



The Bradley Bugle

www.great-bradley.suffolk.gov.uk

March 2013

Issue 171

The Hedges Are Cut, The Scarecrows Are Out!



But No Sign Of Spring Yet!

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'Eyes Down for a Full House' [Page 5](#)

Don't forget the Litter Pick Saturday 23rd March

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2012 was a very wet year! Charles has a review of the data – [page 8](#)

Village Diary

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

Parish Council Meeting	Wed. 13 th March, 7:30pm	
Bingo Night	Sat. 16 th Match – 7:30 for 8pm start at The Reading Room, Burrough Green	Burrough Green Playgroup Details p.5
Litter Pick	Sat. 23 rd March at 10am	Details p.6
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	No meetings at present
FLEXIBLE FRIENDS	Gentle stretching exercises. Contact Jaquie on 783354.	Tuesdays 10.30a.m. – 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: Church and Chapel, Priest and Parishioners with Tutor Stuart Bowell. New members are very welcome to come along for a free taster week. Contact Peter Smith for more info. 01440 783278	Wednesdays at 10.15am
AFTERNOON CLUB	All welcome, all ages, all interests. Come and meet friends and neighbours. Contact Gill Dunn 01440 783362	Thursday 14 th 2.30pm
ECELECTIC YOGA	A powerful energising, balanced workout for poise, strength, tone and flexibility of mind and body. Contact Lisa 01440 783680 or 07402 655556	Thursdays 6:30 – 7:30pm
COMPUTER COURSE	The 'Improvers' Course – tutor; Alan Bampton. Current sessions are now full .	Started last month Thurs: 9:45am and 1.15pm.
MOBILE LIBRARY	Route 17E: Evergreen Lane 12.20 – 12.35pm. Every 4 weeks.	Monday 4th & 25th March; then 29 th April, 20 th May, 24 th June, 22 nd July
BLACK BINS	Fridays 1 st / 15 th & 1 st March	
BLUE & BROWN BINS	Friday 8 th / 22 nd March	
Annual Village Meeting	Wed. 10 th April	Details to follow next month
Bluebell Walk	Sat. 27 th April	Details p. 6
Farm Tour	Sat. 8 th June	Details p. 7

News & Notices

Beware the Bradley rats.

We have just encountered a difficult and not inexpensive week without our 4wd with lights telling us all sorts of things were wrong. Deemed unsafe to drive and ending up on a trailer to the main dealer. The reason eventually diagnosed as rats or mice chewing through the wiring loom! The reason for sharing our woes is to warn you of such a possibility happening and if lights come up on your dashboard to check this has not happened to you.



Helen and Pete Smith, Fox Green

[This isn't the first time I have heard of this, the folks at Thurlow garage have dealt with a few similar cases recently, I guess a car is a nice warm place in the cold weather! - Ed]

1st Burrough Green Brownies

The brownies have been very busy with fun packed meetings since the New Year, we got off to a slow start because the snow caused us to cancel the first meeting of the new year.

The girls have been enjoying activities to achieve the 'friends to animals' brownie interest badge. Some of the activities involved making animal masks, singing games and making posters about animals.



There has been great excitement as we plan for this year's brownie holiday at the Jarman centre in Newmarket. The theme is Africa and we will have lots of fun games, craft activities and even campfire cooking! We are finding out about fair trade and how different life in Africa is from England.

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

Margaret Whalley 01638 716939

Thurlow Pre-school

Following the AGM on Monday 11 February there have been some changes to the Pre-school Committee. I have taken over as the Secretary of Thurlow Pre-school and along with another Mum (Michelle Cheek) we are responsible for the administrative duties, fundraising and advertising.



A chance for children to really get the most out of the schools holidays ran during February half-term at Thurlow Pre-school, where 2-11 year olds were welcomed by enthusiastic staff and took part in arts and crafts, painting, glueing and creating pictures to take home. There was also the return of the very popular Messy Day where children loved to make a mess, laugh and create some art with their feet. Other activities included cooking and a chance to explore the nearby woodland.



Parents think the club is great as their children are entertained and happy whilst getting some exercise and learning in a safe environment, plus there is no mess at home.

The pre-school would like to thank all the members of the committee past and present, as well as the local community who make the school an excellent place for children and one of the highlights of the Thurlow and Bradley community. The commitment of staff, support of parents and local organisations make the pre-school a success.

