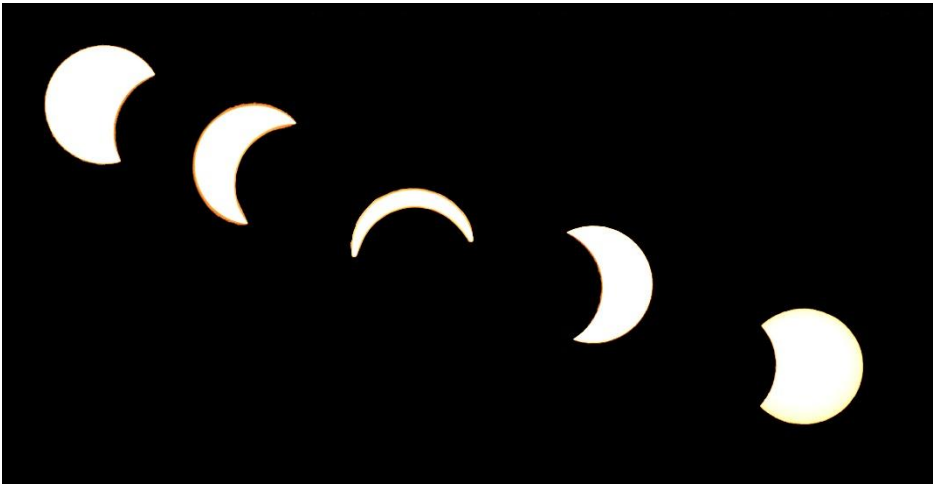


THE LANTERN

NEWS OF THE PARISH OF ST ANDREW'S BREDFIELD



ECLIPSE OF THE SUN, 12 AUGUST 2026. PHOTO STEVE STAMMERS

SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2026



FROM ST ANDREW'S MINISTRY TEAM

NEW BEGINNINGS — A FRESH START?

September 2026 brings...

A new school, college or university year for students and staff...

A new training year for workplace apprenticeships, nursing, emergency services, armed forces...

A new job...

A house move...

Unemployment...

Hospital treatment...

Autumn (or Christmas, if you're a supermarket worker!)...

Shorter days, longer nights, cooler and wetter weather. It's 30°C and as dry as dust as I write this!

What new beginnings are you facing? What fresh start do you think you might, or ought, to make? Or do you wish anything and everything that disturbs your status quo would just disappear?

We know that last question isn't realistic. We can't put our heads in the sand (any more than ostriches can!). We must live and move on. John of the Cross reminds us — *"Everyone knows that not to go forward is to turn back, not to gain ground is to lose."*

St Andrews Church has just recently bid farewell to Sally and Chris Gaze and their daughter Katie. Much loved, they will be much missed. We wish them well and God's blessing as they move from our 'rural idyll' to the city centre of Birmingham.

A new beginning for Sally as she becomes CofE Director of Ministry for Birmingham Diocese. A fresh start for Chris to continue his consultancy work

in new surroundings. A new beginning for Katie exploring options for young people fresh out of college.

That set me thinking about what new things God might want for me in my 10th year of retirement from being a parish priest. And, married to Jill, what God wants for her, and for us as a couple, in the coming year?

John of the Cross again, *“Well and good if all things change, O Lord God, provided I am rooted in You.”* That’s our ‘bottom line’ - and perhaps the Gaze family’s too?

A fresh start for those of us who are ‘*well retired*’ might be less adventurous than moving to bustling Birmingham. But what might it mean for us and others who see balmy Bredfield as our place for *new beginnings*?

I confess, I do have a partial desire to just dawdle through the rest of life. But then I get ‘stir crazy’ if I’m cooped up for too long. And Jill and I love to go out and about to see new or familiar places, to visit new or familiar friends.

