



The Bradley Bugle

www.great-bradley.suffolk.gov.uk

December 2013

Issue 179

Off With A Bang At This Year's Fireworks!



Many Thanks to all those involved with organising and helping with this year's Bonfire and Fireworks, and to all villagers and friends that came along to support the event.

A great time was had by all!



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Village Diary

All events take place in the Village Hall unless otherwise stated.

December / January		
Children's Christmas Party	Sunday December 8th 2 – 5pm	CANCELLED – Due to lack of numbers
Carol Service	22 nd December 3pm	Great Bradley Church
Parish Council Meeting	Wednesday January 29 th	7:30pm
Weekly Events		
SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING	Lively, light exercise and fun! Contact Ella Hollins on 710340	Mondays 2 – 4pm
FLEXIBLE FRIENDS	Gentle stretching exercises. Contact Jaquie on 783354.	Tuesdays 10:30am – 12 noon
ART CLASS	Contact Anne Pigden for details 783175.	Tuesdays 2 – 4pm.
PILATES	Contact Helen Axon mob: 07843 097671	Tuesdays 7:30 – 8:30pm
WEA 2013	Currently: 'History of the English Language' New members are very welcome to come along for a free taster week. Contact Peter Smith for more info. on 783278	Wednesdays at 10:15am
MOBILE LIBRARY	Evergreen Lane 12:20 – 12:35pm.	Wednesday 11 th December (Every 4 weeks)
AFTERNOON CLUB	All welcome, all ages, all interests. Come and meet friends and neighbours. Contact Gill Dunn on 783362	Party Time, details p.3
AEROBICS	Mixed ability, back to basics fun workout. Contact Birgit 07972 108491	Fridays 10:30 – 11:30am (school terms)
BLACK BINS	Friday December 6 th & 20 th Friday January 3 rd , 17 th , 31 st	Christmas Collections - TBA
BLUE & BROWN BINS	Friday December 13 th Friday January 10 th & 24 th	

Royal Mail - Last Posting Dates for Christmas

Wednesday 4 th December	Asia, Far East (including Japan), New Zealand
Thursday 5 th December	Australia
Friday 6 th December	Africa, Caribbean, Central & South America, Middle East
Monday 9 th December	Cyprus, Eastern Europe
Tuesday 10 th December	Canada, France, Greece, Poland
Friday 13 th December	USA
Saturday 14 th December	Western Europe (excluding France, Greece, Poland)
Wednesday 18 th December	2 nd Class and Royal Mail Signed For™
Friday 20 th December	1 st Class and Royal Mail Signed For™

Village News & Notices

Afternoon Club

December afternoon club will be on **Thursday 12th at 2:30 pm.**

It's Party time so please bring a wrapped gift to the value of between £3.00 - £4.00

there is no raffle this month.

Just come along and enjoy the afternoon.

All Welcome!

Gill Dunn



1st Burrough Green Brownies

The Brownies had a great afternoon at 'Revels', this is a Linton District event which involves all the Brownie units in the district getting together.

The theme was Pantomimes; the girls enjoyed making fairy godmother wings, playing pantomime bingo, planting a magic bean (crocus bulb!) and making Cinderella ball masks.

The event finished with lots of singing and a great time was had by all.

The girls are very excited about their forthcoming trip to the pantomime to see Robin Hood at the Cambridge Arts Theatre. We have also invited the Rainbows to come with us as it was such a successful trip last year.

Brownies meet weekly in Brinkley during the school term. Brownies is for girls aged 7 to 10 if anyone would like more information please contact:

Amanda Davies; 01440 783803

1st Brinkley Rainbows

Rainbows also meet weekly in Brinkley during the school term. Rainbows is for girls aged 5 to 7 if you would like more information please contact:

Edith Osborn; 01223 291375

Great Bradley Village Hall Lottery

The Village Hall Lottery has been in existence since 1998 and I have been running it since 2006. The lottery 'year' runs from March to February and I have decided to stand down from running it this February.

The lottery isn't particularly time consuming and if anybody would like to continue running it from next year please get in touch with me and I'll explain what is involved.

Simon Kiddy;

Tel: 783102



Winners for November and December 2013

	November		December	
First	Charles Ryder	The Hall	Murray Hearn	East Green
Second	Roy Smith	Clarendale	Les Bunyan	Clarendale
Third	Sally Hendry	The Street	Karina Joyce	The Fox
Fourth	Ned Ryder	The Hall	David Dolby	Clarendale

For further details and information please contact Simon Kiddy.

