THE BRADFIELD GRAPEVINE



September **196**

It is truly humbling to live amongst such a generous community! There have been so many charitable events happening or about to happen in our village. Those that have taken place have been well supported and you will be interested to read the success of Pat's Garage Sale for two worthy charities. Coming up, Keith has highlighted the Church Bike Ride on **Saturday 11th September.** Any more keen cyclists who would be happy to get involved or if you can spare an hour or so to be at the church to welcome riders please get in contact with Keith - he apologises for the short notice - no need - it just means that WE have less time to forget! Here's hoping for some Autumn sunshine - as reading Keith's weather report, the promised heatwave doesn't appear to have materialised!

Sue Leal has asked us to Save the Date**, Saturday 19th September,** to support the Macmillan Coffee Morning if we are able to.

Finally, thank you to those who have cut the verges and kept our roads safe - it really makes a difference.

Margaret Lovick
Tel: 01284 386662

Debbie Thomas
Tel: 01284 386302

Email: stclaregrapevine@gmail.com

Dear Friends,

September is harvest festival time! In St Clare's we will be holding a Harvest Thanksgiving service on Friday 24th September at 6pm. Unfortunately we can't hold the usual harvest supper – but there will be refreshments after the service.

We are also collecting tins and packets of food for this service; and afterwards these will be donated to the Bury St Edmunds foodbank. I do hope that you will be able to come along to help us to give thanks for all those who are part of producing the food that sustains us!

I always marvel at the harvesting of the crops, and the way in which the fields change throughout the year. We are so lucky to live in such a beautiful area where we can fully appreciate the yearly cycle of growth and harvest. We are also very fortunate that we have such a huge choice in the food that we eat; but we should also remember those both at home and abroad who are hungry.

However, food for Christians is not just limited to the physical. In one of our Gospels we hear Jesus say, 'Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.' (Matthew 4:4). We need spiritual food as well as physical food to develop and grow into the person that we are meant to be. Where do we find this spiritual food? Come along to our harvest celebration and you will have a taste of it.

Yours in Christ,

Sharon

Revd Canon Sharon Potter, Rector of the Cockfield Benefice,
Revsharon2@gmail.com; 01284 828599 or 07825 086063

Cockfield Benefice Services & Events – September 2021

Sunday 5 September Trinity 14 – Climate Sunday	9.30am Morning Prayer – Stanningfield 10am Communion – Bradfield St George 10am Morning Prayer – Cockfield 6pm Evening Celtic Communion – Felsham
Sunday 12 September Trinity 15/Harvest	8am Communion BCP – Cockfield 10am Harvest Service – Gedding 10am Communion – Bradfield St Clare 6pm Harvest Service – Gt Whelnetham
Sunday 19 September Trinity 16/Harvest	10am Harvest Communion – Cockfield 3pm – Harvest Tea & Cakes – Cockfield 10am Family@Felsham Harvest 6pm Harvest Service – Lt Whelnetham
Friday 25 September	6pm Harvest Thanksgiving – Bradfield St Clare
Sunday 26 September Trinity 17	9.30am Communion – Gt Whelnetham 10am Communion BCP – Gedding 10am Worshipping Together – Bradfield St George

A service will be recorded every Sunday morning and posted on the benefice facebook page at: https://www.facebook.com/cockfieldbenefice/videos/?ref=page_internal

A service of Celtic Morning Prayer is held every **Tuesday at Cockfield** at 9am

The prayer group meets every Wednesday at 2pm via zoom with the following link:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86736217904?pwd=Y2VGK0UvQlpkZHFzTFE4NkE4bHFxQT09

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

SUFFOLK HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST ANNUAL BIKE RIDE

The SHCT is holding its annual Ride and Stride this year on **Saturday, 11th September from 9.00am until 5pm.**

We will be looking for as many people as possible to cycle or walk on behalf of St Clare Church again this year.