Talking of places, there’s a sad ‘new beginning’ for many of us who love to walk and watch and listen and enjoy wildlife at Dunwich Heath and Minsmere: *“God, what can **we** do to help make a fresh start there?”*

Talking of people, we’ve made new friends in Bredfield as well as in Woodbridge since we moved from the hills and ‘honey pots’ of our Derbyshire parish life: *“God, what can **we** continue to do to deepen our friendships?”*

For all of us: *“God, what new thing can **I/we** do, what fresh start can **I/We** make, to better care for places and people?”*

John of the Cross again:

“In the twilight of life, God will not judge us on our earthly possessions and human successes, but on how well we have loved.”

*May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with us all*

Rev Garrie C Griffiths

DIARY DATES

**Suffolk Churches
Ride and Stride**

 Suffolk
Historic
Churches
Trust

**Saturday,
12 September 2026
9.00am - 5.00pm**

Local Organiser
from whom sponsorship
forms are available:

ANNE
ACKERLEY
THE ELMS
BREDFIELD, IP13 6AZ
01394 384805

Visit shct.org.uk for more information.
You can also find us on Facebook and X.

Sponsorship money raised will be divided between Suffolk Historic Churches Trust
and the church or chapel chosen by the participant.



Suffolk Historic Churches Trust Registered Charity No: 267047

This is a great chance for you to explore the Suffolk Countryside as well as raising funds for a Charity that has supported Bredfield Church so well in recent years.

If you are not riding or striding, would you be able to help check-in participants on the day? Contact Anne on 01394 384805 if you can

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!



Wednesday 9th and Wednesday 23rd September, 10am to 12 pm
Wednesday 14th and Wednesday 28th October, 10am to 12 pm

ANYONE FOR A WALK?

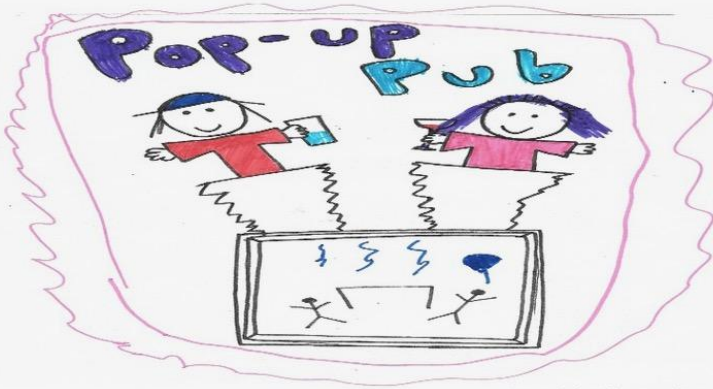
Are you interested in joining others for a day walk? Perhaps, you enjoyed the Beat the Bounds walk in May and would like to explore further afield? Or, you were booked on the Woolpit to Bury St Edmunds walk that was cancelled due to the heat.

There are still some places available on the walk planned for **Saturday 19th September**.

It is roughly 9 or 10 miles long and will be at a relaxed pace with several stops along the way at places of historical or natural interest. There will be plenty of time to chat or listen/observe the natural world.

We will start in the village of Eyke. The route then passes through Rendlesham and Tunstall Forests visiting Chillesford church and the site of St Botolph's Anglo-Saxon monastery overlooking the river Alde.

Booking is essential. If you have any questions or to **book**, please speak to Anne or Roger (Ackerley) or phone them/leave a message on 01394 384805. The event is organised by St Andrew's Church and is open to all, regardless of faith, capable of walking the distance.



Artwork by Florence Seargeant

POP-UP BAR

**FRIDAY
25TH SEPTEMBER
6.00 – 10.00PM**

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

**MAKE, BAKE
OR DONATE**



Macmillan Coffee Morning

Saturday 26th 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

NEWS FROM BREDFIELD

What a lot of talented and creative people we have in Bredfield. The scarecrows are fantastic – but it is a bit worrying for gardeners to know just how many very hungry caterpillars we have in the village!



