



Hall takes over £100 per week

Brandeston village hall is currently taking an average of £102 in bookings each week, new figures reveal.

Treasurer Steve Williams explains: 'The net current assets is in effect the cash flow. The increase from £10,161 in September last year to £14,253 in May this year reflects the success of the hall in generating cash surplus over expenses.'

Bookings are managed by Jacky O'Brien, who offers an insight into the level of activity at the hall.

'There are about a dozen regular weekly or monthly events,' she says.

'About three quarters of

events are initiated by the village and the rest are outside bookings.

'As an example of its popularity, the hall was used during October on all but six days.'

The findings are released a month before the AGM, when the hall's performance can be discussed and elections for the management committee take place.

The committee is: chair— Sue Thurlow; secretary— Nick Holland-Brown; treasurer—Steve



Steve Williams

Williams; hall manager: Eve Crane; maintenance—Fred Mugleston; bookings—Jacky O'Brien; regular users group—Marian Hutson; marketing—Mary Mitson-Woods; parish council representative—Kathy Churchill; communications—Peter Thurlow.

Sam Tassera has been events co-ordinator but is standing down. Nominations for or interest in this position as well as all the others are welcome. Call either Sue Thurlow (685673) or Nick Holland-Brown (685048).

Everybody is welcome at the AGM, which will be held at the hall at 8pm on 29th November.

Top Brandy Spin Guru in Slick Mag Triumph Drama

In an expected move, *the Brandeston* beat all opposition in the 'Suffolk village newsletter of the year' competition.

Judges declared the newsletter 'relevant, interesting, well produced and colourful.' (They forgot 'smug'.)

Proud representatives of the parish council received the award among the celebs at the glittering surroundings of the Suffolk Association of Local Councils AGM— £150 for the village hall, a plaque and a framed certificate.



The editor: 'charming'

'Frankly, for me a framed certificate for the sideboard beats an all expenses-paid holiday in some charming and spectacular part of the

world every time,' the editor confirmed.

Editorial staff at *the Brandeston's* plush downtown HQ remained tightlipped at rumours that the newsletter may now become the subject of a bidding war between Richard



Low Street HQ

Branson and Rupert Murdoch's *News International*, both keen to win the lucrative village newsletter market.

'Waiter! There's a ploy in my soup!'

More than 60 people attended this year's harvest horkey supper, raising £544 for hall funds.

We can do no better than to recommend readers to view Darryl Morgan's excellent and wistful report on horkeys past on the website.

Supper this year was vegetable soup, cold meat and salad

and apple pie and cream.

Afterwards the entertainment was a village quiz. But there is a tentative ploy to produce a



film of the Brandeston year, to be shown in a gala premier at next year's horkey.

The success of the project depends on having enough volunteer cameras though. Anyone with a digi-cam interested in being available to film floods, new babies, fires and sex scandals is invited to call Peter Thurlow (685673).

Village to be quizzed over parish plan

Plans to quiz villagers about their preferences for the future of the village have now reached the funding stage.

Government money will be available for printing costs. Initially a questionnaire will be distributed to each house, probably during December, asking each resident's views



Nick Hayward

on Brandeston's future.

The questionnaire is mostly the work of Nick Hayward and Alastair Chapman.

The steering group were particularly keen to hear the views

of young people, since it is their future we are planning.

So every young person over 10 years old will be invited to take part.

Results of the survey will be analysed during January and February, leading to a major public event to discuss the initial findings in March.



CHRISTMAS IN BRANDESTON

There is no need to join the getaway crowds looking for festive cheer this Christmas. As usual, Christmas in Brandeston offers everything you could ever want.



Winter wonderland: Brandeston last year

On the first Saturday in December, we have our annual

charabanc outing to Southwold (Pat Morgan, 685378). It's ostensibly for shopping, although some never get past the dining room at the Crown.

Then on Monday 3rd December the Queen's Head begins its festive menu, available every day until Friday 22nd.

