

THE LANTERN

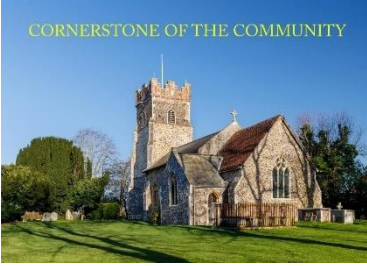
NEWS OF THE PARISH OF ST ANDREW'S BREDFIELD



COWSLIPS IN THE CHURCHYARD — PHOTO BY ANN STAMMERS

JUNE 2026

CORNERSTONE OF THE COMMUNITY



FROM ST ANDREW'S MINISTRY TEAM

During June, many of us will find ourselves drawn into the excitement of the Football World Cup. Even those who don't usually follow football may feel the pull of a shared anticipation of how England could do with the flags, the conversations in the village shop, the collective hope that this might be 'our year'. Sport has a way of reminding us that we belong to something bigger than ourselves.

Yet as we watch the matches unfold, we remain aware that the world beyond the pitch feels far less united. Conflicts continue in several regions, communities are displaced, and many nations face political uncertainty. News headlines can leave us feeling unsettled, even powerless. The contrast between the harmony we see in sport and the divisions we see in global affairs can be stark.

But this contrast also invites us to reflect more deeply on the kind of hope we place our trust in.

Football offers joy, but it is temporary. Trophies tarnish, victories fade, and even the most glorious goals are soon replaced by next season's fixtures. The Christian hope, however, is rooted in something far more enduring. In Jesus Christ we meet the One who does not change with the seasons, whose love is not dependent on results, and whose peace is not fragile or fleeting.

Jesus speaks of a kingdom where every nation is gathered, not in competition, but in reconciliation. A kingdom where the lost are found, the weary are given rest, and the broken are made whole. This is not a distant dream but a living

reality that begins here and now, wherever people choose compassion over indifference, forgiveness over resentment, and courage over fear.

So, as we enjoy the World Cup - whether cheering loudly or simply appreciating the shared spirit - may it remind us of our deeper calling: to be people of hope in a troubled world. Let us pray for peace among nations, for wisdom among leaders, and for healing where there is hurt. And let us continue to be a community where Christ's light is seen in small acts of kindness, hospitality, and neighbourly care.

As a church we are encouraging everyone to use 2026 FIFA World Cup as a time to spend 40 Days praying for the nations and the needs of the world, including peace. Do join us praying, you are always welcome to join us on Sunday mornings as well.

May the God of hope fill you with joy and peace this month, and may His love guide our village, our nation, and our world.

With every blessing,

Rev Charles Trefusis
Rector

DIARY DATES

COFFEE AND CAKE



Do come along to **COFFEE AND CAKE** mornings in
St Andrew's Church Room.

We meet on Wednesdays, usually twice a month.

ALL WELCOME!

The next dates are:

Wednesday 10th and Wednesday 24th June, 10am to 12 pm

Wednesday 15th and Wednesday 29th July, 10am to 12 pm



Artwork by Florence Seargeant

POP-UP BAR

FRIDAY 26TH JUNE

6.00 – 10.00PM

**ALL WELCOME
BRING FRIENDS AND FAMILY AND
ENJOY A NIGHT OUT
CARD PAYMENTS ONLY**

SAVE THE DATE AND FUTURE EVENTS

BRASS ON THE GRASS

ENJOY AN EVENING WITH

EAST OF ENGLAND CO-OP BAND

IN THE LOVELY GARDENS OF THE OLD RECTORY BREDFIELD

BRING A PICNIC AND A GLASS OF YOUR FAVOURITE TIPPLE

Saturday 11th July 7pm

Gates open 6.15pm

Programme will include favourites from the Proms

Tickets available from 1st June from

Andrew Miller 07770 406222

and The Village Shop

Tickets: Adults £10 Children under 16 £5



RIDE & STRIDE

The annual SHCT RIDE & STRIDE will take place on Saturday 12th September 9am-5pm. Details on how to join in to follow.

ANYONE FOR A WALK?

Are you interested in joining others for a day walk sometime over the summer? Perhaps, you enjoyed the Beat the Bounds walk and would like to explore further afield?

If so, please speak to Anne or Roger (Ackerley) or phone them on 01394 384805.

Walks will be

- linear with a theme or purpose
- roughly 9 or 10 miles long at a relaxed pace, with
- several stops along the way at places of historical or natural interest,
- plenty of time to chat and
- weekday/weekend options.



