

## THE PARISHES OF BRANDESTON AND KETTLEBURGH

### Dear Friends

A couple of Fridays ago, I needed to retrieve something from the vestry of one of our churches. As I opened the Church door I was delighted to discover that my visit coincided with the flowers being arranged and the weekly cleaning being done; it was a wonderful opportunity to encounter people who work for the church other than on Sunday mornings.

From the cleaning team I heard about, and was able to inspect the evidence of visits by other less welcome users of the Church. As John Betjeman's church mouse tells us, its . .

. . . "annoying when one finds  
That other mice with pagan minds  
Come into church my food to share  
Who have no proper business there."

He then goes on to list some of the visitors and their unfortunate habits. However endearing Betjeman's animal reflections, the unfortunate evidence of intrusions into our Churches by mice or bats is both clear and unpleasant and was certainly annoying to those whose Friday morning task was to clear up. In these environmentally-aware times, we not allowed to discourage bats in any way, but happily we are still permitted to deter mice in whatever way we can.

But the encounter served to remind me that our Church buildings are regarded either as some form of "home" or at any rate as a quiet retreat by all sorts of often unseen visitors, and I do not just mean by animals. For there is an almost continuous stream of people who pass through the doors of our churches to whom the building itself offers its unique sort of welcome.

There are various categories of investigative visitors; students of history, readers of the story told by the fabric of the building itself and, in our cases, beautifully and clearly retold in the texts of the Church Guides to our three Churches; there are individual researchers looking for antecedents buried in the churchyard or for names recorded on war memorials, or more general traces of a family presence in a parish whose fondly remembered name represented "home" to earlier generations.

And there are other, some regular, some occasional, some first time visitors, looking for a moments' pause in a busy life, for whom a quiet Church represents a brief retreat into silence, a space to grapple with some personal problem or ponder issues of life or death, a place to offer prayer it-matters-not whether unaccustomed or habitual, inarticulate or specific.

And I am reminded that all these visitors bring something to the Church or take something with them; and I'm not thinking of the animal evidence discovered that Friday, which I classify along with thieves and vandals who occasionally make their mark.

Although they usually remain unseen and often unacknowledged, the flower arrangers and cleaners themselves leave evidence of their visit, evidence appreciated by

next Sunday's worshippers who will find the building looking brighter and more beautiful and more prepared for worship.

And I am thinking of the interest and appreciation that those many other visitors bring, their family memories or other enthusiams, often recorded with a brief word of acknowledgement in the visitors book. And I am thinking, gratefully, of the prayers offered, the inward transformation received, the cares and anxieties left behind by all who come looking for those un-marked moments of quiet.

I wonder what your experience is of bringing and of taking away, when you visit the sacred space offered by our Church building.

With best wishes

Robin Alderson

Assistant Priest: Reverend Robin Alderson	01728 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

<b>DIARY FOR SEPTEMBER 2009</b>		
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	10.00am	<u>Brandeston Coffee Morning</u> at Village Hall
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup>	10am – 12	<u>Coffee Morning</u> at Kettleburgh Village Hall
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	<u>Brandeston Film Club</u> – “ <u>The Duchess</u> ” at Village Hall – see below.
Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup>	2.30pm	<u>Village Produce Show</u> at Kettleburgh Village Hall
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	<u>First audition for Kettleburgh Pantomime</u> in Kettleburgh Village Hall. We look forward to seeing you there. <i>Liz Marzetti</i>
Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup>		<u>Historic Churches Cycle Ride</u>
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup>		<u>‘Mardle’</u> at Easton and Letheringham Village Hall – see below.

### **BRANDESTON FILM CLUB**

The September date will be a week earlier than normal on September 4<sup>th</sup>. The film showing is “The Duchess” starring Keira Knightly, Ralph Fiennes & Charlotte Rampling. A chronicle of the life of 18<sup>th</sup> century aristocrat Georgiana, Duchess of Devonshire, who was reviled for her extravagant political and personal life.