For those of you not familiar with the event, the Trust has organised the Ride since 1982 , and added the Stride in recent years, to raise money for Suffolk's many historic churches, which in turn it gives out to those churches needing funds for major repairs and maintenance. The idea is to visit as many churches as you feel able and get sponsorship per church or for a fixed sum. 50% of the total collected goes to the trust and the other half retained by us. Given reasonable weather, I am told it can be very enjoyable plotting your route and travelling the lanes of Suffolk and also a chance to have a look at other churches which you would not otherwise visit. The vast majority of churches should be manned again this year, as we intend to do at St Clare, with refreshments available, which again I am told makes it so much better for riders arriving at churches. Anyone not riding who is able to spend an hour or so on the day to help man the church would be greatly appreciated. Again, if you cannot ride, kindly consider sponsoring one of our riders. Known riders from the village at this point are Sue & Clive Leal and Isobel Payne.

Sponsor forms and further information, if required, can be obtained from me on 01284 386169 and I look forward to hearing from you.

Sorry this is now at very short notice. It was prepared well in advance of the submission date last month and then I forgot to send it – oh the joys of getting old !!

Keith Payne, Bush Cottage

AUGUST BIN COLLECTIONS

Tuesday 31 August	Brown bin
Wednesday 1 September	Black bin
Wednesday 8 September	Blue bin
Tuesday 14 September	Brown bin
Wednesday 15 September	Black bin
Wednesday 22 September	Blue bin
Tuesday 28 September	Brown Bin
Wednesday 29 September	Black Bin

www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/bindays



The Library Van

IS BACK

Contact: help@suffolklibraries.co.uk
Telephone: 01473 351249

We are so lucky to have this service – if you are a reader and able to attend the Mobile Library you will be supporting its future. Reading is such a pleasure and it's a FREE service – if you are able, please support it. It really may be a case of if we don't use it, we may lose it, and that would be such a shame for those who cannot get into town easily.

The Library Van will call at Bradfield St Clare Village Hall from **9.40am until 9.55am** on the following dates:

Month	Date
September	22nd
October	20th
November	17th
December	15th



Remember our lovely Church is always open at weekends for you to enjoy.

FOR SALE

4-Drawer Filing Cabinet in good condition £5
Brand new suitcase, black, on wheels £5
Sun lounger - good condition £5
Contact Pat Hipwell on 01284 386636
Proceeds to Charity

TRASH OR TREASURE…

...or as someone said “social event of the year, so far, in our village”!
Thank you to everyone who made this event such an amazing success - over £600 and the donations are still coming in. That means at least £300 to each of the charities so close to my heart. **Save the Children** (all my adult life since I was a student at the Froebel College, where Eglantyne Jebb (one of the founders of STC) was Principal - hence the “hunger lunches”, Christmas Bazaars, original Mid-Summer Jazz etc etc) and **St Nicholas Hospice,** who were absolutely wonderful during Peter’s final weeks. I owe them, as do many others, a huge debt of gratitude. And it helped me get rid of my unwanted items!

Those who came seemed to enjoy themselves - no masks as it was in the open air, refreshments and people chatted away - met old friends and met new neighbours. All this, despite the Indian Monsoon taking a wrong turn and depositing gallons of water on us at midday - everyone and everything had a soggy bottom.

The coup de gras was the sale on Ebay (courtesy of Gerry Bullard) of two AA badges, one AA of India fetched £75 and the other AA of West Bengal nearly £50. A-MAZ-ING.
I’m not sure what the moral of that story is ‘*don’t throw anything away’* or *‘you don’t know what treasures you've got’*
Warm sincere THANK YOU to all who helped, attended and purchased, you were absolutely fabulous.

Pat Hipwell

Thorpe Morieux Garden Party

at
Thorpe Hall (beside the Church)
on
19th September
from 2 pm
Grand Draw £200 cash prize + many others
Pre-loved stall
Children's Games
Garden Tour
Teas
Heart of Suffolk Art Group exhibition and sales.

Car Boot, prior booking only 01284 827039 (and all enquiries)

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday 19th September 10am-4pm

FUNDRAISING EVENT FOR MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

This will be an outdoor (with marquee) event at Dairy Farm House, Bury Road, Bradfield St Clare.
Come and have a cuppa and cake, meet up with your friends and neighbours and donate to a worthy cause.
We will also be welcoming local cyclists who supported our MacMillan fundraiser so generously last year.
Look out for the flyer with more details, coming through your door in early September.

