

THE PARISHES OF BRANDESTON AND KETTLEBURGH

Dear Friends

On Easter Day and throughout Easter Week, I found myself constantly surprised at the brilliance of the blackthorn blossom in the hedgerows. The sight of this year's blossom, a whiteness so fresh, so abundant and encountered repeatedly just when the message of the Easter resurrection was so fresh in mind, made me catch my breath – each time a new, almost spiritual, encounter.

Sitting down to write this letter, I tried to recall a vaguely remembered poetic reference that might be appropriate:

“If you came this way,
Taking the route you would be likely to take
From the place you would be likely to come from,
If you came this way in may time, you would find the hedges
White again, in May, with voluptuary sweetness.”

Words from T S Eliot's poem “Little Gidding” describing a place that manifests, both in physical appearance and spirituality, the gentle understated beauty and agelessness of the unspoilt English countryside. But the motive of Eliot's encounter and the source of the spirituality he described lie in the history of Little Gidding and the story of Nicholas Ferrar's 17th century experiment in faith-based community living, of mutual service underpinned by prayer. Eliot continues:

“You are not here to verify,
Instruct yourself, or inform curiosity
Or carry report. You are here to kneel
Where prayer has been valid”

Nature's unspoilt beauty and the sense of the history of the place lead him to silent prayer and the thankfulness of a creature in the presence of his creator.

17th May is Rogation Sunday. The history of rogation dates back at least to medieval times with a two-fold association. First, the derivation of the word rogation from the latin verb, *rogare*, to ask, reminds us that this is the time when Church congregations traditionally took themselves into the fields to pray for fair weather and a fruitful harvest. Secondly, in earlier times when community living and mutual dependence characterised the way people lived, and when common rights to cultivate or graze, the demands of tax and tithe, and other obligations were levied or exercised within parish boundaries, it was essential for everyone to know where those rights began and ended, a knowledge traditionally renewed each year by “beating the bounds” of the parish at rogationtide. For rogation this year, whether you join us on Rogation Sunday in Church praying for a good harvest and the stewardship of our food resources, or join others on 24th May exploring Brandeston's parish boundary on foot, or you simply enjoy time in the open air surrounded by the familiar beauty of the Deben Valley, I hope that the encounter will lead you into a few moments of silent prayer and to the thankfulness of a creature in the presence of their creator.

I hope you will feel blessed by this experience.

With best wishes,
Robin Alderson

Assistant Priest: Reverend Robin Alderson	688255 Mob. 07790 242002
<u>Brandeston</u>	
Elders: Mrs Mary Baker	685807
Miss Eileen Leach MBE	685298
Churchwardens: Miss Eileen Leach MBE	685298
Mrs Alison Molyneux	685244
<u>Kettleburgh</u>	
Elders: Mrs Jackie Clark	723623
Mrs Valerie Upson	723078
Churchwardens: Mr John Bater	723532
Mrs Valerie Upson	723078

DIARY FOR MAY 2009		
Friday 1 st	10am – 12 noon	<u>Coffee Morning</u> at Kettleburgh Village Hall
Sunday 3 rd		<u>Heritage Coast Run/Walk</u> – For info, contact Roger Keene 748337, or rogerkeene@suffolkonline.net
Thursday 7 th	10.00am	<u>Brandeston Coffee Morning</u> at Village Hall
Friday 8 th	7.30pm	<u>Brandeston Film Club</u> – “Bridge to Terabithia” at village hall – see below.
Saturday 9 th	8am – 12 noon	<u>Plant Sale and Coffee Morning</u> at Kettleburgh Village Hall
Tuesday 12 th	7.30pm	<u>Eastern Angles production “Return to Akenfield”</u> at Brandeston Village Hall. Most tickets sold – ring Jacky O’Brien on 685266 for any cancellations
Wednesday 13 th	7.15pm	<u>Kettleburgh Annual Parish Meeting</u> at village hall – see below.
Sunday 17 th		<u>Beating the Bounds of Brandeston</u> The old tradition of walking the boundary of the parish
Monday 18 th	7.30pm	<u>Mardle – Treking in South America</u> at Easton Village Hall – see below
Wednesday 20 th	8.00pm	<u>Brandeston Annual Parish Meeting</u> at village hall.

