

Bradwell News

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Issue 272
February 2025
www.bradda.org

EVENTS

Tue 18: Historical Society: 8pm in the Methodist Hall. "The James Webb Space Telescope - What have we learned so far?" by Paul Downing.

Wed 19 to Sat 22: PANTO!

CONSIDER THOSE TOADS!



Here is a chance to give wildlife a helping hand in 2025. In March 2024 it was reported on Bradwell's Wildlife and Nature Facebook Group site that toads were being accidentally squashed on Eccles Lane as they migrated across the road to their nearby breeding ponds. In consequence, this Spring we are hoping to set up a **Toad Patrol** to help them safely across the road. Over winter

toads hibernate under piles of logs or stones. They are known for their warty skin, which contains toxins that make them taste unattractive to some predators, such as fish. They are nocturnal and so are most active at night when they hunt for slugs, snails, ants and spiders. Toads walk rather than hop and in Spring migrate back to the ponds where they were born to mate and lay eggs. Toad spawn is produced in long strings which contain a double row of black eggs in a jelly which is wrapped around pond vegetation and can be up to 10 feet long. If you are available early evening and would like to get involved, please contact John Boardman by email as soon as possible: johnk_boardman@yahoo.com

THE PANTO!

Bradwell Centenary Players are excited to be performing Jack and the Beanstalk during February half-term. With players aged 8 to 80 on stage, this is a real traditional family panto, full of singing and dancing and silly jokes. The show runs from Wednesday 19th to Saturday 22nd February, with a matinee as usual on the Saturday. Tickets cost £9/£6 and are available from <https://www.centenaryplayers.org/shows> We will also be selling tickets at the Coop at 9am until midday on Saturday 8th February. Please **ONLY** buy your tickets from these two sources. Any other offers of tickets might not be genuine.

GILLIAN NOWELL



Born in Barnsley in 1960, Gillian spent her early years in Lytham St Annes, where she was joined by her little sister Liz in 1963. The two were close throughout Gillian's life. The family moved to Sheffield in the early 1970s. Gillian found an aptitude for accountancy, and with her characteristic determination, she became the first female partner in a firm of Chartered Accountants in Sheffield. Gillian and Bruce moved to Bradwell after they married in 1992 and became involved in village life. Gillian

supported and served the church in many capacities. Among other activities she was editor of the parish magazine (forerunner of Bradwell News), but she also organised the Lent lunches and was part of the music team, playing the organ at services. Gillian's deep and steadfast faith sustained her throughout her life. She always made the most of life, with holidays abroad when she was able along with many trips around England and to the Lake District in particular. Gillian lived life to the full and found ways to enjoy life even in the hardest of times. She was a familiar sight bobbing around the village in her much loved Fiat 500. An active member of Rebellion Knoll WI for many years, Gillian was at different times President and then treasurer, and on the programme committee. This was a movement in which she very much believed, and whose motto is "inspiring women". Gillian truly was an inspiring woman.

Gillian passed away on 7th December 2024, surrounded by her family at home.

SEND US YOUR NEWS

The views expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily those of the editorial team. Please send news by e-mail to: paul@paulandliz.org or call Paul (623941), Andy (623483) or Steve (620329). You can also leave hand written copy at the Post Office. For questions on advertising please contact Caroline carolinepreston37@gmail.com

Copy Deadline for March Edition: 19th February

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PC NOTES

New Year Greetings: Happy New Year from your Parish Council. It's been a very cold start to 2025 and the cold weather brings a whole host of problems, particularly on the pavements where slipping is a huge concern, especially for vulnerable residents. Our grateful thanks to the volunteer snow wardens and to anyone who goes out of their way to help keep things clear. We are still in need of volunteers to help, so if you think you could help please get in touch with the clerk. It would be particularly helpful if some of the younger and more able-bodied members of the village could reach out and offer their help. Also, if you do spot a grit bin needing filling please let the clerk know. We are trying our best to keep them filled.

Finance: At a recent finance committee meeting a precept budget for 2025 was set. We are pleased to say that we have been able to continue to control our costs and have managed to continue the trend of previous years by limiting the increase to only 3%. For those who are unsure what this means, the precept is the amount of money we ask Derbyshire Dales District Council for each year to enable us to carry out essential work, repairs and maintenance in the village. This includes maintenance for both playgrounds, the public toilets and other amenities such as benches and bus stops. Council also likes to make sure the place we call home looks smart and appealing, with plants and regular grass cutting of our green spaces. We are very proud of our village and hope that residents are also. For several years now we have been working to a rolling five year plan, and in the next few years we are planning to replace and update some of the old and tired playground equipment, look at additional car parking facilities, improve road safety in the village and possibly install more Christmas lights in the trees next December.

External Bodies: Of course, not everything in the village is the responsibility of the Parish Council, but councillors and the clerk are constantly working to forge relationships with other responsible authorities to ensure that problems beyond our control can be reported and resolved quickly and effectively. Again, we ask if you do spot something of concern that you get in contact with the clerk so things can be put right and if the Parish Council can't fix it, we can usually find someone who can.

