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 Karen Soons	karen.soons@suffolk.gov.uk	07864 601887

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

THE BRADFIELD GRAPEVINE





November 154

It is difficult to believe that it is already November and Christmas is not so far away! You will find more details of the village 'Taste of Christmas' events advertised in this edition.

November also reminds us of the sacrifices made by so many during the wars in which so many innocent lives were lost. Sue Leal writes about her moving experiences of accompanying her father as a medical assistant on several Royal British Legion War Graves Pilgrimages. The cross conflict friendships that developed are remarkable.

International friendship is also evident in the account by Dan of his time representing the UK at the Agrolymics in East Germany. What an amazing experience – well done Dan!

This month we have the second instalment of Gerry's sail around Britain - not a lot about the techniques of sailing and navigation but a great deal about gastronomy! Wow Gerry, all that lobster! What however does come out so clearly is the great diversity of the country and the generosity of people Gerry and his crew met on their journey. Isobel has produced for us a recipe for a great treat that could well provide the perfect desert for one of Gerry's lobster thermidors – a Portuguese custard tart!

Glyn explains to us the complex nature of the inspection process for the Farm Assurance Red Tractor certification. Well done for another successful result. He also tells us about the details of the testing of the herd to ensure there is no evidence of tuberculosis. So much goes into producing that wonderful and vital commodity upon which we all rely so much.

The report from St Clare Church and the wonderful response to the Macmillan Coffee morning demonstrates yet again what a generous and caring village community we have in Bradfield St Clare.

Margaret Lovick
Linden House
Bradfield St Clare
Tel: 01284 386662

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

Cockfield Benefice Services – November 2017

Sunday 5th November All Saints	9.30am Communion BCP	Gedding
	11am Communion	Cockfield
	3.30pm Recital by Yalda Davis, Cellist – all welcome!	Bradfield St Clare
Wednesday 8th November	10.15 am Cockfield School Remembrance Assembly	Cockfield
Sunday 12th November Remembrance	8am Communion BCP	Bradfield St Clare
	9.30am Benefice Family Service	Felsham
	10.45am Remembrance Service	Cockfield
	10.45am Remembrance Service	Felsham
Sunday 19th November Second before Advent	9.30am Communion	Bradfield St George
	11am Communion	Cockfield
	6pm Six2seven – Richard Stainer talks about the Lebanon	Felsham
Saturday 25th November	3-5p Messy Church	Felsham Village Hall
Sunday 26th November Christ the King	9.30am Morning Prayer BCP	Gedding
	11am Communion	Bradfield St Clare
	4pm 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***



Bin collections in November 2017

Thursday 2nd November	Blue & Brown bins
Thursday 9th November	Black bins
Thursday 16th November	Blue & Brown bins
Thursday 23rd November	Black
Thursday 30th November	Blue & Brown bins

The Library Van



The Library Van calls every 4 weeks on Wednesdays at the Village Hall.
NEXT VISITS: 9.40 – 9.55 am 22nd November
To contact the mobile library van driver Steve ring him on: 07837 58137

DECEMBER & JANUARY ADVERTISEMENTS

Advertisements for the Christmas 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 17th November. The cost is £4 per insertion for small ads, £36 per year for half page boxes
Payment to Bradfield St Clare Village Hall Account
Contact: Peter Newlands or Margaret Lovick

Eastgate VETERINARY GROUP

The best way to care

Healthy Pet Club

Comprehensive care for your pets

- Friendly local practice
- Convenient late night and weekend appointments
- 24 hour emergency service
- Free nurse clinics
- Puppy parties (socialisation for your puppy)
- Free parking
- Free advice to help you choose your perfect pet



Meet our friendly staff at your local Eastgate or visit online at:

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

Cotton Lane Clinic
Cotton Lane
IP33 1XW

01284
753961



Christmas Children's Shoe Boxes

We hope to be filling some of these again this year. The tens of thousands of refugee children, many of who are unaccompanied, need them more than ever. So, please – shoe boxes (better still if already covered in Christmas paper) with small toys, gifts, toiletries etc. suitable for boys/girls 3-6. 6-9 10-teens. The full list of suitable ideas can be obtained form Pat Hipwell, Margaret Newlands or from the Church when open. Any contribution however small is welcome! Please drop them into Pat at St Clare Cottage or give them to any member of the PCC. This year we have to include a cheque for £5 with each shoe box, so money would be great! Thank you in advance on behalf of children for whom this may well be their only present! We managed 20 last year – can we do better?

