



THE BRADLEY BUGLE

April 2024 Issue 276

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Find us online

www.facebook.com/groups/greatbradleysuffolk

<https://greatbradley.weebly.com/>

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Thanks

Many thanks to our advertisers who help make this newsletter possible.

Thank you to everyone who contributes content.

Huge thanks to everyone who delivers our printed copies around the Village.



Egyptian Goose

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to the April issue of the Bradley Bugle!

I've been travelling a bit recently (business not pleasure sadly) and have missed our village and surrounding countryside. I took a long walk with the dogs when I returned from my latest trip and thankfully the sun was shining, even if it was a bit breezy.

On our walk we spotted a pair of birds that I had never encountered before - turns out they were Egyptian Geese. After a bit of research I learned that East Anglia has a reasonable population of Egyptian Geese, which aren't really geese but a member of the Shelduck family. Just goes to show that if you keep your eyes peeled, you may see something you've never seen before, and it made my day!

We at the Bugle are happy to welcome new contributors and advertisers, so if you have something on your mind, or would like to see something new this year, please let me know so we can keep the Bugle interesting and engaging for all.

Happy Reading!



VILLAGE DIARY

Overview of what's happening The diary is also online: https://greatbradley.weebly.com/village-diary.html		
Annual Village Meeting	Wednesday 10th April. Doors open at 7pm, meeting starts 7:30pm. Agenda will be posted on the village notice boards and on the Facebook group the week before.	
Coming up this month		
Pimp my Fish	Delicious, freshly cooked fish and chips.	Thursday 11th April, Village Hall, 5:30pm
Weekly Events		
Bradley Bookers	Our friendly local book club, come along for a fun evening with lively discussion and tea and biscuits too! Cost is £3 per session, contact Annette on 783892.	First Thursday in the month 7:30pm to 9pm
Scottish Country Dancing	Lively light exercise and fun! Contact Ella Hollins on 710340 for details of the next session	Village Hall Mondays 2pm to 4pm
Art Group	Great Bradley Art Group is now FULL and is now waiting list only. If you would like to add your name to the waiting list please contact Pat Spires on 783269 or via Facebook.	Village Hall Tuesdays 1:30pm to 4:30pm
Afternoon club	All welcome, all ages, all interests. Come and meet neighbours for tea, cake, loads of news, views and lots of laughter. Contact Anne on 783648 for details of the next session.	Village Hall See our Facebook page for more details too!
Photo Club	Everyone is welcome, you don't need flashy equipment, a phone will do just nicely! Cost is only £2 per person. Contact Nikki Stroud N.a.stroud@hotmail.co.uk 783416	Third Thursday in the month 7:30pm to 8:30pm Village Hall
Looking further ahead		
Mobile Library Every 4 weeks on Wednesdays	More information at https://www.suffolklibraries.co.uk 2024 dates are as follows: 24 January, 21 February, 20 March, 17 April, 15 May, 12 June, 10 July, 7 August, 4 September, 2 October, 30 October, 27 November. No service in December 2024.	Evergreen Lane 12:10 to 12:35 Rt 18-Stop E
Further afield		
Thurlow WI	This month we are visiting Curwin Print. See page 16 .	Thurlow Village Hall
Dullingham Flower Club	The next meeting is on Tuesday 11th April. See page 16	The Taylor Hall, Church Close Dullingham
Bins and bottle bank		
Bins	Black bin: normally emptied on a Tuesday. 9th, 23rd April Blue bin: emptied on a Tuesday in the alternate week. 2nd, 16th, 30th April Brown bin: emptied on a Thursday in the same week as the Blue bin. 4th, 18th April Find more information online here: https://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/bins/	
Bottle Bank	If the bottle bank is full, call 01842 820804.	

CHURCH NEWS AND SERVICES - STOURHEAD BENEFICE <http://stourheadbenefice.org>

St Mary's Great Bradley - Sunday Services March 2024

Further details of other services and events in churches across the Benefice can be found in the Benefice News <http://stourheadbenefice.org/wordpress/stourhead-benefice-newsletter/>.

Date and time	Service	Where
7 April 10am	Holy Communion	Little Bradley
14 April 10am	Holy Communion	Great Thurlow
21 April 10am	Holy Communion	Little Thurlow
	Family Service	Great Wratting
28 April 10 am	Holy Communion	Great Bradley
5 May 10am	Holy Communion	Kedington

Note: Holy Communion services will take place at Little Bradley on alternate months starting 4 February 2024.

St Mary's Great Bradley Flower Rota

April: Helena Crawford

May: Alison McCloskey

With thanks to our team of talented flower arrangers

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Saturday 6 April, 10.30 am

Great Bradley Hall

Review of the year and election of Churchwardens and PCC

All welcome to attend

Save the date!

On **Sunday 26 May** the visiting preacher at the 10 am Holy Communion Service at Great Bradley will be Bishop Martin.

Don't miss this chance to hear our Diocesan Bishop!

Great Bradley Fete - Sunday 30th June 2024

The next Fete planning meeting is on Saturday 27th April 11 am at Great Bradley Hall.

Anyone interested in helping is welcome to attend

NEWS FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL from Charles Boulton Chair GBPC

Let's begin with the fun things! Hold the date of **Sunday 2nd June** from 12:00 for the **Great Summer Party**. It's planned for the recreation ground - but if weather threatens then watch Facebook. There'll be free food, desserts and drinks. We're looking forward to the return of that old favourite, Henry's Hog Roast, scrumptious desserts and cooling drinks.

