



Brandeston plans a Jubilee party

The Jubilee summer promises to be one long party in Brandeston.

Over the past few months the village hall committee have been discussing how to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee.

Not everybody is a monarchist, but every Brandy seems to love a party and this is as good an excuse as any.

The committee has brought in people from around the village to help in putting together the schedule.

It begins on Sunday 22 April with a tea party to celebrate the opening of the new Jubilee steps at the hall.

Then on Sunday 3 June, to open the Jubilee weekend, we

A street party just like the good old days—and forget about the traffic

Brandeston Street will be closed to traffic for a proper old-fashioned knees-up-Mother-Brown street party.

Last year, the ultra-royalists of Mill Lane held a successful street party to mark the royal wedding.

That event was organized by Karren Piper, so Karren was the obvious person for the hall committee to ask to take over running the Jubilee street party.

Plans are afoot to close the street from the Queen's Head junction to Wriggle Street.

Fortunately this will mean a significant diversion and considerable inconvenience for through traffic. Vehicles will probably have to leave the main road on leaving Earl

have a street party—much like the ones held in 1952, but this time everything is off the ration.



Mary applies the gold leaf to the plaque for the new hall steps

Soham and be diverted through Cretingham and, if they still have the will to live, on to Low Street.

Details of the party have yet to be decided, but it will be free to residents and guests, on a bring-a-plate basis. However, jelly may be obligatory.

It will be held at **3pm on Sunday 3 June.**

Brandies are encouraged to decorate their houses with flags, bunting and anything else which accurately expresses their true feelings about the Jubilee.

One villager has already planted his garden with red white and blue flowers. We must hope they don't come up as red, blue and white, otherwise we'll be raising our glasses to the continued prosperity of Slovenia instead.



Karren Piper

That same weekend there is a sleek black tie ball in a marquee at the hall, and an exhibition of photographs showing how the village has changed over the past 50 years of the Queen's reign.

The parish council are providing commemorative china mugs free to all children under 18. They are available to everyone else at £5 (as from 1 May, from the coffee morning or Sue Thurlow.)

There are also plans for establishing a Jubilee Walk along the east side of the playing field. Lou Paget has drafted a plan and it will feature easily maintained shrubs and small trees.

Black tie ball for well heeled fun lovers

Aaron and Lucy get married on the Jubilee Saturday, and are having a huge marquee on the playing field.

So they have kindly agreed



Kathy Churchill

that the village can use the marquee for the rest of the weekend. Just right for a black tie dinner dance, the committee thought.

So they have asked Kathy Churchill and her gang to organize it. The event is at **7pm on Monday 4 June**, featuring a pink fizz reception and canapés, dinner and dancing to a live band. Tickets are £40 from Marian Hutson (685565).

Jubilee steps will improve access

The hall committee have commissioned new steps between the upper and lower terraces of the hall, specially to mark the Jubilee.

The new steps are now complete and are built in brick, with cast iron railings and an inset commemorative plaque designed by Mary Moore.

The plaque is covered in gold leaf.

The steps will be officially opened by Mary at a village tea party, open to all, at **3pm on Sunday 22 April.** The party will be free, but you are invited to bring a plate.

No tickets are necessary.

The occasion will also feature an official dedication of John Elliot's bench, in recognition of the £5,000 gift he made to the hall.

Exhibition to show 60 years' history

As part of the Jubilee weekend celebrations, the hall committee is planning an exhibition to cover the past 60 years.



Jackie Hounsell

It will feature photographs, memorabilia, memories, anecdotes and anything else.

The exhibition will be at the old chapel in Mill Lane, on **3 and 4 June.**

Please send anything you can offer to Jackie Hounsell (685357) or Mary Moore (685354).

Your chance to join the champagne charlies

The village petanque team are getting seriously keen.

At the moment there is a grant application to build a proper petanque piste instead of playing on the car park. It would be open to the whole village.

But to support the project, the team are planning a posh frocks and black tie champagne evening.

Grizzled village toppers still talk about the last such event—or at least what they remember of it.

The extravaganza will be held at the Thurlows' at 7.30 on Saturday 12 May. Tickets are £15 and available from Sue Thurlow (685673).

