

Useful Local Contacts

Anglian Water Emergencies		03457 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	Karen Soons karen.soons@suffolk.gov.uk	07864 601887
Dentist (Emergency) – by appointment, Saturday and Sunday afternoons	0300 130 3065	
Doctor – for Suffolk Doctors on Call out of hours service ring own doctors’ surgery or		
-NHS Choices		111
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

THE BRADFIELD GRAPEVINE



May 2018

No 159

Well the sun still shines and what a lovely few days we had! As Mike explains, that was a blessing for those working on the land as the warm moist soil helped the crops begin to catch up. It was also evident in our gardens and all around us, with blossom and fresh young leaves appearing at great pace.

With the onset of warmer weather you will see there is much more to do outside. In this edition you will discover some brief details of the planned activities for the Suffolk Walking Festival, the programme for the month at Bradfield Woods and of course an invitation to enjoy the Open Garden Day at Bishops Farm.

The Open Garden Day is in aid of St Clare Church and you will be interested to read Pat’s reflections on this very special building in our community. Clive also recounts a very amusing experience he had when working for the National Trust at another ‘special building’! One of the aims of this publication is to spread helpful advice and thanks are due to Dianne for sharing the useful warnings from the Neighbourhood Watch newsletters. This time it relates to telephone fraud. Debbie lets us know about changes to the law with regard to construction work we might be considering at home.

May is the month for Annual General Meetings and in our village there will be the AGMs for the Parish Council and the Village Hall Committee. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Whilst we prepare to enjoy Spring and early Summer, let us not forget those less fortunate than ourselves. Volunteer collectors are needed to help distribute and collect envelopes for the annual Christian Aid Week that starts on 13th May and ends on 19th May.

Margaret Lovick
Linden House
Bradfield St Clare
Tel: 01284 386662

Peter Newlands
Dairy Farmhouse
Bradfield St Clare
Tel: 01284 388637

pjmrn@aol.com

Cockfield Benefice Services – May 2018

Sunday 6 th May 6 th Sunday of Easter	8am Communion BCP	Cockfield
	9.30am Benefice Family Service	Felsham
Thursday 10 th May Ascension Day	10am Communion	Bradfield St Clare
Sunday 13 th May Rogation Sunday	9.30am Communion BCP	Gedding
	11am Rogation Communion	Cockfield
	6pm Evening Prayer	Bradfield St Clare
Sunday 20 th May Pentecost	8am Communion BCP	Bradfield St Clare
	10am Morning Praise	Lt Whelnetham
Sunday 27 th May Trinity Sunday	9.30am Communion	Bradfield St George
	11am Communion	Cockfield
	6pm Six2seven	Felsham

Daily Prayer				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Saturday
5pm Gedding	9am Cockfield	5pm Felsham	5pm Bradfield St Clare	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

Bradfield Woods



**PLEASE BOOK
FOR
ACTIVITIES**

Book on line at:-

www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org

or 'phone 01473 890089

Monday 21st May **Wild Tots**

Woodland fun for families with
under 5's
£4 per child. Please book

Thursday 3,10,24 May **Go Wild!**

6 – 12 year olds
4pm – 5.30pm £4 per child.
Please book

Tuesday 29 May **Groovy gardens**

for amazing animals
Family event - simple ideas to
make your garden into a wildlife
haven
10.30 – 12.30pm £4 child / £2
adult.
Please book

Tuesday 29 May **Dyeing, felting and braiding**

for 10 - 16 year olds
1.30pm – 4.30pm £5.
Please book

News from St Clare Church



Those of you who visit the church or enjoy a walk nearby will have noticed how lovely the churchyard looks since the grass has received its first cut of the year. For this we need to thank Chris Lovick. All of us on the PCC would like to thank him for his kindness.

We would also like to thank Pat for her reflections on the church in our village – it is very thoughtful and captures just what St Clare Church stands for.

As you will see our service pattern is a little different this month. We begin with a 10am Communion service on Ascension Day and then a 6pm Evening Prayer on 13th May. There is a Book of Common Prayer (BCP) Communion Service on 20th May with an early start at 8am.

