Useful Local Contacts

Anglian Water Emergencies		03457 145145
Borough Council:		
- St Edmundsbury Offices		01284763233
Local Member Sara.Mildmay-White	Sara.Mildmay-White@stedsbc.gov.uk	01359 270580
Bradfield St Clare Book Club	Mrs Val Nunn	388830
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
Electricity	UK Power Networks Supply Faults	0800 783 8838
Footpath Warden	Mrs Fenella Fraser	388310
Gospel Hall	Mr Keith Arknett	01359 240910
Mobile Library	Mr Carl Bell	07721 879855
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

FOR LATEST ADVICE ON THE VIRUS:-
www.gov.uk › coronavirus

THE BRADFIELD GRAPEVINE

JULY 2020 **183**

Restrictions have now begun to ease slightly but we are still far from back to normal. At least the church is now able to open for individual prayer on the weekends and the library van will start to visit once again. However this month is also very sad with the recent death of Peter Hipwell. He was such a well respected and loved member of the village community for so many years. Everyone will have fond memories of him. He was such a wonderful raconteur, sharing stories from his past in places far and wide and usually ending with a cheeky chuckle. I will miss him greatly as will so many others in our community.

Hasn't the weather been strange? Searing heat and then torrential rain. Keith captures our experience in his usual report on the weather. Mike also recounts the issues presented for him and his ways of coping. However, for our farmers there is so much uncertainty around. Unfortunately the village hall must remain closed for the time being as it is not possible to comply with the strict requirements for opening. So many will miss attending the wide variety of regular functions that take place and as you will read further on the village hall will miss Margaret Lovick! After so many years of devoted service to bring to us and to maintain a special place in the village, she has decided that the time is right for her to retire – thank you so much!

Margaret Lovick
Tel: 01284 386662



Peter Newlands
Tel: 01284 388637
pjrmrn@aol.com

Cockfield Benefice – July 2020

Dear Friends,

As I write this we are preparing to unlock our Churches and allow people to enter them for individual, private prayer. It will be wonderful to enable people to visit our buildings again even if we can't as yet meet together in public worship. You may have even already been to the Church and prayed. You may have given thanks to God for all that you are fortunate to have, and have been grateful for during these past few months of lockdown. Or you may have visited to say a prayer for a family member or friend who has found the whole lockdown experience very difficult. Or you may have even visited to pray for someone who is suffering with Coronavirus - or perhaps has died due to the disease. Or you may have just wanted to find somewhere to sit quietly to reflect on all that is going on in your own life. This is what I appreciate about the Church building. The chance to sit in a very beautiful sacred space, having time to think, and breathe, and reflect. There are many in the Church of England (and I can only speak for the Church that I belong to) who think that it is time we disposed of our buildings as they claim that they distract us from our real purpose as Christians, which is to love God and to love our neighbours as ourselves. We can do that perfectly well, they say, without the aid of an ancient Grade I monument that doesn't fit in with the needs of a modern Church, or a modern society.

I was not used to worshipping in an ancient Church building before I came to Cockfield, and I am now Rector of a benefice that has six of them. The one thing that I have missed most of all during lockdown has been worshipping in Church alongside others. I am really missing the fellowship and fun that comes with being together and doing the same thing. Singing, praising, praying and speaking about God. I know that I am continuing to conduct services online, and that many people are watching them (and joining in with the singing from what they tell me!). But it's not quite the same.

And we can often take the beauty of the buildings that we have for granted. Bradfield St Clare is a lovely little Church, grade II* listed and with some wonderful features. But it is more than this; it is a testament to the faith that continues to manifest itself in our community. Of course our faith is not confined to a building, it is people that make a Church, but it is nice to have them. So we will continue to broadcast our services on a Sunday morning until we are given the go ahead to hold public worship by the government. And when we do finally get back into Church, we will hopefully livestream the services for those who will not be ready to come into the building until the pandemic is over.

So stay safe, and welcome back to your local Church building.

