

THE BRADFIELD GRAPEVINE



March 2017

No 146

It's been a strange winter as Keith so clearly describes in his weather report but at least Spring is just around the corner!

Reading Glyn's description this month of life at Pitchers Green Farm shows how working with animals is not just a job – it involves so much more and can sometimes be emotionally very sad. Dairy farmers are much more than just producers of milk.

Clive shares with us the incredible feat of his race to the summit of Ben Nevis and back. It is an amazing account and captures his changing mood as he struggles to complete the arduous adventure. I'm exhausted simply reading about it!

Don shares with us his recipe for Suffolk Honey Cake – it sounds naughty but very nice!

Brief notes in this edition of the recent Parish Council meeting demonstrates yet again the constant struggle to get those in authority to recognise the need to attend to the speeding on our country roads and the poor broadband service we all experience. However, some progress is being made. The full minutes of the meeting can be read on the Parish Council website:

<http://bradfieldstclare.onesuffolk.net>

Further details of what promises to be a wonderful village event – the Barn Dance and Hog Roast towards the end of May - is advertised this month. Tickets will soon be on sale.

Finally, there is a little crossword puzzle to have a go at if the weather suddenly turns really wintery and you can't get out of the house!

Margaret Lovick
Linden House
Bradfield St Clare
Tel: 01284 386662

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

CARGATE
engineering

Septic Tank Emptying and Servicing

- Septic Tank and Cesspool Emptying
- Tank and Drain Cleaning Service available
- Reliable and Competitive
- 24/7 Emergency Response
- Treatment Plant Service available
- New Tanks installed
- Vehicles Covering East Anglia

Cargate Engineering Ltd.
Fellsham Road, Bradfield St George,
Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP30 0AG
E-mail: n.milson@cargate-engineering.co.uk
www.cargateengineering.co.uk

BALENORAL Klargester

01284 386538 (Head office)

Always to hand when you need us!

Bin collections in March 2017

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

The Library Van



The Library Van calls every 4 weeks on Wednesdays
at the Village Hall.

NEXT VISIT: 9.40 – 9.55 am 15th March

To contact the mobile library van driver Steve ring him on: 07837 58137

TOMLINSON GROUND CARE

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



Parker
Home Improvements Ltd

Helping you create the perfect home

Our local family run business has 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 07775 429351



info@phihome.co.uk

www.phihome.co.uk

Bradfield St Clare Women's Institute



At the meeting on 8th February, Sarah Doig gave members some fascinating insights of 'Curious Suffolk'.
Our next meeting will be on 8th March when Carole Baker will talk about 'Complementary therapies and home remedies'.
The competition is for a **Herb Posy**.
Margaret will chair the meeting, with Debbie and Sarah providing the refreshment. Pat (H) will provide the draw prize.

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

CLIVE LEAL

PAINTING AND DECORATING

PROPERTY AND GARDEN MAINTENANCE

01284 386403 OR 07717 823525

PAINTING AND DECORATING, PROPERTY
MAINTENANCE, LOCKS, GARDENING, GRASS CUTTING
HEDGE TRIMMING AND SHAPING,
TREE PRUNING AND FELLING

QUALITY WORKMANSHIP GUARANTEED

FULL PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE



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

News from St Clare Church



At last there are signs of Spring in the churchyard as you enter from Church Lane. A thank you Mike Morley for the covering of pea shingle on the church path and the area he has created for parking near the church – the churchwarden must remember not to park on his crops now!

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday 1st March with an 11am Service of Communion in Bradfield St George. We have an Evening Prayer at 4pm on 5th March but no other services this month. However we have three celebrations in April including a 6pm service on Easter Sunday, 16th April. The Mothering Day service and all other services are detailed on the Benefice Rota published in this issue of The Bradfield Grapevine.

Our Church Opening Rota will begin in April. Thank you to all who continue to help; it's not too late to let me know if you have time to join in. We have a selection of preserves for sale in the church – all for church funds and as always we are pleased to receive donations for the Food Bank in Bury St Edmunds. Pat Hipwell also keeps a Food bank box at St Clare Cottage.

An additional thank you to Isobel Payne for obtaining and donating the crockery and Margaret Lovick for selling it on behalf of Church Funds - £70 was raised.