BRASS ON THE GRASS 2026

The warm temperatures of Summer 2026 meant a lovely warm welcome to the Old Rectory gardens for residents and visitors alike enjoying their picnic suppers with a chilled Chablis or local Bredfield vineyard wine whilst listening to the East of England Co-Op brass band conducted by Mark Ager. As befitting a band recently promoted to Championship level (= Premiership in football parlance), there was a wide variety of musical styles on display – tradition with Last Night of the Proms favourites such as Jerusalem and the Fantasia on British Sea Songs, lighter fare especially featuring Garry Smith on the tuba taking the part of Baloo the Bear and playing The Bare Necessities, and classic pop including Queen, The Beatles and encoring with a 90s banger Children by Robert Miles – yes, really! Most importantly this event (generously supported by Robin and Janet D'Arcy, Andrew and Pat Miller, Lynn Taylor – who provided fantastic half-time refreshments for the band – and many others who erected the marquee, sold tickets and organised publicity) raised £1,000 for Cancer Research UK, £300 for The Samaritans and £300 for St Andrews, Bredfield. Thank you to everyone for your generosity and support.

Paul Cannard (yes – I was playing at the back of the band in the tubas so this report may be slightly biased!)

100 CLUB WINNERS

July 2026

1st Prize	No.82 N Young
2nd Prize	No. 40 T Evans

August 2026

1st Prize	No.63 A Pilgrim
2nd Prize	No. 18 C Cowper

IMPORTANT – A BREDFIELD QUESTIONNAIRE

Bredfield has a Neighbourhood Plan – this helps planners to determine what development is permitted and where in our Parish. The plan must be reviewed on a regular basis, and since it was adopted in 2019, it is now time to examine the plan, update and make amendments where needed.

In addition, a new Local Plan for development of the area is being prepared by East Suffolk Council, which will determine the level of housing and where new homes, jobs, infrastructure, and community facilities could go – this could also affect our plan.

To help the team working on this, in a few weeks' time every household will receive questionnaires, which will ask a range of questions which will help determine the revision of the Plan. The surveys will be personally delivered by a member of the team.

it is important that we have as good a response as possible, so the more people that complete this survey, the better.

... and if you would like to help the Team by delivering the questionnaires, the Parish Council would appreciate it.... Contact a member of the PC to volunteer.

Thank you

David Hepper: Chair Bredfield Parish Council

BREDFIELD TOWNLAND CHARITIES

There is a small charity which exists for the benefit of the village – the Town Lands trust. This was originally set up in 1812 by the church, and used money raised by renting church owned lands for charitable purposes, and was administered by the church wardens. In the 1960s it was registered as a charity, for 'general charitable purposes', to benefit the village.

Church wardens were replaced by Parish Councillors as trustees in the 1980s and in 2008 it was re-organised with five trustees drawn from people in the village, and was merged with a smaller local charity, Marjoram's. This latter had a remit to aid those suffering hardship through ill health or poverty.

Today the purpose of the charity aims to give grants to projects which are for the public benefit of the residents of the parish of Bredfield, as well as to individuals in need by reason of ill-health, disability or financial hardship.

For further information, contact David Hepper 01394 386565

PLANT STALL

A BIG thank you to the kind person who left free seeds on the stall. They will be very useful over the coming months and next year. Due to the extreme heat and lack of rain, the stall has been left empty for several weeks. Donated plants are being cared for in the shade. Once the weather changes the stall will be reopened so that you can restock your parched gardens. All donations will be gratefully received as you tend and split your perennials etc.

Ann and Steve

QUIET DAY AT ST ANDREWS 4th July

A second Quiet Day has been held with Garrie on guitar and Jill on Flute. A wonderful occasion of Garrie's songs, stories with a message and readings. A time for reflection, walks in the peaceful churchyard, sights of Butterflies, insects, birds and July flowers such as Musk Mallow, Daisies, such a restorative time and time of friendship and fellowship.

