



# The Bradley Bugle

May 2012

Issue 163 [www.great-bradley.suffolk.gov.uk](http://www.great-bradley.suffolk.gov.uk)



**THANK YOU to the Village Litterpickers!**

## Village Diary

all events take place in the Village Hall unless otherwise noted

VILLAGE EVENT	DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS <i>see inside</i>	TUESDAY 5 JUNE
PARISH COUNCIL AGM	Open Forum for villagers at beginning of meeting	Wednesday 23 May 7.30pm
see details in April Bugle	FARM and WOODLAND TOUR	Saturday 2 June 4pm
SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING	Lively, light exercise and fun! Contact Ella Hollins on 710340	Mondays 2 – 4pm
CARPET BOWLS	Contact Jill Rodwell 783371 or Carol Durrant 783307	Mondays 7.30pm
FLEXIBLE FRIENDS	Gentle stretching exercises Contact Jacquie on 783354	Tuesdays 10.30am – 12 noon
ART CLASS	Contact Anne Pigden on 783175 for details	Tuesdays 2 – 4pm
WEA - 2012	Restarts in September- see details inside	
AFTERNOON CLUB	All welcome, all ages, all interests Come and meet friends and neighbours - Contact Gill Brown 01223 893012	Thursday 10 May 2.30pm
MOBILE LIBRARY	12.20 – 12.35pm Evergreen Lane	Monday 21 May
BLACK BIN	Saturday 12 & Friday 25 May	
BLUE/BROWN BINS	Fridays 4 & 18 May and 1 June	
<b>Deadline for JUNE Bugle copy SATURDAY 12 MAY</b> to ensure we publish the JUBILEE celebration details in good time!		

## St Mary's Church, Great Bradley - Services May 2012

For further details see Benefice News

### Church cleaning:

May: Keith & Sue Willington

June: Geoffrey & Arline Vollam

### Flowers:

May: Arline Vollam

June: Sally Hendry



<b>6 May</b>	<b>11 am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>	<b>Great Bradley</b>
13 May	9.30am	Holy Communion	Little Bradley
<b>20 May</b>	<b>10 am</b>	<b>Benefice Communion</b>	<b>Barnardiston</b>
<b>27 May</b>	<b>11 am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>	<b>Great Bradley</b>
	4pm	Jubilee Evensong	Kedington
3 June	11 am	Jubilee Service	Little Thurlow

## Save the date - Sunday 8 July - Great Bradley Church Fete!

The annual Great Bradley Church Fete will take place on Sunday 8 July 2012 with a range of attractions including the St Felix Steel Band, giant rabbits, vintage cars, art show and photos by Les Bunyan, all in the beautiful setting of Great Bradley Hall.

HOWEVER none of this can happen without your help – we desperately need volunteers to help to run stalls, serve teas, and set up and clear away afterwards.

The next planning meeting will be on Tuesday 15 May at 10 am at Fox Corner. Please come along if you can help in any way, or contact Sue (783595), Keith (783607) or Geoffrey (783132).

Once again there will be a draw for a hamper of produce originating from the Great Bradley Estate – look out for tickets with next month's Bugle for your chance to win a magnificent prize!

And don't miss the **10th Annual Duck Race on the River Stour in Kedington on 7 May 2012.**

Ducks race at 1 pm. in aid of Kedington Church restoration fund.

## Village Litter Pick 2012

Many thanks to those of you who met at the Village Hall on Saturday 31 March to take part in the Great Bradley annual spring-clean.

Although the warm days of March had just finished, the weather was dry, cool and ideal for lifting the rubbish that spoils our hedgerows and verges, a lot of which unfortunately is thrown by careless drivers on their way through the village.

As well as the usual glass and plastic bottles, drinks cans and various sorts of packaging, a car wheel and tyre were retrieved, plus wheel trims, and some heavy overhead line ceramic insulators were all added to the collection.

