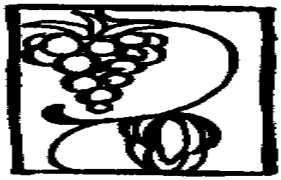
THE BRADFIELD GRAPEVINE



November 2024 No:229

Let's start with good news - we have had a volunteer to take on the Grapevine in the New Year! Sarah Pittard has volunteered, along with Margaret, to continue with our village magazine. We can't reiterate enough that this magazine is 'by the village for the village'. It can't happen without your support. We hope it delivers the information and interest that you all enjoy reading - we would love to hear from anyone who would like to contribute poems, articles etc. We are lucky to live in not only a busy village but a generous one too, this month just look at how much has been raised for worthy causes yet again. Clive and Sue have placed a reminder regarding the Food Bank - we are coming to that time of year again when food seems to play a big part in upcoming celebrations - if you are able to give please see the message as to where to leave your donations. The church has been busy this month, it has manned a station for the Bike Ride, hosted a Christening and the Harvest service was held last week. The church will be lit up in the evenings again now that the clocks have changed and it should be noted that the **Evening Service** held on the **third Sunday** of the month will now be at **4pm.** Thank you to everyone who supports the Church in all respects, thanks to those who open and provide flowers during the summer, and maintain the churchyard. Our Church is there for everyone.

Finally, if you are enjoying fireworks this year - keep safe and be mindful of anyone who has pets or livestock.

Oh! ps Work has begun on updating our Village Hall - more to report next month.

Margaret Lovick
Tel: 01284 386662

Debbie Thomas
Tel: 01284 386302

Email: stclaregrapevine@gmail.com

Letter from the Rectory

Dear Reader,

Remember, remember, the 5th of November. How I loved to hear that as a child – partly because I loved to watch the fireworks being sent into the night sky by families on our street where I grew up. We would have a few fireworks of our own, and then we would run upstairs to the back bedroom window to survey the world as the night sky was lit up repeatedly. I also love November for the colours that it brings on the trees, and the thought of Advent not being very far away.

November also holds two days that are marked in the church. The first is on 1st November and is commonly known as 'All Saints Day'. It is an opportunity for believers to remember all saints and martyrs, both known and unknown, throughout Christian history.

The second is 'All Souls' Day', which is marked on 2nd November. This was originally a Roman Catholic practice – but we use it as a day for remembering and giving thanks for our loved ones who have died. This year we are holding the All Souls service at St Peter's Felsham at 3pm on Sunday 3rd November, all are welcome and we will be serving refreshments afterwards. If you'd like the name of a loved one to be read out at the service, then please do message me via email, phone or WhatsApp.

We will then remember those in the armed forces who lost their lives in conflict on Sunday 10th November, the nearest one to Bradfield St Clare will be outdoors at the Bradfield Combust Memorial which begins at 10.45am, please check the Services and Events page for details of other services being held in the Benefice. We owe a great deal to those who lost their lives - and it is good to gather once again to pay tribute to them, and to pray for peace, which we need so badly in our world.

Yours in Christ,

Sharon

revsharon2@gmail.com
01284 828599 or 07825 086063

Cockfield Benefice Services and Events - November 2024

Sunday 3 November Last after Trinity/All Souls	9.30am Holy Communion - Stanningfield 11am Communion - Bradfield St Clare 3pm All Souls Service - Felsham
Sunday 10 November Remembrance	8.30am Communion - Gt Whelnetham 10.45am Remembrance Service - Cockfield 10.45am Remembrance Service - Bradfield St George 10.45am Remembrance Service - Felsham 10.45am Remembrance Service - Bradfield Combust War Memorial
Saturday 16 November	10am-2.30pm Christmas Craft & Artisan Fair - St Peter's Church, Cockfield, free entry.
Sunday 17 November 2nd before Advent	9.30am Morning Prayer - Stanningfield 10am Praise God Together - Felsham 10.30am Communion - Cockfield 4pm Evening Prayer - Bradfield St Clare
Thursday 21 November	2-4pm Village Friends at Felsham Village Hall (over 65s friendship group)
Saturday 23 November	Messy Church All children welcome accompanied by parent/carer(s) 3-5pm, Venue tbc
Sunday 24 November Christ the King	9.30am Communion - Gt Whelnetham 10am Worshipping Together - Bradfield St George 10am Communion - Gedding
Sunday 1 December Advent 1	10.30am Thanksgiving Communion - Bradfield St George 4pm Christingle Service - Felsham

A service of Celtic-style Morning Prayer is usually held every Tuesday at Cockfield at 9am and at Stanningfield every Thursday at 9am.