A huge thank you to Garrie and Jill Griffiths for all their time, energy, commitment and talents.

Ann Stammers

AN INTERVIEW WITH...ANNE HENDERSON

Anne Henderson is well known in Bredfield for many things, including Chair of the Village Hall (now retired), Parish Councillor, involvement in the pop-up bar, the shop, tireless fundraiser for Macmillan Cancer Support, and keeping us informed via MailChimp. Many will also know that prior to all of that she spent her career in the Arts, particularly TV and theatre, and was based mostly in London, to where she had moved from her native Scotland. So, how did she come to live in Bredfield and become such an active force in the community of a small Suffolk village?

Towards the end of her long career as a casting director, Anne started to feel it was time to leave London, missing being part of a local community. Friends owned a cottage near Blaxhall and she spent so many happy weekends there, falling in love with Suffolk's famous big skies (and better weather than in Scotland!), that she started to look for a cottage of her own. She viewed several, but it was the one in Bredfield that kept drawing her back. Initially using it as a weekend retreat, Anne soon found that her weekends grew longer and longer. She finally sold up in London and moved here permanently in 2003.

Anne's interest in the theatre started as a child in Falkirk. She took elocution lessons, which she loved, progressing to taking part in speaking competitions – she is very proud of her 'Highly Commended' in a Latin-speaking competition – and knew that she wanted to be part of the theatrical world. She studied at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama in Glasgow, with further courses leading to her qualifying as a drama teacher. Her time there also opened up a world of diverse and interesting people that she had not experienced in her strict upbringing, and she relished it.

Her first job was in Stoke-on-Trent and a disaster. As the first ever drama teacher in Staffordshire, she was a mystery to the school. She found herself teaching several subjects, including History which, as a Scot, meant she had to keep one page ahead of the children in the English History textbook! She

clearly did not fit in with the other staff or culture of the school, so left within a year. Her only regret was that she had loved teaching drama, saying: *"I love that thing when you find a child who nobody else in school even wants in their class. And they are just magical in your class, because they're doing something that doesn't require them to read or be intellectual, it requires them just to be."*

She moved back home, concerned about what her parents would think of her giving up teaching, but her father was encouraging. He had complete confidence in her abilities and always encouraged her to aspire to better things. His faith in her gave her a self-belief and just-get-on-with-it attitude that have served her well ever since. Anne was offered a job in stage management at the Citizens Theatre in Glasgow. It's clear that she was in her element, and she says that it probably had the biggest influence on everything she did after that. *"It was a fantastic organisation...They did extraordinary things and managed to get extraordinary people coming in. We were doing the kind of theatre that now people think is experimental. We were doing that in the 70s, so it was an exciting place to be."*

However, there is little career progression as a stage manager, so after several years of establishing herself within the profession, she was able to move on. She became a casting director, working as such for the next 30 or so years. She cast for theatre, television, commercials and some film. On being asked to name some of the work she considers her finest, she chose the 1990 British TV series 'House of Cards', and Channel 4's 'A Very British Coup' in 1988. Other well known TV work includes the Fry and Laurie version of 'Jeeves and Wooster', and *"loads of Taggart"*.

When she moved to Bredfield permanently, Anne briefly returned to teaching, this time at Hollesely Bay YOI. She could see so much potential in the boys, but after being told that her only job was to "keep the boys quiet for an hour", she gave up in frustration. At around this time – 2004 – she was approached by the newly formed National Theatre of Scotland to become their casting director. After initially refusing, once she had seen what they were doing, she

knew she wanted to be a part of it. The Artistic Director of NTS was Vicky Featherstone, and Anne worked very well with her and held her in high regard. She is rightly proud of what they achieved there. When Vicky left in 2012, Anne felt that it was time to leave as well and retire properly.

