

THE BRADFIELD GRAPEVINE



May 2022 No: 203

Ne'er cast a clout 'til May be out !

What fabulous Easter weather we all enjoyed - the wind was chilly, but at least we were all able to get out in the sunshine if we wanted. Still a bit early to put your winter woollies away though.

Spring is a time of new beginnings and we are certainly starting to see it in the fields and hedgerows, it's such an optimistic time of year and we certainly need that to give us hope when we observe the wider world at the moment. Life in the village continues to get back to normal, as Margaret writes about the success of the first KIT Cafe.

Please note the additional information regarding the Jubilee celebrations, free tickets are still available from Lorraine.

The cost of printing the Grapevine continues to rise. Space is at a premium, therefore it is important that this magazine reflects what the people in the village want from it. The editors would appreciate any feedback on what is important to you and what you enjoy most in the Grapevine. We strive to bring you essential information balanced with articles that reflect what goes on in the countryside around us. Please email us your thoughts to stclaregrapevine@gmail.com

Kind regards,
Margaret and Debbie

Margaret Lovick
Tel: 01284 386662

Debbie Thomas
Tel: 01284 386302

Email: stclaregrapevine@gmail.com

Message from the Rectory

Dear Friends,

The merry month of May is also the time when we think about Jesus ascending to heaven after his resurrection and various meetings with the disciples.

One of the disciples, Thomas, was not around when Jesus first appeared to his little band of followers, and so he did not believe that it was really Jesus. 'Doubting Thomas' as he is known, wanted to have proof that Jesus was really alive. Then he finally sees Jesus, and says, 'My Lord and my God' – I expect he was very surprised, and overjoyed, to see his Lord again.

It is because we have witnessed, along with Thomas, the resurrection of Jesus that we have faith, as followers of Christ, that God is with us and for us.

Even though life is tough at the moment, with the rise in the cost of living, the Ukrainian war and still coping with the Coronavirus, there is still cause for us to be thankful for all that we have. We are rich in many ways, in friendship, in a beautiful place to live and in enjoying many basic amenities that are denied to so many. We can really be thankful.

I'm really grateful to all those of you who have contributed in any way to supporting those in need as a result of the Ukraine conflict.

I hope that you will be able to come and join us in St Peter's Church at Cockfield for an Ascension Day service on Thursday 26 May at 12 noon, followed by a 'bring and share' lunch. We will be remembering Jesus' ascension – as we prepare for the day of Pentecost, the coming of the Holy Spirit.

All are welcome to join the feast!

Yours in Christ,

Sharon

Revd Canon Sharon Potter

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

Cockfield Benefice Services & Events – May 2022

Sunday 1 st May Easter 3	9.30am Morning Prayer – Stanningfield 10am Communion – Bradfield St George 10am Morning Prayer – Cockfield 6pm Celtic-style communion – Felsham
Sunday 8 th May Easter 4	8am Communion BCP – Cockfield 10am Morning Prayer CW – Gedding 10am Communion – Bradfield St Clare 6pm Healing Eucharist – Gt Whelnetham
Sunday 15 th May Easter 5	9.30am Communion – Stanningfield 10am Communion – Cockfield 10am Family@Church – Felsham 4pm Evening Prayer – Bradfield St Clare
Sunday 22 nd May Easter 6	9.30am Communion – Gt Whelnetham 10am Worshipping Together – Bradfield St George 10am Communion BCP – Gedding 3pm Holy Baptism – Bradfield St Clare
Thursday 26 th May Ascension Day	12 noon – Ascension Day Communion followed by bring and share lunch – Cockfield
Sunday 29 th May Easter 7	10am Benefice Communion – 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

A service of Celtic Morning Prayer is held every Tuesday at Cockfield at 9am
A prayer group meets via zoom every Wednesday at 2pm via zoom.
A service of Evening Prayer via zoom is held every Friday at 7pm.
For more details contact Rev Canon Sharon Potter at
revsharon2@gmail.com or phone 01284 828599 or 07825-086063



To all the dear people in this village who have helped me so much since **Mike** passed away, your love and support and help is appreciated so much at this very sad time, thank you so very much to you all.