*Please note these services may be subject to change – for up-to-date service times see the benefice website at **www.cockfieldbenefice.com** or contact Rev Canon Sharon Potter, revsharon2@gmail.com, tel: 01284 828599 or Rev Richard Stainer, Assistant Priest, richard.stainer14@gmail.com, tel: 01284 388175.*

Plant and Produce Stall - Linden House

The stall has been supported both by donations to sell and people to buy. If you are passing stop and have a look - there may be something you need! This wouldn't be possible without the support of your contributions.
All proceeds from this support St Clare Church. £35 raised this month. Thank you

VILLAGE FRIENDS

The next meeting will be on
Thursday 21st November
at Felsham and Gedding Village Hall
2-4pm
This month we will have an Advent Activity

Village Friends is an over 65's friendship group of men and women from various villages in the area who meet once a month

If you require transport please contact:
Canon Sharon 01284-828599 or 07825 086063
revsharon2@gmail.com or
Susan Metcalf 07925 867221 or st.metcalf@btinternet.com

Organised by the Cockfield Benefice

Benefice Barn Dance

Well what a finale to a lot of hard work by many, many people over several months preceding Saturday 28th September 2024.
Having sold out 150 tickets 3 weeks prior to the event, we could have sold a further 50! BUT there'd have been no space to dance. And boy did people dance!

A huge thanks to EVERYONE, for donations, raffle prizes, raffle wrapping, advice, ideas, publicity and general support. The team on the night was amazing alongside our band The Deneside Ramblers, The Red House Stanningfield for the very busy Bar and our BBQ Chef.

The aim of the night was to bring the newly increased Cockfield Benefice together for fun and friendship - this was definitely achieved with the bonus of a fabulous sum raised - £2,884.50.
As pre-discussed, this was shared across all 9 Churches. Bradfield St.Clare received 40%, £1,153.80. The other 8 Churches each received £216.34.

It's seven years since we hosted our first Barn Dance at Bishops Farm for the Animal Health Trust and it may be another seven years to recover from this one…….!

Once again a huge Thank you to all who came and those who helped.

Lorraine and Mike

GATEHOUSE FOOD BANK

BURY ST EDMUNDS.

Firstly, many thanks to all who have left items for the food bank at intervals recently.

Generosity was also shown at the Harvest Festival service on Friday 18th October at St. Clare Church in our village. As always, a selection of items were donated. These have now been collected and delivered to Gatehouse.

Gatehouse are always in need of any non-perishable goods as well as items of toiletries and hygiene, especially feminine hygiene. They are unfortunately unable to accept “fresh” goods; ie fruit and vegetables.

The current list of items needed is available on their website. The only things they do NOT require at this time are breakfast cereals and dried pasta. Also, please note that all items must be unopened and in date.

Many thanks,

Sue and Clive Leal, Food Band coordinators for Bradfield St Clare.

It is with great sadness that we report the recent passing of Jill Hunt, she passed away peacefully at home in her sleep on Thursday 12th September 2024, aged 61 years. Jill was a happy compassionate woman who dedicated her life to the care of others through her nursing career. She trained as a midwife and did three years missionary work during her lifetime. She lived in the village all her life. Our thoughts are with her family at this sad time



An update from Bishops farm

As autumn 2024 progresses as a meteorological repeat of last autumn, it's been particularly difficult again to establish autumn sown cereal crops to date. Post-harvest cultivations went extremely well with all land prepped for drilling at the end of September/early October, but the persistent doses of rain have meant a drawn out and interrupted drilling campaign so far.

We have managed to drill all the winter barley over 2 weather windows and these fields have also received their pre-emergence herbicides so could now be set until fertiliser in the spring. We have also managed to snatch one field of wheat in between Dairy Farm and the church, but no window for its herbicide has materialised yet and this may now be sprayed once the crop has emerged.

There's still plenty of time for wheat drilling, as each week goes by the seed rate however has to increase in order to compensate for reduced tillering ability in the spring. We have until the end of November to plant wheat. If not we will have to switch to a spring cereal as we did last season where wheat could no longer be planted.

