qualify for county level in a cross-country competition.

Advertising in Village Voice

Village Voice is a charity and our sole income is from the sale of advertising space. Advertisers take out advertising space for 6 issues, which is one year beginning with the September/October edition. All adverts are one column wide and price is based on size.

Payment is in advance and costs are as follows:

20mm £42, 40mm £84, 80mm £168, 100mm £210

Advertising space will be sold on a first come first served basis. If you would like to purchase advertising space for the next year, email me at the address below. Please don't assume that you will automatically get space if you have advertised with us before, as this could result in disappointment. vvadverts@hotmail.com

Village Voice Contacts

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