Saturday 30 th	2 – 4pm	<u>Easton May Fair</u>
Sunday 31 st	2.30pm	<u>"Strutt your Mutt" - Fun Dog Show</u> Kettleburgh Village Green 10 Fun Classes....including fancy dress (dog or owner) Agility demonstration by Emma Smith Agility have-a-go for beginners with Emma Smith and other attractions. Refreshments available Come and join in or sit and watch <i>Kettleburgh Green Trust</i>

BRANDESTON FILM CLUB

Here is the programme for the next 3 months. The film club is always held on the second Friday of the month in the village hall. New members are always welcome – membership is £10 for the whole season. Once you have become a member all films are free.

8th May – Bridge to Terabithia - A magical tale for the young at heart of children who create a fantasy world to help them cope with life’s difficulties.

12th June – The Other Boleyn Girl starring Natalie Portman, Scarlett Johansson & Eric Ban – the story of the two Boleyn sisters who competed for the attention of King Henry VIII.

10th July – La Vie en Rose – Marion Cotillard brilliantly portrays the legendary Edith Piaf – “The Little French Sparrow”.

KETTLEBURGH PLANT SALE AND COFFEE MORNING

Don’t miss our annual plant sale on Saturday 9th May from 8.00 am to 12.00 noon. The village hall will be full of the usual array of flower and vegetable plants. Derek Hill is again growing over 40 varieties of tomato plus aubergines, peppers, cucumbers, courgettes, squash and other vegetables. He tells me his greenhouse is under attack from the squirrels so contributions from other keen gardeners would be most welcome. If you are growing seeds, potting up or dividing your herbaceous please put aside a few plants for our sale. We hope to have sweet peas, herbaceous and bedding plants and a produce stall for jam, chutney, marmalade, eggs, rhubarb, cakes etc. Donations for all stalls are most welcome. Refreshments will be available all morning and there will also be a draw. We do need help to run this event successfully so if you could spare an hour or two during the morning please speak to Claire Norman or Derek Hill. Profits to St Andrew’s Church Fabric Fund.

Claire Norman 724372

KETTLEBURGH ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

- 2) Collecting from houses on the Wednesday before the Fete
 3) Help on Friday 12th June afternoon to sort, and evening to erect Gazebos and Marquees
 Saturday 13th June in morning to finish setting out
 Saturday 13th June to man the stalls Lots of people please
 Sunday 14th June in the morning to finish clearing up.
 4) The loan of Gazebos and Marquees . If you have loaned one before can you please let Pat or John know if is available this year.
 We particularly need the loan of a large marquee.
 5) Sorting out all the things that can go on the stalls and planning what you can bake for the cake stall and the refreshments

The Fete is a good event but does need more than a few people to make it work .So do join in and have a great time as well.

Thank you

1ST EARL SOHAM SCOUT GROUP – DUCK RACE

Please come and join 1st Earl Soham Scout Group at their grand annual fund raising event

- again! The Scout Group, which now has 2 Beaver Colonies, 2 Cub Packs and 2 Scout Troops needs your support more than ever! We have our usual stalls, games, cakes, BBQ and beer tent .. all this with a great atmosphere and venue for you and all your family to enjoy with us. Hope to see you there!

*Sally Western
 for 1st Earl Soham Scout Group*

FROM THE REGISTERS

IVAN LEACH

We are very sad to record the death on 2nd March 2009 of Ivan Leach, aged 79 years; one of Brandeston best-known residents.

Ivan John Leach 3/2/30 – 2/3/09

A countryman and farmer born and bred, he lived all his life at Rose Farm, his family home, with a devout Christian background. His early years and schooling were disrupted following a dreadful scalding accident at the age of three, which necessitated a series of visits to hospital for skin grafts. All of this, with the lasting discomfort of the scarring, he bore with the quiet fortitude which we were to see again during his last years.

He left school at 14 and began an apprenticeship at Potters of Framlingham, but returned to the farm in 1948 on the death of his father. Ivan took part in the schemes to help farmers produce more food; fields were enlarged and the land was drained, enabling him to grow good crops of corn and sugar beet.

In 1990 Ivan sold most of his land but kept his machinery, and did contracting for several local farmers, and he was still baling straw up to 2007. He also did some calf rearing, and later kept bullocks.