The earlier summer drilled cover crops and haylage leys are flying now, both crops thriving on autumn muck and fibrophos applications and plenty of moisture. The sheep are here for their usual overwintering period and are grazing their way around the farm assisting with our cover crop and grass biomass management. They've made a start behind the church and will work their way towards the bottom of the farm over the next couple of months.

Our latest batch of store cattle has now arrived on the farm and are nicely warm and dry in the cattle yard. Born between May and July the calves are between 4 and 6 months old and this year came from Southampton as our usual northern and Scottish suppliers let us down at the last minute. We have a mixed group of steers (castrated males) and heifers (young females), all angus cross again as they are proving to work well with our partial grazing and housed system. The old stock will be brought in soon as their grazing is now depleted and it's turning wet and cold so we will finish them inside on the run up to Christmas and the new year.

In the garden, my onion sets and garlic have been planted and various spring flowering bulbs will go in at half term as we dream of the beautiful colours of spring. Until then lots to celebrate with Harvest festivals, firework displays, Halloween and of course the Christmas festivities just around the corner. Autumn is a lovely time on the farm to relax, unwind, keep warm by the fire and load up the slow cooker most days!

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MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING …. THANK YOU!

As promised last month we can confirm that the final amount raised at our Kit Café Macmillan Coffee morning was a very impressive **£674.50!**

Once again a huge thank you to everyone who helped, baked or just simply turned up and spent money.

As you may know our village hall refurbishment commenced on 14th October so sadly we will be hanging up our aprons at the Kit Café until the work is completed. We are all looking forward to working and serving you from our new kitchen with more space and updated equipment.

As mentioned in the last Grapevine we are asking for more volunteers, particularly bakers. So if you would be prepared to contribute please let us know and we can compile a list. The more volunteers we have the less often you will be asked to pitch in.

For further information text or phone Val Nunn on 07483245825.



Bradfield Weather

September 2020	**September 2021**	**September 2022**	**Sept 2023**	**Sept 2024**
42 mm	67 mm	42 mm	65 mm	85 mm
October 2020	**October 2021**	**October 2022**	**October 2023**	**-22ndOct 2024**
99.5mm	95.5 mm	38 mm	168 mm	[61mm]

When writing these reports I always start with the previous year's relevant month and amend the table above accordingly. This time last year we'd just had Storm Babette and 76mm of rain in the previous week of writing. I'm hoping we're not going to be in for another mild, wet winter – it's very bad for garden plants but also for trees who need a proper period of dormancy to ensure their good health and give the pests and pathogens a blast of cold to reduce their number.

In the first week of October last year temperatures of 30 C were recorded. This year we've had a few days over 22 C and a couple of frosty mornings but nothing yet to put an end to the frost tender plants in the garden. Dahlias are looking a bit bedraggled but still flowering and so many bumblebees are out and about on the Salvias which are all still going strong – they're such good value plants flowering from as early as May right through to December sometimes, offering valuable nectar to our pollinators to help them through the winter.With thanks to Tom and his Weather Station, the soil temperature remains warm at around 12 C – the grass is still growing and it's a good time to plant in our gardens as the warm soil allows roots to establish (as long as the winter isn't too wet!). Too warm still to plant tulips though – try and resist until the temperature drops a bit which will help avoid tulip fire.

Alice Ward-Thomas 23rd October

The Library Van Dates 2024

Contact: help@suffolklibraries.co.uk Telephone: 01473 351249
The Library Van will call at Bradfield St Clare Village Hall from **9.40am until 9.55am** on the following dates:

13 November	11 December

BIN COLLECTIONS

Tuesday 5 November	Brown Bin
Wednesday 6 November	Black Bin
Wednesday 13 November	Blue Bin
Tuesday 19 November	Brown Bin
Wednesday 20 November	Black Bin
Wednesday 27 November	Blue Bin

www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/bindays



Village Hall Whist Drive

Eleven players attended our October Whist Drive giving us three tables with the dummy acting as a twelfth player

First place was a tie between Shirley and Ean with a score of 169. They therefore shared the proceeds of first and second place. The third place was won by Siobhan on 160. Vera had the lowest score this month on 145 so was awarded the booby prize.

Whist Drives are normally held on the first Friday of the month. Sadly there will be no whist drive in November as improvements to the village hall are being undertaken. We will start again once all the works have been completed. So watch this space.

For further information ring Val Nunn on 07483245825.

