



Issue No. 88
March/April 2017

Village Voice

The newsletter of Bottesford, Easthorpe, Muston & Normanton

Mobile Speed Camera returns

After a few months' lay-off, the Mobile Vehicle-Activated Speed Camera (MVAS) has returned. The delay was due to the need to obtain some spare parts, after the original manufacturer had closed down, and operator illness.

The camera is now operational and the data are being evaluated. The MVAS recently monitored southbound traffic along Normanton Main Street between 26th Jan and 1st Feb 2017. Over that period, 72.7% of all drivers exceeded 30mph. However, only 26.9% exceeded 36mph. This suggests that whilst there is a significant number of drivers who are over the speed limit, the majority of drivers are being sensible.

However, look away now if you are easily shocked! The highest speed over that period was 83mph timed at 11.27am on Wednesday 1st Feb. Apart from the incredible danger to pedestrians, pets and other road-users, if the police had caught this driver, they would have received a minimum 6 points on their licence, a £1,000 fine, a court summons and potentially a custodial sentence.



Now for the good news. What works really well, is when residents attach the colourful bin-stickers and have these prominent on Thursdays. Our data have consistently revealed a sharp drop in the number of speeding vehicles when the stickers are on show. The more that people use them across the parish, the better the cumulative effect will be.

Please consider sticking them on your bins. If you would like some, just follow these three simple steps:

1. Agree with your neighbours how many will display them.
2. Send a note to Britta Bayman on 07739196859 or e-mail normantoncommunitygroup@gmail.com. Britta will arrange payment (only £5 per pair).
3. Apply your stickers.

Please note, someone from Normanton Community Group would be more than happy to help you apply the stickers. Just ask!

Sir Alan Duncan supports our bin stickers.

+++ Stop Press +++

Fancy Becoming A DJ?

Radio Belvoir are offering people the opportunity to take over the presenter's chair for an hour. Tell the listeners about your life in music - it can include anything. You would need to choose 12 songs and write the intros, giving the reasons for your choice.

The team at Radio Belvoir will pre-record the programme and assist you all the way. If you would like more information visit www.facebook.com/RadioBelvoir/ and leave a message.

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Bottesford Parish Neighbourhood Plan Delayed until Clarification Received from MBC

Bottesford Parish Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group intended to publish the Draft Neighbourhood Plan and circulate it for comment by January 2017. However, this was before the Draft Melton Local Plan increased house numbers from 300 to 447, and the number of sites from three to nine. This increased allocation is equivalent to 9 sites similar size to the new Belvoir Road site. The Steering Group and the Parish Council feel this is too much development for the Parish. Therefore, our priority remains to focus on the Local Plan at this time.

Both the Parish Council and the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group have responded to Melton's Draft Local Plan and objected to these proposed changes. We are meeting with MBC planners to discuss our objections and attempt to have these increases reversed.

We cannot proceed with our Neighbourhood Plan until we have the outcome of these discussions. If anyone would like to get involved, please contact Richard Simon on 842779 (richardsimon2311@gmail.com).

Hedge and Tree Planting – Volunteers Make a Difference

During a cold December afternoon, several members of the Parish Council and their families and friends planted new trees and hedges alongside the River Devon by the skate-park. The trees were donated by The Woodland Trust. The Trust can supply community tree packs to any community group or school. For more details, visit their website on www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/plant-trees/in-your-community/apply-for-a-community-tree-pack.



Parish Council Elects New Chairperson

Bob Bayman was elected Chair of the Parish Council late last year. Bob is very much a family man, with two daughters attending the Primary School. Bob believes that vibrant villages are one of the great assets of British life, and many have been spoilt through excessive house-building and poor design. He believes that Bottesford has escaped much of this and is still one of the county's real treasures. However, he is very concerned that the Government's drive for 2 million more homes is going to put unprecedented pressure on the Parish. He feels that we all need to pull together to ensure Bottesford develops slowly, carefully and naturally to keep its character and feeling.

As Chair of the Parish Council, he wants our clubs and societies to flourish and grow and to encourage more people to get involved and help with village life.

Allotments Available

The Parish Council has a few allotments available. So if you would like to grow your own fruit and vegetables, contact Kathy Price at clerk@bottesfordpc.org.uk.

