

THE BRADFIELD GRAPEVINE



June 2021

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Well!! It arrived – and some. The rain that some were hoping so desperately for, and hasn't it changed our countryside so quickly? You can see lines of green appearing in the fields and the cowsparsley seems to grow inches in a day. We are delighted that Tom has taken over the mantle from Mike to inform us of what is growing around us, alongside Val's observations, it all ties in perfectly with the exciting news from Tom that new areas of specialist planting will attract even more wildlife. Keith's report again describes the vagaries of the weather and chill factor we have been experiencing – he managed to cheer himself up by writing a delightful poem dedicated to his favourite football team 😊. Please take time to read the message from The Parish Council as they begin live meetings. There are, however, restrictions that you should be aware of should you wish to attend the next meeting. New dates for the Mobile Library are in this issue too – it really is all beginning to feel more 'normal'. Happy June – we hear that warmer weather is on the way.

Margaret Lovick
Tel: 01284 386662

Debbie Thomas
Tel: 01284 386302
Email: debbie_thomas60@hotmail.com

LETTER FROM THE RECTORY

Dear Friends,

As I write this we are facing another period of uncertainty around the 'roadmap' to coming out of lockdown. Who knows, by the time that you read this, we might be facing some further restrictions, or even a delay to all restrictions being lifted.

However, I am looking on the positive side and hoping that all the events that are being planned across the benefice will take place and that we will be able to shake hands once again or embrace those we have been separated from for so long.

One of those events is the annual Summer Lunch in aid of St Peter's in Cockfield on 17 July. We are hoping to hold this at the Old Rectory, and am grateful to Jennie and David Marshall for lending us their garden this year. I am looking forward to meeting many of you there.

I am also looking forward to the ordinations at St Edmundsbury Cathedral, when Helen Grover will be made deacon on Saturday 3 July. Helen is coming to the benefice to spend three years with us as a curate. We also pray for Mark Hinde, who will also be made deacon that day. Mark lives in Stanningfield parish, and Mark will also be curate with us from July. Our own Rev Richard Stainer will be ordained priest on Sunday 4 July. Your prayers for all who are being ordained at Petertide this year are much appreciated!

We will be opening all our churches across the benefice for services in June, and am looking forward to the services starting again at St Clare Church.

With every good wish in the best month of the year – when the roses bloom and the days are long!

Yours in Christ,

Sharon

Revd Canon Sharon Potter, Rector of the Cockfield Benefice,
Revsharon2@gmail.com; 01284 828599 or 07825 086063

Cockfield Benefice Services – June 2021

please see website for up-to-date information

All services are conducted in line with the coronavirus guidance issued by the Church of England, for more information visit

<https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance>

Wednesday 2 nd June	Wednesday Worship on Facebook
Sunday 6 th June Trinity 1	10am Communion – Bradfield St George 10am Communion – Cockfield (& online) 6pm Evening Prayer – Bradfield St Clare
Sunday 13 th June Trinity 2	8am Communion BCP – Cockfield 10am Morning Prayer BCP – Gedding 10am Communion Bradfield St Clare (& online)
Sunday 20 th June Trinity 3	10am Communion – Cockfield 10am Family@Felsham (& online)
Sunday 27 th June Trinity 4	10am Communion BCP – Gedding 10am Worshipping Together – Bradfield St George (& online) 6pm Evening Celtic Communion - Felsham

All online services are livestreamed on the benefice facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/cockfieldbenefice/live/>

A service of Celtic Morning Prayer is held every Tuesday at Cockfield at 9am
The prayer group meets every Wednesday at 2pm via zoom with the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86736217904?pwd=Y2VGK0UvQlpkZHFzTFE4NkE4bHFxQT09> (Meeting ID: 867 3621 7904, Passcode: 456146 if needed).

Please note these services may be subject to change – for up-to-date service times see the benefice website at www.cockfieldbenefice.com

Important Information from The Parish Council

The Parish Council are required by law to return to face to face meetings after 17 May 2021. The Village Hall is where we usually hold our meetings. It is a small building with just one door for both entering and exiting the building.

The meetings are open to the public. To help us manage the meetings as safely as we can it would be really helpful if you let us know ahead of the meeting, if you wanted to attend. This is not a requirement but a request, to help us and our villagers. You can contact our Clerk, Nicola, on 07817 170906 or by email on bradfieldstclarepc@gmail.com if you want to attend a meeting. Nicola will discuss with you various ways in which you can take part in the meeting.