So hold the date, hope for good weather and come along and meet the rest of the village.

The second fun thing is the **Annual Village Meeting - Wednesday 10th April** in the Village Hall. Doors open at 7 pm for a 7:30 start. Come along to hear about all the activities in the parish, how they've fared in the last year and their plans for the future. You may hear of a group or activity you'd like to join and you can catch up generally on what's going on. Free soft drinks and nibbles before the meeting and beer, wine and nibbles afterwards. Watch noticeboards, Facebook and the website for a formal agenda a week beforehand. The Parish Council looks forward to seeing you there.

At the Annual Village Meeting we will tell you about our plans for a survey of the residents to ask you what you'd like to do in a village garden and where it might be, we'll ask about transport, and ask for other ideas. We'll publicise this further on Facebook, the website and future editions of the Bugle.

Turning to the longer term, an unfolding activity which will influence all our lives in future is the Suffolk Devolution Deal. (<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/devolution>). Suffolk is one of nine areas in the country negotiating a county devolution deal. The idea is that decisions will be made at a county level, by county representatives on topics such as adult education, transport and regeneration investment. Powers and funding would reside with Suffolk County Council and there will be an elected Council as now, but with the addition of a directly elected leader of the Council. The County Council believe they can manage this with minimal extra bureaucracy.

The starting point for the funding of the deal is £16 million per year (fixed at that level) to invest in regeneration - economic, brownfield sites, supported housing and transport infrastructure. This will link closely to the Local Plans mentioned here last month. The education and training of adults over the age of 19 would be commissioned by the County Council. The amount spent won't change - but control of it will, more influenced by the needs of local businesses and local people. In the area of transport, the current structures (Local Transport Authority) would remain, but funding would move from an annual basis to multi-year, making planning for large investments easier.

Several areas remain to be fully clarified, for example, how local representation will work so that residents in Suffolk can really influence decision-making more directly, and the capacity of the Council to handle the new powers and exploit them fully. These are being worked on.

If everything goes as planned, the change will occur in May 2025. The consultation on the County Deal runs until 16th May (<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/devolution>) and there's an increasing amount of material; websites, videos and plan documents. This is your future being debated, so definitely worth a look.

A round of consultation for Suffolk’s Local Transport Plan has just finished. This refreshes a plan that started in 2011 and updates it to run from 2024 to 2040. The input will be used to develop a draft of the revised plan and this will go out for a more detailed public consultation in autumn. The focus is on decarbonisation, supporting the economy, wellbeing and social inclusion, and “creating better places”. It is this latter pillar which describes focusing interventions in the towns, improving bus services and building better networks. See <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/asset-library/local-transport-plan-consultation.pdf> for more detail. The Passenger Interest Group Meeting which feeds into the improvement plans of the partnership between the County Council and the bus operators is still seeking grass-roots data (so this will be part of the village survey mentioned above).

The Suffolk Chamber of Commerce is working to improve 5G connectivity, but the roll-out of 5G across Suffolk is slow, partly due to a perceived lack of demand. If you’d like to push for 5G then please contact Paul Simon at the Chamber of Commerce directly and he’ll point you at their latest survey for your input.

So, a busy few months now and into the summer. And, of course, we look forward to seeing you at the Annual Meeting and the Party!



Parish Council Members	
Charles Boulton (Chair)	cbboulton@hotmail.com Tel: 07956 696932
Annette Sugg	Email: annettesugg@gmail.com
Rowan Sylvester-Bradley	Email: rowan@sylvesterbradley.org
Polly Cook	Email: pollyannacook1@gmail.com
Geoff Bailey	Email: geoffreybailey717@gmail.com
Michelle Thompson (Parish Clerk)	Email: greatbradleyparishclerk@protonmail.com

NEWS FROM GREAT BRADLEY VILLAGE HALL from Sophie Gale

At the time for writing we were all looking forward to the Quiz night on the 22nd March. I'm sure there will be a great turn out and lots of fun to be had by everyone. I will of course let you know the winning team in next month's Bugle.

The hall has been going through some maintenance and refurbishment over the past few months and this has now all been completed. The outside has been decorated and timbers repaired as well as the inside being freshened up with painting.

The hall committee would like to say a big thank you to Kevin Bantick who, over the past few years has been the village hall gardener, is hanging up his boots. Kevin has done a great job of keeping the outside of the hall looking smart in all seasons and we are extremely appreciative of his efforts. This does mean that we will be looking for a new green fingered volunteer to take over, if you feel you may be able to take this on then please do get in contact with us.

Our next event is a table top sale on the 21st April, see the poster on page [7](#).



Great Bradley Village Hall Committee		
Who	Role	Contact Details
Barbara Housden	Chair	01223 880161
Ros Barber	Treasurer	01440 783006
Annette Sugg	Bookings	01440 783892
Richard Sugg	Maintenance	01440 783892
Chris Housden	Facilities	01223 880161
Adrian Bhreathnach	Facilities and Business Advice	
Nicola Stroud	Lottery	01440 783416
Sophie Gale	Social Events	07557 094081

GREAT BRADLEY VILLAGE HALL



SUNDAY 21st APRIL

11am to 2.00pm

TEA, COFFEE & CAKE

[BAR OPEN FROM NOON]

**To book a table
email villagehall@housden.co.uk
£10 large table £5 small table**

VILLAGE LOTTERY from Nikki Stroud

Congratulations to the March winners of the lottery - especially to Ernest May who has won for the second month in a row!

