

Bradwell News

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Issue 283
January 2026
www.bradda.org

Happy New Year Bradwell!

MEMORIAL HALL

We have had an unpleasant shock at the Hall recently. Our normal water bill is about £80 per month. In September when we read the meter, we were astounded to find that our bill was going to be £1,300!! Everything that we can think of has been checked and we cannot find any explanation for the fifteen-fold increase in one month. There is no evidence anywhere of a tap being left running or a leak. We have had problems with one of our heating boilers which may have contributed to the problem, but we are talking about a huge amount of water, about 300 cubic metres so surely someone would have noticed a tap running continuously or an overflow bleeding. The meter appears to be working properly, and October's usage is normal.

We have no option but to pay the bill so we are £1,200 out of pocket which means that plans for future projects will have to be delayed.

We therefore need all the help we can get with fund raising. Membership of the Bradda Lotto has slightly declined over the last two years so please could you join or rejoin in the coming year to help improve our funds. The application form was included in the December edition of *Bradwell News* and is available from the Post office. We would appreciate your help, and you might be a winner!

Brian Salisbury, Chairman of the Management Committee

AND THE LUCKY NUMBERS ARE...

Congratulations to the winners of the Bradda Lotto in December:

79 - £600; **155** - £300; **104** - £150.

COMMUNITY LIBRARY

The Bradwell Community Library would like to thank the Lawson family for their kind donation in Mr. Carpet's memory. This donation has enabled us to purchase a new computer and pay our subscription for the library computer software, TinyCat® for this coming year. Many thanks on behalf of the Community and all the Library Volunteers.

Ray Burton

3D PRINTING

Did you know that you can find all your 3D printing needs here in Bradwell? If you are looking for a part for work or a hobby project, or are hunting for that bespoke gift, Andrew Fearn 3D printing can do it! Anything is possible and items can be made to order. Please contact Andrew Fearn via Facebook, or pop by the Bradda Pets and Toys stall at weekends at Towngate bottom where items are on display.



90TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Residents joined the family of **Stuart Spicer** of Smalldale at the Shoulder of Mutton to celebrate his 90th birthday on Saturday 15th November 2025. Stuart moved to Smalldale in 1976. He continued to work in Sheffield and cycled, in all weathers to and from British Steel in Tinsley. Following his retirement, he continued to enjoy the Derbyshire countryside, walking, cycling and chatting to locals! A much-loved character in the village. His family would like to thank his friends and neighbours for making it such a special day. *Christine MacKenzie*

POPPY APPEAL



Once again, Bradwell has excelled itself and a total amount of £2080.55 has been raised for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal this year. This is a magnificent and wonderful amount considering that this year there were no house-to-house sales or collections. Well done and a massive thank you to Bradda Folk and everyone who was passing and donated.

Ian Hancock

CHANGES IN THE BRADWELL NEWS TEAM

Paul Downing has been the editor of the *Bradwell News* since May 2005. After nearly 21 years he has decided to retire from the role. A huge thank you to Paul for giving up many hours of his own time every month to ensure that every edition was filled with interesting and useful information, and that it got to the printers on time. His dedication and passion for our village have been second-to-none. Another big thank you goes to Caroline Preston who is stepping down from the team after 8 years of managing the advertisements. Paul will be taking on this role from this month. Our new editor is Nicky Thomas who has lived in Bradwell for 33 years and recently retired from Sheffield Teaching Hospitals where she worked as a pharmacist. Please note the changes to the contact details below.

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: bradwellnews@gmail.com or call Nicky (620688), Andy (623483) or Steve (620329). You can also leave handwritten copy at the Post Office. For questions on advertising please contact Paul (623941) or email paul@paulandliz.org
Copy deadline for February 2026 edition: 19th January

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PARISH COUNCIL NOTES



As the year begins, Bradwell Parish Council would like to take this opportunity to wish all residents a happy and prosperous New Year. We are all interested to see which direction 2026 will take us.