Don't forget the exciting Garden Open Day at Bishops Farm on 23rd May. More plants are needed for the plant stall – please contact Mike or Lorraine if you have some you can provide. You are welcome throughout the day and with all that is taking place it promises to be a very enjoyable occasion! More details can be found elsewhere in this edition of the Grapevine and on the various posters around the village.

You may be interested to know that every churchwarden has to be elected and sworn in each year. This year the service for swearing in and dedication takes place at the Cathedral in Bury St Edmunds on 2nd May at 7.30pm. Anyone can attend. This year the Bishop of Dunwich is giving the address. I wonder what the collective noun for a group of churchwardens might be – any ideas?

- Margaret Newlands (Church Warden)

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.
Felsham Road, Bradfield St George,
Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP30 0AG

E-mail: n.milson@cargate-engineering.co.uk
www.cargateengineering.co.uk

BALMORAL Klargester

01284 386538 (Head office)

Always to hand when you need us!

Bin collections in May 2018

Friday 6th May
Thursday 17th May
Thursday 24th May
Friday 1st June

Black bins
Blue and brown bins
Black bins
Blue and brown bins

JUNE ADVERTISEMENTS

Advertisements for the June 2018 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 18th May. The cost is £4 per insertion for small ads, £36 per year for half page boxes or £20 for 6 months.

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

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



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

ORGANISE YOUR INVOICING

- ✓ Free To Use. Register Today.
- ✓ Print Invoices
- ✓ Track Payments
- ✓ Contact Management
- ✓ For Self-Employed and Small Businesses

brightinvoicing
Making Invoicing Easy



Visit www.brightinvoicing.com



tl designworks

Start your website today

Small Business/Personal/Club/Association
hosting - design - backup

01983 613237

www.tldesignworks.co.uk

hello@tldesignworks.co.uk

Bradfield St Clare Women's Institute



"Say Cheese!"

Yes, we were all left with broad smiles on our faces at our monthly meeting. A wonderful and inspiring account of his life, "Our Journey" by Suffolk Farmhouse cheese maker, Jason Salisbury. From leaving school without a single 'O' level – having moved school no less than 15 times – through ups and downs and by taking enormous risks, but mostly through dogged hard work, he and his vet wife now have a large herd of Channel Island cows. This herd includes the latest addition from Glyn Thomas – now milked fully automatically! Jason produces delicious Suffolk Gold, brie and blue cheese, which he sells from his and many other farm shops. He has a website you can discover on the internet. The whey left over from cheese making feeds pigs. He sells at farmers' markets and the icing on his cake is that he is now the adviser to The Archers BBC radio serial, on artisan cheese production. We were so taken by his enthusiasm for all that he does we are to visit his farm for our WI Summer outing! Our next meeting is on 9th may and is our AGM and Resolutions Meeting.

To join Please contact Secretary Enid Hunt – 01284 386565

- Pat Hipwell

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

PARKERHOME

PROPERTY REFURBISHMENT AND RENOVATION

Our local family run business. 30 years of experience, specialising in traditional craftsmanship, combined with the latest in innovative, sustainable designs and building methods.

- Period Renovations
- Garage Conversions
- Electrician: 24hr call out
- Fitted Kitchens & Bathrooms
- Home Extensions
- Home Refurbishment & Modernisation
- Custom built Annexes & Garden Offices
- Traditional Carpentry & Joinery

01284 386899/07810 353426 : www.phihome.co.uk

“Lovely guys who were very professional and knowledgeable. Would have no problem recommending you to our friends and neighbours”

“HAVE A FAMILY HOLIDAY ON THE BEAUTIFUL”



ISLE OF WIGHT

**SELF CATERING 5 BEDROOMED HOUSE – SLEEPS 9
IN QUIET RESIDENTIAL ROAD IN FAMILY FRIENDLY RYDE
ONLY 5 MINUTES WALK TO SUPERB BEACHES
THE HOUSE IS VERY WELL FURNISHED AND EQUIPPED
HAS A LARGE GARDEN WITH TWO OUTDOOR EATING AREAS
A GAS BARBEQUE IS SUPPLIED
BICYCLES ARE AVAILABLE IN THE GARDEN SHED
OFF-ROAD PARKING**

VISIT

www.myiowholiday.co.uk

DKC PLUMBING SERVICES

Oil fired boilers servicing
Breakdowns
Heating systems
General plumbing
24h call out
Fully insured

5star plumber by ratedpeople
David 07740272791

Bradfield Weather



“That is one good thing about this world..... There are always sure to be more springs.”

