

# THE BRADFIELD GRAPEVINE



July 2023 No:215

Congratulations to all involved in the Jazz event held at the Old Rectory. What a wonderful amount raised for our church, Isobel has more detail in her Church report.

As we enter the seventh month of the year the longest day has passed. Wednesday 21 June was a glorious day. As Alice reports we seem to have gone from one extreme to the other! Now already over halfway through the year we are looking forward to the start of harvest both on the farms and in our gardens. It's a very satisfying time of year.

On the note of fundraising, after a conversation with Val we thought we would try and put together a Kit Cafe Favourite Recipes book. The Village did this in 2008 - it was a great success. Obviously, in order for it to work we need your help and support. Do you have a favourite recipe you would like to share? A family favourite? A never fails sort of recipe? Although the offering at Kit Cafe is usually sweet, we would welcome any savoury or seasonal recipes too. It would be wonderful to have a recipe from every household. Recipes can be sent to the email at the bottom of the page or dropped off at the next couple of Kit Cafe's. It would be lovely to have it out in time for Christmas (eek!! We've said the word.)

Sitting here sweltering, we are reflecting how lucky we are to have Gerry and Dianne who unassumingly and in all weathers deliver your Grapevine - we are very grateful and thank them very much.

Margaret Lovick  
Tel: 01284 386662

Debbie Thomas  
Tel: 01284 386302

Email: [stclaregrapevine@gmail.com](mailto:stclaregrapevine@gmail.com)

## Letter from the Rectory

Dear Friends

We love stories don't we? As children we are taught the classic fairy tales, such as Rumpelstiltskin, the Princess and the Pea, Hansel and Gretel, Rapunzel...oh, how we love to hear of the princes, princesses, witches and mermaids, not to mention a fashion-obsessed emperor and a house made entirely of gingerbread. Heaven!

Some people think that the story of Jesus is a fairy tale. It certainly has many different characters in it, the bad guys (the Jewish authorities), the good guys (the disciples – excluding Judas!), the women (Mary, Jesus' mother, Mary Magdalene), the locations – desert, mountainside, mountain top and lake! And not forgetting of course, the miracles, turning water into wine, restoring sight to a blind man, healing the lepers, making a paralysed man walk...the list goes on. It is a fantastic story – but it is one that I am never tired of telling, of reliving through the bible, of believing to be true.

Why am I thinking of a story at this particular time? Well, we are planning our annual holiday club in Cockfield Village Hall, which is an adventure in itself! So lots to look forward to in the Summer Holidays. See below for more details, or contact me to find out more!

I wish everyone a lovely summer, especially if you are taking a break away from your normal routine, I hope it leaves you refreshed.

Sharon

revsharon2@gmail.com,  
01284-828599 or 07825 086063

### *Cockfield Benefice*

#### **SUMMER HOLIDAY CLUB - We're going on a Safari Jamboree!**

At Cockfield Village Hall

14th - 18th August

Monday-Friday, 9.30-approx 12.15pm.

£10 per child per week – if there are three children in a family attending the third goes free!

**GAMES – CRAFTS – STORIES – DRAMA – PUPPETS**

For Primary School Age children (5-11)

