

THE BRADFIELD GRAPEVINE



September 2022 No: 207

At the time of writing schools are preparing to return, which always seems to signal the start of Autumn. The nights are drawing in already (although the evening temperatures don't seem to cool!) The trees are changing colour and we are told of a 'false autumn' - well it seems very real to us! Blackberries have appeared in the hedgerows, and the sloes appear small and shrivelled - a shortage of sloe gin being produced we fear. It all signals the end of the main harvest and we are delighted to see that the village can once again celebrate this with our Harvest Service followed by Harvest Supper in October.

Even in times of rising costs, St Clare demonstrates yet again their generous spirit to the food bank, cookie sales and the stall outside Linden House that raises funds for the Church.

Lorraine reminds us to be mindful of speed when driving through our quiet village, we fought long and hard for our speed limits, we cannot control the speed of people passing through who don't live here, but we ask the question why would anyone even want to hurry through such a pretty part of Suffolk?

STOP PRESS: Next Parish Council Meetings are Tuesday 20 September and Tuesday 8 November 2022.

Margaret Lovick
Tel: 01284 386662

Debbie Thomas
Tel: 01284 386302

Email: stclaregrapevine@gmail.com

Message from the Rectory

In St Edmundsbury Cathedral, there is a spectacular display called Threads through Creation by Jacqui Parkinson. This is a wonderful display with eight million stitches. If you have not been to see it yet then it is certainly a treat in the waiting. The stitching is a combination of silk, hand-dyed materials, metallic leathers, gold leaf and Jacqui's inspiration came from the book of Genesis as she retells this wonderful story. Genesis 2:15 talks of a new beginnings, "The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it." We recognize that all created things belong to God and that we are accountable to Him as stewards of the creation.

September is often a month of new beginnings. The fields have been harvested and new crops are being planted. We see children returning to a brand-new school year, colleges reopening and many new university students leaving home for the very first time. A new beginning for them and for the parents who now have to adapt, to them moving on.

New beginnings can be both exciting and filled with anxiety. It was a privilege to be invited to Great Whelmetham school for their leaving assembly and being able to present year six students with bibles and pray for all those leaving. A lot of very excited students with very emotional parents watching their children's leaving performance and a photo slide showing photos of their first year in reception.

For all of us, every new day has the opportunity for something new, something exciting, a chance to start a new chapter if that is what's needed. A chance to invite God into new beginnings and to ask Him for his guidance, support, strength, and encouragement.

In Paul's letter to the Corinthians there is a promise for everyone of us. A promise for all who choose a new beginning, a fresh start. This can be scary but through Christ we are changed and continue to be changed as God works both in and through us.

This is an incredible gift from God, as he longs to do new things in all our lives.

As we go through September may I wish you all every blessing to new beginnings.

Helen

Cockfield Benefice Services & Events – September 2022

Sunday 4 September Trinity 12	9.30am Morning Prayer CW - Stanningfield 10am Communion CW – Bradfield St George 10am Morning Prayer CW – Cockfield 6pm Celtic-style Communion - Felsham
Sunday 11 September Trinity 13	8am Communion BCP – Cockfield 10am Morning Prayer CW – Gedding 10am Communion CW – Bradfield St Clare 6pm Praise and Worship – Gt Whelmetham
Sunday 18 September Trinity 14	9.30am Communion CW – Stanningfield 10am Communion CW – Cockfield 10am Family@Church – Felsham 6pm Evening Prayer CW – Bradfield St Clare
Sunday 25 September Trinity 15	9.30am Communion – Gt Whelmetham 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

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.

For more details contact Rev Richard Stainer at
richard.stainer14@gmail.com



Church Warden's report

The good news this month is that the scaffolding has finally come down from the front of the church! There is still repair work to be done on the porch, but this will not require more scaffolding. We seem to have made slow progress, but the very hot, dry weather has been a problem for our builders.

Elsewhere in the Grapevine, you will see a notice for the **Harvest Supper on Friday 14 October**. A harvest supper on a Friday evening, following the Harvest Festival service in the church, has long been a lovely tradition in our village, sadly impossible for the last couple of years. We are delighted to be able to hold it again and all villagers are welcome. Harvest has been so early this year that by October it may seem to be a thing of the past, but please do come and help celebrate it with your friends and neighbours.

