



Issue No. 82
March/April 2016

Village Voice

The newsletter of Bottesford, Easthorpe, Muston & Normanton

Book launch success at Community Library



Bottesford Community Library passed another milestone by holding its first Book Launch, at which author Jesse Stuart introduced her new publication "A Rough Guide to a Smooth Life - A Guide to Living the Life You Love" (Balboa Press), available on Amazon.

A former Bottesford High School student, now living in New Zealand, Jesse is a qualified Yoga Teacher and Life Coach. On a cold winter's night, she set out her stall, with a book that aims to help you realise your potential and achieve your dreams. It is about happiness and how to find it within yourself, in spite of the pressures of our modern world. To find out more, go to www.inspireyourlife.org.

The Community Library is entirely staffed by volunteers, as part of the Leicestershire Community Libraries Partnership. It continues to offer the browsing, lending services, public computers, copying and children's library of the County Library Service, with extended opening hours. It also offers donated books for sale, tea and coffee (and cake on Sunday afternoons), newspapers to read, a place to meet, and a developing programme of activities and events.

Author Jesse Stuart launches her new book at the Community Library

Spell-binding Harry Potter night at Bottesford Community Library

Around 30 children enjoyed Harry Potter 'Night of spells' in the library. Children arrived with wands, scarves and even horcruxes, but the sorting hat decided which house they were to be in for the evening. House members then competed in activities, including finding and making 'polyjuice potion', taking part in a wizarding duel and answering quiz questions.

Thanks very much to Fina Martinez from the Lincolnshire group of the Federation of children's book groups for organising the event. The library will be organising more author themed events throughout the year, which will be publicised in the library and on our Facebook page.



Magic night at the library

Bottesford Neighbourhood Plan draft due to be written in March 2016

The first draft of the Neighbourhood Plan will be started in March 2016. Once completed, there will be a 6-week consultation programme with statutory bodies and the wider community. This will be supported by a public drop-in event. Date, time and venue to be announced later.

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Photo-competition winner

Winner of Village Voice Photograph Competition, Gordon Crook, moved to Bottesford in 1987. This is the second time he has won first prize and Village Voice wondered what was secret to his success.

He walks with the Vale of Belvoir Ramblers, has travelled extensively around the world and is also interested in bird watching. These hobbies gave him many opportunities to practise photography, and in 2014 joined Grantham Camera Club to improve his photos. He wins a day's tuition with Mark Pugh who is a professional photographer living and working in the village.



Previous winners of the Village Voice photo competition with committee member Neil Fortey

Normanton drainage works and road closure

The road through Normanton continues to be closed to all traffic. Work is due for completion by the last week in April.



Normanton Road fully closed

The road-closure has meant a diversion through Staunton and Orston. Most residents have planned accordingly. However, some drivers continue to ignore the 'road closed' signs and there have been several incidents involving lorries having to reverse, or getting stuck.

A big thank you to all of the contractors who have been very courteous and helpful during this time.

Melton Local Plan – Emerging Options

Melton Borough Council is preparing a new Local Plan which will shape development in the borough for the next 20 years. Bottesford's Neighbourhood Plan will fit within this. There is an on-line consultation available until the 4 April 2016. If you want to know how many properties are planned for our parish, then check out the web-page, and complete the on-line survey. www.melton.gov.uk/localplan/site/index.php

A big 'thank you' from the Lions

A huge 'thank you' from the Vale of Belvoir Lions to all the club members, family, friends, helpers and the very generous public for making Christmas 2015 so special.

They collected a record amount from the newly refurbished "Santa and his Sleigh", and the proceeds from the Annual Boxing Day duck race. Sleigh - £6102.33, Duck Race - £1100.37, Forresters' Morrismen Boxing Day collection - £397.15.

As a result, the club has pledged or made these donations: Dove Cottage Hospice - £2000. Rainbows Childrens' Hospice - £2000, Lions Clubs International Sight savers - £500, WaterAid - £500, Multiple Sclerosis - £250.

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Lynn Busby - Parish Councillor (2013-2014)

Lynn Busby joined the parish council with a passion to represent the views of those around her. She strived to improve our community through raising public awareness on many issues. Lynn would always speak out for those she represented, even if this was not always the popular view.

