



the Brandeston

January 2010

Brandeston still in shock at sudden and tragic death of Nick Holland-Brown

The village is in shock following the sudden death of Nick Holland-Brown.

Nick and Annie moved here 10 years ago and since then both have become hugely popular.

Nick became involved in working first as secretary and then treasurer of the village hall committee, and he also chaired the group who compiled the parish plan.

He was a founder member of the shoot and the motivation behind setting up the wine society, a cause dear to his heart.

Nick was a keen sailor and a former commodore of the Royal Burnham Yacht Club.

He was also a member of the Medusa Club, a mysterious and highly exclusive organization of only 19 yachties who are all quite old enough to know better but travel around Europe together apparently having dinner.

But his friends in the village will remember him not for his prowess in keeping the hall accounts or even for his disdain for American wine.

He was a benign colleague, a vivacious friend and splendid company, always with a sparkle in his eyes. No social event, however successful, could not be improved by Nick's arrival.



He had been diagnosed with cancer last year but throughout the ordeal he remained positive, determined and good humoured.

His friends were delighted to see him at the Williams' drinks party after Christmas, and his death only a few days later came as a shock to everybody.

The church was packed with 200 mourners at his service of thanksgiving, all of whom retired to the Queen's Head afterwards at the invitation of the family.

Council row over school tennis dome

Parish council bosses are up in arms over Suffolk Coastal's failure to take seriously concerns about Brandeston Hall school's proposed tennis dome.

The dome is inflatable, and when erected will be 35 feet high and visible from the road.

Parish chair David Risk and clerk and *RFO Mark Hounsell explained the parish concerns at the planning meeting.



An impression of how the dome may look

But the planners, chaired by Brandeston's own district councillor Robert Snell, naturally ignored all protestations. (Please note this at the next council elections.)

The argument here is not with the school, who are pursuing their legitimate interests, but once again with the planners who ignore all attempts at negotiating a reasonable outcome.

*Please supply your own version of what RFO might mean

Newsletter sponsored by Country Trust

The recent absence of the Brandeston until last November has been for technical and financial reasons.

But both those problems have been overcome with the kind agreement of Stewart Goldie-Morrison to sponsor the publication from now on.

So step forward the **Country Trust**, a charity which aims to bridge the gap between town and country by showing the working countryside to children from the deprived inner cities.

Stuart is the director of the Trust, which is based in Framlingham though it has offices across the country.



Stewart Goldie-Morrison

It operates through a network of 500 host farms who provide opportunities for children from 500 schools in 50 towns and cities across England and Wales.

In future the Brandeston will be printed from the Trust's offices, but distributed by the usual fleet-footed team of Brandies.

Village rejects storage plan

The hall AGM in November saw the village reject plans to build additional storage on the terrace.

The committee wanted views on the proposal, but the meeting made clear its hostility.

Otherwise, chairman Darryl 'Dazza' Morgan reported that the hall had made a profit of £5,700 for the year without taking into account John Elliott's legacy of £5,000.

The number of clubs and groups using the hall regularly stayed the same at 14.

Visits to the village website increased by 16%. Contributions to the site are welcome.

Highlights of the year were the French cabaret evening and the fete, held once more at the Queen's Head.

The event raised £2,000 each for the hall and the church.

The meeting was concerned at the current dearth of those willing to take up a post on the committee, echoing the views of the committee itself.

Naturally however, nobody volunteered their services.

There is also a problem over how to manage the key for hall bookings. It may be that a full-time caretaker might provide the answer, but at a cost.

World megastar appears at village hall, for one night only, at enormous expense to the management

One of the world's leading entertainment superstars will for one night only forego the brash glamour of the film set and television studio for the rather more sophisticated chic of Brandeston village hall.

Neil Innes, star of the Bonzo Dogg Doo-Dah Band and Monty Python, brings his one-man show *The People's Guide to World Domination* to a venue very near you on 20 February.

