



Issue No. 95
May/ June 2018



Village Voice

The newsletter of Bottesford, Easthorpe, Muston & Normanton

Melton mayor applauds Bottesford Youth Club

As Bottesford Youth Club celebrates almost 4 years in their new premises, Tejpal Bains, the Mayor of Melton Borough Council visited the club in March. Tejpal was very impressed with the work done by the volunteers and young people who attend the club.

The club is open three nights weekly: Tuesday for years 9 and 10, Thursdays for years 7, 8 and 9, and Fridays for year 6. It is very popular with over 75 young people attending weekly. There are many activities including table tennis, basketball, pool, darts, musical instruments, regular discos and much more.

On the same night as Tejpal's visit, members of Bingham town council came along as they are hoping to open a similar club in Bingham.

Bottesford Youth Club always needs volunteers. If you can help, please contact:

byc@bottesfordyouthclub.co.uk

Don't forget the Bottesford Bumble - a 5k and 10k run through the village on the 6th May to raise funds for Bottesford Youth Club.

A recent analysis by the Office for National Statistics reveals 10% of people aged 16-24 say they are lonely. Campaigners are calling for the return of youth clubs, after 605 were closed during 2012-16.



The Friendly Bench™ formally opened by Sir Alan Duncan MP

On a recent sunny Sunday morning, Sir Alan Duncan MP opened the Friendly Bench™ in Bottesford. This has been the result of two years hard work by Lyndsey Young and the Friendly Bench™ Committee. Lyndsey said: "The aim of The Friendly Bench is to connect people. We're starting with Bottesford, but the situation here is not unique. We want to build more benches in places where they are needed." Special thanks to all volunteers associated with the project, and The Blue Diamond Garden Centre at West Bridgford who donated topsoil and plants.



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Housing in Bottesford Parish: 'A factual statement from Melton Borough Council'

In response to the last edition's article, Jim Worley, Assistant Director of Growth and Regeneration at Melton Borough Council, replies.

"I am writing with respect to the planning position for housing in Bottesford, and to various comments which do not appear to be accurate.

The Melton Local Plan was submitted by Melton Borough Council to the Government for Examination in October 2017. It proposed an overall housing requirement for Melton Borough of 6125 houses up to 2036, and a contribution to this of 334 houses for Bottesford and 8 for Easthorpe. None were proposed in Muston or Normanton.

However, the estimated capacity of the sites chosen to meet this share adds up to 324 in Bottesford, and 21 in Easthorpe. This can be seen from the Local Plan extract below:

BOT1	Land rear of Daybell's Farm & 18 Grantham Road	41
BOT2	Land off Grantham Road	65
BOT3	Rectory Farm	163
BOT4	Land at bottom of Beacon Hill, Normanton Lane	55
Bottesford Total		324
EAST1	Land east of Green Lane	9
EAST2	Land west of Green Lane	12
Easthorpe Total		21

Full details are available at:

https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/d246bd_c562f6334e584edd9db50642c5e63a85.pdf

Care is needed with capacities. They are calculated on the size of the sites and what is 'typical'. They are not minimum requirements or limits placed on sites. When designed out, sites often deviate from this calculation. This is already evident – planning applications for some sites are for less houses than estimated; some for more. The exact number, layout and other details are only established when a planning application is made.

The Melton Local Plan was the subject of a detailed Examination in the first 2 weeks of February, by an independent Government Planning Inspector, Mrs Travers. Her job is to consider all the points presented to her on all issues, and decide whether to accept, reject or modify the Plan.

The Examination was attended by myself and other Melton BC staff. Bottesford Parish Council /Neighbourhood Plan Group and Bottesford Forum attended at various times. There were many other participants (residents groups, other Parish Councils, developers, members of the public etc.).

Each participant submitted statements and addressed the Inspector with views and concerns. All of these can be read here under the heading 'Written Statements': <https://www.meltonplan.co.uk/examination>

The Inspector heard arguments that Bottesford's apportionment should be reduced. Others agreed that the Local Plan figure of 324 is appropriate. Several people said it should be increased. These were based on arguments that Bottesford has better facilities and public transport than any other village in the Borough, so should take a larger share. The Inspector will now decide the better of the suggested approaches.

Part of our job is to keep in contact with developers to understand their building plans. Although the Local Plan stretches to 2036, in the latest update of this (Dec 2017) they said their intentions were to build out almost all of the sites in Bottesford and Easthorpe within the next 9 years."

