

# THE BRADFIELD GRAPEVINE



October 2017

153

School holidays are over and the Summer has drawn to a close but in this edition, Gerry Bullard keeps exciting travels and adventures foremost in our thoughts. In this first part of the story of his 'Sail Round Britain' he describes planning and preparing for the trip. It is quite amazing to learn of all the detail that must go into a trip like this! We will look forward to next month's episode when he will reveal the places he visited and no doubt share *SOME* of his adventures!

You will not want to dwell too long on the weather! Mike has plenty to say about the effect of the rain on his farming schedule but as always reminds us of how fortunate we are to live where we do and not to experience the extremes that are so devastating in other parts of the world.

This month we have no recipe for you to try out – perhaps someone will provide one for the November edition in time for Christmas. However we do have two delightful poems. One with a new twist to an old tale and another with thoughts and feelings many of us will share!

If you haven't already noticed, we have a very active village with many events on offer for those who wish to participate. This is clear to see from the number of forthcoming events advertised this month!

Margaret Lovick  
Linden House  
Bradfield St Clare  
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## 01284 386538 (Head office)

### Bin collections in October 2017

Thursday 5th October	Blue & Brown bins
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> October	Black bins
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> October	Blue & Brown bins
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> October	Black

### The Library Van



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

**NEXT VISITS: 9.40 – 9.55 am 25<sup>th</sup> October**

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

### **NOVEMBER ADVERTISEMENTS**

Advertisements for the November 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 20th October. The cost is £4 per insertion for small ads, £36 per year for half page boxes

Payment to Bradfield St Clare Village Hall Account

Contact: Peter Newlands or Margaret Lovick



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### *Christmas Children's Shoe Boxes*

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

Thank you in advance on behalf of children for whom this may well be their only present! We managed 20 last year – can we do better?

- Pat Hipwell 386638

## News from St Clare Church



This month begins with Evening Prayer at 6pm on 1<sup>st</sup>, with Communion later in the month at 11am on 22<sup>nd</sup> October. British Summer Time ceases at the end of the month and this means that our rota of volunteers will no longer be opening the church during the weekends. If you have not yet had an opportunity to see our notelets, please call in when you can. They have been produced using Chris Hardingham's photographs of birds, flowers, insects and local scenes. These notelets would be possibly make an ideal gift for someone or simply to use for keeping in touch with friends and family.

Our **Autumn Quiz** will be held on 20<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Further details appear elsewhere in this edition of The Bradfield Grapevine. Looking ahead to November, I would like to give you advanced notice of the visit by **Yalda Davis** at 3.30pm on 5<sup>th</sup> November. She will play for us The Bach Cello Suite in C Minor. This performance lasts for about half an hour and following this she will join us for a cup of tea or a glass of wine before going on to perform in another church in Suffolk. Please try to come to one or more of these events, including the services this month. Don't forget Revd. Sharon is at the church on Thursday evenings from 5pm.

Thank you to everyone who came to our **Harvest Supper**. It was an enjoyable evening! It was good to see so many villagers, including children. Thanks to all who presented prizes for the raffle and worked hard that evening. **The Harvest Service**, which took place in our beautifully decorated church, was also a great success. We are going to send the collection, together with a contribution from the PCC, to the Farming Community Network – an organisation existing to support those involved in farming and their families through difficult times.

- Margaret Newlands (Church Warden)

### *The Banner Exhibition*

This was a huge success, as you will know if you managed to come! Due to public request we are keeping the exhibition going for the next two months – so please visit any time any day St Peter's Church Cockfield is open, go along and have a look – you will not be disappointed! Many thanks to all who helped make the preview weekend such a success.



