



The Bradley Bugle

May 2017

Issue 213

www.great-bradley.suffolk.gov.uk

A Good Start To Spring ...

East Anglian Air Ambulance

– Friday, 12th May 7:00pm

Great Bloomin' Bradley

– Sunday, 14th May 2pm - 5pm

A good display of Bluebells again this year!



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Village Diary

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

Coming up Soon ...		
East Anglian Air Ambulance	Friday 12 th May	7:00pm, details p. 5
Great Bloomin' Bradley Day	Sunday May 14 th	2pm to 5pm, details p.4
Parish Council Meeting	Wednesday 17 th May	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, (term-time only). Contact Jacquie on 783354	POSTPONED Tuesdays 10:30am – 12 noon
ART CLASS	Great Bradley Art Classes take place in the Village Hall. New Members are always welcome. If you would like to come along for a free taster session then please contact Anne Pigden 783175 or Pat Spires 783269 for details.	Tuesdays 2 – 4pm
PILATES	Contact Helen Axon mob: 07843 097671	Tuesdays 7:30 – 8:30pm
WEA 2017	Our 10 week course starts on September 13 th on Charles Dickens. Promises to be very interesting. Cost £55. Tea, Coffee with a free taster week. You are most welcome.	Wednesdays at 10am
MOBILE LIBRARY	Evergreen Lane 12:10 – 12:35pm (Rt 18 – Stp E) http://suffolklibraries.co.uk/community-services/mobile-libraries	Wednesday 24th May 2017 (Every 4 weeks)
AFTERNOON CLUB	All welcome, all ages, all interests. Come and meet neighbours for tea, cake, loads of news, views and lots of laughter. Contact Gill Dunn on 783362.	Thursday 11th May
SLIMMING WORLD	Group started 20th October, please contact Magalie-07453 469366.	CANCELLED
BLUE BIN ONLY	Friday 12 th & 26 th May	
BLACK & BROWN BINS	Saturday 6 th & Friday 19 th May; then Saturday 3 rd June	
Further Ahead ...		
Farm and Woodland Tour	Saturday, 3 rd June	Great Bradley Hall.
Village Big Lunch Horkey	Sunday 11 th June	Recreation ground.
Easyfundraising Demo	Thursday 15 th June	7.30pm, details p. 5
Parish Council Meetings	28 th June, 13 th Sept. & 15 th Nov.	
Further Afield ...		
THURLOW WI	This month's meeting is the AGM for WI members. For further details please contact Arline (783132) or Karen (783022).	

Local News & Notices

Great Bradley Village Hall Lottery Draw

How good it is to live in a village that is alive ! I refer to the brilliant support Great Bradley has given to events in the Village Hall over the past year. The volunteers who have organised such things as Quizzes, Wine Tasting, Pop-Up Pub, Jumble Sale, Jack-Pot Supper to name a few must be feeling well chuffed to see their hard work appreciated, and the Hall filled with people having fun. The dark days of the recent past that saw the place closed for months due to burst pipes and failed electrics and which resulted in a very rocky period for the finances we hope are over. The Village Hall Lottery remains an important source of funds, and this year will contribute over £500 towards the upkeep of what is, along with the church, the only amenity we have.

So THANK YOU Great Bradley!

As promised, April was a BONUS MONTH, and on 11th April the following numbers were drawn at the Pilates class in the Village Hall, and small envelopes stuffed with cash go to:

1st Prize £20	No 21	Simon Kiddy, Evergreen Lane
2nd Prize £15	No 15	Tara Steward, Hall Road
3rd Prize £7	No 66	Sheila May, Clarendale
4th Prize £6	No 83	Richard Ryder, The Hall
5th Prize £5	No 70	Alice Ryder, The Hall

To enter the Lottery from May to October inclusive now costs just £6 per name. Entering is easy - just ring George Hendry on 783415 and he will do the rest.

Promoter - George Hendry, Rose Cottage, Gt Bradley, Newmarket, CB8 9LQ. Tel: 01440 783415.

Registered with St Edmundsbury Borough Council as a Small Society Lottery for the Gambling Act 2005, Registration Number SL3204.

Great Bradley Litter Pick 2017

This year's clear-up took place on Saturday 1st April, in fair weather in spite of a forecast of rain. It was great that some 17 villagers turned out to help, and valiantly cleared the village of litter along the main road from Spring Barns to Bradley Hill, from East Green to Matthews Lane and from Clarendale and Ever Green and we are grateful to you all.

There was perhaps marginally less rubbish than last year but we still managed to fill a fair number of litter sacks for the Borough Council to collect later, mainly plastic bottles, drink cans and coffee cups and such detritus, but also some more exotic items, a gas cylinder for example.



Thanks are due to all who helped, including Anne Smith for the delicious refreshments at the Village Hall afterwards and especially to John Barnett for organising all the equipment for us and also the collection of the litter sacks afterwards.

We hope to have another litter pick again next year but if you are tempted to get rid of any litter you might see around our village in the meantime, please be assured you have our full support!

Geoffrey Volla

Bradley WEA

We have Great Expectations for our new course starting on September 13th, when our tutor Melissa will be taking us through the life and some of the writings of Charles Dickens. Hopefully we will be ever so humble as we listen and not Bumble too much.

We never Scrooge with our biscuits which will sustain us as we move from Wedding dresses to the Workhouse and ride with Mr Pickwick and his companions.