This month I had the women from the Great Bradley book club draw the numbers. I much prefer having someone else select the names as it feels more transparent. With the size of the village and the entrants it is inevitable that the same names come up but I always worry that it will seem strange.

I haven't managed to deliver these yet, but hopefully I will be able to before the Bugle actually arrives on your doorstep. If I don't manage it, I promise your winnings won't be far behind.

March Draw Results

First (£10)	Meg Ryder (Number 15)
First (£10)	Sandra Dolby (Number 114)
Second (£5)	Ernest May (Number 109)

Thank you to everyone who has supported the Village Hall by joining the lottery. The money goes towards keeping the hall running as a resource for the village.

Good luck for next month.

Contact Nikki Stroud by email gbvillagehall.lot@gmail.com or telephone on 01440 783416.

Great Bradley Village Hall Lottery

The Lottery is a significant contributor to fundraising efforts for the Great Bradley Village Hall with 50% of the proceeds going to the Village Hall, the other 50% paid out in prize money each month. Its success helps ensure that the Hall is financially sustainable and available for everyone. Other villages covet our Hall for the bright, warm and welcoming facility it is, and the Lottery goes a long way towards keeping it that way.

The Lottery runs from 1 November to 31 October and costs just £12 per entry per year. To take part:

1. Email Nikki Stroud (gbvillagehall.lot@gmail.com) with names and addresses and for details on how to pay by Bacs. OR/
2. Fill in the form below and bring cash or a cheque (payable to Great Bradley Village Hall) to the address below.

The Village Hall Committee would like to thank all of those who have supported the Lottery in the past and warmly welcomes new members, The November draw will be held AFTER the Village Hall Fireworks event and Nikki will be happy to accept your entries there. You can also join at any time during the year, paying £1 per month to October inclusive.

Great Bradley Village Hall Lottery

I enclose £12 subscription per person (for entry from the November draw)

Name 1 _____
Name 2 _____
Name 3 _____
Name 4 _____
Address _____
Phone/email _____

Please return to the Promoter—Nikki Stroud, 29 Clarendale Estate, Gt Bradley, CB8 9LN

Phone 01440 783416 Email gbvillagehall.lot@gmail.com

GREAT BRADLEY THROUGH THE AGES: 17th Century: Memento Mori from Mike Brophy

We have some wonderful 17th Century 'Skeleton Graves' in St Mary's graveyard. They are between the south porch and the Priest's door and so have been protected from the worst of the weather over the last 350 years.

The gravestones feature skeletons, skulls and crossed bones, plus other symbols. Whilst we might associate a skull and crossed bones with poison, pirates or the plague, this wasn't the case in the 17th Century. They served to remind, to a mainly illiterate population, that their time on earth was limited, that death was inevitable and so they should prepare to meet their maker. Average life expectancy was about 35 years so death was common, expected, and people prepared for it.



This grave has a triangular stone slab between the head and foot stones. The headstone has a faded inscription: *Here Lyeth B... Walter.... Died October 1681* and the footstone has *WD 1681*. Both have a skull with crossed bones and an hourglass underneath. The symbols had a purpose: the skull and crossed bones (femurs/ thigh bones) represented death. The association is thought to derive from the place where Jesus died on the cross. The hill was called 'Golgotha' meaning 'place of the skull'. In addition, during the crusades, when soldiers died, the bodies would decompose quickly in the heat so the Pope allowed a skull and the femurs to be brought back to Europe to be buried. The hourglass beneath the skull is a reminder that, just as the sands passes through the hourglass people would pass through their time on earth.



Although we now see the symbols as a warning, it was more likely to be a reminder. In Latin this is known as a *Memento Mori*, meaning "remember you have to die" i.e. in order to reach heaven and God, you first have to die.

The swags (curtains) on each side represent an archway into heaven and the leaves at the top and circles (flowers) at the bottom symbolise the new life that follows your resurrection and being reunited with God on Judgement Day.



This nearby gravestone also has the skull and crossed bones along with the hour glass. The headstone and footstone are very squat and unlike any other in the churchyard.



The gravestone below has the skull and crossed bones carved into the slab of the grave to reinforce the point about being prepared for death. This is quite unusual. As well as sending a message, it is also possible that the deceased, or family of the deceased, were being creative with the relatively new phenomenon of having a gravestone. Up to about 1700 most people, except the very wealthy had unmarked graves, and even then most graves would have been placed inside the church.



One symbol that is common today, but does not appear on the graves of the 17th Century, is a cross or crucifixion. This was seen as a Papist/ Roman Catholic symbol and would have been banned in Protestant England (but not in Ireland for example) during the 17th Century.



The graves below are even more unusual in that a full skeleton is carved into the top slab of the grave. On this page, the photos on the right were taken recently, whereas the ones on the left are from 20-25 years ago. You can see how they have deteriorated.



In the photos below, the skull and crossed bones from a stylised skeleton at the top, with a floral or fountain-like motif below. The headstone from the grave is difficult to read but has "WD 1683" on the footstone.