Bring them to Church or to Pat Hipwell by 5th November

- Pat Hipwell 386638

News from St Clare Church



As British Sumer Time is now over the church will not be open during weekends except during times of services. We have enjoyed having St Clare Church unlocked during the Spring and Summer months and this has only been possible due to the kindness many villagers. A special thank you also to those who provided altar flowers during their weekend opening the church. Hopefully, everyone will be able to do it again next year, but there is room for new volunteers too!

The Harvest Supper and the Thanksgiving Service were both great successes. So many gave their time to cook, provide raffle prizes, move furniture and donate to the Food bank – thank you! It was important to share our fortunes with others and provide some relief to those in need.

The Church Quiz was anther great success; again due to a dedicated group of helpers providing the supper, ensuring the Village Hall was set up and then cleared away. We were also grateful to all those who provided yet more raffle prizes! A very big thanks to Clive and Sue Leal who prepared and led the whole evening and provided a prize for their Cryptic Brain Teaser.

On 5th November at 3.30pm, we are looking forward to welcoming Yalda Davis to St Clare Church. She will give a cello recital lasting about half an hour then spend a little while with us whilst we all enjoy a cup of tea or a glass of wine, before she hurries off to play at a Compline Service elsewhere. It would be helpful to let me know if you are coming, so that we can make sure we have enough cups and glasses available! There is no charge for what promises to be an exceptional experience.

Details of all the services in the Benefice, including those for Remembrance Sunday, can be found on the Service Schedule printed in this edition of The Bradfield Grapevine.

There is information elsewhere about the Samaritan Purse Shoe Box Appeal but please note they need to be filled by 5th November. They can be brought to the church on that day or left with Pat Hipwell.

Although the church will remain closed except for services during the Winter months, I would be delighted to open it at any time if you wish to enjoy some time of peace on your own.

- Margaret Newlands (Church Warden)



A Sail Round Britain 2017
By Gerry Bullard
Part 2-Itinerary

In part 1 I outlined the preparation for the trip. Now where did we go? We planned to travel anti clockwise around Britain starting from Suffolk Yacht Harbour at Levington on the River Orwell. First stop was Gt Yarmouth at the Quay with no facilities. Easily the worst place we visited. We left early next day with an overnight sail past the drab east coast and the Humber estuary to one of my favourite places, the delightful town of Whitby, with its famous fish and chip shops and Goth connections. Carrying on we day sailed and visited Blyth, The Farne Islands seeing and photographing puffins, razorbills, gannets etc. and on past Holy island and making a stop in Eyemouth. We are in Scotland now and turned west staying in the very friendly but extremely run down fishing port of Buckie. Inverness was next port of call and after staying in Inverness and sampling the night life there, we entered the Caledonian Canal where we moored at Seaport where SKII was left for a week when I returned home for a family holiday in the Lake District. The return to the boat was a nightmare as I had left fish in a sealed bag in the anchor locker as bait for the lobster pot and it had decomposed in the heat producing gas that burst the bag and the boat smelt of rotting fish, not a very pleasant welcome for the new crew that included three ladies who had not done much sailing before. Amazingly one of the girls who had done some sailing actually brought an air freshener with her as she knew that boats can be smelly after a period of wet sailing let alone fish smells. After a deep clean normal sailing was resumed and the locks in the Caledonian Canal traversed getting into Loch Ness where the water depth reached over 300 metres, 10 times deeper than I am used to in the North Sea. This was the time of the heat wave back in Suffolk but sadly in Scotland we had 5 days of dull dank drizzly weather. We spent a night in Fort Augustus and it was now mid-June and the weather improved with the sun appearing at last. The four locks at Fort Augustus are magnificent feats of Civil Engineering by Thomas Telford and are only surpassed by the set at Banavie at the end of the Canal known as Jacobs ladder where we stopped for a day. We caught the train at

