

THE LANTERN

NEWS OF THE PARISH OF ST ANDREW'S BREDFIELD



From a painting by Mary Bishop

SEPTEMBER 2024



FROM ST ANDREW'S MINISTRY TEAM

As I write in August, the harvest is being gathered in. In days gone by, communities would appoint a strong and respected man of the village as their 'Lord of the Harvest' at the start of the harvest season. He would be responsible for negotiating the harvest wages and organising the fieldworkers.



Before Henry VIII broke away from the Catholic Church, Harvest Festival in England used to be celebrated at the beginning of the Harvest season on 1 August and was called Lammas, meaning 'loaf Mass'. Farmers made loaves of bread from the new wheat crop and gave them to their local church. They were then used as the Communion bread during a special mass thanking God for the harvest. The end of the harvest was celebrated with a big meal called a Harvest Supper, eaten on Michaelmas Day (29th Sept) when the 'Lord of the Harvest' sat at the head of the table.

The tradition of celebrating Harvest Festival in churches as we know it today began in 1843, when the Reverend Robert Hawker invited parishioners to a special thanksgiving service for the harvest at his church at Morwenstow in Cornwall. Today, churches across the country will be decorated churches with home-grown produce to thank God for our food.

In Bredfield we have some special services at the end of September, but the main thanksgiving will be on the first Sunday of October with bacon butties from 9.15 and Harvest Praise at 10am at the church. There'll be farming

equipment to see and children's activities too. If you can offer help with any of this, please get in touch with one of our wardens: Steve Stammers or Paul Cannard churchwardens.bredfield@gmail.com or 07704 856005

Look out for more details next month!

Sally Gaze

Archdeacon for Rural Mission across Suffolk and part of the ministry team at St Andrew's Bredfield

DIARY DATES



Coffee And Cake



Do join us for a Coffee and Cake morning in St Andrew's Church Room. These will be held on:

Tuesday 10th and Thursday 26th September 10am to 12pm

Tuesday 8th and Thursday 24th October 10am to 12pm

SUFFOLK HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST RIDE & STRIDE

SATURDAY 14th SEPTEMBER 2024 9am -5pm

Been out on your bike yet this summer? Or is walking more your thing?

Choose: your own route from a long-distance challenge to a pleasant rural amble to as many churches and chapels as you wish and help raise funds to support your local Church as well as the Trust.

For those with a classic or vintage car, 'Pedal and Drive' is another option, following a range of routes around the county.

**Information and forms from Anne Ackerley, The Elms,
Bredfield**

(01394 384805)

GO ON – GIVE IT A GO!



Volunteers to check-in runners and riders also required. Can you spare an hour on the day to help out? Please contact me as above.

**MAKE, BAKE
OR DONATE**



Macmillan Coffee Morning

Saturday 21st September

at

Bredfield Village Hall

9.30 – 12.30

Bring a cake, buy a cake.

have a coffee/tea,

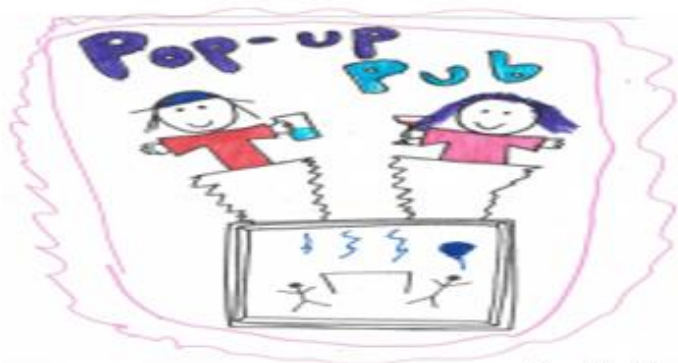
meet your friends and family

and raise money for

Macmillan Cancer Support

**WORLD'S BIGGEST
COFFEE
MORNING**

**MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT**



Artwork by Florence Sargeant

POP-UP BAR

FRIDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER
6.00 – 10.30PM

ALL WELCOME

BRING FRIENDS AND FAMILY AND
ENJOY A NIGHT OUT
CARD PAYMENTS ONLY

A COMMUNITY EVENT!

