



## Brandeston website viewed in nine countries

**Goings-on in Brandeston** are the subject of international interest, new figures reveal.

After less than a month on-line, figures show that at the end of January the new village website had received visits from nine countries.

Among the features believed to be attracting worldwide attention are pictures of the village, details of village services, reports on events, recipes and features on village people making the news.

**'Why Finland would be interested is beyond me' - Darryl Morgan**

The site also includes the *Brandeston Blog*, in which controversial opinions on hot local issues are exchanged.

Brandeston's webmaster and multi-media mogul Darryl 'Rupert' Morgan explains that he is satisfied with the initial

response.

'So far we've had 147 different visitors, who have used the site 540 times,' he explains.



*The banner of the Brandeston village website: seen in nine countries*

'As well as UK viewers they are from France, Australia, Ireland, Canada, Germany, New Zealand, Uganda and USA.

'We can guess at some. David Risk's brother is in Oz, Sue and Tony Etheridge's son is in Germany and the Pennys are in Uganda. But why Finland would be interested is beyond me.

'The *village life* area is most

popular, with *what's on*, the picture galleries and *people* out in front. The recipes and Queen's Head pages are also in the top ten.

'Peter Arbon's 80th birthday celebrations are particularly popular —they have been viewed over 400 times—and so are Teresa Drury's photos of the snow.

'For the future, we need to make it easier to access, and we need more contributions from village people.

'Oddly, the *Brandeston Blog* page is extremely popular with over 300 visits, but very few have left comments.

'There are instructions on the *blog* page of the main web site on how to register. It's easy, it's free and you won't receive any unwanted mail. Feel free to comment on anything—we want some lively debates.

'It's intended to be a 'people' site with news, photos of people and events and articles about the village from those who live here or who once did.'

This is the website address: [www.brandeston.net](http://www.brandeston.net)

***Wandering through the village...from Germany!***

Sabine Etheridge in Germany said how much she enjoyed her 'little wander' through the village. *'It's almost like visiting the place itself...seeing some of the familiar faces and reading about the things that happened. A new connection to our 'second home'!*

## Theatre: Inspector Prickle investigates



The hall's first murder mystery, *Inspector Prickle and the Case of the Mickfield Mystery* is written by Gwyn Guy and performed by the Debenham Players. A series of baffling murders in a sleepy Suffolk village call for all the ingenuity of Inspector Prickle to find the solution. The play is on Saturday 14th April at 7.30. Tickets £6 (including a ploughman's supper) from the coffee morning, the Queens Head or Sam Tassera. Wine available.

*\*Discount on pre-theatre drinks at the Queen's Head\**

## Brandeston fete goes Brazilian

Brandeston goes Brazilian this summer, when a samba band will bring all the cool sounds of Rio to the village fete.

The event has been put back from its usual mid-June date to the 23rd June, to avoid a clash with Kettleburgh fete.

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

# Portuguese wines to open new venture

Six of the best Portuguese wines will feature in Brandeston's first wine evening.

It's for those who enjoy wine on any level (though preferably upright), whether as would-be connoisseurs or who just want to know more



*Bonviveur Nick HB*

on what's in the glass. What do we want in future? Comparing wines from different countries? Comparing differ-

ent wines from the same grape? Finding the best buys from the supermarkets? It's your club and your choice.

Leading oenologist, bonviveur and epicure Nick Holland-Brown has arranged the wines for this first event. He says of his interest in the grape: 'I was inspired by reading Peter Sichel's *World of Wine* in my teens and I've been enjoying the stuff ever since.'

Entry to the tasting is £5, which covers all wines and nibbles. Call Nick Holland-Brown (685048) or Peter Thurlow (685673) to let us know you'll be there.

## Cary Grant & Woodie Allen top the film bill



Classic cinema comes to Brandeston on 13th April, when we feature Cary Grant in *North by Northwest*.

For those new to the village cinema, we have a full size screen and 'Brandesurround sound', but we're still working on the popcorn.

Following Cary next month is Woody Allen's *Radio Days*, a feast of nostalgia for those who yearn for evenings spent with the Light Programme.

## New dates for your diary

- 8 March & subsequently—**wine society**
- 9 March—**film club**, 7.30: *Ladies in Lavender*
- 13 March—**village lunch**
- 10 April—**village lunch**
- 13 April—**film club**, 7.30: *North by Northwest*
- 14 April—**murder mystery**
- 8 May—**village lunch**
- 11 May—**film club**, 7.30: *Radio Days*
- 19 May—**flamenco dancing & tapas evening**
- 12 June—**village lunch**
- 23 June—**village fete**
- 10 July—**village lunch**
- 14 July—**disco and barbecue**
- 14 August—**village lunch**
- 22 September—**crafts fair**

### At the pub—

- 14 March—**Mothering Sunday lunch**
- 26 March—'Feast on a Tenner'
- Easter Monday, 9 April—**pub open all day, with food served throughout**

## A spring welcome to our new neighbours

Rosie and Douglas 'TJ' Toenjes moved into Larcom's Lawne in January. They're from Florida and have a two-year stay here while TJ works as a cargo consultant at Felixstowe. He is a Vietnam veteran who was awarded the Purple Heart medal for being wounded in action, and was known as 'TJ' when his colleagues couldn't pronounce his surname. Rosie is a primary school teacher and they have two sons—one is in the US military and the other

is a computer consultant in Atlanta, Georgia.



*In the absence of pictures of new people, we feature instead this fine rabbit who has just moved into Friday Street. Welcome.*

Also new to the village, this time from far off Ipswich, are Helen and David Fletcher with their children William and Kate and Finlay the cat.

They have moved into Walnut Tree Cottage in The Street, where Steve and Karren lived.

As always, our apologies go to any of our new neighbours who we haven't had time or space to feature. But welcome anyway. See you in the pub.

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

Sue Fisher's son James has become engaged, to Jo. The wedding is planned for the autumn...

*Haywards Hoofers*, the highly successful ballroom dancing event, is coming to an end. But tap dancing proceeds apace. Current routines are to Nat King Cole and Bobby Darin. A new routine

begins on 12th March...

Jodie and Dan from the pub are leaving for Australia...

Baby changing facilities have now been installed in the hall, in the disabled toilets...

Jackie and Mark Hounsell drove into a camp site 200 miles south of Seville in Spain

and found themselves parked next to Bob and Patience from Mutton Lane...

*The Curse of Brandeston.* In January the cinema club scheduled *Gosford Park* and the film's director died. In February we showed *Blazing Saddles* and the singer of the theme tune, Frankie Lane, left this world

two days beforehand. Next Friday we show *Ladies in Lavender*. Watch the obituaries...

The kerb outside the village hall has been repaired, after reports of people tripping over it.

The hall was runner-up prize in a competition by Suffolk ACRE...

The next *Brandeston* is in May...