As some of you know Reaching Out, the Benefice Church monthly magazine is available to anyone who wishes to receive a copy. This month includes details of Lenten Lunches at the Rectory in Cockfield. They will be held every Tuesday during Lent between 12noon and 2pm and they are to raise funds for the Diocese of Kagera in Tanzania – an area of desperate need.

The annual Women's Word Day of Prayer will be held on Friday 3rd March in Monks Eleigh Church – all welcome including men!

Please get in touch with me if you would like any further details of any of these events.

- Margaret Newlands (Church Warden)

OTHER CHURCH SERVICES

Roman Catholic Church

St Edmund King & Martyr
Westgate Street, Bury St Edmunds

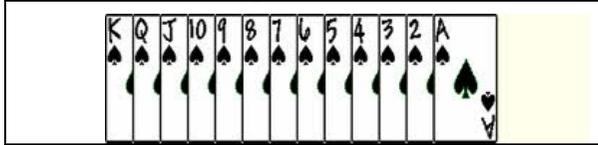
Mass every Sunday at 8.30am, 10am and 6pm.

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

February Whist Drive



At the February Whist Drive Val Nunn and Sylvia tied for the ladies' prize with a score of 165, followed by Joy and Ros together on 163. Val Offord was awarded a wooden spoon, scoring 142. Ian scored highest for the men with 168 ahead of John Kirk on 167 and Justine (playing as a man!), with 164. Brian won a wooden spoon with 142. Our next Whist Drive in the Village Hall is on Friday 3rd March – please come!

Ready For Winter?

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



“Even though February is the shortest month of the year, sometimes it seems like the longest”

- Lorraine Snelling

Although not with regard to the weather, there was a lot of talk at the beginning of the year about a dry January. If others failed in their endeavours the weather tried hard with only 37mm of rain against an average of 50.8mm and we also saw a covering of snow in mid-month.

There was also a long period of near or below freezing temperatures stretching into February but as I write there are signs of Spring on the way with snowdrops, aconites and today I saw daffodils in bloom. It is now a long time since we have had a period of sustained rain and February continued to be sporadic with 35mm to date with an average for the month of 43.3mm.

- Keith Payne 21st February 2017

Dates for your Diary



- Friday 3rd March – Whist Drive at 7.30pm - Village Hall.
- Sunday 5th & 19th March – Bingo Nights 8pm - Village Hall
- Tuesday 21st March – Book Club - 7pm - Village Hall
- **Sunday 26th March – Clocks go forward one hour**

THE BEN

Four hundred madmen in running attire process around a rain sodden arena
Behind a mournful highland pipe band.
About the same number of spectators applaud warmly.
Runners, spectators and pipers are all at sea-level
In Fort William, in the Highlands of Scotland.

We, the madmen, are about to set off in a race.
To the summit of Ben Nevis and back.
Four thousand, four hundred feet above our heads
And back to the rain sodden arena.
The pipes stop. A gun is fired. We're off!

You cannot enter this race unless you are an experienced fell-runner.
That experience is needed in the first half mile,
Which is undulating tarmac and tempting to a fellsman.
Where tarmac ends the mountain begins,
So caution is exercised and we meet it head on.

The first two thousand feet are on the rocky "trekkers path".
Here we cross the rushing torrent, Red Burn.
Runners now abandon the certainty of the path,
And take a straight line approach to the summit,
Two thousand four hundred feet of steep rock and scree.

Every year the steepness comes as an unwelcome surprise.
We are madmen after all.
Suddenly we are above the cloud and rain.
Sunshine always makes you feel better, don't know why.
Now the real push is on.
The lack of cloud gives a much clearer view of everything,
Including rocks, dislodged by those above,
Which come bouncing down towards you.
Tempting to look at the view, but more sensible
To maintain touch with the man in front.

On and on and on and up and up and up and up.
Hands on thighs, pumping, pumping.
Lungs feel as though they will burst.
And the legs start to act strangely,
Ignoring instructions from the brain.

Imperceptibly the gradient begins to ease, thank God,
The summit plateau is in sight!
But, hell, what's this? The leaders of the race
Are already descending. Seemingly suicidally,
Like maniacs, rocks and oaths flying everywhere.