October 9<sup>th</sup> – “The Lives of Others” starring Martina Gedeck, Ulrich Muhe & Sebastian Koch. In 1984 East Berlin, an agent of the secret police, conducting surveillance on a writer and his lover, finds himself becoming increasingly absorbed by their lives.

November 13<sup>th</sup> – James Bond “Quantum of Solace” – starring Daniel Craig. The latest Bond thriller.

December 11<sup>th</sup> – “A Christmas Carol” – starring Reginald Owen, Gene Lockhart & Kathleen Lockart. 1938 version of the Dicken’s great classic Christmas story.

*Sue Thurlow*

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### **THE CHURCH BIKE RIDE**

The Church Bike Ride will take place this year on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September. The only change will be that it will start at 9am instead of 10am, and will finish at 5pm instead of 6pm. It is a fun day for all, whether you cycle alone or in a group (weather permitting).

We need riders and sitters at the Church and Chapel in Brandeston and at the Church in Kettleburgh. Sponsor forms and lists of churches to visit are now available from Ruth Garratt (685233) or Pat Peck (621144).

*Ruth Garratt*

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### **‘MARDLE’**

Steve Western's talk about his experiences while participating in an Antarctic Survey is sure to be an interesting and amusing evening – we would love to have our hall absolutely full of people. Newcomers most welcome.  
 Admission £6, drinks and canapés included – all proceeds to Letheringham Church Fabric Fund.  
*Sylvia Keene*

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**ADVANCED NOTICES**

Fri 2 <sup>nd</sup> October	7 for 7.30pm	<b>Brandeston Whist Drive</b> – see below.
Sun 4 <sup>th</sup> October	10am – 5.30pm	<b>Monewden Blacksmith's Shop</b> - see below
Sat 10 <sup>th</sup> October		<b>Brandeston Harvest Horkey</b> – see below.
Sun 11 <sup>th</sup> October	5.30 & 6.45pm	<b>Kettleburgh Harvest Festival &amp; Supper</b>
Sun 25 <sup>th</sup> October		<b>Autumn "Kettle"</b> at Church Farm, Kettleburgh
Fri 30 <sup>th</sup> October		<b>Quiz Night</b> at Brandeston Village Hall – see below.
Sat 7 <sup>th</sup> November		<b>Brandeston Bonfire Night</b>

**ARE YOU READY TO SHUFFLE ? THE FAMED BRANDESTON WHIST DRIVE IS DUE TO RE-COMMENCE SHORTLY.**

Although due to re-start in late September, please note that the next Brandeston Whist Drive will take place at Brandeston Village Hall on Friday, 2nd October 2009. This will be followed by the normal October Whist Drive on Friday, 30th October. Please make a note of the dates in your diary if you are interested in attending either or both of these functions. As usual, the emphasis of the evening will be aimed at enjoyment, with first-class refreshments being provided during the interval.

Brandeston Whist Drives are open to all adults, regardless of skill levels at Whist. Newcomers to the game are especially welcome. Entry costs a mere £2.50 for each evening, with doors opening at 7.00 p.m. for a prompt start at 7.30 p.m. If you are interested in attending please telephone Pam or Rick Reade on Brandeston 685920 so that we can approximate the number of tables required.

*Pam and Rick Reade*

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**MONEWDEN BLACKSMITH'S SHOP**

Open Sunday Oct 4<sup>th</sup> from 10am – 5.30pm.

The last open day this year – don't miss it!

Blacksmiths, carpenters and wheelwrights tools, farm and country bygones, plus some new additions. Many examples of Hector and Mary Moore's work from Brandeston Forge. Special guest: Ray Hubbard, Suffolk horseman and musical entertainer.

Admission free – further details 685354 or 01473 737583.

*Mary Moore*

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**BRANDESTON HARVEST HORKEY**

The Horkey will be in the evening again this year on Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> October starting at 7.30 p.m. All welcome of course – do come along and enjoy the village supper and fun afterwards. Please watch out for posters advertising this event giving more details.

