

Useful Local Contacts

Anglian Water Emergencies		03457 145145
Borough Council:		
- St Edmundsbury Offices		01284763233
Local Member Sara.Mildmay-White	Sara.Mildmay-White@stedsb.gov.uk	01359 270580
Bradfield St Clare Book Club	Mrs Val Nunn	388830
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
Electricity	UK Power Networks Supply Faults	0800 783 8838
Footpath Warden	Mrs Fenella Fraser	388310
Gospel Hall	Mr Keith Arknett	01359 240910
Mobile Library	Mr Carl Bell	07721 879855
Member of Parliament	Mrs Jo Churchill	752311
	www.jochurchill.mp@parliament.uk	
Neighbourhood Watch Contact	Mrs Dianne Bullard	386598
Parish Council Clerk	Mrs Nicola Sturgeon	
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. Canaan Sharon Potter	
828599	Church Warden - Mrs Margaret	
Newlands	388637	
St Edmunds R C Church	Fr David Bagstaff	01284 754358
Suffolk Wildlife Trust	Bradfield Woods	01449 737996
Village Hall – Bookings	Mrs Val Nunn	388830

FOR LATEST ADVICE ON THE VIRUS:-
www.gov.uk › coronavirus

THE BRADFIELD GRAPEVINE



February 2021

189

Well it is now a new year and we are still having to stay apart. However the village remains such a supportive place with so many people helping each other out. What a wet and dreary winter so far! Keith Payne gives us the facts and Mike Morley explains the implications. You will no doubt be aware that Margaret and I have had to make the decision to leave the village – as the saying goes “Times must...” For us it is very sad but the Grapevine will in future be edited by Debbie Thomas who cares so much about her village and has always been so supportive of the magazine. I know that she and Margaret Lovick will ensure it remains, as we have always said, written ‘For the Village by the Village’.

In this edition, to cheer you up Margaret Fayers challenges you with a Valentines Day quiz and Val Nunn shares a lovely poem she wrote, reminding us of what beauty we have close at hand. There is also a crossword puzzle to while away the time. John Kirk recounts the significant improvements that have been made to the Village Hall during lockdown. You will notice these when the restrictions fade and hall can resume its importance as a centre for all those key village events. On the theme doing things together, Lorraine Morley thanks all of you who made the festive season much more cheerful with your Christmas lights – a new village tradition?

Finally from me, I would like to thank all those who have helped with their regular contributions and those who have provided recipes, puzzles, poems, stories and so on – that **IS** the magazine! Thanks also to our advertisers and to the Parish Council and PCC for the grants they have made. This has ensured every household in the village receives a copy free of charge, which Dianne and Gerry Bullard have so kindly distributed.

With all our best wishes to everyone in the village – we will sorely miss you.

Margaret Lovick
Tel: 01284 386662

Peter Newlands
Tel: 01284 388637
pjrmrn@aol.com

Cockfield Benefice

Dear Friends

As I was writing this I felt slightly sad - as by now we would be advertising events that would be happening in the Spring, but at the moment of course we are unable to hold any of the normal events that we would be looking forward to.

We have also taken the decision to suspend holding services in our churches in the benefice too - as we feel it is too much of a risk to meet together physically for worship. We are therefore continuing to livestream our weekly Sunday service online via our facebook page. May I take this opportunity to thank all of you who have been faithfully tuning in to our services - it is much appreciated by those who sit in front of a mobile telephone conducting worship!

I had to smile when one of the members of the congregation emailed me to say how nice it was to be able to worship in their pyjamas from the warmth of their own homes - one of the few advantages of lockdown as our churches are very difficult to heat during the cold weather!

Even though at times it may seem that God has forgotten us I know that this is not the case. Our God is there with us as we experience these difficult times, wanting to share in our pain and our sorrow at all those whose lives have been affected by loss and difficulty.

