THE BRADFIELD GRAPEVINE

MAY 2017



No 148

Welcome to the latest edition of The Bradfield Grapevine. With the days lengthening and some warmth in the sunshine, the village is looking beautiful. As Keith records, we have had a fairly long dry period but the grass has grown and Glyn's cows have enjoyed freedom from their winter quarters as they gorge themselves on the fresh young pasture. Reading Glyn's account of life at the dairy farm and the constant pressures and uncertainties, makes you realise just how much most of us take for granted as we make our cup of tea or pour milk over our cornflakes!
In this edition there are references to many village activities – certainly there are always things to do in St Clare! Keith has written a brief account of the memorable village outing to the Beth Chatto Gardens. Thanks to Lorraine's hard organizational skills it was another very successful event. Of course the next one is the Barn Dance and Hog Roast. Please buy your tickets quickly and remember it is entry by purchased ticket only. Thanks to Peter Hipwell for his recipe for a tasty curry anyone can make! It doesn't need exotic ingredients that are hard to find or time spent grinding up fresh spices or marinating for hours – just cook it up and enjoy!

Margaret Lovick
Linden House
Bradfield St Clare
Tel: 01284 386662

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

Tottering By Nicely

To all my friends who have been so supportive during the last few weeks, for all the gifts and love – THANK YOU

- Margaret Lovick



Bin collections in May 2017

Friday 5th May	***Blue & Brown bins***
Thursday11th May	Black bins
Thursday 18th May	Blue & Black bins
Thursday 25th May	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 10th May
To contact the mobile library van driver Steve ring him on: 07837 58137

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Bradfield St Clare Women's Institute

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

At our last meeting everyone found Andy Malcolm's talk on the trawler men who risk their lives to bring us fish, extremely insightful and entertaining – we loved the Sea Shanties he sang so well.
On 10th May we have our AGM and Resolutions Meeting.
Pat Hipwell will chair the meeting and members will bring a recipe and some food to share.

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

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Cotton Lane
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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



What a glorious Easter Celebration we had at St Clare Church. On Saturday morning the church buzzed with adults and children – 14 in total. They left feeling satisfied with the stunning effect created from their flowers and blossoms.

On Sunday morning we had about 50 in the congregation for our Easter Service followed by a Mini Egg Hunt and tasty refreshments.

The services for May are listed in the Church Schedule in this copy of The Bradfield Grapevine. We hope you are able to come to one of the services or to sit and enjoy the peace of the churchyard with its beautiful display of cowslips and primroses.

During our Easter Sunday Service, the PCC presented flowers and a Garden Token to Margaret Lovick in recognition of her dedicated support and hard work on behalf of St Clare Church. We know we will continue to have her support.

St Clare Church has plans for fund raising events during the year. These begin with a Coffee Morning and Jumble Sale on Saturday 3rd June in the Village Hall – more details to follow. Please save your jumble. Contact myself or any other member of the PCC if you have items to be collected (nothing badly damaged or broken please and COMPLETE jigsaws!)

Christian Aid Week is from 15th to 21st May. If you have any time to deliver or collect envelopes in your area of the village I would be grateful. Please get in touch with me (01284 388637).

The church is open each weekend and don't forget the Food Bank box just inside the door!

- Margaret Newlands (Church Warden)

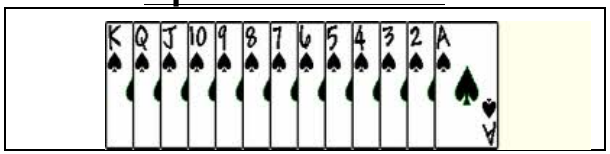
christian aid

Collectors required

15th to 21st May

If you can help in any way to deliver envelopes PLEASE contact Margaret Newlands on: 388637

April Whist Drive



At the April Whist Drive Daphne won the ladies' prize with a score of 164, followed closely by Vera on 163 with Ros not far behind on 162! Sylvia took home a wooden spoon with a score of 149. Ian scored highest for the men with170 ahead Steve and Val (playing as a man) in joint second place with 163. Keith won the wooden spoon on149.
Our next Whist Drive in the Village Hall is on Friday 5th May – please come!

Ready For Summer?

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Bradfield Weather



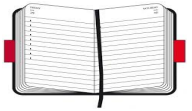
When fishes leap in silver stream…, and forest bees are humming near,
And cowslips in boys hats appear…, we then may say that May is come…

- John Clare 1793-1864

The last few days of March brought a further 6mm of rain, to produce a total for the month of 41mm against our average of 35mm. After last month's report of some rain on 12 consecutive days in March, this month there is a complete contrast. From 24th March, with the exception of just 1mm on 29th, the next rain was not recorded until 15th April and as I write on the 21st, there has been just 3.5mm in the month. With no prospect of precipitation on the horizon, we are likely to be well below our average for April of 38.9mm. Temperatures have been about normal for the time of year although we have seen some frosts again on recent nights.

