

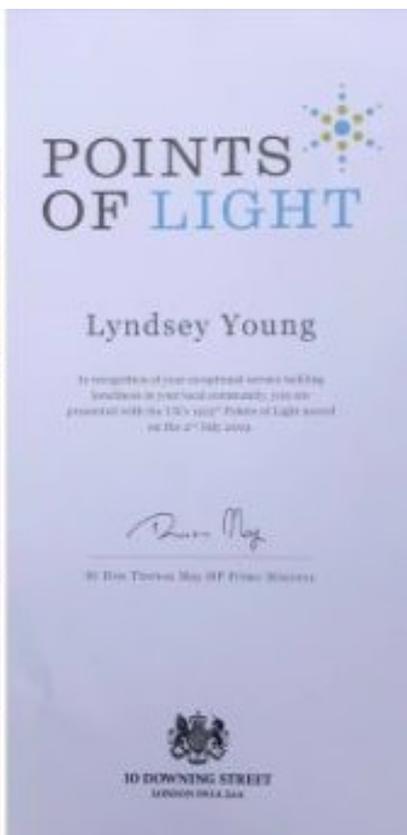


Village Voice

Issue No. 103
September / October 2019

The newsletter of Bottesford, Easthorpe, Muston & Normanton

Prime Minister honours founder of the Friendly Bench™



Ex-Prime Minister Theresa May has personally praised the Friendly Bench™ project for its outstanding work in tackling loneliness. Lyndsey Young, the founder of the project, has been awarded a 'Points of Light' honour. This award recognises people who make a significant contribution to their community and have inspired others to get involved.

In a personal letter to Lyndsey, Prime Minister Theresa May said: "With 'The Friendly Bench', you have created a unique space for the community, young and old, to come together to enjoy each other's company. By bringing people together, you are tackling the loneliness felt by so many and forging friendships and bonds which make a community stronger."

Local MP Sir Alan Duncan added: "I am absolutely delighted that the hard work of my constituent Lyndsey Young has been recognised with a Points of Light award. The Friendly Bench is

a fantastic initiative, which I was delighted to officially open last year. Loneliness can affect anyone, no matter their age or background, and we should be doing all we can to tackle it. Projects like Lyndsey's can make a real difference to people's lives."

Lyndsey would like to thank the many people who have supported this project. She said: "I'd like to add the success of The Friendly Bench in Bottesford has been made possible thanks to the amazing support I've had along the way, particularly from Jason, Caroline, Les, my family, Suzie, Jim from Warwick Flats, Bottesford Parish Council, Leicestershire County Council, my friends, plus, of course, all of the many fabulous people in Bottesford and beyond."

Latest news. A second Friendly Bench™ has recently been opened in the village of Newbold Verdon.



Photo Competition

Please note the Village Voice Photo Competition deadline for receiving your entries has been extended to November 30. We want to get as many photos as possible, covering the changing seasons. The 2019 theme is 'Hidden or Unknown Bottesford, Easthorpe, Muston and Normanton. Please send entries to vvadverts@hotmail.com

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 &
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Bottesford Local History Society news

In June, Bottesford Local History Society members and guests enjoyed a sunny day at Harewood House in Yorkshire, including a conducted house tour and a walk round its gardens.

The society holds its regular meetings on the second Thursday of the month in the Fuller Room at Bottesford Old School. Doors open at 7pm, talks start at 7.30pm. On September 12, the AGM will be followed by a talk by Jane Spencer 'A Nottinghamshire Rural Family History based on a 1771 Sampler'.

On October 10 a talk by Peter Hammond, son of the late John Hammond, will be 'West Bridgford from Village to Suburb'. New members and guests welcome.



Bottesford Skate Park now complete

Two years after Bottesford Skate Park Community Interest Company (CIC) was set up to raise funds to repair and replace the infrastructure, enough funding has been realised to completely revamp the Skate Park. Following a rebuild of half the park last summer, the second stage was finished in July and the young people are very appreciative of the work and skill of Dave from Rampchild Ltd, who designed the original Skate Park.

Teresa and Jo, CIC directors, are proud of the work they have achieved to make the Skate Park safe as well as providing entertainment and stimulation for young people of the local area. Now it is up to the users to respect the Skate Park. Support and encouragement from parents and friends is much appreciated.