Holiday club at Thurlow Pre-school runs during the school holidays for 2-11 year olds. It is great for the children to have fun, keeps them busy and they can make new friends. To enquire about this or the pre-school

call 01440 783688. The pre-school's experienced staff now provide childcare from 8am to 6pm, 51 weeks a year.

Please let me know if you need anymore information or want to come and meet us.

Thank you

Dawn Bamford (Secretary – Thurlow Pre-school Committee

Tel: 07841 163906

Situations Wanted

Energetic retired male seeks part time work locally, will do flexible hours to suit.

Ex Manager would enjoy office work, accounts, driving, property maintenance and lettings.

Please telephone Raymond on 07765 916565 for discussions or interview.

Thank-you.

Cleaner Required at Burrough Green CE Primary School

Burrough Green CE Primary School

Bradley Road, Burrough Green, Nr Newmarket, Cambs.

CB8 9NH

Tel: 01638 507236

We still need a Cleaner in Charge for 12.5 hours per week starting as soon as possible after the interview date. The contract is for 41 weeks, including term times and three weeks during the holiday period. Additional paid holiday entitlement will be for a minimum of 5.55 weeks depending on local government service. You will be paid from £6.84-£7.19 per hour depending on experience. Burrough Green is a special place, with a wonderful new school building to work in. You will be supported in your work by a cleaner colleague, the School Secretary, and will receive induction into the role.

You will be expected to:

- Undertake routine monitoring of some school equipment and services.
- Carry out minor repairs within your competence.
- Share cleaning duties.
- Monitor the stock of cleaning materials and order fresh supplies.

Visits to the school are warmly welcomed and can be arranged by telephoning the school. Application forms and information packs, including a full job description are available from our secretary, Linda Lerner. office@burroughgreen.cambs.sch.uk

The same application pack can also be accessed and downloaded from our school website www.burroughgreen.com in the **About Us** section. Follow the link to 'Staff' and scroll down to 'vacancies'. Completed application forms should be addressed to the Head Teacher, Mr. Keith Archer at the address above.

Please note that Burrough Green CE Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any successful candidate will be required to have an enhanced CRB check.

Closing date **Friday 8th March 2013**

Interviews **Can be arranged flexibly to suit the shortlisted candidates availability, but must be completed before Friday 15th March**

Forthcoming Events

St. Mary's Church, Great Bradley



Month	Church cleaning	Flowers
March	Peter and Helen Smith	No flowers during Lent Easter Day: Marion Smith and helpers
April	Ken and Sue Ireland	Wedding

Church Services - March 2013

3 March	11 am	Holy Communion	Little Bradley
10 March – Mothering Sunday	11 am	Holy Communion	Great Thurlow
24 March – Palm Sunday	9.30 am	Holy Communion	Little Thurlow
31st March – Easter Day	10 am	Benefice Communion	Great Bradley
7th April	11 am	Holy Communion	Little Bradley
14th April	11 am	Holy Communion	Great Bradley

Note: Communion service at Great Bradley is now on the second Sunday of each month.
For full details of services during Holy Week and on Easter Day see Benefice News.

Bingo Night !! – in aid of Burrough Green Playgroup



Saturday 16th March
in the
Burrough Green Reading Room.



Doors open for 7.30 pm with
“Eyes Down” 8 pm.

Bring your own nibbles and drinks. Raffle on the night!

Great Bradley Litter Pick 2013

Just a reminder that this year's Village Spring Clean will be on Saturday 23 March, starting at 10am at the Village Hall.

There was a good turnout last year but the more people who can help the quicker we will be so please come along if you are able to do so. All equipment will be provided – gloves, grabbers, high-visibility tabards, etc. and there will be refreshments afterwards in the Village Hall.

Geoffrey Vollam

[The council have had a 'Hit Squad' clearing along the main road just recently, but there is still plenty to do elsewhere within the village. So help is still needed – Ed]

Dedham Vale ANOB Stour Valley Project Walks

There is a walk organised for March, as listed below. In addition, new Winter Walking guides have been produced covering the Stour Valley path, these can be downloaded via the website or ordered via the contact details below.

'WAYS' FOR CASH IN CONSTABLE COUNTRY

Sunday 24th March, 10.00am- 2.00pm. Approx.7 miles. Level: - Moderate

Find out how the team finances initiatives in the AONB on the Suffolk Essex borders as you walk from Dedham to Flatford along the Essex Way and Stour Valley Path. Stop off at Flatford for lunch. Please note: Numbers are limited.