Contact Rev Sharon for more details on 01284 828599 or 07825 086063

WhatsApp or Messenger

## Cockfield Benefice Services & Events – July 2023

|                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Sunday 2 July<br>Trinity 4       | 9.30am Communion CW - Stanningfield   |
|                                  | 10am Morning Prayer CW - Cockfield  |
|                                  | 11am Communion CW - Bradfield St Clare  |
|                                  | 6pm Celtic-style Communion - Felsham  |
| Sunday 9 July<br>Trinity 5       | 9.30am Said Communion BCP - Cockfield   |
|                                  | 11am Communion CW - Bradfield St George   |
|                                  | 6pm Praise & Worship - Gt Whelnetham  |
| Saturday 15 July                 |  <p>Crafts - Food - Stories - Songs<br/>All children welcome with carer/parent.<br/>3-5pm. Felsham Church. This month we<br/>will be having a BBQ in the Churchyard!</p> |
| Sunday 16 July<br>Trinity 6      | 9.30am Morning Prayer CW - Stanningfield  |
|                                  | 10am All-age Worship - Felsham  |
|                                  | 10.30am Communion CW - Cockfield  |
|                                  | 6pm Evening Prayer - Bradfield St Clare   |
| Sunday 23 July<br>Trinity 7      | 9.30am Communion CW - Gt Whelnetham   |
|                                  | 10am Worshipping Together - Bradfield St George   |
|                                  | 10am Communion BCP - Gedding  |
| Sunday 30 July<br>Mary Magdalene | 10.30am Benefice Communion - Lt Whelnetham  |

*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). A service of Celtic Morning Prayer is held every Tuesday at Cockfield at 9am and at Stanningfield every Thursday at 9am. A prayer group meets every Wednesday at 2pm via zoom. For more details contact Canon Sharon Potter [revsharon2@gmail.com](mailto:revsharon2@gmail.com)*

## Church Report



The high spot of this month for our church has been the very successful Jazz Picnic held in Donald and Fenella's lovely garden, so this report is largely one of thanks.

For two weeks before the picnic, the weather was unseasonably cold with a bitter north-easterly wind, causing a return to seriously warm clothing. Long faces and much anxiety all round. But two days before the event the wind shifted round and the sun arrived. On the 10<sup>th</sup> June we enjoyed bright sunshine all day, a temperature of 28C and, fortunately, a lovely cooling breeze.

There are simply too many people to thank individually in this report – the Grapevine would contain little else – but first and foremost we must thank Donald and Fenella Fraser, for their hospitality, their hard work and their calmness in the face of all the rushing around. Donald and Fenella's garden was the perfect setting for the picnic, with glorious trees and artfully placed gazebos providing welcome shade and plenty of space for everyone to spread out, eat their picnics and listen to the jazz.

Special thanks must also go to Lorraine and Mike Morley who took the principal roles in organising and project-managing the picnic and

selling the tickets and also to their daughter-in-law Ali, for once again producing great artwork to promote the event.

Thanks to those who set up the event, preparing the meadow, lending gazebos, putting up gazebos, arranging tables and umbrellas etc. Our grateful thanks too to the team on the day, who manned the entrance, the cake stall, raffle stall and competition stall and the refreshments stall, serving strawberries and drinks. You are too numerous to mention, but you know who you are so a big thank you. And thank you to all our wonderful village bakers who provided the cakes to sell.

I would also like to make special mention of people who generously donated to the event: several villagers who could not attend gave financial support, Margaret Lovick donated – and hulled – all the strawberries and Keith Payne donated the cream. Thanks too to William Cardale who loaned and manned the Bowling for a Pig and to Thurston Butchers for their generous prize for that event. And once again Cargate lent us a loo for free – very important!

Last but not least of course, the band, who entertained us splendidly all afternoon and even managed to encourage some people to dance, and - most important - those of you who came as paying guests and made the day what it was. We raised nearly £1200 for our little church!

Well, there's not much room for anything else, except a quick reminder that the Suffolk Historic Churches Bike Ride will be held this year on September 9<sup>th</sup>. Time to dust off your bikes and get in training!

Isobel

# Bradfield Woods



*We are a Covid secure organisation with safe practises in place in accordance with government guidelines*

Booking essential for all courses see [suffolkwildlifetrust.org](http://suffolkwildlifetrust.org)

For more information and booking

Please book at:  
[www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org](http://www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org)  
or 'phone  
01473 890089

## **JULY EVENTS at Bradfield Woods:**

Booking essential for all courses see [suffolkwildlifetrust.org](http://suffolkwildlifetrust.org)