In spite of his hard-working life, he played a full part in the life of the village. For many years he operated the local snow plough, which involved getting up very early, and maybe pulling someone out of a snowdrift in Brandeston or Kettleburgh. He served on the Village Hall Committee, and was always ready to help clearing out the Playing Field ditches, mending frozen pipes, providing his tractor and trailer for moving things for the fete and other events. He helped to keep the Cemetery tidy with Peter Arbon, and he chose to be buried there in a spot which looks directly down to Rose Farm – so he can keep an eye on it.

Peter Arbon spoke for his many friends when he said recently, “He was a man you could rely on,” and that is surely how he will be remembered.

We will all have our cherished memories of Ivan; his love of friends and good company, and his deep-rooted countryman’s wisdom and philosophy. He leaves a huge gap which cannot be filled, but how much richer we all are for having known this man who can truly be called Nature’s Gentleman. His quiet courage and Eileen’s devoted care have been a shining example to us all.

D. Risk & M. Moore

I’m finding it very hard to express my deep heartfelt thanks to my neighbours and friends for all your concern for my well-being, and loving care for Ivan, especially during his last six months or so of his illness.

Your visits and messages of love meant a lot to him. Without your wonderful love, prayers and support, and the power of strength from above I’m sure I would not have been able to keep my promise to Ivan, to spend his last days in the house he loved.

Many, many thanks. God bless you all.

Eileen Leach

PAST EVENTS

GARDENERS QUESTION TIME

The question time held on March 30th was a great success and thoroughly enjoyed by everyone who attended. The professional panel covered questions on vegetables, perennials, trees, shrubs and garden diseases.

The ladies of the PCC provided delicious refreshments, and £300 was raised for Brandeston Church Fabric Fund.

Alison Molyneux

PYRENEAN TREK

About 30 people attended the talk in Kettleburgh Village Hall on 4th April given by Mark Sargeantson about his Pyrenean Trek. Generous donations totalling £97.40 were made

during the evening to Cancer Campaign in Suffolk . The Charity, which was established by the late Dr John Levay from Charsfield, is very grateful for these valuable funds.

KETTLEBURGH GREATER BENEFICE SERVICE

St Andrew's Church was full on Sunday 29th March for a Passion Sunday service. The bells rang out and although there were no flowers, it being Lent, there was a feeling of Spring in the air. All seven churches of the Greater Benefice – Parham, Hacheston, Marlesford, Campsea Ashe, Brandeston, Easton and Kettleburgh were well represented, and a combined choir led the singing and provided the anthem. It was also the occasion when Valerie Upson was recommissioned as an elder in the parish of Kettleburgh. Thanks to all who took part and contributed to such a meaningful service.

TABLE TENNIS

Table tennis this season has been a successful and enjoyable time for everyone. We have had a steady number each week, with wach table in full use. We have now finished until the Autumn, when we will restart – everyone welcome. More details later. Contact John and Ruth Garratt 685233, or Doug and Chris Parr 685658

BRANDESTON 100+ CLUB

winners for April 2009:-

First – Jan Bell
Second – David and Helen Fletcher

The May draw will take place at the village hall on Thursday, 7 May

Mark

Hounsell

KETTLEBURGH GREEN TRUST LOTTERY

Winners Drawn - 3rd April 2009

1st Prize: Lucy Howell
2nd Prize: Ken & Pauline Redmond
Gwenda Weeks

NOTICES

BRANDESTON MOTHER AND TODDLER GROUP

The Brandeston Mother and Toddler group currently has vacancies. The group meets at Brandeston Village Hall every Friday from 9:45 to 11:30. There are loads of toys, books

and ride-ons plus a playdough table and a craft activity every week. Come and try us out and make new friends for just £2 a session and 50p for every extra child. Contact Jenny Holmes on 01728 628525 for more information.

Jenny Holmes

MIGHT YOU BE ABLE TO HELP YOUR CHURCH?

From the Rev Robin Alderson

The Church in your village occupies an historic place in the life of your community and of the lives of everyone in the parish. Your church is dependant on people offering help – help with a wide range of activities. And your help is not dependant on your coming to church services every week! You may have skills that we are urgently in need of; for example, Kettleburgh Parish Church Council needs a secretary! Not an immensely onerous or time-consuming job but one that needs to be done, and done well! Or, do you enjoy music, singing or playing an instrument? or could you help us by getting involved with a programme for children? And all our churches need help from time to time with cleaning, flower arranging, or tidying the churchyard. Might you be able to help? Would you like to help? If you think you might, please contact me on 01728 688255, or on my mobile 07790 242002 and talk about it.



