

THE BRADFIELD GRAPEVINE



October 2023 No:218

Harvest Supper - Friday 13 October 2023 - Unfortunately this event has been **cancelled**.

Halloween

This is largely agreed to have originated from the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain, held around 1 November, the date that marked the transition from autumn to winter. It was this time of year where people believed the boundary between the worlds of living and dead became blurred, and was when the souls of the dead were said to revisit their homes. In the era of Christianity, this tradition became absorbed into the celebration of All Saints Day, held on 1 November, dedicated to honouring all saints and martyrs. The 2 November became All Souls' Day, a day to honour the dead, and here many of the Celtic traditions, such as bonfires, parades and dressing up in costume, blurred with Christian celebrations, to form festivities accepted, and even encouraged, by church authorities. All Saints Day later became known as All-Hallows and from this the night before came to be referred to as All-Hallows Eve. From this term derived the name 'Halloween', the name for the beginnings of the festival that was celebrated across Europe in the early Middle Ages, and stuck even as the religious celebrations fell out of favour in later centuries. (English Heritage)

Remember clocks fall back on **Sunday 29 October**.

Margaret Lovick
Tel: 01284 386662

Debbie Thomas
Tel: 01284 386302

Email: stclaregrapevine@gmail.com

Letter from the Rectory.

Dear Friends,

Suddenly we are in the last three months of the year and rapidly heading towards the clocks going back an hour (hurrah! An extra hour in bed). As the nights start to draw in our Church calendar (and my diary) is delightfully full of special services and events.

May I please put a plug in for our October harvest festival here at Bradfield St Clare. It's on 13th October at 6pm in the Church. *Everyone* is invited to the Church. Even if you don't usually come to Church we would love to see you as we celebrate the hard work of farmers and all who produce our food. We will give thanks to God for the blessings that he showers upon us in this village where (hopefully) no one goes without food.

It would be great to see the church full on the 13th. We need to use our local churches in order not to lose them. I know that the church in Bradfield St Clare is held in great affection, and that we have volunteers who flower arrange and do all sorts of other things. However, we are in desperate need of more PCC members to ensure that the church building is maintained and to make decisions with myself as Rector about services and events. If you feel you could be part of the PCC then do please get in contact with me. Even if you don't want to serve on the PCC there are other ways of supporting this beautiful little church.

Let's hope that we can continue to have a church in the village,

with every blessing

Sharon

Canon Sharon Potter

revsharon2@gmail.com, 01284 828599 or 07825 086063

Cockfield Benefice Services and events October 2023

Sunday 1 October Trinity 17/Harvest	11am Harvest Festival Service - Cockfield (followed by bring and share harvest lunch in the Church)
	6pm Celtic-style Communion - Felsham
Sunday 8 October Trinity 18/Harvest	9.30am Said Communion BCP - Cockfield
	11am Harvest Service - Bradfield St George (followed by harvest lunch)
	6pm Harvest Praise and Worship - Gt Whelnetham
Friday 13 October	6pm Harvest Service - Bradfield St Clare.
Sunday 15 October Trinity 19/Harvest	9.30am Harvest Morning Prayer - Stanningfield
	10am Harvest Breakfast & All age Worship - Felsham
	10.30am Communion CW - Cockfield
Sunday 22 October Trinity 20	9.30am Communion CW - Gt Whelnetham
	10am Worshipping Together - Bradfield St George
	10am Communion BCP - Gedding
Sunday 29 October Last after Trinity	10.30am Benefice Communion & Thanksgiving Service - Cockfield

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 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

Church Report



Another year, another Suffolk Historic Churches bike ride! As August wore on, wet and cold, I began to think about the possibility of getting drenched on September 9th on our planned 35 mile route. But the weather began to warm up, and as I watched the nightly forecast, slightly alarmed, the forecast temperatures rose and rose. By Saturday the 9th the temperature forecast - and achieved - was 37C (98.6F in old money!) Trousers and rain jackets replaced by shorts and vests, we set off earlier than originally planned. At first, in the early morning, the temperature was pleasant, but as the day progressed it began to feel very hot indeed. Lots of water and liberal applications of sun cream became the order of the day.