It was altogether a praiseworthy and conscientious effort by adults and children, well deserving of the refreshments afterwards in the Hall. We are grateful to Anne Smith and Karina Joyce for their lovely cakes and for offering us coffee and tea. Thanks also to John Barnett and to the Parish Council for obtaining the gloves, sacks and pickers, etc. which will now be available to us for future clear-ups.

Doubtless we will have to have a similar exercise next year but in the meantime let's all try to keep our village in the 'best-kept' category!

*Geoffrey Vollam (photos John Barnett)*



## PILATES!

Would you be interested in attending a Pilates class in the village hall? We are hoping to offer a class on Tuesday evenings run by a qualified instructor who lives in the village. We plan to offer a "taster" session where people can try out the discipline for a one-off fee. Watch out for details in the next edition of the Bugle!

*Wendy Mansfield*

## Great Bradley Jubilee Celebration

The Parish Council and Village Hall are planning a day of events celebrating the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, on **Tuesday 5 June**. Please put the date in your diary!

We hope there will be something for everyone to enjoy, plus plenty of opportunity to meet and chat with your neighbours and fellow villagers, and that as many of you as possible will come to at least some of the events.



Plans so far include:

- A family- and child-friendly walk and treasure hunt along some of the parish footpaths. There will be clues to look for and questions to answer for children, with prizes for the winners. All are welcome on this event, and those with children are particularly encouraged to come. This will not be strenuous, but stout footwear will be necessary, especially if it has rained recently.
- Official opening of the new Interpretation Panel and footpaths map near the bridge in Hall Road.
- Official dedication and opening of a new Diamond Jubilee seat in the churchyard.
- Commemorative village photo. We are hoping that as many villagers as possible will come to this, even if they come to nothing else, because it would be an interesting record for the future.
- Official dedication of the new flagpole in front of the Village Hall, and the flags.
- A hog roast lunch on the recreation ground (subject to weather), starting at about 12:30pm, and lasting well into the afternoon, or until the food runs out. There will be roast pork in rolls with apple sauce and stuffing, salads, and something different for those who can't eat or don't like pork. There will be a bar with wine, real ale, Pimms and soft drinks. Please note we've done our best to estimate how much will be required but there will not be unlimited food or drink available. People will be served on a first come first served basis until the food and drink run out. Please don't leave your visit too late; you won't be able to complain if all the food or drink has gone by the time you get there!
- Official opening of the new wild flower area in the grove on the recreation ground, with the opportunity for children to plant some seeds.
- An informal game of rounders on the recreation ground.
- A children's tea party in the Village Hall. A china Diamond Jubilee mug will be presented to each child attending.

We are not now planning to include a photography competition or exhibition.

The times mentioned above are tentative, and a full timetable will be published later.

These events are intended primarily for people who live in the parish and their relatives, friends and guests, and are free to all of these. Please don't publish them in the highways and byways of Haverhill or further afield, for obvious reasons... We reserve the right to charge or turn away people from outside the parish who don't seem to be with anyone.

We need lots of help to organise and run these events! Many thanks to those who have already offered to help. If you might be able to help us, in any (even small) way, with any of these, please speak to a member of the Parish Council soon!

In addition to the above, we are hoping to plant some trees, but June is not a good time for tree planting, so this will probably happen later in the year.

## Village Hall – use of car park

There has been an increase in suspicious activity and a spate of break-ins in the local area.

We have been made aware that a number of vehicles have been left parked at the Village Hall over recent months, on more than one occasion for an extended period of time.

Please be aware that parking at the Hall is limited and is for users of the Hall.

If anyone in the village feels they need to park a vehicle there, when the Hall is not in use, we ask that they contact a member of the Hall Committee first to check if that would be all right. Any vehicle left would be entirely at the owner's risk.

Unknown vehicles parked at the Hall may now be reported to Haverhill Police and St. Edmundsbury Council as abandoned.

