



Issue No. 90  
July/August 2017

# Village Voice

The newsletter of Bottesford, Easthorpe, Muston & Normanton

## Village Voice photo-competition winners

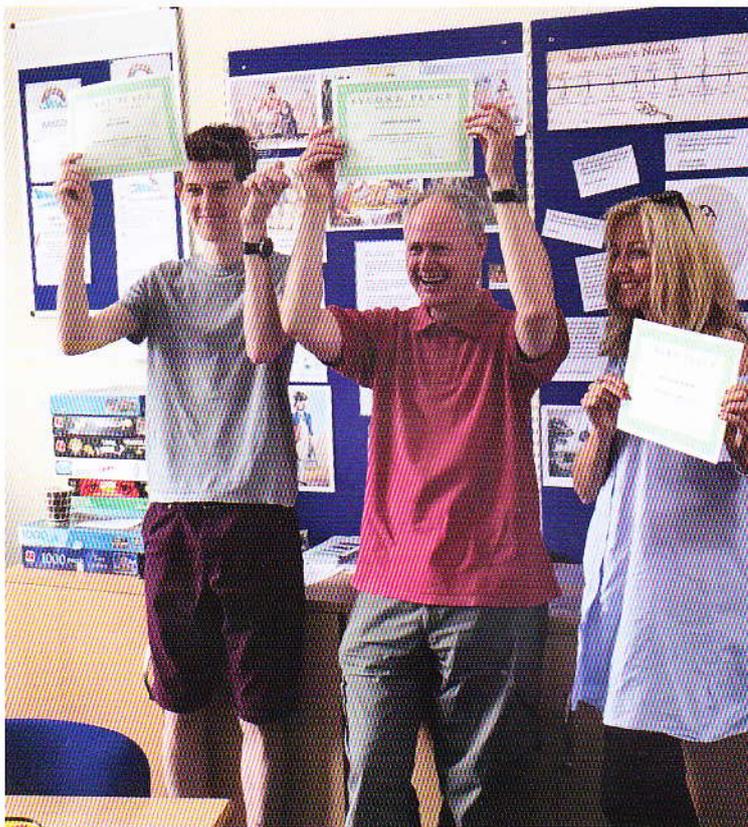
On Sunday 4 June, the Village Voice arranged for a prize-giving ceremony at Bottesford Community Library.

The event was hosted by award winning photographer and cinematographer Mark Pugh of MP Media. Mark opened the ceremony by welcoming the winners, and explaining how high the standard was this year. "This is the 4<sup>th</sup> year we have run the competition, and each year the quality and creativity of the entries gets better." The winners were Ashley Waterfall, Geoff Foster and Katy Francis. The under 18 category was won by Ben Payne.

Mark presented a plaque to the winners and a certificate to the runners up. It was good to see family members accompanying our winners. Katy's two boys, Jake and Luke, were very well behaved and enjoyed the chocolate biscuits. Ben's mum and dad also came along to see him receive his prize.



Mark Pugh welcomes the winners



Ashley unfortunately could not make the event as he was

committed to photographing the *Belles of Belvoir* Cycling event, but the three remaining contestants enjoyed a good chat with Mark about all things photographic and are looking forward to next year's competition.



Full details will be announced later this year.

Winners Ben, Geoff and Katy (receiving their certificates left) and Ashley (above).

## Late news – Village Voice Facebook page has 500 followers

A very big thank you to everyone who follows us and contributes to our Facebook page. We now have 501 followers! The idea for the page came from one of our previous editors Dilys Shepherd's daughter, Kate.

It is used to publicise events and news from the parish, and to share information published on Facebook by other groups. We regularly get more than 300 views per item and this can rise to 1500 for anything crime related.

We do hope you find our page useful, but please let us know if there is anything else we can add. Here's to the next 500. To follow us visit [www.facebook.com/VillageVoiceBottesford](http://www.facebook.com/VillageVoiceBottesford)



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Bottesford  
@VillageVoiceBottesford



## Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting (APM) was held on the 22 May 2017, and was attended by over 30 residents. The evening started with a talk from Danny Gribby of Bottesford Football Club, followed by an update from John Shilton of Bottesford Neighbourhood Watch. Both talks were very well received.