The picture below shows the oldest gravestone in the churchyard. It has a head and footstone. The top slab is carved in the shape of a skeleton and is short in length, so probably that of a child. The headstone has a skull at the top and the inscription "Son of John Morden.....?6 of.....1697/8?". The footstone reads "Son of John Morden born ye 26th of 1697 or 8". Amazingly, a Brian Norden of Birmingham confirmed the child buried here is a member of his family tree!

In the 17th Century, almost one third of children died before they were 15 years old. The young were often taken to witness the final hours of relatives and neighbours to help them prepare for death, take the fear out of the unknown and help Christian people reach a state of peaceful acceptance, and even happiness, about dying. It is recorded that in the 1650s, 4-year-old John Sudlow from Middlesex was present at the death of his infant brother and seeing the little body "without breath, and not being able to speak or stir" made John "greatly concerned". It caused him to ask his parents "whether he must die too." His parents answered truthfully, thus making mortality familiar to him.



Like most graves in the burial grounds of Anglican churches, the ones in St Mary's are oriented east-west. Skeleton Graves, similar to these, are more numerous in Scotland than England & Wales as they are believed to have first appeared in Greyfriar's Kirk in Edinburgh from 1616. Although today we expect to have an external burial and memorial, it was not until about the 17th century, and even then in only a few parts of England, that anyone but the wealthy had a memorial especially outside the church building. Most people were buried in unmarked graves, or if graves were marked at all it would have been with wood. So it is interesting to note that our gravestones are, therefore, amongst some of the oldest in the country and older than the oldest headstone still readable in the United States which, from 1697 is ten years younger than our oldest one.

During 2024, we will be updating the graveyard records, but the current information can be found on the village website at <https://greatbradley.weebly.com/individual-gravestones.html> or in the village archive at <https://os5.mycloud.com/public/06d03cb7-62c0-4a46-996a-af0accf8d032/folders/556skxh2ukuhxtzom2ro6xf>

There is an excellent video on decorated 17th/18th century graves from the Churches Conservation Trust at https://www.facebook.com/watch/live/?ref=watch_permalink&v=425436006140728

'THE BROWN HARE' from Walter Lane

Call him, the 'Big-fellow', the 'Jumper', the 'Rascal' or the Racer, he is still - 'The Brown Hare'

I can still remember my old Black Labrador yelping in excited frustration at his inability to make up any ground on a large 'Brown Hare' he was pursuing. The hare's rapid acceleration and top speed of over 45 mph (73 km/h) is its main form of defence against predators and it was quite amusing to watch the old dog just stop and admiringly gaze at his adversary as it disappeared over the horizon.

Hares are generally larger than rabbits having a longer body, longer hind legs and longer ears which are invariably black tipped. Hares have an average total length of about 61 cm and weigh in around 3.6 kg. The 'Brown Hare' is generally greyish golden-brown in colour, with a pale belly and a short black and white tail which it carries curved up over its back or straight out when running. The 'Brown Hare', (*Lepus Capensis*) leads a completely different social life style to its close relative the rabbit; unlike the rabbit which is gregarious the hare is usually solitary. I say usually, because at this time of

the year (Spring) they exhibit a totally different form of behaviour. The proverbial expression, 'Mad as a March hare' is an excellent way of describing the insane antics of 'Jack' (male) and 'Jill' (female) hares in the rutting season. They appear to lose all the normal caution they display during other months of the year and assemble in groups where the males chase the females and fight with other males. The antics of the males include bucking on stiff legs as well as rivals indulging in kicking and stand up boxing matches. Nothing appears to be barred



including leaping high in the air over an opponent and kicking him hard in the head with the hind feet. Recently we have discovered that it is not just the male hares that may take part in such activities, if a female is not willing to accommodate the amorous attentions of a male; she will stop turn about, stand up on her two hind legs and clout him firmly about his long ears. The 'Brown Hare' may behave rather strangely in March but at other times of the year they show a definite cunning. Unlike a rabbit the hare does not burrow and seek underground refuge from its enemies; although if closely pursued they have been known on occasions to temporarily dive down a rabbit burrow. As we have said, their main means of defence when hard pressed is speed, although they may decide, if the threat is minimal, to simply crouch low in vegetation where their fur coat will provide excellent camouflage. This is the reason why, when out walking, you may get quite close to one before you are suddenly startled as he or she jumps up and speeds off into the distance. Hares are not rare around Great Bradley and there are certain places where, when walking at dusk you can almost guarantee to spot one. The footpath which runs along the edge of 'Plunder Wood' is one but so are most of the open fields around the village, that is of course before the crops get too high.

The resting place of a hare is known as a 'form' and usually consists of a slight depression in long grass. The hare, unless disturbed, will normally remain crouched in its 'form' during the daylight hours and not emerge until dusk when they will venture out to feed. It is when they leave their 'form' on feeding expeditions that they start to show some of their cunning. On leaving their refuge, in order to break the continuity of scent, (and also when returning at dawn) you may see them turn through 90 degrees and then make a tremendous leap (4.5m or more) often onto a raised bank. They will also often paddle through marshy ground where their scent will not lie before journeying to the feeding ground proper.