Up and on to the plateau now, still dodging descenders,
Eventually the cairn is there. Half way!
Number recorded and identity tag submitted,
We turn around and begin the terror of descent.
We are maniacs now.

It is a comfort to be going down when so many are still going up,
Team-mates shout encouragement as they toil.
This hurts. Thighs are shock absorbing pistons.
Down, down, down, down. Back in the cloud now,
Still passing upward looking faces.

Below the cloud again. Underfoot is treacherous. Slips and tumbles are many.
We can see the valley at the bottom now.
Down and down the trekkers path again.
The gradient, of a sudden, eases. The road gate is in sight!
As previous competitors, we know the shock now to come!

Back on flat tarmac the legs make their final protest.
Am I running with someone else's legs?
The sudden shift to normal running is strangely difficult,
Brain and legs completely disconnected.
Am I drunk?

At last the show field and the finish is just ahead.
The pipers are at it again.
Sheer pigheaded bravado makes us sprint for the line.
Seventy have finished ahead of me,
Over three hundred are behind. Satisfied.

I am strangely emotional at having done it again.
Well under two hours, too! Satisfaction.
Now, jog back to encourage team-mates on the tarmac.
Home next day and then the weird inability
To walk up and down stairs properly for days!



- Clive Leal

Suffolk Honey Cake

(Serves 12- 20)

This is a tried and tested recipe that we particularly like because it's so versatile. We hope you do too once you've tasted it!



250g clear Suffolk honey & 2tbsp extra to glaze
225g unsalted butter (not marg.)
100g dark muscovado sugar
3 large eggs, beaten
300g SR flour (gluten free also works well)

Preheat oven to fan 140 C/160 C/gas mark 3.
Butter & line a 20cm round loose bottomed tin.
Cut butter into pieces & slowly melt in a medium pan with the honey & sugar over a low heat. When mix looks liquid, increase heat & boil for about 1 minute. Leave to cool for 15-20 mins so the eggs won't scramble.
Beat eggs into the melted honey using a wooden spoon.
Sift flour into a large bowl & pour in egg & honey mix, beating until you have a smooth, quite runny batter.
Pour mix into the tin & bake for 50 mins - 1 hour until cake is well risen, golden brown, springs back when pressed & passes the clean skewer test.
Turn onto a wire rack. Warm 2 tbsp honey in a small pan & brush over the top of the cake to give a sticky glaze & then leave to cool.

Keeps 4-5 days, wrapped in an airtight tin. Can be eaten hot with custard after microwaving for a few seconds, in the unlikely event of any being left after this.

Variations – * You can add 1-2tsp powdered ginger &/or several balls of chopped stem ginger – according to taste

* Can be made as cupcakes or sandwich cakes with a buttercream filling

- Don Angus

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

APRIL ADVERTISEMENTS

Advertisements for the April 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 March.

The cost is £1 per insertion for small ads, £36 per year for half page boxes

*Payment to Bradfield St Clare Village Hall
Contact: Peter Newlands or Margaret Lovick*

Beth Chatto Gardens

Great response!

***Those involved now have all the details for a
Great Village Day Out ~ Thank You!***

Notes from the Parish Council

Meeting held on 7th February 2017

- Broadband – confirmation that it is planned for the village to be connected to superfast upgrades between March and September 2017
- No police representative was present at the meeting, however parishioners are urged to be vigilant because the spate of burglaries towards the end of 2016 have continued in the vicinity
- Cllr Mildmay-White informed the meeting that Westley bridge will be closed to all traffic from 19th February to 7th April
- The Bury St Edmunds Town Master Plan – the formal six week public consultation on the Issues and Options Report will take beginning on 27th February 2017
- Cllr Clements sent his report to the meeting and full details can be viewed on the website. He mainly dealt with current GCSE results and Suffolk's vision for mental health in the County
- A parishioner shared his concerns over the height of the trees and hedging behind the village sewerage treatment plant. He has been in communication with Anglia Water and the owner of the field and is hopeful that a solution will be found in the near future.
- Parishioners shared their views about the increasing number of vehicles and their speed along Bury Road. It also felt that there had been an increase in use of Felsham Road and Bury Road by delivery vehicles. A site meeting between Keith Sampson (Suffolk Highways), Cllr Clement, Robert Walton and Margaret Newlands was scheduled for 10th February between 8am and 8.45am. A report from Suffolk Highways is expected within two weeks of the meeting
- Attention was drawn to a large crack in the railway bridge on Arch Hill. The Clerk will report the problem once more as it is causing concern
- A review of the Income and Expenditure was presented
- The Clerk will invite Mr. Tim Passmore, Police and Crime Commissioner, to address the Annual Parish Meeting on Tuesday 9th May. It was noted that during his re-election in 2010 he indicated his concern over the speed of traffic on rural roads