Bob Bayman, Chairman of the Parish Council, then gave a presentation on recent achievements and on-going activity within our parish, for example the appointment of a village-warden, a litter-picking initiative along the river Devon, and the planting of 150 trees as hedging. There is still lots to do, and the Parish Council is appealing for volunteers and helpers. Volunteers have already been a great help in all sorts of areas, including the Poacher Line review (below). Anyone who could help with making grant applications or who would like to join a Thinktank to generate ideas for the future of the Parish is asked to contact the Parish Council.

One of the main issues raised by residents was the production of the Neighbourhood Plan, which has been temporarily stopped. Bob explained that within Melton BC's plan there had been a significant increase in the number of new builds anticipated for our parish. Many residents have objected to this, and our PC has strongly challenged it. The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group has delayed the completion of the plan until this issue is resolved.

Finally, an Emergency Plan for the parish is being created. This is a plan for our immediate response in the face of flooding or other major incident.

## Poacher Line review

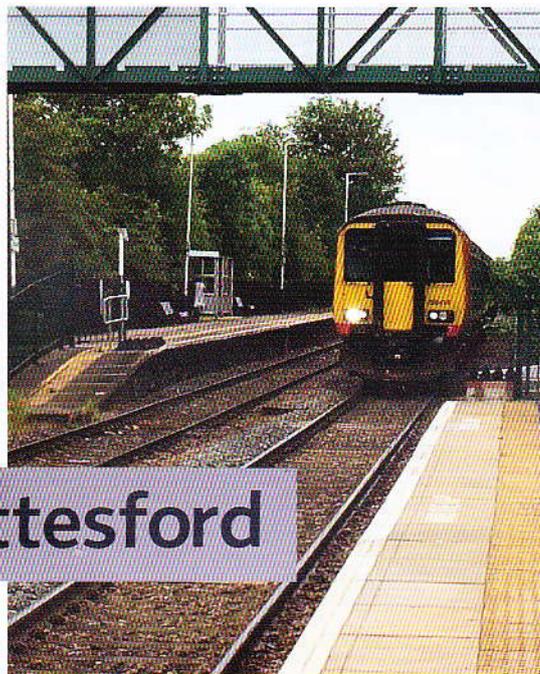
Bottesford Parish Council, along with residents Mike Barker and Bob Lockey, have attended meetings regarding the new franchise for the Nottingham to Grantham Rail Service. The meetings were with Nottinghamshire County Council, Nottingham City Council and other interested parties along the line. Bottesford and Bingham have the highest number of commuters on this line. The outcome of these meetings, taking into account the expected growth over the coming years, resulted in the preferred option:

- Half hourly peak service (AM / PM ) for Radcliffe on Trent, Bingham, Aslockton, and Bottesford
- 1 per hour throughout the day, except Netherfield (every 2/3 hours)
- Park and Ride facility to be made available at each station. The spaces anticipated are 30 Aslockton: 30 Bingham: 50 Bottesford: 50 Radcliffe on Trent. (Part of the franchise negotiation.)

A business case has been forwarded to the relevant authorities. The requirement will also be at 'nil-cost' to the parish due to the input of Nottinghamshire and Nottingham City Councils. The Parish Council fully supports this business case, as there are many benefits for both our parish and surrounding villages.

Our thanks to Mike and Bob for their input and support. Further updates will be given as soon as available.

# Bottesford



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### Muston playing field now complete

The playing field at Muston has now been refurbished, with some great new equipment. This is down to the hard work of the Muston Playing Field committee with the support of Bottesford Parish Council. The new equipment is proving very popular and has had a significant increase in the number of visitors recently.



### Rare orchids in Muston

Muston Meadows is a National Nature Reserve, and Natural England says that it is 'one of the finest lowland meadows in England. The meadows are rich in plant life, with 33 types of grass and over 100 other species of flowering plant. The reserve is most notable for its colony of over 10,000 green-winged orchids'. The orchids flowered in May. For more information go to: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/leicestershires-national-nature-reserves/leicestershires-national-nature-reserves#muston-meadows>

### Bottesford Pre-School garden needs your help!

They are desperate for anyone in the village who could lend a hand with the garden. There are slabs and bricks that need laying, along with several other small tasks. Are there any builders or gardeners free who could help, advise or support? In fact anyone who is prepared to 'get their hands dirty' for a short while. Donya Donger says: "We have already cleared the garden but we now need all hands on deck to level the ground and get things moving." Donya has put together an action-plan. There are 4 phases. **Phase 1:** clear space and level ground. **Phase 2:** place tractor-tyres as planters, lay bricks as edging, mark out pathways. **Phase 3:** lay brick pathways and slabs, insert timber posts for tipi structure. **Phase 4:** add willow tunnel, spread grass-seed. If you can help with any of these please contact Donya at [donyadonger@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:donyadonger@hotmail.co.uk) or sign up at the pre-school. The next helper days are 1st and 2nd July 2017.