**Thursday 6 July 2023.** 10am-3pm.  
Making wild colour with kids.

**Saturday 8 July 2023.**  
Summer Butterflies photography.

**Tuesday 18 July 2023.**  
Woodland jewellery course.  
Butterfly walk.

**Wednesday 26 July 2023.**  
Holiday club.

**Thursday 27 July 2023.**  
Exploring natural dyes with trees and leaves.

## **Gardening jobs for July (feel exhausted just reading them!)**

Plant autumn bulbs in pots and borders

Feed, water and deadhead summer bedding regularly

Cut back early summer perennials, for example hardy geraniums and delphiniums you will be rewarded with a second show

Take softwood cutting from shrubs

Feed and deadhead roses to keep them flowering

Watch out for pests such as lily beetles, snails, aphids and vine weevils

Sow biennials eg foxgloves, honesty, forget-me-knots and wallflowers for planting next year

Oh! and pick courgettes regularly - stuffed marrow for tea!!

# Chunky Courgette Soup

3 medium size potatoes

2 leeks

1 pint vegetable stock

2 celery sticks - chopped finely

4 medium sized courgettes - grated

2oz cheddar cheese - grated

Salt and Pepper

Wash leeks and potatoes and chop and cook well in the stock. Liquidise.

Cut courgettes in half lengthwise and then into chunks. Simmer in the puree until cooked but still al dente. Stir in cheese - heat until melted

Season to taste and eat with lovely crusty bread.





## News from Homefield

Starting with the allotment this time, mainly because at time of writing it is pouring with rain and you can almost see the plants growing. I have been watering the tomatoes and cucumbers, as they haven't been planted very long so their roots are not yet deep enough to tap into the moist soil lower down. We have started harvesting new potatoes (Swift) which are a good size and taste good. However, these were planted into old grass silage for warmth and slug prevention. About 1:4 potatoes have a slug hole, not sure what percentage confirms the 'old wives tale'. Rhubarb continues well and we've had several pickings of strawberries. The raspberries are starting to ripen and we've had some redcurrants (fiddly things to pick but very worth it). Runner and dwarf beans have really moved in the last week despite no rain. I know I'm being picky but a little rain to set the flowers would be nice. Beetroot and carrots are very hit and miss with their germination so I will have to do a bit of re-seeding. I've lifted the winter sown garlic and onions and they are hopeless. I'm not sure whether they rotted in the wet or the ones that survived were too compacted. Let's hope the Spring sown crops which look much better will compensate. Finally I would like to say how well the weeds look this year,

marvellous how they survive 'carefree' for generations. For me this year it's mainly bindweed wrapping everything up.

We had one sheep named 'Seven' with flystrike this year. The fly lays its eggs in the warm moist wool of the sheep, these hatch into maggots which start eating into the flesh. It is fairly easy to remedy and I decided to shear all the wool off her as I usually do once a year. After a while I realised I'm not as young as my head thinks I am, she was totally fed up and the battery and spare battery had run out. I had to give in. I had to leave her with a 'Lion's mane' but she was so pleased to be free of maggots and me she wasn't bothered. I phoned a professional who came out and sheared the 5 1/2 sheep in about half an hour with no fuss at all. I heard that all six sheep thanked him personally in writing.

The chickens have a plastic dustbin containing their food next to their hut. One morning the lid had a cup size hole in it. Opening it up there was no clue as to what had caused it, giant hailstone? Meteor? Space debris?. I found a new lid and moved on. Next morning the lid was intact, so I lifted it up to get the food and a squirrel popped its head out of the side of the dustbin. It had gnawed a hole in the side of the bin and was treating itself to breakfast. I'm not sure who was more surprised, but the bin is now a metal dustbin and the squirrel is looking for a dentist!

Glyn

Ps Was woken this morning by a young squirrel tapping on the bedroom patio doors - I do believe he may have come to display his new dentures - his revenge?...it was only 5am!



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## **The Stall at Linden House**

The stall outside Linden House is back out for the summer. All proceeds from this stall go directly to the Church. Donations of plants, produce and other saleable items would all be very welcome.

Good selection of plants at the moment - why not have a look!

This month the stall raised £15.