We still have to limit numbers to some extent, so this will be a ticketed event on the basis of first come, first served. Please order your tickets soon.

The Harvest Festival service itself will be taken by our priest, Helen, and will start at 6pm on Friday 14 October. You can be sure that the church will be beautifully decorated for the occasion.

Another date for your diary: on Friday 18 November we will be hosting 'An Evening with The Shantymen' in aid of church funds. In order to allow us to entertain more people this will be held in Bradfield St George Village Hall and will include supper. A chance to hear wonderful singing - you can join in too! – and learn more about the history of the traditional sea shanty. There will be full details of this event next month. If you haven't heard The Shantymen before, you're in for a treat.

The Suffolk Churches bike ride approaches fast and we are now in serious training and hoping for cooler weather. I still have gaps on my sponsorship form, so if you feel you could sponsor me, please let me know. Any amount is welcome: it all adds up!

As usual, the church is open every weekend. It's cool and quiet and peaceful, with beautiful flowers. Come in and have a look around.

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

November 18 2022. 7.30pm

AN EVENING WITH SUPPER AND 'THE SHANTYMEN'

Music, traditions and food

Bradfield St George Village Hall.

All proceeds in aid of Bradfield St Clare Church

IT'S BACK!

BRADFIELD ST CLARE HARVEST SUPPER

October 14 2022

A chance to meet together, eat together and celebrate harvest, this event is open to everyone in the village.

7.30 in the Village Hall

Supper, soft drinks, tea and coffee will be provided. Feel free to bring your own alcohol and glasses.

£7.50 for adults and free for children under 12.

This is a ticketed event. Please contact Lorraine Morley on 01284 386270 or 07742 151667 for tickets. First come, first served!

Before the Supper, a Harvest Festival Service will be held in the village church at 6pm, to which everyone is very welcome. Our wonderful flower arrangers will be showcasing their talents!

Changes at Pitchers Green, Bradfield St.Clare.

For those of you who don't know where we are - we are five houses as you are leaving Bradfield St.Clare towards St.George.

Of these 5 houses, 3 have 'changed hands' over recent years but as of 25th August we shall have our final complement of families-yes families! So by the time you read this Pitchers Green Farm will be fully inhabited again. As direct neighbours it is so good to hear life and laughter returned (and building works)!

So, welcome to the Village along with all 'newcomers'. It's great to have fresh blood and younger generations to grow up in the village, to hear children playing.

So please could people respect this new vibrancy and take extra care travelling through Pitchers Green, aware of children and animals at all times.

There's lots happening in the Village with Macmillan Coffee morning, Harvest Service and Supper and entertainment with The Shantymen, all before the end of the year! Come along and meet fellow villagers.

Best wishes to one and all in Bradfield St.Clare

Lorraine Morley

BUNTING!

Perhaps you've forgotten or are not even aware that we have miles of colourful bunting made many years ago by all the people in the village. It will brighten any event, birthdays, Barbeques, garden parties etc. It can be hired very cheaply - all proceeds going to the Church and Village Hall. Also available small, matching tablecloths (card table size).

GATEHOUSE FOOD BANK

It was with great pleasure and surprise that on the first of August we found an envelope in our post box, simply marked "FOOD BANK", with £200 inside. We do not have a clue from whom it came but you know who you are, so THANK YOU for your extraordinary generosity. The envelope was immediately taken, with this month's grocery box, to Gatehouse in Bury St Edmunds. They issued a letter of acknowledgement which is printed elsewhere in this month's Grapevine.

Thank you once again and please, as it says in their letter, times are tough and our donations are badly needed. The donation points remain the box in the church porch and the box outside the front door of The Maltings on Bury Road.

Sue and Clive Leal

FOODBANK

Bury St Edmunds



Feeding People in crisis

To the villagers of Bradfield St Clare

03/08/2022

Thank you for the donation of food received today, Also a special thankyou to the anonymous £200 cash donation.

This will go towards making up balanced food parcels for those who are struggling to feed themselves and their families. The food bank distributes parcels using our system of referral from front-line care agencies. It is very much appreciated and is an immense help towards the continued distribution of nutritionally balanced emergency food to local people in crisis.

The level of generosity shown by the numerous schools, churches, groups, and individuals in this area is extraordinary. Everyone knows that, economically speaking, these are tough times, and they are likely to get tougher; and yet this only serves to intensify the generosity we see on a daily basis.