We hope you will be Able to join us and enjoy what promises to be a sociable and interesting look at life in the eyes of Charles Dickens.

Cost for the 10 weeks is £55 which includes tea and biscuits. Not sure, well come to a Taster week and then hopefully like Oliver want MORE or contact Peter Smith on 01440 783278. We look forward to seeing you 10am at the Village Hall.

Pete Smith

Great Bloomin' Bradley Day – Sunday May 14th – 2pm to 5pm

We're trying something new at the Village Hall this coming month...



We hope you will be interested in some of the features of the afternoon:

- a talk by the Chelsea Flower Show Gold Medal winning garden designer and rose-grower, Richard Beales, of Richard Beales Roses (www.richardbealesroses.co.uk),
- Stalls of garden items, plants, seedlings and more
- an opportunity to pick up some tips from more experienced gardeners, or just swap ideas
- 'Grow a Hairy Caterpillar' – a chance to get the kids involved
- Information on the allotments and a couple of new ideas – a Garden Club and Children's Allotment
- Homemade cakes and refreshments

This is also your chance to dig deep for the village!! That is, 'dig-deep' by donating some of your surplus plants - perennials, bedding plants, shrubs, cuttings from your borders, or surplus vegetable plants, seedlings, tomato plants, strawberries etc. from your veggie patch or allotment. You may even have some spare produce to bring along! Perhaps you have some unwanted plant pots, garden equipment, tools that are just taking up space!! If you would donate such things, we'll sell them to a happy new home!

You don't have to be a keen gardener to get involved. There'll be something for everyone, even if that's just cake!

Call Alison (783678) for more information

Great Bradley Village Hall – The Year Ahead



Thank you to everyone in the village and farther afield who came along to support all our recent events at the Hall. We have big plans for the next 12 months, aiming to have at least one event every month, as well as some new regular activities/classes. This will be important to help keep our lovely Hall open and financially secure.

Following feedback from our survey last year, we are expanding the range of activities and events and trying to include more things the whole family can enjoy. We have already had the offer of help from one young 'consultant', whose input will be valuable in making us more family-friendly - we welcome any more ideas, and offers of assistance from all quarters!! This is particularly pressing due to the imminent departure of Debra Fletcher, whose drive and organisational skills have been so appreciated by us all – thank you Debra. We will really miss you and wish both you and Alan a fond farewell as you head off to the US next month for an exciting new chapter.

You may have seen from this month's list of events that there will be a visit from the **East Anglian Air Ambulance** on **Friday 12th May**, also incorporating further useful health information. Tea and coffee available.

On **Sunday 14th May**, you will be invited to **Great Bloomin' Bradley** – with plant and garden equipment stalls (donations please), a talk by Richard Beales, 20 times Chelsea Gold medal-winning rose-grower and garden designer, gardening advice, a kids activity and more.

Also, for those of you who would like to understand more about **Easyfundraising** (the free and easy way to earn donations for the Hall whilst shopping online), we will be offering a short demonstration on **Thursday 15th June** at 7.30pm in the Hall. We expect it to take about 30mins. We'll show you how to use it and how it works. If you bring along your laptop, or tablet etc, we'll even help you to set it up!

We are also planning to have an exciting new venture for the Village Hall in the form of a **Pop-Up Pub!!** We hope this will become a regular feature at the Hall, somewhat compensating for the lack of a village watering hole! Watch out for the first of these (coming soon) which, if well-supported, will continue throughout the year along with curry and BBQ specials – YUM!!

Our recent **Wine-Tasting** event will be back by popular demand in October – with some new tastes and accompaniments. And, of course, the ever-popular **Quiz Night** with Quizmaster Helen will return in November. There are more events in the pipeline too, so refer to the Bugle and the Great Bradley Facebook page for all the details.

Alison McCloskey - Fun Sub-Committee, Great Bradley Village Hall

Farm/Woodland Tour

Saturday, 3rd June 2017



The annual Farm/Woodland Tour will start from the Covered Yard (just above the Church) at 4.00pm on Saturday, 3rd June. As usual, the tour will be undertaken on foot and will last for approximately 2–2½ hours, followed by a discussion, with refreshments, either in the garden at The Hall or in the Covered Yard (depending on weather conditions – so far each year we have been lucky!) The proceedings will draw to a close by about 7.30pm.

The idea of the tour continues to be to provide an overall perspective on modern agriculture, including the types and uses of crops grown on the farm, woodland and hedgerow management, conservation and environment issues and, in particular, how we are handling them on the Estate here at Great Bradley. Although the format broadly remains the same, each year we take a new route and look at different features and themes. Things are constantly evolving!

We would be grateful if those coming on the tour do not bring dogs or other pets, not least to avoid disturbing nesting birds.

If you are interested in coming on the tour, I would be very grateful if you would kindly reserve a place by emailing me at charles@gbfco.com or by texting or calling me on my mobile (07831 318 019).

Charles Ryder



Burrough Green Playgroup is now enrolling for September 2017

We provide an outstanding pre-school education for children between 2½ years to 5 years old. Burrough Green Playgroup is set in the beautifully restored 17th Century schoolhouse in the grounds of Burrough Green Primary School.

There is a warm, friendly atmosphere with very experienced staff. With strong links to Burrough Green school, playgroup provides the children with a wonderful start to their education.

We are open Monday - Friday 08:45 - 15:15, providing morning, afternoon and full day sessions.