Bradfield St Clare Church – would you like to be on the Electoral Roll?

This week our Church will be holding its Annual Parochial Meeting, along with the four other PCC's in the benefice, where, among other things, the Parochial Church Council Members are elected.

The Electoral Roll is a list of people in the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bradfield St Clare who wish to be on the roll. Those who are on the Roll are entitled to vote in the elections for PCC members at the annual meeting. We also invite Electoral Roll members to events and services in the Church. It's a good way to keep in touch with what is going on at your local Church.

If you'd like to know more about the Electoral Roll, then just contact Canon Sharon Potter, Rector, or Lorraine Morley, the Church's Electoral Roll Officer. We would love to have you on the Electoral Roll, and to be more involved at St Clare. But don't worry, we won't share your details with anyone else!

JUNE BIN COLLECTIONS

<p>THURSDAY 3 June (Bank Holiday) Wednesday 9 June Tuesday 15 June Wednesday 16 June Wednesday 23 June Tuesday 29 June Wednesday 30 June</p>	<p>Blue bin Black bin Brown bin Blue bin Black bin Brown bin Blue bin</p>
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www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/bindays



The Library Van IS BACK

Contact: help@suffolklibraries.co.uk
 Telephone: 01473 351249

We are so lucky to have this service – if you are a reader and able to attend the Mobile Library you will be supporting its future. Reading is such a pleasure and it’s a FREE service – if you are able, please support it. It really may be a case of it we don’t use it we may lose it and that would be such a shame for those who cannot get into town easily.

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

Month	Date
June	2 nd and 30 th
July	28 th
August	25 th
September	22 nd
October	20 th
November	17 th
December	15 th

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JUNE

In the old Latin calendar June was the fourth month. The Anglo Saxons called it 'the dry month' also 'midsummer month'.

Saint's Days etc: June, 11th – Saint Barnabas; June 24th – Midsummer Day (Nativity of St John the Baptist); June 29th – Saint Peter.

June Mottos: 'A dripping June keeps all in tune'. 'June damp and warm, does the farmer no harm'

'Barnaby bright. All day and no night'

This is the time of year when butterflies appear, and who can fail to be moved at the sight of these beautiful creatures? A few weeks ago I saw my first Brimstone butterfly with his gorgeous large bright yellow wings closely followed by the smaller and delicately patterned Speckled Wood. By the time you read this we will hopefully be enjoying warmer weather and see the arrival of the Red Admiral, Tortoiseshell, Peacock and Painted Lady. Many of these rely on nettles for food and to lay eggs. So if you can bear to leave a patch in your garden you will be doing nature a great favour. Somebody bought me a lovely Emma Bridgewater mug decorated with nettles and butterflies. It has this message printed on it:

"Nettles may be WEEDS to some but are A LIFELINE to others". Easy with the mower, leave some patches of nettles for the bugs and butterflies. (I don't really advise nettle soup unless you are very hungry.)"

I've always found it enjoyable to discover some unusual wild flower, bird or bug that I don't recognise. I will try to remember what it looks like and identify it when I get home. I was therefore saddened to read recently that 30% of 8-11 year olds cannot identify a magpie, but most can spot a Dalek! It reminded me of several years ago when a friend from town visited. She thought I'd gone all "Victorian Lady" when she saw two peacocks on my lawn. I told her not to expect any cucumber sandwiches and tea in china cups spiring quotations with us. I thought they were too good not to pass on: And those peacocks are pheasants!

Finally at our circle dance group recently our tutor shared these two in

"Not truly living in the present moment and later regretting is like closing your eyes when a peacock is dancing only to want to see it dance when it is gone."

Ravi V Melwani

"A bird doesn't sing because it has an answer. It sings because it has a song."

Maya Angelou

What is growing in Bradfield St Clare?

As we gradually say goodbye to winter for this year and Spring has burst into life since the very welcome rains over the last fortnight, I thought I would take the reins from Mike with regard to keeping you all abreast of activities at Bishops Farm. Autumn 2020 planting was greatly compromised due to the wet weather and so we faced a long winter of bare fields before the weather finally broke in Early April for wheels to turn again and crops to be sown. At the Pitchers Green end of the farm for the first time in a very long time we have 14 acres of Westerwold grass planted this spring. This very quick growing grass will be cut and baled for silage a mere 8-10 weeks after it was planted. Drilled with the old accord tine seeder Mike took the time to cross drill (plant twice in two directions) in order to increase the plant population and create an evenly established thick sward for cutting early summer. Short term grass leys offer a fantastic soil structuring break in an otherwise predominantly arable rotation.