Doubling back on their tracks is another method used to confuse predators that are following their scent. Hares are not scared of water and are strong swimmers; one individual was seen to regularly cross a river over a 150m wide in order to raid a field of carrots on the other side. We will come to the topic of food sources later for this is an area where hares may come into conflict with humans.

The female hare (or Doe/Jill) will keep her 'form' well hidden in an area partially covered by gorse or brambles. The young hares are called leverets and the litters normally amount to between two and four youngsters. Leverets are born with their eyes open and develop very quickly being quite independent at a month old.

Hares like rabbits are vegetarian so it's hardly surprising they are in competition with us, their diet includes bark, grasses, grain herbaceous plants and roots to name but a few of their favourites. They can do significant damage to young trees and when present in large numbers can devastate a field of lettuce, carrots or turnips. To be fair to the 'Brown Hare', he didn't ask to be here in the first place; they originated in the central grasslands of Central Asia and were introduced here in Roman times.

We cannot leave a discussion on hares without mentioning 'Hare Coursing'. If hares are causing excessive damage then of course the farmer has every right to take his shot gun to them and take 'one for the pot' but to use them for so called sport is a different matter. Hare coursing was banned in the UK by the [Hunting Act 2004](#). However, as of today it continues illegally, albeit on a small scale, in counties with large areas of flat farmland suitable for hares and that of course includes much of East Anglia like Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, and sad to say parts of Suffolk.

But to finish on a more positive note, here are a few interesting facts on hares:

1. The animal that Americans refer to as a 'Jackrabbit' is not really a rabbit at all... it's a Hare
2. Hares will make a warning sound by grinding their teeth; the sound is then passed on from hare to hare repeating the exercise. This fulfils the same purpose as the stamping (or thumping) of hind feet by rabbits. I'm sure we all remember 'Thumper' in Bambi
3. The large long thin ears of a Brown Hare have a network of blood vessels that control blood flow depending on the temperature. The warm blood from the body is circulated to the ears which can then shed the extra heat to the surrounding air. So they act like a radiator to help keep the hare cool.
4. This final fact is something I have never witnessed myself or indeed met anyone else who has but... there are many written reports by people who have.

The story goes something like this; people have witnessed large groups of hares (up to 30 in total) gathered in a large broad circle all standing motionless and staring into the centre of the circle. This is traditionally known by country folk as a 'Parliament of Hares'. Some say there may be one or two adult hares in the centre of the circle others say just an empty space. No one has a real explanation of why they do it although some say it's all part of the courting ritual. Who knows if these gatherings really happen or are they just one of those strange twists of folklore... I will let you decide.

Hares are mystical creatures who appeal to our own wild side and inner emotions. The hare is secretive and flighty but they never fail to impress. Even though you may have seen a thousand, the mere sight of one can raise our hopes that there is still some magic left in our world as we watch him (or her) speed off into the distance and out of harm's way.

Well... that's all for now, keep those footpaths well trodden.

Walter Lane.



Dullingham Flower Club

From Helen Smith

Our next meeting is on Thursday 11 April 2024

8.00pm

The Taylor Hall, Church Close Dullingham

**We hope you will join us for a demonstration
by**

Emma Lou

entitled

'Second Time Around'

£8 to include refreshments.

Everyone is welcome.

Please contact Lesley Bird for further
information

01638 507658

The next meeting will be on Thursday 8th May
2024



Thurlow WI

From Iris Eley

President Ruth Hopper welcomed members and four
visitors to our March meeting.

She gave notice of future events, the most important
being the Thurlow Fayre which this year will be held
on the eighth of September.

Our speakers were two of our members Ann and
Denise who breed and show Guinea Pigs and had
been very successful as we could see with all the
Rosettes and cups on show. They spoke of the work
involved preparing their pigs and the many long
journeys they had made all over the country to
compete. Ruth thanked them and gave them a pot
plant.

Next month we are visiting Curwin Print which is our
local business in Gt Thurlow.

Warm regards

Iris

For more information, email us at
thurlowwi@gmail.com.

BURROUGH GREEN C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS from David Sanford

Hello again. I hope this edition finds you all well and happy. The weather is now definitely on the upturn. It is easier to get up at 5.30am when it is light(ish) and the journey to school is much better.

As always, we offer incredible staff to pupil ratios here at Burrough Green and the children really do benefit. The Year 6 children, for example, are in a class of 14 for their English, reading and maths lessons, the EYFS/Year 1 class has a total of 16 students! - I have certainly never worked in a school where children have opportunities like this. It truly is an amazing place to be a child.

Academisation

There isn't much to report regarding academisation other than there are delays with the land ownership - the school is now expected to convert on May 1st. Please all rest assured that this is having no impact at all on the children in the school. Even when we have academised, it will still be school and the children will still have to come! Please refer to last month's edition for the questions that parents asked

School Trips - Cultural Capital

School trips are now happening, now the prospect of better weather is upon us. In March, we have had farm visits and theatre trips (more about those later)

Learning off site, or on a visit, develops a child's cultural capital. To give you an example of how and why this is important I have a little story for you - all completely true!

I have a friend - we can call him Bob - who is now a CEO of a company in London and does very well for himself.