Revd Sharon Potter, Rector of the Cockfield Benefice,
revsharon@btinternet.com - 01284 828599 or 07825 086063



July Bin Collection Dates

Wednesday 1st July	Blue bins
Tuesday 7th July	Brown bins
Wednesday 8th July	Black bins
Wednesday 15th July	Blue bins
Tuesday 21st July	Brown bins
Wednesday 22nd July	Black bins
Wednesday 29th July	Blue bins

*** OUR NEW BROWN BIN COLLECTION DAY IS ON TUESDAY**

THIS IS A PERMANENT CHANGE OF DAY OF THE WEEK

www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/findmynearest

SICKLESMERE STORES and POST OFFICE

You are probably aware that Sicklesmere Stores are currently closed "until further notice". This is following severe flooding, when we had the torrential rain on Wednesday11th June. This affected both the shop and the living quarters, with water apparently knee high, resulting in loss of stock, electrical equipment and furniture. One of their neighbours has started an online fund to assist the always cheerful, helpful and hardworking Daryn and Caroline, who run the shop, to get back on their feet as soon as possible. Further details can found at:

www.gofundme.com/f/raising-money-for-village-shop-back-in-business

- Keith Payne 22nd June 2020

Services in the Cockfield Benefice - July 2020 All being livestreamed via the benefice facebook page at:- https://www.facebook.com/cockfieldbenefice/live/	
5th July - Trinity 4	10am Communion
12th July - Trinity 5	10am Morning Service
19th July - Trinity 6	10am Family Service
26th July - Trinity 7	10am Communion 6pm Worshipping Together

St Clare Church



St Clare Church will be open for Private Prayer from early July and the expectations for safe use will be clear for all to see and follow, At the time of writing I have no news about when services will resume but I would remind everyone there is a service streamed each Sunday at 10am on the Cockfield Benefice Facebook page. It has music, readings and a short 'thought' from whoever is delivering the service. It's not the same as 'going to church' but nearly the same! If you have been having problems viewing this regular service please let me know.

Members of the PCC will ensure St Clare Church is open for you each weekend in July and then, when more information is available about opening church buildings, I will be asking for more volunteers to continue through the Summer months.

The free books outside the main door will be removed each weekend because they should not be taken inside the church building at present.

A huge thank you to those who have supported the plant stall outside Linden House. As with our homes, background running costs continue even with little or no income. Additionally I would like to thank the silent supporters of our Food Bank box – it steadily fills up and Gateway in Bury St Edmunds is thrilled to pass its contents on to those in our area who continue to struggle.

- Margaret Newlands (Churchwarden)

Thank You!

Margaret and Mike are grateful to those who have contributed to the stall, especially Jeanette Rowe, thanks to her we made £100 for our church last month.

Many thanks Margret and Mike

Peter Hipwell

Pat and the family would like to thank everyone for their kindness and support. Tributes to Peter are literally pouring in; we are overwhelmed. He was so liked, loved and respected.

A small private cremation will take place soon and then at a later date the family hopes you will all join them in St Clare Church for a service to celebrate Peter's life.

- Pat Hipwell

PARKERHOME

PROPERTY REFURBISHMENT AND RENOVATION

COVID-19 UPDATE – BUSINESS AS USUAL

We hope you're all keeping well and safe at this time

In line with the advice from the Secretary of State to the construction industry, Parker Home is open for business where it is safe to do so.

Right now we're working on several sites and practicing appropriate social distancing and hygiene protocols

Our office is open and we're happy to offer advice in the Meantime or help with emergencies where, where needed.

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Bradfield Weather



'A perfect summer day is when the sun is shining, the breeze is blowing, the birds are singing, and the lawn mower is broken.' - James Dent

In last month's report, I said that I had somewhat over enthusiastically recorded 1mm of rain for May to date. On further reflection, as there was no recordable rain on any one day, I have now amended the records to show no rain in May, as was generally reported.

June started off with some wonderful sunshine, but then the rain arrived for a few days, including a thunderstorm with a burst of hail. This was followed by another week of warm sunshine until the deluge on the 17th. We had 18mm or rain in about 20 minutes, with a further 20mm the following day.

I write this on the day of the Summer Solstice and I am told on good authority that there was a wonderful sunrise about 4.30am. I speak of Bradfield St Clare: of Stonehenge, I know not. With the Solstice upon us and little prospect of travel, we must enjoy our English Summer whatever it brings. Last year the rainfall for June was a staggering 103mm. With the rainfall for June this year to date of 64.5mm (against an average of 53.6mm), we are promised that the last days of the month will be sunny, dry and very hot.