2013 Poppy Appeal - Royal British Legion

On behalf of the Royal British Legion we would like to thank everyone in Great Bradley for their generous donations to the Poppy Appeal. This year the total for the village was £276.01, which is brilliant as the total for the whole of the Thurlow district was £684.16. Your support is very much appreciated.



Carole Durrant and Pat Spires.

Grateful thanks to every person in the Thurlows and Bradleys who contributed to the 2013 Poppy Appeal. The total raised from House-to-House collections reached almost £685 whilst the Remembrance Sunday collection at All Saints, Great Thurlow and contributions from wreaths added a further £262.00. A total of just under £950.00 is an excellent result and the R.B.L. is extremely grateful.

Many thanks go out to Mrs. Hunt, Mrs. Bigland, Mrs. Hilton, Mrs. Durrant and Mrs. Spires who kindly agreed to conduct the House-to-House collections, and to the Thurlow School, The Cock, Thurlow Stores and the Estate Office where static collections were available.

All in all a very satisfactory total raised for such a worthwhile cause.

Sam Sheppard

Antiques Roadshow Evening

The dozen or so people who turned up for the Antiques Roadshow Evening were treated to an entertaining and informative talk from Barrie Stevenson. Items discussed ranged from Moorcroft Pottery and Clarice Cliff Art Deco ware to pictures painted on glass and a volume of hand-coloured maps of the counties of England. Barrie talked about the history of various companies and the background of how things were made.



He does not give valuations as he is not a professional but a keen amateur antiques enthusiast. Barrie entertained us with stories and anecdotes of his many years doing roadshows. Refreshments were provided at the half-time interval and the evening eventually concluded at about 11:00pm.



Traffic speeding on B1061 meeting in Thurlow

A number of Great Bradley residents went to see what might transpire at a public meeting in Thurlow on 8th November. Given that speeding in villages in general has been an unsolved problem countrywide ever since I first became involved in local government as a Parish Clerk in Cowlinge in 1987 and has figured highly everytime from various Parishes at Police public Forums, I was intrigued to see whether anything might actually come of this speeding meeting given that it was called by a government minister.



Those who attended and gave their email address received a follow up after the meeting from Matthew Hancock. This said that he had been pleased it was so well attended (the hall was full) and he apologised for being so late due to a crash on the M11. He said it was obvious that there was real concern and he had already contacted the Secretary of State for Transport regarding a reduction to 50mph on rural roads (which are so dangerous) and making it easier to change speed limit zones and average speed checks. He also said that Mary Evans, County Councillor, was asking Steve Bloor from Highways for a summary of his actions following the meeting and he asked for any other concerns or ideas regarding the B1061 to be sent to him at matthew.hancock.mp@parliament.uk

A few specific ideas were floated by members of the public at the meeting and those which stood out in my mind were:

- The possibility of chicanes to physically slow traffic. The comparison was made to villages in France that have much more autonomy and their ability to simply put up chicanes wherever they like if they believe there is a perceived danger. Also their chicanes can be much cheaper and mobile. The point was illustrated by the garage at Thurlow where traffic is forced to slow, and often to a halt, by the cars on the road (often both sides) that make a natural 'chicane'.
- The possibility of having perhaps a 40mph speed limit between villages on the B1061 so that drivers would not feel that coming into a 30mph zone was so extremely slow after driving at 60mph(+?).
- The suggestion of average speed cameras through the villages was made. Personally, given the current cost of such schemes I think this is most unlikely. Perhaps with new technology it may eventually be possible but not now for small villages.

Meanwhile we do our bit to help in Great Bradley with Community Speedwatch. We have had 6 'watches' this year. We have 4 volunteers in Great Bradley - Geoffrey Vollam, Elaine Bareham, Keith Willington and myself and we share the 'burden' with 2 volunteers from Cowlinge. We are tending to do the speedwatches later now into the evening 'rush' periods as people have asked us to. We have recently had 2 new volunteers in Thurlow and I am hoping they can get one more so they can be a 'standalone' unit rather than relying upon us to assist.

John Barnett

Parish Council News

A meeting of the Great Bradley Parish Council (PC) was held on Wednesday 27th November. Here is a summary of the meetings main points, a full set of minutes are available from the Parish Clerk, on request or via the Great Bradley website <http://greatbradley.weebly.com/2013.html>

- Quotes have been received for renovating the garden area. Hopefully clearing will begin during the first week of December, with planting happening in the spring, weather permitting.

