



Issue No. 93
January/ February 2018

Village Voice

The newsletter of Bottesford, Easthorpe, Muston & Normanton

Our wonderful local schools – news and reports from the Priory Belvoir Academy, The CoE Primary School and the Pre-School.

Belvoir Priory Academy has had a busy, yet exciting, autumn half term. Since the October half term break, all our Year 7 students have visited the River Devon for Geography fieldwork and were great ambassadors for the school as they walked through the village on their way to the river.

Our Year 7 students also visited the church on Friday, November 10th for our first Remembrance Day service. This time they were accompanied by our Year 11s and students from the Air Cadets.

The vast majority of our Year 10 students journeyed to London in November to visit Shakespeare's Globe. They thoroughly enjoyed

a tour of the theatre and an acting workshop with a professional actor. This supported their work understanding a scene from their GCSE English Literature text of Macbeth.

Finally, all of our students have been very generous bringing in new items to contribute to our annual Rotary shoebox appeal. They managed to fill 78 boxes, which were sent to Kiev in the Ukraine during December.



Bottesford CoE Primary School table-tennis success

A team of children recently competed in a table-tennis tournament at Brooksby Melton College. The boys' team came in third position and the girls were overall winners. They will progress to the county finals. Well done to everyone, particularly as all the children had to practise on were school tables in the hall!

The school have now received a grant from PE and Sports Funding grant, which has allowed them to buy five new table-tennis tables.

Bottesford Pre-school bug hotels

A very busy autumn at the pre-school. The children made a bug hotel outside for beetles, woodlice, spiders, ladybirds and bees. They used wheelbarrows to collect leaves and sticks for the hotel, piling them up with bricks and pieces of wood they had drilled holes in. "They're going to be really cosy" said a child as they finished the hotel. Why not have a go at home? Visit Build a Bug Hotel

www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/give-nature-a-home-in-your-garden/garden-activities/build-a-bug-hotel/



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Melton Local Plan

Bottesford Neighbourhood Plan's steering group have updated the Village Voice on recent developments. Their report is below.

The proposed Melton Local Plan has now been approved by MBC and sent for Examination. The Public Hearings will take place over several days from late January at the Council Offices in Melton.

Bottesford Parish Council will be represented by an independent professional planner financed from the Neighbourhood Plan budget. He will argue the case for a reduction in the housing proposed for Bottesford and Easthorpe. The aim is not to cause the MLP to fail examination, as this would be disastrous for the Parish and the Borough. Failure to establish an agreed Plan would leave us open to developers being able to apply for housing numbers substantially above the number presently proposed (a minimum of 342 dwellings to be built in Bottesford Parish between now and 2036).

The intention is to present a case to the Examiner that would lead MBC to reduce this number. This may be helped by a recent Outline Planning Application for 2625 houses at Six Hills, alongside the A46. This is one of MBC's Reserved sites and one that the Parish Council has been pressing for over the extensive period of consultation with MBC.

Bottesford Neighbourhood Plan

The Neighbourhood Plan must be in line with the Melton Local Plan. Now that the proposed housing allocation within that Local Plan has been confirmed, the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group is busy revising earlier drafts of the proposed Neighbourhood Plan to assess how the housing allocation could be best accommodated within the Parish along with potential community benefits deriving from associated developers' funding.

These proposals will be available for consultation with residents in the New Year.

New development on Normanton Lane

In the meantime, MBC has approved an Outline Planning Application for 88 dwellings to be situated north of the railway at the foot of Beacon Hill. These will contribute towards the proposed total number of houses within the Neighbourhood Plan.

The position of the site was not unanimously liked by members of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group as it was seen to be outside the railway contour of the village. However, following extensive discussions with the Steering Group and wider public consultation, the layout has been substantially improved. Planning Conditions require that the site is set back from Normanton Lane and screened by trees. The layout of the houses on the lower slopes will ensure that the views from Beacon Hill are not adversely affected. To the north of the site will be a large public open space.