- Your Parish Councilors

Full minutes are available at: <http://bradfieldstclare.onesuffolk.net>



Whist Drive

Bradfield St Clare Village Hall

at 7.30 pm on

Friday 3rd March

(...and on the first Friday of every month)

**Entry £2.00 including refreshments,
tea or coffee.**

If preferred, bring your own drinks.

Cash Prizes & Draw

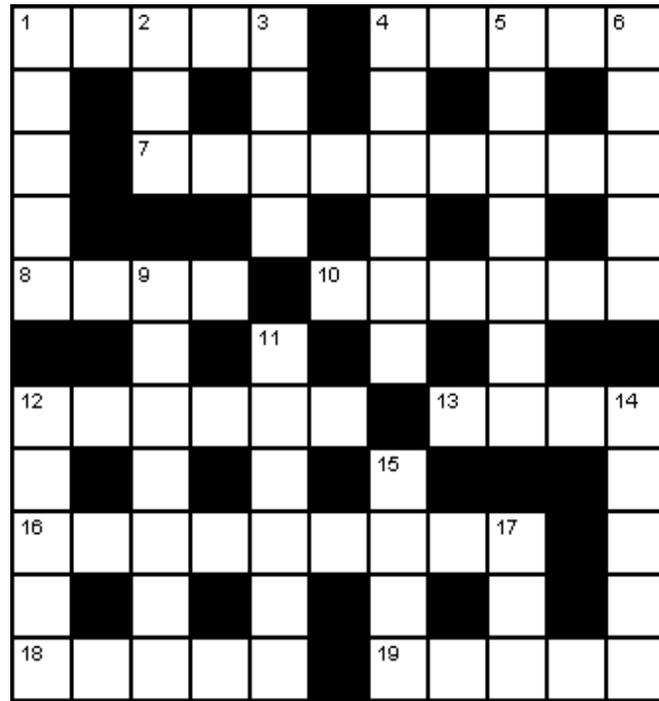
Raffle Prizes Welcomed!

Come along and bring your friends

In aid of Village Hall funds



A Crossword to try this month!



Across

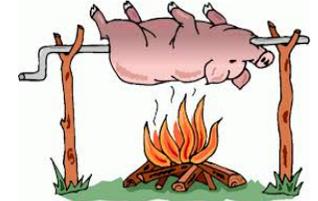
1. Twelve (5)
4. Hoard (5)
7. Unaware (9)
8. Gape (4)
10. Wore away (6)
12. Birds of prey (6)
13. Notion (4)
16. Large spider (9)
18. The lowest point of anything (5)
19. Implied (5)

Down

1. Journal (5)
2. Menagerie (3)
3. World's longest river (4)
4. Secret or hidden (6)
5. Bustling (7)
6. Abated (5)
9. Placed a bet (7)
11. Thinner (6)
12. Consumed (5)
14. Proficient (5)
15. Female relative (4)
17. Part of a circle (3)



BARN DANCE
&
HOG ROAST



At Bishops Farm - Bradfield St Clare - Saturday 20th May
7pm to 10.30pm

In aid of ANIMAL HEALTH TRUST

Adults - £12, 5yrs to 16yrs - £8, Under 5 – Free

To include:

Dancing to The Deneside Ramblers

Hog Roast (Vegetarian alternative)

Ice cream style dessert

Coffee/Tea

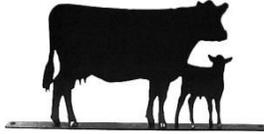
Prize for winning ticket (tickets available soon)

