

Great Bradley Village Hall Lottery

As most of you know the Village Hall Lottery has been running successfully for a number of years raising several hundred pounds each year towards its upkeep, at the same time as allowing members to have the chance of winning one of the monthly prizes.

In the past volunteers have taken application forms around different parts of the village and collected the annual subscriptions. This has worked well, but it has been suggested that as the Bugle is delivered to every house, an application form can be printed in the January and February editions and it will ensure all households receive a form without the extra work the volunteers have kindly done in previous years.

The application form is printed below. This should be completed and returned to the organiser by **14th February 2009** with a fee of £12 per applicant. Those who wish to pay by cheque please make them payable to 'Gt. Bradley Village Hall'.

I would like to thank all those who have supported the lottery in the past and would welcome any new members.

Simon Kiddy (Great Bradley Village Hall Lottery organiser)

.....
I enclose £12 subscription per member (cheque/cash)

Name 1.....

Name 2.....

Address.....
.....

Telephone.....

Please return to: Simon Kiddy, 182 Evergreen Lane, Gt. Bradley, CB8 9LL
(close to junction of Evergreen Lane and The Street)

Tel: 01440 783102

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Tel 01440 783304 Mob 07990 514132

The Bradley Bugle

Write an article about your
hobbies, tell us a story, email
a photo, or send in some local
news ~ we'll be very pleased
to hear from you!

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Bradley Bugle

please get in touch with
Anne Pigden 783175
For more information

I was met by a STENCH which even to think about now makes me feel nauseous. Our puppy had obviously found his evening 'freedom' a bit overawing and this had unfortunately resulted in a large puppy 'accident' in the centre of the rug in the middle of the lounge.

This I could have coped with. However, what I couldn't cope with was that, on switching on the lounge light, I saw brown tram-lines going the length and breadth of the lounge. Reg's warning light was blinking at me from one corner of the room and a rather bemused puppy was eyeing me uneasily from another corner. My other dogs and two cats were nowhere to be seen.

I quickly realised that a modern robotic catastrophe had occurred. One of our animals had jumped onto Reg which had in turn set his hoovering wheels into motion.

The puppy 'accident' and Reg had collided with spectacular results!

The said rug had to be thrown away. The carpet machine-cleaned, and new parts ordered for Reg.

I am sure that somewhere there is a moral to this story?

Egg Tally: 2325

Maria Stableford

John Barnett our Parish clerk has received the following letter

FOOD & FRIENDS CLUBS

My name is Gavin Hodge and I have recently taken over as Food 'n' Friends Officer at Age Concern Suffolk. I also work for Suffolk ACRE as Good Neighbour Scheme Co-ordinator.

My new role at Age Concern involves setting up Food & Friends Clubs – effectively miniature lunch clubs – around the county to enhance the lives of older members of the community, especially those living alone. The aim is for a club to be held at least once a month. Each club is run by its own host accompanied by a volunteer, usually in the host's private home, and refreshments are provided on a non-profit-making basis with the clients paying a small sum to the host to cover the cost of food and drink provided. Clubs can also be held in a church hall or other public building if it is more convenient. If more than one host can be found in a village then the club could meet at different venues and the role of hosting could be shared around.

There is quite a bit of flexibility in how a club is run. The host could provide just coffee and biscuits if that suits people best, or soup and a sandwich, or a light three-course lunch at a cost of around £3.50 per head. It is up to the host what type of refreshments would be offered, and the host effectively takes ownership of the club under Age Concern Suffolk's umbrella. We can provide Public Liability insurance, plus advice and support, and suitable recipes if required. We can also help find potential clients if required.

Accordingly I am seeking potential hosts for Food 'n' Friends clubs around the county.

I would be very grateful if you could pass this information on, and also give me contact details (preferably e-mail) for the editor of any newsletter or parish magazine that circulates in the village with a view to running a short article about Food 'n' Friends.

I work on the Food & Friends project on Thursday and Friday each week and my contact details at Age Concern Suffolk are:

Direct line number 01473 298686 or e-mail: gavin.hodge@ageconcernsuffolk.org.uk

My thanks in anticipation.

Gavin Hodge

Food 'n' Friends Officer

Age Concern Suffolk

Ed. We'll contact Mr Hodge and hopefully publish more info next month.