Please feel free to join us for our **Open Morning on Wednesday 5th July 9:30 - 11:00**

To enroll your child for September 2017 please contact us.

Burrough Green Playgroup
Bradley Road,
Burrough Green
Nr Newmarket
Cambridgeshire
CB8 9NH

Tel: 01638 506003
Email: burroughgreenplaygroup@gmail.com
Web: <http://burroughgreenplaygroup.weebly.com>

Annual Village Meeting

Great Bradley Annual Village Meeting held at the Village Hall on 26th April 2017

The Chairman Simon Kiddy welcomed 28 people attending the meeting.

The minutes of last year's meeting 13th April 2016 were approved

Suffolk County Council:

County Councillor Mary Evans said that speeding on the roads was still a problem. a new speed enforcement team now in place. Inspector Denny Cooper is happy to have the VAS data. It was suggested that the problem was mainly the prison officers at shift change and also mums late on the Barnadiston run.

There have been significant improvements recently in education in county. Government funding is still difficult despite the new formula moving some monies from the cities. [None of the local schools seem to have benefited, current estimates indicate they will be down by tens of thousands of pounds by 2018/19 - Ed]

Highways improving, with better lighting team and drainage specialists in place.

After the elections local government may well be back on the agenda with the possibility that we may return to West and East Suffolk.

St Edmundsbury Borough Council:

Borough Councillor Jane Midwood said from her reports few things had changed from last year. Second year of £40 brown bin system shows take up is as expected and small increase on the first year. Was exasperated by continued roadside litter and fly tipping problem, thanked village teams for their litter picks. The proposed West Suffolk Waste Hub. Planning permission was granted and the project is now going ahead.

The Community Governance Review last year recommended that Great and Little Thurlow became one Parish and that a large area of Withersfield was moved to Haverhill; this has been successfully argued against and they will remain as they are currently. I look forward to hearing about your Locality Budget spending and applications for next year's budget too.

Given recent planning matters, Jane assured everyone she will listen to residents' concerns and take up issues with planning officers. If there are any problems regarding vehicles using Elms Road for the new Wedding venue then please let Jane know. With regard to problems at Parklands (aka The Cottage) Jane has taken this up with the Conservation officer but there appears little can be done. Before the next St Edmundsbury Full Council meeting, Tim Passmore (Suffolk PCC), will give a presentation. Jane will inform the PC if there are matters relating to our rural area.

The issue of the new 'musak' at the Haverhill sports centre was raised, Jane indicated the contract with Abbeycroft had also been renewed.

Jane said that she thought the new street nameplate for Clarendale was good and much less confusing.

Please email me or telephone if there are Borough matters you wish to discuss.

Suffolk Police:

Apologies from P. C. Darren Marshall; report read by John Barnett, period from 01/04/2016 to 22/04/2017 inc.

During this period there have been 7 reported crimes within the village.

All Safer Neighbourhood Teams now produce a generic "Area" monthly Newsletter which is also published on our "all new" website. Suffolk Constabulary has recently carried a review of its local Policing. Following both a reduction in funding and a change in the nature of crime, we have had to reassess what our priorities will be. It was decided that our focus should be on protecting vulnerable people from crimes against them including on-line offences, drugs, offences against children, domestic violence and serious sexual offences. This has meant less time to focus on some of the traditional complaints which is often led by parking matters.

Final figures in these fields for the parish of Great Bradley are as follows.....

BURGLARY DWELLING – 0; ROBBERY – 0; VIOLENCE WITH INJURY – 0; SERIOUS SEXUAL ASSAULT – 0; DRUG TRAFFICKING – 0; ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR – 0

However a summary of the other reported matters are as follows....

A couple of low level assaults, which are now considered private matters. A male arrested for Breaching a Restraining Order. A couple of separate burglaries to out-buildings. A complaint of a threat of Criminal Damage between neighbours. The recent interception of a number of males on bikes and quad bikes causing damage to crops on local farmland, this is an ongoing matter.

West Suffolk has seen an increase in household burglaries particularly where entry has been via the rear, forcing the framework and a thorough 'tidy' search has taken place, generally cash and jewellery have been taken. Some burglaries have involved high value vehicles stolen from driveways too. The group suspected of being involved are certainly cross border criminals thought to be active in Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambs. In recent weeks we've had properties targeted in Cavendish, Hundon, Hargrave and Hawstead and more further afield.

Home owners should remain vigilant and regularly review their home security. Great advice can always be sought from our newly revised

Since early March'17, the Sudbury and Haverhill areas have suffered x17 Theft From Motor Vehicles. In the main, Ford Transits and Connect style vans, via an entry method that leaves no damage. Usually high value branded power tools, cash and some hand tools are targeted. Valuables should always be removed from vans when unattended and certainly overnight. Consider installing additional alarms even a classic shed style alarm or sensor padlock.

Should any parishioner see what they believe to be furtive activity on their or neighbouring addresses this is a definite 999 call and **we will promptly attend.**

Thanks for your continued support.....

PC 270 Marshall and all on your Safer Neighbourhood Team

Parish Council:

Simon Kiddy, (PC Chairman) – another busy year again, the usual grasscutting of the Recreation Area and church. Also contributions to major repairs at the Village Hall - with new steps, Bell housing, cooker, hob, new defibrillator and new emergency light and other wiring. In addition the PC organised the Queen's 90th birthday celebrations on the Recreation Area, the Bonfire Night and not least a new No Through Road sign at the Evergreen Lane junction with the B1061.