Fete planning begins soon

This year's village fete will be held on 16 June, once again in the gardens of the pub.

It's likely that Ollie will also be running a beer festival throughout the weekend and a barbecue on the Sunday.

It will feature all your old favourites plus several wacky new games.

The first planning meeting for the fete will be at 7.30pm on 19 April, in the pub.

For details contact Darryl Morgan (685378).

Now village lunch introduces meals-on-wheels

by *Mary Mitson-Woods*

Our monthly lunch seems to be going from strength to strength.

We are very grateful to everyone who supports the lunch through their attendance, and to the people who help us with the many tasks involved.

So now, Jane Mitchell and I are wondering if there might be a demand for a 'meals on wheels' type extension to the lunch, for anyone who might be housebound or poorly.



Mary Mitson Woods

I think we would have to restrict the delivery area to Brandeston and Kettleburgh. But in the first instance we would just like to gauge demand.

So if you would like to use this new service (sadly only once a month, usually the second Tuesday) or know someone who would, please let Jane (685190) or me (684026) know and we will get organised.

We look forward to seeing everyone again on Tuesday 10th April.

An especially warm welcome to our not-so-new neighbour

There is a special welcome this month to Lisa Hubner. Lisa is better known in the village as Lisa Crane—Eve Crane's daughter.

Lisa was brought up in the village and her return is a delight to those Brandies who know her.

For the past 18 years—is it really that long? - Lisa has been living and working in Cumbria.

But at last she has seen the

error of her ways and returned to the sylvan delights of home.



She is working with Suffolk County Council, with children who are visually impaired.

She tells the editor that she is keen to become involved in village life again.

Apologies to our other new neighbours, who were not at home

when the editor called round on his bike. Next time.

Dates for your diary

19 Apr—Fete planning meeting in the pub, 7.30

22 Apr—Tea party to 'open' the steps

12 May—Champagne evening. Tickets £15 from Sue Thurlow (685673)

22 May—Annual parish meeting, 8pm

3 Jun—Jubilee street party

4 Jun—Jubilee ball

3 & 4 Jun—Jubilee exhibition at the old chapel

16 Jun—Village fete & beer festival

19 Aug—Brandeston Olympics

6 Oct—Harvest horkey supper

See website for regular events: table tennis, coffee morning, whist drive, zumba, Brownies, mothers & toddlers, pilates, community lunch, diet & fitness, film club, and drawing.

...and at the pub:

Roasts and brunch available every Sunday from 11.30—3.30

Mutton Lane to include 'affordable homes'?

The proposed new housing is intended to include social housing, but this may change to 'affordable homes'.

The change is mooted because in the current climate there seems no immediate prospect of finding a housing association who would buy the houses for rent.

Instead, Suffolk Coastal may require the developer to build 'affordable homes' suitable for first-time buyers.

But no final design plan has yet been submitted.

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

There has been an audit of the crockery and cutlery at the hall. Anything missing has been replaced, so now there is 100 of everything—including soup spoons...

The Thurlows have installed a dovecote and brought two white doves to live in it. But the doves have flown, ungrateful buggers...

The hall's existing audio-visual system is slightly Heath Robinson-like, so the committee has decided to update it. The new installation will be hard-wired

and operates on bluetooth technology...

There are ideas for organizing a bigger and better Guy Fawkes bonfire celebration this year. But it would need a team to make it work. Peter Thurlow (685673) would be pleased to talk to anybody interested in discussing what's possible...

The bark in the children's play area is being renewed...

It seems Brandeston may have been home to both a Roman settlement and perhaps a Viking

fort, according to historical finds which show up in the archives. Does anybody know any more...?

The village barbecue has been replaced with a new state-of-the-art gas machine...

If you look up as you dawdle past the hall, you will see that the clock is working again. This, like much else, is down to Fred...

The editor is looking for more long thin views for the masthead photograph which appears at the top of each newsletter. Brandeston has plenty of views, but they

are thoughtlessly tall and thin instead. Anybody who knows of just such a long thin view deserving of featuring in the newsletter is encouraged to contact the editor...

The old goal posts on the playing field have been removed, and replaced by a single and moveable netted goal...

The drive and car park around the village hall is to be resurfaced.

Have you noticed? All six photographs used in this newsletter are of women...