### Goodbye to early morning bus service to Nottingham

The Village Voice has been advised that the early morning bus-route to Nottingham, and its subsequent return in the evening, is to be discontinued. This is despite an earlier assurance from the bus company that there were no plans to change the time-table. Whilst there is no definitive date for the service to be stopped, we understand it is likely to occur in July. The service was under-used, as most people catch the train at these times. However, the Parish-Council has made representations to our Borough and County Councillors, asking for their support to have the timetable re-considered. Even if it is for a bus on a Thursday, so residents could attend the weekly market in Bingham. As soon as we hear any more news, we will let readers know.

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## Bottesford peregrines

The Bottesford peregrines have been much in evidence this year, mainly due to the 'live-feed' monitor in St Mary's church. There have been many sightings and some great photos – two of which are attached. A big thank you to Ken West for these amazing pictures.



The RSPB website describes the peregrine as "a large and powerful falcon, with broad, pointed wings and a relatively short tail. It is blue-grey above, with a blackish top on the head and an obvious black 'moustache' that contrasts with its white face. Its breast is finely spotted. It is swift and agile in flight, chasing prey."

We are very lucky to have these wonderful birds visit us each year. At the time of writing, the chick is just about to fledge. This normally takes 35 days from hatching.



## Have fun with 'NatureSpot' and help record the wildlife of Leicestershire and Rutland

If you enjoy spotting wildlife, then visit [www.naturespot.org](http://www.naturespot.org). This is a website dedicated to recording all types of wildlife across our county. It is not just birds – animals, insects, river-creatures and interesting vegetation can all be recorded. There are three simple steps: 1) create an account and a password (it is very easy). 2) Look for the parish pages and access 'Bottesford'. 3) Go outside and look for interesting nature. Why not create a competition with friends to see who could spot the most. For younger visitors, there is an interactive page with a number of quizzes.

The screenshot shows the NatureSpot website header with the title "Recording the Wildlife of Leicestershire & Rutland". Below the header is a navigation menu with links: Home, Latest Images, Species Galleries, Wild Places, Submit Records, My Records, Explore, NatureChat. A main content area features a "Help to record the wildlife of Leicestershire and Rutland" section with a "Submit a record" button and a "DONATE" button. A search bar is also visible.

## Cranmer Singers raise over £1900

In 4 hours on Good Friday, the Cranmer Singers raised £1908.35, which has been donated to Tearfund Syrian Refugee Appeal. Sincere thanks to everyone who helped and participated.

## Bottesford Neighbourhood Watch (NHW)

### Area Co-ordinator vacancy

Bottesford NHW is a parish-wide scheme that has 11 Area Co-ordinators, each with responsibility for a small geographical area. We currently have two Area Co-ordinator vacancies – one for Muston and one for Easthorpe. The role is not especially taxing or time consuming but is critical to the successful running of the scheme. As such, it can be very rewarding. If you would like to support NHW by taking on one of these roles, please see below for contact details.

We are also seeking a few hours help from someone with multimedia skills who could help us refresh our map of the area showing the Area Co-ordinators' boundaries, so it can be published and circulated for community information.

If you can help with any of the above, please contact John Shilton on

[JohnS@bottesfordparishNHW.org.uk](mailto:JohnS@bottesfordparishNHW.org.uk) Mobile: 07725636626.

## What's On...regular events

Every Wed at 7.30pm	Bottesford Whist Drive meets in the Fuller Room. Entrance is £2 per person with refreshments included. All welcome.
Every Wed and Sat 10am – 12.30	Charity Shop, Old School, Main Street, Muston. Proceeds to St John's, Muston and St Mary's, Bottesford. Pop in for a coffee!
Second Wed of the month at 2pm	Informal Local History Group meeting in the Library to study Bottesford's Heritage Archive. All welcome. Call Neil Fortey 843320 or email <a href="mailto:information@bottesfordcommunitylibrary.org.uk">information@bottesfordcommunitylibrary.org.uk</a> .
Second Wed of the month at 2pm	Good Neighbour Scheme FREE film show in the Old School Room. Doors open 1.30 pm. Donation towards a cup of tea and biscuit in the interval.
Every Thurs in term time 9.30 – 11.30am	Hullabaloo Thursday at Bottesford Methodist Church. A cafe & friendly play space for babies & toddlers with their parents or carers.
Every Fri	Creative Space at St. Mary's Church, Bottesford. First two Fridays, 10am – 12noon, next two 8–10pm. Contact Glenda Gibson on 845106.
Sundays (and some mid-week evenings)	Vale of Belvoir Ramblers - walks to suit all abilities and interests. All walks start at 10:00 except mid-week evening strolls which start at 19:00. Call 01949 836042, email <a href="mailto:vbramblers@gmail.com">vbramblers@gmail.com</a> or go to <a href="http://www.vbramblers.co.uk">www.vbramblers.co.uk</a>