S137 Grants: After the last newsletter update some more community groups approached us to apply for an S137 grant. We remind residents that there is still some funding left for the current financial year so please get in touch with the clerk if you feel your group or society could benefit from some extra monetary assistance.

Meeting Timetable: The timetable for council meetings for 2025 has been agreed, and it has been decided that there will be meetings every month except for December. Council meetings are always on the first Tuesday of each month but for your reference a list of dates will be posted on the village notice boards. The next meeting will be on February 4th in the Methodist Lounge at 7:30pm, but in the meantime don't forget that the clerk can be contacted on parishclerk@bradda.org or 07730370759.

2025 BRADDA LOTTO

It's that time of the year again. Please can we persuade you to join us in support of your War Memorial Hall? Now, more than ever we are needing essential funds to keep this precious building going for the present and for our future generations. A dramatic increase in energy prices means we are paying out over £3000 more this year than last! With your help in purchasing a lotto ticket for an annual cost of £25 you can really help us to keep the doors of the hall open. This works out at around 50 pence per week and it really does make a difference. Membership numbers have dwindled a little over the last year and we need a few more of you to make the lotto a bigger success and to give the hall these vital funds for survival. Please let's see if we can get more members. You might think that just because you've already won once you won't win again or maybe you've never won (trust me none of us have either) but you really have got to be in it to win it. Application forms were included in last months Bradda News and can also be collected from the Post Office. Completed forms and payments can be handed in to the Post Office, Ian Stewart or Brian Salisbury and you have until April 1st to apply. Please also don't forget to consider us for your events. We have been working hard to make it a space that is vibrant and accommodating to all. Thank you for your continued support. For more information on this or the lotto please contact bradwellwarmemorial@gmail.com

POPPY APPEAL ORGANISER

To all the fantastic supporters of the poppy appeal. Having decided to step down from the post of poppy appeal organiser for Bradwell, I am still looking for a successor. I know that, as a village the remembrance day wreath laying ceremony and also armistice day are important dates in the calendar and I would dearly love this tradition to continue for many years to come. Therefore, I am asking for someone to volunteer to take over the position and continue this very important role in supporting the Royal British Legion's yearly poppy appeal. You do not have to be a member of the British Legion, be in the military or be ex-military to operate in this role. So, if anyone would like to take this on, please contact me and I will assist in any way that I can, by showing them what is involved and hopefully continuing this tradition for Bradwell. Finally, I would like to thank all the house-to-house collectors, shops, businesses, coffee mornings, churches etc., in Bradwell for all their kind donations over the last 14 years, which raised an amazing total of £31,574.77 for the Royal British Legion. Well done everyone! Wishing you all a very prosperous, and above all, a peaceful new year.

ST BARNABAS CHURCH

Empty Pill Blister Packs

As many of you already know we have a box at Church to collect plastic and foil pill packs, which are then taken to Buxton each week for recycling. It is great that we are able to recycle them but please empty the blister packs into the box from the bag that you may have put them in. Please note that this ser-



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vice is only for pill blister packs and **not** foil cake cases, plastic bags or any other stuff!

Community Cafe

The next Café is 2nd February at the church. Proceeds in aid of the Parish Council Youth Activities programme.

Christmas Tree Festival

Thank you to everyone who supported the Christmas Tree festival at St Barnabas by placing their tree, or by visiting, or by donating. We raised £60 for Crisis at Christmas and all our visitors said what a lovely display it was - a fantastic representation of the village's businesses and organisations.

THE ROMANS ARE COMING by Chris Furness

The romans arrived in Britain in 49 AD. It took them nearly 30 years to fight their way through south Britain and Wales before arriving at the southern border of what was then known as "Britannia", which comprised most of Yorkshire, north Derbyshire and most of Lancashire. The queen of Britannia, Cartimandua, was having trouble with her husband, so she invited the romans in to sort him out, which they did. The romans arrived here peacefully, although it was soon clear that they had come for the lead. There would have been much excitement amongst locals at the thought of the coming of the Romans, with all their wealth. Of course, the Romans needed a fort, and the site chosen was on the north bank of the river Noe, which was ideal for



policing the lead mines of Castleton, Bradwell and the Hucklow area. There was also a stream near the west of the site. The fort took its name of Navione (Noe side) from the river on whose north bank it stood. The image here, which shows

what it is thought the fort looked like, is from a painting in the Buxton museum. The legion chosen to man the fort was Spanish, presumably for their knowledge of lead mining. Spain was then the principal country for lead production and lead was very important to the Romans. The first fort was wooden, built using local trees. A service village quickly developed near the fort (recently excavated) providing employment and income for many locals. That fort and village ("vicas") were in existence for more than 60 years until Emperor Hadrian decided the whole legion should march north to help build Hadrian's Wall. The Navione fort was dismantled and buried under clay. Fifty years later, when the Scottish border situation had settled down, the legion marched back to Navione and rebuilt it, but this time in stone. Once again a service village would have developed. This time the fort and village lasted for more than 200 years, until the Romans left Britain for good.