Bookings taken one calendar month before each event. ADULT £5.00 - CHILDREN FREE

For further details, please contact us on:

☎ 01473 264263 ✉ dedhamvale.project@suffolk.gov.uk or www.dedhamvalestourvalley.org

Bluebell Walk

Saturday 27th April, 2013

For the last four years we have held a tour of Hart Wood to look at the bluebells which have reappeared in good numbers as a result of our long term regeneration work in the Wood.

This year's Bluebell Walk will take place on Saturday 27th April.

We believe that this will be the peak weekend for the Bluebells. However, it is just possible we may have to move the date forwards or backwards if the bluebells are flowering early or late (as happened three years ago) in which case we would notify, by email or text, all those who reserve a place on the tour.

We will meet at 10.00am in the Covered Yard just above the Church and return by about 12.30pm.

If you are interested in coming on the Bluebell Walk, please email me on charles@gbfco.com or text/call my mobile - 07831 318019.

Charles Ryder



Farm/Woodland Tour

Saturday, 8th June 2013

The annual Farm/Woodland Tour will start from the Covered Yard (just above the Church) at 4.00pm on Saturday, 8th June 2013. As usual, the tour will be undertaken on foot and will last for approximately 2–2½ hours, followed by a discussion 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.

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

Articles & Information

Dog Fouling

There have been a growing number of reports of dog fouling around the village, not only on the footpaths but also more worryingly on the recreation ground and the green by Clarendale. I know the majority of dog owners are responsible and do clean up after their dog, and it is just the irresponsible few that don't. This is especially true where the owner 'just lets their dog out' to run free.

It is a particularly offensive problem and more importantly a health issue, especially where young children are at risk. The main reason is **Toxocariasis**, an infection of the roundworm *toxocara canis*. The eggs of the parasite can be found in soil or sand contaminated with faeces and if swallowed, result in infection that lasts between six and 24 months. Symptoms include eye disorders, vague ache, dizziness, nausea, asthma and, in extremely rare cases, seizures/fits. Often the eggs are ingested when passed to the mouth by the hands, but this can also occur through contact with dogs or other inanimate objects including the wheels of toys and the soles of shoes. Infected soil samples are often found in play areas and as a result, Toxocariasis most commonly affects children between 18 months and five years.

It is an issue the Parish Council particularly care about so if you do see or have any knowledge of the particular offending owners, (we can't blame the dogs, its the owner who is responsible) then please do contact them or the Bugle editorial team, so we can pass the information on to the appropriate authority. Alternatively contact them directly (see below).

If you are the offending owner(s) or acting on behalf of them, be warned we will take action so CLEAN IT UP!

Council contact: Andrew Harvey (Waste Enforcement Officer), St Edmundsbury Borough Council.

Andrew.Harvey@stedsbc.gov.uk

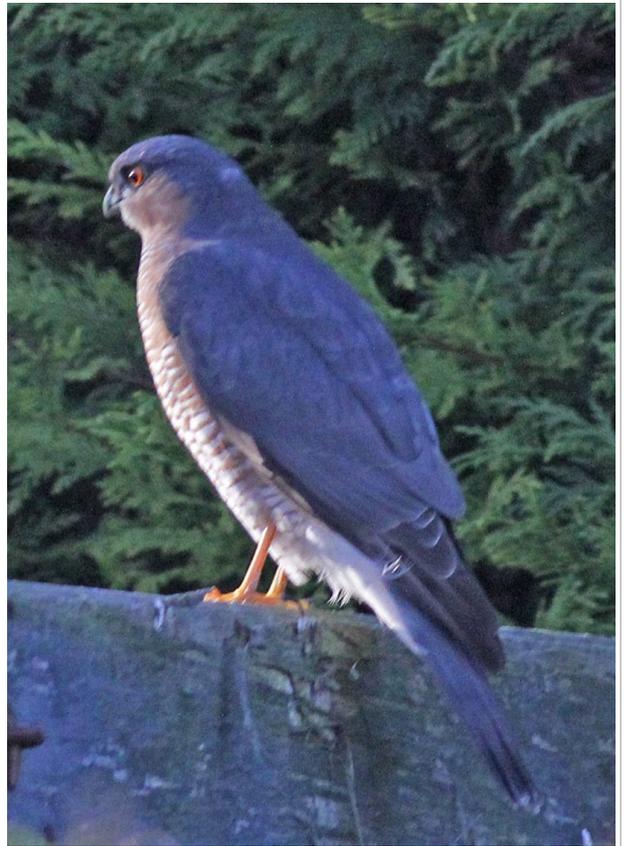
Les and Anne's Nature Notes

50 Shades of Grey.

No not the book! I'm talking Sparrowhawks. It wasn't until a few weeks ago when we had one of these fantastic birds in the garden and I got to look at it in detail that I realised how subtle the colouring on them was. They go from pinkish grey to dark slate grey and all shades in between. If you find a pile of feathers in your back garden it can only mean two things, cat or Sparrowhawk.