CHICKEN CHAT - Week 60 in the Chicken House – The Simple Life

You will be pleased to know that the 'girlies' are all in fine fettle and that their plumage is now thick and in all its warming glory. Also that egg production is now going from strength to strength.

The girlies enjoyed their Christmas and they even shared in the human family's festivities and food. Fortunately the term 'shared in the food' doesn't mean that they 'joined' the turkey for dinner but that they experienced the Christmas day delights of croissants and porridge for breakfast, a lunch of roast potatoes, crispy parsnips with 'al dente' Brussels sprouts and a late supper of cheese biscuits and Christmas cake. They weren't taken with the seemingly bland cheese crackers; in comparison they keenly pecked away at the brandy-laced, moist cake. The alcohol content didn't affect the girlies in any adverse way, well – not unless you take the small spectacle of the strange sideways foraging movement into account – the less said about that the better. Once an adornment of tinsel was scattered about the coop the feeling of festivities hung in the air and a great time was had by all!

After the excesses of Christmas many have started to feel the 'pinch' and I for one have experienced this through the arrival of the very un-festive January credit card bill, and my waistline. Everything... had seemed so right and good at the time. For comfort the girlies and I had started to glean pleasure

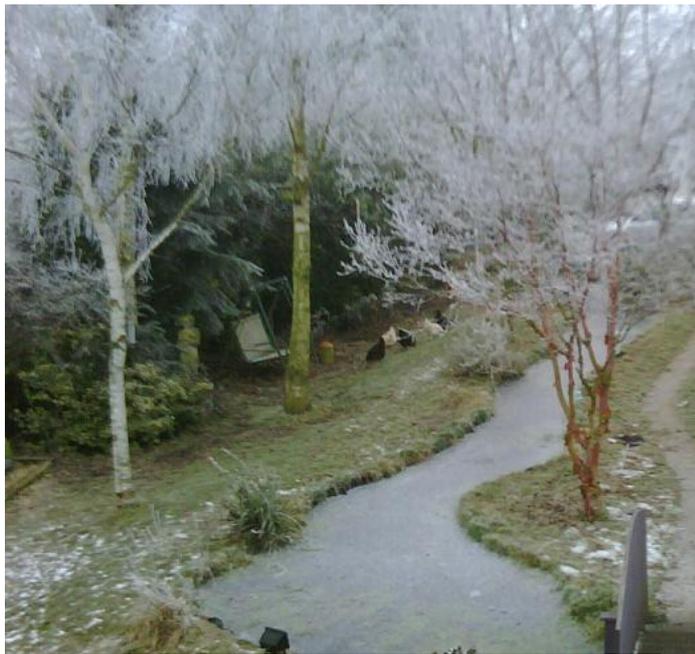


Photo MS *The girlies get back to the simple life!*

from the 'simple' things in life. As one previous prime minister stated, "Let's get back to basics". Granted, this was said in a slightly different (and irrelevant) context, but the girlies and I are doing just that, getting back to basics.

NO more brandy-laced treats for us. The girlies now take pleasure from a multi-seed feed ball which hangs in the coop and also doubles up as a neck stretching exerciser.

My simple comfort has come from the use of one of my Christmas presents, a sewing machine. The last time I used such an item was back in my school days! So, as you can imagine, I experienced a little rustiness at the start. But before very long I had made a new 'hide away' curtain for a kitchen shelf, mended a pair of children's slipper socks and even started on the adventurous task of making a new door curtain. The only casualty was the cost of a broken needle.

All of this activity was keenly watched by both my daughters who were stunned into silence. The girlies, who were standing outside viewing through the conservatory (now my sewing room), eyed me suspiciously and clucked periodically, all the while jostling for viewing position. And, as the sewing machine whirred, the warmth of some rare winter sun seeped through the glass.

This simple life continued with a hearty supper of home cooked bread rolls and warming soup made from locally sourced vegetables.

As night fell I put both my daughters and the girlies to bed. Following a favourite bedtime story I wished my daughters goodnight and then locked up the coop pen and door. The feel good factor continued into the evening and so I made the decision that our 17 week old German shepherd puppy could, for the first time, be allowed the freedom of the downstairs overnight. He would be sleeping in his newly-acquired dog bed as opposed to staying inside his puppy crate. This had been a gradual process, initially the puppy had been allowed more freedom during the day, at times when the humans were out. After all what could possibly go wrong?