It is often said that voluntary work brings its own rewards. It does. Those who contribute make this happen, as well as being able to bear witness to the relief this work brings.

Thank you, once again, for supporting local people in crisis.

Yours sincerely

Amanda Bloomfield
Chief Executive



Dettingen Way, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP33 3TU

Tel: 01284 754967 Email: info@gatehouse.org.uk Web: www.gatehouse.org.uk

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The Harvest is in!

After a continued dry, hot and sunny period; harvest 2022 was surprisingly kind in comparison to that of 2021. Last year's harvest started around 19 July with the Winter Barley; and finished 19 September with the spring beans. A very long wet and drawn-out harvest that favoured the spring break crop yields over the cereals that year; however, 2022 was almost the complete opposite. We started around 25 July this year starting with the winter barley as per usual and were all done and dusted finishing again with the spring beans but this year by the 12 August. With a significantly less favoured spring growth pattern the winter cereals came out on top this year with wheat and barley yielding both over 9 tons per hectare and peas and beans around 3t/ha. (Last year saw peas and beans over 5t/ha).

In order to reduce fire risk this year, combining was very much avoided in the heat of the day and most cutting occurred between around 4pm-11pm as the days cooled and grain moisture returned to an appropriate level for storage and marketing. Additional precautions were also taken to have the crop sprayer on standby full of water in case a fire broke out; and also emergency plans were made using the 'what three words' app to pinpoint gateway and field accesses in case the emergency services needed to be called out. Fortunately harvest here at Bishops farm was completed without any field fires this summer. A big thank you also goes out to our harvest assistants from the village who helped Mike cart the corn back to the yard this summer.

Crop prices remain firm given the chaos around the world at present, and for us at Bishops Farm, a significant learning curve this year with how we can much more efficiently manage Nitrogen fertiliser usage at its current inflated price. Our winter cereals have performed equally as well as our 5-year average even with this year's total Nitrogen fertiliser applications reigned

back by 25% in the wheat and 50% in the winter barley crop. We are utilising residual nitrogen left behind from previous pulse crops and applications of sewage sludge throughout the rotation to offset the reduced bag requirement and thus increasing our gross margin on cereal production. Alongside our reduced reliance on expensive and inefficient fertiliser nitrogen, the wider cropping rotation we are running with also assists with environmental, soil health and biodiversity gains.

Now the crops are in the shed we send samples off for analysis of protein, moisture, malting specifications and specific weights in order to determine the quality of our produce. There are often premiums available for malting barley, beans that make human consumption grade, or wheat that makes for low grade milling and so we strive to reach these more quality markets with our produce from Bishops Farm. Crop markets are fluctuating regularly given the scale of global affairs and so achieving as close to the optimum price for our produce is important for the farm's profitability.

And soon the cycle will restart! The straw has been bailed and carted, the soil is ready to be cultivated and new crops will green up the fields in Bradfield St Clare once again as the Autumn drilling begins.

Tom Rouse - Dairy Farm House

Harvest Festival Fact:

Harvest festivals are traditionally held on or near the Sunday of the Harvest Moon. This is the full Moon that occurs closest to the autumn equinox (about Sept. 23). In two years out of three, the Harvest Moon comes in September, but in some years it occurs in October.

Plant and Produce Stall - Linden House

The stall has been generously supported both by donations to sell and people to buy. If you are passing stop and have a look. Thank you to the local neighbours who are clearing out their sheds and have given us various things to sell - it is very much appreciated. Special thanks to the Thompson's for the generous supply of plums.

All proceeds from this support St Clare Church.
£100.00 raised this month
Thank you

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Crisis Cookies - They're Back!!

Crisis cookies are for sale again - ALL PROFITS to Ukrainian Relief. Pat is selling them - not from the front of St Clare Cottage but from the back door - call anytime - no guarantees she will be in BUT definitely from 9am - 1pm on Friday mornings. Please come and support me.

Parish Council

At the Parish Council meeting on 26 July the issue of an increase in dog poo on some of the village footpaths was raised. We would remind all residents of the village who walk their dogs that it is an offence not to clear up after your dogs. We are sure that all villagers, whether walking with a dog or not, would like to walk along footpaths without the worry of treading in dog mess.