Social Bridge in an around Bottesford

A Bridge club is looking for new players. David said: "We are a group of about ten Bridge players who play in and around Bottesford on Wednesday afternoons. We've been going since 2017 and the emphasis is definitely on the social side of Bridge, so we make sure that the atmosphere is never intense. Who do you know that might like to join us? They don't necessarily have to have their own Bridge partner."

For further information or any queries call David on 01949 729507 or 07913 432108.

Bee-friendly community garden officially opens

The 'Bee-Friendly' garden was officially opened by the Duchess of Rutland on Monday 17th June, accompanied by Kaye Robinson, Community Rail Partnership Officer from Connect Lincolnshire. There were goodie bags, rock-painting and refreshments to celebrate the hard work from many volunteers over the last 18 months.



Parish Council update

At the July meeting, Bottesford Parish Council agreed to establish a Road Safety Committee with two major priorities for 2019/20. These are issues surrounding the A52 and Village Centre traffic management.

The Road Safety Committee will create a database to record all traffic incidents, accidents and near misses going back 5 years at the various intersections leading onto the A52 from our villages. This 'evidence-based' approach will be invaluable when presenting the issues to Highways England, Leicestershire County Council, LCC Highways and our local MP.

A spokesperson for the council said: "Without facts and public support, the task could be insurmountable. Residents can help. If anyone has information regarding accidents and near misses can they send the information to Jane Bennett, Chair of the Road Safety Committee, using the following email address janeb.brianb@gmail.com. All emails will be acknowledged.

The council are also considering re-development of the Old School Yard at the back of the Community Library. A spokesperson said: "We have the Friendly Bench™ and the Friendly Garden so why not the Friendly School Yard?" At the July meeting, the council agreed that the redevelopment of the yard would be a potential project in which the Community could become involved.

The council commented: "The yard will need significant work to become a space for all ages to enjoy. The council is keen for a project group to get together to review ideas of how the space could be developed."

If you are interested in being part of this project, please contact Amanda, the Parish Clerk, at bottesfordparishclerk@outlook.com.

Your new Parish Council

Bottesford Parish Council

Parish Councillors:	Telephone No.:	Email address:
Bob Bayman (Chairman)	07799 131981	chairman@bottesfordpc.org.uk
Alan Gough (Vice-Chairman)	07970 121488	clerk@bottesfordpc.org.uk
Anne Ablewhite	01949842259	"
Bob Sparham	07470095829	"
Jane Bennett	07871 396010	"
Lorraine Ainscough	07387024724	"
Heather Shephard	07947 159493	"
Leigh Donger	07970 838894	"
Brian McInerney	07393 181778	"

The Parish Office is open to the public on Tuesdays, 1.00–4.00pm, and Wednesdays, 4.00–7.00pm

Parish Council Meetings, 2020:

13 January	10 February	9 March	13 April
11 May	8 June	13 July	10 August
14 September	12 October	9 November	14 December

Bottesford Parish Clerk:

Amanda Carter-Blackford
Old School, Grantham Road
Bottesford, NG13 0DF
Telephone: 01949 222478
Email: clerk@bottesfordpc.org.uk

Bottesford Garden Association annual show and forthcoming talks

Make a note in your diary for the Bottesford Garden Association's annual show. This year it will be on Saturday September 14 in the VC Hall in Bottesford. The BGA have also organised a number of topics for their monthly meetings. These are as follows:



October 8. Steffie Shields. Capability Brown and the gift of landscape set with local connections. November 12. Dr Andrew Ward. Indispensable Plants. February 18. Andrew Sankey. Rethink your Garden. March 10. Geoff Hodge. Grow your own Vegetables.

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Bottesford Cribbage Club looks for new members

Bottesford Cribbage Club has just celebrated its first anniversary. They would love to welcome new players.

David said: "We've had a whole year now of playing crib a couple of times a month with like-minded people and there've been plenty of laughs along the way, but to be perfectly honest we've heard all of each others' jokes now. Many times over. We could do with some fresh blood.

Please come and join in, learning the game as you go along if necessary, and give us all a break from each other!"

The club meets on the first, third and fifth Wednesdays monthly at the Rutland Arms. 7:45pm for a prompt 8pm start. Any queries please call David on 01949729507 or 07913432108.

Helix Ensemble to perform at St Mary's Church, Bottesford

On Saturday September 14 at 7.30pm in St Mary's Church, Bottesford the Helix Ensemble will perform in concert under Musical Director Fiona Love. There will be two Mozart works: Violin Concerto No 5 and Cassation No 1. In addition, there will be a performance of John Ireland's Concertante Pastorale followed by the premiere of Interlude for Strings by Nottinghamshire composer, Henry Zajaczkowski.