Bradfield St Clare

Thank You

I just wanted to send you a note of sincere thanks for your support at the Macmillan Afternoon Tea we held on Sunday 8th August in Whepstead Community Centre.
It was truly amazing to see so many of you there. I hope you enjoyed it.
We have raised over £700 now for Macmillan Breast Cancer Research which would not be possible without kind, generous people such as you.

Thankyou So Much

Rhonda Key
Nee Lovick

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SEPTEMBER

September was the seventh month of the Roman calendar until Julius Caesar ordered a calendar consisting of twelve months based on a solar year in 45 BC. The Anglo Saxons called it 'gerst monath' meaning Barley month.

Feast Days: 21st September – St Mathew; 29th September – St Michael or Michaelmas Day.

Mottoes: "Fair on September 1st, fair for the month"; "September blows soft, til the fruits in the loft"; "September dries up wells, or breaks down bridges.

What a disappointing summer we have had so far! As I write this(16th August) we have not had the heatwave promised last week and it is too cold to go outside without a jumper. However, usually nature rights itself over a season so I hope that by the time you read this we will indeed be enjoying some warm weather. Fingers crossed!

I would like to thank farmers and volunteers for keeping the footpaths and verges clear, and a special thanks to Mike for clearing the verges and ditches along the roadside, making it safer to drive. The only downside of this however, is seeing the amount of litter that is carelessly discarded or thrown from cars. It does seem especially bad this year. I try to remember to take a bag out with me when walking to pick it up when I spot it and I believe there are plans for a village litter pick in the autumn.

I have also noticed that there is a horrendous amount of plastic pollution in our rivers. Many of you may not have heard of the Bury Water Meadows Group. It was formed in 2013 to help and safeguard the Rivers Lark and Linnet (both rare chalk streams) and the land around them. They do a fantastic job and work tirelessly to conserve the green spaces and improve the biodiversity of the Lark and Linnet. They are always looking for new members and/or volunteers. Currently they are organising several working parties to clear the plastic from the two rivers. This will be sorted and tested. It will then become part of a

national survey to discover how much of this plastic finds its way into the sea. If you would like to find out more about this admirable group of volunteers and supporters visit the Bury Water Meadows website: burywatermeadowsgroup.org.uk. A Tale of Two Rivers (An Illustrated Walking Guide to the Rivers and Water Meadows of Bury St Edmunds) was published by the Water Meadows Group and is a short, very interesting, booklet detailing the history of Bury St Edmunds and the two rivers. I have a copy so if anybody would like to borrow it just give me a call.

The recent news about the state of our planet was very disturbing and it is easy to become disillusioned and feel hopeless. This short poem by an unknown author reminds me that sometimes doing a small thing can make a difference. So I shall continue to recycle and collect litter and just hope that eventually the consciences of those litterbugs will be pricked and it will no longer be necessary.

A pebble in the streamlet scant
Has turned the course of many a river,
A dewdrop in the baby plant
Has warped the giant oak forever

Anon

Val Nunn

Update on Reopening of Bradfield St Clare Village Hall

Bradfield St Clare Village Hall Committee met on 2nd August to discuss the possibility of reopening the village hall.It was decided that, at the time of meeting, the Covid infection rate was still too high to safely reopen for all events. Therefore we sadly took the decision not to hold the annual harvest supper nor the quiz planned for October. The monthly whist drives and Kit Café were also deemed too risky at this time. The village hall could however be used for small groups or meetings with 10 people or less in attendance.

The Village Hall Committee will meet again on 19th October for our AGM where the possibility of reopening the hall will be high on the agenda.

Still Got a glut of Courgettes?

Try this delicious recipe from Isobel Payne

Courgette Fritters - Makes 8
These are a delicious way of using up all those courgettes!

250g courgettes, grated
½ small onion, finely chopped
50g feta, crumbled
1tbs dill, chopped fine
1 tbsp flat leaf parsley, chopped fine
1 small egg, beaten,
45g flour
1 tbsp flour or cornflour
45 grated parmesan
Olive oil

Sprinkle the courgettes with a little salt and leave to drain in a colander.
After 20 minutes rinse then squeeze as dry as you can.
Pat dry with kitchen roll.
Mix courgettes, eggs, onion, herbs, parmesan and feta together in a bowl.
Sift on the flour then season with pepper. Mix gently.
Heat a little oil in a frying pan.
Drop tablespoons of the batter into the oil and fry for 2 minutes on each side.
Drain on kitchen paper and serve hot.
They are also delicious cold.

