THE BRADFIELD GRAPEVINE



APRIL 2017 No 147

What was that about “February Fill Dyke”? Surely the month should be March not February, and what a wet month it has been - just look at Keith’s weather report. Mike also explains how the rains have had an effect on the planning of his seasonal tasks. You will also read in David’s report of the wonderful changing landscape being planned through the planting of hedgerows and trees on Mike’s farm with the support of Woodland Trust and the hard work of volunteers.

As you will be aware there is a regular monthly Whist Drive in the village. On a recent occasion the players enthusiastically devoured mouthwatering chocolate brownies! Isobel has kindly agreed to share her recipe for the whole village to enjoy!

As Easter approaches, details of the church services are highlighted and hopefully many of you can come to the Easter Sunday service in our church – there may even be Easter Eggs to find!

By now you will have received through your letterbox a flyer advertising the Barn Dance and Hog Roast in May at Bishops Farm in aid of the Animal Heath Trust. There is a reminder in this edition and tickets are now available from Lorraine Morley.

Have you noticed the sudden appearance of broadband fibre cables in the village? Is it really happening? Just don’t uncross your fingers!

Margaret Lovick
Linden House
Bradfield St Clare
Tel: 01284 386662

Peter Newlands
Dairy Farmhouse
Bradfield St Clare
Tel: 01284 388637
pjrmrn@aol.com

MAY ADVERTISEMENTS

Advertisements for the May issue of The Bradfield Grapevine should be sent to either of the two Editors, whose names and addresses appear on the front page, by Friday 14th April.

The cost is £1 per insertion for small ads, £36 per year for half page boxes
Payment to Bradfield St Clare Village Hall
Contact: Peter Newlands or Margaret Lovick

Cockfield Benefice Services – April 2017

Sunday 2nd April Passion Sunday	9.30am Morning Prayer BCP	Gedding
	11am Communion	Cockfield
	6pm Evening Prayer	Bradfield St Clare
Sunday 9th April Palm Sunday	8am Communion	Cockfield
	9.30am Benefice Family Service	Felsham
Monday 10th April	8.30pm Compline & reflection	Bradfield St Clare
Tuesday 11th April	8.30pm Compline & Reflection	Bradfield St Clare
Wednesday 12th April	7pm Agape supper (booking required)	Lt Whelnetham The Old Schoolhouse
Thursday 13th April Maundy Thursday	7.30pm Communion & foot washing	Felsham
Sunday 16th April Easter Day	10am Communion	Bradfield St Georg
	10am Communion	Cockfield
	10am Communion	Bradfield St Clare
Sunday 23rd April First Sunday of Easter	9.30am Morning Prayer BCP	Gedding
	11am Communion	Bradfield St Clare
	4pm Evening Prayer Patronal Service & Tea	Bradfield St Georg
Sunday 30th April Second Sunday of Easter	10am Benefice Communion	Felsham

Daily Prayer

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9am Cockfield	5pm Felsham	5pm Bradfield St Clare	5pm Gedding	5pm Bradfield St George

Please note these services may be subject to change – for up-to-date service times see the benefice website at ***www.cockfieldbenefice.com***

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www.cargateengineering.co.uk

BALMORAL Klargester

01284 386538 (Head office)

Bin collections in April 2017

Thursday 6th April	Blue & Brown bins
Thursday 13th April	Black bins
Friday 21st April	***Blue & Black bins***
Thursday 27th April	Black bins

The Library Van



The Library Van calls every 4 weeks on Wednesdays at the Village Hall.
NEXT VISIT: 9.40 – 9.55 am 12th April
To contact the mobile library van driver Steve ring him on: 07837 58137

TOMLINSON GROUNDCARE

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Saturday 7.30 am to 12.30 pm

Visit our LARGE SHOWROOMS



This advert is too small to be able to show you all we have to offer, please visit our website or come and have a cup of tea/coffee and discuss your requirements.
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01284 386899 or 07810 353426

info@phihome.co.uk **www.phihome.co.uk**

Bradfield St Clare Women's Institute

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

At the meeting on 8th March, everyone enjoyed Carole Baker's enlightening talk on complementary therapies and home remedies
Our next meeting will be on 12th April when Andy Malcolm will talk about "The History of Fish and Chips and the Life of a Trawler Man'
The competition is for a picture of water or a sea view.
Debbie will chair the meeting, with Jean J and Margaret providing the refreshment. Jean S will donate the draw prize.