– Keith Payne 24th June

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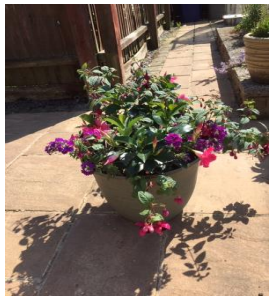
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The Village Hall AGM



After many years as chairperson of the Village Hall committee Margaret Lovick announced her decision to stand down at our recent AGM. Margaret's hard work has been invaluable and over the years she has worked tirelessly to raise money and secure locality funding for major improvements to the hall.

All the committee were very sorry to hear of her decision to also resign from the committee. We all voiced our appreciation for her hard work and dedication to Bradfield St Clare Village Hall and our sadness at her decision. However we fully appreciate that, after so many years, she has more than 'done her bit'. Margaret has promised that she will still help out, as always, with any village event and we shall definitely hold her to that.

As a mark of our appreciation we have since presented Margaret with a planter filled with flowers in bloom that we all hope she will enjoy throughout the summer and beyond.

Many thanks Margaret and we look forward to seeing you at future events in the village hall when, once again, life returns to norm

Appointed:
Chair – John Kirk
Secretary – Isobel Payne
Treasurer – Jim Nunn
Booking Secretary – Val Nunn

- The Village Hall Committee

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Bradfield Woods

Suffolk Wildlife Trust

www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org

or 'phone
01473
890089

As a result of the current National emergency all our events planned for July have been postponed.

Please check our website regularly for up to date news when events will be resumed

If you are thinking about visiting one of our Reserves to get some fresh air you must visit our website first to see if it is still open!

www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org

BRITISH BIRD PUZZLE

Did you get them all?

CLUE:	ANSWER:
1. Found on a chess board	Rook
2. Invoice for an item of cutlery	Spoonbill
3. When a cat gets up	Kittiwake
4. Could mean a death sentence	Blackcap
5. Small move left of right	Little Tern
6. Brightly coloured tool	Yellow hammer
7. Eating action	Swallow
8. Black and white dog shows pleasure	Pied wagtail
9. Call 15 21 26 05 12	Ring ouzel
10. Royal angler	Kingfisher
11. Shell seizer	Oystercatcher
12. Difficult to undo	Knot
13. Crimson bird with surprisingly no strings	Red kite
14. Watch out, low flying mollusc	Shelduck
15. Greedy person	Gannet
16. Shave William	Razorbill
17. Hidden gunman does this	Snipe
18. Extra fowl	Moorhen
19. A bit of fun in the air	Skylark
20. Street decorations for bookworms	Reed bunting
21. Angry Clinton or Gates	Crossbill
22. Egg-born cashew	Nuthatch
23. Timber rooster	Woodcock
24. Act of theft	Robin
25. Polish part of car	Waxwing
26. The smile you get from fermented pears	Peregrine
27. Wizard flier	Merlin
28. A pastime	Hobby
29. Blustery evening	Nightingale
30. What you might get if you annoy a dog	Bittern

Our Dogs Helping the Hospice Movement

The crowdfunder page raised £1212.00 and the facebook page I believe raised £62.00, which was sent directly to Hospice UK. Thank you and all those who contributed and I hope you all feel fitter and you dogs enjoyed perhaps additional walkies.
I attach for your information the letter I have sent to Hospice UK and I am sure you will agree with my suggestion.
Gerry Bullard

Dear Sir/Madam

Fundraising For St Nicholas Hospice Bury St. Edmunds

In April this year I read in a local newspaper that our local Hospice Saint Nicholas was running desperately low on funding because their shops had to close because of the coronavirus epidemic.

I decided to try and raise funds by setting up a crowdfunder page under the heading our-dogs-helping-the-hospice-movement. My daughter and son also set up a facebook page titled Luka and Ralphie helping the Hospice movement. The idea was that friends would take their dogs for a 2.6 mile walk and then donate £6 or any other sum to Hospice UK. Because we wanted to get as wide an appeal we did not specify St Nicholas Hospice as this might have put off people who live close to another Hospice hence we said the money raised would be sent to Hospice UK.