A Village Magazine for the people of the Village!

The editors are always very happy to accept articles, observations, crosswords, quizzes and general comments for the magazine.

Deadline for Contributions by 18th of the month please.

BRADFIELD ST CLARE WEATHER



Raindrops and teardrops have two things in common. Both fall freely, and yield abundance. The former leads to abundant harvest and the latter, abundant mercy.

Martin Uzochukwu Ugwu

The latter part of July continued with the cooler temperatures forecast and rain on and off, with Sunday 25th being the most interesting day. We had a thunderstorm rumbling around for more than two hours with 26mm of rain, which seemed a lot, but in Cockfield only a kilometre or so away they had 80mm, whilst Bury had none. Brettenham suffered 180mm in just three hours. The month's total for the village was 61.5mm against an average of 54.6mm.

If August is supposed to be the height of summer it is difficult to know what to say about it: hardly up to expectations! Whilst there has not been too much rain – though certainly enough to disrupt and delay harvesting – there has been precious little sunshine, plenty of overcast skies, a lot of wind and as I write this I think it is cold – old bones? Rainfall to date has been 41.5mm compared to the 28 year average of 64.8mm.

Keith Payne 18th August 2021

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News from Homefield

In my last writings, I mentioned the two crows that were helping themselves to the broad beans, thankfully they did cease this activity, but only left a single meal's worth of beans to put on our table. I sowed three packets of seeds, one in late Autumn, one early Spring and one late Spring, all different but recommended varieties but none really took off. This is the second year of bean failure! so we'll have to try harder next year - maybe starting them off in the polytunnel, but I'm sure I have read on one of the packet's it says "Plant seeds where they are to crop", who knows, but I'm not going to give up just yet - the crows need their feast and so long as they don't start stripping the sweetcorn cobs, I don't mind sharing!

Runner beans are cropping well and true to their name they just keep going. We started these in the polytunnel and planted out on 24th April. They looked ok until a sharp frost a few days later shocked them, yet out of the twigs that were left they have really produced in lbs (kilos are also available!)dwarf beans are also good. Carrots and

beetroot are doing much better than last year, including the five carrots that were entwined in a ‘group hug’ - it’s either a symbol of hope for the world or I didn’t thin them out properly - you decide.



It’s an excellent year for courgettes/marrows, not just for me but it seems wherever you drive around there are courgettes stacked on tables and stalls. Onions are very good, including the 10p net ‘save me from destruction’ bag from a local store, they were already sprouting in the bag before planting. Potatoes have been mixed, Charlotte, Saxon and Estima have been very good and plentiful. Sharpes Express and Maris Bard are not so good. I’d like to thank the person who didn’t want to throw away the ‘marbles’ at the end of the bag and spent time planting them in two rows only to appreciate four months later that if you plant ‘marbles’ you get ‘marbles’. I’ll never learn!

The biggest disappointment were the tomatoes. Approximately 50 plants - all varieties and sizes staked up and loads of fruit - all looking good. It seemed over a couple of days the climatic conditions were perfect for the blight to come in and rot the lot. We have a dozen plants in the polytunnel which are fine and healthy and two self-set tomatoes in the allotment that are less than a yard from the big lot and are fine, so explain that if you can!

The lambs are growing very fast, near enough lifting their mother's off the ground to feed. They still play at what Debbie describes as the "Red Arrows" display, a long run up to their hut - three take off and run over the top and three go through the tunnel. It has the making of an Olympic event but the rules and regulations might be beyond them and me. I've just learnt that stabilisers are not allowed in the Madison event :)
Glyn

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 Book Club/Village Hall Bookings	Mrs Val Nunn - 01284 388830
Bradfield 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	01473 583000
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	Mrs Jo Churchill - 01284 752311 www.jochurchill.mp@parliament.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)
Police Twitter name	@stedspolice 01473 613500
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
	Church Warden
St Edmunds RC Church	Fr David Bagstaff - 01284 754358
Suffolk Wildlife Trust	Bradfield Woods - 01449 737996