Bredfield
Jubilee Meadow & Orchard



To mark the 10th anniversary of Bredfield Jubilee Meadow & Orchard, you are invited to:

A PICNIC plus APPLE-PRESSING

28th SEPTEMBER, 2024
Noon onwards
at the Meadow & Orchard

For the Picnic, please bring: food and drink (alcoholic or non-alcoholic); and something to sit on (picnic chairs or a rug). Tea and coffee will be available.

If you have an Apple tree, please bring apples for pressing (and take away delicious juice!). If you have no apples, just join in the fun of apple-pressing anyway.

Just turn-up!

Contact: Stewart at bredfieldwfv@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATES

Harvest Festival 6th October

A huge thank you to everyone who has donated items for the Salvation Army Food Bank since last year's Harvest Festival. We have made many trips into Woodbridge with a boot-load of boxes, packets and tins. There are boxes in the shop and church porch for donations of non-perishable items, or bring them along to Harvest Festival on 6th October, which will begin with bacon butties from 9.15, followed by an all-age Harvest Celebration at 10.00am.

Churchyard Clear-up Saturday 26th October

We will be tidying up the churchyard from 9.30am on Saturday 26th October. Could you spare some time to help prepare the churchyard for Remembrance Sunday a couple of weeks later? There are jobs suitable for all ages and abilities, and you can join for as long as you are able. Feel free to bring your own hand tools. Refreshments will be provided.

Bredfield Pig Race 9th November

There will be a Bredfield Pig Race on Saturday 9th November at 7.00pm in the Village Hall – save the date!

All proceeds to Macmillan Cancer Support and Woodbridge Lions Christmas parcels. More information soon.

Join our Christmas Choir

This year Bredfield church are again forming a Christmas Choir in preparation for the Village Carol Service (Sunday 15th December at 4pm tbc). All singers welcome. The choir will be led and conducted by former music teacher Steve Stammers.

If you are interested, come along to St Andrew's Church, Bredfield on Church on 21st November at 7.30 pm.

You need to be able to sing in tune, but not necessarily read music though it is helpful if you can. Children from school year 6 up are welcome to join as well as adults and teens. Further rehearsals will be on each Thursday evening until the carol service.

Please let Steve know if you are interested on
churchwardens.bredfield@gmail.com or 07704 856005

NEWS FROM BREDFIELD

AN INTERVIEW WITH... Miss Joan Peck

Headmistress of Bredfield School 1956-1970

You may have heard on the grapevine that Joan Peck passed away on 1st May this year, aged 96. I was very fortunate that late in 2023 she agreed to talk to me about her time as Headmistress of Bredfield School. She was still living alone at home and her mind was still as sharp as a pin, and I spent a fascinating afternoon with her and Peter and Sheila Daniels, who were close friends and regular visitors to her bungalow in Pettistree.

Born and brought up in Suffolk, Joan attended Norwich Training College at Keswick Hall, just to the south-west of Norwich. After graduating, she taught in Huddersfield, Norfolk and Needham Market before applying to an advertisement for a new Head Teacher at Bredfield in 1956.

When Miss Peck (she was and always remained 'Miss Peck' to her former pupils, even though she invited them to call her 'Joan') arrived at Bredfield school, there were 36 pupils, 3 teachers, 3 classes, but only 2 classrooms. The larger classroom was divided in two by a curtain which, inevitably, encouraged a considerable amount of prodding of pupils on the other side. Unfortunately, by 1956 numbers of pupils were dwindling, partly due to people having smaller families, but also in part due to the exodus from the countryside of agricultural workers. By then, the schools at both Debach and Dallinghoo had already closed and most of the children moved to Bredfield. Despite the extra pupils, numbers were still lower than previously and so one of the teachers soon had to be let go.

The school and house next door were built on land that belonged to the Church. Joan, as Headmistress, was expected to live at Teachers House (as it is still called) but she had no intention of living so close to her work. She resisted for as long as possible, but as it was a requirement that only a teacher could live there, she eventually resigned herself to the inevitable. She complained

that she had lived there for many years before she was provided with a bathroom and indoor toilet!

Despite being on Church land, the school was a County Primary (not a Church) School. This distinction was very important to Joan, who was not religious and wanted to keep religious education to a minimum, believing it should all be led by the Church at Sunday School. This put her in conflict with the Rector at the time, Rev Stott, who believed the exact opposite, which led to a battle of wills throughout her time there. Since the law required a religious act – usually an assembly – to be performed every day, Joan had to grit her teeth and allow him in, although not as much as he would have liked.