- L. M. Montgomery

The end of March brought a little more rain to make the total for the month 64mm compared with an average of 35.3mm. April, the month of showers, started with a vengeance, with 29mm of rain recorded on the 2nd. Since then there have been further showers, with 47mm accumulated to date, above our average of 37.7mm. Generally speaking there has been a considerable improvement in the weather, with recently a couple of days of really warm sunshine to bring out the blossom and flowering rapeseed together with the shorts and mowers! I now feel I can confidently say that spring has arrived.

Keith Payne

23rd April 2018



BRADFIELD ST CLARE
VILLAGE LITTER PICK
ON 7th APRIL

What a wonderful response from so many in the village! Twenty three people in all, ranging in age from 9 years to mid-70s, gave up their time to collect a wide range of litter – some not at all pleasant!

Almost 20 sacks filled with rubbish were left at the Village Hall, along with a battery, a broken road marker and other discarded items!

Many thanks to everyone who worked so hard and the Parish Clerk who provided the black sacks and ‘litter pickers’.

Maybe next time we can reward everyone with coffee and cake!

THE LOG STORE

F I R E W O O D M E R C H A N T

100% Kiln Dried Ash logs
Logs split and cut to 25cm in length
Less than 20% moisture

01284 388468

simon@thelogstore.com

Supplied in handstacked crates which can be delivered directly into a garage or carport to avoid unnecessary handling

OTHER CHURCH SERVICES

Roman Catholic Church

St Edmund King & Martyr

Westgate Street, Bury St Edmunds - 01284 754358

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

WHIST DRIVE



April

Seventeen people turned out to play giving us four tables and one 'flirt' table. We were top heavy with lady players again so Justine played as a man and one lady had to 'flirt' each round. How it works is when a lady moves round and reaches the 'flirt' table they are awarded seven points and sit out for one game.

Val N won for the ladies with 173 points closely followed by Vera who just missed out by one point on 172. Joyce took third prize on 163 and Siobhan was awarded the wooden spoon with 139 points.

Steve won for the men on 171 points, Ian came second on 167 and Jim and John K shared the third prize with 162. Poor Brian had a very unlucky night and only managed 125 points ... the wooden spoon prize cheered him up and he also won a draw prize too.

The draw raised £44 for village hall funds.

Next whist drive will be on Friday 4th May - New players very welcome.

- Val Nunn



Installations, Service & Repairs Domestic & Commercial...

- Gas, Oil and LPG Boilers
- Central Heating
- Power Flushing of Radiators
- Gas Safe and Oftec registered
- Showers & Bathrooms
- Property Maintenance

A leaking tap to a brand new system – we can help you

Call us now on

01284 765453

www.thecleanplumber.co.uk

www.thecleanplumber.co.uk



Neighbourhood Watch

FROM THE MARCH NEWSLETTER:

ActionFraud
Report Fraud & Internet Crime
0300 123 2040

Fraudsters are cold-calling victims, falsely stating that they are calling from one of the well-known UK telecommunication service providers. They call victims claiming to provide a 'Telephone Preference Service' – an enhanced call-barring service, which includes barring international call centres.

The fraudsters ask victims to confirm/provide their bank account details informing them this is a one-off charge for the service. Victims instead see monthly debits deducted from their accounts, which they have not authorised. The fraudsters often target elderly victims.

In all instances, direct debits are set up without following proper procedure. The victim is not sent written confirmation of the direct debit instructions, which is supposed to be sent within three days.

On occasions when the victims attempted to call back, the telephone number provided by the fraudster was either unable to be reached or the victim's direct cancellation request was refused.

During 2017, there were 493 Action Fraud Reports relating to this fraud.

