

# THE BRADFIELD GRAPEVINE



May 2023 No:214

## **Road repairs and associated work along C697 Bury Road, Bradfield St Clare and C697 Bradfield Road, Cockfield.**

The works are programmed to take place between **9 and 15 May 2023**. The roads will be closed each day to ensure that we can carry out our works safely.

For the duration of the road closure, traffic will be diverted via Great Green, Cockfield, Chapel Road, Cockfield, Howe Lane, Cockfield, A1141, A134, Water Lane, Little Whelnetham and vice versa.

As we plan roadworks in advance, we schedule extra days to allow for bad weather or other delays beyond our control. If we need to make major changes to our work dates, we will update the information signs on site.

The latest updates on our works can be found on our website at "[Temporary road closures for Suffolk Highways roadworks](#)" and on [One.Network](#) website.

There may be times that essential emergency works are required to take place on the highway network without advanced notice – you can follow [Suffolk Highways on Twitter](#) for the latest emergency roadwork updates.

Please contact us on 0345 606 6171 if you have any questions.

**Suffolk Highways**

[www.suffolk.gov.uk/highways](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/highways)

Well!! We promise you it wasn't an April Fool in last month's Grapevine - mere editorial error for the bin collections being all over the place! To be perfectly honest we don't have 100% confidence in this month either with all the bank holidays. The Council no longer produces an annual calendar and usually there are only two weeks at a time published on the website so if in doubt please look at the website for confirmation. We told you it was the bane of our lives!! Apologies also to Val for adding and then deleting before printing the Whist report last month.

Last month saw a very successful litter pick - I think we said last year it's a shame that it has to be done, however, there was a lovely community atmosphere if not great weather.

Please note the **road closures** detailed on the front page this month.

**Thursday 4 May** sees the Local Elections taking place - remember that you can no longer cast your vote in our village hall but need to go to the Bradfield St George Village Hall taking **photo ID** with you.

Also advance notice for the Jazz Picnic on Saturday 10 June - deadline for booking tickets is Saturday 20 May please.

Please don't forget that the **Food Bank** is still very relevant - donations can be left either at the Church or the box near the front door of The Maltings on Bury Road.

Hope you all enjoy the forthcoming Bank Holidays - hoping for slightly warmer weather and plenty of sunshine.

Margaret Lovick  
Tel: 01284 386662

Debbie Thomas  
Tel: 01284 386302

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

## Letter from the Rectory

Dear Friends,

May is beckoning, and so hopefully is the better weather. I have just spent a few days off after the Holy Week and Easter services clearing and cleaning the house and garden. Sweeping away cobwebs in the garage is not my most favourite task, but it needed to be done!

Thinking about this has made me remember the parable of the lost coin. Jesus was a master storyteller, and the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John) are filled with his stories. They entertained, connected with and taught whoever heard them, and they continue to do so today.

Jesus used them to reach his listeners in a powerful way. The parable of the lost coin tells a basic and wonderful truth about God's love. It is meant to encourage us in our faith - and I find that it always encourages me.

The story is found in Luke chapter 15, verses 8-10. In it, a woman who has ten silver coins, then loses one. She lights a lamp, sweeps the house from top to bottom and searches carefully until she finds it. And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbours together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin'.

In this parable, the woman's coins are very valuable to her, just as we are valuable to God. It reminds us that every one of us is precious to God, and will never give up on us, no matter what!

Sometimes we can be a bit like that lost coin, we may feel far away from God and a bit lost. But God is always there for us to turn to. We are not forced to turn to God, but the invitation to do so is always there. If you want to know more about God's invitation, don't hesitate to get in touch!

with every blessing

*Sharon*

Rev Canon Sharon Potter

revsharon2@gmail.com, tel: 01284 828599 or 07825086063

## Cockfield Benefice Services & Events – May 2023

Sunday 7 May Fifth Sunday of Easter Coronation Weekend	9.30am Communion CW - Stanningfield 10am Morning Prayer CW - Cockfield 11am Communion CW - Bradfield St Clare 6pm Celtic-Style Communion - Felsham
Sunday 14 May Sixth Sunday of Easter	9.30am Said Communion BCP – Cockfield 11am Communion CW – Bradfield St George 6pm Praise and Worship – Gt Whelnetham
Thursday 18 May Ascension Day	11am Holy Communion - Felsham
Saturday 20 May	Crafts - Food - Story All children welcome with carer/parent. 3-5pm. Bradfield St George Village Hall
Sunday 21 May Seventh Sunday of Easter	9.30am Morning Prayer CW – Stanningfield 10am All-age Worship – Felsham 11am Communion CW – Cockfield 6pm Evening Prayer – Bradfield St Clare
Sunday 28 May Pentecost	9.30am Communion CW – Gt Whelnetham 10am Worshipping Together – Bradfield St George 10am Communion BCP - Gedding

*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)

The Cockfield Benefice  
*You are warmly invited to*  
**Vintage Messy**



Where crafters/knitters/crocheters etc can meet, share stories and tips, drink tea and eat cake!