Are you interested in the Anglo-Saxons or curious about the spread of Christianity in England?

The Bredfield Lightwave Group invites you to join them on Thursday evenings in July and August to explore, discuss and reflect on some of the places and people involved. The sessions will be informal, relaxed and friendly and will start in the Church Room with refreshments at 7.30pm, and finish by 9pm.

Each week the life of a different Anglo-Saxon 'saint' who helped to share the Gospel story of Jesus Christ will be explored including Cuthbert, Bede and Hilda; And the places they were associated with, such as Lindisfarne, Durham and Canterbury, where people have made pilgrimages since ancient times. Discover, too, how Etheldreda and Ely are connected with our village of Bredfield; And how the stories of these lives and places can still influence how we live our lives today.

You will be most welcome to join us for one, a few or all evenings depending on your interest and availability.

For further details please message or speak to Steve Stammers (steve_st.andrews@btinternet.com or 07704856005) or Roger Ackerley (01394 384805)

NEWS FROM BREDFIELD

BEAT THE BOUNDS WALK REPORT, SATURDAY 9TH MAY

The weather was set to be warm and sunny when 22 of us met at the Village Hall Car Park to start the walk so no need for waterproofs this time.

We started with an introduction explaining how Rogation came from the Latin word 'rogare' meaning 'to ask'. Thus Rogationtide, which starts on the 5th Sunday after Easter and leads up to Ascension Day was traditionally when a blessing would be asked on the crops. This then became linked with a 'communal perambulation' of the Parish Boundaries which included giving youngsters 'the bumps' to remind them where the boundaries lay.

Setting off, we headed northwards stopping at the Village Green before crossing fields to the Parish boundary just beyond the pylons. Onwards to Pound Corner between tall stands of Oil Seed Rape with thanks to Grahame for mowing the path! Turning left to walk parallel to the Parish Boundary we headed up to Wood Cottage where we met with Jonathan Purkis who kindly guided us round a section of Keen's Farm. The Purkis' family have a farm of 370 acres growing arable crops in an environmentally sensitive way. It was really interesting to hear Jonathan's views on farming; the challenges they have including the steep rise in fertilizer prices as well as the recent 'wins' in terms of re-establishing ponds and an adapted drill for planting Oil Seed Rape.

We reluctantly left Keen's farm (it was a beautiful day) to head back to the Church Room for much needed refreshments.

My thanks go to the Purkis family for all their help, to Roger for back marking on the walk; to Sue, Marion and Janie for cake making and serving the teas and to all those who came and supported the event in any way.

Anne Ackerley

VISIT BY ARCHDEACON RICH

On Sunday 17th May we enjoyed a special service with Archdeacon Rich talking about Revelation 12.1-11. We have been looking deeper at the Book of Revelation during both the services and at Lightwave. This is the last book in the New Testament and is certainly not always the first that people wish to study. He made this part so easy to understand by stripping it down and explaining the basic message. A real pleasure to listen to, delivered by a gentle and humble man. A real treat, followed by the usual yummy refreshments and fellowship.

Ann Stammers

PLANT STALL

As of 18th May we had already raised £109.50 towards the upkeep of the church building. Now that the Spring is well under way, plants have at times been pouring in. Thank you so much to all the contributors. The variety has been amazing.

This project is not just for St Andrew's but for everyone who wishes to use it. Plant prices are so high nowadays and yet our gardens are so important to us and to Nature. We keep the prices low. A big thank you to contributors and buyers. It's good to spread the love.

We now have a plant unit with doors, so we are able to protect tender plants at nighttime. We have had such chilly temperatures and cold winds in May. Thank you so much, All.

Steve and Ann



BREDFIELD FOOD BANK.

Thank you to all those who have contributed to the two collection sites, in St Andrew's Porch and at the Village Shop.

Inflation, rising energy bills, stagnant wages, family problems, etc have all contributed to increased need for help.

If you are able to buy an extra item of grocery when you shop, and pop it into a collection box, that would be great. These donations are then taken to Woodbridge Salvation Army where they distribute them to people in need.

With Thanks,
Ann Stammers

CARING FOR CREATION AT ST ANDREWS

A fount of knowledge is already being collected of wildlife in our churchyard. There are so many different examples of plant life and Stewart Bellfield is helping by sending in photos of insects spotted. Birds and mammals also visit but are more difficult to capture on camera. There have been sightings of French Partridge, Pheasants, Squirrels, Rabbits and even a female Muntjac with fawn. Thank you to all those sending in photos. These can be sent to the email address in the Logbook, found just inside the church.