But we did it! 35 miles and 19 churches. And what beautiful churches they, were some new, some familiar and comforting. Hunston and Langham, both still lit only by candles and oil lamps, Great Ashfield with its fascinating WW2 stained glass window, others with angel roofs and pew ends with carved animals, angels and mermaids, despite the ravages of Cromwell's men. I have never understood why the Roundheads, professedly so religious, found angels so unacceptable.

Our thanks to all the people who manned the churches, explaining their history, making us welcome and sustaining us with water and goodies. A special thank you to the lovely lady at Great Ashfield, who dressed my cut leg after a fall and explained the significance of the WW2 window. She was so pleased finally to be able to use the church's first aid kit!

And a big thank you to my biking buddy, Ian Dowling, of Cockfield, who not only cycled for our church again, but kept me going through the heat, made me laugh and bullied me up Rattlesden Hill. For those of you who think that

Suffolk is flat – it isn't! Together we raised over £1000 for the first time – final figure next month.

And last, a request for help. I am having foot surgery on October 13th and will not be able to walk my dog for several weeks. If you would like a companion on your walks any time, Cally is a sweet, gentle, fox red Labrador, who is extremely well-behaved.

Isobel Payne

Jack Bumpstead

It is with sadness that we write that Jack passed away earlier this month at the age of 97.

He lived in the village for the greater part of his life, first in Tower Cottages before moving to his bungalow approximately thirty six years ago.

A mechanical engineer by trade, he worked for several local firms ending up at Scotts garage in Cockfield.

Jack was a private man, he liked everything done correctly, he enjoyed nature and took great pleasure in his garden.

In his later years his son, Colin cared for him at home, assisted by his sister Shirley. We offer our sincere condolences to all his family.

Parish Council News

Some Parishioners have been dealing with the ongoing foul odour problem with the Anglian Water Treatment Plant (near the Village Hall). Anglian Water have come out to the Treatment Plant and identified that the aerobic bacterial process had malfunctioned due to problems with the aeration pump, and work was carried out in relation to this problem.

Properties in the village that are situated downwind of the Water Treatment Plant are susceptible to foul odours when the bacterial process breaks down and when this occurs we would ask those parishioners to contact Anglian Water on the emergency number they provide on the fencing at the Treatment Plant (0345 714 51450) and file a formal complaint. This will enable an accurate record to build up of any ongoing problems but also alert Anglian Water to the problem in order that they can visit the site quickly and carry out any necessary works.

If residents visited the Anglian Water website it gives information about items that need to be placed in the bin as opposed to down the sink or toilet. Such items include babywipes, make up wipes, food peelings, cotton buds, sanitary products, wrappers and razor blades.

We thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Bradfield St Clare Parish Council

We know that Autumn is approaching - all the spiders in the village appear to have taken up residence inside!! After researching online for harmless remedies to deter them, the most fun one appears to be to lay conkers on your window sills and in the corners of your rooms - they need to be belly button up (if you know what we mean!). Apparently they exude a scented oil that spiders can't stand so they pack their bags and move out. Peppermint or Lemon oil is the other advice. Definitely going to give the conkers a trial - double bonus - fun collecting them and hopefully a spider free home!

Pumpkin Soup

2 tbsp olive oil

2 onions, finely chopped

1kg pumpkin or squash peeled, deseeded and chopped into chunks

700ml vegetable stock or chicken stock

150ml double cream

Method

STEP 1

Heat 2 tbsp olive oil in a large saucepan, then gently cook 2 finely chopped onions for 5 mins, until soft but not coloured.

STEP 2

Add 1kg pumpkin or squash, cut into chunks, to the pan, then carry on cooking for 8-10 mins, stirring occasionally until it starts to soften and turn golden.

STEP 3

Pour 700ml vegetable or chicken stock into the pan and season with salt and pepper. Bring to the boil, then simmer for 10 mins until the squash is very soft.

STEP 4

Pour 150ml double cream into the pan, bring back to the boil, then purée with a hand blender. For an extra-velvety consistency you can pour the soup through a fine sieve. *The soup can now be frozen for up to 2 months.*



**Our next opening will be: Saturday, 21st October, 11 am – 1 pm
In Bradfield St Clare Village Hall**

This café is FREE and OPEN TO EVERYONE so why not make a date in your diary?