Protect yourself:

- There is only one Telephone Preference Service (TPS). The TPS is the only official UK 'do-not-call' register for opting out of live telesales calls. It is FREE to sign-up to register. **TPS never charge for registration.** You can register for this service at: <http://www.tpsonline.org.uk>
- You will receive postal confirmation of genuine direct debits. If you notice unauthorised payments leaving your account, you should contact your bank promptly.
- Always be wary of providing personal information, or confirming that personal information the caller already claims to hold is correct. Always be certain that you know who you are talking to. If in doubt hang up immediately

If you have been affected by this, or any other type of fraud, report it to:

**Action Fraud by visiting www.actionfraud.police.uk
or by calling: 0300 123 2040**



*Key date for your
diary*

Wednesday 23rd May

OPEN GARDEN

Date: Wednesday 23rd May - 11am to 8pm

Place: Bishops Farm

Entry: £5 to include tea/coffee with cake (top ups/donation)
After 5pm – wine and nibbles for a donation!

PLANT STALL

JAR TOMBOLA

**Please join us for a relaxing ramble around the garden
and raise a glass maybe!**

Fundraising for St Clare Church

*(If anyone could offer some plants they can be dropped off any
time at Bishops Farm – Thank you)*

- Lorraine & Mike



Whist Drive

Bradfield St Clare Village Hall

Friday 4th May

**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



"Bradfield Nights"

Monthly in:

Bradfield St George Village Hall

St Clare villagers all welcome!

4th May and 1st June: 7 - 11pm

Barrel and cheap bar

Food: main course £4, pud £2 - from 7 to 8pm

Contact Lynn Cardale on 01284 386 327
for further details or just turn up!

The Library Van



NEXT VISIT: 9.40 – 9.55 am 9th May 2018

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

Parish Council AGM

**Tuesday 8th May – 7pm
In the Village Hall**

All member of the Village are welcome to attend this meeting

Come and hear about the issues your Parish Council dealt with on your behalf during last year and current matters!



Collectors required

13th to 19st May

*If you can help in any way to deliver envelopes PLEASE
contact Margaret Newlands on: 01284 388637*

Dates for your Diary



- Friday 4th May – Whist Drive – 7.30pm – Village Hall
 - Tuesday 8th May – Parish Council AGM – 7pm – Village Hall
- All Villagers welcome to attend!***
- Tuesday 15th May – Book Club - 7pm - Village Hall
 - Tuesday 22nd May – AGM Village Hall Committee 7pm – Village Hall
 - Wednesday 23rd May – Open Gardens 11am to 8pm – Bishops Farm

Contributions to The Bradfield Grapevine

One of the great pleasures for the Editors of The Bradfield Grapevine is receiving contributions from villagers. Often these come in voluntarily – without any arm twisting!

Please keep them coming!

Recipes, poems, short stories and accounts of exciting things you have been engaged in are welcome and always much appreciated by fellow villagers.

Just let Peter Newlands or Margret Lovick know if you would like to contribute.

You can submit by email to: pjrmrn@aol.com

WORKING AT HILLTOP: Beatrix Potter's Home

Some years ago, when Sue and I first lived in the Lake District, I worked for the National Trust as a membership recruiter. Part of that time was at Hilltop, in the village of Near Sawrey, the one-time home of Beatrix Potter.

At that time an astonishing 65%-70% of the visitors were Japanese tourists. The reason being that Beatrix Potter books were used almost exclusively in Japan to teach children English. Miss Potter was almost a deity and to visit Hilltop was a pilgrimage not to be missed. These earnest and lovely people arrived in coaches, 60 at a time and processed through the house in about fifteen minutes flat. They took HUNDREDS of photographs. They then spent enormous amounts of money in the gift shop (miniature porcelain rabbits and ducks are VERY expensive).

We quickly learned some key Japanese words:

Konichiwa – Hello; Sayonara- Goodbye; Dozo-Please; Arigato- Thank you; Gomen Nasi-Sorry and a few, now mostly forgotten others.

One amusing story stands out from this time. It concerns a slightly confused young man explaining to his girlfriend that this was Harry Potter's house. He looked to me to confirm this interesting fact. The conversation then went something like this (*Imagine the young man's Japanese accent*);

Young man: "Harry Potter House."

Me: "No, Beatrix Potter."

Young man: "Harry Potter House??"