Anaerobic Digester Application Withdrawn

Residents have been concerned at the possible erection of an anaerobic digester plant at Easthorpe. However, this application has now been withdrawn, although it may be re-submitted at a later date.



Bus Service Underused

Issues were raised by one of our residents, who was concerned at the underuse of the regular bus service between Bottesford and Nottingham provided by Trent Barton.

The Rushcliffe Mainline bus currently leaves Bottesford for Nottingham at 6.30am, 7.00am and 7.30am through the week, and 7.15am and 7.45am on Saturdays. It returns from Nottingham at 4.30, 5.00 and 5.30pm both through the week and Saturdays.

However, during the mornings, the bus often only carries one passenger, and our reader was worried that the service may be scaled back further or stopped altogether. The Village Voice took up our reader's concerns with Trent Barton. We received the following reply:

"We have spoken to our Director of Service Delivery, and they have confirmed, we have no plans to alter our Rushcliffe Mainline. However we are always happy to receive any support local residents can offer to our services to ensure they continue to be commercially viable."

Many residents would be worried if we lost any further public transport services, so next time you are heading towards Nottingham, consider using the bus in order to protect the service.

For more details, contact Trent Barton on 01773 712265 or visit:

www.trentbarton.co.uk/services/rushcliffemainline/timetable

Request for Knitting Wool

The library is the venue for a number of knitting groups, and is in need of any leftover wool. Please bring any balls of wool, no matter how small, to the Library where it will be put to good use.

In the next issue, we will be advertising for people to start knitting poppies for sale around the parish in October/November to help raise funds for the British Legion. If you have any patterns for different types of poppies, please bring them to the Library where we can photocopy them.

Plea from Shop-keepers – Keep on Moving Along High Street and Queen Street

Parking on High Street and Queen Street can be a challenge! So please consider how long you park here after visiting the shops.

Drivers who block the High Street and Queen Street might encourage people to shop elsewhere. There are parking spaces at the Doctors' Surgeries but they tend to be busy through the day.

So please park, shop and move away as soon as possible. This will ensure we give everyone the best chance of accessing our shops easily.

Muston Playing Fields Association Successful Grant Application



Muston Playground - Watch this Space!

Muston Playing Fields Association is delighted to have been awarded a WREN grant to replace the big red climbing frame, which has had to be removed due to health and safety risks. The Playing Fields Association would like to express its thanks to WREN and to Bottesford Parish Council, who have been instrumental in the successful application and extremely supportive. We hope to have two new climbing frames installed, one for toddlers and one for older children before summer 2017.

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Lions Sleigh Fundraising Hits Record Level

The Vale of Belvoir Lions received a record amount of donations, as their famous sleigh toured the Vale over several cold evenings last December. A spokesperson said: "We have raised over £6500 this year on our Sleigh, thanks to the fantastic generosity of the people of the Vale of Belvoir. This was a record year for us. However, it would not have happened without all of our helpers and supporters. Over 60 individuals were involved throughout the collection days and we could not have made it such a success without their help.



It was a real community effort. There were over 30 children helping us too. We sincerely thank them all."

The sleigh visited many of the communities in the Vale, including Bottesford, Bingham, Harby, Redmile, Barkstone, Plungar, Elton, Orston, Whatten, Normanton, Aslockton, Langar, Barnstone, Granby, Muston, and Stathern. The money raised from the collection will be split between Rainbows Children's Hospice, Dove Cottage (Stathern) and Lions charities.

The Annual Duck race in Bottesford was also a tremendous success, raising over £1500. The river Devon was running slowly so the volunteers had to work hard in order to encourage the ducks to get to the finishing line – at least there was no ice-breaking this year! The Vale of Belvoir Lions would like to thank everyone who contributed and turned out on Boxing Day to support this event.



If you would like to get involved in any aspect of the Lions' work in 2017, please visit the website and complete the contact form. www.voblions.org.uk/.

Bottesford Ducks on Bread-Free Diet

For most of us, a fond childhood memory was to feed the ducks stale-bread. However, this seemingly innocent activity may be harming our ducks and polluting our rivers. A spokesperson from RSPB has said: "Feeding ducks bread stops them from eating a natural, balanced diet. White bread in particular has no real nutritional value, so while birds may find it tasty, the danger is that they will fill up on it instead of other foods that could be more beneficial to them."