A GHOST STORY OF OLD BRADWELL

We sometimes reproduce stories and articles which have appeared in the Historical Society newsletter or on their website. This story appeared in the Newsletter number 45 and it was written by Mr R. Evans.

Bradwell had its ghosts or 'boggarts' and my mother told me the story of a strange happening, which was vouched for by more than hearsay or tradition. Her brother often went out early on summer mornings into the fields. His way lay by a narrow lane between high walls. Some distance along, projecting stones from one of the walls formed a stile and on the other side (of the stile) lay fields. When he reached the lane he noticed a woman walking ahead of him. He soon gained on her and thought it strange that her feet made no sound, although the way was rough and stony. She mounted the stile before him. He followed, and at the top, as he looked down into the fields he was amazed to find that the woman had vanished. Terror seized him and he leapt back into the lane and fled home, never again to go out alone to those fields in the dim light of dawn when others slept.

Mr R Evan's mother also related to her son a variant of the story of Mrs Buttery of Smalldale (our version appeared in Newsletter 39). In this Mrs Buttery was killed and her body placed in a lime kiln.

You can find lots more historical information and stories such as this on the Bradwell Historical Society website: <https://bradwellhistoricalsociety.org.uk/>

EYAM AND BRADWELL PRACTICE

The next open meeting of the Eyam and Bradwell Patient Participation Group (PPG) with Dr Parry and the practice manager will be on **February 25th at 6.30pm in Eyam village church hall**. All patients and carers are welcome and we look forward to meeting you and having your views about the practice. The PPG has been meeting for a year now and it is a good chance to find out what has been happening and what is being planned for the year ahead.

MEMORIAL HALL

Bradwell War Memorial Hall is an important part of our village and the Memorial Hall committee are urgently seeking a Treasurer. This is key and essential role on this vital village committee, so could anyone interested in helping please contact Brian Salisbury on 621168 or brsalis@aol.com



BRADDA DADS



Wolfspit Fell Race - Sunday 9th March - Entry will be via Facebook as usual, the link will be published on our website (braddadads.wordpress.com) and Facebook in the next few weeks. The volunteers last year did a super job. We couldn't have managed it without you! Thank you. If anyone is interested in marshalling this year, you will be very much appreciated. Please contact Stu on 07590 047104.

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WENDY BUTCHER (nee Hall)
29th March, 1954 – 1st December, 2024



Wendy was born in Hull, the younger daughter of Rosa and Bernard Hall. From an early age she was interested in literature and libraries and after completing her A levels she began work at Hull Central Library. The library service then funded her professional qualifications at Loughborough and Manchester Metropolitan Universities. Wendy married Dave Butcher in 1978 and they had two children, Kate and James. Wendy and Dave lived for a number of years at Slapton in South Devon. They then lived in Edale for some 35 years, at the Mill Terrace, before moving to Bradwell in 2016 and a house in Jeffrey Lane. Wendy was employed for many years at Huddersfield Central Library, where she worked in a number of departments and finally as head of the mobile library service for Kirklees. Wendy loved spending time with her four grandchildren Matthew, Greg, Joey and Ollie. She also greatly enjoyed seeing the children from the schools and pre-school as they walked up to the forest school site on Jeffrey Lane. Wendy was interested in and attended many yoga classes in Bamford and liked to travel, visiting Canada, the USA and Australia. She particularly loved gardening and looked forward to open gardens day each year.

The family would like to acknowledge and thank Evelyn clinic and the Ashgate Hospice for the great care and support that Wendy received.

DAVID GEORGE WAGNER
18th January 1943 to 13th December 2024



David was born in Ashopton in 1943 and was the last child to be baptised in the church before the village was flooded to create Ladybower dam. He was one of seven siblings and he was closest to his younger brother Mick, with whom he kept in regular touch until David's death. Upon leaving school David worked for the Derwent Valley Water Board, after which he took employment with Blue Circle Cement at Hope works, starting in

the works and then later becoming a lorry driver, a job in which he continued for many years. After redundancy in 1997 he carried on driving for BM Charles out of Hope Works until his retirement in 2008. David moved to Bradwell in 1965 until moving to Dronfield in 2003 with his wife, Nancy. David had three children with his first wife Marion; Chris, Lynn and Teresa. He also had a son, Neil with his second wife Helen. David was also stepfather to Terry and Lisa from his third marriage to Nancy. He had many grandchildren and great grandchildren. He enjoyed his work and was a very social man, spending time in the village pubs with his friends playing darts and dominoes. In later life he liked to spend his time watching sport on TV, with a special interest in formula 1 and darts. He also followed Sheffield Wednesday. David passed away in Chesterfield Hospital and his funeral and burial were in Dronfield on 9th January.

St. Barnabas Church: February 2025

Contact Us: churchwarden.stb@gmail.com

2nd	11:00	All Age Worship.
9th	10:00	Benefice Communion (Hope)
16th	09:30	Communion.
23rd	10:00 16:00	Celtic Service (Indoors) Said Communion



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