As well as being taught the 3R's and other academic subjects, the children at Bredfield enjoyed music as provided by one of the teachers playing the piano located in the larger classroom. They were also supposed to do 20 minutes of physical education a day, following the '1933 Physical Education Programme'. This was initially done outside in the playground in front of the school, but later the school was sent indoor apparatus such as steel bars, to use. If the weather was wet, they simply moved the desks to the side of the classroom and did their PE indoors. The playground outside had very little by way of play equipment, except for a log from a yew tree that had been cut down in the churchyard. However, this caused quite a nasty injury to a child's leg, so had to be removed quite quickly, but the space meant that the playground formed a very popular ice rink for the children during cold, icy weather.

The school was funded by the County, and although this was enough to cover the basics, Joan always seemed to have to be asking for more money – "We were always fighting for something" – to fund other things, such as a septic tank. A 'Learner' swimming pool was the result of other fund-raising efforts.

It is hard to imagine today, but when Joan started in Bredfield, there was only one inside toilet which was reserved for the staff. The children had outside ones, one for the girls and another for the boys, consisting of a wooden seat over a two-handled bucket. These were emptied onto a small enclosure at the back of the school grounds and the contents then covered with sand. This required two people, but Mrs Bradlaugh (George Bradlaugh's mother), who worked at the school, often had to do this alone and so used an old saucepan

to empty them bit by bit! The installation of a septic tank was a great improvement, although the smell was terrible whenever it was emptied once a week and, for some reason, always at lunchtime! The school was not connected to the public sewer until after Joan had left Bredfield in 1970.

Joan had very fond memories of her time at Bredfield, saying that the children were “lovely and very polite”, although she does admit to having had “one horror child and another difficult one” during her time there. After 14 years at the helm, she decided to move on and became Headmistress of Wickham Market School, where she stayed until her retirement.

Alison Cannard

100 CLUB WINNERS

July 2024

1st Prize	No. 11 L Taylor
2nd Prize	No. 79 U Hurst

August 2024

1st Prize	No. 44 J Finch
2nd Prize	No. 84 S Coad

BREDFIELD PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

Bredfield Jubilee Meadow and Orchard (BJMO)

The BJMO has again received a Green Flag Award. The site had also been visited by a Conservation Adviser at Suffolk Wildlife Trust as part of the selection process to be designated a County Wildlife Site.

A review had taken place on the future of the BJMO Car Park. The Car Park is little used so alternative usage is being considered – for example installing bike racks. Changes need to be balanced with the need for maintenance access.

If you have any views, please let the Parish Council know.

Traffic Calming

Following on from a meeting with Highways to discuss the possibility of installing white gates/road markings and a new VAS post on the Dallinghoo Road the Parish Council will be carrying out a traffic survey on this stretch of road.

Woodbridge Active Travel Consultation

The results of this consultation have now been published and can be found at

<https://thewaytogosuffolk.org.uk/active-travel-woodbridge/>

Following feedback, the council have made a number of changes to the proposals.

The council's next step will be to issue more detailed proposals.

Woodbridge A12 Improvements

In early 2021 Suffolk County Council held a public consultation on possible improvements to the stretch of the A12 running from the Seven Hills interchange with the A14 to the Melton roundabout.

In October 2023 the government announced funding of the scheme. Suffolk Highways have now provided more details of the proposed work, which will be in two phases.

- Phase 1 will see changes to the roundabouts in Martlesham and the installation of traffic lights to allow for a better flow of traffic.
- Phase 2 should see the dualling of the single carriageway between Seckford Hall Road and the Grundisburgh Road (B1079) by building a new northbound carriageway on the golf course side of the current road.

But don't hold your breath. Although this is all for the greater good, work on Phase One isn't planned to start until 2025.

However, there are currently no plans to dual the A12 from the Melton Roundabout to Ufford Road, or to improve the Bredfield junction.

Flooding

East Suffolk have created a brief Preparedness Guide covering essential contact numbers and general advice on how to deal with flooding. Copies of the guide will be distributed to villagers by volunteers.