Village Hall:

Bob Bennett thanked the old Committee for their hard work. There was now a new Committee of 5 members, with also teams for the Garden, Maintenance, and Events. Special thanks to Pete Smith for all the work he does especially on the shed. Slimming World has had to close but there is hope it may return.

Paul McCloskey summarised the finances. The loss making trend has changed and they are now notionally self-sustaining. Thanks go to the PC for their expenditure last year of £3,600 on urgent items. If the events level can be sustained then they should break even by the end of this year.

Great Bradley Farms Co:

Charles Ryder had given his apologies but sent a report (read by John Barnett):

1. Electricity – Backup Supply for Great Bradley
 - Great Bradley is at the end of the electricity network coming from Wrattling/Haverhill. UKPN propose linking us to the Carlton network, fed from Linton, as a backup. This will entail undergrounding cable from the bottom of Bradley Hill to Carlton. I have asked whether the overhead lines running down to Water Lane and to the bottom of Bradley Hill can be undergrounded as part of the scheme. If not in the short term then in the longer term.
2. Allotments
 - The Allotments are completed – water, hut etc. There are some spare Allotments so please ask John or Sioux Fisher in the office.
3. Footpaths – General
 - Footpath notices (both Public and Permissive Footpaths) are being renewed as necessary
 - Cutting of the footpaths has been started
 - The footpath bridge next to Horse Pastures has been renewed
4. Trees
 - Roadside - Necessary work on roadside trees and branches - for safety – almost finished. Some extra work is planned for late summer/early autumn
5. The River
 - The work carried out with the Environment Agency has proved successful in terms of River habitat and morphology
 - During the winter, we planted an additional 109 trees along the River and Kirtling Brook as well as a variety of native shrubs
6. Weather Warning to Gardens and Farms!
 - The first four months of the year have been very dry – only 134.1mm (5.27ins) so far. There are clear parallels to the hot, dry and sunny years of 1976 and 2003.
7. Conservation Strategy – Countryside Stewardship
 - This is now almost completely in place. Walkers will see more Winter Wildbird Seed mixes, Autumn Bumblebird mixes and Floristic Grass mixes. These should add significantly to wildlife habitat
8. Joyriders
 - Please be alert to joyriders, possibly on quad bikes and scrambler bikes, as well as illegal hare coursers. Please very kindly report any suspicions directly to me

Dates to note:

Bluebell Walk – This Saturday 29th April at 10.00am; Farm and Woodland Tour – Saturday 3rd June at 4.00pm

Broxted Tours – All welcome on: Saturday 6th May at 10.00am; Saturday 8th July at 3.30pm; Saturday 9th September at 3.30pm

Please contact me to reserve a place. I hope to see many of you on one of the Tours.

If anyone at the Meeting would like to raise any issues with me, please call me on my mobile (07831 318019) or send me an email (charles@gbfco.com).

The Bradley Bugle:

Stuart Wilson said that thanks must go to the collators and distributors and to the printer.

Village website and Facebook page:

Mike Brophy had given his apologies but sent a report:

Website

1. The easy-to-remember name is www.greatbradley.org.uk
2. For the first time since this version of the website was developed in 2011 the use of the website has decreased.
3. After the home page the most popular pages were (in order): Farming in WWII – Local Geology – The Bugle – Local News – Houses for Sale – Famous Residents – Village Hall – Village Archive
4. The website is visited from (in order) England, USA, Brazil, Russia, Australia, Canada, Germany, France & Italy. Brazil & Russia!
5. 65% of users used a Windows Computer; 83% of visitors use a desktop/ lap top computer; 15% used a tablet and 2% used a mobile (Indicative of an older demographic perhaps?)
6. 95% of mobile visits were via Apple products. Blackberry use went from 1.3% to 0.2%
7. The most popular browsers were (in order) Chrome – Explorer- Safari – Firefox

Facebook Group

1. The Facebook Group is 2 years old this week! Thanks for the support!
2. At the end of Year 1 there were 180 members; there are now 260
3. There are, on average, 2 posts a day (that's over 600 in a year!)
4. The most commented-on post was when the electricity was cut off in January 2017
5. Most posts are seen by over 100 people in Day 1 and 150 in Day 2. Within 5 days the number of views alters little unless someone new joins the group and they scroll through all the back-posts
6. Three people have been blocked from the site – for repeat placing of their adverts (all from outside the village)
7. Just one thread had to be moderated - it was getting a bit personal
8. Don't forget to use the search function if you think someone might have posted on a topic before you (eg if looking for a plumber)
9. It's great to see other people using the event listing. If you run an event or club then I would encourage you to take responsibility for promoting it on the Facebook Group

Mike Brophy always happy to receive information, pictures and updates for the website or Facebook and also seasonal pictures of village scenes for use as them as the banner photo at the top of the page. Drop him a line at mike@brophys.co.uk

Road flooding at Spring Barns:

Mary Evans said that she was pleased to be able to report that work to resolve this would be done in June/July. The fact that the Police had had to close the road at one point because of the flooding helped to give the repairs greater priority.

Litter pick:

Geoffrey Vollam had given his apologies but sent a report:

This year's clear-up took place on Sat. 1 April, it was great that 17 villagers turned out to help, and valiantly cleared the village of litter along the main road from Spring Barns to Bradley Hill, from East Green to Matthews Lane and from Clarendale and Ever Green and we are grateful to you all.