- The current computer courses are about to finish. The final courses will begin in February.
- County Councillor Mary Evans reported that following the recent 'speeding meeting' the options for reducing speeding along the B1061 are being investigated. She is also involved with working with BT to bring faster broadband and mobile signal to rural areas.
- Correspondence was received from St. Edmundsbury BC regarding cuts to the Parish Council grants. Great Bradley currently receives £2500 which will be withdrawn over a four year period.
- The remaining time was spent setting the budget and precept for 2014/2015. It was agreed given current pressures on household budgets, to attempt to set the precept demand no higher than this year. Due to the loss of the aforementioned St. Ed Edmundsbury BC grant this will mean a very small increase in the Parish Council part of the individual household council tax.

A willing resident from the village came forward after this meeting, but we do still have a vacancy for another councillor on the committee, so please come and talk to any of the current council if you are interested, or come along to the next meeting.

The date of the next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 29th January at 7:30pm.

Karina Joyce (councillor)

Situations Wanted

Bugle Distributor

A person is required to distribute the Bugle and Benefice News on a monthly basis around Clarendale. If you have about an hour to spare a month and could be of assistance please contact: Antonia Kiddy on 783102.

Advertise yourself or items for exchange or sale here, reasonable rates – please contact the Bugle team!

Forthcoming Events

St. Mary's Church, Great Bradley



Month	Church cleaning	Flowers
December	Ken and Sue Ireland	Christmas: meet at church at 10am on Saturday 21 December
January	Geoffrey and Arline Vollam	-

Church Services - December 2013

1 December	11 am	Holy Communion	Little Thurlow
8 December	11 am	Holy Communion	Great Bradley
15 December	10 am	Benefice Service	Little Wrattling

22 December	9.30 am 3 pm	Holy Communion Carol Service	Little Bradley Great Bradley
Christmas Eve	6 pm 11:30 pm	Carol Service Holy Communion	Little Bradley Kedington
Christmas Day	10 am	Holy Communion	Great Wratting

Please see Benefice News for details of other services.

Carol Service

Our village Carol Service will be at 3pm on Sunday 22nd December. The service of lessons and carols will be led by Geoffrey Vollam. If you would like to read a lesson or have a request for a particular carol get in touch with Sue Ireland (783595). Families with children are especially welcome at this service to help set up the crib and seasonal refreshments will be served afterwards.

Thurlow Tiddly Tots

Thurlow Village Hall

Wednesdays 10 - 12, term time

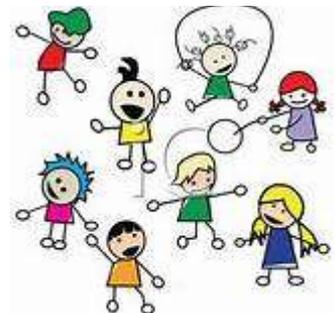
£2.00 first child, £2.50 more than one child

Songs, story, activities and play.

Large area for the 'ride ons' away from any little ones.

Coffee, tea and cake for the adults.

Contact: 07787292294 Ond or Zoe



Burrough Green's Big Switch On

**1st Annual turning on of the Christmas Lights
& Grand Opening of the New Village Playground!**

9th December 4-5pm

Village Green outside Playgroup

Mulled Wine, Mince Pies, Hot Chocolate

Hot Dogs, Carol Singing

and Luxury Christmas Hamper to be won.

Special guest doing **'The Big Switch On!'**

Raising funds for Burrough Green Playgroup



What's On - Out & About

News from the Ellesmere Centre December



Christmas Fun Day – Saturday 7th December from 11.00am until 5.30pm. The day will consist of Christmas Crafts & Christingle making, Games, Roller Skating and free play. We will finish with a tea party and a visit to Santa's Grotto where children will receive a small gift. Cost will be £15 each. This should be a fun day for the children and give you time to complete your Christmas shopping and preparations. Book early as we expect this to be popular and Santa needs some notice of numbers for presents.



Theresa Marsh School of Dance - Classes have just started at the Ellesmere Centre on Wednesday evenings from 8-10pm.

Learn how to do dance Ballroom, Latin and Salsa. £7 for the evening - beginners and singles welcome. Contact Theresa on 01379 783114 / 07709565875

Local Performer's Night (formally known as Open Mic)- Saturday 11th January. If you would like to perform please call Rob on 01638 507997. Or come and watch, enjoy great music, a fully licensed bar and refreshments. Entrance cost is just £2 or £1 for students.



Quiz Night is on Saturday 25th January. Cost £12 per team of a maximum of 6 people. Fully licensed bar. Food available if ordered in advance, enjoy one of Sandie's 'Posh Ploughman's Suppers' for just £5.



Oil Syndicate - if you use oil for heating your house please save money and also support the Centre by joining the oil syndicate. For more details contact on 01638 507726.