Thanks to everybody who supported our Macmillan Coffee Morning last month. The numbers attending were rather disappointing but appreciate that several people were away on holiday or had other commitments. We were very grateful for all the donations of cakes, books and draw prizes. Special thanks to those who manned stalls or sweated in the kitchen and also to Betty and Angie who had the draw and ticket sales down to a fine art. So far we have raised and banked **£582**. There may be a little more to follow and once it has all been banked we will publish the final amount. It was a shame that there weren't many children there as we had two very good games ... the bagatelle (kindly loaned by Pat) and a brilliant game called Shuffle Board belonging to Debbie Smith Lots of fun! Joy won the bagatelle with a brilliant score of 340! Dennis Clarke won the shuffle board game amassing the grand total of 35.

At our next opening on **21st October** we will announce the winner, and present the prize, for our Macmillan Bird Quiz. Everyone seems to have really enjoyed trying to come up with the solutions and the quiz itself has raised around £80 which is amazing. Thanks to Sue Holden who came up with most of the questions. If you haven't bought a copy of the quiz yet there is still time. Text Val on 07483245825 or email valnunn@btinternet.com and we will send you one. They are just £1 each and all the money goes to Macmillan. The answers will be displayed in the village hall so you can check any you might have missed out on. In the event of a tie the winning entry will be drawn from a hat.

As always you can also enjoy as many cups of tea and our very popular 'posh' coffee as you can drink. Any offers of help in the kitchen or setting up would be most welcome. Equally we rely on donations of cakes or savouries so if you would like to provide something it would be much appreciated. Please let us know if you would like to help.

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.

News from Bishops Farm -Autumn 2023



Another year is rapidly disappearing as we see the evenings draw in and the temperature start to cool off. The combinable harvest has been complete for over a month now with just the Sugar Beet left to harvest for this year. The wheat, winter barley and spring oats all performed very well in terms of both grain and straw yield; and the spring barley was average but was to be expected by planting after a late lifted Sugar beet crop back in January.

We took the opportunity to plant an early summer cover crop after the last silage cut on the 2-year grass ley which is now in full flower of white, violet and purple near the Church. Although we are quite confused as to why the outside few metres we only have phacelia, and the rest of the field is the mix we planted! Either a drilling issue where heavier and lighter seed has dispersed in the drill, or some pesky critter has come in from the hedges and eaten all the brassicas! It still looks very pretty all the same and great for encouraging pollinators and insects at a time when no other crop is providing a source of pollen.

The cover crops and Grass leys will all be grazed over the next few months so keep an eye out as our visiting ewes meander their way from field to field across the farm. Because we have early cover crop growth to graze this year the ewes are likely to be joined by some rams whilst they are here at Bishops farm, so not only will they leave here after a good feed they will be blessed with the next generation of spring lambs.

Mike has been busy ploughing since harvest as the wet conditions left us with deeper harvest wheeling's than in previous years. It's always a compromise having the straw baled as the big heavy baling equipment can sink in and cause compaction to the land when conditions are less favourable. However, we need some of the straw for the cattle bedding over winter and the rest goes to other

livestock farmers in the West or to the power stations to burn to generate Electricity, arguably more sustainable than burning fossil fuels however we have to then replace the nutrient removal back to our soil.

For several years, we've taken digested sewage sludge back on the farm as a readily available source of organic Phosphate, but we've been trying to work out the best way to replace the removal of potash that is largely taken away in the straw. This summer we bought a product called Fibrophos which was delivered and spread by contractors due to its large volume application rate.

Fibrophos is derived from the incineration of deep litter poultry manure, which is used as a fuel for state-of-the-art electricity power stations. The resultant ash from the furnace is pure fertiliser containing all the plant nutrients (except Nitrogen) which were present in the poultry feed. Fibrophos returns the nutrients back to the soil in the balance removed by the crops, making it an ideal environmentally friendly, natural fertiliser for agriculture. There are various grades based on the nutrient make up and we have opted for a high loading of Potash to go with the high loading of Phosphate we take in the sewage digestate. Thus balancing our offtake and hopefully enhancing our yields and productivity further in future years.

The cattle are making good gains of around 1.2kg/head/day this year out at grass. With no extended drought period this summer Mike has been able to leave them out longer with no supplementary feed just some additional haylage as the herbal leys start to slow up growing as day length declines. It won't be long until the next batch arrive on the farm after a quick trip to Penrith to assess and influence the choice of the incoming stock.