If you wish to park a vehicle please contact Edward Fletcher on 783075 or Anne Smith on 783648.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

*The Village Hall Committee*

## Village Interpretation Panel

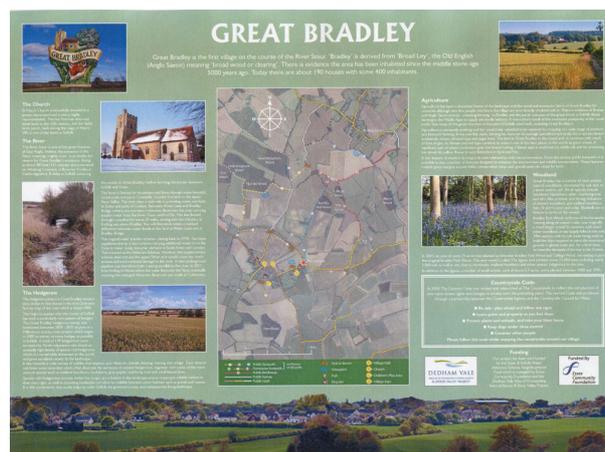
Over the last months members of the Parish Council have designed an interpretation panel for the village. This has been put together to tell both the increasing numbers of walkers, and villagers, about the surrounding area and the walks available. It includes text, a map and several pictures of our beautiful surroundings. The panel has been funded in part by Essex and Suffolk Water Abberton Scheme Neighbourhood Fund, as a result of the recent pipeline works that have taken place within the parish, and the Dedham Vale AONB and Stour Valley Project.

Manufacturing is currently underway and by the time you read this it will have been delivered in good time for unveiling next to the river, at the start of the walks in Hall Lane, as part of our Jubilee celebrations.

We are also planning to produce a leaflet that people can take away with them. The intention is for this to be based on the wildlife of the area, to be a guide for things to spot whilst walking and to be of interest to the children who live in and visit the village. If you have any suggestions for the type of things you would like to see contained in this leaflet please let any member of the Parish Council have your ideas.

The Parish Council would like to thank Les Bunyan, Charles Ryder and Rod Pass for their contributions in making this project possible.

*Karina Joyce*



## Mrs Agnes Beavis (c 1922-2012)

Many residents and indeed former residents of Great Bradley will be deeply saddened by the passing away of Mrs Agnes Beavis, perhaps better known as Aggie or Mary, at Fornham All Saints on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2012. Our thoughts, prayers and sympathy go to all her family and in particular to her son Graham, daughter Rosemary and brother Cyril.

Born Agnes Potter c.1922, her days as a resident of Great Bradley spanned an incredible 75 year period from 1934 to 2009 during which time Mary lived at Prospect Villas, Crown House and finally in Clarendale. Eventually she left Great Bradley to live with son Graham at Fornham All Saints. Indeed her brother Cyril only left the village himself late in 2011 so together they were true "Bradley-ites".

Mary served with The Women's Land Army during WW2 and married Reg towards the end of the war. Reg was a local builder and undertaker and in the early 1950s they moved into Crown House where they lived for some 25 years. In 1965 Crown House became a Post Office and also provided a local Petrol Pump service for eleven years until taken over by Marie and Tony Knight.

Mary was an active participant and supporter of village activities but in particular the WI and any fund raising events for the Village Hall. She also had a rapier-like way with words when needed and many of us will surely remember well that steely look and sharp retort if we stepped over the line!

Although Mary's passing is a sad occasion she lived a full and eventful life and it was a pleasure and privilege to have known her. For certain she will be fondly remembered by many in and around Great Bradley.

(with thanks to Marie Knight for her contribution)

*Richard Bradberry*

## 1st Burrough Green Brownies

The Brownies meet weekly in Brinkley during the school term. For girls aged seven to ten.

The Brownies went aboard a pirate ship and had great weekend of adventure!

At the end of March we headed off to the Jarman Centre in Newmarket, for a weekend of fun based on the theme of pirates! Friday evening was party night with lots of fancy pirate costumes and some fun pirate party games.

The girls enjoyed some great crafts, as well as orienteering their way around the many acres of grounds to bring them to the pirate treasure. We enjoyed a fantastic campfire on the Saturday evening with plenty of singing - and marshmallows! Sunday saw a very enjoyable session of archery, with a brilliant instructor, whose guidance enabled every girl to hit the target.