Bring your own choice of drinks – Raffle on the night

***Great Family Fun Evening
Supporting a Great Cause!***

Lorraine & Mike Morley - 01284 386270 / 07742151667

News From Pitchers Green



27 cows in milk
6 cows dry
25 youngstock

Milk Yield – Nov 850 litres E.O.D - 27.00 p/l
Dec 750 litres E.O.D - 29.00 p/l
Jan 650 litres E.O. D - 31.00 p/l

Pru calved 02/01/17 – a Jersey bull calf – Brian
Kylie calved 08/01/17 – an Angus heifer – Betty
Sheila calved 13/01/17 – an Angus bull – Bertie
Sylvia calved 29/01/17 – a Jersey heifer – Babs

Apologies now for the tone of this month's news but it does get better. As you see the milk yield has tumbled lately. In December we had 6 cows develop mastitis (infection in the udder). After antibiotic treatment 4 cows returned to about 75% of their previous yield, however the remaining 2, though clear of mastitis dried up completely. Laura is in calf but not due until October so she will have all Summer to lounge about but not earning any money. Nicola is not in calf and is an absolute wreck so will have to have several months recuperating before moving on. During the Summer Maisie somehow tore ligaments in one back leg (possibly down a rabbit hole). She was kept in during the day grazing on the meadows behind the farm. She managed to get around and milked well, however in December, when all the cows were housed, she managed to damage the other back leg. This time she was in pain and could not get around. The decision was made to have her put down. The 1st January bought a second loss. After a New Years Eve party we returned about 2am. I went around the cows and all was fine but by 6.30am Romilly had got cast over on the straw beds – she blew up and died. The next week was Imp's turn. She had been dried off ready to have a rest before calving in March. I was strawing up the main cow yard when Imp came back from the feeding area and lay

down on the straw. Thinking she is an old cow (11 years) maybe the pregnancy was taking its toll but she didn't get up again. The vet was called but even with painkillers and anti-biotics etc she still couldn't stand. Next day she prematurely calved a still calf. Maybe the calf had been pushing on a nerve but still no movement. Her next trick was to get wedged between a telegraph pole and a metal stanchion, a gap of about 17.5". Extraction involved a halter on a long length of rope looped around another telegraph pole and tied to the loader tractor. A slow lift and pull eventually getting her out. After another 6 days of not standing and no obvious cause that final decision was made.

Then on 13th January Sheila calved a larger than usual bull calf but no problems and no help given in the birth. I milked her the following morning but in the afternoon she wasn't quite right so was put in a separate pen. The next morning she lay down and never got up again. She had three vet visits with no positive outcome. With the help of Michael and Daniel and the teleporter she was lifted up using a hoist to encourage her to stand but to no avail – many thanks Michael and Daniel for their time and patience. All this time she hardly ate or drank anything and was losing condition. Outwardly she was not in pain so she was given a final weekend make or break but after 10 days she was put down. Going around the cows late one evening. A young heifer Sylvia had started to calve the only problem was that the back legs were coming first. So into the calving box with her and start to pull the calf out as quickly as possible with a breach birth the calf can draw in the amniotic fluid. The calf came out quite easily but it wasn't breathing and there was no heartbeat. So grabbing the calf by its back and swaying it round and round (to free the mucus) and then smacking its chest I tried to restart its life. After about 2 or 3 minutes there was a little cough and everything started moving. Within half an hour it was up and feeding. After losing 4 cows this little calf had managed to bring back the "good bits" in my job. Maybe you have to have the "bad bits" to appreciate the "good bits" - but not all at once please!

- Glyn

Cockfield Benefice Services – March 2017

Wednesday 1 st March Ash Wednesday	10.30am coffee followed by Ashing and Communion Service	Bradfield St George
Sunday 5 th March 1 st Sunday in Lent	9.30am Morning Prayer BCP	Gedding
	11am Communion	Cockfield
	4pm Evening Prayer	Bradfield St Clare
Sunday 12 th March 2 nd Sunday in Lent	8am Communion	Cockfield
	9.30am Benefice Family Service	Felsham
Sunday 19 th March 3 rd Sunday in Lent	9.30am Communion	Bradfield St George
	11am Communion	Cockfield
	6pm Six2seven	Felsham Village Hall
Sunday 26 th March 4 th Sunday in Lent/Mothering Sunday	9.30am Communion	Gedding
	11am Mothering Sunday Service	Cockfield
	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

Useful Local Contacts

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