Flower tubs: As we do think about moving out of the chillier months and turning our thoughts towards spring, we have been asked why there aren't any flower tubs on the grass verge that runs along Main Road adjacent to Elliott Avenue. The answer is that there is no one available to water them during dry weather. George, who does a fantastic job of providing and maintaining the tubs cannot physically get down to this end of the village with the water required to keep the plants alive. So, if anyone in this part of the village would be willing to carry out this task, please get in touch with the clerk and we will get some tubs back up there.

Trees: Another topic of conversation in 2025 was that of trees. Council owns many trees in the village and unfortunately, we recently had to fell several dead and diseased trees from the playing fields. This decision was not taken lightly but we have a responsibility for public safety, so to protect the public from any danger caused by falling branches advice was taken from specialist tree companies. Your safety and that of families using the parks will always be our top priority. There have been discussions within council regarding replacing some of the trees and we would welcome any input from residents. Please come along to the next council meeting or get in touch with the clerk.

Playground equipment: Council is also pleased to announce that a new climbing unit, complete with slide, tunnel and bridge will be installed on Town Bottom Park in the early Spring. We felt there was a lack of equipment for toddlers and younger children, so this item was chosen with their age range in mind. It will be similar in style to the one on Beggars Plot but on a larger and hopefully more exciting scale. We have also decided to install a spinning gravity bowl to provide something new for the older children. We hope that these pieces of equipment will be well received and enjoyed once they have been installed.

Budgets: At the recent Council Finance Committee meeting in November, the budgets were agreed for 2026/7 and once again we have been able to keep the precept increase to only 3.5%. To be able to do this at a time of rising costs for everything we do, this year Council decided to apply some of our reserve funds. The precept allows us to do things like purchase the new playground equipment mentioned above, and to replace and update Christmas lights in the village. Along with the success of the Bradwell Hydro Project water wheel lights we are starting to make the village look very festive.

S137 Grant Funding: As mentioned in the last newsletter, council still has money left in the S137 grant pot, and welcomes grant applications from groups in the village. It is very easy to apply: a form can be obtained from the [Bradda.org website](http://Bradda.org) or from the clerk. We only ask that you come to a council meeting to present your request during the public participation section.

The next meeting is on Tuesday January 6th at 7:30pm in Bradwell Memorial Hall. The clerk can be contacted at parishclerk@bradda.org or 07730370759.

BRADWELL STREET NAMES

Concluding the series of articles on how some of the streets around the village might have got their names.

3 Bradwell Places and Streets

Tophole Road – This name does not appear to make sense, and it is suggested that when the map maker asked locals for the name of the road he was told "Top Owd Road" i.e. "Top Old Road", but he mis-heard the reply or did not know the dialect. This narrow lane may well have been the main access between Bradwell and Tideswell before the new road through Bradwell Dale was created.

4 More Recent Additions

Bradwell Springs – The name for the 2022 development of 54 houses on the former Newburgh site was agreed by the Derbyshire Dales District Council as a suitable name for the general area where there are a number of springs. The site also backs onto the Bradwell Brook.

Elliott Avenue – This road was named after Ernest Elliott who was a councillor on the Bakewell Rural District Council and was a baker on Netherside. He, together with Mr. B. Shirt, another BRDC councillor who also ran a haberdashery business on Towngate, were instrumental in arranging for these houses to be built.

Evans Close – This lane was named after Mr. Cyril Evans who was a local character, a councillor and a justice of the peace who ran a reputable building business which was responsible for building many houses in and around Bradwell.

Swift Close – The name for part of the Bradwell Springs site was agreed by the Derbyshire Dales District Council as a suitable name, given that the village had an active initiative to encourage the number of swifts nesting in the village by installing many swift nesting boxes on houses all around the village.

5 Names Not Now Used

Cross Lane – The continuation of Granby Road at the Charlotte Lane junction to the start of Jeffrey Lane was originally called Cross Lane but is now an extension of Granby Road. Two houses alongside this stretch are called Cross Lane Villas built by Luther & Parker Morton around 1900.

Steve Lawless

COFFEE AND COMPANY

This friendly and informal initiative was set up early in 2025, as somewhere for people to come together and chat. A rota of volunteers from the village ensure that everyone is welcomed at the **Memorial Hall extension from 1-3pm every Friday**, and offered hot drinks, cake and biscuits in a warm, safe and comfortable space. We are grateful for funding from Breedon, our Parish Council and to Derbyshire Dales Council for Voluntary Services to pay for the rent and other costs involved. So, why not come along in 2026, maybe meet someone new, or catch up with old friends?