I watched recently one morning as one flew through the garden and took a House Sparrow from our honeysuckle bush at such speed that the other birds in the bush didn't seem to notice what had happened. I

have also seen one carry off a Collard Dove in one talon over our house! Of course they are not the only bird of prey around, Kestrels are a fairly common sight in these parts and only today [15th Feb] we had 2 Buzzards circle up over the house. We were fortunate to be in the company of one of Suffolk's and indeed the country's best birders recently while we helped him do a bird survey and only a few miles from the village we saw a Peregrine falcon.



A few days ago we added a new bird to the village list when Anne spotted a Cormorant land in the river by Hall Lane bridge and 3 Little Egrets are in the area, as well as at least one pair of Mandarin Ducks. While walking along the concrete road we had a brief sighting of a Goldcrest but the best bird recently has been Bullfinch, with one pair on trees in Clarendale and three pairs in the bushes by the church.

Finally the Barn Owls have shown on occasions in the area so we hope they get to breed here again this year, the photo is of one near Burwell a few weeks ago.

If you have taken any photos of birds in the village and are not sure what they are then don't hesitate to contact us.

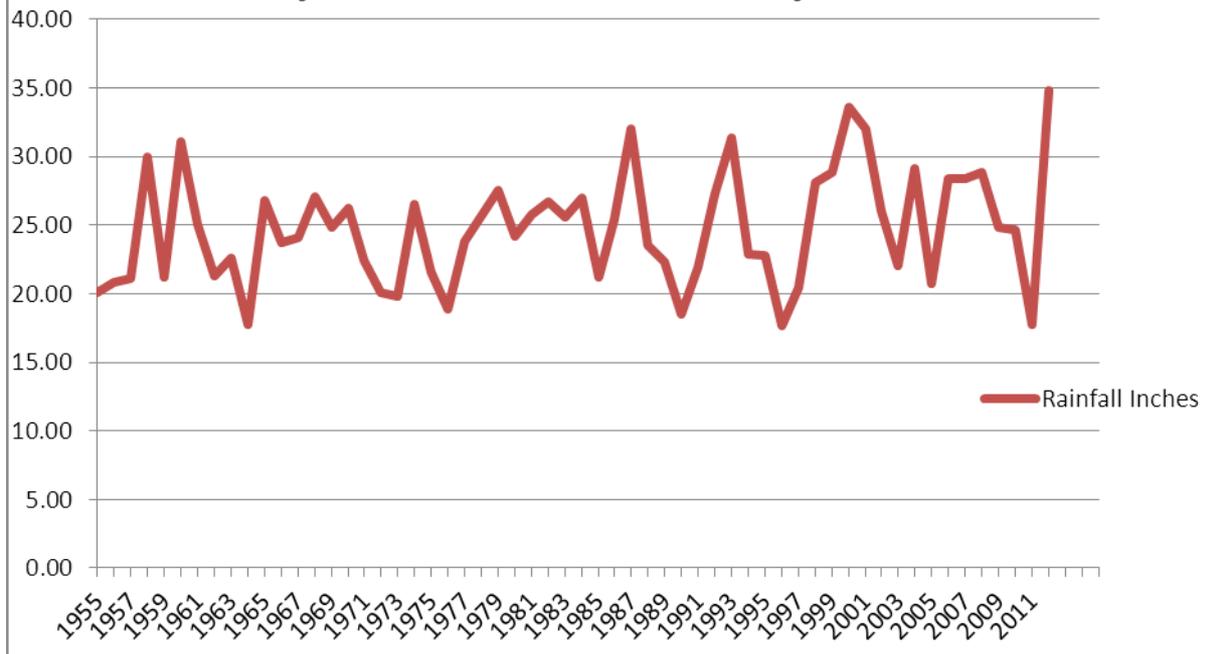
Happy Spotting

Les & Anne

Rainfall 2012

Rainfall in Great Bradley in 2012 totalled 34.80 inches (884mm). This is well above both the 10 year rolling average of 25.97 inches (in 1982 this 10 year rolling average was only 22.87 inches) and the 50 year rolling average of 24.89 inches. It is almost double the rainfall recorded in 2011 of 17.77 inches! You will note, from the graph illustrating average rainfall from 1954, that since 1990 rainfall amounts have fluctuated enormously compared to the relatively calmer and drier period from the 1960s to the 1980s.