M.BAIRD DIGGERHIRE & GARDEN SERVICES

- Mini Digger Hire + Operator
- Garden Clearance Services
- Patio and Driveway Laying
- Strimming Grass/Hedge Cutting
- Turf Laying/seeding
- Fencing and Treework

ALL GROUND AND GARDEN MAINTENANCE UNDERTAKEN
Visit :-

www.mbairdlandscapes.co.uk

CALL MARK on 01284386865 or 07725625760

ORGANISE YOUR INVOICING
- Free To Use. Register Today.
- Print Invoices
- Track Payments
- Contact Management
- For Self-Employed and Small Businesses

brightinvoicing
Making Invoicing Easy

Visit **www.brightinvoicing.com**

tldesignworks
Start your website today
Small Business/Personal/Club/Association
hosting - design - backup
01983 613237
www.tldesignworks.co.uk **hello@tldesignworks.co.uk**

TOMLINSON GROUNDCARE

Sales ●Service ●Parts ●Repairs
1 Brettenham Road
Buxhall, Stowmarket, IP14 3DL
www.tomlinsongroundcare.co.uk



01449 736060

Opening Times

Mon– Fri 7.30 am to 5.00 pm
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.

Main Al-Ko and John Deere Dealers

PARKERHOME

PROPERTY REFURBISHMENT AND RENOVATION

Our local family run business. 30 years of experience and a team of committed craftsmen to help you with:

- Carpentry and Joinery
- Asbestos Removal
- Garage Conversions
- Fitted Kitchens
- Small Renovations
- Plastering and Rendering
- Painting and Decorating
- Interior and Exterior Decorating
- Project management

01284 386899 or 07810 353426

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

Banavie to Mallaig where I told the crew the best haddock and chips from a non fish and chip shop can be found at a café close to the station. We were not disappointed and while the ladies in the crew went shopping Ian Jones and I went to the harbour where we bumped into Julie Walters making a documentary but more importantly we met a fishing boat skipper who gave us about 2Kg of langoustine tails and he would not accept any payment as his job would be on the line from the boats owners but said he could give us some instead. What a generous and fabulous gift. Needless to say that the 'tails cooked for 30 seconds in garlic butter with salad and fresh bread washed down with lots of Sauvignon Blanc was a meal I will remember for life. The next day we motored most of the way to Mull and Tobermory as the wind was 'on the nose' and in not too pleasant rain showers. We stayed for a lay day in Tobermory and sampled the delights of the local hostelries and had a guided tour of the local whisky distillery with samples of course. The next stop was Oban where we changed crew, and with limited berthing close to the town we sailed a few miles north to the fabulous marina at Dunstaffinage where David and Eileen Card joined the crew and the weather deteriorated again to damp drizzle for two days. It was at Dunstaffinage and at the Wide Mouth Frog restaurant that the mantle of the best Haddock and Chips in the UK passed from the café in Mallaig to the WMF. The haddock was the freshest I have tasted and the chips, hand cut were awesome. The waitress advised that the WMF was the only restaurant in the area that produced its own chips so if any of you are in this area of Scotland not only are the views magnificent but the WMF is a must to eat at. Next stop was the island of Gigha where the weather improved and the idyllic island could be appreciated along with its legendry seafood at the 'Boatshed'. Lovely mussels and seabass but disappointing bread that in my view is essential in order to dunk in the mariniere juice. We are now heading south and to Stranraer where another generous fisherman would not accept any payment for some haddock, sole and langoustines. Don't anyone say that the Scots are mean, they are very generous. A perfect sail followed across the Irish Sea to Carrickfergus in N. Ireland where we stayed for two days, hired a car and explored the coast line finishing up at the Bushmills Irish whisky distillery where we did not take the tour but only did the sampling! Heading south along the Irish Coast we visited the quaint port of Ardglass which had the biggest seals I have ever seen that reside in the harbour where the fishing must be good. We returned to the mainland and Wales at Holyhead and then round to Dale close to Milford Haven where I had visited by car the previous year. Here I caught my first lobster that was duly cooked, frozen and taken