## What's On in July...

Sun 9 <sup>th</sup> 6.30pm	Sunday Praise – contemporary church service in St Mary's. Children's activities provided. Find us on Facebook - Sunday Praise Bottesford. All welcome!
Tues 11 <sup>th</sup>	Vale of Belvoir U3A Summer Party.
Tues 18 <sup>th</sup> 7.30pm	W.I. Meeting at Bottesford VC Hall. Medical Detection Dogs – Matthew Kefford.
Thurs 20 <sup>th</sup> 7.30pm	<b>Festival of Archaeology 2017</b> Roman Coins from Leicestershire: the Terrible Tales They Tell, An talk by Bottesford's Phil Harding, in the library. Doors open 7pm
Sat 22 <sup>nd</sup> 2pm	Masonry, Monuments, Bells. A leisurely tour of St Mary's, led by Neil Fortey and Bob Sparham. Meet at the church porch.
Sat 29 <sup>th</sup> 2pm	Bottesford History Workshop: opportunities and potential. In the library. Julia Walker will lead a review of what we know about Anglo-Saxon and Medieval Bottesford, and ideas/ opportunities to discover more.  Each event - £3 at door (under-18s free), reservation recommended - call the Library on 842696 or email <a href="mailto:information@bottesfordcommunitylibrary.org.uk">information@bottesfordcommunitylibrary.org.uk</a>
Sun 23 <sup>rd</sup> 6.30pm	Sunday Praise – contemporary church service in St Mary's. Children's activities provided. All welcome!
Tues 25 <sup>th</sup>	Bottesford W.I. Walk.

## And in August...

Thurs 3 <sup>rd</sup> 2.30pm	Friendship Group meeting at the Methodist Church. Vic Martin entertains.
Sun 13 <sup>th</sup> 6.30pm	Sunday Praise – contemporary church service in St Mary's. Children's activities provided. All welcome!
Tues 15 <sup>th</sup>	Bottesford W.I. Afternoon Tea Party to celebrate 100 years of the Nottinghamshire Federation.
Thurs 17 <sup>th</sup> 2.30pm	Friendship Group meeting at the Methodist Church. Peter Daniels, Christian Biker.
Sun 27 <sup>th</sup> 6.30pm	Sunday Praise – contemporary church service in St Mary's. Children's activities provided. All welcome!

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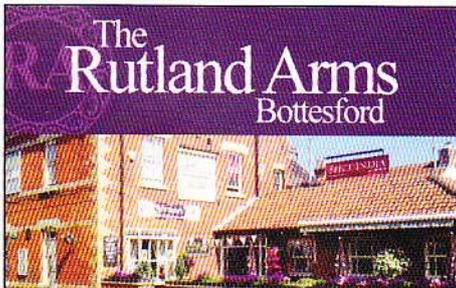
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## Friends of St Mary's trip to Norwich cathedral

Friends of St. Mary's recently enjoyed a visit to Norwich Cathedral. The day started at 8.15am when they boarded the bus at The Red Lion. The journey took a bit longer than anticipated at nearly 3 hours. They were met by Cathedral guides, Michael and Diane Honeybone, former local historians from Bottesford.

Norwich Cathedral is Norwich's most iconic building, with its spire of 315ft, second only to Salisbury Cathedral. The 900 year-old building has the largest collection of roof bosses of any Cathedral in the Christian world. They were also able to take advantage of the spare time to visit the historic city.

## More Friends' activities

On July 15<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm, join them for one of 'Our Bygone Days' with The Canal Preservation Trust, when Rosemary Gibson, local historian, will be talking about "Canals through the ages", and in particular The Grantham Canal. Admission is by donation. The talk will be followed by light refreshments.

Around the village, you will find leaflets about our activities and how to become a member. All of our events are open to everyone, members and non-members alike.