## **BRADFIELD WEATHER**

Ah! the great British Summer! It was positively chilly only two weeks ago – the outdoor furniture had optimistically been brought out but the cushions remained firmly in their boxes: then, rumours of a ‘warm plume’ from Spain and BAM! Where are the shorts? Where’s the suncream? Where’s the SHADE! And (you may be getting used to this from me) Where’s the rain?

| <b>May 2019</b>  | <b>May 2020</b>  | <b>May 2021</b>  | <b>May 2022</b>  | <b>May 2023</b>  |
|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 36mm             | 1mm              | 62.5mm           | 32mm             | 40mm             |
| <b>June 2019</b> | <b>June 2020</b> | <b>June 2021</b> | <b>June 2022</b> | <b>June 2023</b> |
| 103mm            | 69mm             | 46.5mm           | 38mm             | [15.5mm]         |

May was below our 30 year average of 50mm but nothing fell after the 12<sup>th</sup> (I enthusiastically recorded 0.5mm on 31<sup>st</sup> which barely counts) and there was nothing of significance in June until the 19<sup>th</sup> since when we’ve had 15mm (23<sup>rd</sup> today). But it always surprises me the magic effect of rain in the garden compared to any amount of watering: a decent spell of rain will make everything perk up in a way that watering cans and sprinklers just don’t – perhaps something we should all be considering in our thoughts of planting and watering for the future.

I know I appear a little obsessed by rainfall and I’d better consider the temperatures too! The heat has arrived as have, thankfully, the balmy evenings – the summer solstice evening was a lovely one and (on a very rare evening with no youth at home) we sat outside for most of it (and ignored the thunderflies which descended into our drinks – all good extra protein!). I’m not a massive heat lover for everyday life but most days have brought a good breeze too and, as long as we keep having some rain, we’ll be in for a happy summer. Alice Ward-Thomas 23<sup>rd</sup> June



## ***The Library Van Dates 2023***

Contact: [help@suffolklibraries.co.uk](mailto:help@suffolklibraries.co.uk) Telephone: 01473 351249

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

|              |             |
|--------------|-------------|
| 26 July      | 18 October  |
| 23 August    | 15 November |
| 20 September | 13 December |

## **BIN COLLECTIONS FOR May 2023**

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Tuesday 4 July<br>Wednesday 5 July<br>Wednesday 12 July<br>Tuesday 18 July<br>Wednesday 19 July<br>Wednesday 26 July | Brown Bin<br>Black Bin<br>Blue Bin<br>Brown Bin<br>Black Bin<br>Blue Bin |
|--|--|

[www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/bindays](http://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/bindays)



**Our next opening will be: Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup> July from 11 am – 1 pm**  
***This café is FREE and OPEN TO EVERYONE Why not make a date in your diary?***

Please come and join friends and neighbours (past and present) for coffee, tea, cakes and savouries. Pop in for five minutes or stay for the whole two hours. There are games, colouring books and pencils to keep our younger visitors amused. We have quite a selection of books in the hall too so please feel free to take some home to read. There are also a few jigsaws that can be borrowed/exchanged. There is something for everyone at the Kit Café and you can be sure of a very warm welcome and plenty of lively chat.

Any offers of help in the kitchen or setting up would be most welcome. Equally donations of cakes or savouries would be much appreciated. It's always nice to see somebody turning up with a sample of their favourite recipe!

For further information please contact Val on 07483245825.

## Village Hall Whist Drive



Thirteen players turned out for our June whist drive making three tables and one 'flirt' table scoring the player who landed there 7 points for that round.

The winning players were:

**Ladies:** Siobhan took first prize with 162 points, closely followed by Shirley on 161 and third prize was won by Vera with 158. Val and Joy tied for the booby prize on 151. So a very close game for the ladies this month.

**Gentlemen:** You might remember that Steve had a bad run of cards last month and took the booby prize. I wished him better luck next time. Well he certainly had that, easily winning first prize on 179! Second place was won by Ray on 169 and Jim came third with 161. Derek had the bad hands this time and took the booby prize on 134 ... so we can expect great things from Derek next month if the same pattern continues.