Weekend boat trips

The Grantham Canal Society is operating half-hour boat trips on various weekends this summer. £3.00 for adults and £2.00 for children.

Dates and times are below, or phone 07486 955 775. Trips depart from Lock 18, Woolsthorpe by Belvoir, NG32 1NY. All proceeds to the canal restoration fund. For more information visit www.granthamcanal.org.

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Mon 27 th August	Sun 30 th September	

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Nev's Workshop: a new building for Bottesford Pre-School



Children, parents and staff at the Pre-School celebrated the opening of 'Nev's Workshop' on Friday March 23rd.

Jill and Nev Bagnall, and their family have had a long association with Bottesford Pre-school. Jill was a staff member for 30 years. Nev's joinery skills and his organisation of volunteers, together with their son Gary's bricklaying expertise was integral to the new premises in 1988.

Sadly, Nev died in July 2017. Donations in his memory were gifted to Bottesford Pre-School. These funds enabled the purchase of a new playroom named in his memory. Jill spoke at the opening:

"Today, with family and friends, we remember Nev, a well-known and much loved village character. The workshop is a fitting tribute to Nev who spent lots of time in his own workshop at home. We hope that generations of children will enjoy their opportunities to play, learn and just have fun in Nev's Workshop. If he's looking down on us today, have no fears. He'd say, with glass in hand, 'Well done – Cheers!'"

Unfurling the Friendly Society banner

Bottesford Friendly Society (1747-1972) was one of the oldest and longest-lived benefit societies in the country. Before the Welfare State, sickness benefit and funeral costs were provided by friendly societies like the Oddfellows and the Foresters, but Bottesford had a society of its own.

Each year, members would parade behind its banner through the streets to a service at St Mary's and then to a feast at the Marquis of Granby or the Rutland Arms. Does anyone remember when the last parade was held? If so, contact us at vv@bottesford.org.uk

The Society's wonderful silk parade banner has been preserved but is deteriorating. It needs restoration. The Local History Society and Community Heritage Project plan to have it restored, and will seek funds once the cost has been established. The banner was recently unfurled so it could be photographed to create a poster until the real banner can go on show. Learn about the society at: www.bottesfordhistory.org.uk/content/category/topics/friendly-societies



Speeding buses

Two Parish Councillors and a Bottesford resident have met with the Operations Director of Centre-Bus, David Brookes, to discuss speeding in Bottesford, as there have been numerous complaints during the past 12 months. David has agreed to issue written instructions to all bus drivers.

He also considers that a speed of 20 mph through the village would help to restore confidence amongst Bottesford residents.

Photo competition results

Thank you to everyone who send their wonderful pictures for this year's competition, 'Village Characters'. We had a record number of entries and we will be announcing the winners in the next edition.



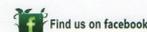
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1st World War casualties in May and June 1918

Charles Baines born in 1885, the son of John and Fanny Baines at Easthorpe Mill. He served with the Leicestershire Regiment and then the East Lancashire Regiment. He was taken prisoner and died of injuries on 28th May 1918 and was buried in the Sissonne British Cemetery, Aisne, France.

Thomas William Skinner was born in 1898 in Bottesford. His parents were George and Kate Skinner.

Thomas was a farm worker until he enlisted with the Leicestershire Regiment in March 1915. Within 6 months, he was in Egypt and then Iraq, where he received serious lung damage. His six months convalescence started in Bombay and ended in England, when he was posted in August 1916 to 'Home Service' with the Leicestershire Regiment and in July 1917 to 410 Agricultural Company in Ripon. In February 1918, Thomas Skinner was discharged as unfit for service due to a heart condition, breathlessness and a patch on his lung. His condition deteriorated until he died on 11th June 1918 at his sister's home on The Green.

He is buried in the churchyard and has a Commonwealth War Graves headstone. He had not died on active service so this was an achievement for his family but it is not known why his name was not included on the Bottesford War Memorial.

Centenary remembrance service

Hose and Harby branch of the Royal British Legion together with Bottesford Parish First World War Centenary project and St Mary's church, Bottesford organised this simple service to mark the 100 years since ten men from across the Vale were killed in the first few days of the German spring offensive in March 1918. The service included the one hundredth such act of remembrance to be carried out in the Vale since 2014.