Tickets available from the Brandeston Coffee Morning on Thursday mornings or from Sue Thurlow on 685673 or Darryl Morgan on 685378. Last day of ticket sales will be Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> October.

*Sue Thurlow*

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**BRANDESTON QUIZ NIGHT**

Autumn quiz night in Brandeston village hall on Saturday, 31st October. Come and test your skills against the quiz master – entries of teams of 6 member to Lucy Daykin (685438) please by Friday, 30<sup>th</sup> October. Look out for posters giving more details.

There will be light refreshments included in the ticket price of £5 per person.

*Sue Thurlow*

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**FROM THE REGISTERS**

**BRANDESTON BAPTISM**

We happily record the Baptism of **Ella Grace Harris**, aged two months, who was baptised on Sunday August 16<sup>th</sup> in All Saints' Church. Ella is the much loved little daughter of Richard and Kate Harris who live in Stowmarket. However, they have considerable connections with Brandeston as Richard is an old boy of Brandeston Hall, they were married in 2005 in All Saints' and Ruby, aged three was baptised in August 2006. Ella was quite young for baptism; this was because Kate's parents who live in Australia needed to return to their home in Perth. Following the baptism a happy party, in the sunshine, was held at Brandeston Village Hall with much activity on the playing field.

We send our love and good wishes to the family and our prayers especially for Ella that she may grow up to be strong and fit, and that she may come to know and love God.

*Graham Vellacott*

## **PAST EVENTS**

### **AUTO JUMBLE - JULY**

Wonderful weather, great stand holders, hundreds of visitors all added up to yet another brilliant auto jumble - the sixth. The money raised was divided between Cancer Campaign in Suffolk, Kettleburgh Church Fabric Fund and Kettleburgh Village Hall. The success of this event is entirely due to the number of people who come but mainly, of course, to the willing helpers from the village on the car parks, the refreshment area and barbeque and we do thank everyone - too many to mention individually. We could not do it without you.

The 'Autumn Kettle' will be on the boil again, as mentioned briefly at the last coffee morning, on Sunday, 25<sup>th</sup> October and the committee will be asking for similar help.

*John Bater & Derek Holt.*

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### **THE BOOTS OR BAGS CONCERT**

On Saturday, 15 August, Brandeston Village Hall was privileged to host two talented entertainers who flew in from Germany to a fund raising concert in aid of Mid Suffolk Driving for the Disabled.

Joanna Scott-Douglas (daughter of Patience who lives in Mutton Lane) and Pascal Gentner, a German-French citizen of North Germany, captivated a large and appreciative audience with a powerful, humorous but at times sensitive, vulnerable and thought provoking programme of lyrics written and sung by Jo. Her lovely, true voice accompanied by herself on the bodhran (Irish drum), blended perfectly with Pascal's inspired and catchy rhythms, melodies and vocal harmony on guitar and keyboard, all cleverly arranged into a variety of folk-pop songs.

*Janet Weston*

### **DRIVING FOR THE DISABLED: BOOTS OR BAGS CONCERT**

Those involved in the Mid Suffolk Driving for the Disabled are very grateful for the wonderful support we always receive from the people of Brandeston and from Jackie O'Brien who is in charge of letting out the hall. We especially want to thank Darryl Morgan for all his help and without whom we would never have been able to put up the staging.

We made £864 with which we are delighted. Both our ponies are now 16 years old and will need replacing one day. I hope some of you spoke to our disabled members who were there on 15 August and learnt how much their outings with us mean to them.

We could not have added to our funds in this splendid way without the generosity of Green Thumb who lent us the marquee and of Richard and Mary Mitson-Woods who put it up and took it down - not a five minute job. Brandeston Hall School lent us the staging

and the piano and transported them for us. Lady Ann Thorne arranged and donated the beautiful flowers. Peter and Sue Rainbird and Chris and Mary-Jane McArthur donated the wine.