Retirement meant that Anne could turn her attention to Bredfield, and she has been active in very many things over the years – who can forget her having her head shaved in public for Macmillan, or the ‘Men in Pants’ calendar that she helped organise? She has always been interested in how things are run, and if she sees potential for change or improvement, she will work hard to implement it. Before coming to Bredfield, she sat on the Stage Management Sub-Committee of Equity and was a founding member of the Casting Directors Guild, and was also an ardent feminist in her younger days. Brought up to have strong morals, she has a keen sense of the right and wrong way to treat people. She hates seeing people and organisations act on lazy assumptions about others, or any kind of ‘them and us’ attitude. Although not a fan of organised religion, she greatly admires Pope Leo for his humanity, which she believes should be at the heart of our relationship with others. Humanity, of course, is not just acting against the negative, but is also very positive: for Anne it means enjoying living on her own, but also thriving in the company of others and not taking life or herself too seriously. One of her favourite retirement activities is spending Sunday afternoons with a good friend, having a drink, a ‘goss’ and working together on a jigsaw.

Interviewed by Julie Crabb and Alison Cannard

NATURE NOTES

MOTHS IN THE CHURCH GROUNDS

Several weeks back, Stephen Stammers and I discussed the idea of holding a 'Moth Morning' in the church grounds. The plan was to set one or more light moth traps around the church and invite people to come in the morning to see what had been flying around during the night. As usual, all the moths would be logged and then released unharmed, to fly back to their habitat. One particular reason for holding this event was to contribute to the ongoing survey of wildlife in church grounds, which will contribute towards St Andrew's gaining the next level of the Eco Church award. Without using a moth trap, it would be impossible to know what moth life is present. More generally, it is always interesting to witness, at close hand, the variety and beauty of this rarely seen group of insects. Moth mornings provide an opportunity for people to engage with nature.

On the night of 24th July 2026, three moth traps belonging to local residents – Max, Marina & Mike, and myself - were set in the area behind the church. At 8am in the morning, a group of around 15-20 gathered around a table set-up outside the Church Rooms and the light traps were opened to reveal the content. By the morning, the moths had settled to rest in the egg boxes placed inside the light traps. Most were very amenable to viewing, though a few decided to fly off before we had a chance to look at them. A total of 33 species were identified.



All moths are beautiful in their own way, but some are simply stunning. One of the first moths identified was a Jersey Tiger. This species was once restricted to the Channel Islands, with a small outpost on the south coast. Over recent years, it has spread northwards and has now made its way to Bredfield. It is a fairly large moth. When rested, the black outer wings show intricate pale-yellow markings. When the moth moves it reveals bright red underwings with black dots – sufficient to scare away any predator. The audience voiced ‘oohs’ and ‘aahs’! Other stunning moths were: Pale Prominent, which is so well-camouflaged that it would easily pass for a bit of tree bark; Black Arches which has wavy black lines on a creamy white background; Large Yellow Underwing which is a large rustic-brown species that (as its name suggests) reveals bright yellow on its underwing as it takes flight; and Oak Eggar which is a large attractive ‘furry’ moth and quite happy to rest on a hand.



What was particularly delightful at this event was to see young children gathered around the table, fascinated to look at parts of nature that they had never seen before. There seem to be fewer occasions today for children to engage directly with nature. The lure of technology and parental fear of letting children play outdoors has led to what has been called the ‘extinction of experience’. At this event, I was delighted to

witness the small epiphanies in the eyes of the children coming into close contact with wildlife. It may shape their view of nature long into the future. Connie proved particularly adept and gentle at handling moths on her finger. For a just a moment, she had a fragile part of creation in her care. I called her the 'moth whisperer'!

For those interested in lists, below is a log of the species of moths that were discovered at our Moth Morning event. Thank you to all who attended.