Her principles and morals were strong, both within the parish council and while working with the community. Lynn made a difference in her short time with the parish council and her voice and views will be sorely missed. **Dermot Daly**. Parish Council Chairman 2011-2015.

Around the Beat with PCSO Liam Palmer

The Vale Beat covers around 120 square miles and 38 villages, and is the Rural North Beat of Melton Mowbray Local Policing Unit. The Beat Team for the Vale consists of the Beacon Officer, PC 210 Mark Longden, and two PCSO's, 6146 George Wilkinson and myself 6016 Liam Palmer. We have a Rural Crime Officer, PC Sharon Roscoe.

The greatest policing concern is of no surprise... speeding. We have had several Speed Enforcement days, most recently at Waltham on the Wolds and Normanton. Traffic Offence Reports were issued, resulting in fines and a court appearance.

If anyone has questions, email liam.palmer@leicestershire.pnn.police.uk or call 101. When prompted, leave a voicemail for 6016.

Beat Surgery: Thursday 31st March 2016. 18.00 at Pizzini, Bottesford.

Bottesford Primary school is a double-award winner

Bottesford C E Primary School has been awarded a 'Gold Quality Mark for Music'. They are one of only 6 schools in the county who have received this accolade! Gold Standard is given because the quality of the school's music provision is 'outstanding'.

They have also been awarded the 'Beyond Bullying Award' by Leicestershire County Council, in recognition of their whole school commitment to preventing and tackling all kinds of bullying.

Commemorative banner delivered to school

On the 26 January, the WW1 Commemorative Banner was delivered to the Primary School. Inspired by participation in a WW1 Activities Day, pupils produced drawings depicting life during the war and how the school contributed to the war effort. The children worked with Sue Rowland, a textile artist, in transferring their work onto silk fabric before final assembly.

Volunteer stitchers from the Bottesford Parish WW1 Centenary Project and the Vale of Belvoir U3A Sewing Crafts Group assisted pupils with embroidering the names of all the casualties from Bottesford and Muston. Many felt that the time spent with the art and craftwork brought them close to the people and events of 100 years ago.

The banner will be on permanent display in the recently enlarged school hall at Bottesford Primary School. We are most grateful for the support of the Heritage Lottery Fund.



Commemorative banner unveiled at
Bottesford Primary School

Come and Sing: John Stainer's Crucifixion. 25 March at Bottesford Church

The Cranmer Company of Singers and Musical Director Deborah Davies are hosting this charity "Come and Sing" in Bottesford Church. Rehearse, then sing later that evening in a charity performance.

If you would like to sing, please donate either £6.00, £8.00 or £10.00. Choose what you wish to give at the door, and book your place by contacting Anny on annyjones@me.com or call 07415 512729. Rehearsals start at 4.30pm. Bring food for a break after the rehearsal. The performance begins at 7.30pm.

Organist is Philip Robinson, conductor is Deborah Davies, local soloists are: Tenor - Derek Fisher and Bass - Geoff Harbach. Money raised will go to the Syrian Refugee Appeal.

May Day Gala has a new look: Monday 2 May 2016

11am-4pm

This year's May Day Gala will follow a WW1 theme, and includes many new attractions. Find a full list of activities and timings nearer the date on the Vale of Belvoir website: www.voblions.org.uk.

The Gala committee has worked hard planning the event, and would welcome any help during the lead up, or as support on the day. If you can help, please contact Nigel Davies on: 07973 377726

The entrance fee is £2.00 per person, and is free for children accompanied by an adult.

From the Archives - Grantham Journal 1946

The death of Harry Edgar Burrows, a survivor of WW1, was reported in January. He was blinded during the advance on Cambrai, but continued to work on his farm until the day he died.

Laurence Dewey was appointed Head teacher at the school, after Walter Cox resigned.

In February, the WI premises at Elton were reported to close. Bottesford ladies attended Elton WI because their village did not have a Community Hall. A public meeting resolved that money in the Welcome Home Fund should be distributed to local members of the forces and not used to fund the Village Hall. Instead, a new fund, the Victory Commemoration Hall Fund would raise money. Shortly afterwards, 50 ladies formed a new Elton & Bottesford WI Branch to be affiliated to the Nottinghamshire Federation.