We would like to thank everybody who came to the concert and we hope you all enjoyed it. I know that the food provided by our members was very popular. I heard the words “super meringues” and “lemon drizzle cake” mentioned a lot!

*Patience Scott Douglas.*

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### **SUFFOLK DOG DAY**

The Second Suffolk Dog Day was a barking success and raised more than £34,000 for charities and voluntary groups across the county. More than 7000 people and their dogs poured in to support the event held at Helmingham Hall. The amount raised by dog day can be doubled to a woofeful £68,000 thanks to the Grassroots Endowment Challenge, which provides match funding. Anyone or group of companies or friends can establish a fund under the Grassroots Endowment Challenge, and benefit from the match funding – for more information contact [judi.newman@suffolkfoundation.org.uk](mailto:judi.newman@suffolkfoundation.org.uk) or call 01473 734126.

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### **LEATHERINGHAM ‘SOIRÉE MUSICALE’**

We did not have many visitors during our ‘open churches’ week, but we did have a wonderful soirée musicale, performed by our immensely musically talented Rural Dean Rev Graham Owen and his two equally talented friends on the cello and flute.

We thank our supporters and friends who filled the church on this memorable occasion; it was amazing to learn that one of the composers, John Stanley (C18<sup>th</sup>) had been blind from the age of two. There was a retiring collection for our church funds.

*Sylvia Keene*

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### **BRANDESTON 100+ CLUB**

Winners for August 2009:-

1<sup>st</sup> – Graham Vellacott

2<sup>nd</sup> – Kevin Duffy

Next draw – Thursday 3rd September 2009 at the village hall

*Mark Hounsell*

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### **KETTLEBURGH GREEN TRUST LOTTERY**

Winners drawn on 7 August

1st Prize            Rod & Jeanne Durbin

2nd Prize           Pam Allan

*Gwenda Weeks*

## NOTICES

### CANCER RESEARCH

If anyone has lost a loved one to cancer and would like to sponsor my 10 kilometre run for Cancer Research at Ickworth Park on 4th October, I would be very grateful. You can sponsor me online at <http://www.run10ksponsorme.org/charlesfreeman> or pick up a sponsor form from Oak Farm - beyond the Earl Soham end of Brandeston - or phone me on 01728 864819. I am up to 8 kilometres so hope to make it without stopping to celebrate my 62nd birthday later that week!

*Charles Freeman.*

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### BRANDESTON PARISH PLAN: TRANSPORT FOR MEDICAL VISITS

The Parish Plan suggested that for some residents of Brandeston there may be a need for help with transport for medical visits.

To enable the Council to establish the level of need for such help, we would ask that any resident who experiences difficulty in attending medical visits due to lack of transportation to advise any of their Councillors (see list below). If anyone is aware of a fellow resident who may need help and has not seen this notice, please either speak to a Councillor on their behalf or ask them to contact the councillor themselves.

The Council will review this subject at their meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2009. Accordingly, please let them know of any need by **7<sup>th</sup> October**.

(The Council fully understand that many in the village already help their friends and neighbours on such occasions).

David Risk (Chairman)  
Helen Saxton (Vice Chair)  
Sue Thurlow  
Will Elson  
Paddy Fielder  
Phil Summers  
Kathy Churchill  
Mark Hounsell (Clerk)

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### TELEPHONE SCAM

Norfolk Police have been made us aware of a BT collection service scam which is believed to be a National fraud.

The details are as follows:-

A professional sounding adult male phones the victim (victims chosen



are listed in the phone directory) stating he is calling from BT Collection Service because money is owed to BT. The caller states that the (victims) bank has stopped the Direct Debit and that money is immediately owed, failure to pay will result in their phone being cut off. The amount that is allegedly 'owed' has been less than £10 (typically £9). The caller requires the victims credit card details so that payment can be made. The caller also 'proves' he can easily cut off the victims phone telling them to hang up and try dialling out, it is then believed he puts them on 'hold' so that the line is still connected but of course the victim believes their line has been disconnected. The offender then phones them back and again attempts to obtain their credit card detail. The main object is not the £9 but is to obtain the credit card data. The caller is described as very professional sounding.