When Bob was younger, he struggled. His family couldn't afford days out and he missed out on the opportunities that many of us enjoy. Bob worked hard at school and did really well, securing A grade in 4 A levels and getting a place at Oxford University - but it was there he found problems. The conversations his fellow students were having were about things he hadn't experienced and he felt alienated and increasingly distant from his peers - to a point where he was very unhappy and almost quit his course. He learnt from this. In the fullness of time, he became a successful businessman. Bob never forgot that feeling of alienation at university, and how it almost stopped his learning journey, and he now donates a substantial sum to schools in the area he lives to ensure that all primary aged children have the experiences he didn't get.

I hope 'Bob' doesn't mind me sharing this! Because of 'Bob', a child's cultural capital is very important to me - I am inspired by his actions and am determined to broaden experiences. I don't want any child at Burrough Green to experience what Bob did. We have had pop bands (Calyco), BMX champions and Paralympian gold medallists visit the school and now there are trips planned. Burrough Green is such an exciting place to learn.

Malala and Einstein class have enjoyed a farm visit - learning all about various animals (including some exotic ones!). The children went to Shams to visit a farm. The children loved telling me about their day and adventures and meeting the massive array of animals on show (including snakes and a tarantula!). They had an incredible time.

Teresa and Obama Class went to Cambridge to see *The Boy At The Back Of The Class*. They have been reading the book in school and all enjoyed the show. I know for a fact that among the experiences 'Bob' was lacking was theatre and the arts – he would very much approve of this!

Larks and Owls

More and more parents are continuing to use our new wrap-around-care service. There are places available for all days and we always take late bookings as we appreciate that life throws us a curveball now and again. This half term, Larks and Owls have been entering the children into a range of writing competitions. The children are loving it and have produced some incredible work. On Thursdays we are lucky enough to have prestige sports putting on a session for the wraparound care (last week we had 16 stay!). This week they were doing archery and dodgeball!

To remind you all, morning sessions (Larks) run from 7.30am – 8.45am and evening sessions (Owls) run from 3.30pm to 6pm (even on a Friday, as this is a day many schools will offer a reduced service) – this is much later than local schools offer and has been a real game-changer for working parents. The service is now open to rising 5s – those children in the final year of playgroup or nursery before 'proper school' starts – I'm sure the current customers of Burrough Green Playgroup will be pleased to hear this!

Language Leaders from King's Ely

On 12th March students came to give presentations to our students. All students were engaged and learnt from the Leaders. Obama Class had visitors from Vietnam and Thailand, Teresa Class had visitors from Ukraine and Uzbekistan, Einstein Class had speakers from Sri Lanka and Hong Kong while Malala Class had visitors from Hong Kong/China. The excellent news is that the children will learn about 7 more countries and have a brief opportunity to engage in their culture. Speakers this week will come from South Korea, Germany (including a version of the Number 1 80s hit 99 Red Balloons – sung entirely on German!), Hong Kong, Spain, Peru, China and Kazakhstan.

We are so lucky to have visits like this (it helps that their teacher is also my wife!). My wish is that the children are inspired – I hope they were!

Website

Our new website is now up and running. Our whole team has been working very hard on this and we are proud of it. Please log on to read our weekly newsletter which will appear on here – I read the entire set the other day and they tell an amazing story of the year so far at Burrough Green. As ever, if there is anything not covered or if you have any questions please contact the school office and help will be provided.

Governors

Our governors met on the 29th February and they wished to share the following points:

- We are proud that the school has earned a well-deserved certificate from the Fischer Family Trust in recognition of being in the top 10% of the country for attendance levels.
- It was pleasing that the School Improvement Advisor has identified many positive developments in phonics and early reading during her latest visit to the school.

- We look forward to the swimming pool opening in the summer term and to exploring ways to keep it open during the summer holidays. This is something which will need support from the whole school community to be successful.
- The Schools Financial Value Standard assessment has been approved and will be submitted to the local authority. This is undertaken to evidence the effective management of the school's finances. We were delighted to hear about Father Patrick speaking with the children about Lent and that he enjoyed hearing the children sing.

Our governors are all volunteers, and work tirelessly for our school and community. Thank you

Events

- The school is holding a bingo evening (in the school hall) on Friday 22nd March. All welcome - please contact the school office for details.
- Our Easter Service is on 28th March at 2pm. It will be in Burrough Green Church and everyone is welcome. Please join us to celebrate and learn about all things Easter.

We look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible!

We have space in all classes. If you are interested in securing a place for your child in any year group, please contact the school and an appointment will be made for you to visit the school, have 'the tour' to see the school at work and see our wonderful facilities (including a swimming pool!).

I am excited by the future of Burrough Green and it is privilege to be able to tell you about our exploits every month.

Take care everyone.

David Sandford

Headteacher



Burrough Green CofE Primary School
Working Together To Discover And Learn

NEWS FROM THE ELLESMERE CENTRE

Easter Roller Skating Session

Tuesday 2nd April

3.30-5.30pm

Booking Essential

01638 508212

Easter Activity Camps

We are pleased to welcome
Prestige Sports Development
to the centre this Easter.

They will be running camps on **9th 10th and 11th April**

To book please contact

<https://www.prestigesportsdevelopment.com/mega-activity-holiday-camps>

Multi Use Games Area

We have some regular and ad hoc slots available on the MUGA for Football and Tennis.