The following Friday, the wine society will be tasting wines for the festive season (Martin

Churchill, 685303).

The next day is the Christmas fair at the village hall, for more shopping opportunities.

Then the following Saturday Christmas begins in earnest with the annual drinks party at the old chapel in Mill Lane. (Tickets from the coffee morning, the pub or Sue Thurlow, 685673).

There will be the usual and very popular carol service at the pub at some time during the week before Christmas.

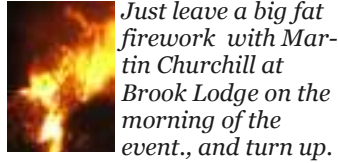
The village is left to make its own entertainment over Christmas itself, though hopefully we will see you all in the pub at one time or another.

Then on new year's eve there is a free party at the village hall. Everyone is welcome—just bring some food and drink.

A bonfire and a big band

Once again, John King at the Old Vicarage is pleased to host the bonfire celebrations, in the meadow behind the house.

There is no entrance charge.



Hot dogs and mulled wine are available.

The second Friday (and again in December) is the cinema club—watch for posters on the film around the village.

The next day the hall welcomes a 20-piece big band, 'Swing Street', playing the music of Woody Herman, Duke Ellington, Glen Miller and others.

Tickets are £8 in advance from Cretingham post office,

New dates for your diary

- 3 Nov—bonfire party
- 9 Nov—cinema club
- 10 Nov—big band concert
- 29 Nov—village hall AGM
- 30 Nov—whist drive
- 1 Dec—Southwold charabanc outing
- 7 Dec—wine society
- 8 Dec—Christmas fair
- 14 Dec—cinema club
- 15 Dec—Christmas party at the old chapel
- 31 Dec—free new year's eve party

And at the pub...

- 3 Dec—Christmas menu begins
- Yet to be arranged—carol service

A warm welcome to our new neighbours

Wayne Theisinger and Juanita Ruiz Palma have moved into Vicarage Cottage from London, because they wanted to live in the English countryside.



Wayne is a web designer. Juanita's family are Spanish Portuguese and, although she was brought up in this country, she is origi-

nally from Jerez, the home of sherry.



Grundisburgh. They love the area and in particular the marvellous dog walking. The picture

The Owens family have moved into what was called previously called 'Barnabees' in Mutton Lane, and are from

shows Megan, Tim, James, Nicola and Daniel.



Lucy, he's been there longer than anything except the building itself.

Richard and Lucy Daykin are hardly new to Brandeston, but they are new to Low Street. Richard is a teacher at Brandeston Hall and, according to

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

On the website, Jeff and Frances Hogan suggest a wildlife meadow at the bottom of the playing field. What do you think? Post your views on the blog...

Red Farm Barn now lies in ruins after its apparently accidental demolition by the developer and the usual cock-up by Suffolk Coastal planners...

All the pictures which adorned the walls of the old hut, of the Women's Institute and youth club outings, are to

be restored to the new hall...

For the first time, this year the hall is booked on both Christmas day and boxing day, from within the village...

Would anybody be interested in joining a Brandeston history society...?

Alastair and Helen Chapman are singing in a charity performance of music by the 17th century composer Buxtehude at St Michael's church in Framlingham, on 1st December. All proceeds go to the St

Elizabeth's hospice and another in Cambridge.

Our best wishes to Anthony Fletcher and Graham Vellacott, both up and about again after surgery...

There have been several recent surveys about the best places in the UK to live. So we can now reveal that an exclusive survey carried out in the Queen makes Brandeston officially the best place in the universe. Its people are also better looking and sexually irresistible...



Jackie 'Bling Bling' Hounsell hears the dreadful news that the Brandeston will not appear again until January

Do you have news for the Brandeston? Then email it to the editor at: peterthurlow@btconnect.com or phone it to 685673. The best bits will naturally be sold on to the Sun and the rest will be used to titivate conversations in the pub.