The service was led by Reader Canon Judith Wells and assisted by Revd David Payne. The names of the ten were read out, before a cross for each was presented to representatives from the four parishes of Long Clawson, Harby, Hose and Bottesford. Just listening to the histories brought home the importance of why these services and acts of remembrance have been held over the past four years and why the deaths of these and all others who died or lived with their wounds for years should never be forgotten. Tea and coffee was served afterwards. Relatives of one of the soldiers remembered attended the service of remembrance.

The ten men remembered were: from Long Clawson, Pte. Horace Hand, Pte. George Edward Izzit, Pte. James Miller and Pte. Frederick Marriott. From Stathern, Major John Crosby Warren MC, Tpr. Albine Knapp and Pte. F. Watson. From Harby, Pte. Thomas Alfred Kemp. From Bottesford, Sgt. Walter Hardy DCM, Pte. Phillip Sutton.



Do you remember thirty years ago?

Work on the Bottesford bypass finally began in the summer of 1988. The bypass was first suggested in the 1920s. In 1927, traffic noise affected teaching at the old school. In 1948, crossing the A52 to reach the school dining-hall in the Baptist Chapel in Queen Street was difficult.

In 1967, a letter was written to the Grantham Journal saying that '*Bottesford was a terrifying and hair-raising Silverstone circuit.*'

By the late 70s and early 80s Bottesford had become a notorious bottleneck on the A52 with more than 6000 vehicles a day passing through the village. This finally led to 'official' plans for a bypass when the Ministry of Transport held a public exhibition giving details of route proposals in 1983.

After much lively local and national debate, a public enquiry took place in April 1986. After further delays, the construction of the bypass started in the summer of 1988.

Any memories or photos from pre-bypass days? We'd love to hear from you. Drop us a line at vv@bottesford.org.uk



This picture, one of a series taken and annotated by the late Mrs Molly Ford of Easthorpe, shows bypass work beginning at the Muston-Easthorpe Lane crossing (Bottesford Heritage Archive digital scan, 2008).

Friends of St Mary's dates for your diary: Choros Amici and trip to Lincoln

It is some years since Choros Amici performed in St. Mary's Church and they will perform again on the 12 May. Choros Amici, '*the choir of friends*' has a simple mission: "To sing to the highest possible standard, to entertain and inspire audiences, and above all, have fun whilst doing it!" For more information about the group visit www.chorosamici.co.uk. Tickets are available from Frances Stapleton 01949 843427. Also Community Library, The Poppy Seed, and Select Stores. £10 non-members £8 members. Children under 16 Free.

The second event is on May 17, when the Friends have organised a trip to Lincoln. You can spend the day as you wish. Maybe a visit to the Cathedral or the castle, or just enjoy a stroll around the city. Places are booked through the secretary, Frances Stapleton. 01949 843427. £12 for non-members and £8 for members of Friends.

If you would like to visit the Cathedral this can be arranged in a group booking. There is an additional cost of £6 to include a tour of the Cathedral. Application forms are also available at the back of the church.

Sunday Praise has moved – message from the Methodist Church

In order to accommodate the growing number of children attending the contemporary church services, Sunday Praise has been relocated from St Mary's Bottesford to the Methodist Chapel on Devon Lane.

The hour-long services are still held on the second and fourth Sunday of each month but now start at 4pm and are followed by a social get together to enjoy friendship, laughter, soup, pizza, cakes and refreshment. A huge thank you to Rev. Nel Shallow and her team for making everyone so welcome.

Christian Aid Week (13-19 May) collections discontinued

For many years, there have been door-to-door collections for Christian Aid. Sadly, this has been discontinued due to lack of volunteers and legislative changes.

There will be collection tins at venues throughout Bottesford, and fund raising events during the week. On May 24th, A Christian Aid representative will speak at the Methodist church Friendship Group, followed by refreshments and a 'bring and buy' sale.

On May 26th, the chapel café will be open. Proceeds from both events will go to the charity.

Bottesford Open Gardens weekend of 23 and 24 June

If you would like to open your garden in aid of St Mary's Church, contact Jo Payne on 01949 843348 or stmarysopengardens@gmail.com.

In addition to gardens being open as usual, the committee are hoping for a number of 'View in Passing' Gardens. Do you have an attractive, quirky, beautiful or unusual front garden which people could look at over the fence on their way to an Open Garden? Contact Jo if you are interested.