Football £27 per Hour

Tennis £9 per court (£7 concession)

Please call the office to check availability 01638 508212

Date for your Diary!**The Ellesmere Summer Show
and
332nd Annual Flower and Craft Show**

Sunday 7th July 2024 at 12pm

More details to follow

Follow us on Facebook or Twitter@CentreEllesmere

Email: office@ellesmerecentre.org.uk alternatively call us on 01638 508212

ADVERTISING

Note that the advertisements in this newsletter are accepted in good faith, please note that they are not personal recommendations from the editorial team. Details are available online too <https://greatbradley.weebly.com/local-business.html>.

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- 3 age appropriate rooms
- We can also offer Before & After school pick-ups (Wickhambrook, Hundon & Thurlow Primary Schools), and
- Holiday Clubs for all ages up to 11yrs of age.

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Email: debbie@happy-days-childcare.co.uk

Website: www.happy-days-childcare.co.uk

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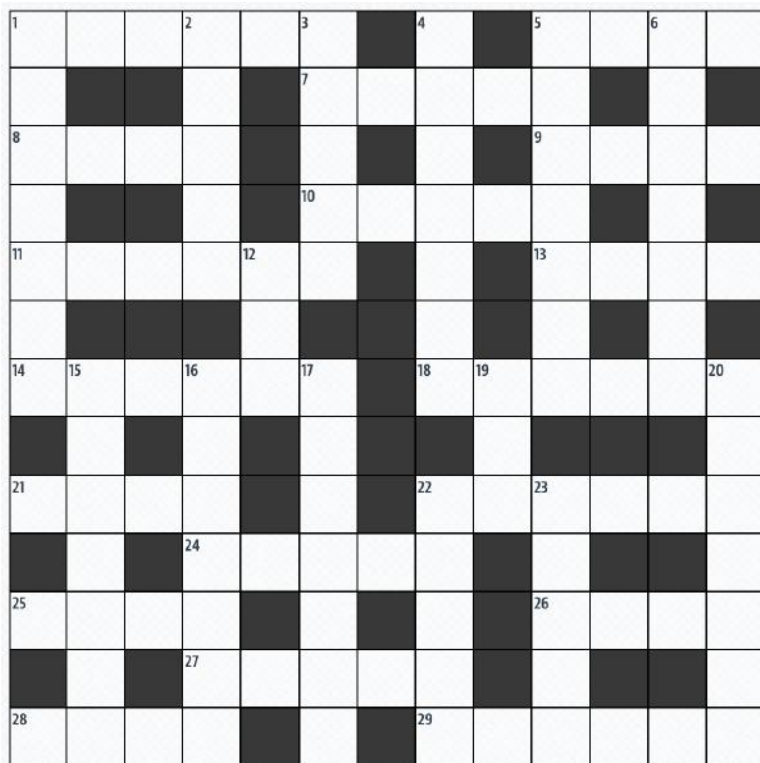
Paul Nicholson 

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07890 118021 Burrough Green
Newmarket

Email: paulnicholson418@gmail.com

TIME FOR A BREAK AND A BIT OF FUN

The 'just for fun' feature really is for fun, no competitions, no prizes, sorry.



Across	Down
1. Italian pies	1. Purses (lips)
5. Reverberate	2. African striped beast
7. Part of flower	3. Muscle twitch
8. Infant's bed	4. Deviated
9. Starring role	5. Flattened circle shape
10. Hindu teacher	6. Secret collector
11. Mummify	12. Lower limb
13. Pea casings	15. Aptitude
14. Fierce	16. Mounts
18. Dismal	17. Compel compliance with
21. White metal	19. Crustacean's eggs
22. Rules as monarch	20. Eastern veil
24. Flee with lover	22. Brings up (child)
25. King cat	23. Deduce
26. Translucent covering	
27. Furnishing scheme	
28. Exercise clubs	
29. Lightning flash	

G E N I A L L O R D V H G Y
 E D E Y O J R E V O U R Y X
 S Z T Y R O L G O J E E N G
 M L N S D A Q L S A X N N A
 D G M W X H Q U T S N I U I
 Y N J E P D Z F C O N F S E
 P I D E L Y E H I E H L Y T
 P M W T P B E T T P E R K Y
 A R M R H E A R A C N E C Q
 H A I P R L A I U M E F L O
 A H Z Y E E Y M M T I C M G
 C C J R H O K E N A P N I W
 X F J G A J O R A V Q A A N
 C Z E D U T I T A E B S R G

AMIABLE	MIRTHFUL
ANIMATED	NICE
BEATITUDE	OVERJOYED
CHARMING	PERKY
CHEERY	RAPTURE
CHIRPY	RELAXED
DROLL	SUNNY
ELATION	
FINE	
GAIETY	
GENIAL	
GLEE	
GLORY	
GREAT	
HAPPY	
HEARTENING	

TIME FOR A BREAK AND A BIT OF FUN

The 'just for fun' feature really is for fun, no competitions, no prizes, sorry.

Answers to last month's crossword and word search.