In March, the Journal revealed that Mrs G Marsh would provide a site in Bottesford for the erection of the redundant Elton WI premises. This site was eventually purchased from Mrs Marsh for £99 in 1954.

Safari supper. Saturday 12 Mar 6.30pm-10.00pm.

Location – secret, warm and welcoming!

Fancy an evening with a difference? Guests meet in the church at 6.30pm where they find out where they will eat their starter course. They later move on to different places for mains and pudding courses. Guests will be eating at three venues with a variety of people! There is no set menu but we can cater for special dietary needs and preferences, if advised at the time of booking. Help is also available for mobility and access requirements.

For tickets, contact Laura Marsh - email lauzmarsh@hotmail.com or John Topps on 844076. £15 for one ticket or £25 for two. Bring a friend! The cost includes pre-dinner drinks in the church.

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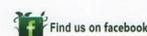


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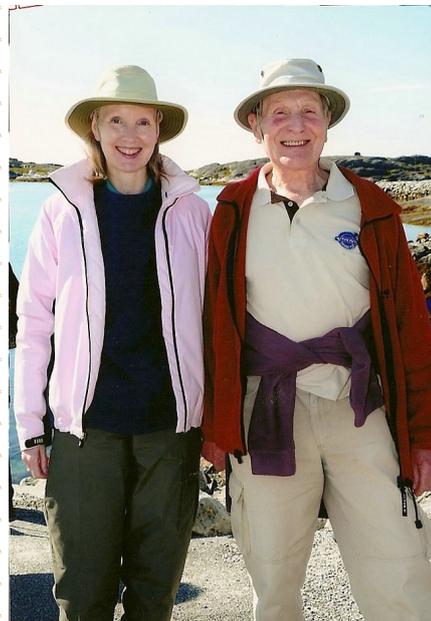
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SPOTLIGHT ON....

John and Rowena – Unsung Heroes

John and Rowena have lived in Normanton for 18 years. Over that time, they have walked to and from Bottesford, on average, three times a week. John noticed the path was often badly littered. So, he and Rowena decided to do something about it.



For 18 years, during each walk, John and Rowena collected the litter, sorted and disposed of it. They reckon this is about 6,000 bags. In addition, once a year, John has cleared the ditches. John explains: "I hate litter, so I decided to pick it up. I also decided to do this without using an extending stick. By bending down and twisting every time I pick the rubbish, it keeps me supple and very fit!"

There is a seasonal nature to the rubbish. John says: "In Winter, there is less. Perhaps drivers keep their windows shut. However, when the local tip is closed, there is a corresponding increase in

John and Rowena - amazing litter-pickers!

litter." Empty bottles, full bottles of unknown yellow liquid, folded crisp-packets, take-away cartons, dog-poo bags, used contraceptives are examples of the mess that people leave.

A huge thank you to John and Rowena, who have quietly made such a big difference to our parish, and are an inspiration to us all.

Clean for The Queen Weekend

'Clean for The Queen' is a campaign to tidy up our communities over the weekend 4-6 March 2016. The campaign is in partnership with Keep Britain Tidy, and is calling on individuals, businesses, schools and councils to get involved. How long does litter take to bio-degrade? Paperbag - 1 month, a banana skin – two years, dog-poo bag – 10-20 years, plastic bottles – 450 years.

Please check out www.cleanforthequeen.co.uk. Or contact the parish council at clerk@bottesfordpc.org.uk

Join us at the movies!

The Good Neighbour Scheme's monthly film club continues to entertain and bring a little Hollywood escapism to even the dreariest of days! We show a range of films from 'golden oldies' to recent cinema releases. The club provides a wonderful opportunity to catch up with friends or make new ones over a cup of tea and a biscuit.

This is a FREE event, held in the Old School at 2pm on the second Wednesday in the month. Due to licensing laws, we cannot advertise the film titles, but if you want details of forthcoming films, call GNS on 07849 311740.

We can arrange transport for you, free of charge within the parish.