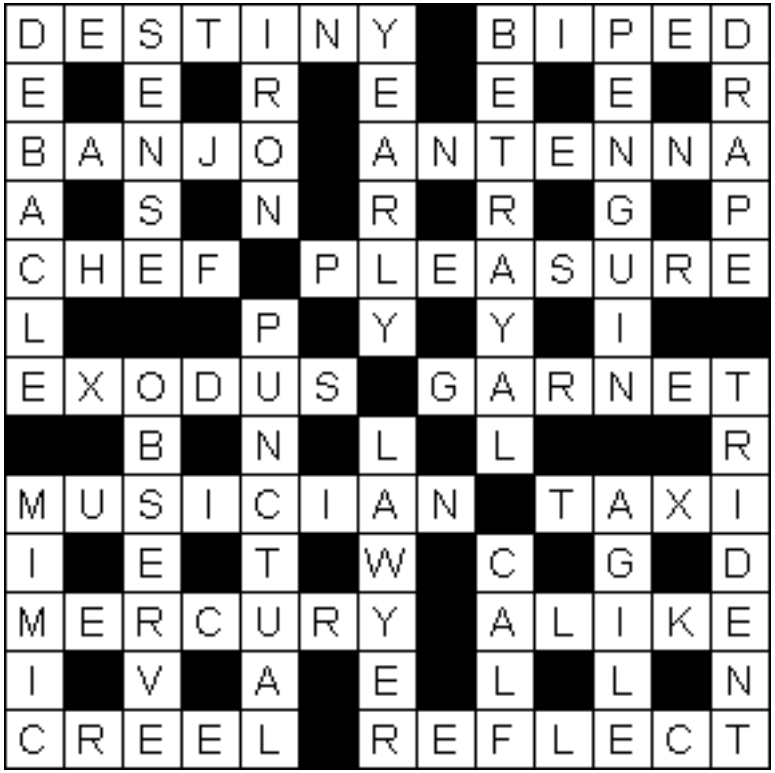
The appeal has now ended and the crowdfunder appeal raised £1212.00 which is in a Bank Account. I am not sure how much was raised by the facebook page but all the money raised was sent directly to you so you will have a record of this. Please advise me of your Bank Account details and I will BACS the £1212.00 to you.

Since the money raised was predominately raised in the Bury St Edmunds area, if the money could be used at the St Nicholas Hospice I am sure it would be appreciated by all those who contributed.

Yours faithfully
G H Bullard

LAST MONTH'S CROSSWORD

How did you do?



August 2020 Advertisements and Entries

Advertisements for the August issue of The Bradfield Grapevine should be sent to either of the two Editors, whose names appear on the front page by Monday 20th July. The cost is £4 per insertion for small ads, £36 per year for half page boxes or £20 for 6 months.
Payment to Bradfield St Clare Village Hall Account
Contact: Peter Newlands or Margaret Lovick

Suffolk Libraries - re-opening from 6th July



What you'll be able to do in libraries when they reopen

Because of social distancing rules, staffing levels and keeping stock decontaminated, libraries will initially offer a reduced service.

The following services will not initially be available

- Computer usage
- Browsing for titles
- Room hire
- Printing, scanning and photocopying
- Reservations
- Activities

You will be able to return titles and collect reservations that were waiting before we closed library buildings in March. **Please use the self-service machines**. If you're just dropping off items you can use the library's drop box if they have one.

How to request and collect new titles

We will not be running our usual reservation system straight away. Instead, you can contact your local library with some suggestions of what you'd like. They'll then prepare a bundle and contact you to arrange collection

Please note as staff won't be at work until July they will only respond to your request from July 13 at the earliest. We appreciate your patience.

Charges and loan periods

All charges have been frozen until 31 August. We will review this date at the end of August. We will not charge for any CD or DVD loans in this period.

For the time being you'll be able to borrow up to 10 items not 20, but loan periods have been extended to 4 weeks.



The Library Van

The mobile library service will start running to its normal timetable from Mon 6 July. You won't be able to reserve titles, but a small selection will be available on the mobile. You will be able to return titles on the mobile.