home where I cooked Lobster thermidor for Dianne-mission accomplished. I came home for a friend's son's wedding so the catch was just at the right time. We crossed the Bristol Channel to visit the island of Lundy where I caught a second lobster. We did not venture to the pub there as the island was suffering from a bout of Noro Virus so we left the following day for Padstow, now known as Padstein, in view of the way Rick Stein has changed the Town where everything is three times the cost elsewhere. Quickly left Padstow for the wonderful fishing port of Newlyn that is unspoilt, and was my favourite place visited. Lobsters at £12/kilo vs Padstow at £35/kilo says it all with just one local harbour café serving a wonderful English Breakfast at Wetherspoons prices. Now really on the way home approaching the south coast that we know and rounding Lands End we made for Falmouth and Mylor where we met up with an old friend who had just bought a fabulous new Jeanneau 51 on its first sail from Fowey. I have not mentioned a feature of the trip that many will never experience, namely a visit by dolphins that suddenly appear from nowhere and surf beside the boat and even turn and look at you. This happened about half a dozen times on the trip and involved common and bottle nosed dolphins that we encountered in the North Sea, The Moray Firth, in Wales and along the South Coast. Nature at its best and a wonderful sight to see and photograph that we did at length. Next stop Plymouth and another crew change staying at the Kings Point marina that has the best facilities we experienced. On to Dartmouth that we know very well having visited many times for their carnival and combined regatta with wonderful displays by the RAF. This time no carnival but a must is a visit to the Ship Inn at Kingswear where they even have Adnams but the local Otter bitter is magnificent. The landlord has relatives who are fishermen at Brixham so the seafood is as fresh as it gets and for pub food with a special of fillet of Turbot for £17 compared with £35 at the world acclaimed Sea Horse restaurant on the other side of the river makes the choice a no contest. A must if you are in the area. The rest of the trip was regular for me stopping at Portsmouth, Eastbourne and Ramsgate and then back to Levington even though we were subject to gale force winds but luckily abaft the beam so not unduly uncomfortable. I apologise if the trip appears to have been an eating trip around Britain but it was because one has to eat so why not sample local food. There are many stories I could tell of the people we met and the photographs that were taken which I can describe if the WI need a speaker at the last minute and I can bore with photographs and stories.

- Gerry

Bradfield Woods

Suffolk Wildlife Trust

PLEASE BOOK FOR ACTIVITIES

Book on line at:-

www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org

or 'phone 01473 890089

Wild Tots

Every Monday 10am - 11.30am for families with under 5s £4 per child.

Go Wild!

Every Thursday 4-5.30pm for 6 – 12 year olds £4 per child.

Saturday 4th November

Adult course: Carve a plate and beaker 9.30am - 4pm, £60 + £10 materials.

Saturday 11th November

Adult course: Fibrecraft tool making workshop (braiding wheels, drop spindles, crochet hooks, lucettes) 10.30am - 2.30pm £40 + £2 materials

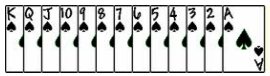
Sunday 12th November

Adult course: Spatula making 10am - 12.30pm £25

Sunday 26th November

Adult course: Spoon carving 10am - 3.30pm £50

WHIST DRIVE



Fifteen players attended the whist drive last month so we had to use the 'dummy' again to make up four tables of four players. It was great to have Margaret and Jus back again. Our whist drives are always light hearted and fun but their presence really made the evening extra special.
Ladies winner was Ros on 165, Vera in second place on 163 and third place went to Siobhan with 161. There was a tie for the wooden spoon with Margaret and Daphne both scoring 143. Men's first place went to Jim with 164, closely followed by Bryan on 163. Ray took third place with 155 and the wooden spoon was awarded to John who scored 145 points.
Our next Whist Drive is on Friday 3rd November at 7.30pm



A TASTE of CHRISTMAS 2017



Please provide some 'artwork' for the **TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS** for the Village Noticeboard (small and any style) to be ready to be mounted prior to Saturday 2nd December. Details of size and which day when contacting **Lorraine (01284 386270).** ***Let's make a joint display!***

Saturday 2nd December
6.30pm – 7.30pm
DECORATING!
A chance to help decorate the Village Christmas Tree and Noticeboard – PLUS
"ATMOSPHERIC BEAMS"
A private view of light beams with fog, animated and programmed to music

Thursday 21st December
6.30pm – 7.30pm
VILLAGE CAROLS!
A chance to sing around the Crib with an accordion playing the Carols – PLUS
"FESTIVE ANIMATIONS"
Festive symbols and animations projected onto Old School House to open and close the event!