- Keith Payne 21st April 2017

Dates for your Diary



- Friday 5th May– Whist Drive at 7.30pm - Village Hall.
- Sunday 7th & 21st May– Bingo Nights 8pm - Village Hall
- Tuesday 9th May – Annual Parish Council Meeting 7pm – Village Hall
- Tuesday16th May – Book Club - 7pm - Village Hall
- Saturday 20th May – Barn Dance & Hog Roast – Bishops Farm - 7pm to 10.30pm
- Tuesday 23rd May – AGM Village Hall Committee - 7pm - Village Hall
- Saturday 3rd June – Church Coffee Morning/Jumble Sale – Village Hall

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The Big Day Out



After waking to the sight of a heavy frost on Wednesday 19th April, a party of 24 villagers set out in brilliant sunshine a little later in the day on this year's Morley-inspired village outing. It was good to see newcomers to the village and others who had not been on previous outings joining us on this occasion. Our destination was the Beth Chatto Gardens on the far side of Colchester. How that area is changing, with huge new housing developments on the outskirts of the town.

Beth Chatto's aim is to inspire others to create a garden using the mantra 'the right plant in the right place'. After many years of experimentation, the result is the creation of areas such as the Gravel Garden, the Reservoir Garden, the Woodland Garden and even a Scree Garden, with plants requiring conditions such as sunshine, shade, dry or damp soil in the appropriate places. The whole garden includes many wonderful and unusual trees. After such a mild Spring there was a tremendous amount of colour for the time of year, with even the azaleas and rhododendrons in full bloom.

Beyond the garden there is an extensive nursery with helpful and friendly staff to advise on buying plants. Add to this a gift shop and a very pleasant tearoom and you have the perfect destination for a village outing, with ideal weather as a bonus. After a wonderful day we returned to the village in mid-afternoon.

So once again our thanks to Mrs Morley for the faultless organisation of the day and to Mrs Nunn for sorting out the transport. But Lorraine, now the challenge is 'where to next year?' So far a factory, a brewery, a garden – suggestions please, villagers.

- Keith Payne

FAIRY SNOW



What pleases me most, and I don't know why
Even more than the stars in a clear night sky
For the sight that can take my breath away
Is a line full of washing on a bright, breezy day.

I wonder why this simple sight
Of clothes strung out brings such delight.
I stand and watch as they billow and dance
And my mind drifts back in a nostalgic trance

To days of domestic tranquillity
Alone together, my mother and me
As I passed her the pegs we would chatter and sing
So much joy to be found in such a small thing

And in that bright kitchen so long ago
We would 'Listen With Mother' on the radio
As her hot iron glided to and fro
Rose the clean, fresh smell of Fairy Snow

Could this be the reason it pleases me so?

- Val Nunn

JUNE ADVERTISEMENTS

Advertisements for the June 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 19th May.

The cost is £3 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



Indian/Malaysian Curry Variant

Preparation and Cooking Time:
50 to 60 minutes
Ingredients:
British 350/400gm Supermarket Mini Chicken Breasts
- (half a double pack for two people)
Jar of Pataks Rogan Josh Paste or Madras Paste
Basmati Rice – ½ pint for two people
One onion cut as thinly as possible
Two boiled eggs cut into quarters
Cucumber/tomato – chopped into small pieces
Sultanas
Sharwoods Mango Chutney
Cornflower
One Oxo cube
Sharwoods Poppadum or Chapattis

Fry onion slices in large frying pan with vegetable oil
When cooked crispy, place in hot oven
Then place cut up chicken into the frying pan and stir in 2/3 teaspoons of curry paste (or to personal taste)
Follow by sprinkling in cornflower/flour and stir, pouring in Oxo stock
Add cooked onions from the oven and stir contents

Whilst the curry is simmering cook the basmati rice (Delia Smith method)
Heat vegetable oil in a saucepan with a tight lid
Stir in rice with wooden spoon until thoroughly coated then pour in 1pint boiling water and stir.
Heat up to simmering point, put on tight lid, turn the heat down to gentle simmer and leave for 15 minutes (do not lift the lid)
Just before the 15 minutes is up, lift the lid to check it is cooked. If soft, plate up with the curried chicken SERVE AND ENJOY!

PLEASE NOTE:
The above has no authenticity to Indian or Malaysian Curry!

- Peter Hipwell

News From Pitchers Green



26 cows in milk
6 cows dry
27 young stock

Milk Yield	Feb	–	600 litres	EOD	-	30.5ppl
	March	-	650 litres	EOD	-	30.0ppl

Calvings:
Nigella 10/03/17 – Jersey heifer called Beyonce
Josie 20/03/17 – Angus bull called Bruce
Mary 24/03/17 – Jersey heifer called Britney
Nora 02/04/17 – Angus bull called Billy

Hopefully the events of the last few months are now behind us and we are looking forward to the Summer. The cows went out to grass on the 24th March with the usual dancing and unladylike behaviour, still if I had been shut up for 140 days I'd be the same (not the lady bit of course!)