Jane Dalrymple, Church Warden



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A NEW FOREST IN OVERDALE



Hope Valley Climate Action is teaming up with the Derbyshire Wildlife Trust (DWT) to establish a new forest in their nature reserve at the top of Overdale, between Brough and Abney. This 17-hectare site at a height between 3 and 400 metres, has a variety of habitats. These include level grazing land, a steep-sided valley with a ten-foot-high waterfall and a less dramatic side valley, with a stream that is often hidden under the turf.

This variety is reflected in the range of plant species on the reserve. There are many sedges, mosses, ferns and lichens growing here, while the bracken on the steep valley sides provides shelter for many woodland plants, including wood sorrel and foxglove, and the acid heath on the eastern side provides a habitat for heather, crowberry and gorse. Among the bird species that have been recorded on the reserve are meadow pipit, skylark, whinchat, wheatear and curlew.

DWT want to establish woodland pasture where there is currently extensive bracken cover. To do that, they are planting over 6,500 trees this autumn and winter, and Hope Valley Climate Action supporters are providing some of the spadework! We are planting 15 native species, including birch, oak, rowan, elder, pine, hawthorn, aspen, juniper and more. We've already added some sacrificial willow to help keep the deer away!

Growing trees sequesters carbon dioxide. Along with stopping the burning of fossil fuels, to stop pumping more CO₂ into the atmosphere, it is essential that we find ways to reduce atmospheric CO₂ concentrations, so growing more trees is a part of global efforts to combat climate breakdown. We are therefore delighted that so many volunteers have signed up to support this community effort to create Overdale Forest, doing their bit in a very practical way to address the climate emergency. It's also a brilliant way to meet people, get some fresh air, and enjoy a free full-body workout with great views of the Peak District.

We have two more planting days planned for **10th and 15th January**. No experience, only stout boots and a sturdy heart, needed. Contact us if you want to be involved:

land@hopevalleyclimateaction.org.uk.

Jeremy Wight, HVCA

MILK TO YOUR DOORSTEP

Did you know that there is an excellent local company which provides a reliable service to deliver a range of milk products to your doorstep? Middleton's Dairies are based in Bamford near the Bird Café and employ local people and help to protect our environment by delivering milk in returnable glass bottles. So, if you really want to do something positive for the environment and stop buying your milk in plastic bottles, why not give Middleton's a try. You can contact them via their website www.middletons dairy.co.uk or call them on 01433 651650.

TRANSPORT IN THE HOPE VALLEY

For the first time, the Mayor of the East Midlands has the power to plan transport as one joined-up network, bringing buses, trams, trains, walking and cycling routes together across Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire. The high-level objectives are to make travel easier, cleaner and better connected. Residents, businesses and community groups are invited to take part in the Mayor's Big Transport Conversation, to help shape the development of the full Plan which will cover the next 15 years. For further information and to have your say, visit <https://www.eastmidlands-cca.gov.uk/mayors-transport-plan/>. The consultation ends on **8th February 2026**.

SPEED CAMERAS



As some of you may know, I run the local Speed Watch Group which was instrumental in getting the speed sign installed. The speed sign records the speed of vehicles travelling in both directions as well as traffic volume. Whereas most speedometers in cars are optimistic, the speed sign is accurate. The statistics downloaded from the speed sign are quite shocking, with over half of vehicles driving above the speed limit of 30mph along Main Road besides Beggars Plot. We have recorded speeds of over 70 mph in the middle of the afternoon! Most speeding occurs between 8am-10am and 3pm-5pm which coincides with children walking to and from school and people travelling for work. Whilst acknowledging that there is a lot of through traffic in the village, when we conduct speed watches it is noticeable that quite a few local people are also breaking the speed limit.

The police and Derbyshire County Council Highways Department receive the data from the speed sign. If we do not control speeding there will be more measures to prevent a serious accident, such as traffic calming, fixed speed camera, average speed camera etc. Therefore, I am appealing to residents to stick to the 30mph limit in our great village.