We stayed in a purpose-built holiday house on a secure campsite which is owned by Girlguiding Cambridgeshire East. You can find out more about the Jarman Centre by visiting [www.cambseastguides.org.uk](http://www.cambseastguides.org.uk)

If anyone would like more information, or would like to register a girl who is not yet 7 please contact:

**Margaret Whalley 01638 716939**

## **GREAT BRADLEY WEA**

WEA have an interesting course with a local connection commencing on Wednesday 19 September in the Village Hall. We will be exploring the impact of Wartime USAAF in East Anglia, the combat history, cultural impact and legacy of the American presence during WW2.

I have spoken to local people who have personal memories so we hope that village residents will come along to both relive their memories and share them with the group, as well as listening to what our tutor Ian McLachlan has to tell us. We are a small and friendly group who would welcome you. The cost for the eight two hour sessions with tea/coffee is £46. The first week is free as a taster. If you require more information please contact me, Peter Smith on 01440 783278. We look forward to seeing you.

## **Les & Anne's Nature Notes**

Troglodytes troglodytes

If you were asked which is the commonest bird in Britain what would you say? Maybe one of the following: Wood pigeon, Starling, Blackbird or perhaps one of the corvid family of birds, Crow, Jackdaw or Rook?

Well, you would be wrong, it is in fact the tiny Wren. It is estimated that there are 8 million territories in the U.K. That's in effect 16 million birds or more.

That fact always amazes me because Wrens are pretty hard to spot. They are very vocal and have an incredibly loud song for such a small bird, but getting a good look at one is hard as so often all you see is a little brown ball whizzing along the hedgerow. However if you are lucky enough to get a close look, they are a most attractive bird as can be seen from this photo I took as one visited our front garden recently They weigh in average about 10 grams and suffer badly in very cold weather. They have a habit in winter of roosting together and up to 50 have



been recorded in one Blue Tit nesting box! Their Latin name which heads this article means "cave dweller" and refers to their nest which is a small round cave-like structure.

Now on to other birds. We were delighted to see a male Peregrine Falcon circle over our house recently, a real treat as it's only the second time we have seen one in the village. Just today (16th April) the first Swallow has been reported to us, but perhaps the biggest news is that a pair of Mandarin Ducks were seen on the river by Colin Potter, I was so envious! Chiff Chaffs are being heard all around the parish now, a real sign of things to come, and we saw a fine looking Wheatear near High Point Prison.

Several villagers have reported seeing Barn Owls and that is great news for the future.

Please remember that sightings of anything unusual in the area are always of interest so don't hesitate to give us a call or email.

Happy spotting Les & Anne

## Annual Village Meeting

On Wednesday 18 April over 30 Great Bradley residents gathered in the Village Hall for the annual Village Meeting. The evening started with some very tasty drinks and nibbles kindly organised by Karina Joyce. The business of the meeting started at 7.30pm. The main topics covered were:

- Local bus services, including the Suffolk Link “demand responsive transport” system (John Barnett)
- Suffolk police and local crime levels - 6 crimes in the last year, mostly burglaries from outbuildings (Kayla Packman, our PCSO)
- Suffolk County Council (Jane Midwood, our County Councillor)
- The Parish Council achievements last year, plans for the coming year, and finances (Rowan Sylvester-Bradley, Parish Council chairman)
- Village Hall now fully operational after the floods. New picture rail being fitted as a flexible display system. (Edward Fletcher)
- The Bugle. More articles required! (Sue Sylvester-Bradley)
- The village website goes from strength to strength, thanks to Mike Brophy (Rowan Sylvester-Bradley)
- Neighbourhood Watch active, with regular meetings (John Barnett)
- Community Speedwatch (John Barnett)
- Great Bradley Farms, including the new recreation ground hedging, the pipeline, and plans for undergrounding of local power and phone cables (Charles Ryder)
- Church and PCC (Sue Ireland)
- WEA – see separate article (Peter Smith)
- Bowls Club (Carole Durrant)
- Afternoon Club (Carole Durrant)
- Art Group (Anne Pigden)
- Scottish Dancing (Helen Smith)
- The new Interpretation Panel/footpaths map – see separate article (Karina Joyce)
- The Diamond Jubilee celebration on June 5th – see separate article (Rowan Sylvester-Bradley)
- Children’s play area, and new basketball hoop (Rowan Sylvester-Bradley)
- Bonfire night this year will be on Saturday 3 November (Rowan Sylvester-Bradley)
- Litter pick – see separate article (Geoffrey Vollam – written report)
- Village archives, more volunteers would be welcome (Rowan Sylvester-Bradley)
- Coffee Caravan (John Barnett)
- Hedgerow survey now complete – 172 hedges surveyed by 2 teams over 3 years (John Barnett)
- Forthcoming village events
- Ideas, problems, suggestions