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

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What's On...regular events

Every Wed 2—4pm	Mental Health and Wellbeing drop in session at Bottesford Community Library. Call in to speak 1-2-1 with a support worker in mental health and wellbeing.
Every Wed at 7.30pm	Bottesford Whist Drive meets in the Fuller Room. Entrance is £1.50 per person with refreshments included. Everyone welcome.
Every Wed & Sat 10am – 12.30pm	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 of the month, noon	Lite Bite at the Methodist Church. Everyone welcome. Cost £2.
Second Wed of the month 2pm	Local History Group meeting in the Library to study Bottesford's Heritage Archive. Call Neil Fortey 843320 or email information@bottesfordcommunitylibrary.org.uk .
Second Wed of the month 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.
Second & fourth Wed of the month 8pm	Vale of Belvoir Lions Club meets at the Durham Ox, Orston. Please see website www.vobliions.org.uk or social media for upcoming events or further information!
Every Thurs (term time) 9.30–11.30am 3.30–5pm	Hullabaloo Thursday at the Methodist Church. Open play session for babies & toddlers (accompanied by a carer); £1 per adult to include drink & snacks. Craft & play for all Primary age children (accompanied by an adult).
Every Thurs 10–10.30am	Story time sessions at Bottesford Community Library. Fun story & song session for babies, pre-schoolers and primary age children. Gentle atmosphere for children, parents, grandparents & carers. Just pop in. Contact Val Lever for further information 07582 469401 .
Every Friday	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 - walks to suit 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 3-5 year olds). Bible storytelling, drama, craft, singing and fun during the 10.30am church service. All welcome! Contact Jo Payne on 01949 843348 or Lisa Smith on 07415144640.
2nd & 4th Sun of the month, 4pm	Sunday Praise – Contemporary church service at The Methodist Church, Devon Lane, Bottesford, NG13 0BZ. Children's activities provided for ages 4–12. All welcome! Find us on Facebook—Sunday Praise Bottesford.

What's On in May...

Tues 8th 2pm	Vale of Belvoir U3A, Bottesford VC Hall. 100 Years of Music - by Andy Smith.
Thurs 10th 2.30pm	Friendship Group meeting in the Methodist Church schoolroom. Talk on modern day slavery, followed by refreshments.
Thurs 10th 7.30pm	Local History Society. Fuller Room, The Old School. "The Impact of the Reformation on the Leicestershire Gentry" - Speaker Katie Bridger. Visitors welcome £2.
Sat 12th 9am—2pm	St Mary's Church - Drop in for Breakfast, Coffee or Lunch. All Welcome! Proceeds to Christian Aid.
Tues 15th 7.30pm	W.I. Meeting at Bottesford VC Hall. Resolutions and Annual Supper.
Sun 20th	Bottesford Primary School Summer Fair. Bouncy Castle, Punch and Judy, Cream Teas, Lions BBQ and Pimms Bar. All welcome.
Sun 20th 3—5pm	St Mary's Church - 'Royal Wedding Tea'. All welcome! Proceeds to Christian Aid.
Thurs 24th 2.30pm	Friendship Group meeting in the Methodist Church schoolroom. Talk on Christian Aid and Bring and Buy stall. Refreshments.

And in June...

Thurs 7th 2.30pm	Friendship Group meeting in the Methodist Church schoolroom. Speaker Rosemary Gibson - "Bess of Hardwick".
Sun 10th 10am—5pm	Open Garden in aid of charities supported by the NGS. Honeytrees Tropical Garden, 85 Grantham Road, Bottesford. Admission £3. Tea/ coffee and cakes and plants for sale!!
Tues 12th 2pm	Vale of Belvoir U3A, Bottesford VC Hall. "Tales of a Wimbledon Umpire, 1988-2012", Alan Gray MBE.
Thurs 14th	Local History Society - Outing to Boughton House (the English Versailles), Kettering. SOLD OUT
Tues 19th 7.30pm	W.I. Meeting at Bottesford VC Hall. "Keep the Home Fires Burning" - Grantham Danserye.
Thurs 21st 2.30pm	Friendship Group meeting. Afternoon at Marian's.
Tues 26th 2.30—4pm	St Mary's Church - Tea and Cakes. All welcome!

Vale of Belvoir U3A - new committee; new era

On February 13th, the U3A held its AGM, and a new committee was elected, including a new chair and treasurer. The committee hope this will be the start of a new era for the U3A and would like to encourage new residents to come along.

You need to be over 50, retired or not in full time employment. The U3A offer a variety of activities including table-tennis, singing, art, marquetry, card craft, scrabble, flower arranging, sewing crafts, a walking group, whist, music, relaxation and movement, knitting and gardening.