The orchestra is joined by soloist Tom Greed playing Mozart's last violin concerto in A Major, one of his most popular, nicknamed 'The Turkish'.

Tickets £12 (£10 for Friends of St Mary's) will be available on the door. You can also buy in advance from Frances Stapleton on 01949 843247 or e-mail secretary.friends.of.st.mary@gmail.com. Tickets can also be purchased at the Community Library and Select Stores, High Street, Bottesford.



Business corner

In the second of our series in which we feature the story behind a business, we caught up with Sunita Passi who has opened a business called The Sunita Passi Wellness Centre in the Engine Yard near Belvoir Castle. We were keen to find out what it has been like for Sunita as she embarks on this new venture.

"When you're building a business it can seem like a castle in the air! So you'll understand why I'm smiling so much as I put the finishing touches to the Wellness Centre and shop which is based near Belvoir Castle in a wonderful old building in The Engine Yard.

The opportunity to create a dedicated space for our treatments, meditation, yoga and health consultations was unmissable. And the gorgeous historic setting, with other fabulous and special businesses alongside, makes it a great place to work and look after my clients."

Vale of Belvoir Lions appoint new President

During a mini heatwave in June this year the Vale of Belvoir Lions held their annual handover ceremony, with Lion President Nigel Davies passing on the responsibility to Simon Ashworth. Norman Robinson was awarded the Melvin Jones Fellowship. Certificates of appreciation also went to dedicated friends of Lions helpers: Liam and Hannah.



80 years ago

Sunday September 3 1939 was the day war broke out against Germany for the second time in the 20th Century. The war had a lasting impact on so many people and places, and Bottesford was no exception.

RAF Bottesford was built at Normanton and was used by the RAF, Commonwealth airmen and the American Air Force. There was Royal Army Service Corps fuel distribution centre and army camp on Orston Lane and the Observer Corps kept watch nightly on Beacon Hill.

Villagers joined up and saw action in the Azores, North Africa, Iceland, Norway and Burma as well as in Europe. Men in reserved occupations continued to farm and women found work as land girls, and in munitions factories in Grantham and Nottingham. The village joined in with fund-raising for the war effort. Gardens became vegetable plots and rabbit was often on the menu! Evacuated children came to the school and lived with village and Vale families. There were camps in the area for prisoners of war who worked on the land.

If you or family members lived in Bottesford during the war years and have memories or photographs of that time, please contact Village Voice or www.bottesfordhistory.org.uk.

30 years ago (based on articles and letters in 1989 to the Grantham Journal)

The Bottesford bypass was opened 30 years ago on Monday February 6 1989. Construction started in autumn 1987 and the £2.76 million bypass was finished 14 weeks ahead of schedule. Official opening ceremonies were held at the V.C. Hall on the following Monday, February 13 1989.



Within 24 hours of the opening, there had been one major and two less severe accidents on the bypass. There was also criticism of the staggered junction on Belvoir Road. Michael Latham, MP for Melton asked a written question in Parliament concerning the need for traffic management equipment at the Muston and Belvoir Road junctions.

A letter on March 10 indicated that maybe some form of lighting was needed. There was also comment on the height of the embankment between the bypass and Easthorpe. A height of two metres had been promised. Half that height had been built and it was considered that 'the main runway at a busy airport was a quieter site'.

The Grantham Journal also reported concerns that the by-pass would divert traffic from the commercial centre of the village and that 'Bottesford would become a ghost town'.

Tomatoes galore!

Margaret Millington is thanked for sending us this picture from the Grantham Journal of 1973, taken on the A52 (pre-bypass) after an accident close to Orston Grange in which a lorry shed its load of tinned tomatoes. The Grantham Journal added: "Thousands of tins of tomatoes blocked the main Nottingham to Grantham road near Bottesford today after a lorry overturned. The vehicle was buried beneath the tins, but the driver got out without any injury."