There is not enough space here to say more about the information given in each of the above sections. If you are interested, draft minutes of the meeting will be available on the village web site, or for inspection (ask John Barnett) from late May onwards.

Rowan Sylvester-Bradley thanked all the attendees and contributors to this useful and interesting meeting, and it was declared closed at 9.35pm.

## Great Bradley RAINFALL 2011

Rainfall at Bradley in 2011 totalled 17.77ins (451.30mm), well below both the 10 year rolling average of 25.10ins and the 50 rolling average of 24.62ins.

2011 was obviously a very dry year; it was almost the driest year since our records began in 1954. Only 1996 (17.65ins) and 1964 (17.72ins) have been drier. By comparison the wettest year on record was 2000 with a total of 33.58ins.

The very dry conditions have been receiving much publicity and have resulted in a hosepipe ban in much of East Anglia and South East England which commenced on 5<sup>th</sup> April. 2011's very low rainfall has been exacerbated by a dry Autumn and early Winter in 2010 when rainfall between October and December was significantly below average.

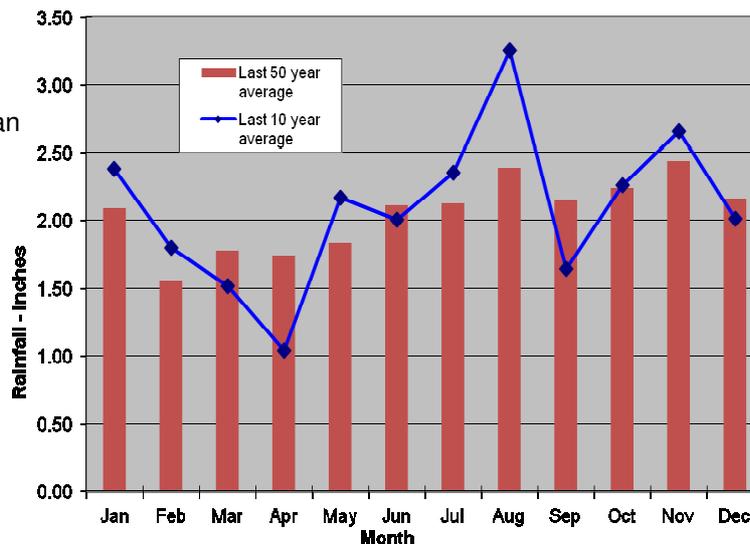
And the start of this year has continued with the same pattern as 2011. We had 2.30 ins in January compared to the 10 year average of 2.40 ins and 0.97 ins in February compared to the 10 year average of 1.80 ins, and, unless the forecast is really inaccurate, we are heading for about 1.20 ins in March compared to a 10 year average of 1.50 ins.

The dry weather last year was difficult for gardens and farms alike. Here on the heavy, moisture retaining clay lands crop yields held up remarkably well despite the lack of moisture from early March to the end of May. A relatively wet June saved the day! However, even on Bradley's heavy soil, I think the toll on crops and gardens will be much more significant this year if we do not have a substantial amount of rain in April and May. Last year, we had a reasonable residue of moisture below the surface but this has now all been used up.