"There's also a risk that ducks and other water fowl could get an illness known as angel wing, which is caused by not getting the right nutrients in their diet. The illness causes a deformity in birds' wings that can hamper the way they fly or even stop them altogether, which could obviously be fatal."

So keep our Bottesford ducks healthy this spring, especially as the new chicks are born. The RSPB recommends feeding them birdseed, rice (cooked or uncooked), grapes, frozen peas, chopped lettuce and other greens. For more information please visit:

www.rspb.org.uk/community/wildlife/f/14005/t/112718.aspx.

Dib, Dib, Dib! What Does This Mean? Can You Help?

Bottesford Scouts are looking for new leaders who can teach young people life skills. The group is based in the Scout Hut, Albert Street, Bottesford and has been running for over 60 years. If you would like to get involved, please contact Simon Ashworth on 842189 or drop a line to 1stbottesfordscouts@gmail.com. You can then also discover the meaning of dib, dib, dib!

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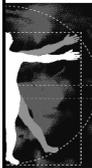
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Church Administrator Takes Up New Role at Local School

After six years in post, Laura Marsh left her position as Parish Administrator of Bottesford and Muston parishes on 31st January to begin a new role in a local school.

Laura has very much enjoyed her time in the parish office and would like to thank everyone who has offered her support, especially during our recent two-year period of clergy vacancy. Laura will continue to be part of the teams at St. Mary's and St. John's, particularly through co-leading the fresh expression 'Sunday Praise' twice a month.

Please direct all church enquiries to Rev David Payne on 01949 843348 or e-mail revdpayne24@gmail.com.

More Changes at the Church of England

From the beginning of May, the people of Bottesford and Muston will be sharing their Vicar, David Payne, with the folk of Redmile, Plungar and Barkestone. The move is the latest step in the re-organisation of the Church of England locally, and comes as no less than six new Vicars are welcomed into the Melton Mowbray area.

Anyone spotting a confused man in a clerical collar driving a silver Ford Focus is encouraged to point him back in the direction of Bottesford!

Methodist Church News – Quiz Winners and Friendship Group

The winners of the Christmas quiz were Jean Tripp and Karen Gough. A big thank you to both, who have donated their winnings to charity. John and Cynthia Prater plus Vic and Mu Martin also successfully completed the quiz. £96 was raised for Dove Cottage Day Hospice.

The Friendship Group has raised £220.25 for Dove Cottage Day Hospice from a variety of events, including a carol service, bring and buy stall, sale of cards and penny collections. The Friends will meet again on Thursday March 16th in the Methodist church at 2.30pm for a varied programme. Everyone welcome.

Come and Sing Faure Requiem, Good Friday 14 April 2017 at St. Mary's, Bottesford

Your chance to fill St. Mary's Church with some beautiful music! The Cranmer Company of Singers and Musical Director Deborah Davies are hosting another charity 'Come and Sing'. This is open to anyone and all are welcome.

The cost is £6/8/10 to sing, tiered as we ask you to select the amount you wish to give. Rehearsals start at 4.30pm. The Performance starts at 7.30pm. Singers please book your place by contacting Anny: annyjones@me.com or 07415 512729. Donations from the audience will be taken at the door. Money raised will go to the Tearfund Charity for Syrian Refugees. All very welcome.

Green Fingers for Bottesford Primary School Pupils

Friends of Bottesford Primary School have launched a new gardening club thanks to a generous donation from Bottesford Horticultural Society and the Vale of Belvoir Lions. Pupils will be able to grow their vegetables in a series of raised beds.

Staff and pupils are excited about the new club, and appreciate the three organisations' efforts to make it possible. The Chair of Friends said: "It is great to give

the pupils this opportunity to learn about growing food, and wonderful to collaborate with the Lions and the Horticultural Society. I hope our pupils will learn from the experienced gardeners". Nicholas, aged 7, said: "I like playing outside and look forward to digging and getting my hands muddy".

The gardening club is supported by parent and grandparent volunteers, and teachers. If you would like to get involved or you have seeds to donate, please contact friendsofbottesfordprimary@gmail.com.