The show is something of a world premiere, since immediately afterwards Neil takes it on tour to the USA. ('Today Brandeston, tomorrow New York') For those who haven't seen Neil perform before, the best



advice is to bring a spare pair of trousers.

Tickets are £15, which includes canapés. There will be a bar.

It's possible that, if tickets are over-subscribed, preference may be given to those who know all the lyrics to *I'm an Urban Spaceman, Baby*.

And if you're wondering how it is that Brandeston can attract such showbiz glamour ... Well, this is Brandeston after all.

Oh, and Neil plays golf with Fred.

Tickets are available from Darryl Morgan on 685378, Fred Mugleston on 685661 or Sue Thurlow on 685673; or from the coffee morning.

Local artist to show in village



Brandeston artist Sophie Rogers shares an exhibition of her work at the village hall (6 & 7 February, 9 to 5 & 10 to 4).

This is her second show, following a success at Bawdsey last November. Sophie is one of 11 exhibitors - other artists, photographers and a glass artist.

Most pieces are for sale, and admission is free.

Donations made for refreshments provided throughout the exhibition will go to All Saints' church.

Dates for your diary

6 & 7 February—Art & photography exhibition, village hall, free

9 Feb—village lunch, £5 (to book: Mary Mitsun-Woods, 684026)

12 Feb—Cinema club, *Slum Dog Millionaire* (Pay at the door, members free)

20 Feb—Neil Innes, £15, *A People's Guide to World Domination*, 7.30

20 Mar—Talk by the Suffolk Gardens Trust

6 Apr—Eastern Angles: *A Long Way Home*

And at the pub...

29 Jan—Charioke, singalong for charity

4 Feb—'I love you but I'm broke', cheap Valentine supper for skin-flints

7 Feb—celebrate National Yorkshire Pudding day

14 Feb—Valentine's day dinner

22 Feb—Feast on a tenner

Today an AA rosette. Tomorrow a Michelin star...

Brandeston's own Queens Head has at last been recognized for its food with the award of an AA rosette.

For the record, the meal enjoyed by the AA inspector and that swung it for the Queen was as follows: chicken liver parfait with apple chutney and warm brioche, followed by saddle of venison with braised red cabbage with its own cottage pie.



Alan Randall

Then the little tinker finished with chocolate mousse with peanut sponge and confit oranges.

In fact the AA inspector says the venison is worth two stars.

Try it and make up your own mind. But in the meantime Alan has further plans for the pub, including new additions to the pub's own range of chutneys and—who knows? - perhaps a shop selling quality local produce.

A warm welcome to our new neighbours



Frank and Judith Eyles have moved into Cherrytree Cottage from Bedfield, having spent all their working life in Birmingham. They join their son and daughter-in-law Michael and Sue, who live in Larcom's Lawne.

Parish pump ... what's hot and what's not at the coffee morning and elsewhere

Our banner photograph at the top of the front page features the two splendid and inebriated-looking snowmen who entertained the village over Christmas, courtesy of Bertie, Willie and Tom Pearce...

Xiaolin King has just celebrated 10 years in the UK, since moving from China to the Old Vicarage with her husband John...

The annual village Christmas trip to Southwold was very popular this year in spite of the inevitable trial-by-affle on the way home, and raised £250 for the hall...

Stewart Goldie-Morrison is keen to talk to anybody interested in setting up a pig club.



A free copy of this newsletter goes to anybody who can identify this rare breed

The idea is to raise some rare breed pigs for members' own consumption.

It would need half an acre of land to rent, and lots of enthusiasm.

Stewart already has fencing, shelter, water bowser and live-

stock trailer, so the initial outlay is only weaners and food. Stewart is on 684862...

The collection for All Saints church at Nick Holland-Brown's thanksgiving service was £845...

The editor finds he's still got space to fill and he's run out of all the gossip that's fit to print. So we have to include some of the dicey stuff. Well, we can now reveal that the loud squeals heard in *The Street* are not entirely unconnected to the unusual use of a kipper by none other than...



Rebecca and Karren can't hide their delight at news that the next edition of *The Brandeston* will appear in March