If you have an interest or skill which is not included contact Chris Clarke on 079053621798. Annual membership is £12. Members meet in Bottesford Village hall on the 2nd Tuesday monthly. There is a guest speaker, a raffle and refreshments.

Dustbins not being collected

Are you having a problem with your bins not being emptied when they are supposed to be? If so, Councillor Anne Ablewhite would like to hear from you. Anne said: "We have been noticing that half an estate would get their bins emptied but the other half would not."

If you have any problems with your bins or are not satisfied with collections then please give Anne a ring on 01949 842259 and she will look into the matter for you. Anne said: "We have already spoken to Melton and hopefully they will get things sorted shortly."

Buses to Melton along Belvoir Road

The parish council understand that some residents from the Wickets are not be happy with the Melton bus service. This seems to be mainly with the return journey, as it is a long way to walk from The Red Lion with shopping.

Councillor Anne Ablewhite has discussed this with the bus company. She said: "As there are no stops on Belvoir Road, it is at the discretion of the driver to stop, on request, along to either drop passengers off or pick them up." Furthermore, Councillor Ablewhite is investigating whether the bus company would be willing to go around the Wickets estate in the future."

Activities in
Bottesford Community Library

Murder in the Library
Come and hear author
Gary Toward
As he unveils his new Murder Mystery
'The Magpie'
Gary will be in the library to discuss and sign copies of his book
On
Monday 14th May - 7pm
Admission is Free
Raffle & Refreshments sold in aid
of the library.

Library Opening Times
Monday 9.00 pm to 6.00 pm
Tuesday 9.00 pm to 6.00 pm
Wednesday 1.00 pm to 4.00 pm
Thursday 9.00 am to 12.30 pm
Friday 9.00 am to 12.30 pm
Saturday 9.00 am to 12.30 pm

BOTTESFORD COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Murder in the library!

The library are delighted to be hosting a talk by Gary Toward on Monday 14 May at 7pm, in which he will unveil his new mystery novel, The Magpie. Gary has written several books and taught in a number of schools. He was head teacher in three schools within Leicestershire. The event is free and refreshments will be available.

Also, don't forget the library Spring Fair on Sunday 6th May, from 1-4pm. Stalls, children's games, book stall, refreshments, and lots more.

Festival of Archaeology

Bottesford Local History Society and Community Heritage Project will be staging another mini-festival programme of archaeology and history events as part of the Leicestershire Festival of Archaeology during the second part of July. It is expected to include evening talks in Bottesford Library and St Mary's church on iron-age and medieval discoveries near Newark and at Easthorpe, and on medieval church carvings in Leicestershire, plus a walk round St Mary's to discover historic graffiti and gargoyles, and a village history walk starting at the Market Cross.

Details are not yet complete, but the programme will be available in good time.

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Bottesford skate park rebuild

Three substantial donations to the skate park have allowed the committee to rebuild the jumps rather than repair them. The new park will be the same layout as before, and should be ready for the school summer holidays. Follow the skate park on Facebook @bottesfordskatepark.

Bottesford FC clubhouse update

The clubhouse construction is well under way and will be completed for the start of next season. The club are looking to hold a Festival of Football on August Bank Holiday Monday 27 August. We will provide more details in the next edition of the Village Voice

The club has also launched a 'buy a brick' initiative. You can have a personalised engraved plaque displayed in the new premises. Personal bricks cost £50 and commercial bricks cost £100. If you want to buy a brick and contribute towards the construction of the new clubhouse then please contact the club on news@bottesfordfc.co.uk.



The Vale of Belvoir Lions and Bottesford Cricket Club family fun day

Help the VOB Lions raise money for local and national charities by joining them on Father's Day, Sunday 17th June at Bottesford Cricket Club 12:00-16:00. There will be lots of fun for the family including: 'sack' races, egg and spoon races, bean bag races, penalty shoot-outs, 'Quick Cricket', a bouncy castle, horse racing in the bar, and a dad's crèche! The Vale of Belvoir Lions famous BBQ and a licensed bar will also be available.

Village Voice Contacts

Advertising: Email vvadverts@hotmail.com or phone 842141.
Editorial: Alistair Raper on 07711 254441.
What's On: heather.stokes1@btinternet.com or phone 844009.
Deadline for July/ August Edition (Issue 96): 27th May 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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