I have started preparing some of the photos, with information, for a wall display. I will gradually add to those already put up. A copy of the Suffolk Wildlife Survey of 2011, carried out at the same time as that of the Meadow, is also on display. We have already found a few new species. Hopefully not too many have been lost. It is very time consuming with my limited computer skills, and it will probably take a year or two to monitor all species.

Everyone is welcome to help in any way, spotting, recording, researching.

Ann Stammers



AN INTERVIEW WITH...JOHN AND ROSEMARY McCARTHY

John and Rosemary McCarthy have lived in Bredfield for 40 years and are familiar figures around the village. John is often seen being taken for a walk by their chocolate lab, Rosco, and is known for locking and unlocking the church every weekday. Rosemary is often seen in the shop and is known for organising the flower rota for the church (she did try to retire once, but seems to have been persuaded back); she is also known by a generation of St Mary's schoolchildren as a lunchtime supervisor. Together they run the Church 100 Club. Their house and garden are also well known for the ever-expanding display of cheerful coloured lights brightening up cold winter evenings in the run-up to Christmas.

They both grew up in Clopton, although they didn't get to know each other until they were in their teens: they attended different schools and lived at opposite ends of the village, and it was only when John, aged 13, was asked to help with a milk round that he first found himself approaching Rosemary's family farm. As he did so, he met Rosemary riding her pony towards him. They gradually got to know each other (aided by a mutual friend, Sally, who acted as intermediary) and, as John put it, "the rest is history".

They married in Clopton church on 11th June 1977, a few days after the Queen's Silver Jubilee celebrations, and moved to Ipswich. Several years later, when their elder daughter, Sarah, was one, they were offered first refusal to buy their current house by Rosemary's Auntie Sis, who had lived there with her father (Rosemary's grandfather) until his death. Rosemary had known and loved the house all her life, and neither she nor John enjoyed living in a town, so they jumped at the chance.

Before Sarah was born, Rosemary worked at Anglesea Road Hospital as PA to the Head of Education. There she met many nurses from abroad, particularly the Philippines. She remembers that the general nursing tutors were nearly all

unmarried career women and quite strict and humourless, and very different from the psychiatric tutors who were much more laid back. The two groups did not get on too well, which could cause an atmosphere!

As well as having a young family, Rosemary helped to look after her mother-in-law, cooking her lunch every day until she had to go into a carehome, and also providing some support to Mr Backhouse, who lived next door until he died aged 100. She looks back and wonders how she did it all, but says that at the time “you just got on with it”.

Once Sarah went up to Farlingaye, Rosemary took a job as midday supervisor at St Mary’s school, which she continued for 20 years. Helen was still at St Mary’s, but seemed quite happy to have her Mum at school every lunchtime. John spent 44 years working for the NHS in Ipswich maintaining and repairing X-ray and other diagnostic machines, in time becoming the sole person in charge of them (and therefore the sole person on call 24/7, which could be quite a burden). Prior to that, he completed an HNC in Electrical Engineering via an apprenticeship at Marconi in Chelmsford. After the rather brief interview, they admitted that they wanted to offer him the job on the strength of his application but called him in anyway to prove that he “wasn’t a hippy.” Fortunately, he was wearing a suit. There he worked in the TV test area on outside broadcasts and studio work.

In the mid-70s, he was able to considerably reduce his commuting time by moving to Ipswich Hospital, even though he knew nothing then about X-rays. He assumed he would be sent on courses, but this did not happen until much later, so he had to learn “on the hoof”. In this, he was probably helped by having had one boss at Marconi who refused to let him look at manuals for any machines as he believed that “the machine will never work if you follow the manual”. John found this frustrating, but it – along with his evident patience and ability to work methodically - may have helped get him through his early days in Ipswich. He can clearly remember his very first job which was

to look at the machine in “Room 12” which had “gone bang”. He had no idea what he was looking at or doing, but he took the cover off, found an area that had turned black and an unfamiliar type of fuse and somehow put those two things right. Or as he put it, “It started up and didn’t go bang again.” Patience was certainly necessary when it came to dealing with the “bird’s nest” of wires he often found inside an elderly machine.

John says that the first rule of his work was never to work on a machine with a patient on it. The first rule for those operating the machine was to test it before you get the patient onto it. Once, those operating the machine failed to obey their first rule, leaving the patient stranded. To be able to obey his first rule, John had to get the patient off before working out what had gone wrong. Fortunately, he resolved the issue quickly. To his surprise, the patient had not been sent home, but kept nearby as the staff had been so sure he would sort the problem out. He was clearly held in affection and high regard, which can further be demonstrated by the fact that Helen, a radiographer, is still sometimes introduced as John McCarthy’s daughter!