New members are always welcome and we are pleased to see invited visitors. Please contact **Secretary Enid Hunt – 01284 386565**

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www.eastgatevets.co.uk
www.facebook.com/eastgatevets

Cotton Lane Clinic
Cotton Lane
IP33 1XW

01284
753961

OTHER CHURCH SERVICES

Roman Catholic Church

St Edmund King & Martyr
Westgate Street, Bury St Edmunds

Mass every Sunday at 8.30am, 10am and 6pm.

Gospel Hall

The Gospel Hall, Bradfield St George

Every Sunday at 10.30am:	Sunday Breaking of Bread.
Every Sunday at 2.30pm:	Sunday School and Bible Class
Every Sunday at 6.30pm:	Gospel Meeting – all welcome.
Every Wednesday at 6.45pm	Young People's Club

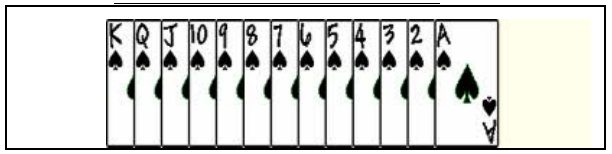
News from St Clare Church



From the beginning of April the church will be open each weekend and after Easter, some volunteers will place flowers on the altar. We plan to decorate the church on Saturday 15th April at 10am, so if you have flowers to donate or time to help us, please come – no experience necessary!
During the week leading up to Easter we have Compline services at 8.30pm and an Agape meal is planned for Wednesday 12th April at 7pm in Little Whelnetham. To book a place at this event please contact Revd. Sharon.
We are delighted to have an Easter Communion service at 10am, so please come along – we need a full church for all to enjoy the celebration and hopefully hunt for some Easter eggs after the service!
The remaining services at St Clare and throughout the benefice are listed in the church service schedule in this copy of The Grapevine.
Everyone is invited to attend the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on 4th April at 7pm. Once again this will take place, with the other churches in the benefice, in Cockfield Village Hall. At this meeting the PCC will elect its officers and churchwarden, then present reports to be recorded and approved. We have a vacancy for an additional PCC member and would like to invite anyone who is interested to contact either Revd. Sharon Potter or myself. The church in our community can only continue to function if a group of people from the village ensure its future by working together. We have outstanding existing members but still need some fresh blood!
We would like to thank David Leggett from Gedding for taking on the responsibility of cutting the churchyard. Our final churchyard 'clean up' in February was a great success due to the hard working PCC members and their families, the Wood family and Dan Goodwin who kindly gave up his free Saturday for us. We appreciate such kindness from everyone, including the coffee and cakes from Pat Hipwell.
May we wish you all a very happy Easter and please come to one of our services also if possible, leave a food donation for the Food bank.

- Margaret Newlands (Church Warden)

March Whist Drive



At the March Whist Drive Val Nunn won the ladies' prize for the second month running with a score of 174, followed by Siobhan on 171 and Margaret on 164. Julie took home a wooden spoon with a score of 145. Jim scored highest for the men with169 ahead of Keith on 166 and Ray on 156. Justine (playing as a man) won a wooden spoon with 147.
Our next Whist Drive in the Village Hall is on Friday 7th April– please come!

Ready For Spring?

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Bradfield Weather



The comic almanacs give us dreadful pictures of January and February; but in truth, the months which should be made to look gloomy in England are March and April. Let no man boast himself that he has got through the perils of winter till at least the seventh of May.