FREE FOOD AND DRINK AT EACH EVENT - *COME AND ENJOY!*

THE LOG STORE

FIREWOOD MERCHANT

100% Kiln Dried Ash logs
Logs split and cut to 25cm in length
Less than 20% moisture

01284 388468
simon@thelogstore.com

Supplied in handstacked crates which can be delivered directly into a garage or carport to avoid unnecessary handling



Come and join us to listen to
Yalda Davis
(Daughter of the late Sir Colin Davis) perform
The Bach Cello Suite in C Minor
In St Clare Church on
Sunday 5th November at 3.30pm
Entry FREE

♥ ♣

Whist Drive

Bradfield St Clare Village Hall

Friday 3rd November

Entry £2.00 including refreshments,
tea or coffee.
If preferred, bring your own drinks.

Cash Prizes & Draw

Raffle Prizes Welcomed!

Come along and bring your friends

In aid of Village Hall funds

♦ ♠

Bradfield St Clare Women's Institute

At the meeting on 11th October, Horry Parsons provided for us an interesting and enlightening talk about the "Building of the Millennium Tower at St Edmundsbury Cathedral".

Our next meeting on 8th November will be a Social Evening. Sarah Osbourne will be there to help us make wreaths for Christmas.

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

Ready For Autumn?

Wood Burner installation – HETAS qualified
Oil Boiler Servicing and Chimney Sweeping
OFTEC Trained and ICS Member
Clean and reliable service
Competitive rates
Based Locally

All enquiries welcomed
On 07946295680

Call Mitch



Bradfield Weather



The trees are undressing, and fling in many places, on the grey road, the roof, the window –sill,
Their radiant robes and ribbons and yellow laces; a leaf each second so is flung at will,
Here, there, another and another, still and still.
- Thomas Hardy 1840-1928

Having just returned from nearly four weeks of glorious weather in France, my gauge contained several millimetres of rain and a dead mouse! Fortunately Mike Morley has been keeping detailed records for me during my absence so this month's information is down to him, for which I am extremely grateful.
I understand there has been little rain, with September finishing with 54mm against our average of 48.1mm.
There has been a dry start to October but with temperatures above the seasonal norm with a peak of 22C on 15th October. (Two weeks of high 20s in Provence!). Rainfall to date has been just 11.5mm with the average for the month of 58.4mm.

- Keith Payne 21st October 2017

Dates for your Diary



- Friday 3rd November – Whist Drive – 7.30pm – Village Hall
- Sunday 5th November – Yalda Davis Cello Recital – St Clare Church – 3.30pm
- Sunday 12th November – Remembrance Service - 10.45am
  St Peter's Church Cockfield
- Sunday 12th & 26th November – Bingo Nights 8pm - Village Hall
- Tuesday 14th November – Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm – Village Hall
- Tuesday 21st November – Book Club - 7pm - Village Hall

My Experience at the 2nd Agrolympics in East Germany

Hello there, my name Is Dan Goodwin and I have worked with Mike Morley at Bishops Farm for the last four years. I am in my last years at Easton And Otley College studying Level 3 Extended Diploma in Agriculture. Our college was selected to take part in the 2nd Agrolympics in East Germany in October which involves 20 countries from Europe including Switzerland, Norway, Estonia and Luxembourg - and there are plenty more. So over the two days we were competing we had 18 competitions to do. Some of these were, splitting wood, balancing large straw balls with a tractor, fencing, pressing apple juice, throwing hay bales onto a straw stack, changing tractor wheels, building a water pipe, hand milking, laying a brick wall and assembling a mower engine.
Some of them we felt very confident about as we do at our workplace but we were going to give it our hardest and try and make the UK proud.