So, what sustains them in their daily lives? You only have to see the number of family photographs on the walls to know that family is everything to them. They now have 3 grandchildren and 2 step-grandchildren, all local, and are very involved in their lives. They also love their house and garden, and the strong sense of community that still exists in Bredfield, even though it – along with most of their neighbours - has changed over the years. And relaxation? They are interested in family history, and John winds down with a jigsaw puzzle. And then there’s the Christmas lights. You might imagine that, given his job, he would be well-placed to do the annual untangling of lights that most of us have to go through. But, thinking about it, we suspect that there will be no “bird’s nest” in any of his boxes in the first place!

Interviewed by Julie Crabb and Alison Cannard

BREDFIELD PARISH COUNCIL REPORT JUNE 2026

Suffolk County Council Elections

Following the elections on May the 4th the council is now controlled by Reform UK who have 41 councillors. The Green party has 13, Conservatives 9, Labour 3, Liberal Democrats 2 and there are 2 independents.

Elaine Bryce (Conservative) remains our County Councillor.

The Forge Development

At May's Parish Council Meeting a presentation on the current proposal for development of The Forge was given. For further details please see the meeting minutes.

The Chapel

The planning application to convert the chapel to a holiday has been approved.

Westerfield Quarry (SCC/0093/25SC)

A decision on the proposal for the extraction and processing of sand and gravel at Westerfield will be made after the new County Councillors feel they have been adequately trained. If permission is granted the quarry there is likely to be an increase in the number of lorries using the B1078.

Boot Street Bridge (Great Bealings)

This bridge was damaged by a road traffic accident a few months ago and is currently closed to HGVs. Due to the nature of the work, there are currently no firm plans on when the bridge will be repaired.

Annual Parish Meeting

The annual parish meeting was held on Friday 24th April in the village hall. This meeting is an opportunity for local organisations to update villagers on all their activities for the greater good over the past year. There were presentations from:

- The Parish Council (David Hepper)
- The Village Hall (Anne Henderson)

- St Andrew’s Church (Steven Stammers)
- The Jubilee Meadow (Stewart Belfield)
- The Community Shop (David Hepper)
- The Bowls Club (George Oliver)
- The Townlands Charity (David Hepper)
- The Bell Ringers (Mike Pilgrim)
- The Book Club (Anne Henderson)
- Community Action Suffolk (Sue Downs)

Topics raised by attendees included the Call For Sites, the state of the footpath between Woods Meadow / Byng Brook and the traffic on Ufford Road.

The full presentations can be found in the minutes on the Parish Council website <https://bredfield-pc.gov.uk/assets/Annual-Meetings/APM-Draft-Minutes-2026.pdf>

Next Meeting

The next full Parish Council meeting is scheduled for 7:30 Monday July 27th in the village hall. Please contact the Parish Clerk by the 13th May if you would like to raise an issue for the Parish Council to discuss / resolve. Alternatively, members of the public have the opportunity to raise items with at the start of each meeting.

Nik Bestow

**100 CLUB WINNERS
May 2026**

1st Prize	No.9 S Woods
2nd Prize	No. 71 P Miller

NATURE NOTES

If you go down to the meadow today, you're in for a big surprise. An interpretative noticeboard has been erected at Bredfield Jubilee Meadow and Orchard. The artwork is by Suffolk artist Ruth Wharrier and the wooden structure was made by our very own 'craftsman' Max Brown. Here it is, though it looks much better in situ.



The board illustrates and serves as a guide to some of the flora and fauna that can be found in the meadow and orchard. It also enhances the area by providing us with a lovely piece of art. What I'd like to do in

this month's Nature Notes is talk a little bit about some of the species that are illustrated.

There are two birds at the top of the picture: Blackcap and Whitethroat. Both of these are summer visitors, though with warming winter temperatures a few Blackcaps now over-winter. Both birds belong to the same family of warblers and both are vigorous songsters when they arrive on their territory. The sound of the Blackcap may be familiar to you around your garden; either its jingly-jangly song or it's repetitive clicking call. Only the male has a cap that is black; on the female the cap is brown. The Common Whitethroat is a bird of country hedgerows. Its song is rather 'scratchy', which is sometimes delivered in brief song-flight above the top of the hedgerow. The bird has rufous wings and, of course, a white throat. Its more secretive cousin is the Lesser

Whitethroat, whose rather Chaffinch-like song has also been heard coming from the hedgerow in the meadow.