God bless

Margaret

Monthly Whist Drive

Whist Drives are held in the village hall on the first Friday of every month, the next one being **Friday, 6 May at 7.30 pm.** New players are always welcome. Entry is £2 per player and this is handed out in cash for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners, as well as a booby prize for the lowest score. A prize draw is held for village hall funds.

Donations of draw prizes would be most welcome.

Results:Last month's winning lady was Shirley on 146 points and the winning gentleman was Derek on 145. Well done to both players.

Plant and Produce Stall - Linden House

I have been very generously given a Hitachi Petrol nearly new Strimmer, very little used, can be viewed at Linden House. £100 or very near offer.

All proceeds from this support St Clare Church.
£50 raised this month
Thank you

FESTIVAL OF SUFFOLK TORCH RELAY

A symbolic torch will tour the county of Suffolk from Friday 13 May 22 to Wednesday 1 Jun 22 in order to herald the start of the Festival of Suffolk and the celebrations to mark HM the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

If you would like to be involved in the torch relay in your community please get in touch with your parish clerk or contact

kate.paul@suffolkcf.org.uk for further information.

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Parish Council News

The Parish Council have been advised by the Safer Neighbourhood Watch Area Coordinator of attempted break-ins to garages and outbuildings in nearby villages. As such, we would remind residents to ensure that their garages and outbuildings are safely secured.

Next meeting **Tuesday 10 May @7pm** in the Village Hall

Bradfield St Clare Village Hall Committee

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

1950's STREET PARTY

at Bishops Farm, Pitchers Green, Bradfield St Clare

SUNDAY 5th JUNE 2pm-5pm

New Information!

Live and Recorded Music throughout the event.

TV available for those who wish to join in with live broadcasts during the day

Remember to bring your tickets with you - no ticket - no entry (we will keep these in case we need to do any contact tracing - let's hope not!)

Please bring your own picnic of food, and drink (including plates, cups and cutlery.)

To toast the Queen, Bucks Fizz will be provided along with free Beer and Strawberries and Cream, remember to bring appropriate glasses :)

To add to the occasion, feel free to dress in Red, White and Blue or from any decade of the Queen's ascension to the throne, or even Fancy Dress.

Parking will be available near the venue. Toilet facilities will also be on site.

NB: As there will be livestock grazing at the venue, the Jubilee Committee respectfully asks that people do not bring their dogs to this event.

Book tickets now from Lorraine 07742151667/01284 386270

(deadline Sunday 22 May 2022)

Any cash donations towards expenses gratefully received to Keith

Payne 01284 386169



BRADFIELD WEATHER

May and June. Soft syllables, gentle names for the two best months in the garden year: cool, misty mornings gently burned away with a warming spring sun, followed by breezy afternoons and chilly nights. The discussion of philosophy is over; it's time for work to begin. Peter Loewer.

The latter part of March had something of everything. A couple of really warm days, an inch of snow, some very cold days with frosty nights and showers to give a total of 30.5mm of rain or precipitation compared to our forecast of 35.8mm.

By going to France for a week or so we missed the snow and on our first evening there we sat on the banks of the river Loire in glorious sunshine with drink in hand. By the time we reached the south Brittany coast the weather had deteriorated to windy and very cold. Down side of the break was that I brought back Covid - not to be recommended!

April has to date been extremely dry - our friendly neighbourhood farmer has been heard decrying the lack of rain. Also it has been notable for an Easter bank holiday weekend with dry and warm weather for a change. We have had no rain now for 14 days and to date we have had just 10mm against an April average of 36mm.

Keith Payne

News from Bishops Farm

The race is on!