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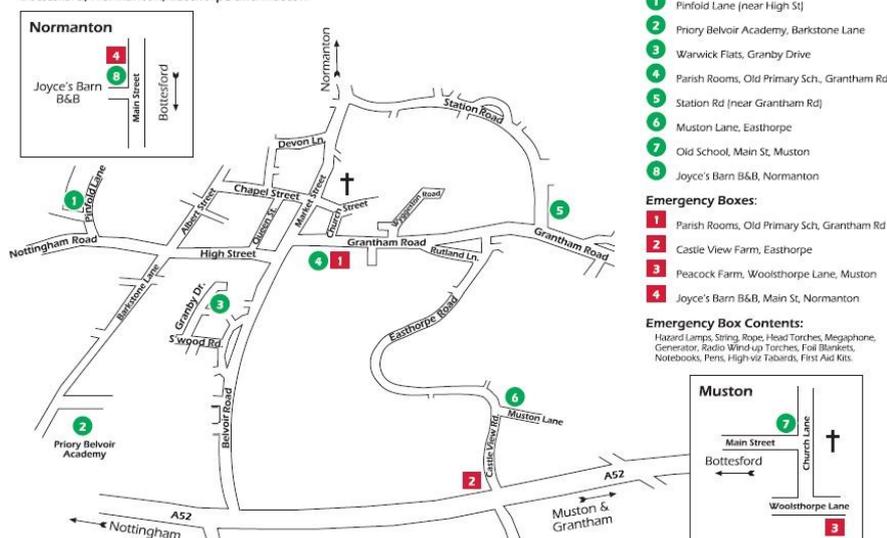
What's On...regular events	
Every Wed at 7.30pm	Bottesford Whist Drive meets in the Fuller Room. Entrance is £1.50 per person with refreshments included. Everyone welcome.
Every Wed & Sat	Charity Shop, Old School, Main Street, Muston. Proceeds to St John's, Muston and St Mary's, Bottesford. Pop in for a coffee! 10am – 12.30pm
1st & 3rd Wed of month	Lite Bite at the Methodist Church. Everyone welcome. Cost £2.50. 12 noon.
2nd Wed of 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.
2nd Wed of month	Good Neighbour Scheme FREE film show in the Old School Room. 2 pm, doors open 1.30 pm. Donation towards tea and biscuit in interval.
2nd & 4th Wed of month	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! 8pm
Every Thurs (term time)	Hullabaloo Toddlers at the Methodist Church. Open play session for babies & toddlers (accompanied by a carer); £1 per adult to include drink & snacks. 9.30–11.30am
Last Sat of month	Chapel Cafe at the Methodist Church. 10.30—noon.
Sundays 10am	The Vale of Belvoir Ramblers walk every week, usually on Sunday. Walks are chosen to suit all abilities and interests, start at 10:00 and you usually need to bring a picnic. Call 01949 836042 or email vbramblers@gmail.com or website www.vbramblers.co.uk for more details.
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.
What's On in September..	
Sun 8th 4pm	Windmill Missional Community – Contemporary church service including reflecting on 'the anointing of Jesus' at The Methodist Church, Devon Lane, Bottesford, Leicestershire, NG13 0BZ. All welcome. Children's groups available. Followed by soup, pizza, cake and refreshments.
Tues 10th 2pm	Vale of Belvoir U3A meeting in the VC Hall. Sandi McMillan-Bunn will be speaking about the work of the Notts and Lincs Air Ambulance Service.
Thurs 12th 2.30pm	Friendship Group at the Methodist Church. Quiz followed by refreshments.
Thurs 12th 7.30pm	Local History Society. Fuller Room, The Old School. A Nottinghamshire Rural Family History based on a 1771 Sampler. Speaker: Jane Spencer. Visitors most welcome on payment of £2.50.
Sat 14th 7.30pm	Friends of St. Mary's. Helix Ensemble performing at St. Mary's. Doors open 6.30pm. Tickets in advance £12 non-members and £10 members.
Tues 17th 7.30pm	W.I. Meeting at Bottesford VC Hall. Catherine Crompton's Diary—Stephen Flinders.
Sun 22nd 4pm	Windmill Missional Community, including reflecting on 'Less Is More', at The Methodist Church. See Sunday 8th September for more details.
Thurs 26th 2.30pm	Friendship Group at the Methodist Church. Speaker: Graham Coleman. "From Pit to Pulpit". Refreshments afterwards.
...and in October	
Tues 8th 2pm	Vale of Belvoir U3A meeting in the VC Hall. Tracey Akehurst will be speaking about Passions, Potions and Poisons – love and death in the garden.
Thurs 10th 2.30pm	Friendship Group at the Methodist Church. Speaker: Margaret Wingfield. "Recollections of a Headmistress". Refreshments afterwards.
Thurs 10th 7.30pm	Local History Society. Fuller Room, The Old School. West Bridgford from Village to Suburb. Speaker Peter Hammond. Visitors most welcome on payment of £2.50.
Sat 12th 7.30pm	Friends of St. Mary's. Belvoir Big Band performing at St. Mary's. Doors open 6.30pm. Tickets in advance £12 non-members and £10 members.
Sun 13th 4pm	Windmill Missional Community – see Sunday 8th September for more details.
Tues 15th 7.30pm	W.I. Meeting at Bottesford VC Hall. A Day in the Life of a Metal Detectorist—Jonathon Smith.
Thurs 24th 2.30pm	Friendship Group at the Methodist Church. Speaker: Martin Seabrook. "How we See our Animals and How they See Us". Refreshments.
Sun 27th 4pm	Windmill Missional Community – see Sunday 8th September for more details.