This shows how a Neighbourhood Plan can work with developers to achieve good design for the Parish. For further information on issues within this article, please contact: Richard Simon, Clerk, Bottesford Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group. richardsimon2311@gmail.com

Friends of St Mary's Church Bottesford finish the year with a flourish



Several concerts this year have highlighted the Friends of St Mary's growing reputation for staging wonderful musical events. The Village Voice has received the following report from Frances Stapleton, who is The Friends' secretary. In September, we were treated to the most incredible music with 'The Rogeri Ensemble'. The sound from these 300 year old instruments, with professional players Simon Smith (Director of Music /Violinist), Dominic Moore (Violinist), Becky Lowe (Violist), Rose Redgrave (Violist), Katherine Jenkins on (Cellist) was amazing. All musicians have international acclaim.

Then in October, we hosted The St. Petersburg Choir as part of their UK tour. The programme consisted of Russian sacred music and folk music. Members of the choir stayed overnight with some very generous members of Friends of St. Mary's and members of the Church.

The choir enjoyed it so much that they have asked to come back for two days next time, so that they can visit the area. The Friends would like to thank all of those who hosted our visitors, helped on the day, were on standby as hosts and who cooked for the choir.

Finally in November, the Hatfield Band returned by popular demand. We are grateful to the band for allowing the Primary School children to join them, and for Liz Mills for organising the children.

We had a great quiz and supper evening in October, organised by John Daybell. This is always popular and we thank John and the catering team. We are also appreciative of Long Clawson Dairy for their generous donation of cheese for the supper.

Finally a big thank you to everyone who has attended our events and continue to support The Friends charity. Without you, we would not be able to support the Church with repairs, maintenance and preservation of this beautiful building.

If you are interested in becoming a member of The Friends of St. Mary's, there are application forms at the back of Church. If anyone is interested in becoming a member of the committee or would like to take over the role of Chair from Rev Payne then please contact Rev Payne.

Frances Stapleton. Secretary, Friends of St. Mary's.
Secretary.friends.of.st.mary@gmail.com

Quiz night for The Friends of St Mary's

The Friends of St Mary's will be holding a quiz evening and supper on Friday 23rd February at 7pm at Bottesford Bowls Club. Teams of up to six. £7 per person for non-friends members, £6 per person for friends members. Details from John Daybell. 01949 842780.

New Year's Resolutions – keep on track!

How good are you at sticking to New Year's resolutions? No, neither are we! However, if you make them publically known then you are much more likely to achieve them. Let us know your resolutions and the Village Voice will publish them and keep track of them in each edition.

Editor's note. I really need to lose some weight. My aim is to lose 1.5 stones this year. Health, energy and a new set of clothes await. Alistair.



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Why not come to a meeting on Thursday January 11th, starting at 7.30pm in the Fuller Room. Bring your family heirlooms and keepsakes and share their stories, or let us have some mystery objects to keep us guessing!

Bottesford Local History Society has been shining a light on past times for over 40 years. Last autumn, there were meetings featuring pictures, chaplains of Belvoir Castle and village life in WW1.

"We welcome old friends and newcomers alike to our friendly meetings. Later this winter and spring our meetings will cover medieval graffiti, the Reformation in Leicestershire, Victorian Grantham and the Suffragettes."



U3A requires volunteers for committee

In our last edition, we featured an article describing how the U3A's membership is growing. However to sustain a successful U3A group it needs a strong committee. In February 2018, three members of the committee will retire, meaning more pressure on the existing committee.

Would you be willing to join the committee who meet on the 1st Monday, monthly at the Village Hall at 12.30pm. You will be made most welcome and given any support required. Please note that volunteers need to be fully paid-up members of the U3A (£12 per year). If you are interested, please contact Chris Clarke (Deputy Chair) on 07905361798.

In addition, we have a sewing/handicrafts group who are seeking new members. If interested please call Barbara Herd on 01949 843796.

Bottesford Rocks

The rock-collecting craze is still popular, with many children finding rocks, decorating them and replacing them. It would be good to feature any of your photos – especially of New Year themed rocks!