So at the half way stage we were 10th which gave us a lot of confidence, maybe a little too much, we didn't even expect we would be that high up at that stage but we knew that we still had one more day to go and anything could happen! So the pressure was on to keep as close too 10th as we could. By the end of the last day we didn't have a clue where we would be and while looking at the other teams we knew we had a very hard competition. Our aim was too beat our last place from 2015, which was 18th but they kept us waiting till the evening to find out where we came!

Finally the wait was over and they started to announce where we all came. Lucky we didn't come last but we did come 17th which we all thought was brilliant, as none of us expect that all! But the main thing was to meet people from across the EU that were into farming and finding out how they got into farming and how they farm back home. There was a big mixer of farmers. Some was on very small farms but most of them had cattle.

The thing that shocked our team the most was when we were walking in the streets with our flag, the amount of people that were stopping and speaking to us about the UK and Brexit. It was lovely to see that we were getting such a warm welcome from what's been happening over the last two years. Hopefully we will still have a team at the next Agrolympics in two year's time!

- Dan

Royal British Legion War Graves Pilgrimages



I have had the enormous privilege of accompanying three Royal British Legion War Graves Pilgrimages as a medical attendant. The pilgrimages are for veterans, war widows and relatives. They visit Commonwealth War Graves all over the world.
I became aware of the RBL's Pilgrimages department when my father joined their visit to Egypt. He had fought in the Middle East during the Second World War, including at El Alamein.
He returned full of praise for the trip's organisers. Unbeknown to me, he had mentioned that I was a doctor...
I was then asked if I would like to be a medical attendant on the following year's trip, an offer, which I gladly accepted. The RBL takes its own doctors who are responsible for the physical wellbeing of the Pilgrims, but who are also there to listen and offer support. I heard stories from the veterans about the desert war (including the many uses for an old petrol can!). Most moving, however, were conversations with the widows. Many had never left Britain before and it was clear that some (perhaps because of the lack of a funeral) had never properly grieved for their loved one. Tears were shed, stories told and photographs shared, 50 years after the events being remembered.
There were also light-hearted moments, such as trying to persuade ladies of a certain age that wearing a full corset on a day that included standing in the desert sun for two hours was not a good idea. Then there was the bugler, in wool worsted uniform, who I had to sneak over to during the prayers to give him water.
A group of German veterans were staying at the same hotel in El Alamein, and expressed a desire to meet with us. One of them had the pocketbook of a British soldier that he had found in the desert and kept for all those years. He asked that the RBL try to trace that soldier's family and return it to them.
Probably because of our common purpose, our very disparate group bonded in a remarkable way, helping and supporting each other.
I have always been interested in Dad's war service, but he had never seemed to want to discuss the detail. This changed after my return from Egypt; I think that he knew that I would have more insight into what he was telling me. We were later to return to El Alamein together. There I met Helmut, a German veteran who had met Dad during his visit and with whom he corresponded for a number of years. Helmut subsequently sent

Pasteis de nata - Portuguese custard tarts



- Easy but not authentic

Makes 12-16

4 egg yolks
75g/3oz caster sugar + extra for sprinkling
Powdered cinnamon
150ml/5fl.oz single cream
1 tsp cornflour
450g/1lb puff pastry Buy the ready rolled sheet or roll out a block to 5mm/ ¼ inch thick.
A muffin tray, very lightly greased.

Cream the egg yolks and sugar thoroughly together until pale and thick. Whisk in cornflour. Fold in the cream.
Sprinkle the pastry with cinnamon to form a light dusting. Starting from the long edge, roll the pastry into a Swiss roll shape.
Cut the roll into 2cm/ ¾ inch slices.
Press each slice into a section of the muffin tin, using your fingers to edge the pastry slightly higher than the sides of the tin. (If you prefer you can roll them out gently with a rolling pin)
Add a little of the cream mixture to each tart. Do not overfill them.
Bake for 10-15 minutes in a preheated oven – 200C/400F.

They are best eaten on the same day. Not difficult!

- Isobel

DKC PLUMBING SERVICES

Oil fired boilers servicing
Breakdowns
Heating systems
General plumbing
24h call out
Fully insured

5star plumber by ratedpeople
David 07740272791

Parish Council Meeting

The Parish Council will be meeting on 14th November at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. All are welcome to come along, have a cup of tea and discuss with your councillors any issues within the village you would like them to consider.