- Anthony Trollope

A couple of days after the writing of last month's report saw the arrival of Storm Doris, but the village appears to have suffered little damage from the severe winds and heavy rain. Total rainfall for February was 55.5mm compared with the average of 43.3mm.
When I wrote last month that we had no period of sustained rain for some time, I realised that I was tempting fate. Whilst perhaps not to be claimed as sustained, we did have a period over the month end into March of some rain every day for 12 days. It coincided with the arrival in Linden House of a new carpet, much to the delight of a wet and muddy spaniel!
After a day or two of beautiful weather early in March, the cold winds have returned, with the feeling that Spring is maybe here in spirit – but not yet in temperature!
Rainfall to date has been 35mm, which already equates to the average for March

- Keith Payne 21st March 2017

Dates for your Diary



- Friday7th April – Whist Drive at 7.30pm - Village Hall.
- Sunday 2nd & 16th April – Bingo Nights 8pm - Village Hall
- Tuesday 4th April – Annual Parochial Church Meeting 7pm – Cockfield Village Hall
- ***Easter Sunday 16th April***
- Tuesday 18th April – Book Club - 7pm - Village Hall

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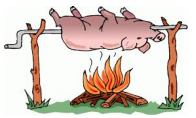
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BARN DANCE
&
HOG ROAST



At Bishops Farm - Bradfield St Clare - Saturday 20th May
7pm to 10.30pm

By now you will have received a flyer in your letterbox about this great event

In aid of *ANIMAL HEALTH TRUST*

Get buying your tickets **NOW!**

Adults - £12, 5yrs to 16yrs - £8, Under 5 – Free

Prizes for the Raffle would be welcomed!

Lorraine & Mike Morley - 01284 386270 / 07742151667

How did they all get there?

We knew for some time that it was planned to plant a hedge on the verge between the Old Rectory and Bishops Farm Bungalow. This was an initiative by Tom working with the Woodland Trust to plant new trees and hedgerows. So 1,000 hedge plants, some no more than a little twig had been purchased. With six of us,Tom, Dan, Lorraine, David, Dyane and Steven all 1,000 plants, with canes and plastic covers were planted one Saturday on 4th March. They were planted one metre from the edge of the road and five plants per metre for 200 metres. There are six types of hedge plant; Hazel, Blackthorn, Dog Rose, Field Maple, Crab Apple and Hawthorn. In time the hedge will be several feet high and obscure the sight of Mike's tractor! You may also see some trees, 50 in all, planted around Bishops Farm pathways planted by Tom and Lorraine – a mix of Oak and Hornbeam.

Both hedge and tree planting is one of the Woodland Trust schemes particularly for farmers and was 75% funded by the Trust and farmer Mike provided 25% of the cost.

Why is his scheme worthwhile? It is all part of improving our environment, to encourage wildlife, enable landscape resilience against pests and diseases, reduce air pollution, combat climate change by reducing CO2 and help farmers by reducing top soil erosion which will improve all year round crop harvest. It also helps us all enjoy the countryside.

- David Wood (Bishops Farm Bungalow)

Solution to Last Month's Crossword

Across

1. Dozen
4. Cache
7. Oblivious
8. Yawn
10. Eroded
12. Eagles
13. Idea
16. Tarantula
18. Nadir
19. Tacit

Down

1. Diary
2. Zoo
3. Nile
4. Covert
5. Crowded
6. Eased
9. Wagered
11. Leaner
12. Eaten
14. Adept
15. Aunt
17. Arc

How well did you do

Chocolate Brownies

There are dozens of recipes for Brownies. This one is simple and successful.