Poetry Trail

Budding poets have the opportunity to contribute to our Poetry Trail. Write an original poem, inspired by Bottesford parish and we will publish it on our Facebook page.

If we get sufficient, we will also print, laminate and create a trail round the villages. Any length, and from anyone of any age is most welcome, but please keep them appropriate! The editor's decision on publication is final. Either e-mail them to vadverts@hotmail.com or if you prefer to hand-write them send them to The Editor, Village Voice, C/O Field Cottage, 3 Main Street, Normanton. NG13 0EP.

Bottesford Community Library

The library was recently a joint runner-up in a Leicestershire and Rutland 'Best Community Library' awards competition for 2017. They were presented with a certificate which currently adorns the wall in the library.

Thank you to all volunteers who give up their time to keep the library open – it is the only Library that opens 7 days a week! If you would like more information or would like to join the volunteer team, call in and have a chat. You will be most welcome.



Remembrance Day memories

To mark Remembrance Day this year, Bottesford Primary School were involved in a community project called 'Message in a Poppy' where the children reflected on the theme of Remembrance through art, poetry, talking and researching. The result was three super displays: one in the school, another in the library and the third in St Mary's Church.

Let some of the children tell us what was involved.

"We did a first draft of a picture at school. We rolled our pictures up so they could make stems for our big poppy displays. Then we involved our families and people in the village by asking them if they had any special places or people who either were in the war or helped with the war so we could remember them on Armistice Day.

I found out about my great grandad and that he fought in North Africa and Italy. I learnt that we can be grateful and sad at the same time but that talking about it makes things a lot better. Poppies now make me think of my family helping in the war and it's like a chain following on where now it reaches me so I can keep that chain going. JY Year 4.

"My stem had a rolled-up picture of a rose and around it I wrote: "Although it may seem hard, the prettiest things can come out of the dirtiest things. Roses have spikes on the stalks. If you touch one then you might hurt yourself and cry. But think about those who lost their lives in wars and battles. Those who saved somebody else's life for theirs." EC Y4

"I enjoyed making something that would be shown and might make those who fought in the war and their families proud." GL Y6

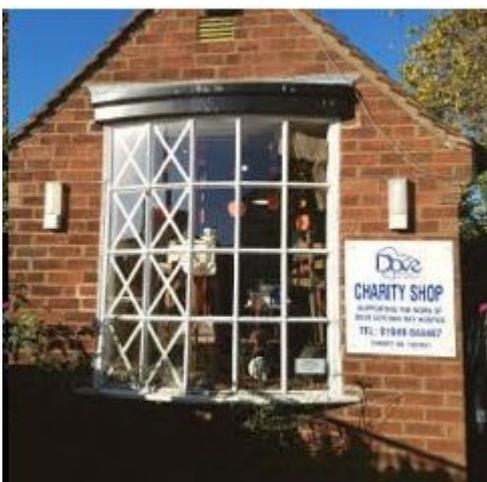
"Using artwork as a way to represent the brave soldiers and the people who died was good." HF Y5

"The volunteers from the village were really kind taking the time to help us rather than all the other things they could have been doing." CH Y6

'They were very patient and helpful with all their experience and wisdom.' HT Y4

'Sometimes things were fiddly but they were so creative and resourceful!' HD Y4

"I liked making something to help understand about people who gave their lives. We wouldn't be here if it wasn't for them." FD Y6



Remembrance in Bottesford

Year 7 and 11 students from Belvoir High School attended St Mary's Church on Friday 10th November. Students, who are members of local cadet forces, Guides and Scouts led the procession into church.

Rev David Payne conducted a service. It included readings, prayers, the showing of a short film produced by the Royal British Legion and the singing of 'I vow to thee my country'.

A large congregation attended the service at St Mary's Church on Remembrance Sunday. After the Last Post was sounded, the two minutes silence was observed. Following Reveille, wreaths were laid beneath the war memorial and the Roll of Honour was read.

Dove Cottage created a memorable window display.

Important: To publicise your event in the 'What's On' column for March or April, please email heather.stokes1@btinternet.com or ring 844009, by **27th January 2018**.