I consider myself an experienced animal owner. SOoooo... in hindsight I should have known better. Unfortunately, I am afraid to say, this episode of Chicken Chat does not end on a happy note. During that particular night the simple life and modern day technology collided spectacularly. My secret (not now!) weakness for gadgets versus the simple way of life had led me to purchase a short while ago a 'robotic hoover' which my daughters affectionately called 'Reg'.

Yes, family, home grown vegetables, cooked bread, sewing, knitting, dog walking in the fields and, of course, my feathered, foraging friends the girlies, do provide immense happiness. But... to see Reg my little robotic vac whizzing around the lounge collecting the day's dust and grime, all without complaint... well, dare I say, it is both useful and *immensely* pleasurable. (yes – I am finally losing my grip.)

Having said goodnight to all I retired to bed and went quickly to slumber. But this sleep was rudely awakened at 3.30am by the sound of our puppy howling. I trod sleepily downstairs and opened the lounge door.

TRAVELS IN INDIA

The editors of the Bugle suggested I jot down some words from my recent three week visit to India, from 14th December to 9th January. This visit was only to the south of India as I had been to the north twice before and didn't want to go back over the ground that Barbara and I had covered before.

I've been to India five times in all, and every time I love it more. If you look at the Indian 100 Rupee bank note it lists 15 recognised official languages to which you can add English as the unofficial 'official language'. It is confusing and so are the customs, the gods, the habits and the working practices you come across as a tourist.

The place names are difficult to spell and near impossible to pronounce because you do not necessarily pronounce all the letters. Here are some examples KAPALEESWARAR, MAHABALIPURM, BRIHADEESHWARA, SRAVANABELGOLA, HOYSALESHWARA and there are many more!

All the temples go back to the Chola period which dates to about the 11th and 12th centuries depending on the interpretation. They mostly describe the complicated existence and lives of the Gods, most of whom you will have heard of, i.e. Ganesh, Shiva, Parvathi, Kali, and of course, depending on the story, they change their names and appearances making it all very confusing and, at the same time, quite fascinating.

The only way of travelling around and visiting all the sights is by car. You can fly but then there is a lot of doubling back if you want to see all the things we managed to fit in.

Now driving in India is not like driving anywhere else! There *is* something like a Highway Code ... but it must be written in the holy language of Sanskrit that only historians speak and write, and is almost dead. So the ordinary driver does not keep to the code. His code is really very simple, THE ROAD BELONGS TO ME SO S** OFF EVERYBODY ELSE. You may think this is a bit crude but drivers use the brakes only rarely and the most used equipment is the horn.

The cacophony of these various horns is unbelievable! The trucks, lorries and buses have a very imposing, scary sound, dwindling to small vehicles with an effeminate 'tuck tuck', but *everybody* is entitled to make a noise.

All drivers must be agents of 'Kwick Fit' because they have to get close enough to the vehicle in front so that you can inspect its exhaust pipe. Wing mirrors are used to hang garlands and dolls etc. from, but usually they are folded back so that this gives an extra 5 inches to squeeze into a space. You do not *on any account* use the rear mirror... once you are behind the wheel you decide on your track, switch off your brain, and go!

This is why everybody uses the horn because they drift all over the place in order to gain even a foot. This applies to every kind of motorised traffic – and then you must add into the mix the pedestrians, cyclists, goats, sheep, chickens and cows.

We saw only two serious accidents, both head-on because Indian drivers like to overtake on blind corners, preferably with an oncoming lorry to make life more exciting. U-turns are executed into the oncoming traffic which makes for very, very interesting situations.

The state of the roads adds its own ingredients. To cover approx 100 km takes 4 hours because of the numerous potholes, non-existent tarmac and lorries who cannot travel very fast as otherwise they will lose a sump or break an axle. And that's why there are no modern lorries – they just wouldn't be able to stand up to the wear and tear of those Indian roads.

For two and a half weeks we travelled through Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Kerala, always with the same driver and car, which allowed us to see much more and have some interesting and breath-taking traffic moments.

However before I stop I must tell you about one very fascinating experience. There is now the opportunity to take part in 'Homestay' where you stay with private individuals. We did this in SETHUMADA in the foothills of the western Ghat. We stayed on a 4500 hectare farm (about 11,000 acres) for one night. The owner spent all the time with us and explained how the farm was run. He grows coconuts, bananas and cocoa. He employs about 400 permanent workers and an extra 200 seasonally and has built a school and employed a teacher. It was absolutely engrossing and I could write page after page about that place and all the things I learned. It is farming of a type that disappeared from the western world many, many years ago.