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What's On in March...	
Wed 2 nd 2.30pm	Mothers' Union – Talk by Rev. David Payne (visitors welcome) in St Mary's.
Fri 4 th 7pm	Women's World Day of Prayer Service in St Marys. Cuban style refreshments from 7pm, service begins at 7.30pm. All welcome.
Sat 5 th 10am – 12 noon	Fair Trade coffee morning in St Mary's.
Sun 6 th 10.30am	Mothering Sunday All Age Service.
Sun 6 th	Vale of Belvoir Ramblers Walk – Melton Country Park (7.5 miles). Call 01949 836042 or go to www.vbramblers.co.uk for more information.
Wed 9 th 2pm	FREE Monthly Good Neighbour Scheme Film Show in the Old School. Doors open 1.30pm. Donations for refreshments only.
Sat 12 th 6.30pm	St Mary's Safari Supper – For tickets contact John on 844076.
Sun 13 th	Vale of Belvoir Ramblers Walk - Rev. William Lee (9 miles). 01949 836042 or www.vbramblers.co.uk for more information.
Mon 14 th 7.15pm	Parish Council Meeting, Old School, Bottesford.
Tues 15 th 7.30 – 9.30pm	W.I. meeting. Between Stairs: Life of a Ladies' Maid – Mrs Jo Carter. Bottesford VC Hall.
Wed 16 th	Vale of Belvoir Ramblers Walk – Flintham (5 miles). 01949 836042 or www.vbramblers.co.uk for more information.
Thurs 17 th 2.30pm	Bottesford Methodist Friendship Group, Devon Lane School-room. Speaker: Rev. Ian Mason. Everyone Welcome.
Sun 20 th 10.20am	Palm Sunday Procession and Service – meet on Fleming Bridge.
Sun 20 th	Vale of Belvoir Ramblers Walk – Ambergate (10 miles). 01949 836042 or www.vbramblers.co.uk for more information.
Thurs 24 th 7.30pm	Holy Communion with foot washing at St Mary's.
Fri 25 th 10am	Village Walk of Witness (starting at St Mary's, finishing at Methodists for a short service around 11.30am followed by coffee and hot cross buns.)
Fri 25 th 2pm 7.30pm	Service of Last Hour Come and Sing Charity Service – both at St. Mary's.
Sat 26 th 10am – 12 noon	Children's Church Exploring Easter Event. Contact Lisa Smith on 07415144640.
Sun 27 th 10.30am	Easter Sunday Service at St. Mary's.
Sun 27 th 6.30pm	Sunday Praise Easter Service at Baptist Church.
Thurs 31 st 2.30pm	Bottesford Methodist Friendship Group, Devon Lane School-room. Oberammergau. Everyone Welcome.

And in April...	
Mon 4 th 2pm	Mothers' Union – Deanery Festival at St. Mary's, Melton Mowbray.
Mon 11 th 7.15pm	Parish Council meeting, Old School, MUSTON.
Wed 13 th 2pm	FREE Monthly Good Neighbour Scheme Film Show in the Old School. Doors open 1.30pm. Donations for refreshments only.
Thurs 14 th 2.30pm	Bottesford Methodist Friendship Group, Devon Lane School-room. Street pastoring: Rowena Ward-Barrow. Everyone Welcome.
Sat 16 th 7.30pm	Casino Night at the VC Hall. Tickets £16 from the Pre-school.
Tues 19 th 7.30 – 9.30pm	W.I. meeting. Potted Meat – Mr William Sutherland. Bottesford VC Hall.
Thurs 28 th 2.30pm	Bottesford Methodist Friendship Group, Devon Lane School-room. "Old Songs": Vic Martin. Everyone Welcome.
Sat 30 th 10am – 4pm	Art Festival at the Methodist Church. Refreshments, lunches and stalls. Also May 1 st (2 – 4pm) and May 2 nd (10am – 4pm).

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Important:

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Barkestone Lane access

While understanding people's concerns about congestion caused by buses and cars at the Barkestone Lane/High Street junction at the beginning and end of the school day, I believe there are a number of points to consider: Firstly, if Barkestone Lane was open from A52 to the schools, how would it be controlled and access restricted to emergency vehicles, parents' cars and buses? All traffic, including heavy lorries, would use it as a 'rat run' into the village. This would cause congestion at the junction throughout the day, not just at school opening and closing times. Secondly, Barkestone Lane is quiet, allowing dog owners and parents with young children to walk and cycle safely. This amenity, used by many, would no longer be available. **Gail Parkinson**

Dog-poo

As a regular dog walker, I would first like to say "well done Bottesford" for the dog-poo bins and poo-bag dispensers around the village. However, why are people not using them on Granby Drive, High Street, Barkestone Lane, Belvoir Road and elsewhere? My dog likes to go in the same place every day, and so do other dogs because there are piles of it. If I was to see any of them, I could offer the owners a bag to pick it up. Sadly I don't. Please can we have a crack-down on this problem.