Since last writing, we've all been busy at Bishops farm; cultivating, planting, rolling, spraying, fencing, feeding, loading lorries, bedding up, mucking out, logging, landscaping and gardening; and all around our other full time work commitments. As well as helping on the farm, my sister Ashleigh is a Vet, myself an Agronomist and my brother Mitch is a builder. So, we all have a wide and varied skill set we can bring to help our parents Lorraine and Mike with their full-time commitments to the farm and livestock.

The peas, beans, barley, grass and sugar beet have all been planted now and with increasing day length and average daily temperatures the race to the longest day is now on. All the crops we grow on the farm are annual crops and so their productivity is limited by the hours of sunlight, volume of rain and accrued daily temperatures between the start of spring and the summer solstice. Once we reach the longest day, all our crops will begin to senesce and produce seeds for the next generation which we will harvest over the summer months. With my job as an Agronomist, it is my responsibility to keep the crops nourished; suppress weed competition; treat for any plant diseases and make sure the crops don't fall over before harvest! To get round all my customers' crops and our own at this time of the year with the crops changing almost daily is certainly a challenge.

However, Agronomy is changing very rapidly and we have a whole array of technologies at our fingertips now to help assess and monitor crop development in field, but also remotely. With satellite imagery and green area assessments made from space, I can get a good idea of how fields might perform before I even leave the office in the morning. Technology advances in crop science and agronomy are allowing me to be more precise, more bespoke and more accurate with my advice based on each farmer's or even each field's crop potential.

The tech is great as a starting point; however it will never replace the need for visual crop inspections and walking the crops on a daily basis. An Agronomist must consider the weather, the crop, the calendar, the crop market, the nutritional input, the disease pressure, weed pressure, crop genetics, following crops, previous crops, soil health, cultivations, farmer expectations and budget all before a decision can be made for crop requirements and this is always best done with crop inspections and a constant dialogue with the farmer. We have a lot still to do between now and summer solstice and so the race is now on for harvest 2022!

Until next time...

Tom

Dairy Farm House



We had a very enjoyable morning on Saturday 23 April, this was our first get together for a long time. It was lovely to see the 20+ people chatting over tea/coffee and cake.

There will be no KIT Cafe in May due to the Jubilee preparations - however, thereafter they will be on the 3rd Saturday of each month. The next one will be **Saturday 25 June 11am-1pm.**

Any offers of donations of cakes or savouries would be most welcome, if you could let Val Nunn know what you would like to bring beforehand that would be helpful.

Bradfield Woods



Spring Events

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

April events at Bradfield Woods:

Mondays 10-11.30am - Wild tots for families with children under 5 years

Wednesday 4 May - Craft Club Taster session 5.30pm-8pm FREE

Sunday 8 May - 10am-4pm - Bowl Carving. Booking essential £95

Monday 9 May - Wild Babies -1pm-2.15pm £5.50

Thursday 19 May -Spring Wildflowers -2pm -4pm £5

Tuesday 31 May Wild in the Woods holiday club. 9am-3.30pm £25/child

For more information and booking

Please book at:

www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org

or 'phone

01473 890089

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Crisis Cookies

What a roller coaster it's been - great support and sold 100's of bags of cookies. The total to date is £567 - a huge thank you for your wonderful support - I hope that you enjoyed them.

Production has now halted for the time being - I have had rather a bad bout of COVID, and a little more distressingly, biscuits and easter eggs began to disappear. Productivity will resume when I feel back to normal. I will sell them again from my back door and other venues. Huge thanks again for all your support. Pat.



The Library Van

Contact: 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:

May	4th	September	21st
June	1st and 29th	October	19th
July	27th	November	16th
August	24th	December	14th

BIN COLLECTIONS FOR APRIL 2022

Thursday 6 May	Blue bin
Tuesday 10 May	Brown bin
Wednesday 11 May	Black bin
Wednesday 18 May	Blue bin
Tuesday 24 May	Brown bin
Wednesday 25 May	Black bin

www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/bindays



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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 stclaregrapevine@gmail.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	01284 763233
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 Arnett - 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)
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
St Edmunds RC Church	Fr David Bagstaff - 01284 754358