I'd better stop now otherwise the Bugle will contain nothing else except my ramblings!

Sidney Buchs

Ed. Thank you Sidney for a fascinating article and photo.



CB8 Magazine

Great Bradley has been offered the opportunity to receive the CB8 magazine, published especially to cover our postcode area. It's a free publication and gives details of all sorts of things going on in the CB8 area together with details of local tradespeople etc. We've taken the decision to try delivering it in the village to see if it's well received.

The magazine is produced bi-monthly beginning for 2009 with the February/March edition.

Although not particularly heavy in itself, this will mean that the Bugle volunteer distributors will have more to carry on the occasions when CB8 is included in the delivery.

If anyone feels they could **help with distributing this free CB8 magazine** every other month please make contact with Antonia Kiddy on 783102 as a little more help would be much appreciated.

The magazine's production timings are not quite in step with ours so **the Feb/March edition will be delivered with the March Bugle and Benefice News.**

Once you've had a chance to read the magazine we'll be very pleased to hear what you think of it.
Helen Smith

Singing is good for you!

Saffron Walden Choral Society's singing days are open to all and are enjoyed by many visiting singers from around the region, together with people who want to have a go - but who maybe haven't sung a note for years!

Your Voice – using it with Ease will be led by highly experienced vocal coach, Colin Baldy, who will incorporate the mainstream approach to classical singing together with more recent discoveries from vocal research. Colin is an amusing and entertaining workshop leader who knows how to get the best out of students. For many years he was the singing teacher at New College, Oxford and now he splits his teaching time between London and Umbria. His recently published book *The Student Voice* is aimed at anyone who is serious about working on their voice, developing and improving technique, identifying vocal problems and finding ways to avoid the common pitfalls. Colin also performs as a character baritone with many opera companies and is also an exponent of the songs of Noel Coward. This is an ideal opportunity for anyone who wants to improve their singing, open up their voice and experiment vocally. If you've ever wondered about taking singing lessons but haven't quite plucked up the courage yet, this could be a great first step.

Techniques will be put into practice using choruses from Bach's St. John Passion, which SWCS will be performing in March.

If you are interested in attending the singing day on **Saturday 7 February**, contact Carol Hunt on 01279 813392, or email: singingday@swchoral.org.uk. Tickets cost £15 including music hire and coffee and the day runs from 10am to 4pm in the Drama Studio at Saffron Walden County High School.

LADIES WHO LUNCH

Shortly before Christmas I received a 'phone call from my brother-in-law. He had been doing some serious thinking. Apparently, when my little sister celebrated her 60th birthday, he had not quite come up to the mark on the surprises front! This is a man who is normally very thoughtful...

Anyway, with thinking cap on, he was 'phoning to invite us out to lunch on 27 December at The Anchor Inn, Sutton Gault, this being little sister's 65th birthday!! (Gault is the name for the thick clay used to construct the river banks – reminds me of Great Bradley...)

The Anchor Inn is in an odd corner of the Fens, enjoying a beautiful setting alongside the New Bedford River or 'The Hundred Foot Drain' as it is also called. Built around 1650 to accommodate Cromwell's Scottish prisoners of war who were working on the drainage of the fens, The Anchor retains many charming features, open fires, pine scrubbed tables and flickering gas lamps on the walls. It now has four guest rooms so if you wanted to make it an evening visit you could arrange to stay overnight.

We were given a warm and friendly welcome by the owners and soon found ourselves having to make our choices from the varied menu offering modern British Cuisine. There's an emphasis on seasonal and traditional ingredients in dishes such as grilled dates wrapped in bacon with mustard sauce and smoked Denham Estate venison with celeriac and apple remoulade. The puddings were delicious too! Needless to say a good time was had by all and little sister was suitably surprised!!

As from 5 January 2009 The Anchor are offering lunches on Monday to Friday consisting of two courses for £11.95 and three courses for £15.95. Children welcome.

Highly recommended!