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Midsummer Marmalade

Thanks to your generous support I was able to send £37 to two charities, D.E.C., Disaster Emergency Committee for the work with refugees in Gaza and E.A.C.H., East Anglian Children's Hospice. It may be a drop in the ocean but every little helps. Also as promised - any sold within the village would go to the CHurch and £17.50 has gone to St Clare Church.

Remembrance Poppies

Hand knitted poppies will be on sale at all Churches in the Benefice and can be purchased from St Clare Cottage at any time. Price £3 each - all profits to go to the British Legion.

As always thank you for all your support.
Pat

The Mysterious Case of the Nappy Pin
(Apologies to Agatha Christie)

My mother's best friend, AnneTaylor's husband, Clifford, was the Permanent Secretary to the Lord Mayor of London (that position is changed every year. The Lord Mayor's Show is always the Saturday before Remembrance Sunday) Permanent Secretary does not change to provide some continuity - the friendship had its perks and we were sometimes invited to things in the city - but this was a biggy - the Royal Family were making a rare visit to the Mansion House to a reception and somehow we got on the guest list. What an honour, a very thick heavily embossed invite arrived. Very formal instructions Gentlemen must wear swords and medals - I think this dates back to when practically everyone was in uniform, my father had plenty of the latter having served in both World Wars but certainly not the former. It was best 'bib and tucker', white tie and tails certainly NOT black tie and dinner jacket No, no no! Ladies were to wear full blown evening dress and tiaras, diamonds etc and "orders". Needless to say we had none of these I hasten to add, except for for an evening dress.Now in those far flung days you couldn't just waltz into a department store and buy one, you either went to a couturier at enormous expense or you had a little dress maker round the corner which my mama did but having made my first evening dress for me when I was about 18, a total and utter fashion disaster (I've even got photographic evidence) I decided to make my own. I was entirely self taught with some very strange results to begin with - but practice makes perfect. My Ma was hopeless, could just about thread a needle, was good at darning socks on one of those little mushroom things - she could knit but I reckon she was knitting the same jumper all her life and we never got to see the finished article! So no help there. My Granny's ancient sewing machine, which I still own, passed straight to me - it wasn't even a Singer, some unknown German make, had to be wound by a hand

‘crank handle’. It has stood me in good stead and I even made my own wedding dress with it several moons later.
Christian Dior had introduced a “new look” in designer clothing shortly after the war as an antidote to all the shortages and rationing we had endured. The new look was characterised by enormous use of material, very tight fitting jacket tops but enormous flared circular skirts, very long, completely revolutionary but never one to miss an opportunity ‘Simplicity' and ‘McCalls’ who made patterns for dressmaking had copied this - all evening dresses likewise had enormous amounts of material in them. Of course, this event demanded a new dress. It was also the trend to have copious amounts of tulle, chiffon and net in pastel colours but I’d never been a fluffy person so I bucked the trend somewhat . My dress was in stiff silk taffeta, midnight blue, royal blue shot with black, tight fitting bodice, nipped in at reh waist, assisted by something called a waspy, a sort of small corset pulling in your waist, the skirt “enormous and circular also gathered. I think it would have taken at least an hour to walk round the perimeter of the hem - all this was underpinned with a waist petticoat stiffened by copious spraying with something called spray starch - it stood up on its own! So together with the obligatory long white gloves (above the elbow) and having borrowed Granny’s three string pearl necklace and drop earrings (one of which I still have) no diamonds or tiaras in our family vaults - I was ready to go. My mother, who was tall and slim - elegant features, which unfortunately she did not pass on to her elder daughter (me!) wore a grecian column dress in grey silk jersey - very stylish. I had however lost most of my puppy fat and was I suppose reasonably presentable!
Come the evening, off we went deposited from a taxi (as many were) outside the Mansion House - having travelled in from suburban Surrey courtesy of Southern \railway - of course, many arrived in limousines with embassy flags flying from their bonnets - all very exciting. We were situated in an antirom (not the main reception room) which the Royal party passed through - but all very impressive, blazing lights from chandeliers, wafts of expensive perfume - slight hint of mothballs,