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What's On...regular events

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Every Wed at 7.30pm	Bottesford Whist Drive meets in the Fuller Room. Entrance is £1.50 per person with refreshments included. All welcome.
Every Wed & Sat 10 – 12.30 pm	Charity Shop, Old School, Main Street, Muston. Proceeds to St John's, Muston and St Mary's, Bottesford. Pop in for a coffee!
1st & 3rd Wed 12noon	Lite Bite at the Methodist Church. Everyone welcome. Cost £2.
Second Wed 2pm	Local History Group meeting in the Library to study Bottesford's Heritage Archive. Call Neil Fortey 843320.
Second Wed 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 Wed term time 3.30—5 pm	Hullabaloo Wednesday at the Methodist Church. Craft & play for all Primary age children (accompanied by an adult).
2nd & 4th Wed at 8pm	Vale of Belvoir Lions Club meets at the Durham Ox, Orston. Website www.voblions.org.uk or social media for events and information!
Thursdays term time 9.30 -11.30am	Hullabaloo Thursday at the Methodist Church. Open session for babies & toddlers (accompanied by a carer); £1 per adult to include drink & snacks.
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 10am	Vale of Belvoir Ramblers - for all abilities and interests. Call 01949 836042, email vbramblers@gmail.com or go to www.vbramblers.co.uk
Sundays 10.30am	St Mary's Bottesford Children's Church. For children age 3-11 (parent / carer support needed for children age 3-5). Bible storytelling and teaching, drama, craft, singing and fun during the 10.30am church service. All welcome! Contact Jo Payne on 01949 843348 or Lisa Smith on 07415144640.

What's On in January...

Tues 9th	Vale of Belvoir U3A. No meeting due to refurbishment of kitchen facilities at the hall.
Thurs 11th 7.30pm	Local History Society. Fuller Room. Heirlooms, Keepsakes & Interesting Objects - Open to all. Bring your objects to discuss.
Tues 16th 7.30pm	W.I. Meeting at Bottesford V.C. Hall. Members' Night.
Sun 14th 6.30pm	Sunday Praise – contemporary service in St Mary's. Children's activities. Facebook: Sunday Praise Bottesford. All welcome!
Sun 28th 6.30pm	Sunday Praise – contemporary service in St Mary's. Children's activities. Facebook: Sunday Praise Bottesford. All welcome!

And in February...

Thurs 8th 7.30pm	Local History Society. Fuller Room. "Women's Suffrage in Nottinghamshire." Rowena Edlin-White. All welcome. Visitors £2.
Sun 11th 6.30pm	Sunday Praise – contemporary service in St Mary's. Children's activities. Facebook: Sunday Praise Bottesford. All welcome!
Tues 13th 2pm	Vale of Belvoir U3A AGM at the VC Hall.
Tues 20th 7.30pm	Bottesford W.I. Annual Meeting at Bottesford V.C. Hall.
Sun 25th 6.30pm	Sunday Praise – contemporary service in St Mary's. Children's activities. Facebook: Sunday Praise Bottesford. All welcome!

Fair Boosts Library Funds

Bottesford Community Library raised more than £430 at its annual autumn fair. Held in mid-November, the fair attracted a wide variety of stallholders.

The library volunteers set up their own stalls, including a tombola, lucky dip, guess the number of sweets, 'splat-the-rat', plus refreshments for the many visitors.

The raffle prizes of a gift hamper and a Christmas scene made of milk and white chocolate were won by Maureen D'eath and Marian Orr.

The money raised from the fair will go towards the library running costs.

Normanton planters

Coming into Normanton from either the North or the South, you cannot fail to see the new planters. These were commissioned by Normanton Community Group in order to remind drivers that they are entering a village and to slow down.

The planters were funded by Severn Trent Water Authority after the disruption caused by the road closures and drainage works last year. The plants were donated by local residents. Look out for the daffodils and tulips near the base next spring.