1	E	N	T	2	I	T	3	Y		4	A		5	E	T	6	C	H
	N				D		7	E	M	B	E	R		O				
8	L	U	L	L			A			9	E	A	C	H				
	A				E		10	S	O	N	I	C		A				
11	R	E	G	R	12	E	T			D			13	T	H	I	N	
	G					W				O		E		N				
14	15	A	G	16	L	E	17	S		18	N	19	U	D	G	E	20	D
		I			I		E				R							I
21	G	R	A	B			T			22	A	N	23	C	H	O	R	
		C			24	R	A	B	I	D		U						E
25	A	R	E	A		A		O		26	T	A	L	C				
		E			27	R	E	C	U	R		E						T
28	S	W	A	Y		K				29	N	U	R	S	E	S		

T	Q	T	Z	R	C	J	R	L	D	M	X
A	A	K	M	L	E	U	P	C	R	L	Q
B	P	K	H	F	A	F	U	R	E	I	D
C	I	P	E	L	P	D	L	I	C	N	G
G	A	E	E	A	R	Z	E	S	C	D	A
A	N	R	I	T	W	P	H	P	O	I	R
N	Q	F	T	K	I	A	E	S	S	C	B
C	A	N	D	Y	O	Z	Y	T	M	A	A
R	B	P	X	V	B	O	E	B	R	T	G
J	I	B	P	K	E	O	C	R	I	O	E
I	N	G	V	Y	A	S	O	Q	E	R	L
Q	F	V	M	D	R	Z	T	T	P	U	F

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY FOR PIMP MY FISH

The Pimp my Fish van will be at the Village Hall at 5:30pm on the following dates. Note that you can order online: <https://order.pimp-my-fish.co.uk/>



Month	Day	Date
February	Thursday	8th
March	Thursday	14th
April	Thursday	11th
May	Thursday	9th
June	Thursday	13th
July	Thursday	11th
August	Thursday	8th
September	Thursday	12th
October	Thursday	10th
November	Thursday	14th
December	Thursday	12th

FUN FACTS ABOUT APRIL

- We know it is the fourth month of the year, but that's only by the Gregorian calendar that we adhere to now. It was previously the fifth month in the earlier Julian calendar.
- April also only had 29 days, but a 30th day was added when Julius Caesar established the Julian calendar.
- The etymology behind the word "April" comes from the verb "aperire," which means "to open." It's commonly believed that the word refers to the season of trees and flowers begin to "open" or bloom.
- April is a great month for meteor showers. One of which is the Lyrids meteor shower, which will appear from April 14th coming to a maximum on April 22nd - 23rd this year. There's another one called the Eta Aquariids meteor shower that can be seen onwards from April 19th to 28th.
- On April 14, 1912, the famous Titanic ship hit an iceberg and sank on her first and only voyage.
- One of the most well-known dates of the month is April Fools' Day on the 1st of the month. No one is sure where this originated from, but some believe it to be inspired by Geoffrey Chaucer's story in "Canterbury Tales" called "Nun's Priest's Tale."

QUIZ - Answers from the March quiz

1. Who wrote the book Chitty-Chitty-Bang-Bang: The Magical Car? **Ian Fleming**
2. In which part of your body would you find the cruciate ligament? **Knee**
3. What is the name of the main antagonist in the Shakespeare play Othello? **Iago**
4. When was the movie the Titanic released? **1997**
5. What element is denoted by the chemical symbol Sn in the periodic table? **Tin**
6. How many of Henry VIII's wives were called Catherine? **3**
7. What was the most popular girl's name in the UK in 2021? **Olivia**
8. What is the name of the 1976 film about the Watergate scandal, starring Robert Redford and Dustin Hoffman? **All the President's Men**
9. Which comedian was the second permanent host of Never Mind the Buzzcocks after Mark Lamarr? **Simon Amstell**
10. What is the capital of Finland? **Helsinki**
11. Which popular video game franchise has released games with the subtitles World At War and Black Ops? **Call of Duty**
12. In what US state is the city Nashville? **Tennessee**
13. Which rock band was founded by Trent Reznor in 1988? **Nine Inch Nails**
14. What is the currency of Denmark? **Krone**
15. Which Tennis Grand Slam is played on a clay surface? **The French Open (Roland Garros)**

APRIL QUIZ

A fiendishly obscure quiz for April, answers next month.

The 'just for fun' feature really is for fun, no competitions, no prizes, sorry.

1. How many permanent teeth does a dog have?
2. What is the most sold flavour of Walker's crisps?
3. What is the full postcode of the Houses of Parliament?
4. What does the Latin word 'tempus' mean in English?
5. How many chukkers are there in a polo match?
6. On average how far away is the moon from the earth in miles?
7. What is someone who believes in antisestablishmentarianism opposed to the disestablishment of?
8. What's longer, a nautical mile or a mile?
9. Saying the name of what dried fruit used to be used to encourage people to smile before a photo in the 1800s, before the phrase "cheese?"
10. Which country in the world is believed to have the most miles of motorway?
11. What was legendary comedy actor Oliver Hardy's real first name at birth?
12. Gordon Sumner is the real name of what famous British musician?
13. How many keys are there on a piano?
14. Glossectomy is the removal of all of or part of which body part?
15. What was the first single to be released by the band Oasis?
16. Geoff Hurst famously scored a hat-trick in England's 4-2 win over West Germany in the 1966 World Cup final. Who scored the other goal for England?
17. Name all five Brontë sisters.
18. Which Stephen King novel takes place mostly in the fictional Overlook Hotel?
19. What do Lord of the Rings author J.R.R. Tolkien's initials stand for?
20. What is the best-selling novel of all time?

COLOURING IN