There was perhaps marginally less rubbish than last year but we still managed to fill a fair number of litter sacks for the Borough Council to collect later, mainly plastic bottles, drink cans and coffee cups and such detritus, but also some more exotic items, a gas cylinder for example. Thanks are due to all who helped, including Anne Smith for the delicious cakes!

Neighbourhood Watch:

Caroline Greatbach said that NW is the UK's largest voluntary movement. She said she sends information on crimes committed in the area to Facebook but the moderator has asked her to only send information from Great Bradley, Thurlow and Cowlinge. She said she felt that it was important to keep everyone up-to-date with what crimes were being committed in the area not just 'next door'. The meeting agreed that a larger area of information could be beneficial.

Bonfire Night:

John Barnett said that he felt it had been a very successful event and that was agreed by the meeting. As usual there was no entrance fee so he thanked those stalwarts on the gate who helped to empty the pockets of those who came to the tune of £575 in donations. Everyone seemed to enjoy the fireworks

As last year the event ran at a small profit (£72) after many years running at a loss. Thanks should also go to all those who helped to build the bonfire.

John said he hoped that the fall in the value of sterling would not adversely affect the purchase of fireworks this year.

Community Speedwatch and Vehicular Activated Sign:

Speedwatch

John Barnett said we combine speedwatches with Cowlinge to give us a bigger team. Great Bradley has 4 speedwatch volunteers and Cowlinge 2. We go out every 3 or 4 weeks for a couple of hours usually at the evening rush period from April to when the clocks go back in October. We have recently purchased a 3rd speedgun and this has been fully grant-aided.

Vehicular Activated Sign

The research on these signs show that they work best when not in the same place the whole time. This is the reasoning behind sharing the sign with other villages. There are a total of 5 villages that share 2 of these signs (Great Bradley, Cowlinge, Gt Thurlow, Lt Thurlow and Gt Wratting). It means that on average each village gets the sign for a month (to move between poles) at roughly 2 or 3 month intervals.

The data collector in the sign gives us valuable information on vehicle speeds in the village which we can share with the Police.

Allotments:

Bob Bennett said that it's going well. There are 9 allotments in use out of 16. The shed needs another coat of paint and some of the allotment holders will organise a painting party. The paint and brushes are already available. Bob said it would be good to get the allotments not being used to be cut or covered.

Reports from other village groups/organisations:

Parochial Church Council:

Sue Ireland said that they had paid the Diocese their contribution quota of around £5,000 in full again. They are in a Benefice of 8 Parishes and they have managed to maintain the pattern of one service per month. At the Christmas Carol Service it was lovely to see so many people there. The cost of insurance is now easier to cover as it is now paid monthly. Thanks go to Geoffrey Vollam for continuing to do the church accounts and to John Barnett for doing an internal audit. Also thanks go to the PC for organising the cutting of the churchyard and the cleaning and flower arranging teams. This year they have the Quinquennial check so they are hoping nothing major is found. The church is quite unusual in that it is always permanently open and this has always been something people remark upon and find most helpful. The fete raised £2,500 and thanks go to the Ryder family for the use of their house and gardens. Thanks also to all those many helpers. Any offers of help for this year always welcomed and of course any ideas.

W.E.A: (Geoffrey Vollam was unable to attend but Pete Smith read the report:)

Our WEA meets in the Autumn and Winter Terms on Wednesday mornings in the Village Hall. The last Sept. course was 'Battle Skies of East Anglia' given by Ian McLachlan describing the effects of the German attacks on this region in the 1939/1945 war and the actions by the RAF fighters and bombers in response. In January we started a 7 week course, by Laurence Staig, about 'Films and Film Music', exploring the role of music in film, and such key composers as Ennio Morricone, Bernard Herrmann and John Barry, and others.

May I just emphasise that WEA is open to **all** in Great Bradley, and of course beyond our borders, so everyone is welcome. Our next course will run for 10 weeks, starting in September, when we shall study two of Charles Dickens books along with aspects of his life and career in journalism. Next January we hope to offer for 10 weeks, a course on the 20th century English Musical Renaissance, from 1899 -1934, so again two contrasting subjects.

Peter Smith will be letting you have further information about both courses in good time before they commence. I think course fees will be £55 for each term but we offer a free taster to both courses if you wish to come along to try them out. And tea/coffee and biscuits are still free at our halfway break!

Thanks are again due to Peter as our secretary and chairman, and to Gill Brown and her team for looking after the refreshments, and Alan Bampton our treasurer. If you come along in September they will be very pleased to welcome you.

Afternoon drop-in:

Anne Smith said that there has been a good increase in the numbers attending with 12 - 16 now every month with the highest number being 22 and people now come from surrounding villages. They usually meet on the 2nd Thursday of the month. There's tea and cake and a lot of chat and we recently had a chap from Barnardiston who brought a number of his wooden models which had been hand-made painstakingly over months and sometimes up to a year.