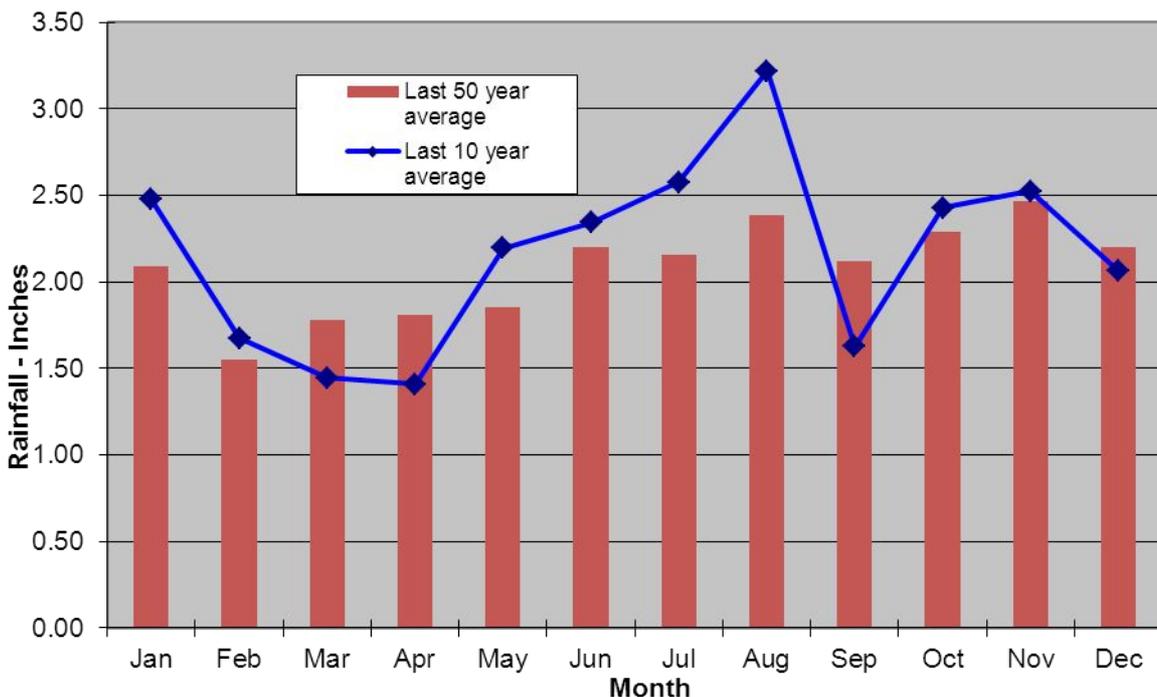
Yearly Rainfall in Great Bradley From 1955



Rainfall in 2012 was the highest recorded since our monitoring for the Met Office began in 1954, with 2000 (33.58 inches) and 2001 (32.07 inches) being the next wettest years. Furthermore, it was not only wet but also relatively cool, with low levels of sunlight. Taken together, all these features made for a very difficult year for farmers, gardeners and holiday makers alike, with the gloom only being lifted by the Olympics and Paralympics which coincided with a relatively dry, if cool, August and September!

In my Bugle article on 2011 rainfall, dated 23rd March 2012, I wrote 'Let's hope that the announcement of the hosepipe ban does the usual trick of bringing about rainfall'. Well, it did – but way too much! April, May, June, July, October, November and December all recorded above average rainfalls, mostly well above! As the old saying goes, 'be careful what you ask for'!