My final piece of news is that further to my recent letter to everyone in the village regarding the future of Bradfield St Clare Church, you will be pleased to know that some volunteers have stepped up to join the PCC, and that the amalgamation with Cockfield PCC will now not go ahead.

Yours in Christ

Sharon

Canon Sharon Potter
revsharon2@gmail.com
01284-828599 or 07825 086063

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St Clare Church



This photograph was taken during January 2021 because I thought everything looked beautiful and it reminded me of the central importance of our church for so many reasons.

- A place of Christian worship for our parish and those who regularly attend from the benefice
- A symbol of continuity in times of sadness and anxiety
- A place to pause or walk past (with or without your dog!)
- A place to think and leave your worries behind
- A place to bring you peace and revisit your memories
- A building to admire and for some a chance to tick off St Clare Church from the list of Suffolk Historic Churches!
- A source of pilgrimage if you revere St Edmund - he has many followers

The list is endless. What does St Clare Parish Church symbolise for you?

We have loved being part of the St Clare patchwork of lives. To me St Clare Church has always represented a strong place of prayer and peace – I felt this from the very first time I walked through the door. I wish all who will continue caring and working for St Clare Church every blessing.

- Margaret Newlands (Churchwarden)

Valentine's Day Quiz



1. What nationality was St Valentine?
2. On the 14th February 1996, “survivor” Eva Hart died, what did she survive?
3. What is a “ love apple “?
4. Who wrote “ Love in a Cold Climate”?
5. Richard Maxwell, aka Bryce, who had hits with “The finger of suspicion” and “The Christmas alphabet” is better known as?
6. Which confectionery firm makes the “Love Heart” sweets?
7. Who is the Norse Goddess of love and fertility?
8. Which “Shaun of the Dead” and “Hot Fuzz” actor was born on the 14th February 1970?
9. Which actor played the title role in the 1970s series “Raffles”?
10. Claudia Schiffer plays a cameo role in which perennially popular Christmas film?

- Margaret Fayers

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*'When Corona is a beer again
When Donald is only a duck
When tiers sit on a cake
And when bubbles only exist in champagne'*

- Anon

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A WALK IN BRADFIELD WOODS

As old as time, and so we're told
Once managed by the monks of old
Where tall trees reign majestically
And nature lives in harmony

Sunlight filters through the leaves
Of ancient oaks and coppiced trees
Violet, anemone, primrose bright
All flourish in this dappled light.

A dead ash left alone to stand
Creates an insect wonderland
Where from its hollowed tree trunk springs
A motorway of crawling things.

Shadows lengthen, night time creeps
Yet still the Hazel Dormouse sleeps
Soft long tail curled round his head
With honeysuckle for a bed.
I too could sleep this peacefully
With such sweet smelling sheets as he.

I travel on my way unseen
And tread where ancient feet have been
I still my thoughts and slow my pace
And revel in this special place.

- Val Nunn

BRADFIELD WEATHER

'There is no winter without snow, no Spring without sunshine, and no happiness without companions.'

– Korean Proverb



It seems a long time ago now but the last few days of November brought little more rain, to finish with 42mm for the month against an average of 62mm.

December, however, was a rather different story with a total of 119.5mm compared with our month's average of 54.6mm. The temperature was also not very warm, reaching double figures centigrade on very few days during the month, together with some really cold days when thermal underwear, I'm told, was useful when cycling.

2020 was a year of contrasts. After a dry and warm Spring the second half was very wet. Last month's rainfall was the highest December total in our 28 year records and I understand the highest since national records began 90 years ago. In contrast May was also the warmest month on record.

Against our annual average rainfall at 635mm, the rainfall in 2020 of 689mm, or 27.1 inches, was the highest since 2014.

2021 has not started in any better way. It has been very wet, with a period of foggy, frosty mornings and again with temperatures reaching double digits for the first time this year only a couple of days ago. Rainfall to date is 52m against our 28year average of 51.8mm for January.