We hope that this reminder resolves the issue, but we do appreciate that it may not be a local resident walking their dog. Our next steps would be to consider installing a dog poo bin, and asking for enforcement and fines to be issued which we hope will not become necessary.

The Parish Council has had a request to put the dates of Parish Council Meetings into the Grapevine for those people who do not have access to the internet. The Parish Council will be agreeing the 2023 meeting dates as its meeting on 20th September 2022. We will publish the list of 2023 Parish Council Meeting dates in the Grapevine after they have been agreed.



BRADFIELD WEATHER

The weather is like the Government – always in the wrong!

Jerome K Jerome

-The village weather report is usually largely about the rainfall we have had, so I am tempted to leave it blank this month! There was certainly no serious rain in July and I find I have only recorded 2mm over three entries. It is probably a question of what is recordable when you do not have a sophisticated system.

Today is the 18th of August and with rain and storms all around us, in this part of the village we are yet to see any recordable rain this month. Along with this lack of rain there has been almost consistent sunshine and high temperatures from mid 20'sC to low 30'sC, not up to the records of last month, but some pretty warm days for a while now. Our average rainfall for August is 63.1mm and another almost certain to be missed.

With clear skies at the time, the full moon on 12th August was again large and clearly seen.

Keith Payne

Bradfield Woods



Summer Events

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accordance with
government guidelines*

September Events at Bradfield Woods:

Please refer to the website as no September events have been uploaded at time of editing.

For more information and booking

Please book at:

www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org

or 'phone

01473 890089

BIN COLLECTIONS FOR AUGUST 2022

Thursday 1 September	Black Bin
Wednesday 7 September	Blue Bin
Tuesday 13 September	Brown Bin
Wednesday 14 September	Black Bin
Wednesday 21 September	Blue Bin
Tuesday 27 September	Brown Bin
Wednesday 28 September	Black Bin

www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/bindays



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:

September	21st	November	16th
October	19th	December	14th



Next Opening: Saturday, 17 September 11 am – 1 pm
This café is FREE and OPEN TO EVERYONE
This month is our Macmillan Fundraiser.

This month (August) about 16 people enjoyed a happy couple of hours.

September's KIT Cafe will be our Macmillan Coffee Morning fundraiser.

We will be offering our usual selection of teas, coffees and soft drinks as well as fresh scones with jam and cream. There will be a cake stall selling cakes and savouries and a prize draw. Contributions welcome.

We would welcome prizes for the draw so if you are able to donate a prize, or know somebody who could, it would be much appreciated. There could also be some competitions eg 'guess how many sweets in the jar' and Name the Dog. If you can think of any other simple fundraising games/competitions we could do on the day please do share. If you are able to contribute please let Val Nunn or Margaret Lovick know we are grateful for any help - please come and support this very worthy cause.

The village hall committee have agreed to waive the rental on this occasion so all donations received will go directly to **Macmillan Cancer Support**. The people of Bradfield St Clare have always been keen supporters of Macmillan and most of us will have known someone who has benefitted from their care. So please put this date in your diary and join us.

Village Hall Whist Drive

Fifteen players turned out on a hot August evening for our monthly whist drive. Eight men and seven ladies meant we had to use the dreaded 'dummy' as the eighth lady to make four playing tables. Isobel and Val tied for first place on 135 points and Jus and Joy were also equal and shared the third prize. Siobhan won the booby prize. For the Gentlemen Gerry came first on 136 followed by Ian 2nd and Jim 3rd. Ray won the booby prize.

Our next Whist Drive will take place in the village hall on **Friday 2nd September at 7.30 pm.**

Entry is £2 per player to include tea, coffee and biscuits. All entry money is paid out in prizes. Money raised from the draw helps with the upkeep of our village hall so donations of draw prizes are very welcome.

If you can play whist we would love you to join us or if you would like to support the village hall by donating a draw prize or buying draw tickets the village hall committee would be very grateful.

For further information ring Val Nunn on 01284 388830.



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If you are a writer or poems, composer of quizzes, have an interesting hobby or have read a really good book and could write a short review please feel free to share with us.

Deadline for Grapevine is the 18th of the preceding month.

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01284 386538 (Head office)

A roll of white toilet paper on a chrome holder. A piece of paper is unrolled and has the handwritten text 'Always to hand when you need us!' written on it in green ink.

Always to
hand when
you need us!

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
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 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