with light music playing in the background - the latest Ivor Novello or Noel Coward ‘smaltsy’ music. I don't think Oklahoma, the first American musical to cross the Atlantic had reached us yet. There was a lot of hanging about but eventually there was a pause - they had arrived! The King (perhaps already suffering from ill health?)was not present, but Queen Elizabeth and the two princesses - resplendent in magnificent dresses courtesy of Norman Hartnell no doubt, dripping with diamonds and tiaras etc. They played the National Anthem which we sang ramrod straight, with great gusto. Then the crowd parted close by, the men bowed deeply, not your nod and the ladies likewise deeply curtsied - I was at the front but the lady behind me had not been to dancing classes, as every little girl did in those days - I was not much good - Anna Pavlova had nothing to fear from me but I could curtsey (not nowadays - I would never get up again!), she took a step forward onto the back of my dress- I got up a split second before her and yes…you've guessed it the sound of ripping material and the bodice of my dress parted company from the skirt at the back of the waist! Shock Horror!! Consternation all round - what to do- rapidly gather up the skirt , my mother and the culprit hustled me to the “powder room”, now the attendants in these places always had a needle and thread handy - enough to sew on a button etc or mend a small tear but nothing like this. All ladies carried a small bag containing a few essentials - now what follows is totally bizarre - though I have tried to find a logical, sensible explanation all my life I've never managed to.

The offending lady upended her bag, spilling out her lipstick, powder compact, hankie (lace edged of course) no comb (how do I know - I have a photographic memory) no doubt Hercule Poirot would read great significance into that! And wait for it, not one, not two but well over half a dozen very large nappy pins!! Yes, I know utterly bonkers - miles from home and not a baby in sight - anyway - as it happened very propitiously. My Ma, the attendant and the guilty party lost no time in reuniting my bodice with the skirt using every pin. I think I just stood there traumatised - today I’d probably be having counselling or

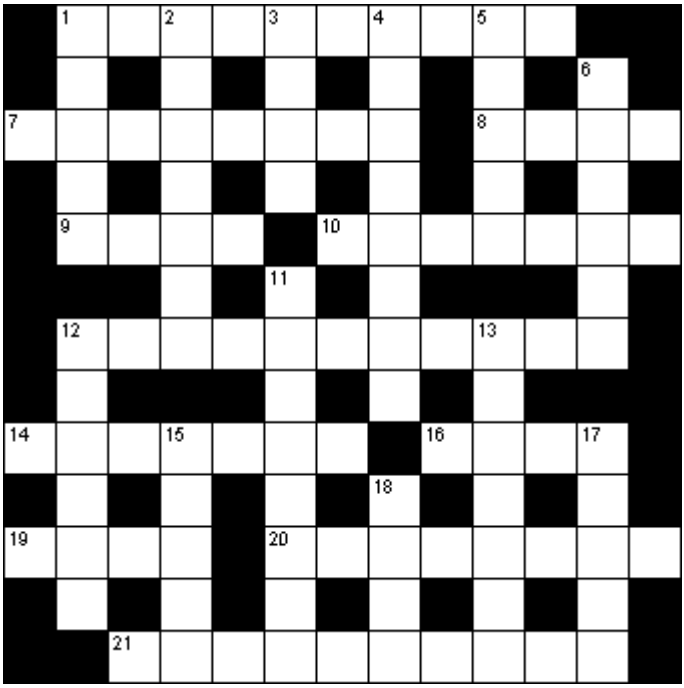
therapy. In a very short time I was able to rejoin the fray (somewhat gingerly feelling I had half a ton of metal round my waist. There followed a lavish buffet supper and I wasn't going to miss that given much food was still rationed and anything more than sardines on toast was considered an exotic luxury. Thank goodness the evening did not include dancing that would have been a bridge too far. I managed to survive the evening walking very carefully and slowly with my back to the wall. It was decided after a serious discussion that I was to be allowed a glass of champagne - my first "on medical grounds" to calm me - it did the exact opposite and always has done
One mystery was solved that night - my taste for champagne was born and the love of a glass of bubbly has been with me throughout life and those who know me well are still with me today! So, cheers!

Pat Hipwell



St Clare Marmalade goes Global

I know some jars have gone walkies, some have gone to France courtesy of Debbie's friend , two have made their way to the States via my niece and I think one was spotted in Oz…I have no idea why! But this one (pictured) made its way to the inside of the Arctic Circle. Very complicated but a niece of Yvonne Whiteley's works as a tour guide on a Norwegian cruise ship - visited her during the summer and took some on board with her. Apparently they ended up on deck eating a very chilly breakfast in which said marmalade took pride of place!