Through the heart of the farm, heading North Westerly up Sheepgate Lane you will pass by Spring barley on your left-hand side facing towards The Church, followed further along the lane by Sugar Beet as you look over to Bromley Wood. The beet are just emerging and growing by the day you can just about make them out visible along their rows now. With the rain also comes plenty of bindweed, thistles and Knotgrass which we will control in due course to allow the crop to establish free from competition. Later in the summer we will mechanically hoe this crop between the rows in order to complete any later weed control.

On the right-hand side of the lane you'll see our newly planted hedge is greening up nicely now we've had some rain and some warmth and over the hedge you will see a field of peas. Biggest job at the moment is keeping the pigeons off this crop! They love a sweet freshly emerged pea plant and if not moved on daily they can cause a lot of crop damage. As a leguminous crop, the peas have an inherent ability to fix their own Nitrogen from the air into the soil, not only feeding themselves, but

leaving a bank of residual Nitrogen for the following cereal crop thus reducing our bought in fertiliser requirement for next season. At the top of Sheepgate lane you'll pass by a long field on the right of spring sown oats, another crop not grown on the farm for a while the oats add yet more crop diversity to our rotation and farmed environment.

Either side of the Church this year we have Spring beans to the right, and another field of Sugar beet to the left of church lane. The beans will be harvested late summer and the beet will stay in the ground until late Autumn when the factory opens for processing.

You may also notice areas of fields currently left cultivated which will in time be planted with wild bird seed mixes and pollen and nectar species as part of our countryside stewardship scheme we launched this year. Pollinating insects and birds are vital to the diversity of species on the farm and these plots will encourage an abundance of life that will help support the vital act of pollination later this summer where our crops will set seed for us to harvest in Summer and early fall.

The sun is now finally poking out today as I look out of my office window, I can almost see the beet growing in the sunshine! Lovely to see the house martins darting up and down to the eaves of the house also, what a pretty part of Suffolk we all live!

Tom

Plant stall-linden House

Margaret is pleased to tell you that another £85 has been raised for the Church from the sale of plants etc from outside the house. In light of current weather conditions she is very pleased. If you have any donations of surplus plants they will be gratefully received. Thank you to all those who have supplied and those who have brought - every little bit raised helps our Church.

Date for your diary

BRADFIELD ST CLARE VILLAGE PICNIC **SUNDAY 11TH JULY 2021**

As promised previously Bradfield St Clare Village Hall in conjunction with the KIT Café (Keep in Touch) now has an official date and plans for Bradfield St Clare Village Picnic. This will take place from 1 pm - 3 pm on Sunday, 11th July in the garden of Bush House, Bradfield St Clare by kind invitation of Isobel and Keith Payne. Invitations will drop through letterboxes in Bradfield St Clare shortly.

You are welcome to bring your own food or favourite tippie if preferred but strawberries and cream, homemade scones, shortbread and other delights will be provided along with tea, coffee and squash. There will be some tables and chairs but feel free to bring your own blanket or chairs if you prefer.

This will be a good opportunity for our new neighbours to get to know our friendly community. We have so missed our monthly get-togethers in the village hall on Kit Café days. This will be something positive to really look forward to after the lifting of all Covid19 restrictions.

Prior to the picnic there will be a service of celebration in Bradfield St Clare church at 10 am led by the newly ordained Rev Richard Stainer. If you are able to attend the service as well as the picnic it would be lovely to see you there too. Either way please do come to the picnic. You can be sure of a very warm welcome.

We do need to know numbers so please get in touch on receipt of your invite and no later than Friday, 25th June.

BRADFIELD ST CLARE WEATHER



The month of May is the pleasant time; its face is beautiful; the blackbird sings his full song, the living wood is his holding, the cuckoos are singing and ever singing; there is a welcome before the brightness of the summer.

Lady Gregory.

I finished last month on days of frosty mornings, sunny but cold days and so it continued to the end of April. It proved to be a month of contrasts as the frostiest month ever, sunniest but coldest for many years and with no further rain in the latter part with just 3mm, the driest in the village since 1996. Our average for April is 38.6mm.