All overdue charges on loans made after 1 February remain suspended until 31 August. The date will continue to be reviewed

NEXT VISITS: 9.40 – 9.55 am on 29th July

To contact the mobile library van on: **07721 879855**

www.suffolklibraries.co.uk



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Arable Farming at Bishops Farm



'Crop Stress and Me!'

Well as I finished may ramblings for the May issue of The Bradfield Grapevine I was trying to be optimistic saying Covid-19 would improve and the rain would come and to a certain degree that happened. With 20mm of rain in April and 74mm so far in June things have improved on the farm. May was one of the driest months ever recorded, which really stressed the crops and me! Covid-19 continues to improve and hopefully we will soon return to normal life. I think it has made us all appreciate what is important in life, health, happiness and what a beautiful rural setting we are lucky to live in.

At the end of April all the Spring crops were looking very poor. The Spring bean crop had partially emerged and was being ravaged by pea and bean weevil, sprayed twice with pyrethroid insecticide, with no or little effect. The sugar beet planted into a dry cloddy seedbed, less than 10% germinated and emerged and the Spring barley the same 10% emergence. Then over three days I recorded 20mm of rain, which made the world of difference – enough for all the seeds to germinate that were laying in the previously parched soil.

The sugar beet emerged beautifully, virtually every plant 6in apart as planted. However the nights in May remained cold and the days hot and dry resulted in very little growth of the crops. A second crop of Spring barley had emerged to fill the worst gaps on the fields but whether this is too late to produce a useful crop is doubtful as the drought in May continued.

Then, as we entered June, the long awaited rain came, with immediate positive response by all the crops. The old saying, "Rain in June puts things in tune" is definitely true this year.

Every year the growth of sugar beet astounds me; that from a tiny 2mm seed planted on 16th April the plants grow so rapidly that by the end of June the crop canopy will cover the field completely. Sugar beet are planted 6in apart and another farming saying is, "A good crop of beet will touch in the row by Suffolk Show (1st June) and across the row by the Norfolk Show (30th June)". Every year as long as we get rainfall the crop achieves this. It certainly is a miracle of growth.

As we head towards the end of June, our thoughts turn to preparations for harvest. The Winter barley crop is beginning to ripen with ears turning and leaves and stems going golden in colour. I would expect to be combining about 20th July. The Winter wheat crop is usually harvested two to three weeks later than the barley. It's now in full ear and the leaves bright green in colour. One advantage of a dry May is there has been very little disease in the crops this year. Also with sugar beet very few weeds to spray. This year I have used the tractor hoe to control the few weeds between the rows. It's a slow tedious job hoeing 41 acres twice but has done a good job without using expensive chemicals.

Next week I need to spray the Spring beans with a fungicide against disease called chocolate spot. The disease develops in the leaves and will kill the plant if not controlled. The beans are in full flower and require healthy leaves to fill the developing pods.

Then as harvest approaches the barbs need cleaning and spraying with insecticide against grain weevil. The combine also needs servicing before harvest.

Last week I had my Crop Assurance farm inspection. This is an annual event – the inspector usually comes to the farm to check all my records and inspect the grain stores and chemical store. This year was a very different experience, all done on Facetime, Whatsapp and Email and all like a foreign language to me so Mitch came to my rescue! Anyway, we passed and will receive our certificate and passport stickers in due course. We have to pass this annual inspection as every load of grain leaving the farm has to have a passport and approved sticker to show the end user that the growing and production of the crop was to the UK Red Tractor assured standard. Much of the crop assurance standards were also tailored to match the EU requirements. Now with Brexit our European tie may not be as important, as no trade deals have yet been agreed with the EU. There is uncertainty about exports of wheat and barley to Europe this year. With Covid-19 draught beer consumption has slumped to an all time low, so the demand for malt and malting barley has similarly shrunk. If Britain agrees to a trade deal with USA and Mr Trump, the resultant import of grain to this country would be of a sub-standard to Red Tractor standards, cheaper price than home produced and possibly of genetically modified origins. All the above has put downward pressure as the market price we would hope to sell our grain for this year.

All this aside, let's hope for good, warm, dry harvest weather to get the crops into the barns at the required moisture content and in good condition.

Stay Well and Stay Safe! - Mike