What's On...regular events	
Every Wed at 7.30pm	Bottesford Whist Drive meets at the Fuller Rooms. Entrance is £2 per person with refreshments included. Everyone welcome.
Every Wed in term time 3.30–5pm	Hullabaloo Wednesday at Bottesford Methodist Church. Craft and creativity for all children aged 5-11 years (accompanied by an adult).
Every Thur in term time 9.30–11.30am	Hullabaloo Thursday at Bottesford Methodist Church. A cafe & play space for pregnant mums, new parents or carers with babies & toddlers.
Every Fri	Creative Space at St. Mary's Church, Bottesford. First two Fridays of month 10am – 12 noon, next two Fridays 8 - 10pm. All crafters welcome. Contact Glenda Gibson on 01949 845106 for details.
Dates and times to be confirmed	The Good Neighbour Scheme hopes to start its monthly film shows again soon – keep a look out for posters around the village.

What's On in March...	
Sun 3rd 12 noon 7pm	Women's World Day of Prayer. Bring a picnic lunch from 12noon for a 1pm service at St. Mary's (with children's activities). Or join us at 7pm at Bottesford Methodist Church. All are very welcome.
Thur 9 th 7.30pm	Bottesford Local History Society. "From Bingham to Broadmoor." Speaker: Sally Ann Watson. Fuller Room, The Old School, Bottesford. All welcome. Visitors £2.
Sun 12 th 6.30pm	Sunday Praise – contemporary church service in St. Mary's with Martyn Smith, formerly of Belvoir High. Children's activities provided. Find us on Facebook - Sunday Praise Bottesford. All welcome!
Tue 14 th 2pm	Vale of Belvoir U3A, Bottesford VC Hall. Eyes in China - an insight into the wonders of China, by Anne Helsey.
Thur 16 th 2.30pm	Friendship Group meeting at the Methodist Church. Speaker: Rev'd Nel Shallow.
Tue 21 st 7.30pm	W.I. Meeting at Bottesford VC Hall. Morris Dancing - the Bourne Borderers.
Sat 25 th 10.30am –12	Chapel Cafe: a family friendly cafe space at Bottesford Methodist Church.
Sat 25 th 7pm	Vale of Belvoir Lions' Music quiz at Bottesford VC Hall. Tickets £7 each. Teams of 6. Food provided. All monies to charity.
Sun 26 th 6.30pm	Sunday Praise - contemporary church service for Mothering Sunday in St. Mary's. Children's activities included.
Tue 28 th 7.30pm	Friends of St. Mary's Church Annual General Meeting at St. Mary's. There will also be a talk on The Peregrine Falcons by Bob Shephall and light refreshments. For further details contact Frances Stapleton on 01949 843427.
Thur 30 th 2.30pm	Friendship Group meeting at the Methodist Church. Speaker: Enid Gillard, "Hallelujah!"

And in April...	
Sun 9 th 6.30pm	Sunday Praise – contemporary church service in St. Mary's within a Holy week meal. Children's activities provided.
Tue 11 th 2pm	Vale of Belvoir U3A, Bottesford VC Hall. Love and Life of a Paramedic, by Katie Hathley.
Thur 13 th 2.30pm	Friendship Group meeting at the Methodist Church. Quiz.
Thur 13 th 7.30pm	Bottesford Local History Society. "Flintham Museum – 'The Village Shop'". Speaker: Sue Clayton. Fuller Room, The Old School. All welcome. Visitors £2
Tue 18 th 7.30pm	W.I. Meeting at Bottesford VC Hall. SOS Fashion Show.
Sun 23 rd 6.30pm	Sunday Praise – contemporary church service in St. Mary's. Children's activities provided.
Thur 27 th 2.30pm	Friendship Group meeting at the Methodist Church. Speaker: John Daybell, "A Naval Discourse".
Sat 29 th 9.30am – 4.30pm	'Walking in the Light' Sunday Praise Conference at St. Mary's. To book https://walkinginthelight2017.eventbrite.co.uk/ or contact Glenda on 01949 845106.
Sat 29 th 10.30am –12	Chapel Cafe: a family friendly cafe space at Bottesford Methodist Church.

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East Midlands Orchid Society Annual Show

Bottesford Village Hall will be transformed on the 19th March, as the East Midlands Orchid Society hosts its annual show. There will be at least five other clubs showing their orchids, and there will be a number of orchid-dealers should you wish to buy anything. Mike Armstrong is no longer on the committee, but is the local contact if you want any further information. Mike is also the National Collection Holder of two genres of orchids.