The badly needed rain duly arrived at the beginning of May with the early Bank Holiday having very high winds to go with it – one family's scheduled outdoor pub lunch duly ruined! The winds continued for a couple of days and since then we have lost the frosty nights and had very unsettled weather with sunshine and showers, some heavy with hail, and the odd thunderstorm. It has been good growing weather with the trees quickly acquiring their leaves, cow parsley on verges springing up and the grass needing frequent cutting. Some parts of the country have had well beyond their average rainfall but we have so far had 45mm against our average of 51.8mm. Now a day or two of gale force winds promised, but still no real warmth.

Keith Payne 21st May 2021.

Urban Foxes

Its five years since you heard of my favourite football team,
They then had just fulfilled their fan's great dream,
Now again they have shown that things are on the up,
Then it was the Premier League and now their first F.A. Cup,
Once more they have ticked one of football's annual boxes,
So can we all please raise a glass to those Leicester Foxes.

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Events at Bradfield Woods

**It's Suffolk Wildlife Trust's 60th birthday in
June, and there are lots of events happening
throughout the county. Please book your place on
events at suffolkwildlifetrust.org**

Monday mornings: Wild Tots Monday

Afternoons: Wild Tots and babies

Wed 2 Jun – Wild families: Suffolk Big 6 -A date
with a dormouse 10.30am-12.30pm

Wed 2 Jun - Wild Teens: Trees & Whittling
10.30am-4.30pm

Thu 6 Jun - Family spoon carving course
10am-12noon & 1pm-3.30pm

Mon 7 Jun - Green woodworking course,
6 weeks 6pm-8.30pm

Tues 8 Jun – Wild families: Go wild after
school. Minibeast hunt. 4pm-5.30pm

Wed 9 Jun - Fires & whittling for adults
10am-12noon

Wed 9 Jun - Natural cordage for adults
2pm-4pm

Thu 10 Jun - Walk: Tree ID - Stroll in the
woods identifying trees. 2pm-4pm

Sun 13 Jun - Greenwood gallery:
demonstrations, sales, family activities &
refreshments 10am-3pm

Tues 15 Jun - Celebrating birch course.
10am-3pm

Tues 15 Jun - Woodland jewellery course
6pm-9pm

Thurs 17 Jun - Wild families: Go wild
after school. Woodland fun, bring a picnic
tea. 4.30pm-6.30pm

Sun 20 Jun - Big Wild Weekend: Father's
Day woodland adventure 10.30pm-
12.30pm

Thurs 24 Jun - Walk: Discover some of
the woodland's wildflowers 2pm-4pm

Sun 27 Jun - Wild families: Suffolk Big 6 -
Barn owl 10.30am-12.30pm

Sun 27 Jun – Wild families: Minibeast
discovery 1.30am-4pm

www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org or
telephone 01473 8900

***A Village Magazine for the people of the
Village***

***The editors will always be happy to accept
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and general comments
for the magazine.***

***Deadline for contributions 18th of the month
please.***

Useful Local Contacts

Anglian Water - Emergencies	03457 145145
Borough Council	St Edmundsbury Offices - 01284 763233
Local Member	Sarah Mildmay-White - 01359 270580 Sara.Mildmay-White@stedsbcc.gov.uk
Bradfield St Clare Book Club/Village Hall Bookings	Mrs Val Nunn - 01284 388830
Bradfield Grapevine Magazine	Mrs Debbie Thomas - 01284 386302 Debbie_thomas60@hotmail.com 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	01473 583000
Local Councillor	Mrs Karen Soons - 07864601887 Karen.soons@suffolk.gov.uk
Dentist (Emergency)	By appointment Sat and Sun pm 0300 130 3065
Doctor – Suffolk Doctors on Call	Ring your own Surgery <i>Or alternatively call 111</i>
Electricity	UK Power Networks Supply Faults 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 www.jochurchill.mp@parliament.uk
Neighbourhood Watch Contact	Mrs Dianne Bullard - 01284 386598
Parish Council Clerk	Mrs Nicola Sturgeon - 07817170906
Parish Council Website	http://bradfieldstclare.one Suffolk.net
Police	101 (non-urgent) 999 (urgent)
Police Twitter name	@stedspolice 01473 613500
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 revsharon2@gmail.com 01284 828599 / 07825 086063
	Church Warden
St Edmunds RC Church	Fr David Bagstaff - 01284 754358