Elaine Cussans

Microchip your dog

From the 6 April 2016, it will be a legal requirement to have your dog microchipped in England and Wales. The process is easy and takes 10 minutes. A typical cost is £15.00. Your veterinary surgery will provide you with the paper-work to complete the data-base registration.

Bottesford raises £10,300 for heart charities

Since 2005, I have raised money for various heart charities, with the help of local businesses. This year a total of £1,550 will go to Glenfield Hospital. Many thanks to: The Thatch, The Co-op, The Bull Inn, Taylor's, Select Convenience Store, The Rutland Arms, Zaro's and C & J monthly Sunday dance. **Hazel Preston**

Friends of St Mary's provides invaluable help

During 2015, we provided nearly £4,500 to preserve St. Mary's: £2,000 towards the flagstones and £2,000 towards the repair of the wall. We know the roof and ceiling needs attention. The Friends may provide financial support for some of the work. Events for 2016 are being planned. The Quiz Night at the Bowls Club is on 4th March 7.30pm. The AGM is on 8th March at the Bowls Club, 7.30pm. All invited. To prosper in 2016, your support is vital. It would help immensely if tickets are purchased in advance, so we can adequately cater. Please remind others they can become a member. Thank you for your continued support. **John Daybell, Chairman.**

Methodist Christmas Quiz

The winners of the quiz were: J. B. Reed (£10) and Christopher Clarke (£5). Glyn Moxham and John and Cynthia Prater also successfully completed the Quiz. The winners kindly donated their prize money to Dove Cottage Hospice. The sum of £68 has been sent to the hospice.

Methodist church. Art Festival - April 30th to May 2nd

The Art Festival is over 30 years old! Come and look at pictures painted by local artists. You can also view the newly restored 1st World War Roll of Honour. Refreshments, including lunches, teas and cakes are served in the hall. There are also plants, cards, books and bric-a-brac stalls.

Sports News



Bottesford Football Club



Bottesford FC Girls' Development Squad proudly wearing their new strip

We also welcome Darren Wilson. He has taken over as manager of our U14 team. A big thank-you to Russell Hibbert and the team of parents who helped run the U14 since September 2015.

Meet our Girls Development squad proudly wearing their new kit. We are always looking for new additions to this happy and successful team.

We are delighted that Simone Sheffield has agreed to join the committee as Secretary for the Girls section and the New Newark Youth League boys' team.

WW1 Casualties

Ernest Wakefield was born in 1886, in Bottesford, the son of Thomas and Sarah Ann Wakefield. He joined the 1st Bn. Leicestershire Regiment and served in the British Expeditionary Force. He died in Mesopotamia on the 8th March 1916 aged 29. His name is inscribed on the Basra Memorial in Iraq and on the Muston Memorial.

Frank Pacey was the son of William and Frances Pacey of Easthorpe. He was born in Woolsthorpe in 1895 and worked as a plumber in the family business. He served in the 1st/5th Battalion of the Leicestershire Regiment and died on the 21st April 1916 aged 22. He is buried in the Aubigny Communal Cemetery.

Village Voice distributors

The committee would like to say a huge 'thank you' to our distributors who turn out in all weathers to put copies of village voice through letter-boxes. We have a number of new people helping and we hope they are enjoying the experience.

We always need more people. So, if you would like to help out please email us at vv@bottesford.org.uk or ring 843402.

Village Voice Contacts

Advertising: Email vvadverts@hotmail.com or phone 842141.

Editorial: Susan Meech on 843402.

Deadline for May/June Edition (Issue 83): 27th March 2016.

E-mail: vv@bottesford.org.uk

Facebook: 'Village Voice, Bottesford'

Website: www.villagevoice.bottesford.org.uk includes our 'Extras' page.

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