Should you receive such a call then they should immediately contact the BT Nuisance Call Bureau on 0800 411 422. Please be aware and do not give any personal details out over the phone.

Suffolk Coastal  
Community Watch Liaison Officer  
Felixstowe Police Station  
32 High Road  
Felixstowe IP 11 9JE  
Phone: 01473 383313  
Email: [anne.powell@suffolk.pnn.police.uk](mailto:anne.powell@suffolk.pnn.police.uk)

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#### **VILLAGE WEBSITES**

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

[www.brandeston.net](http://www.brandeston.net)

[www.kettleburgh.suffolk.gov.uk](http://www.kettleburgh.suffolk.gov.uk)

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#### **MAGAZINE ARTICLES**

Please send, deliver or e-mail any contributions for the magazine by 15<sup>th</sup> of each month to: Mrs Val Butcher, Woodlands, Church Road, Kettleburgh,  
or e-mail [valerie.butcher@talk21.com](mailto:valerie.butcher@talk21.com), tel: 724777. Covers are always welcome too!

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### TIMES PAST

Once more harvest is with us. Perhaps it would be appropriate to look back to the 19<sup>th</sup> century and see the situation as it was in our two parishes. Farming and agriculture were the main sources of employment then.

Kettleburgh has the larger amount of land with 1435 acres in contrast to Brandeston's 1246. Both, according to the 1855 White's Directory have 'a valley of deep fine loamy soil with slight seasonal water logging. The hill slopes have slowly permeable calcareous soils.' Land near the Deben was used for pasture while the preponderance of land was devoted to arable crops.

As now, Brandeston had the greater population, 508 people compared with Kettleburgh's 348. Twelve farmers were listed for Brandeston, eight for Kettleburgh. The size of the farms varied greatly. In Brandeston the largest was that of Westhill, 170 acres farmed by David Burrows who employed 6 labourers. The smallest holding was Office Farm, 24 acres under the control of Benjamin Gall with 1 agricultural labourer.

By contrast in Kettleburgh, Samuel Page of Lodge Farm held 252 acres with aid from 5 labourers, while William Smith of Halfway Farm worked 29 acres with help from his son. Of all the farms, Brook Farm, which straggled the boundary between the two parishes was the largest. John Sheppard had 272 acres where he employed 8 labourers and 5 boys. In all Brandeston had 95 men and boys, Kettleburgh 84 connected with agriculture. There were also 2 Kettleburgh dairymaids, thus a quarter of the entire population were engaged in farming.

Harvests differed from year to year. In 1877 the Brandeston schoolmaster noted in the log that on August 10<sup>th</sup> the Harvest holidays were starting for a month but when school opened again on September 10<sup>th</sup> he wrote 'Reopened school with a very poor attendance owing to the non completion of the Harvest operations.' It was September 17<sup>th</sup> before he reported 'Better attendance'.

Harvests were celebrated then as now. Unfortunately there is no mention of Kettleburgh's festivities. The Harvest Home Services held at Brandeston's Congregational Church on September 25<sup>th</sup> 1866 were well attended. The Preacher came from the Baptist Chapel in Diss whilst 9 Ministers from Ipswich, Otley, Debenham, Wickham Market, Saxmundham, Framsdon and Earl Soham took part. The weather was fine, 130 people took tea and in the evening the chapel was quite full. £3.10.0 was collected, a lot of money at that time.

Brandeston's Harvest Home Thanksgiving of September 15<sup>th</sup> 1869 was a very grand affair. Headed by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Suffolk Rifle Corps Band the villagers proceeded to the church for a choral service at which several anthems were sung. Afterwards the labourers and their wives were given a substantial repast, waited upon by the farmers, clergy and tradesmen. Then the children were fed. After that the ladies and friends took their repast. This over, sports followed. Towards evening another meal took place and after speeches the day ended with a display of fireworks.

All this gives us food for thought.

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WMW