# **A Sail Round Britain 2017**

## **By Gerry Bullard**

### **Part 1**

### **Planning and Preparation**

Between May 10<sup>th</sup> and July 30<sup>th</sup> this year I sailed my yacht SKII around parts of Britain to fulfil a long held ambition to see areas of the UK that I had seen only from land. The areas of most interest included the Farne Islands, Holy Island, The Caledonian Canal, Western Scotland including Mull, and the Welsh Coast around Milford Haven and the Gower peninsular. A particular place was in Wales, at Dale where Dianne and I had visited in 2016 when we rented a cottage in the area and sampled the views and fantastic food served at the local pub the 'Griffin'. Sampling food became one of the main items in the trip for which I composed a daily blog. ([www.gerryroundbritain2017.com](http://www.gerryroundbritain2017.com)).

My yacht is a Dehler 41 (See Photo), a Bermudan rigged sloop with a length of 12.5m, a beam of 3.5m, and a draft of 2.5m which on the East Coast is its Achilles heel because it makes many places inaccessible except at high tide. The trip also had a personal goal in that I was determined to try and catch seafood and cook it on board much to the amusement of one particular friend who said before the trip "Bullard, you will never catch a lobster let alone be able to cook lobster thermidor". This was just the challenge I wanted so I purchased a lobster pot from a well-known lobster fisherman at Felixstowe Ferry along with the necessary gear in order to lay the pot. The cooker on board SKII did not have a grill which is required to cook lobster thermidor, so a new one was purchased. The net result was that, to catch one lobster, the cost was in the region of £650. As it happened we caught two lobsters so the cost halved. Some may think that this obsession was extravagant, but I know of many sea anglers who regularly spend £20-£30 on bait, sit on a cold beach and catch nothing. Leaving a pot over the side for a night seems much more appealing.

Before embarking on a trip there is a lot of organising required and equipping the yacht with suitable gear, charts and food. It is essential to have back up paper marine charts of the areas to be visited despite having electronic charts available on the on board chart plotters and I Pads. Anchoring in Scotland can involve depths to anchor up to 30 metres unlike the East Coast where depths are likely to be less than 10 metres. To anchor you need at least 3 times the depth of chain so I added 60 metres of additional chain and spare anchors. This adds a considerable weight to the boat along with spare fuel and water storage

as obtaining these vital supplies is difficult in some remote parts of Scotland and Wales. The most useful gadget I took was a fold up mini sack barrow which was a godsend when one has to carry a 30 litre diesel or water carrier half a mile from a filling station. The trip could not have been undertaken without the help and advice from sailing friends who have done similar long distance trips before and willingly lent me charts and pilot books for the area. The cost of these alone would have made the trip prohibitive because unlike some who you have seen trying to sail around Britain in unsuitable vessels with no charts, I wanted to do it safely and not feature on the local news being rescued by the RNLI. Been there done that and don't want to go there again, but that's another story.

Safety at sea are key words so it is also essential that distress flares are in date and that lifejackets are worn. Until recently I only wore a lifejacket at night with a harness but now invariably I always wear a lifejacket following and interesting observation from Ian Jones from Cockfield, who sailed with us, and recently completed a survival course in New Zealand. It is a fact that that when you fall overboard with no lifejacket the first thing you recall is where your lifejacket is stowed! Another point is that with seawater temperatures in Scotland in May around 10 deg. C, if you fell overboard with full gear on you might survive for only 10-15 minutes before hyperthermia cuts in and you lose consciousness and will drown. With a lifejacket if you lose consciousness the jacket will keep your head above water and you could survive for another hour giving more time for rescue.

One cannot sail in a boat like SKII without having help in the form of suitable crew with whom you get along with. I am retired so three months on the trot is not a problem. Many of my crew have jobs and commitments so it was necessary to plan crew changes and this necessitated an itinerary to be prepared so hopefully, subject to the weather, we could be in places to change crew that were accessible. Places we used were Inverness, Peterhead, Oban, Milford Haven and Plymouth. During the trip we usually had 4 or 5 crew and during the trip there were a total of 15 crew members from various walks of life including fellow retirees, paramedic, hairdresser, pharmacist, professional sailor, nurses, operations manager, theatre technician, estate agent etc. There is a high number of crew with medical experience, which is deliberate and very useful, if minor accidents and injuries occur on board. I call these medical members of my crew my carers especially if I needed attention. It was worrying when our paramedic suggested that we should have a defibrillator on board in case I, or another old boy or gal had a heart attack – perhaps a Christmas present! The cruise areas and places visited will be revealed in Part 2 next month.