Bring your own crafting/hobby materials

*Where: Bradfield St Clare Village Hall, IP30 0EL*

*When: First Saturday of the month, 2-4pm*

*6th May, 3rd June 2023*

*For more details contact:*

*Canon Sharon Potter, [revsharon2@gmail.com](mailto:revsharon2@gmail.com) 01284 828599 or 07825 086063  
[www.cockfieldbenefice.com](http://www.cockfieldbenefice.com)*



**Bradfield St Clare Litter Pick - Saturday 1st April**

A rather inauspicious start to the day with gloomy skies overhead and the constant threat of rain, however, did this thwart our stalwart litter pickers - of course not! After collecting bags and litter pickers from the village hall approximately 20 people set off in groups to cover the boundaries of Bradfield St Clare to rid it of visible litter. Twelve bags of litter were eventually deposited outside the village hall for collection by the council. Thank you to Isobel - who provided hot tea and coffee and a hot bacon sandwich on our return - so welcoming after a very cold morning - but at least the rain held off! If you had previous commitments this time, perhaps you could join us for the next one - it's usually in October. Look out for the date in the Grapevine.



## BRADFIELD WEATHER

As I write this, it's the most glorious day outside with not a cloud in the sky and Spring is well and truly here, so you're just going to have to forgive me for the moaning and praying for rain I did at the end of February – somebody was listening somewhere and certainly delivered!

March had more than double its 30 yr average of 35.64mm of rain but if we consider February and March together the rainfall in the two months combined this year was about 90mm and the average is just under 80mm – so we just got two months of rainfall in one!

March 2019	March 2020	March 2021	March 2022	March 2023
42.5mm	16.5mm	34.5mm	30.5mm	86.5mm

For the past 4 years we've had less than 20mm of rain in April. In the first 2.5 weeks we've had around 34 mm which has come in various downpours – anyone else got caught in that hail storm last week as they were trying to catch a horse to put its rug on?!

I've been busy planting in our new perennial garden and the ground is certainly wet in areas but with the sun now shining and the earth really starting to warm I'm hoping the recent rain will give everything an excellent start to the growing season. The daffodils seemed to really enjoy their summer bake last year and have flowered really well, some varieties still going strong and Pheasant's Eye still to come. We haven't planted the tulip meadow this year (hope to next year!) but I'm very pleased the tulips I left in pots and fed over last summer are making a decent show.

Talking of gardens, our garden is open under the National Garden Scheme on Saturday May 20<sup>th</sup> (1.00-5.00pm) – I've made a bit of a boob as it clashes with the Kit Café but do come along before or after if you'd like to support the NGS which donates to a wide number of charities including Macmillan, Marie Curie, Parkinson's and gardening charities. Alice Ward-Thomas 17 April

## JUST FOR FUN - CORONATION QUIZ

**Whether you are doing something with your family or having a quiet cup of tea on your own - why not have a go at the quiz below. Answers next month.**

1. Who was the first King of England?
2. When was coronation chicken invented?
3. How long did Queen Elizabeth II's Coronation last?
4. What was the first documented coronation at Westminster Abbey?
5. Which two monarchs did not have coronations?
6. How many guests attended Queen Elizabeth II's Coronation?
7. How many rooms are in Buckingham Palace?
8. Before George IV ascended the throne in 1820, what was Buckingham Palace formerly known as?
9. What is the oldest and largest occupied palace in the world?
10. What is the colour scheme in the Throne Room at Buckingham Palace?



## ST CLARE CHURCH

### SUMMER FUNDRAISER

**Summertime Jazz Picnic,**  
featuring Richard Wheatley  
and his Jazz Pals

**Location: The Old Rectory**  
**Bury Road, IP30 0ED**

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> June, 3-6pm**

**PARKING ON SITE**

**BYO Picnic and  
paraphernalia**

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**Cake Stall**  
**(Bring pennies)**

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**Games**  
**(Bring pennies)**

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**Strawberries and  
Cream**  
**(inc with ticket)**

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**Tea and Coffee**  
**(inc with ticket)**

This is a PCC fundraiser in aid of St Clare Church. Tickets cost £10 adults, £5 children under 16, family ticket £25 (2 adults 2 children). Tickets must be pre-booked with Lorraine – 07742151667 by Saturday 20 May



**Have you got a bit of time to help support the  
Summertime Jazz Picnic in aid of St Clare Church?**

**Could you bake a cake or biscuits for the stall?**

**Would you be able to spare some time to man the  
various stalls on a rota basis?**

**Offer to help set up or clear up at the end?**

**If so, please contact Lorraine on 07742151667**

## **FOOD BANK**

**The Food Bank has been particularly busy during the  
Easter period. It is not a need that will be resolved  
anytime soon.**

**Bradfield St Clare residents have been amazing in their  
support of this much needed charity.**

**If you feel that you are able to support this worthy cause  
there is a box in the Church porch or a box at The  
Maltings, Bury Road for any contributions.**