As always full minutes of Parish Council meetings together with District and County Councillor updates can be found on the village website.

Nik Bestow

NATURE NOTES

This month we're going to look at two migrant birds that have come to rely on us for nest sites. Both are well-known and a delight to have in the summer skies over Bredfield: the Swift and the House Martin.

These birds have evolved to make use of the man-made environment for their homes. Swifts, which don't put much effort into nest-building, originally made their nest holes in cliff-faces. By contrast, House Martins put a lot of energy and creativity into building their nests: collecting mud in their beaks and, with enviable plastering skills, shaping this into a neat nest-bowl that adheres to the chosen nook. Again, the original location for these nest constructions would have been cliffs or banks. Both species have now evolved to use houses, churches and others buildings as their preferred nest sites.

Both of these species have suffered population declines. The main culprits are the usual suspects: seasonal disruption caused by climate change; and a decline in their food source - flying insects - caused by habitat loss and the use of pesticides. In addition, these two birds have suffered from a loss of suitable places to nest on buildings. Swifts squeeze into the smallest of cracks (under roof tiles, for example), but today these cracks are more likely to be filled or may be non-existent on new-builds. House Martins love to suspend their nests under overhanging eaves, but today many eaves have smooth plastic soffits, to which mud adhere less-firmly and more precariously. In both cases, our understandable desire to have neat, maintenance-free houses has had an adverse impact on suitable nesting locations. However, humans are inventive and generally caring, so helping solutions for Swifts and House Martins are available. Later in this article, we will look at these solutions, but first let's say a word or two about the birds themselves.

Swifts - wow! They lead an amazing life. After leaving the nest, a Swift will not land for a whole year, or even two. Eating, sleeping and mating is done on the wing. Their migrations involve thousands of miles of travel. They are the final summer visitor to arrive, and it lifts the spirits to see the first ones in May. No one has captured the moment of the Spring arrival of Swifts better than Ted Hughes:

*They've made it again,
Which means the globe's still working, the Creation's
Still waking refreshed, our summer's
Still all to come*

House Martins are in the same family as Swallows, but nowhere-near related to Swifts. They arrive on our shores earlier and depart later. It easy to identify them: they are chubby and have a bright-white rump. By contrast, Swifts are sleeker with long sickle-shaped wings.

Now let's return to their nesting. As a help for House Martins, artificial versions of their nests are availed to buy and erect. My Bredfield neighbour has had House Martins nesting under his eaves for successive years, but last year the nest fell off his plastic soffits. This year he has erected a concrete simulation of the nest, and it has worked (see image). As I write, the parents are coming to-and-fro feeding youngsters in the nest.



Swift boxes, look rather more like other bird boxes (see image). They need to be set high on a wall, providing exiting fledglings with a clear flight. Swifts like

to nest communally, so it is necessary to erect two or more boxes side-by-side. Getting Swifts to take to your new nest box, isn't straightforward. It helps if you can play a recording of their calls to trick them into thinking that other Swifts are nesting in the neighbourhood. I'm frustrated to report that the two Swift boxes that I erected on our house have yet to attract residents. Probably, I've just been unlucky. The boxes do work and many new-build houses include 'nest bricks' high on the end wall. For next year, why not have a go at providing a home for Swifts and House Martins if you can. Every little helps!



For more information, go to '[Save our Suffolk Swifts](#)' and '[House Martin Conservation.com](#)'

Stewart Belfield

<https://bredfieldwfv.org.uk>



SEASONAL RECIPE FROM THE VILLAGE SHOP

This month, a fruity recipe based on the well-known summer pudding, but using autumn fruits instead.

PLUM, APPLE AND BLACKBERRY PUDDING

450g any plums or damsons, stoned
225g cooking apples, peeled, cored and sliced
225g blackberries
175g sugar, either Demerara or white
150ml water
10 - 12 slices brown bread, crusts removed

Cook the plums, apples and blackberries together, with the sugar and water, until tender. Line the bottom and sides of a buttered 2pint pudding basin with the bread slices. Reserve some of the juice from the fruit.

Pour the cooked fruit into the basin, and top with a slice of bread to form a lid. Put a plate or saucer just smaller than the basin on top of the pudding, and weight it down with something heavy. Chill the pudding overnight in the fridge.