**– Gerry Bullard**

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## Jack and Jill



We have a fountain in our garden  
Clear water trickling down  
At the top are Jack and Jill  
She is dressed in her pretty gown

Jack has flowers behind his back  
Jill has the bucket ready  
Just in case he has a wish  
Upon her cheek to plant a kiss

Alas poor Jack goes unfulfilled  
To cuddle and kiss his sweetheart Jill  
You might ask why, please don't scoff  
Jack's head has been knocked off!

This dastardly deed happened when dark  
Perhaps Jack was having a "lark"  
So maybe Jill hit him with her bucket  
And Jack not quick enough to duck it!

- Pat Brender



# Bradfield Woods



**PLEASE BOOK FOR ACTIVITIES**

**Book on line at:-**

[www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org](http://www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org)

or 'phone 01473 890089

## Thursdays: 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> October

A weekly after school group for 6 – 12 year olds called **Go Wild!** While it is still light enough we will be out exploring the woodland, looking at the plants and animals that live in the woods, we will include some forest school activities. As the evenings get darker and colder, we will retreat to the centre. The cost is £4 per child.

## Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October

Adult course: **Steam Bending**  
10am -4pm, £60 + £10 materials  
Please book

## Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October

**Wild Tots** 10 – 11.30am.  
Please book

## Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> October

**Tree celebration** 10.30am – 3pm  
With tree crafts, story teller, art activities, fungi walk, dyeing, bush craft and more. **Fun for all the family and it's free!** No need to book

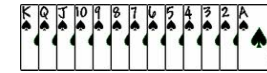
## Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> October

Children's activity:  
**Autumn adventures**  
for 8 – 14 year olds 1  
0.30am – 2.30pm £7/child  
Please book

## Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> October

Adult course:  
**Sharpening and maintenance of hand tools** - 10am - 4pm, £60.  
Please book

## WHIST DRIVE



We had a good turnout for the whist drive on 1<sup>st</sup> September. Nineteen people attended so we had to call on the services of the 'dummy' to make up 5 tables. Isobel won the ladies prize with a score of 172, and joint second and third place prizes went to Siobhan and Joyce on 163 points. Sylvia took the wooden spoon with 146 points. The men's first place went to Trevor with 166, closely followed by Keith on 164 and Steve with 162. Wooden spoon went to Brian with 151. Next whist drive is on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October in the village hall. 7.30 pm start. New players are always welcome.



## A TASTE of CHRISTMAS 2017



Thanks to all those who came to the meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> September. We have a fantastic team planning two exciting evenings to enjoy!

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December

6.30pm - 7.30pm

6.30pm - 7.30pm

**DECORATING!**

**VILLAGE CAROLS!**

*A chance to help decorate the Village Christmas Tree and Noticeboard - PLUS*

*A chance to sing around the Crib with an accordion playing the Carols - PLUS*

*An Advent "LIGHT SHOW"*

*A Disney animated "LIGHT SHOW"*

**THERE WILL BE FOOD AND DRINK AT EACH EVENT  
EVERYTHING IS FREE – JUST COME AND ENJOY!**

**More details to follow in the next edition of  
The Bradfield Grapevine!**

### Charity for Relief in Sickness

If you live in Bradfield St George or Bradfield St Clare, have a medical condition and require financial assistance to purchase or cover something that is not otherwise covered by the NHS, you could apply to see if you qualify for financial assistance through 'The Charity for Relief in Sickness'.

To find out more and for your initial enquiry contact:  
[dickhamshere@btinternet.com](mailto:dickhamshere@btinternet.com)

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### Notelets For Sale!