-Keith Payne - 21st January 2021

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Christmas Lights 2020



A huge Thank You to the Villagers of Bradfield St. Clare. I put out there back in October the suggestion of 'lighting up' the Village for Christmas and hey presto - what a response and great results. It was lovely, on the rare foray from the farm to see the clusters of lights. We all needed cheering and this certainly had that effect. Let's build on this and have EVEN MORE lights Christmas 2021! In the meantime a safe, healthy and happy year. We're in this together and this Village certainly shows we'll come out of this together too! Take care

- Lorraine

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CONTACT JUSTINE – 07594617087

Flo Keymer

Flo passed away just after Christmas. She lived in this village most of her life, moving into Tower Cottages when they were first built.

She married Malcolm and they had Diane and Barry and grandchildren and great grandchildren, from which she took great pleasure.

Her home was always pristine as was she. We laughed, danced and partied together. A good lifetime friend.

You could not count the hours she spent washing up at the Village Hall or helping at the church. Always working, always kind.

- Margaret and Mike Lovick



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The Library Van

Current service summary

All libraries will remain shut until further notice. **Read the news release.** The mobile service and home library services are suspended until further notice.

- help@suffolklibraries.co.uk 01473 351249
- Fines and loan return dates

We have extended all loans until 1st March 2021 and overdue charges are also suspended.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding your current loans our customer service team will still be available and happy to help (you can leave a message at weekends and during bank holidays):

- help@suffolklibraies.co.uk 01473 351249

*Bradfield
Woods*



*Winter
Events*

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**THE VILLAGE HALL
AND COVID19
2021 UPDATE**



Dear parishioner, I hope that you are well and keeping safe in these difficult and troubled times.

I would like start on a bright note, the time the hall has been closed has not been wasted as I previously mentioned we had underway a project to relay and level the path leading to the Village Hall, repair the boundary fence and install pathway lighting. All to improve safety when entering and leaving. I am very pleased to tell you that all work has now been completed so entering and exiting the Village Hall will be much safer on those darker evenings - hopefully not too far in the future. Also, a member of the St. Clare Parish Council has been in contact with the Water Board requesting that they do something about the Brambles that grow over the Fence bordering their property, outlining the danger to the public when entering the hall as they can quite easily catch your face.

As I mentioned before there are conditions and guidelines relating to the closure and reopening of Village Halls, etc. which have and still do prevent us from opening our Village Hall as we are still unable to meet or fulfil these requirements and ensure the safety of users. I mentioned previously that the committee is still meeting on the dates planned, but unfortunately we had to cancel January's planned meeting owing to the fact that it is midwinter, the weather no longer being in our favour, as up to now we have held our meetings in the open. One of the main points on the agenda is, of course, the reopening of the Village Hall. Unfortunately I cannot say when we might be able to do this. Perhaps when the rules change and or the programme of vaccinations has been rolled out. We continue to monitor the situation.

The committee thanks you all for your continued support and looks forward to being able to get back to normal.

John Kirk – Chair



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Thanks for your support in buying my hand knitted Ferrero Rocher Christmas puddings I was able to send £112.88 to

CRISIS AT CHRISTMAS

This provided shelter and support for 4 people in desperate need.

- Pat Hipwell

OTHER CHURCH SERVICES



Roman Catholic Church

St Edmund King & Martyr - Westgate Street, Bury St Edmunds

For up to date information regarding services:

www.stedmundkm.org.uk

Gospel Hall

The Gospel Hall, Bradfield St George

For up to date information please contact:

Mr Keith Arknett

01359 240910

**Cockfield Benefice
Rota of services for February 2021**

Sunday 7th February 2nd Sunday before Lent	10am Morning Prayer via facebook
Sunday 14th February Sunday next before Lent	10am Family@Church via facebook
Wednesday 17th February Ash Wednesday	10am A Service for Ash Wednesday via Zoom & facebook*
Sunday 21st February 1st Sunday in Lent	10am Holy Communion at home via facebook
Sunday 28th February 2nd Sunday in Lent	10am Worshipping Together via facebook

All online services can be access via
<https://www.facebook.com/cockfieldbenefice/live/>

*For a zoom invitation to Ash Wednesday's service email
revsharon2@gmail.com.

