

6 December 2010

Press Release

PENSIONERS SHARE THEIR SCHOOLDAY MEMORIES WITH BOTTISHAM PUPILS

Old folk in Bottisham have been sharing memories of their school days with children at Bottisham primary school as part of a ‘reminiscing’ project run by Cambridge Regional College.

The pensioners, who met weekly at Queens Court in the village, produced a book of their memories and brought it along to the school to help show children in Years 5 and 6 just what school was like when they were young.

Chrissy Dennison, assistant academy manager for Skills for Life at Cambridge Regional College, said she organised the project because she thought a ‘Making Memories’ club for pensioners in the village would be a great way to bring the community together .

“The retired people performed a ‘Question and Answer’ session in class for the children, who learnt a lot of interesting facts about school life many years ago,” said Chrissy. “It was a very enjoyable day and we had a great time. This is a fine example of how partnership working can have a really positive effect on a community.

“On behalf of all the ‘Making Memories’ group I would like to thank the head of Bottisham primary school, Paul Belzar, and the children for their hospitality.”

The pensioners’ group met weekly at Queens Court, assisted by care-worker Sharon Reynolds, with Sue Long from the University of Cambridge’s Outreach team providing interesting speakers to stimulate discussion. Together, the group produced a booklet

of their memories, which was printed thanks to funding from Cambridgeshire County Council and presented to the children at Bottisham primary school.

If any other community would like to take part in a similar project, then please contact Chrissy Dennison at CRC on 01223 418844.

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MEDIA ENQUIRIES:

For more information, please contact Lynn O'Shea, Communications & PR Manager, on 01223 418773 or email loshea@camre.ac.uk

NOTES TO EDITORS

Cambridge Regional College is the second largest provider of full-time education for 16 to 19 year-olds in the eastern region. The College has around 3,500 full-time and 6,000 part-time students. Students come in from a 40-mile radius, covering Cambridge and its surrounding villages, eastern Bedfordshire, northern Essex and western Suffolk.

Over 80 per cent of full-time students are aged 16 to 18 years old and come to the College after secondary school; the rest are mature students, studying on a range of Access to Higher Education and vocational programmes. The College offers the largest and most comprehensive range of vocational courses in Cambridgeshire, and has one of the largest work-based learning contracts in the Eastern Region.