Across

1 In the open air (3,2,5)
7 Padre (8)
8 Virtuous (4)
9 Apiece (4)
10 Left out (7)
12 Campanologists (11)
14 Play or film with songs (7)
16 Young sheep (4)
19 Item of footwear (4)
20 Splendid (8)
21 Evaluation (10)

Down

1 Pigment made from clay and iron oxide (5)
2 Characteristic (7)
3 Be afraid (4)
4 Trinket, decoration (8)
5 Correct (5)
6 Groups of twelve (6)
11 Three-sided figure (8)
12 Branches (6)
13 Scrutinise (7)
15 Notions (5)
17 Not sharpened (5)
18 Male offspring (4)

A reflection of four years editing the Grapevine

So, four years ago, when the Newlands were in the process of moving out of the village, Peter approached me to see if I was interested in taking on the role of supporting Maraget Lovick to continue the Grapevine. To be perfectly honest it was a couple of years too early!! I was still working full time and life was pretty full on - but having made the commitment I can honestly say I have really enjoyed helping to put the newsletter together with Margaret. Margaret has been involved since its inception, along with John Parsons and the magazine has evolved over its 230 issues to date. It really started to highlight what was on in the village, bins and library. It has evolved to include regular contributions from people who live and work here. Confession: the bin rota has, at times, had us pulling our hair out! We used to get a lovely annual chart of all collections, however due to cutbacks you now only get the next two weeks (and you have to look that up online), you have to sit diligently with a calender going brown bin before black bin ….blue bin, it all sounds so simple ha! Just let's say BANK HOLIDAYS!!!. The Grapevine really is a community effort - and I would like to thank Margaret for her support and diligence (and history and context) - there would be many more spelling errors and typos without her, grateful support to Gerry and Dianne who, whatever the weather deliver the Grapevine to every household in the village each month without fail. I have appreciated the support of Debbie Smith, who has helped chase our regular advertisers for their annual financial support that enables us to continue to deliver the newsletter free of charge to every household so thank you to them.It wouldn't be much of a magazine if we didn't have our regular contributors, past and present, so enormous thanks for keeping us informed and entertained. I am also very grateful to Sarah, who has agreed to take on the editing role along with Margaret. I look forward to seeing how they will change and evolve the magazine. It's been an interesting time. I very much look forward to receiving our magazine through the letterbox in the future. **Debbie** x

In Flanders Fields

by John McCrae

In Flanders' fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place: and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders' fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe;
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high,
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders' Fields.

Useful Local Contacts

Anglian Water - Emergencies	03457 145145
Borough Council	St Edmundsbury Offices - 01284 763233
Local Member	Sarah Mildmay-White - 01359 270580 Sara.Mildmay-White@stedsbc.gov.uk
Bradfield St Clare Village Halll Bookings	Mrs Val Nunn - 01284 388830
Bra dfield Grapevine Magazine	Mrs Debbie Thomas - 01284 386302 stclaregrapevine@gmail.com Mrs Margaret Lovick - 01284 386662
Bury Stray Cat Fund	01284 388455
Charity for the Relief in Sickness	Secretary: Mrs Vicky Spall - 01284 386357
Suffolk County Council Switchboard	01284 763233
Local Councillor	Mrs Karen Soons - 07864601887 Karen.soons@suffolk.gov.uk
Dentist (Emergency)	By appointment Sat and Sun pm 0300 130 3065
Doctor – Suffolk Doctors on Call	Ring your own Surgery
	Or alternatively call 111
Electricity	UK Power Networks Supply Faults 0800 783 8838
Footpath Warden	Mrs Fenella Fraser - 01284 388310
Gospel Hall	Mr Keith Arknett - 01359 240910
Mobile Library	Mr Carl Bell - 07721 879855
Member of Parliament	Peter Prinsley - Labour peter.prinsley.mp@parliment.uk
Neighbourhood Watch Contact	Mrs Dianne Bullard - 01284 386598
Parish Council Clerk	Mrs Nicola Sturgeon - 07817170906
Parish Council Website	http://bradfieldstclare.one Suffolk.net
Police	101 (non-urgent) 999 (urgent)
Post office Delivery Office	01284 358201
Schools:Cockfield Primary	01284 828287
Thurston Community College	01359 230885
West Suffolk College	01284 701301
St Clare Church	Rev. Canon Sharon Potter revsharon2@gmail.com 01284 828599 / 07825 086063
St Edmunds RC Church	Fr David Bagstaff - 01284 754358