Last 50 Year Average and Last 10 Year Average Monthly Rainfall



From a farming perspective, the rain in April and May was well timed. So much so that at the beginning of June, we were looking at crops promising an 'epic' harvest, the most recent of which was probably in 1984. By August we were indeed looking at an 'epic' harvest – 'epically' disappointing in yield, akin to the appalling harvest of 1988! Why? The main reason was the amount of rainfall in June at some 4.33 inches and it rained day after day. The crops throughout this period never dried and were badly affected by virulent disease, against which sprays could not compete. But it was not just the rain that did the damage, as important was the lack of sunlight. Sunlight hours in June were only about 70% of the average amount in our part of East Anglia and indeed were at only 60% of the average in the East Midlands. It was a toxic mix which extended into July and not only affected crops but also vegetable gardens. A very frustrating year in terms of output although, as has been the case since 2006, it was robust in business terms because of the high level of prices for grains and oilseeds.

The wet conditions continued through to the Autumn and Winter months, resulting in saturated soils, particularly on the heavy clay lands that predominate here. In turn, this has made it difficult to create good establishment for the Harvest 2013 crops and many of the drilled fields have come under concerted slug attack! This will undoubtedly impact Harvest 2013. And here in East Anglia conditions have been far easier than the rest of the Country where flooding has been widespread. It is therefore difficult to see any easing in food prices.

Having had two years of extremes – drought followed by constant rain – let us hope for boring old sunshine and showers this year!

Charles Ryder

20th February 2013

Local Information

Age UK Suffolk — Here to help.

With help centres, shops and services throughout the county, Age UK Suffolk (formerly Age Concern Suffolk) offers a local service for older people and those that care for them.

As an independent charity we aim to enable older people and their family carers in Suffolk to manage the challenges that may come with ageing while retaining choice in, and control over, their own lives.

Enquiries to Age UK Suffolk often start at one of our three main help centres based in Ipswich, Bury St. Edmunds and Lowestoft: see below for contact details.

After making their initial enquiry, older people go on to find out about the variety of services we can offer. These include Benefits Advice; Advocates who support older people in making important decisions about their lives or when they are feeling ill or isolated; and Independence Advisers who visit older people at home to talk over any problems or worries they have about staying independent and safe at home and assist them in finding solutions.

We also have carefully selected volunteers who provide friendship to isolated older people all over Suffolk through our Telephone Befriending Service. In the Ipswich, Sudbury, Stowmarket and Lowestoft areas we also offer home visits from Befriending volunteers. During the Spring of 2013, befriending visiting services will be extended to West Suffolk via our partnership with Forest Heath Volunteer Centre.

In addition we run a number of day centres around the county and have a popular home help service which can help with housework, laundry, shopping and much more (there is a charge for day centres and home help services).

Our Community Links Team supports volunteers in local communities to provide activities for older people including gentle exercise groups, computer clubs and lunch and social clubs. We also ensure that older people know how to access information and support through our network of Local Link volunteers.

Bury St Edmunds Help Centre:

The Risbygate Centre, 90 Risbygate Street, Tel 01284 757750. Open M – F 9.30am – 1pm

Lowestoft Help Centre: 112 London Road North, Tel 01502 586308. Open Mon-Fri 9.30am – 1pm

Ipswich Help Centre: 41a Upper Brook Street, Tel 01473 257039. Open Mon-Fri 9am – 5pm

Rural Newsletter

The latest edition of the St. Edmundsbury Rural Newsletter is now available online, which contains local news and details of events, plans and funding schemes. A copy is available online via the Rural Communities webpages at : <http://www.stedmundsbury.gov.uk/community-and-living/rural-communities/index.cfm>

AONBs provide funding for local sustainability projects

Do you have an idea for a project that improves the social, economic or environmental sustainability of the Suffolk Coast & Heaths or Dedham Vale Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs)? If so, our various environmental and sustainable development funds may be able to provide you with financial support.

We're looking for projects that help the local economy, develop community infrastructure, support biodiversity or help conserve or enhance the AONBs in some way. You could be providing environmental education, supporting local producers or reducing carbon emissions in communities. Whatever the project, if it's local and sustainability-focused then we want to hear from you!

There are many grant options available to you, depending on the amount of funding required, where the project is located, and the type of project you wish to undertake. The deadline for applications is Wednesday 27th March 2013, and projects will have until March 2014 to be completed.

For more information or to submit an application, please go to www.suffolkcoastandheaths.org or www.dedhamvalestourvalley.org.

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 this month.

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

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contact the editorial team !

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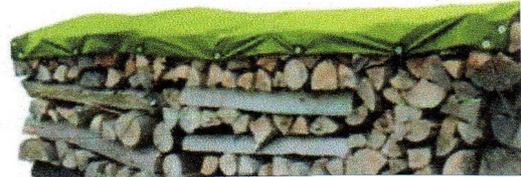
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