Art Group: Pat Spires read the report from Anne Pigden and herself:

The Art Group meets on Tuesday afternoons in the Village Hall, they are a group of amateur artists who paint for pleasure. Our tutor is professional artist Jan Couling. Jan is happy for us to work with any media from pastels to watercolour and continues to patiently support and encourage us whether we are novices or more experienced amateur's. You can find out more about Jan by visiting her web site.[<http://www.jan.couling.org/>]

In the past year the number of participants has fluctuated slightly but we have managed to keep going without a dramatic increase in fees. New members are always welcome and if you are interested you can find out who to contact for more info by going onto the village web site or by looking in the Bugle. I should add that you do not have to live in the village to join us.

The biggest change this year is that we are now displaying our work in the Village Hall. This has not only given us the opportunity to show what we can do but we hope enhances the hall and gives visitors something to look at. The current display is the second we have shown and it is planned to mount approximately three or four displays a year with a theme when possible. The feedback from our first display was excellent and we are grateful to everyone for such positive comments.

As usual we will be exhibiting the work we have produced this year at the Village Fete in July. These paintings will be moved to the Village

Hall later in the year to form our third display.

Our thanks go to the Village Hall Committee for actively encouraging us to show our artistic efforts and being so supportive throughout the year. Thank you.

Scottish Country Dancing Class: (Helen Smith read the report from Ella Hollins:)

Scottish Country Dancing classes have continued to run during this past year and have been very well supported. The numbers fluctuate but generally there are between 8 and 12 participants.

We have our Summer Dance in Thurlow in May and this is always a well supported event with dancers coming from Haverhill, Cambridge, Bury St Edmunds and Ipswich. We have a 'live' band which is always better than recorded music.

We have been asked to demonstrate Scottish Country Dancing later in the year in Clare, something we haven't done for quite some time now so that should be good fun.

It was very disappointing that the Ceilidh planned as a fundraiser for our Village Hall was very poorly supported and in fact had to be cancelled. A great shame, as some years ago this was a very well supported event and everyone had a wonderful time as well as making money for the Village Hall. Still, things change and obviously it's not what the village want at the moment.

Flexible Friends:

Gill Dunn said that the flexible friends has been running for 8 years but has had to be suspended for the time being due to the very low numbers and with illness sometimes unable to make enough numbers to cover the cost of the Village Hall and unable to give the Village Hall sufficient notice to cancel. It is hoped they may be able to restart at some point.

Pilates: (Helen Smith read the report:)

Pilates Tuesdays [7.30pm](#). The class has now been running successfully since May 2012. Over the last 12 months we have had between 8 and 11 people signed up to each six week block. We currently have people coming from Bradley, Kedington, Haverhill and the surrounding villages.

We have not encountered any problems with the hall, the heating system is still working really well for us and all has been going smoothly (touch wood!!) I am very grateful to the village hall committee for making sure the hall is always up and running. Overall, I am very happy with how the class is going, it is lovely to have such a nice bunch of people to teach.

Book Club:

Annette Sugg said that this is a new club and only started a month ago. They had their first meeting with their first book this week. It is to be held monthly.

Simon Kiddy thanked the organisations for their presence tonight and the information they provided.

Traffic calming on B1061:

Richard Sugg said that the 30mph village sign at the top of the hill had one leg rotted off and that some repeaters were also obscured by vegetation. Also the SLOW on the road now read LOW. Mary Evans said that she would get together with John Barnett to look at these items and see what needed doing.

Prior to the meeting there had been a call for traffic calming humps similar to those recently deployed in Brinkley to be put on the B1061 in Great Bradley. It was said that the humps in Brinkley were on a much more minor road whereas the B1061 was a through route with more traffic. The noise of vehicles going over the humps can be very loud especially farm vehicles early in the morning with empty lorries also extremely noisy. Mary Evans said a lot of speed humps had been taken out though noise problems. A chicane was suggested but others said this would cause queues in busy periods. An extended speed reduction area of 40mph beginning at the Barns at the bottom of the hill was suggested (similar to Dullingham). 'Gates' at the entrances was also suggested. John Barnett said that when the PC last looked at gates they were rejected because of the high cost at that time. Coloured road surfacing was also suggested.

The PC are to liaise with Mary Evans and Highways to find out what the alternatives are in this situation.

Recreation Area

Simon Kiddy said:

1. The new dog bag dispenser bin appears to be working with much less dog fouling with a high use of the free bags.
2. Glade Area wooden edging is to be replaced with metal. There was a query as to the safety of this and it was stressed that the edges were rounded and it is used extensively by public bodies such as the National Trust.
3. There is to be a new outdoor table tennis table which is the first piece of equipment not targeted specifically at youngsters and this should appeal to all ages. The PC is hoping to be able to secure 50% grant aid for this.
4. Thanks should go to all those who regularly check the play equipment to ensure the safety of our youngsters.

Big Lunch celebration in June:

John Barnett said there will be a community lunch in the style of the successful 'Big Lunch' we did last year. The good news is we have been successful in getting some money towards it so we are having the Hog Roast van that we last had for the Jubilee celebrations.

The grant will pay for 145 free Hog Roast rolls and after that it will cost £3.30 per person. So we will be offering Great Bradley residents the free tickets on a first come first served basis. There will be a maximum of 6 free tickets to each household. Please only ask for the

number you actually need.

The PC will be providing free drinks - wines, beers, soft drinks etc and all the plates, cups, cutlery. All we ask is that everyone brings a dessert or cheeses to share.

There was a question about when the tickets would be available and John Barnett said that had not yet been decided. There will be a lot of publicity about the event once tickets are available.