For more details contact Frances Stapleton, Secretary to "The Friends of St. Mary's Church" 843427 mrsjohn500@sky.com.

## WW1 Casualties

After the death of Charles Pacey in December 1916 there was a lull in reports of parish casualties until June 1917.

**John William Bullock** was born in 1889 in Bitchfield and worked as a farm labourer in Muston. He served in the Leicestershire Regiment from September 1914, surviving numerous injuries until his death aged 26, near Lens on 8 June 1917. John William Bullock is remembered on the Arras Memorial and on the War Memorial at Muston.

**James Herbert George Skinner** was born in 1886 in Finchley London. After his marriage in 1910 James Skinner moved to Bottesford and worked as an Insurance Agent. He served in the 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion Leicestershire Regiment and was dangerously wounded near Arras in May 1917. He died in a military hospital in Stoke on July 8<sup>th</sup> 1917 aged 31 and was buried in Bottesford churchyard. James Herbert George Skinner is remembered on the Bottesford War Memorial.

**William Henry Coy** was born in 1894 in Stenwith near Muston. He was a cowman for George Goodson in Bottesford, until he enlisted in 1915 and served as a Gunner in the RFA. He died on 8<sup>th</sup> August 1917 aged 22 in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battle of Ypres and was buried in the Artillery Wood Cemetery. William Henry Coy is remembered on the War Memorial at Muston.

**Joseph William Matthews** was born in 1888 in Bradford. He worked as a corn merchant's clerk until he enlisted and served with the Leicestershire and Worcestershire Regiments. Joseph Matthews was killed on 27<sup>th</sup> August 1917 aged 29, in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battle of Ypres and is remembered on the Tyne Cot Memorial and on the Bottesford War Memorial.

## Vale of Belvoir Lions presentation evening

The Vale of Belvoir Lions hosted their Annual Presentation evening at the Durham Ox, Orston on Wednesday 26th April 2017. The Master of Ceremonies, immediate Past President Lion Matt Burton, welcomed fellow lions, friends, family and guests and outlined the club's activities over the preceding months. These included the Christmas collection with Santa and his Sleigh, Annual Bottesford Duck race (including the contribution from the Foresters Morris men) and, most recently, the Annual Music Quiz held in March.

Due to the continuing generosity of those supporting our events, Lion President Clive was able to present cheques to representatives of the following organisations: Rainbows (hospice for children and young people) - £2200; Dove Cottage Hospice - £2500; Belvoir Cricket Trust - £375; Marie Curie - £656; Dovecote Farm - Riding for the Disabled Association - £260.

## Bottesford school trip to Belvoir Cricket and Countryside Trust

Just before the recent half-term, Year 3 and 4 children from Bottesford Primary School had the opportunity to take part in some very exciting activities. Organised by the Belvoir Cricket and Countryside Trust, over 80 children experienced playing cricket, flying a hawk, orienteering, bug-hunting (pictured right), a talk from a retired game-keeper, and a very special visit by 38



hounds from the Belvoir Estate (below). The children, teachers and helpers had a wonderful time. One young pupil said "The best bit was when we had to use the maps to find paper-punches, which we then had to use to clip our answer sheets. It was very exciting. I think we might have won!" A big thank you to the Belvoir, Cricket and Countryside Trust for making the day so memorable, educational and fun.

## Summer Fun

**24th—28th July:** Acorns Out of School Club is running a Summer Club. Activities include Samba music workshops, Irish dancing, chocolate creations, sports, karaoke, movie madness, camping and Bottesford beach activities.

**31 July to 7 August:** the Vale of Belvoir Out of School Club is running a Summer Club. Many activities will be available including archery, face-painting, art, baking, pottery, woodwork, a climbing wall and drama.

**14th—18th August:** Acorns Summer Club (as above).

## Best foot forward for Nancy and Paul's walk

Normanton residents Nancy and Paul Forster are undertaking the Three-Peaks challenge on Saturday 1 July. They are raising money for The Alzheimer's Society.

Nancy says: "We are one of many families supporting loved ones with Alzheimer's disease. It's tough. Dementia is terminal and there is currently no cure. One in three people over 65 will die with dementia. Alzheimer's Society supports people to live well with dementia today and funds research to find a cure for tomorrow. If you can make a donation, please do. It would also make our pain worthwhile - not quite sure how we're going to get up and down 1 mountain, let alone 3!"



If you would like to support Nancy and Paul visit <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/PaulandNancyForster>

## Village Voice Contacts

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