Defibrillator update

The Parish Council have now installed an eighth defibrillator on the corner of Castle View and Muston Lane in Easthorpe. See below for locations of defibrillators and emergency boxes.

Bottesford Parish Council

Defibrillator and Emergency Box locations in Bottesford, Normanton, Easthorpe and Muston



Bottesford and Easthorpe Open Gardens winners



The Open Gardens raffle prize was presented by Lion Veronica Palmer (VOB Lions) to Shirley Wakefield from Whatton at the Bottesford Community Library (BCL). Also present were Joyce Farnese and Jane Bennett (BCL Trustees) and library volunteers Becky Ronan and Marian Orr.

The Open Gardens was held on July 6 and 7, and raised £1,186. This was divided between the BCL and the Lincs and Notts Air Ambulance. The organisers would like to thank everyone who helped.

Community litter-pick

In partnership with Bottesford Parish Council and The Friendly Bench™, the Co-op have organised a community wide litter-pick starting at 6pm on Thursday 19th September. If you would like to get involved, please contact either the Co-op or Bottesford Parish Council on bottesfordparishclerk@outlook.com.

Primary School seeks volunteers

Children returned to Bottesford Primary School on 29 August. The school is keen to welcome volunteers who would listen to the children reading. Equally, if you could help with some light maintenance around the school, this would be very much appreciated. If you can spare a few hours then please contact the head-teacher, Mrs McGrory on 01949842224.

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Learn, laugh and live with the Vale of Belvoir U3A- age no limit!

The U3A continue to provide a wide range of activities for all members of our community. A committee member said: "Did you know that there is no age limit to joining a U3A? You don't have to be retired or old to join us! The U3A provides the opportunity for members to share their interests, knowledge and skills with others in an informal and friendly atmosphere which keeps us all young at heart by helping us to have a positive and healthy lifestyle.



There must be something in this philosophy as the Vale of Belvoir U3A will be celebrating its 25th anniversary next year and we still have some of the founder members active in the interest groups."

Everyone is welcome to join the U3A as a visitor at our monthly meetings (see the 'What's On' for details) or drop in to one of the interest groups. For further information, please email enquiryvob663@gmail.com or telephone Mary

Tough Mudder

The 'Tough Mudder' is an 8-10 mile obstacle race around Belvoir Castle, and took place over the weekend of the 18th and 19th of May. There were many entrants from our villages. Anyone recognise this person? Identity to be revealed in next edition!



Bottesford Bumble

The Bottesford Bumble fun-run took place on June 30 and participants ran either a 5k or a 10k route. The event raised over £2,000 for Bottesford Youth Club, which will help secure the future of the club by financing sports equipment, games, activities, trips, staff costs, insurance, licences and maintenance. Thank you to all participants and volunteers.



Bottesford FC erect new perimeter barriers

Another momentous day in the history of Bottesford FC! A spokesperson said: Today, we erected the new perimeter barriers around the extended pitch adjacent to the clubhouse. The Senior Men's teams will play on this pitch and the barriers are a requirement for our First Team's entry to the Leicestershire Senior League this season. We are very fortunate that the cost of the barriers has been covered by an FA grant and a local sponsor. This has not cost the club anything." The club would like to thank Simon Dawson, Ephraim Morton, Chris Millard, Dan Gribby, Ben Millard, Scarlett Jones, Zoe Millard, Lewis Hunt and James Dobney for their help in erecting the barriers.

Village Voice Contacts

For all Advertising and Articles:

Email vvadverts@hotmail.com or phone 01949 842141.

Editorial: Alistair Raper on 07711 254441.

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

Deadline for November/ December Edition (Issue 104): 27th September 2019.

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