Village Archives:

Pete Smith said that the group of 5 continue to build up a record of Village archives broken down by events and people. We try to cross reference people who have been key players in events and organisations ranging from Church, Parish Council, Mothers Union, Fete, Buildings etc.

We are indebted to Charles who allows us the use of a room and storage cabinets purchased by PC. Charles is also working with us to integrate the Ryder family village related papers to form a wide base for subsequent generations to share the life and times of the village. We work closely with Mike Brophy who is electronically making access to the information easier.

Our Exhibition hopefully gave the purpose of our work a wider audience to both newcomers to the village and those who were born here. We very much need more documents and names to the faces on the photos.

As we have said in the Bugle we appreciate some papers are very personal and precious but if we can have a photo copy where appropriate this would be an enormous help.

The team comprises Pat Spires, Jill Rodwell, Maureen and John Barnett and myself. We meet in the winter months for a couple of hours weekly at the offices at Bradley Hall. We welcome any papers or pieces of village history.

The experience has proven to be one of the most interesting I have been involved in. John Barnett is dealing with the digitisation side of the archives and said the idea is to get all the village archives online so that everyone can see them and access them at anytime from anywhere. Obviously it's a big task to scan the huge amount of material that is there in the archives.

The PC has put in a bid for funds from the Heritage Lottery Fund to assist with this. If we are successful it will pay for a local person to scan everything to file and also pay for a Network Attached Storage device where everything will be put and made available online. Mike Brophy has kindly agreed to handle the device for us on behalf of the village.

Another advantage is that this will allow others to upload their own archive material (pictures, documents, information) which will expand the archive for everyone else to see.

Another benefit of digitisation is that it becomes a back-up of all the material in the event of catastrophe (e.g. fire).

Village Garden area:

John Barnett said that there had been suggestion of increasing the village garden area which currently ends oddly with a grassed area. The thought was to extend the garden to the field entrance which would include the frontage to the Millennium Oak rest area which would be given a suitable entrance. The meeting agreed this was a good idea.

Other village events:

Events notified were:

29th April	Bluebell Walk 10am at the covered yard near the church
12th May	EAAA presentation at the Village Hall 7pm
14th May	'Blooming Bradley' event including a talk from Richard Beales of Beales Roses at the Village Hall 2pm - 5pm
3rd June	Farm Walk 4pm at the covered yard near the church
11th June	Big Lunch on the Recreation Area
2nd July	Fete in Great Bradley Hall garden

Any other ideas/problems etc:

There was a suggestion that something might be done to help prevent the grassed area walk through from Evergreen Lane to the Village Hall steps from becoming so muddy in wet weather. The problem was suggested that mud is then transferred into the Hall.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.20pm

[This is a summary of the minutes from the meeting, a full version is available via email from John Barnett, or via the Great Bradley website. Many speakers had people to thank for their continued support or for their help with specific problems or events, I have left these bits out of this summary only to save space, but do pass on this whole hearted thanks to all involved in supporting the many village groups and activities that take place. -Ed]

Church Services & Events

St. Mary's Church, Great Bradley



Month	Church Cleaning	Flowers
May	Keith & Sue Willington	Helen Smith
June	Geoffrey and Arline Vollaam	Arline Vollaam

Church Services – May 2017

7 May	9.30 am	Holy Communion	Little Bradley
14 May	11 am	Holy Communion	Great Bradley
21 May	10 am	Service of the Word	Little Wrattin
28 May	9.30 am	Holy Communion	Little Thurlow
4 June	11 am	Holy Communion	Great Thurlow

See Benefice News for details of services at other churches in the Benefice.

Great Bradley Village Fete

Sunday 2nd July, at Great Bradley Hall

The band is booked and preparations are now underway for one of the highlights of the village year! There will be the usual stalls plus one or two surprises. Donations of plants, books, toys and good quality bric a brac will be gratefully received - further details next month.



Farm Hamper Draw

We shall be running the Farm Hamper Draw again this year thanks to the generosity of Charles Ryder. The three prizes contain produce originating from Great Bradley Estate, ranging from the finest meat and game to sugar products and cordials. Tickets will come round with the June Bugle and the draw will take place at the end of the Fete.

What's On - Out And About

News from the Ellesmere Centre – May 2017

the **Ellesmere**
centre
STETCHWORTH
POST OFFICE | SHOP | SPORT | LEISURE | LEARNING

Open Mic is on Saturday 6th May. Along with many other talented musicians this month we are pleased to be featuring local blues band 'Vagabond Shoes' back by popular demand. A great night not to be missed with entrance just £2. Bar and snacks available from 7.30pm. Any act wishing to perform please book in advance by calling Rob on 01638 507997.



The Garden Club Plant Sale will be held on Saturday 13th May from 10.00am. Come along and stock up with a great range of plants and stay for some homemade refreshments.

Date for your diary **The Summer Show** will be on **Sunday the 16th July.**
Show schedules are now available from the Centre.



The Fetching Hound Dog Parlour is now in business and is situated in the Centre car park.
For a friendly service for all your dogs needs call Stacie on 07584624911.

Burglary Update - New doors were finally fitted in the Centre this month. The Centre was badly damaged in the burglaries in September but we have finally had much stronger more secure doors fitted and are in the process of installing a new alarm system.

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

www.ellesmerecentre.org.uk

Tel 01638 508212. Email office@ellesmerecentre.org.uk.