Anne Pigden

Ed. – We would like to make 'eating out' a regular feature - so please let us have your recommendations

St Mary's Church Great Bradley STOURHEAD BENEFICE

Church services for January

Sunday 1 February	11 am	Holy Communion	Great Bradley
Sunday 8 February	11 am	Holy Communion	Great Thurlow
Sunday 15 February	10 am	Benefice Service	Little Bradley
Sunday 22 February	9.30 am	Holy Communion	Little Bradley
Wednesday 25 February	10 am	Ash Wednesday , Holy Communion, Kedington	
Sunday 1 March	11 am	Holy Communion	Great Bradley

For other services see the Benefice News.

Church cleaning for February
Sue S-Bradley & Anne Pigden

Flowers for February:
(no flowers during Lent, 25 February to 11 April)

Christmas at St Mary's: The Christmas services were well attended and the Crib service was especially popular with the younger members of the congregation. A very warm thank you to all those who so generously provided flowers for the displays and the others who braved the cold and contributed their time and talents to decorate the church. It looked beautiful.

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

VILLAGE LOTTERY WINNERS FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2009

	JANUARY		FEBRUARY	
First	Stuart Wilson	The Old Fox	Arline Vollam	Fox Green
Second	Margaret Ryder	The Hall	Karina Joyce	The Old Fox
Third	Mrs Buck	Evergreen Lane	Maureen Jackson	Evergreen Lane
Fourth	Richard Bradberry	Evergreen Lane	Ken Ireland	Evergreen Lane

DEDHAM VALE AONB STOUR VALLEY PROJECT

Numbers limited. Bookings taken one calendar month before each event.

For further details, please contact us on: 01473 264263 www.dedhamvalestourvalley.org

ADULT £3.00 – CHILDREN Free (Free if you travel by public transport/bike)

RAIL RAMBLE

Sunday 22 February 10.30am – 3.00pm

We'll take the train from Sudbury to Bures and then take the long way back taking in the stunning scenery along the Stour Valley Path. Bring a packed lunch – this will be a long walk!

Approx. 8 miles – **Moderate +** (For more experienced walkers covering longer distances.)

Walkers will need to pay their own train fare – adult fare approx. £2.20

FUTURE EDITIONS OF THE BUGLE:

Please tell us your news – We'll be delighted to hear from you!

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

by the 15th of the previous month. **Deadline for March 2009 is 15 February please.**

The Editorial team

Anne Pigden	01440 783175	jaspegp@sky.com
Helen Smith	01440 783278	helen@foxgreen.plus.com
Sue Sylvester-Bradley	01440 783157	sue@sylvester-bradley.org

We thank our advertisers who help to fund this village newsletter – contact Anne, Helen or Sue (see above) if you would like to place an ad.

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



The Bradley Bugle

February 2009

Issue 128 www.great-bradley.suffolk.gov.uk



*January Morning
hoar frost and mist on a
Bradley footpath
Photo RSB*

Village Diary

All events take place in the Village Hall unless otherwise noted

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING	Lively, light exercise and fun! Contact Ella on 710340	Mondays 2 – 4pm
CARPET BOWLS	Every Monday (except Bank Holidays)	Mondays 7.30pm
GENTLE EXERCISE CLASS	Gentle stretching exercises Contact Jacque on 783354	Tuesdays 10.30am – 12.30pm
ART CLASS	Contact Anne on 783175 for details	Tuesdays 2 – 4pm
WEA	The Development of the English Parish Church Speaker Dr Lynne Broughton Contact Geoffrey Vollam on 783132	Wednesdays 10am – 12 noon
EDUCATIONAL CLASSES	SPANISH Improvers contact Gill on 783362 or Pam on 783450	Thursdays 7.30 – 9.30pm
AFTERNOON CLUB	All welcome, all ages, all interests Come and meet friends and neighbours	Thursday 12 February 2.30pm
BOOK CLUB	if there is a book you have particularly enjoyed reading and think others may also enjoy it then why not give either Anne Pigden (783175) or Anne Smith (783648) a ring.	
PARISH COUNCIL	Next meeting	Wednesday 18 March
MOBILE LIBRARY	12.05 – 12.20pm Evergreen 12.25 – 12.40pm Thurlow Road	Mondays 9 & 23 February
BLACK BIN	Wednesdays 4 & 18 February	
BLUE/BROWN BINS	Wednesdays 11 & 25 February	

Great Bradley Village Hall Lottery - see back page for application form
Please return to Simon Kiddy by 14 February