*These are available to purchase at St Clare Church every Saturday and Sunday when the church is open. They will also be available from any member of the PCC.*

- Pat Hipwell (on behalf of the PCC)

### Bradfield St Clare Parish Council

Notes from the meeting held at 7.30pm on 8<sup>th</sup> August 2017

All the Parish Councillors were present together with Councillors Karen Soons and Sarah Mildmay-White. Some villagers attended the meeting.

- Blocked drain on Felsham Road. This problem has been constantly reported for several years to the County Council but no action has been taken. Councillor Soons will speak to the Highway department about this issue.
- Speed on Bury Road. Keith Sampson (Highways Dept.) provided a report to council members on the day of the meeting. It was agreed to hold a further meeting with Keith Sampson and Councillors on site before a report is presented to the Speed Limit Panel. If a speed limit is recommended for Bury Road and Felsham Road the Parish Council will need to pay towards the cost of implementation.
- Broadband. There are indications that part of the village will soon be able to access Superfast Broadband. The Parish Council will continue to campaign for coverage throughout the village.
- Sheegate Lane. There is an ongoing problem with vehicles off-roading on the lane. Any one seeing such activity should report it to the Chairman or the Safer Neighbourhood Team (details are on the village website).
- Arch Hill railway bridge. The Clerk has written to Network Rail concerning the state of the bridge.
- Malcom Hignett was co-opted to join Robert Walton (Chairman), Jon Kirk, Margaret Newlands and Glyn Thomas as a Parish Councillor.
- Charlie Barker. The Chairman reported that Charlie, a much respected member of the village community had recently passed away. Many villagers attended his funeral in Great Barton. He will be sorely missed.

**Date of next meeting: 7.30pm -14<sup>th</sup> November 2017**

**- Your Parish Councillors**

## OVER SIXTY

I try to be healthy and exercise  
I cleanse and tone and moisturise  
Yet when I look at myself in the mirror I find  
The words of Rod Stewart's Maggie May springs to mind  
The morning sun can be so unkind!

It seems like only yesterday  
I went to Ibiza on holiday  
I wish, as I walked on that golden shore  
When a tiny bikini was all that I wore  
That I'd relished those admiring glances much more.

For if I could find that bikini now  
And if I could squeeze myself in it somehow  
I wouldn't turn a single head  
(Though several stomachs might turn instead)!

Yet I'm loving the freedom that comes with this time  
And I've all my own teeth, and my knees are still fine  
I can take a short stroll or a longer hike  
Or sit and watch telly all day if I like  
And they say we live longer so if that is true  
I'm not in my sixties and just forty-two!

- Val Nunn



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

## **Bradfield St Clare Women's Institute**



At the meeting on 13th September, Margo Harrison described the work of 'Hearing Dogs for the Deaf'. Pebbles, her own 'assistance dog' who enables her to live a more independent life accompanied her.

On 11<sup>th</sup> October Horry Parsons will talk about the "Building of the Millennium Tower at St Edmundsbury Cathedral".

Pat Amond will be in the chair. Linda Cooper and Linda Dixey will provide refreshments. Barbara Dahal will bring the draw prize.

The competition is for "a photo frame"!

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

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## Arable Farming at Bishops Farm



### **“Out of one year into the next”**

That seems a strange thing to say in the middle of September but on the arable farm it is true. As we finish harvesting last year’s crop we start planting next year’s.

In the August edition of The Bradfield Grapevine we were desperately hoping for some sunny, settled weather – we are still waiting. Keith reported last month that August proved to be very wet, frustrating for harvesting. We eventually finished harvesting Winter Barley on 31<sup>st</sup> July after being stopped for 10 days by wet weather. On the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> August we started harvesting Spring Barley getting 80 tonnes into store before being stopped again by 30mm of rain! All our Spring Barley was destined for Adnams. The barley harvested prior to the heavy rain was very good quality; moisture, nitrogen and germination at the correct specification for malting. All that rain caused the rest of the crop out in the fields to begin to germinate (8% Pregel). The process of malting requires barley to grow, so germination is most important. We finished harvesting the rest of the Spring Barley on 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> August but the rain had destroyed the germination and the nitrogen content was too high for Adnams. However, a new grain trader found us another market, Chilton Grain in Sudbury – 100tonnes sold to them at the same price as the Adnams contract, a positive result. The weather settled and grain moisture dropped, allowing us to carry on harvesting the wheat crop on 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> August. The variety KWS Lilli 3.5tonnes/acre and the variety Sistin, yielding a respectable 4.5tonnes/acre. The quality of the wheat was good for protein (13.4%) but the Hagberg (dough raising quality) had dropped due to all the rain. Hopefully it will still satisfy biscuit makers somewhere! It is a relief to finish the cereal harvest. All our combining was completed at the end of August as we harvested the