There will be no morning prayer at Cockfield until further notice.
Please check the benefice website at www.cockfieldbenefice.com for
up-to-details of services

March 2021 Advertisements and Entries
Advertisements for the March issue of The Bradfield Grapevine should be sent to either of the two Editors, whose names appear on the front page by Wednesday 17th February. 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: Debbie Thomas or Margaret Lovick



Answers to the
Christmas Anagrams

Wife fills dune rota

Natty ivy pail

O ye gull!

Ex rapper loss

Scar a moist larch

Slay if right

So, toast Grant

Soften many throws

Rush-lighted kit

I enter with bland Mike

Elfin noters

Sam dims things

A rich Smith stew

Pass by Dan, RN

Lost Len

It's a Wonderful Life

Nativity Play

Yule log

Polar Express

A Christmas Carol

Fairy lights

Santa's Grotto

Frosty the Snowman

Turkish Delight

In the Bleak Midwinter

Florentines

Midnight Mass

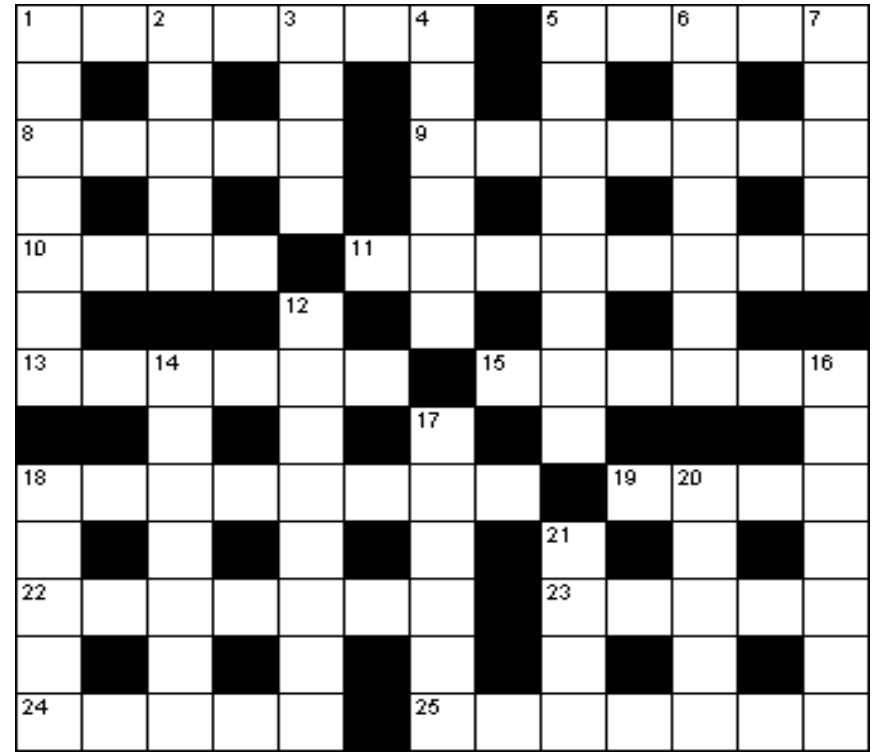
White Christmas

Brandy Snaps

Stollen

- Margaret Fayers

CROSSWORD FOR YOU TO TRY!