More fundraising in our village

Many people raise funds for worthy causes. Here are some more examples. Pupils at the Primary School and Belvoir High School raised money for Children in Need. The Primary School had a non-uniform day but did wear 'spotty' clothes. They raised £347.16. Belvoir High School students also had a non-uniform day and a cake sale and raised £675.55.

A coffee morning at the Methodist Chapel resulted in a donation of £230 for the Notts and Lincs Air Ambulance. A Christmas fair at Muston raised £480. The 2nd Bottesford Guides held a jumble sale and raised £147.

Did you know that you can raise money easily for many local charities. Register at www.easyfundraising.org.uk. Every time you shop, a percentage will be donated to your chosen charity.

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Somewhere in one of our villages?

We'll be featuring occasional interesting pictures taken from around the community. This was taken in November 2017. Where is it? Write a comment on our Facebook page, or drop us a line at vvadverts@hotmail.com



Book club flourishes

On the last Friday monthly at 10am, a book club meets in the library.

The group has been meeting since the library opened and have read a wide range of books, including blockbusters, plays, westerns and biographies. In January, we will be reviewing 'Mort' by Terry Pratchett.

It costs £1 per session. Come along if you like reading and talking about books. For more information, call the library on 01949 842696.

Koroon gallery

Creative Space is now once a month on a Friday night between 7:30 and 10pm in St Marys Bottesford. Contact Glenda Gibson for details on 01949 845106 or visit Facebook for 'Bottesford & Vale Creatives'.

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Goalkeeper needed

A new goalkeeper is urgently needed for Bottesford FC Under 15's Boys Team. The U15's play Sunday mornings in the Nottinghamshire Youth League U15's Division 2. We train on Wednesday evenings.

If you think this could be you, or if you know of any U15 boys (Year 9 or Year 10) looking for regular games with an established team, then please contact the club via the details below.

e: news@bottesfordfc.co.uk

w: <http://www.bottesfordfc.co.uk>

t: @bottesfordfc - <http://twitter.com/BottesfordFC>

f: <https://www.facebook.com/bottesfordfootballclub>

New Catering Van at Nottingham Road

Bottesford FC are delighted to announce that there is a new catering vehicle at the Nottingham Road pitches on Saturdays, and as soon as the Sunday league fixtures have been confirmed it will be there on Sundays too.

Her name is Charley and she will be there with all the usual hot food, drinks and snacks, tea, coffee and cold drinks to warm you up or quench your thirst. Bacon and sausage cobs with all the extras are available if you fancy breakfast. Burgers, sweets and snacks if you are after something else.

Please give Charley your full support, as she will be making regular donations to the club. Everyone benefits!

New clubhouse for Bottesford FC

After much hard work, funding has been confirmed for the new clubhouse and building is due to start on the 8 January 2018. It should be completed in July – in time for the new season.

Further great news was also received from the local Co-op. "Bottesford Football Club has been chosen for the next round of the Co-op Local Community Fund. The funding started on 24 November 2017 and runs for 11 months until the 27 October 2018.



How it works. Every time members shop at the Co-op, 1% of what they spend on selected own-brand products and services goes to the Co-op Local Community Fund. We'll also give you and the other causes in the community an equal share of the money we raise from the sale of carrier bags."

Don't forget the photography competition

The 2018 Village Voice photographic competition is still open for entries. We will announce the winners after the 31 March 2018. There are two categories: under 18s and over 18s. This year's theme is 'Village Characters - Our Amazing People'. Send your entries to vvadverts@hotmail.com before 31 March 2018.

Advertorial - Visit Belvoir

If you would like to find out more about events that are occurring within the Vale of Belvoir, then check out www.visitbelvoir.co.uk. There is an extensive list of events, places to eat, accommodation, local businesses, useful information and much more. You can also advertise your own event.

Village Voice Contacts

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

Editorial: Alistair Raper on 07711 254441.

Whats On: heather.stokes1@btinternet.com or phone 844009.

Deadline for March/ April Edition (Issue 94): 27th January 2018.

E-mail: vv@bottesford.org.uk

Facebook: 'Village Voice, Bottesford'

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

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