<i>Oak Eggar</i>	<i>Heart & Dart</i>	<i>Rustic/Uncertain</i>
<i>Pale Prominent</i>	<i>Knot Grass</i>	<i>aggregate</i>
<i>Black Arches</i>	<i>Large Yellow Underwing</i>	<i>Comfrey Ermine</i>
<i>Waved Black</i>	<i>Lesser Yellow Underwing</i>	<i>Lettuce Tortrix</i>
<i>Jersey Tiger</i>	<i>Mottled Rustic</i>	<i>Marbled Piercer</i>
<i>Ruby Tiger</i>	<i>Nut-tree Tussock</i>	<i>Garden Straw</i>
<i>Scarce Footman</i>	<i>Poplar Grey</i>	<i>Long-legged Tabby</i>
<i>Sycamore</i>	<i>Shuttle-shaped Dart</i>	<i>Box-tree Moth</i>
<i>Common Rustic agg</i>	<i>Tree-lichen Beauty</i>	<i>Mother-of-Pearl</i>
<i>Common Wainscot</i>	<i>Turnip Moth</i>	<i>Satin Grass Moth</i>
<i>Dusky Sallow</i>	<i>Marbled Clover</i>	<i>Straw Grass Moth</i>
		<i>Water Veneer</i>

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

All photos by the author



A huge thank you to Stewart, ably assisted by Max, Marina and Mike, for the fascinating and educational Moth Morning at St Andrews, equally enjoyed by young and older alike. A brilliant excuse for an early start to the weekend, followed by a second breakfast back at home. So grateful to them all for all their time and hard work and it was lovely to see it so well attended.

Ann Stammers

SEASONAL RECIPE FROM THE VILLAGE SHOP

Throughout the heat and drought this summer, it is amazing that growers continued to supply us with fresh veg and fruit, produced with painstaking and expensive irrigation! Aubergines started early this year, but should still be available by the time you read this, and the recipe is simple and healthy.

LAMB AND AUBERGINE BAKE

2 medium aubergines

400g minced Suffolk lamb

1 onion

2 cloves garlic, crushed

2 or 3 fresh tomatoes

1 tblsp tomato purée

Chopped fresh mint or parsley

50g bulgar wheat or couscous

Slice the aubergines into rounds and soak in salted water for 15 minutes.

Fry the chopped onion in a little oil for a few minutes, then add the lamb with the garlic. When cooked through, add the tomatoes quartered, and the tomato purée. Mix well. Add the Bulgar wheat or couscous to absorb excess liquid. Stir in the chopped mint or parsley, and salt and pepper to taste.

Drain and rinse the aubergine slices, and with them line a greased ovenproof dish, bottom and sides. Fill the dish with the lamb mince and press down firmly. The mixture should reach the top but not above the aubergine line!

Bake in a moderate oven for 45 minutes, until sizzling and slightly browned.

Turn out onto a heated serving plate - with luck the mixture should hold its shape, and the aubergine layer remain on the outside creating a spaceship effect! Serve with green beans or peas, or chard if available.

Bon appetit!

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 10th September 12.05-12.30 Village Hall car park
www.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**



SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER SERVICES AT ST. ANDREW'S

Sunday 6 th September	Holy Communion	9.15am
Sunday 13 th September	Service of the Word	9.15am
Sunday 20 th September	Holy Communion	9.15am
Sunday 27 th September	Service of the Word	9.15am
Sunday 4 th October HARVEST FESTIVAL	Harvest Festival Celebration	<u>10.00am</u>
Sunday 11 th October	Service of the Word	9.15am
Sunday 18 th October	Holy Communion	9.15am
Sunday 25 th October	Service of the Word	9.15am

DIARY DATES AT A GLANCE

Thursday 8 th September	Mobile Library
Wednesday 9 th September	Coffee and Cake morning
Saturday 12 th September	SHCT Ride and Stride
Saturday 19 th September	Walk
Wednesday 23 rd September	Coffee and Cake morning
Friday 25 th September	Pop-up Bar
Saturday 26 th September	Macmillan Coffee Morning

Please send contributions for the OCTOBER LANTERN to Alison Cannard at lantern.bredfield@gmail.com , 01473 737707 by 15th SEPTEMBER.