50g butter
50g plain chocolate – a good one
175g muscovado sugar
2 large eggs, beaten
125g self-raising flour
25g cocoa powder
50g chopped walnuts or pecans or macadamias - optional

Heat oven to gas 4, 180C, 350F (or adjust for a fan oven)
Grease a tin 15cm by 20cm

Melt the butter with the chocolate, then add all the other ingredients. Stir well and pour into tin.
Bake for 15-20 minutes.
The secret to good brownies is not to overcook them. Test after 15min, using a skewer. There should be some mixture sticking to it, but the cake should have formed a flaky crust.
Cool in the tin and cut into squares. If you have gauged the cooking correctly, they should be squidgy in the middle!

- Isobel Payne

VILLAGE BUNTING



As well as our delightful, colourful bunting guaranteed to brighten up any occasion; we have two sets of tablecloths – one summery pastel colours, the other bolder colours – enough for 10 to 12 card tables. Money raised is shared between the Village Hall & Church

CONTACT PAT HIPWELL (386636

Arable Farming at Bishops Farm



Spring has eventually arrived and work in the fields is well underway. Arable farming is very weather dependent. February was such a wet month, not allowing us the opportunity to apply our early fertilizer to the winter cereals. The wheat and particularly the winter barley began to look a hungry light yellow green colour, indicating a lack of nitrogen in the soil and also the crop's roots being in saturated soil.

Warmer weather and drying winds allowed us to apply ammonium sulphate to both crops last Tuesday (14th March) and already five days later there has been a noticeable improvement in leaf colour.

Phosphate and potash fertilizers have also been spread on all fields due to be planted with spring barley and beans. This fertilizer is spread onto the ploughed field prior to any cultivations being carried out. Power harrowing before planting mixes the fertilizer into the top two inches of soil.

Over winter, the troublesome weed blackgrass has continued to grow on the ploughed land. We kill this with a chemical called glyphosate (Roundup) that is sprayed onto the ploughed land again before cultivation. All fields to be planted with spring barley have been sprayed.

Spraying and fertilizer spreading require days with little or preferably no wind. Spraying should only be carried out when wind speed is 5mph or less. Luckily Wednesday 15th March there was virtually no wind and most of the spraying was done.

Power harrowing prior to planting spring barley started on Thursday 16th March and we completed planting all the spring barley by Sunday 19th March. The variety planted is called Propino, which is a malting variety requested by Adnams. The barley fields are then rolled prior to applying a pre-emergence blackgrass herbicide. Nitrogen fertilizer also has to be spread on the field before the crop emerges. We need a couple of days of light wind to do both of these jobs.

The weather does help us even during the middle of winter, the frosts in December and January penetrated the ploughed land, shattering the heavy clay clods. This means we need to use less power and diesel to produce fine seedbeds. This year's seedbeds are excellent, with plenty of fine soil around the planted seed should ensure good germination and growth. With heavy rain on Monday 20th March it could be several days before beans and sugar beet are planted.

We are so dependent on the weather and have to use every window of opportunity, even if it is a weekend or Sunday. The Lord always provides us with a harvest and we have to do the work when the time is right. We must be thankful for living in a temperate climate as we think of the 20 million people of East Africa where rains have failed, crops have failed and no harvest. We moan about the weather but we are so lucky.

- Mile Morley

Suffolk Wildlife Trust

Book on line at:-

www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org

or 'phone 01473 890089

Bradfield Woods

Mon 10th April – Wild Skills: Hedgehogs
Find out about hedgehogs and how you can help with Suffolk Prickles hedgehog rescue - 10-16 year olds
10am - 2pm £5 per person

Tues 11th April – Family activity
An EGGXellent adventure!
Spring activities in the wood.
10.30am – 12.30pm £4 children, £2 adults

Wed 12th April – Children's Activity
Wild woodland adventure for 8 to14 years
10.30am – 2.30pm £7 per person

Sat 22nd April – Adult Course
Rake Making Make a beautiful and useful split-handle rake using traditional woodworking tools and coppiced ash from Bradfield Woods. With David Wheeler, local craftsman and furniture maker.
9.30am – 4.30pm £60 + £10 materials

Mon 24th April – Wild Tots
Woodland activities for families with under 5's
10 -11.30am £4 per child