

Brandeston – Beating the Bounds – Sunday 24 May 2009

Cast list: Steve, Sally, Jack, Sam, Joe, Marian, Ellen, Maddy, Helen, William, Kelly, Megan, Connie, Mary, Paul, Don, John, Ruth, Nick, plus Part 2 groupies, Robin and Colin

On a beautiful Sunday, Steve and the Western clan lead a doughty band of Brandeston Bounders on a mission to Beat the Bounds of the parish.

19 intrepid villagers and four dogs commenced at Bridge Farm at 1030 and, uniquely, were invited to enter the front door and exit the rear as the boundary actually passes through the building



1030 – the off.....



1115 – neighbouring Monewden in the distance





Henry feeling the heat



Brandeston/Monewden boundary



Monewden Hall ahead





Hacking through the impenetrable jungle, lead by Steve with machete



Back and forth behind Brandeston Hall



Bobby in some discomfort being carried by John, before retiring





Hot work but near the end of part 1



We know roughly where we are.....



Welcome shade





Interested onlookers



Civilisation in sight



Casualties just short of the pub

Intermission at the Queens Head to refuel with excellent beer and baguettes but, sadly, the loss of some Bounders (quoting other commitments) and the gain of two extras for part 2.





Part 2, looking north from the Scott's farm – a select band



As high as an elephant's eye – almost, but certainly a deer's... which erupted from the depths within touching distance



The Apsey Green to Earl Soham road, with Mill Lane ahead





The final push, following a superb Tea at The Priory – very many thanks to Alison and Colin

So ended a successful foray and enjoyable review of Brandeston; our thanks to Steve for organising and leading the event and providing historical footnotes, and to Alison and Colin for a most welcome and relaxing Tea in their beautiful gardens.

We can feel secure now the boundaries of Brandeston have been restated and unauthorised claims repudiated - rumour has it that this may be a regular event.....provided Steve can get his boots off.

Qualified Bounders' certificates will be presented in due course......

Nick Hayward 27 May 2009