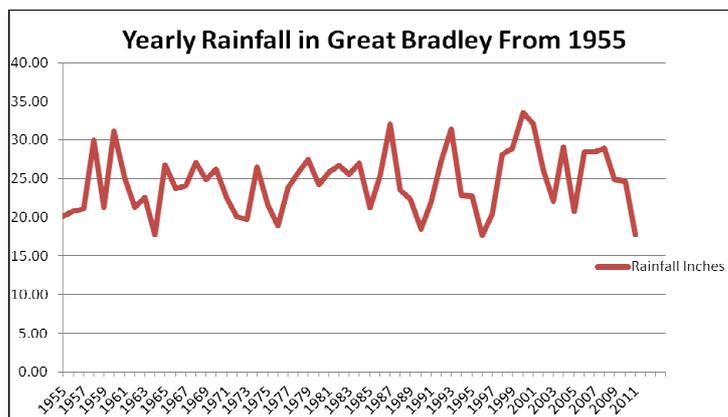
Let's hope that the announcement of the hosepipe ban does the usual trick of bringing about rainfall. If it doesn't work perhaps the Government could appoint a Minister for Drought as was the case in 1976. The appointment heralded an immediate deluge!

Charles Ryder  
23 March 2012

Last 50 Year Average and Last 10 Year Average Monthly Rainfall



Yearly Rainfall in Great Bradley From 1955



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## ANGEL VOICES

In their next concert '**Angelus**' at St Mary's Church, Saffron Walden on **Saturday 12 May**, at 7.30pm **Granta Chorale** will perform a programme of angelic music, including the first performance of Janet Wheeler's newest composition '*Magnificat cum Angelis*'.

Since the text of the Magnificat is the song Mary sang after the visit of the Angel Gabriel, Janet Wheeler decided to begin the work with a setting of the Angelus, which recounts that visit. She has also included two angel texts taken from medieval mystery plays - one has Gabriel's words as he departs and the other looks ahead to Mary's own death when six angels come to lead her to heaven. The music has touches of medieval mysticism, helped by the use of handbells, organ and harp, and at others times the flavour of Jewish dance music. Angelus is scored for choir with small string ensemble, trumpet, harp, bells, percussion and organ and soprano soloist.

The programme includes pieces by Bruckner, Grieg and Poulenc and modern composers Franz Biebl, Ben Parry and Paul Mealor. Biebl's Ave Maria is truly sumptuous - as you'll hear if you check it out on YouTube! The young soprano soloist Catherine Pope will also perform Handel's *Let the bright Seraphim*, a sparkling Handel aria with a wonderful high trumpet solo.

Granta Chorale will be joined by the Chameleon Arts Ensemble, harpist Anne Denholm, organist Richard Carr and percussionists Sam Wilson and Craig Apps.

Tickets (£10 children £2) are available from Saffron Walden Tourist Information Centre and Granta Chorale Tickets T: 01223 892001, E: tickets@grantachorale.org.uk or at the door. [www.grantachorale.org.uk](http://www.grantachorale.org.uk)

## FUTURE EDITIONS OF THE BUGLE:

*Please tell us your news or send a photograph – We'll be delighted to hear from you!*

***In order that your Bugle reaches you early in the month all copy must be received in good time.***

***N.B. Deadline for the June edition is 12 May 2012.***

### The Editorial team

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*Please note that the advertisements in this magazine are accepted in good faith but are not personal recommendations of the editorial team.*



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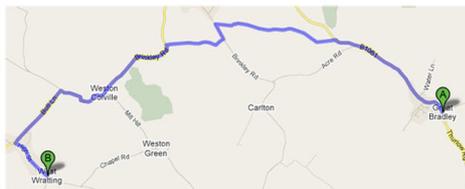
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Monday - Friday / 6:30am - 7:00pm



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## Dear Villagers

The Bradley Bugle Team beaver away each month to bring you the local news and notices.

We have a very small band of regular contributors without whom these pages would be blank!

We would love to hear from YOU.

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**Send us an email NOW!**

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