Building Works at the Centre are ongoing and we apologise for the disruption. The Centre is now nearly 30 years old and is in much need of refurbishment. We have achieved a great deal this year with the new Multi Use Games Area, new Sports Hall floor and lighting, and new lighting in the Small Hall. The Small Hall has been completely redecorated by the staff, volunteers and trustees and is looking great.

Currently we are refurbishing the ladies toilets, showers and the disabled toilets all of which were damp and inadequate.

All of this has been achieved by relentlessly applying for grants which have to be match funded by fundraising events held at the Centre. We would like to thank all of you who continue to support us by attending functions or helping us in many different ways.



The Staff and the Trustees of the Ellesmere Centre would like to wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



The Ellesmere Centre, Ley Road, Stetchworth, CB8 9TS.

Tel. 01638 508212.

www.ellesmerecentre.org.uk Email office@ellesmerecentre.org.uk.

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16th November 14th December 11th Jan 14'

8th February 8th March 12th April

.....for training, soup lunch and a group walk



Articles & Information

The Readiness Is All!

Is Bradley ready? That's the question on everyone's lips as we go about the village, aware that the New Year is not far off. An introductory booklet on the West Suffolk cuisine is being prepared, a guide to coping with the locals, recommendations for hostelryes, advice on conversational gambits, even explanations about the rules of native sports (rugby and cricket)!

Last year's modification by a local wit of the village entry sign, by adding 'Wiggins' to 'Great Bradley,' gives us encouragement for more permanent improvements. At first, there might be problems with the Cyrillics, but those familiar with the bilingual place and street names in Wales, will know that we villagers can rise to the challenge! Drivers through Bradley/Брадлий might wonder why the '30' speed limit has suddenly been joined by '48.28032', but as good Europeans we all know that metric is the way forward!

Some Bradleyites will already have visited the capitals on business or city-breaks, investigated real estate, or explored the Dracula country. Our local shops and supermarkets could begin to import exciting new wines from the regions: fascinating Wine Quizzes in prospect! Village groups could freshen up their appeal: country dance classes energized by some classic Transylvanian reels and Carpathian five-steps; classes in Portuguese for World Cup hopefuls, though, will sadly be displaced by more relevant languages! 'The Bradley Bugle' could even feature (suitably censored) 'My First Impressions of Bradley' from one of the newcomers!

The Village Flagmaster is likely to triple his early morning outings, with new responsibilities for unfamiliar Saints Days and Patriot Holidays. Down at St Mary's (another name-change needed), the PCC has been measuring up the tower for a bold new initiative: a gold Byzantine dome, another first for West Suffolk! After

the disappointments some years ago about the reservoir planned at the bottom of Water Lane, and the more recent abandonment of the plan for re-routing the Stansted Airport approach over Bradley, another opportunity has arrived. Is Bradley ready to pioneer a new era in international relations, to extend its horizons, to join, as it were, West Suffolk with Eastern Europe? Да or nu?

Ken Ireland

Les & Anne's Nature Notes

Where has the year gone? It seems to have flown by and our American holiday is a distant memory. It certainly has felt very autumnal of late and I couldn't resist snapping this fungus which was growing near the Church yard. Now I'm not an expert, but I think it's a Parasol, but if you know better please let me know.



A welcome if brief visitor to our garden one morning was a Goldcrest - another tick for my list this year, and one typically foggy morning we followed a Red Kite along the Thurlow Road. The Tawny Owls are the most vocal that we have ever heard and almost each night we can hear two or three calling from the comfort of our living room! Our search for Short Eared Owls has so far drawn a blank but while we were looking for them at Burwell Fen one afternoon I did manage this rather poor shot of a Peregrine Falcon, not a bird we get to see that often.

As many of you know now the Solar Farm at Broxted [Stradishall] is nearing completion and we have been privileged to have had access to the site for wildlife watching for the last 2 years. The birds have not let us down and only recently we watched 8 Buzzards displaying over the site, with other highlights being Cuckoos, Barn Owl and Hen Harrier. In fact the list is nearly 90 different species so far.

Well we hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and a very happy spotting New Year.

Les & Anne

FUTURE EDITIONS OF THE BUGLE!

**The Bugle Team would like to wish all our readers, contributors and advertisers
a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year
and thank-you all for you support during the last year!**

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

We are also looking to extend the range of articles and information we publish so if you have any ideas for things to cover or are willing to put together something for inclusion, please let us know.

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

N.B. Deadline for the next issue, February, is the 15th of January.

The Editorial team

Stuart Wilson – Articles and content etc. ☎ 783099 ✉ stuartandkarina@dsl.pipex.com

John Barnett – Advertising ☎ 783903 ✉ john.barnett@dsl.pipex.com

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