Me: "No, it was Beatrix Potter's house."

Young man: "Who was Beatrix Potter?"

Me: "She wrote children's stories"

Young man: "Yes! Harry Potter!"

Me: "No, she was an old lady who lived here many years ago."

Young man: "OH!! Beatrix Potter is Harry Potter mother!"

Me: "Hai! – yes. "Ohayo gozaimasu!" – good morning.

He was vindicated by his girlfriend's eyes.

- Clive Leal



Our Church

"The Church across the Fields"

- A personal view by Pat Hipwell

Many of the views of the church from various vantage points or indeed many people's back gardens, are always across the fields. The fields were once described as "a sea of golden corn edged with pink corncockles and blue cornflowers". A few people still walk across or around the fields. A footpath runs directly through the churchyard and forms part of a delightful circular walk taking in 'the moat'. Did you know that before the present rectory was built a parsonage was situated on the island in the moat? But to many the church is just part of the scenery – would we miss it if it wasn't there? It is by far the oldest building in the village, although not in its present form and dates back to perhaps 1286 (first recorded) or even earlier. Like so much, do we take it for granted? Does familiarity breed perhaps not contempt but indifference? Do you ever think of coming inside? Push open the heavy oak door, cross the threshold worn down by so many feet over the centuries, and do come in! What do you see? Nothing of incredible significance – no fantastic medieval stained glass windows, no beautifully carved pew ends, no elaborate memorials to Lords of the Manor (I don't think there were any of those!). Everything is very plain, simple and unadorned. The cross and candlesticks are almost crude, wooden and made many years ago by a local carpenter. Plain windows through which the sun streams in and if you are lucky enough a view of some magnificent trees. Simple pews, a plain organ and a not very ornate font, all contribute to the wonderful atmosphere and a feeling of timelessness and calm. But all is not as it seems. St Clare is the Patron Saint of Embroiderers and we have a unique set of kneelers embroidered in 1976 by George Insley (see an article about this on the wall to the left of the altar). Have you ever really looked at these? Can you perhaps spot your own house among the lettering? There are also magnificent 'cushions' embroidered by Trevor and Audrey Hardingham to Audrey's design and these really do reward close inspection. As from last Christmas have one of the six Benefice banners designed to be viewed from the pews but the detail on, for example on the butterflies or the many plants and flowers and creatures on the bottom section can only be appreciated close up. The banner will be replaced by a different one in June or July so do have a look. Now the church is open every weekend from dawn until dusk. Do come and visit. If you only do one extra thing this summer, spend five or ten minutes just sitting quietly, relaxing and absorbing the atmosphere. Many, many have done this before you and hopefully many, many more will do so in years to come



Welcome to the 2018 Suffolk Walking Festival!

The 2018 Suffolk Walking Festival, with over 120 walks and events, promises to be our biggest and most ambitious festival to date!



There are walks for everyone: you can kick start your day with a Dawn Chorus Walk, try Nordic Walking, discover the amazing history of Suffolk's Wool Towns and have a go at GeoCaching. There are short strolls to long hikes and everything in between.

And for 2018, in our 11th year, we are delighted to launch the Walking Festival Fringe, a series of exciting and imaginative events that get you close to nature in the very heart of the countryside. Experience a "Woodland Twilight Safari", capture "Iconic Images" on our photo assignments, and experience a "Hedgerow Cream Tea" where you gather your very own afternoon feast!

The 2018 Suffolk Walking Festival launches at St Peter's Brewery on Saturday May 12th with two Launch Jaunts, each of which includes a brewery tour.

Ticket Sales are now live with our 2018 brochure:

www.suffolkwalkingfestival.co.uk

Having Some Building Work Done?

Since April 2015, **CDM regulation** (CDM is Construction Design and Management) has been in force that affects homeowners who undertake construction work on their premises.

It's easy to roll our eyes at the prospect of any compliance regulation and instantly think 'jobs worth', but it really isn't as simple as that.

CDM regulation applies to almost all construction, engineering or development project and that includes **domestic projects and builds**.

But don't panic because this is a good thing! **Why?**

Because as a **homeowner**, by following the CDM guidelines, you're able to protect yourself against claims in the event of an accident on your site. In an increasing litigious society, that's something worth knowing!