George Leeson



BRADDA DADS



Bradda Dads would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year!

A huge thank you to everyone who made the Pensioners Christmas Lunch such a lovely event. And thank you to everyone for your support over the festive period and at all our events and fundraisers last year.

Bradda Dads are planning a social in Sheffield on 24th January, all past, present and future members please come along! Ask a Dad nearer the time to find out what has been planned.

Here's to 2026!

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JUNE DAWSON 30th June 1942 - 14th October 2025



Mum was born in Castleton in 1942 to Oswald and Caroline Warrington, growing up in a cottage by Peak Cavern and Peakshole Water. Her childhood was full of warmth and wonderful memories: her father's poultry farm and prize-winning Shire horses, and her mother's legendary cooking and hospitality.

After school, Mum worked at Bamford Cotton Mill, loving the energy and camaraderie. Practical and hard-working, she saved for a

Vespa scooter but instead met George and began family life in Bradwell. Together they raised three children: Kenneth, Joanne and Edward, and later welcomed grandsons Jess and Archie, of whom she was immensely proud.

Mum had a calm strength. She listened more than she spoke, judged people wisely, and stood her ground when needed. Quietly, she always kept things running smoothly. She also had great style, especially when it came to shoes and believed in good food cooked properly. Her kitchen was the heart of our home, full of home-made meals and the occasional disappointment when the roast chicken turned out to be "for the dogs", she adored her dogs.

In the late 80's, Mum and Dad started a taxi and courier business, and they both worked incredibly hard, often through the night. Mum would still go to her day job as a cook even if she'd been on an airport run at one in the morning. That work ethic never left her.

Home was always busy and sociable, with Dad inviting half the village to barbecues and Mum taking it all in her stride. She and Dad shared a love of horse racing and travelled widely, enjoying trips across the world, thanks to Mum's careful saving.

She loved sport and her TV diary was planned around tournaments: athletics, tennis, swimming, rugby, football (especially the Lionesses and Roses). She also loved her garden and flowers and lawns were her pride and joy, and she was always busy.

Mum was strong, loyal, loving and wise. She taught us to work hard, be kind, and look after what we have. She was the heart of our family, and we will always carry her love and laughter with us. *Kenneth, Joanne and Edward (June & George Dawson's children)*

THANK YOU

Jen and the family of Frank Cooper would like to send a big thank you to everyone near and far, who sent cards, messages, flowers and baking delights. Also, to Eyam Surgery staff who attended to Frank, Paul Tanfield for arranging the funeral and the Reverend Louise for the service at St. Barnabas. A big 'Thank you' to Bradwell Fire Brigade for their guard of honour as we passed, and to Lynne and her team at the Shoulder for the wake. The generous donations received will be divided between Bradwell Preschool and Ashgate Hospice.

FREE IT LESSONS IN BRADWELL

Local organisation Zink is running IT classes in Bradwell for absolute beginners and those who want to improve their skills. The course is modular, so you only learn what you don't already know. It includes sending emails, using the internet, online safety, online banking and shopping, keeping in touch with friends and family and lots of other topics. You learn at your own pace and can either bring your own laptop or tablet or use one of Zink's. The course is completely free and funded by Rural Action Derbyshire. It runs every Wednesday from 28th January until 4th March from 10am to 12 noon in the Memorial Hall gallery room. It's drop in so doesn't matter if you miss a week.

For more information call 01298 214926 or jane@zink.org.uk

CHURCH SERVICES January 2026



4th	9.30am	Holy Communion at St. Barnabas, Bradwell
11th	10.00am	Benefice Communion at St. Barnabas, Bradwell
18th	10.00am	Together@10 Benefice service at St Peter's, Hope
25th	11.00am 4.00pm	Plough Sunday service at St Peter's, Hope Said Communion at St Edmund's, Castleton



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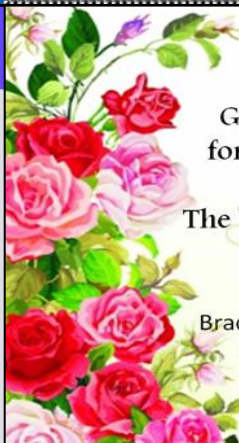
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