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Suffolk Philharmonic Orchestra

The Lark Ascending

FRIDAY 26th May at 7.30pm
The Apex, Bury St Edmunds

Vaughan Williams: THE LARK ASCENDING *Savitri Grier, violin*
Vaughan Williams: FANTASIA ON A THEME OF THOMAS TALLIS
Vaughan Williams: OBOE CONCERTO *John Anderson, oboe*
Elgar: SERENADE IN E MINOR
Finzi: PRELUDE
Montgomery: CONCERTINO
Martelli: PERSIFLAGE



Suffolk Philharmonic Featured Young Artist 2017 SAVITRI GRIER

Leslie Olive writes:

In December I had the great good fortune to conduct Savitri Grier. Her performance of the Mendelssohn Violin Concerto was extraordinary and I left the rostrum breathless with excitement. I resolved to bring her to Suffolk, and she is now our SPO Featured Young Artist for 2017. Don't miss her captivating performance of *The Lark Ascending*!

For the 2017 Bury Festival concert I have chosen a programme of much-loved English music which showcases primarily the SPO's outstanding string section. Sit back and relish the sound of the SPO strings conjuring visions of the English countryside.

TICKETS:

Bury Festival Box Office / The Apex / 01284 758000 / www.buryfestival.co.uk



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Articles & Information

Winter And Spring Jobs Complete.....Summer Approaching

As Summer approaches (we hope!) here is an update on some recent Farm and Estate activities

Hedgerows - Maintenance and Planting

February is the best month for cutting hedges and this year was no exception. It is the end of the winter and the birds have hopefully eaten all the berries. Likewise, spring has not quite arrived so there is no disruption to the nesting season.

The other month for hedgerow cutting is early September, after Harvest and before drilling new crops. However, this period is limited to 'in field hedges' with no tracks or roads beside them; it is not possible to cut these in February because it is usually too wet and would damage the established crop.

We have a systematic plan for cutting hedges – some hedges are cut every two years, others cut on a three or even four-year basis. However, as you will possibly have seen, a few roadside hedges are cut every year for visibility/safety reasons.

In March, we 'gapped up' over 400 metres of hedges, having 'gapped up' some 250 metres at Broxted. You may have noticed some of this planting close to the footpaths. We plant between 4-6 shrubs per metre. The shrubs are made up of the classic nine species which we have identified as being indigenous to Great Bradley – blackthorn, hawthorn, wayfaring tree, field maple, hazel, dogwood, dogrose, spindle, and guelder rose.

Woodland

February and March are our traditional months for work in the woods. We have a rolling ten-year Woodland Management Plan and each year concentrate on certain woods and types of work (e.g. thinning, coppicing, timber extraction etc.). This season the main focus was on thinning in the part of Bradley Park Wood which was replanted in 1985. This largely involves felling the spruces (soft woods) planted as 'standards' to assist the young oaks which were planted at the same time. Not only does the thinning give the developing oaks (and many of them look to be in great condition) space to grow, but also it introduces light to the floor allowing shrubs and flora to thrive. This provides cover which wildlife find invaluable.

Regular walkers will have seen the large piles of wood along the concrete road. This soft wood will go to be used in woodchip boilers as well as possibly basic building material. The hard wood is mainly used as firewood. This year – given the age of the trees – there was little wood of timber value; such wood is used for fencing, gates and furniture.

The River

During the winter we planted 109 trees along the River Stour and the Kirtling Brook as part of the strategy to improve habitat and morphology. The main species which we planted were alder, oak, black poplar, white willow, goat willow and field maple. We also planted various shrubs. Combined with the work carried out 18 months ago with the Environment Agency (creating some 60 'woody debris' deflectors along the River), this - together with Conservation features (e.g. Winter Habitat Seed Mixes, Floristic Grasses and Nectar Mixes etc.) along the Valley – really should enhance the whole River corridor.

The All Important Weather.....and Outlook for Harvest 2017

At the moment, the crops look well. The Oilseed Rape – which is now in flower – looks exceptional although the frosts this week have not helped. The Wheat – most of which is destined for Warburtons – also looks very good. The Spring Crops – Barley (for malting), Peas and Beans – also look very solid despite the lack of rain but it's far too early to assess the Sugar Beet.

Rainfall in May is usually crucial to a good Harvest and the current long range forecast does not speak of much! Indeed, the rainfall pattern in 2017 to date (only about 134mm or 5.25 ins) is very similar to the famous hot, dry and sunny years of 1976 and 2003. Good news for barbeques and holidays, not so good for farms and gardens!

Farm and Woodland Tour

The Farm and Woodland Tour is planned for Saturday, 3rd June starting at 4.00pm. There are still spaces.

In addition, some of you may be interested to come on the Tours which we undertake at Broxted (the old RAF Stradishall airfield) encompassing the Solar Farm, extensive grassland and livestock grazing, woodland and many special wildlife/conservation features. The dates for these Tours are:

Saturday, 6th May – 10.00am

Saturday, 8th July – 3.30pm

Saturday, 9th September – 3.30pm

Please let me know by email (charles@gbfco.com) or text (07831 318019) if you would like to come on one of the Tours. Likewise, please be in contact if you have any questions about Farm and Estate matters.

Have a great Summer – whatever the weather!

Charles Ryder

April, 2017

FUTURE EDITIONS OF THE BUGLE!

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 is the 15th of the month.

The Editorial team

Stuart Wilson – Articles and content etc.

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