The second picture (below) is *Dendrochilum cobbianum*. The flowers of orchids range in size from bigger than your hand to needing a magnifying glass to see them!

For more information, please contact Mike on 01949 842668 or e-mail:

mikandra@tiscali.co.uk.

The website of The Orchid Society is
www.eastmidlandsorchidsociety.org.



Pre-School News: Garden Being Created and Spaces Available

Bottesford Pre-School is keen to create a garden space. This is planned for the area down the side of their building (pictured left). The Pre-School needs volunteers and materials to make the garden possible. A full list of materials can be found on the Pre-School Facebook page. If you could help with grass-cutting every couple of weeks, that would be particularly welcomed.

For more information on this project, please call Donya Donger, Chair of the Pre-School Committee on 07814107254.



The Pre-School still has spaces available. They take children from the age of 2 years and 9 months old. You can put your child's name on the waiting list from 2 years old and the Pre-School will then contact you nearer the time for attendance. For more details, contact Lucinda Tongue on 01949 844489.

Knit and Natter

Visiting the Knit and Natter group one Friday afternoon in Warwick flats was a very uplifting experience. There was a group of 12 vibrant ladies who meet to socialise, knit, enjoy tea and put the world right! There were even a couple of gentlemen who, although not doing any knitting or much nattering, were certainly enjoying the company.

This group has been active in raising money for Breast Cancer charities – over £1,000 last year. They have accepted commissions to knit various items for our armed forces. The group is open to anyone – male or female. For further information, call Chris Fisher on 07341 823331.

Warwick Flats also hosts regular coffee mornings on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10.00am plus Bingo on Thursdays at 1pm. Everyone welcome.

Sunday Praise 'Walking in the Light' Conference – Saturday 29th April 9.30am-4.30pm

A Christian day-conference hosted by the 'Sunday Praise' team from St Mary's Church, Bottesford will be held on the 29th April.

This is to celebrate our fifth anniversary, and is a day of spiritual nourishment to seek what it is to walk in the 'Light of the Lord'. With guest speakers, Chris Webb and Nicky McGinty from the Leicestershire diocese, plus a host of local talent, the day will include contemporary band-led worship, inspiring talks and smaller group work for our diverse selection of seminars. To book visit <https://walkinginthelight2017.eventbrite.co.uk> or contact Glenda on 01949 845106.

Sports News



Bottesford Bowls Club Season Starts in April

The new season starts on Thursday 13th April with subscription and membership night. The weekly club nights are on Mondays from 6.30pm. If you would like to try bowls, just come along on a Monday. The bowls are provided. All you need to do is wear flat shoes and comfortable clothes (you will need to bend down!). For more information, contact Pauline Goodson on 01949 844554.



Bottesford Football Club Parking Problems at Nottingham Road

Anyone who has been to Nottingham Road pitches will know that it can be chaotic in the car park, mainly because the overflow car park gets muddy, preventing people using it.

It would be great if people travelling to the pitches by car could share lifts. This would be of great benefit to everyone and help reduce vehicle numbers in the small parking area.

However, if you need to use a car, could you please keep gaps between vehicles to a minimum. This should just be a short-term problem, as additional car parking is planned as part of the clubhouse build due to start shortly. Thanks for your co-operation.

For more information on Bottesford Football Club, please visit:

www.bottesfordfc.co.uk. Our Facebook page is www.facebook.com/bottesfordfootballclub, our Twitter feed is: @bottesfordfc.



Bottesford Football Club – Club Secretary Required

Bottesford FC has a very proactive committee and we are looking to recruit a new club secretary. The role will involve attending monthly club committee and manager meetings on the first Sunday of each month at the Bull Inn, Bottesford from 7 – 9 pm, writing and distributing minutes. Duties also include registration of teams and players with their respective league (between May and August). If you are interested in volunteering for this role, please email news@bottesfordfc.co.uk.

Village Voice Contacts

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

Editorial: Susan Meech on 843402.

What's On: Email heather.stokes1@btinternet.com or phone 844009.

Deadline for May/June Edition (Issue 89): 27th March 2017.

E-mail: vv@bottesford.org.uk

Facebook: 'Village Voice, Bottesford'

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

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.



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