Whist Drives are held in the village hall on the first Friday of every month, the next one being Friday, 7 th July at 7.30 pm. Entry is £2 per player with all proceeds handed out in prize money. Tea, coffee and biscuits are served at the halfway stage, giving everyone a chance for a quick chat. There is also a prize draw, the proceeds of which go towards village hall funds for the upkeep of the hall.

Donations of draw prizes would be much appreciated.

If you enjoy playing cards and would like to join us new players are always welcome. For further information ring Val Nunn on 07483245825.



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### ***Ask the Fellows who Cut the Hay George Ewart Evans.***

In need of a book to tide me over I reached for a book that I read many years ago. I re-entered the world of farming Suffolk in bygone days. I had forgotten how much I had enjoyed the mardlings of George Ewart Evans, a wonderful social history of Suffolk. I enjoyed re-learning facts about Suffolk I had forgotten, folklore and superstitions. It's not fanciful, just a beautiful recollection of a time past. It would come high on my favourite books reading list.

Please feel free to share your favourite books with a little review...it certainly encourages me to read something different  
Debbie Thomas

## Useful Local Contacts

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Anglian Water - Emergencies                        | 03457 145145   |
| Borough Council                                    | St Edmundsbury Offices - 01284 763233  |
| Local Member                                       | Sarah Mildmay-White - 01359 270580<br><a href="mailto:Sara.Mildmay-White@stedsbcb.gov.uk">Sara.Mildmay-White@stedsbcb.gov.uk</a>                     |
| Bradfield St Clare Book Club/Village Hall Bookings | Mrs Val Nunn - 01284 388830  |
| Bradfield Grapevine Magazine                       | Mrs Debbie Thomas - 01284 386302<br><a href="mailto:stclaregrapevine@gmail.com">stclaregrapevine@gmail.com</a><br>Mrs Margaret Lovick - 01284 386662 |
| Bury Stray Cat Fund                                | 01284 388455   |
| Charity for the Relief in Sickness                 | Secretary: Mrs Vicky Spall - 01284 386357  |
| Suffolk County Council Switchboard                 | 01284 763233   |
| Local Councillor                                   | Mrs Karen Soons - 07864601887<br><a href="mailto:Karen.soons@suffolk.gov.uk">Karen.soons@suffolk.gov.uk</a>  |
| Dentist (Emergency)                                | By appointment Sat and Sun pm<br>0300 130 3065   |
| Doctor – Suffolk Doctors on Call                   | Ring your own Surgery<br><i>Or alternatively call 111</i>  |
| Electricity  | UK Power Networks Supply Faults<br>0800 783 8838   |
| Footpath Warden                                    | Mrs Fenella Fraser - 01284 388310  |
| Gospel Hall  | Mr Keith Arknett - 01359 240910  |
| Mobile Library                                     | Mr Carl Bell - 07721 879855  |
| Member of Parliament                               | Mrs Jo Churchill - 01284 752311<br><a href="http://www.jochurchill.mp@parliament.uk">www.jochurchill.mp@parliament.uk</a>                            |
| Neighbourhood Watch Contact                        | Mrs Dianne Bullard - 01284 386598  |
| Parish Council Clerk                               | Mrs Nicola Sturgeon - 07817170906  |
| Parish Council Website                             | <a href="http://bradfieldstclare.one">http://bradfieldstclare.one</a> Suffolk.net  |
| Police   | 101 (non-urgent)    999 (urgent)   |
| Post office Delivery Office                        | 01284 358201   |
| Schools:Cockfield Primary                          | 01284 828287   |
| Thurston Community College                         | 01359 230885   |
| West Suffolk College                               | 01284 701301   |
| St Clare Church                                    | Rev. Canon Sharon Potter<br><a href="mailto:revsharon2@gmail.com">revsharon2@gmail.com</a><br>01284 828599 / 07825 086063                            |
| St Edmunds RC Church                               | Fr David Bagstaff - 01284 754358   |