Would you like to volunteer at the Midnight Walk?

St Elizabeth Hospice is looking for volunteers to support the ladies only Midnight Walk on Saturday 23rd May 2009.

Over 1600 women have already signed up to complete the eight mile circuit around Ipswich town centre in aid of the local charity. Volunteers are needed on the night to help with duties such as car parking, serving refreshments and registration.

Patsy Johnson, events co-ordinator at St Elizabeth Hospice said “We have been overwhelmed by the response, it has been amazing and we even had to introduce a deadline for registration forms, Friday 1st May. Although the Midnight Walk is a ladies only event, we are looking for both male and female volunteers. Volunteers are required during the day on Saturday 23rd May to help with putting up signs, general administration and organisational support. During the event, volunteers are needed to help with registration, marshalling the walk, serving refreshments, car parking and various other duties. We would be grateful for any time that you could spare, even if it is only an hour or two. Volunteers play an essential role at the Midnight Walk, by helping to ensure all walkers are safe and enjoying themselves! The Midnight Walk is a great event to be part of, whether you are walking or volunteering, the atmosphere will be fantastic.”

The Midnight Walk starts and finishes at Copleston Centre on Foxhall Road in Ipswich. For more information about volunteering at the Midnight Walk or the event itself, please contact the fundraising office on 01473 723600, email fundraising@stelizabethhospice.org.uk or visit www.stelizabethhospice.org.uk. Volunteer application forms are available on the website.



Do you want to be a Hospice lottery winner?

Give yourself the chance of winning our top prize of £1,000 or one of our other 58 cash prizes, and know that you are helping St Elizabeth Hospice to continue to care for our patients and their families, friends and carers.

Each chance in our weekly lottery costs just £1 and you can play with as many chances as you like. The more you have, the greater your chance of winning the weekly jackpot of £1000! You could even form a lottery syndicate with your friends, family and work colleagues.

Here are five great reasons why you should join the lottery:

1. Every Friday 59 lottery members win a cash prize.
2. Winners are notified automatically and prizes are sent out by post within days of the draw so there is no need to claim your prize.
3. You can choose how to play – by standing order, cheque or debit/credit card.
4. You have a great chance of winning a prize. In the next year we will give away £109,200 in prizes, and 3068 of our lucky members will win a prize.
5. Over £1 million has already been donated to St Elizabeth Hospice through our lottery, and around 50p of your £1 goes directly to the Hospice, compared to just 28p to 'good causes' with the National Lottery.

To find out more about the St Elizabeth Hospice Lottery, please contact the lottery team on 01473 707008, email lottery@stelizabethhospice.org.uk or visit www.stelizabethhospice.org.uk.

All lottery players must be aged sixteen years or over. Licensed by the Gambling Commission. Coming up in June we have the following events:

Ladies Driving Challenge

Saturday 27th/ Sunday 28th June

Bentwaters Park, Rendlesham

Ladies - this is your chance to drive a variety of unusual vehicles including double decker buses, fire engines, cement mixers, articulated lorries, car transporters and even

an army truck! Who says women can't drive?! As part of a team or on your own, this is a great day out.

Mens Drive and Shoot

Saturday 27th / Sunday 28th June

Bentwaters Park, Rendlesham

Not forgetting the men out there! You can take part in your own drive and shoot challenge choosing from a variety of exciting activities, such as quad bikes, Go-Karts, 4x4s, archery and paintball. An ideal opportunity for team building, a stag do or for enjoying a fun day out with your mates.

For more information about either event, please visit our website

www.stelizabethhospice.org.uk



HEALTHY AMBITIONS SUFFOLK

Children and young people from across Suffolk can now access all of the information they need to live a healthy, happy life – thanks to a funky new website launched today. The microsite has been specially created to attract people aged under 18, and uses bright colours, innovative design and a host of interactive features to spread the healthy living message in a fun, entertaining way.

Forming part of the main Healthy Ambitions Suffolk website, the microsite has been split into three areas – families, juniors aged 11 and under and teens aged 12 to 18. Each has been specially tailored to its individual age group, with the final designs selected with the help of Suffolk Young People's Health Project.