Spring Beans. Yields were down on last year but the quality was still good enough to export to Egypt for human consumption. Thousands of tonnes of beans – they must be a very windy nation! With the combine cleaned and put away for another year, we rapidly prepare the fields for next year’s crops. Hedge cutting, fertiliser spreading, ploughing and rolling, plus some tree pruning where tree branches are encroaching into fields. Tomorrow, 21<sup>st</sup> September we will start planting next year’s Winter Barley as we start another Farming Year. We are so lucky in this country – we always have a seed time and a harvest. The weather may cause frustration but we don’t suffer cyclones, monsoons or famine. We have so much to be thankful for.

**- Mike Morley**

### SHEEPGATE LANE

As discussed at last month’s Parish Council meeting, a very large muddy area – almost impassable – has appeared adjacent to where the farm track crosses the lane. 4X4 vehicles illegally using the lane after very heavy rain have caused this. The vehicle or vehicles are causing damage to the restricted by-way either during the night or early morning.

As farmers we are custodians of the countryside and do our best to maintain the lane for the enjoyment of the horse riders, ramblers and walkers. The repairs now required to rectify this reckless damage will cost us both time and money.

We would therefore like to know who is responsible for the damage to our countryside. The area is now under surveillance and any further damage by vehicles misusing the lane will be reported to the police.

Sheepgate Lane is a restricted by-way with signs at either end clearly prohibiting the use of unauthorised motor vehicles.

**- C. M. Morley & Partners**



## Bradfield Weather



**Summer ends, and Autumn comes and he would have it otherwise would have high tide always and a full moon every night.**

**Hal Borland, “ Sundial of the Seasons.” 1964**

Although there was little rain in the latter part of August, the weather turned warmer probably heralding the end of Summer, which several people have described to me as “not a bad one”. Total rainfall for the month was 75.5mm compared to our average of 63.6mm.

September has brought its share of rain and with now a drop in temperature and misty mornings there is a definite feel of Autumn about. With a start to the change in colour of the trees, one is reminded of all that leaf raking to look forward to! Rainfall to date, a day or two earlier than usual, is 42.5mm against an average of 48.1mm.

**- Keith Payne 20<sup>th</sup> September 2017**

## Dates for your Diary



- Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October – Whist Drive – 7.30pm – Village Hall
- Sunday 1<sup>st</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> October – Bingo Nights 8pm - Village Hall
- Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October AGM – Charity for Relief of Sickness - 7.30pm - Village Hall
- Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October – Book Club - 7pm - Village Hall
- Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October – St Clare Church Quiz Night -7.30pm – Village Hall
- **EARLY NOTICE!** – Yalda Davis Cello Recital – St Clare Church – 3.30pm

## Cockfield Benefice Services – October 2017

Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> October 16 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity	9.30am Morning Prayer BCP	Gedding
	11am Communion	Cockfield
	6pm Evening Prayer	Bradfield St Clare
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> October 17 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity	8am Communion	Cockfield
	9.30am Benefice Family Service	Felsham
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> October 18 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity	9.30am Communion	Bradfield St George
	11am Communion	Cockfield
	6pm Six2seven	Felsham
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October 19 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity	9.30am Communion BCP	Gedding
	11am Communion	Bradfield St Clare
	6pm Evening Prayer	Bradfield St George
Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> October Last after Trinity	10am Benefice Communion	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](http://www.cockfieldbenefice.com)

## 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