We have received notification that properties served by the BT cabinet outside Tower Cottages can now apply for Superfast broadband. You will need to check this with your supplier and remember that whether it is available or not depends upon the distance of your property to the cabinet. Check, check and check again!

We also hope to be able to provide an update on the outcome of the Speed Limit Panel decision regarding a request for a reduction in the speed limit throughout the village.

a German recording of Lili Marlene, the song adopted by both German and Allied troops in the Desert War. This is one of my most treasured possessions.
I also accompanied a trip to Anzio and Cassino in Italy. The stand-out moment was when four German paratroopers saw that one of our group, who was a wheelchair user, wanted to visit the Chapel in the Monastery of Monte Cassino which was at the top of a flight of steps. They picked him and his chair up and doubled up the steps. They did also bring him down!
My final trip was to Nijmegen (the 'Bridge Too Far'). This was much less stressful, as there was a modern hospital just down the road. Fortunately we didn't need to use its services.

At this time of remembrance I think of my father, but also of the veterans and widows who I met on Pilgrimage. Their lives were changed by the experience of war in a way that those of subsequent generations cannot fully understand. We owe them our gratitude and respect.

"When you go home, tell them of us and say, for their tomorrow, we gave our today"
(The Kohima Epitaph).

- Sue

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 Pitchers Green Farm



Cows in milk: 28
Dry: 4
Youngstock: 32

Milk Price – August 32ppl, September 34ppl
Yield – 900-950 litres E.O.D.

Calvings: 05/09 Martha had a Jersey Heifer called Bundle
10/09 Teresa had a Jersey Heifer called Belle
21/09 Tatty had an Angus Bull called Brooza
(because he is!)
09/10 Nancy had an Angus Bull called Barry

We have just had our Farm Assurance Red Tractor inspection for our milk buyers ARLA. It changes from winter to summer timing to see all aspects of the cows. This year was the summer inspection which I prefer as the cows always look better with grass under their feet. The records inspected include feed records for the summer, predicted feed for the forthcoming winter, animal health:- how any sick cows are treated and with what drugs; withdrawal periods for milk and meat, batch numbers and who administers the drugs and what training they have received. All the buildings, cattle handling facilities, gates, water troughs, feed troughs etc. etc. All the cattle are inspected, not just the milking herd and yet again when we walked into the field, they were all grazing across the field, within seconds they surrounded us, licking and nudging the assessor who wondered whether they were always so friendly – better than running to the four corners of the field! Apart from having to remove a rusty piece of tin from a gate in the yard, we achieved the standards required and passed. In all it took 3 hours so it is very thorough. Some standards are obvious but others can seem very petty. Just glad I managed to stand in front of the cobwebs in the parlour for long enough!

Next came the TB testing. We are in a low risk area, so a whole herd test is done every 4 years unless a reactor is found. All breeding animals over 6 weeks old are tested, in my case 50 animals. Firstly an area of skin is gathered up and measured with special callipers. This is recorded with the animal's identification. Then two injections, one of bovine purified protein from tubercle bacilli, the other from avian purified protein from tubercle bacilli are injected into the shaved area. (I did have to check these big words). Three days later the animals are re-tested. The fold of the skin is measured again and any change noted. There can be a reaction to the avian (bird) injection but if the skin swelling on the bovine site is 4mm or more then this is classified as a positive reaction. The animal is slaughtered and the whole herd shut down and re-tested 60 days later. Thankfully our herd passed so we can breathe easier. The milk is routinely tested but that only covers the adult stock.

Finally, thank you to Rescoo for "volunteering" to meet and great at the Macmillan Coffee Morning. She seems to get everywhere – I hear she is looking for an agent!

- Glyn

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR COMING

We would like to thank everyone who supported the Macmillan Coffee Morning held on 30th September. Thank you to everyone who donated, baked and bought - a magnificent ***£346.74*** was raised. Special thanks to those who thought they were coming for coffee and scones and ended up washing up and selling raffle tickets; the support was greatly appreciated. It was lovely to see some familiar faces along with some new ones.

- Kate and Debbie