The families section gives top tips and advice on living well, and features links to healthy news stories and features as well as information on making the right food choices and taking enough exercise. It also links to the Healthy Schools site, and gives people the chance to download a fitness widget, which sends daily emails packed with ideas on keeping the whole family active.

In the area for juniors, children can take part in fun quizzes and get advice on what to do if their tummy hurts or they feel poorly.

It also gives them the chance to sign up to the Healthy Ambitions Suffolk Challenge – which is being launched today, 22 April 2009.

This gives the county's 50,000 primary school children the chance to try new types of exercise, such as dancing, playing games or digging an allotment, and aims to make Suffolk's primary school children the healthiest in the country by 2012.

Finally, the teens section has been split into special pages for boys and girls. Both give advice on issues such as drugs, binge drinking and embarrassing health problems, as well as tips on fun new exercises they can try, such as dance and martial arts. This section of the site also features a message board where youngsters can interact and share their ideas about healthy living.

“Children and young people is one of our core target groups, as living a healthy lifestyle when you’re young can have a huge impact on your wellbeing later in life,” said Dr Peter Bradley, director of public health for NHS Suffolk and Suffolk County Council.

“We hope that this new microsite will become the first port of call for every family, child or teenager hoping to improve their health. As well as providing huge amounts of information, it also gives details of local sports and cooking clubs so that everyone can find it easy to get involved.

“Anyone using the site will also get the chance to make their own Healthy Ambitions Suffolk pledges, such as playing less computer games or eating more fruit. Hopefully this will show people that small changes can make a big difference, while providing them with the motivation they need to reach their own personal goals.”

You can access the site from the homepage of the main Healthy Ambitions Suffolk website, at www.healthyambitionssuffolk.nhs.uk

E-BULLETINS

Individuals, businesses and community groups from across Suffolk are being encouraged to sign up now for a new e-bulletin bringing all of the latest information about the Healthy Ambitions Suffolk initiative direct to their desktops.

As well as encouraging people to get involved by registering for help, support and information through the project’s website, at www.healthyambitionssuffolk.nhs.uk, it also outlines the exciting new developments taking place over the coming few weeks.

“The convenient e-bulletin will be delivered straight into people’s inboxes and contains a wealth of useful information designed to make it easy to get involved in the project.

“We would encourage anyone who hasn’t already done so to sign up now and keep in touch with all of the latest developments as we continue our push to make Suffolk the healthiest county in England by 2028.”

Anyone who would like to receive the newsletter should email info@healthyambitionssuffolk.nhs.uk and put “Healthy Ambitions Suffolk News” in the subject heading.

VILLAGE WEBSITES

For up-to-date information about your village, visit these websites:

www.brandeston.net

www.kettleburgh.suffolk.gov.uk

MAGAZINE ARTICLES

Please send, deliver or e-mail any contributions for the magazine by 15th of each month to: Mrs Val Butcher, Woodlands, Church Road, Kettleburgh,

TIMES PAST

More information about local smuggling has been discovered.

William Goodwin who lived in Earl Soham kept a diary from 1785, a year after the events described in last month's 'Times Past', until 1809. This was not so much a personal record but reflected his thoughts on all aspects of life at that time. We are fortunate that this diary has survived.

'January 1795. It is a common thing almost daily to see Horses loaded with Tea & Carts with Spirits pass through this village unmolested; for almost all the People from the highest to the lowest are either directly or indirectly concern'd & of course abettors of the practice – private Gin & Tea shops are in every Parish to the great prejudice of the fair Trader & the morals of the common People.

February 1785. 2500 Gallons of smugled Spirits were carried thro' this village in 20 carts within the last six days....

February 16. Five Smugling Carts past through this Village at 8 this morning loaded with 150 Tubs of Spirits containing 600 Gallons.'

Goodwin noted that though another five carts passed through a week later he had heard that 'The Soldiers' had been successful in seizing six carts and their loads of spirits.

March 2. 15 Carts, 40 Horses & 600 Tubs of Spirits were seized this day at Sizewell by a party of Dragoons together with some Tea, notwithstanding Which ye smugglers worked another cutter at ye same place the ensuing night.

His record continued. In April 1786 he made a calculation of the amount of spirits he thought had been smuggled into the country. By his reckoning this amounted to a total of 8,600,000 gallons brought in by the smugglers of which 1,500,000 came across the shores of East Anglia (Suffolk, Norfolk and Essex).

What a haul.

WMW