Five butterflies are illustrated, which reflects how attractive the flora of the meadow is to this family of insects. Two of these – the Comma and the Peacock – will not have laid their eggs nor left their larva to feed in the meadow. This is because their caterpillars largely feed on Stinging Nettles. Butterflies are one of the ‘desirable’ species in nature, whilst nettles are widely viewed as ‘undesirable’. That’s the way it goes in ecology: species considered desirable are often reliant upon species deemed undesirable! There is a day-flying moth portrayed in the picture, the Six-spotted Burnet. Look out for it in late summer. It’s quite a stunner.

The ‘cards’ in the picture portray the flora of the meadow and orchard: from the Southern Marsh Orchid of Spring; through the Fleabane and Tufted Vetch of Summer; to the Apples and Sloes of Autumn. All are a delight and, if you drop into the meadow soon, you’ll be able to enjoy the host of orchids on display.

Here’s another picture of the noticeboard with: the artist Ruth Wharrier; District Councillor Colin Hedgley, who kindly provided a small grant towards the cost of the noticeboard; and the author.



Stewart Belfield <https://bredfieldwfv.org.uk>

All photos by the author



SEASONAL RECIPE FROM THE VILLAGE SHOP

Summer must be here, we have local new potatoes from Tattlingstone! They have a lovely flavour, and this Jamie Oliver recipe creates a very special dish with simple, healthy ingredients.

ROAST NEW POTATO AND PICKLE SALAD

1.3 kilos new potatoes	100g radishes, with leaves
Rape or olive oil	1/2 red onion
6 cloves garlic	1 tsp whole grain mustard
1 lemon	2 tblsp red wine vinegar
2 sprigs fresh rosemary	2-3 fronds fresh dill or fennel
1tblsp plain flour	A handful of fresh mint
1 cucumber	

Cook the potatoes in salted water for about 20 mins., then drain and allow to steam off. Tip into a roasting tray, drizzle with oil and sprinkle with sea salt and black pepper. Crush them slightly, then add the garlic cloves to the tray. Roast in the oven, pre-heated to 200C/gas 6, until crispy.

Meanwhile, grate the lemon zest and chop the rosemary. Scatter the lemon zest, rosemary and flour over the roasted potatoes, toss together then roast for a final 15 mins., until golden and crisp.

Finely slice the cucumber into rounds, quarter the radishes, peel and slice the onion very finely, and place all these into a bowl with the mustard, vinegar and 1/2 the lemon juice. Add the fresh dill and mint, toss together with a little seasoning. Add to the hot potatoes and mix just before serving, with extra lemon juice if liked.

By adding crumbled cheese, eg Feta or cottage cheese, this would make a summery lunch or light supper. As always, (nearly) all the ingredients are available in the shop - we may struggle with the dill!

Kate Pirkis



USEFUL INFORMATION

St Andrew's, Bredfield

Rector: Rev Charles Trefusis: 01394 383162 or info@stjohnswoodbridge.org.uk
Churchwarden: Stephen Stammers: steve_st.andrews@btinternet.com or 07704 856005

For enquiries about baptisms, weddings and funerals, please contact the Rector.
For all other enquiries about St Andrew's, contact the Rector or Churchwarden.
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

Mobile Library: Thursday 18th June 12.05-12.30 Village Hall car park
suffolkcommunitylibraries.co.uk/mobile-library-stop/bredfield-village-hall/

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. To make a donation please click on the QR code. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT**



JUNE/JULY SERVICES AT ST. ANDREW'S

Sunday 7 th June	Holy Communion	9.15am
Sunday 14 th June	Service of the Word	9.15am
Sunday 21 st June	Holy Communion	9.15am
Sunday 28 th June	Service of the Word	9.15am
Sunday 5 th July	Holy Communion	9.15am
Sunday 12 th July	Service of the Word	9.15am
Sunday 19 th July	Holy Communion	9.15am
Sunday 26 th July	Service of the Word	9.15am

DIARY DATES AT A GLANCE

Wednesday 10 th June	Coffee and Cake morning
Thursday 18 th June	Mobile Library
Wednesday 24 th June	Coffee and Cake morning
Friday 26 th June	Pop-up Bar

Please send contributions for the **COMBINED JULY/AUGUST LANTERN** to Alison Cannard at lantern.bredfield@gmail.com , 01473 737707 by **15th JUNE.**