### **NEWS FROM HOMEFIELD**

The sheep have now been brought home to the 'higher pastures' for the summer. This will give the front field time to recover for the silage crop later on, not that six sheep on six acres is particularly intensive farming. Armed with a bucket and a few sheep rolls I led them up to Homefield. After one or two diversions for the "other man's grass is always greener" we all arrived safely. I had split the paddock into two, to give them a fresh bite when needed, and to shut them to one side to get tractors in and out. For the first few days they had the run of both paddocks but I then noticed that they were spending all their time in the paddock nearest the bungalow, lining up grazing and staring into the kitchen. So, I have shut them in the far paddock which didn't go down too well, they just lined up and stared at the bungalow. Whether it's where their food comes from, or they enjoy human company or are just 'sheep' I'm sure they will settle down soon. I just hope from that distance they can't lip read!

It is so nice that my seven hens can now be let out and roam relatively freely. The first time was amusing for me but obviously scary for them. They ran out of their netted run with great abandonment, flying every where. Then it dawned on them what had happened and they scuttled back to their comfort zone. No eggs were laid that day - we had been getting three or four a day in the previous weeks. Next day I dismantled the netted run and lo and behold they were more interested in going

back to their old boundaries. The egg numbers have returned and they have settled in their wider world again. Are they really sheep dressed in feathers?

The allotment is all a bit stop start at the moment after all the rain. We now have dry sunny days but a very cold wind. The first potatoes are poking through but with the night frosts I'm earthing them up as they pop out. Parsnips, beetroot, carrots and lettuce have been drilled outside. In the tunnel we have runner beans, courgettes, squashes, pumpkins, cucumbers and sweetcorn at various stages of growth. There is also a good crop of sweetpeas which the mice haven't found yet.

The good thing about a stop/start Spring is the garden furniture, which had so lovingly been stored/stacked away has been brought out and either painted or oiled in preparation for the lazy balmy days of summer. Different from other years when it's first retrieve furniture from the back of the log shed, quick paint job then hoping they will be dry for that special occasion the next day! Next problem is to remember the biscuit, butter, cheese problem for said occasion. Do you need one more biscuit to finish the cheese and butter left on your plate or do you double the quantity on the last remaining biscuit on your plate? Thankfully glasses of wine are not included in this conundrum - that would just confuse everybody.

Glyn



# 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

## **MAY EVENTS at Bradfield Woods:**

Plant ID and activities for Forest School certificated course

Thursday 11 May 2023 10am-3pm

A certificated course for adults working with children & young people which will develop skills used in Forest School and outdoor learning.

## **3 legged stool course**

Sunday 21 May 2023 10am-4.30pm

Make a beautiful and useful 3 legged stool using traditional woodworking tools and coppiced wood from Bradfield Woods.



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## BIN COLLECTIONS FOR May 2023

*Thursday 4 May	Blue Bin
*Thursday 11 May	Brown Bin
* Friday 12 May	Black Bin
Wednesday 17 May	Blue Bin
Tuesday 23 May	Brown Bin
Wednesday 24 May	Black Bin
*Thursday 1 June	Blue Bin

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

*\*There is a plethora of bank holidays - if in doubt please check website above for collections.*



## 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:

3 and 31 May	23 August	15 November
28 June	20 September	13 December
26 July	18 October	

## WHIST DRIVE

Thirteen players (unlucky for some) attended our April whist drive. This was fewer than usual as it fell on Good Friday. Nevertheless it was a great night with some very interesting games. The winning players were:

**Ladies:** Shirley took the first prize with 170 points, Val came second on 166 followed by Joy with 158. The wooden spoon this month was taken by Siobhan.

**Gentlemen:** Steve won the first prize again with 170 points. Ray came second on 159 closely followed by John with 157. Derek came last, taking the wooden spoon on 143.

Whist Drives are held in the village hall on the first Friday of every month, the next one being Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> May 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 07493245825.





**Our next opening will be: Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> May 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. To keep our younger visitors amused while the grown-ups chat we have colouring books, games and pencils. If you are new to the village please pop along. You can be sure of a very warm welcome.

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!



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## Useful Local Contacts

Anglian Water - Emergencies	03457 145145
Borough Council	St Edmundsbury Offices - 01284 763233
Local Member	Sara Mildmay-White - 01359 270580 <a href="mailto:Sara.Mildmay-White@stedsbc.gov.uk">Sara.Mildmay-White@stedsbc.gov.uk</a>
Bradfield St Clare Book Club/Village Hall Bookings	Mrs Val Nunn - 01284 388830
Bra dfield Grapevine Magazine	Mrs Debbie Thomas - 01284 386302 <a href="mailto:stclaregrapevine@gmail.com">stclaregrapevine@gmail.com</a> 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 <a href="mailto:Karen.soons@suffolk.gov.uk">Karen.soons@suffolk.gov.uk</a>
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 <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 <a href="mailto:revsharon2@gmail.com">revsharon2@gmail.com</a> 01284 828599 / 07825 086063
St Edmunds RC Church	Fr David Bagstaff - 01284 754358