We had one or two stomach upsets with the lush grass. They do tend to stuff themselves at first but should soon settle down. The yield has risen to about 900litres at the moment, which is helpful. The butterfat percentage has fallen but the protein percentage is rising. These two constituents form part of the payment criteria for the milk, so they should cancel each other out. The other parts are the cell count (infection in the udder) and bactoscan (hygiene) and volume but at the end of the day it is down to what ARLA will pay. They handle the marketing of the milk, cheese, cream, whole milk etc. and at this time of the year, as the cows come out to grass the volume increases which causes a glut of milk and the price paid tumbles – wait and see!

Most of the grass has now been harrowed to pull out the dead grass, leaves, etc. and level the mole hills which play havoc with the sharpness of the mower blades later on. This year there is a lot of moss in the grass, which I'm hoping will be scratched out and let the air to the grass instead of smoothing it.

Eight older heifers were turned out to grass on the "nursery paddocks" on 14th April. They had their usual training with an electric fence in the yard before the day, which included a refresher course for the three who went out last year. This is nearly three weeks earlier than last year but the weather was too good to miss. It still drops cold at night but these paddocks are quite sheltered. The one thing I dread is to get the weather wrong and they get a cold soaking on their first night. I'm tucked up in bed nice and warm and they are saying, "What have we done to deserve this?"

It is nice to see the return of the hedgehog at the end of the farm drive after a "hard" winter. I assume it is the same one as last year – the same "spikey hairdo" – just minds the cars please! The next day I watched a sparrow hawk hover, then pounce on a mouse or vole with superb skill. I'm sure there must be a philosophical conclusion to these tales, but you decide.

I've just read ARLA have dropped 0.4ppl off the April milk price – whatever next?

- Glyn

Suffolk Wildlife Trust

Book on line at:-

www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org

or 'phone 01473 890089

Bradfield Woods

Tues 30 May - Wild Art

10.30am – 12.30pm £4 children, £2 adults, please book at:-
www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org

Sat 20th and Sunday 21st May
- Shave Horse Course

Using hand tools and traditional techniques, make a shave horse over 2 days
9.30am - 4.30pm
£180 + £20 materials

Useful Local Contacts

Anglian Water Emergencies		08457 145145
Borough Council:		
- St Edmundsbury Offices		763233
- Local Member	Mrs Sarah Mildmay-White	01359 270580
Bradfield Grapevine Magazine:		
- Editors	Mr Peter Newlands	388637
- and	Mrs Margaret Lovick	386662
Bury Stray Cat Fund		388455
Charity for the Relief in Sickness:		
- Secretary	Mrs Vicky Spall	386357
County Council:		
- Suffolk County Council Switchboard		01473 583000
- Local Member	Mr Terry Clements	01284 761018
Dentist (Emergency) – by appointment, Saturday and Sunday afternoons		0300 130 3065
Doctor – for Suffolk Doctors on Call out of hours service ring own doctors' surgery or - NHS Choices		111
Community First Responder – Group Co-ordinator – Debbie Lamond		07810 353426
Electricity	UK Power Networks Supply Faults	0800 783 8838
Footpath Warden	Mrs Fenella Fraser	388310
Gospel Hall	Mr Keith Arknett	01359 240910
Library (Mobile Van Driver – Steve Adams)		07837 581371
Village Book Club Co-ordinator	Mrs Pat Brender	386597
Member of Parliament	Mrs Jo Churchill	752311
		www.jochurchill.mp@parliament.uk
Neighbourhood Watch Contact	Mrs Dianne Bullard	386598
Parish Council Clerk	Mrs Nicola Smith	07817170906
Parish Council Website:		http://bradfieldstclare.onesuffolk.net
Police		101 (non-urgent), 999 or 01473 613500
		Twitter Name : @stedspolice
Post Office	Bury Delivery Office	358201
Schools and Colleges:		
Cockfield Primary School		828287
Thurston Community College		01359 230885
West Suffolk College		701301
St Clare Church – Rector	Rev Sharon Potter	828599
- Church Warden	Mrs Margaret Newlands	388637
St Edmunds R C Church	Fr Mark Hackeson	754358
Suffolk Wildlife Trust	Bradfield Woods	01449 737996
Village Hall – Bookings	Mrs Val Nunn	388830
- Secretary	Mrs Isobel Payne	386169
Village Recorder	Mrs Val Nunn	388830
West Suffolk Hospital		713000
Women's Institute Secretary	Mrs Enid Hunt	386565

Cockfield Benefice Services – May 2017

Sunday 7th May 4th Sunday of Easter	9.30am Communion BCP	Gedding
	11am Communion	Cockfield
	6pm Evening Prayer	Bradfield St Clare
Sunday 14th May 5th Sunday of Easter	8am Communion	Cockfield
	9.30am Benefice Family Service	Felsham
Sunday 21st May 6th Sunday of Easter	10am Rogation walk followed by communion service (followed by lunch in church)	Bradfield St George
	6pm Six2seven – speaker: Cally Boardman, Local Co-ordinator	Felsham
Thursday 25th May	11am Ascension Day Communion	Felsham
Sunday 28th May Sunday after the Ascension	9.30am Morning Prayer BCP	Gedding
	11am Communion	Bradfield St Clare
	6pm Evening Prayer	Bradfield St George

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***