Turn out onto a serving dish, and pour the reserved juice over the top.

Serve with crème fraiche or Greek yoghurt .

(from 'Fruits of the Hedgerow' by Charlotte Popescu)

Throughout the late summer and autumn in the shop, we have various varieties of plums from Charsfield. All the fruit is easily available, some from the hedgerows!

Alvina is busy converting all the fruit into lovely jams and chutneys too - but her recipes are secret!

Kate Pirkis



LIGHTWAVE

St Andrew's Bredfield has a Lightwave group which meets every Thursday from 7.30-9pm. They learn to study the bible, pray and seek to live out their faith practically serve the local community in various ways. Everyone is welcome, whether or not you go to church. The venue changes from week to week, so if you would like to come along please contact Steve Stammers to find out more on churchwardens.bredfield@gmail.com or 07704 856005



BELL-RINGING IN BREDFIELD

Have you ever heard the bells of St Andrew's ringing out on a Sunday morning and wondered about trying your hand at bell-ringing? Bell-ringing practice is on a Friday evening 7.30-9.00pm in the church, and new recruits are welcome.

For more information call Mike and Ann Pilgrim on 01394 382773

PLEASE CAN YOU HELP?

We are becoming desperately short of volunteers to help with the flowers in the church and the weekly cleaning of the building. If you would be willing to help with the flower arranging or can help in some way with the cleaning please contact the churchwardens using the contact details provided inside the back cover. We would be very grateful for any help you can offer us.

Steve Stammers

USEFUL INFORMATION

St Andrew's, Bredfield

Rector: Rev Charles Trefusis

Churchwardens: Stephen Stammers and Paul Cannard

For all enquiries regarding St Andrew's, contact:

the Churchwardens on churchwardens.bredfield@gmail.com or call Steve Stammers on 07704 856005

St John's church office on 01394 383162 or info@stjohnswoodbridge.org.uk

For information about the Benefice of St John's and St Andrew's go to www.stjohnswoodbridge.org.uk

Bredfield Village Shop opening times: Monday – Saturday 9.30-12.30

Want to know what's happening in the village? Check out the website

<http://bredfield.onesuffolk.net>

For regular info updates- join our MailChimp email group. Email Anne Henderson - henny@dircon.co.uk and she will add you to the MailChimp list

**Want to know about the Village Hall and Bredfield Wildlife Friendly Village – check out <https://www.bredfieldvillagehall.org.uk>
<https://bredfieldwfv.org.uk>**

BREDFIELD PRAYER CIRCLE

This is a group of Parishioners united in prayer for the needs of our community. It operates in confidence, does not discuss your requests but simply includes your needs with their private prayer. Please give just a first name and enough details to make your request meaningful to those who will be praying with you. Please contact: Anne Ackerley 01394 384805 or Alison Cannard 01473 737707.

PARISH GIVING SCHEME – St Andrew's

This is a simple and secure online way for churches to receive donations in support of their work and upkeep. It accepts both one-off donations and the setting up of a regular commitment. There is no charge, so 100% of your donation will go to St Andrew's. To make a donation please click on the QR code. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT**



Please send any contribution for October's Lantern to Alison Cannard at lantern.bredfield@gmail.com , 01473 737707 by 10th September.

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER SERVICES AT ST. ANDREW'S

Sunday 1 st September	Holy Communion	9.15am
Sunday 8 th September	Service of the Word	9.15am
Sunday 15 th September	Holy Communion	9.15am
Sunday 22 nd September	Service of the Word	9.15am
Sunday 29 th September	Service of the Word	9.15am
Sunday 6 th October HARVEST FESTIVAL	Harvest Celebration (with bacon butties)	<u>9.15am for</u> <u>10.00am</u>
Sunday 13 th October	Service of the Word	9.15am
Sunday 20 th October	Holy Communion	9.15am
Sunday 27 th October	Service of the Word	9.15am

DIARY DATES AT A GLANCE

Tuesday 10 th September	Coffee and Cake morning
Saturday 14 th September	Ride and Stride
Saturday 21 st September	Macmillan Coffee Morning
Thursday 26 th September	Coffee and Cake morning
Friday 27 th September	Pop-up Bar
Saturday 28 th September	Picnic and Apple Pressing Day