From a spraying perspective, the Autumn workload is significantly reduced compared to the spring with just pre-emergence herbicides to complete as I follow Mike around the farm as he drills winter cereals. And then aphid pressure dependent just 1 post emergence spray before I can hopefully put the sprayer to bed for another year. We change the sprayer back onto wider wheels for the autumn to allow for travelling in wetter conditions; and we have a different set of nozzles that we alternate facing backwards and forwards in order to get better coverage of the soil with our Autumn herbicides.

Farming is ever developing and as we reset the farm with new crops and new livestock, we tweak our practices slightly with the knowledge of another year under our belt.

Tom Rouse
Dairy Farm House

Bradfield
Woods



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October EVENTS at Bradfield Woods:

Woodland Management Wednesday 4 October
2023 10am-4pm

Discover how to implement some of the most
valuable methods of woodland management on this
one-day course

Bowl carving Sunday 8 October 2023 10am-4pm

Spend a day with local craftsman Nick Gosman in
this wonderful ancient woodland learning how to
carve a bowl.

Celebrating conifers Saturday 14 October 2023
10am-3pm

Learn about the awesome world of conifers with Fay
Jones.

Torchlight safari Monday 23 October 2023
6pm-8pm

Holiday club (6-11 year olds) Wednesday 25
October 2023 09:00 to 15:30

Making wild colour with kids Thursday 26
October 2023 10am-3pm

A one day course for adults working with children &
young people in the outdoors.

Tree to spoon

Friday 3 November 2023 10am-3pm From tree to
finished spoon in a day



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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.

People have been very generous this month and we are very grateful for it

This month the stall raised £90

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Contact Margaret Lovick for details.



Bradfield Weather

August 2019	August 2020	August 2021	August 2022	August 2023
27.5 mm	115 mm	16.5 mm	15.5 mm	66 mm
September 2019	September 2020	September 2021	September 2022	Sept 2023
34 mm	42 mm	67 mm	42 mm	[26 to 17th]

We had a further 17mm of rain in the last week of August bringing the total to 66mm, quadruple the amount we had last year which is quite a thought. August's 30 year average is 61.5 mm so it was a pretty normal month in terms of rainfall and temperatures were, in my view, bang on with some nice warmth and sunshine.

The first week of September was a bit of an extreme; the children go back to school so the temperature soars and we had a week of blazing sunshine and hot hot days. I expect they could all explain weather patterns better than me but inevitably the high temperatures and humidity led to quite a downpour on Tuesday 12th where I recorded 26mm which fell in two almighty bursts (gutters overflowing, rain-collection points bubbling) - I gather in the centre of the village 31mm was measured so it shows how localised these things can be. Nothing since but there is plenty of September still to go.

Alice Ward-Thomas 17th September



The Library Van Dates 2023

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:

18 October	13 December
15 November	

BIN COLLECTIONS FOR OCTOBER 2023

Tuesday 3 October	Brown Bin
Wednesday 4 October	Black Bin
Wednesday 11 October	Blue Bin
Tuesday 17 October	Brown Bin
Wednesday 18 October	Black Bin
Wednesday 25 October	Blue
Tuesday 31 October	Brown

www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/bindays

Village Hall Whist Drive



Fourteen players took part in our September whist drive with an equal number of men and ladies. This gave us three playing tables and one 'flirt' table. Landing on the flirt table earns the players seven points for that round.

Winning players this month:

Ladies: Shirley took first prize with 169 points, second was Jus on 164 and third prize was won by Siobhan with 161. Vera won the ladies wooden spoon this month on 149.

Gentlemen: First prize went to Jim with 172, followed by Ian on 168 and third prize went to Ean (I finally found out I'd been spelling his name wrong all this time!) with 165 points. Gerry took this month's wooden spoon with 141.

Whist Drives are held in the village hall on the first Friday of every month, the next one being **Friday, 6th October 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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Have you been having a sort out? Do you have anything you would like to sell....you are more than welcome to advertise individual items in the Grapevine for a small fee of £2.50 which would go to support publishing our Village Magazine. Contact stclaregrapevine@gmail.com

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@stedsbc.gov.uk
Bradfield St Clare Book Club/Village Hall Bookings	Mrs Val Nunn - 01284 388830
Bra dfield 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 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)
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