So, what do you have to do?

If your project involves more than one contractor, which is probable, you'll need to appoint a **Principal Contractor** to plan, manage and coordinate the entire construction phase.

This includes taking on responsibility for managing mitigating risks and all things 'Health & Safety'. They must also ensure that all contractors have the appropriate skills to safely do their job.

All of the above should be reflected in corresponding documentation.



If you're wondering why you've never heard of it before, it's because some companies tend to overlook the regulation. And while that may give the impression of a lot less hassle, it also leaves you, as the homeowner, somewhat exposed if these steps aren't completed.

Without a documented Principal Contractor in place, any legal claims are likely to find their way back to you, whether you were aware of any issues or not.

With that in mind, if you're considering an extension, conversion or renovation project you need to ensure you're working with a builder that is both familiar with CDM and willing and able to undertake the responsibilities.

- Debbie Lamond

Arable Farming at Bishops Farm



In the March issue I talked about timing for fertilizer application and planting of Spring crops and that all depends on the weather. The weather certainly didn't help us this year – everything being delayed.

Fertilizer we hoped to apply mid February was not applied until 21st/22nd March. Likewise, planting Spring barley ten days late on 25th March. Then more rain, rain and rain, stopping all field work until 16th April. Luckily we only had sugar beet to plant. The ploughed land had been sprayed to kill blackgrass and had fertilizer applied in March. One pass with the power harrow, then a day or two for the soil to dry before planting sugar beet with the precision seeder. The planter places seed accurately 200mm apart along the rows. Then we had those hot few days with temperatures in excess of 25C. This warmed the moist soil quickly, the sugar beet germinated and the first seedlings emerged four days after planting.

The high temperatures have encouraged rapid growth of everything; hedges and trees bursting into green life. All the winter crops are growing very rapidly. The six row winter barley will be in ear by mid May then it is only eight weeks until harvest. The Glacier two row barley also looks very good. The winter barley has received all its nitrogen fertilizer and the first of two fungicide sprays.

Wheat crops are thick and dark green in colour but have a fungal disease called Septoria. We have no chemical cure for this disease. The disease spreads by moisture, rain splashing the spores of infected lower leaves onto new younger leaves higher up the plant.

We have sprayed some of the wheat twice already to suppress the disease, possibly two more spray are required. Winter bean crops are growing very fast with the first flowers just showing. The crop is very thick and a disease called chocolate spot has infected the lower

leaves of most plants. This is a fungal disease and we have sprayed once to control the spread. Again it is encouraged by wet weather.

Everything in farming is weather related which tends to go in cycles. We had a fantastic dry Autumn so it is not surprising to me that we have a wet, cold Spring. Nature always compensates, five days of abnormally high temperatures and everything catches up. Moist warm soils are ideal for good growth. If weather goes in cycles, what is next? A dry spell or even a drought!

Other things are happening on the farm. Dan was nominated by Otley Collage to apply for Suffolk Apprentice of the Year Award. After a successful interview by a panel of judges, he won! He will receive his award in the Grand Ring on the first day of the Suffolk Show on 30th May.

As Glyn's dairy herd has now gone, we have taken on the tenancy of the field opposite the water tower. After dealing with much legislation, we are now allowed to arable crop the field, another new crop combinable peas this year to be followed by winter wheat in the Autumn.

Sheepgate Lane has still had problems with vandalism by 4X4 off roaders rutting it up during the winter months. P.C. Mark Ellis has been involved trying to track down the culprits. Suffolk County Council Rights of Way officers have allowed us to move the restricted access sign to the end of the lane at the bottom of Arch Hill. If the vandalism continues Suffolk County Council will install concrete bollards to permanently restrict access by cars. Please help with this issue. Anyone spotting unusual vehicles using the lane please contact me or P.C. Mark Ellis. Why should actions by a few irresponsible individuals spoil the enjoyment of the countryside for many; walkers, runners and riders?

On a more pleasant note, on 23rd May our gardens are open in aid of St Clare Church. Please come, have a chat and a cup of tea. Hope to see you there.

- Mike Morley