Across

- 1. Fate (7)
- 5. Animal with two feet (5)
- 8. Musical instrument (5)
- 9. Aerial (7)
- 10. Professional cook (4)
- 11. Delight (8)
- 13. Mass leaving (6)
- 15. Transparent gem (6)
- 18. Entertainer (8)
- 19. Cab (4)
- 22. Planet nearest to the sun (7)
- 23. Similar (5)
- 24. Fishing basket (5)
- 25. Ruminant (7)

Down

- 1. Fiasco (7)
- 2. Meaning (5)
- 3. Metallic element (4)
- 4. Annually (6)
- 5. Treachery (8)
- 6. Flightless bird (7)
- 7. Curtain (5)
- 12. On time (8)
- 14. See (7)
- 16. Spear with three prongs (7)
- 17. Attorney (6)
- 18. Ape (5)
- 20. Nimble (5)
- 21. Young whale (4)

Arable Farming at Bishops Farm



“Trials and Tribulations of Farming, continued”

Happy New Year to everyone from a very wet and muddy Bishops Farm. As I sit in my office scribbling, some two inches of snow is at present being washed away by even more rain after having 25mm last Wednesday and Thursday and our total since mid September being in excess of 11 inches (28cm)! Every year is different in farming and makes the job interesting – if that’s the right words. Last year was wet but this year more of an ongoing monsoon. On the positive side of things, all our sugar beet have been lifted and delivered to the factory by 14th December and those fields ploughed ready for Spring planting.

All my plans in the November Grapevine of planting Winter Beans and a large acreage of Winter Wheat didn’t happen due to the weather. I did manage to plant the rectory field (between the Rectory and Arch Hill bridge) 11 acres of Winter Wheat in late November. It is now beginning to emerge. It is now too wet and cold for any more planting before the Spring; hopefully in March.

With a large acreage of land to plant in the Spring, we need to plant several different crops to spread the risks involved in crop failure, poor prices or both.

Covid and Brexit both continue to influence our commodity markets, effecting what crops are potentially profitable to grow. Covid, causing the hospitality industry to close, has resulted in a collapse of the malting barley market as a significantly less amount of draught beer is being consumed.

With the Brexit deal being agreed, at least at present we do not have any export tariffs to contend with but exporting anything to the EU is more difficult with reams of extra paperwork.

All the above in mind we will be growing less Spring Barley. Spring Beans will be planted instead of Winter Beans, large Blue Peas that will be harvested dry in August using our own combine and Spring Oats. There are two potential markets for oats, either porridge oat contracts or supply to Newmarket for racehorse rations. These no doubt will present their own challenges and quality requirements.

The sheep have now moved off the farm to graze Simon Hardingham’s grass. It was great having them here to gorge the cover crops and hopefully improve soil nutrition and structure. Our annual consignment of hedging and tree plants has arrived at the farm from the Woodland Trust. Two hundred metres more hedge to plant on Sheepgate Lane, a continuation on the north side of the green lane of last year’s planting. Fifty oak trees came with the hedging this year. I have decided to plant these in open areas in Bromley Wood. So plenty of planting to do as the weather improves. When it rains there is always machinery repairs and servicing to carry out as well as on going building maintenance. Last Sunday morning (10th January) we had -5C frost, which did allow me to get a tractor and cultivator on to a field that had been partially prepared for planting with winter wheat. The cultivator lifted the frozen ground to allow better drainage and easier preparation in Spring for planting the next crop.

We still have 50 acres of land to plough where the sheep grazed cover crops, however the land is so wet I think at present the tractor would become bogged down and stuck, so we will have to consider different cultivation methods to use on these fields in the Spring. As sure as night follows day Spring is coming; daffodils, snowdrops and aconites all emerging with many buds. Soon we will have Spring colours and longer days. Hopefully giving warmer and drier weather to dry up some of this winter’s deluge.

As our editor is retiring, may I take this opportunity to thank Peter for all his hard work deciphering my scribbling over the past years that I have been submitting my bi-monthly contribution to the magazine. Thank you to everyone for reading my ramblings; this will also be my last article. May I wish everyone a safe and healthy 2021.

- Mike Morley