

***BRANDESTON AND KETTLEBURGH
PARISH NEWS
AUGUST 2010***

THE PARISHES OF BRANDESTON AND KETTLEBURGH

Dear Friends

In both fact and fantasy, August is the holiday month. The schools are out, and those of us whose normal lives are lived in response to timetables or deadlines can sit a little looser to their remorseless demands.

Even if we aren't "going on holiday", with all that that means in terms of getting organised beforehand and catching up with life when we return, taking a break from routine brings untold benefits.

The first half of the word *holiday* means "set apart". Although the word *holy* has acquired a specifically religious meaning, actually it is an entirely appropriate way of describing the time we "set aside" for relaxation and renewal.

There are as many metaphors as there are ways of spending holiday time. A holiday gives us an opportunity to widen our view, to catch our breath or to check our direction on the journey of life. We might choose to be with old friends, revisit favourite places, develop different skills or interests, to explore some new place or do something completely different.

And the result? Well, you tell me!

That term "set aside" gives us another image from a different context – land set aside from agricultural production. Areas of "set aside" provide environmental breathing space for the land and all that depends on it for life.

So, I hope you enjoy and benefit in all sorts of ways from whatever holiday you are planning – or have already taken – this year.

Now, it may seem strange to try to link summer holidays with the idea of the "Alpha Course" that is going to take place in the Greater Benefice this Autumn, but let me explain how they are connected. It is simply that there is a sense in which "Alpha" can be like going on a holiday.

If you haven't heard of Alpha before, you will find more details of what it is and when and where it is going to happen elsewhere in this magazine.

But the point of Alpha is that it provides an opportunity for us to relax in friendly surroundings and to explore and widen our view of life. Alpha invites us to set aside a little time each week for a couple of months to think about the big questions of life, to explore the relevance of whatever faith we think we have, and to discover new truths that we may not have been fully aware of before.

For millions of people, in this country and around the world, people of all ages and backgrounds, people who have never gone to Church in their life and those who do so regularly, "Alpha" has proved a helpful and renewing experience.

If you are interested in the idea of taking that sort of a break, of establishing a bit of "set aside" in your life for that sort of a journey, do consider joining "Alpha" this Autumn. I think you'll enjoy the experience.

With best wishes,

Robin Alderson

Assistant Priest: Reverend Robin Alderson

01728 688255
Mob. 07790 242002

Brandeston

Elders: Mrs Mary Baker 685807
Miss Eileen Leach MBE 685298

Churchwardens: Miss Eileen Leach MBE 685298
Mrs Alison Molyneux 685244

Kettleburgh

Elders: Mrs Jackie Clark 723623
Mrs Valerie Upson 723078

Churchwardens: Mr John Bater 723532
Mrs Valerie Upson 723078

Cover: Our cover this month comes from an entry by **Georgia Howell**, aged 7, in the Kettleburgh Village Produce Show last September. Thank you, Georgia for such a lovely drawing.

DIARY FOR AUGUST 2010		
Sunday 1 st	From 9am	<u>East Anglian Donkey Show</u> at Rectory Farm, Kettleburgh – see below.
Sunday 1 st	From 10.30am	<u>Suffolk Dog Day</u> at Helmingham Hall – see below.
Thursday 5 th	10.00am	<u>Brandeston Coffee Morning and 100+ Club Draw</u> at Village Hall
Friday 6 th	10am-12	<u>Coffee Morning</u> at Kettleburgh Village Hall
Sunday 8 th	10am – 5.30pm	<u>Monewden Blacksmiths shop open</u> - see below.
Friday 13 th	7.30pm	<u>Brandeston Film Club</u> – “Rabbit Proof Fence” at Village Hall – see below.
Saturday 21 st	4pm	<u>Summer BBQ and Kite Flying</u> at Brandeston Playing Field – see below.
Sunday 29 th	3 – 7pm	<u>Family Fun Day</u> at Kettleburgh Village Green

DONKEYS ON PARADE

36TH East Anglian Donkey Show
Sunday 1st August 2010

This year the 36th East Anglian Donkey Show will be held at Rectory Farm, Kettleburgh. The first class will be in the ring at 9am.

There are around 100 entries expected at this noisy gathering, some from as far afield as Yorkshire and Hampshire. You will be able to see feisty stallions, gentle geldings, and mares, some with enchanting foals at foot.

Both standard size and miniature donkeys of all ages, from the youngest to veteran campaigners of 20 years plus will compete for a variety of trophies and prizes.

New to the schedule this year will be a class especially for donkeys that have been rescued from cruelty or who have come from a sanctuary into a foster home.

The childrens classes are always popular and range from Junior Ridden and Junior Handler through to Fancy Dress and Best Pet.

All children will have their sights set on the Junior Points Trophy to be awarded at the end of the afternoon.

Spectators are warmly welcomed to come and enjoy the spectacle of donkeys on parade.

For further details and photographs please contact: Lucy Howell Tel: 01728 723683

email: lucyhowell@aol.com

SUFFOLK DOG DAY

Sunday 1st August sees the third annual Suffolk Dog Day to be held to support the work of The Suffolk Foundation, gates open at 10.30am at Helmingham Hall, Suffolk, and classes begin at 12.30pm. This prestigious event in the canine calendar is by kind invitation of Lord and Lady Tollemache and is one for all the family to celebrate our furry friends in all their guises. Known affectionately by millions for his Blue Peter days, Peter Purves was the BBC Crufts presenter for 30 years and he will be commentating at Suffolk Dog Day.

17 Classes in all include Suffolk's Next Top Model, perkier pedigree pup, veteran (old age pooches), dog with the waggiest tail, the dog with the most beautiful eyes, and the must have mutt that judges would most like to take home and there are lots of great prizes to be won.

Celebrity judges will sniff out the waggiest winners and numerous stalls and refreshments, games and entertainment add to the family fun.

Tickets are £5 in advance (£6 on the day) and £3 for children and over 60's (£4 on the day) and a family ticket is £15 for 2 adults and 2 children (£18 on the day). All tickets give free entry to the Chelsea gold-medal winning gardens at Helmingham Hall. Entries per dog per class are £3 and to register in advance at a reduced rate and to find out more information about the day visit www.suffolkgogday.com or call 01473 886100.

MONEDDEN BLACKSMITHS SHOP OPEN – Sunday 8th August

Blacksmiths', Carpenters' & Wheelwrights' Tools, with Bygones of interest. Examples and photos of work by Mary Moore and her late husband Hector. Special guest: Ray Hubbard, with display of horse-related items. Admission free. All welcome.

BRANDESTON FILM CLUB

13th August – Rabbit Proof Fence. In 1931 three aboriginal girls escape after being plucked from their homes to be trained as domestic staff and set off on a trek across the Outback.

10th September – Changeling. A grief-stricken mother takes on the LAPD to her own detriment when it stubbornly tries to pass off an obvious imposter as her missing child.

8th October – Le Chateau de Ma Mere. We loved Le Gloire de Mon Pere. This French film is in the same genre – a charming story.

The film club is always held on the second Friday of the month in the village hall. New members are always welcome – membership is £10 for the whole season. Once you have become a member all films are free.

Sue Thurlow

SUMMER BBQ AND KITE FLYING

Do come along with your children or as a kite flying enthusiast to Brandeston playing field. There will be a BBQ and refreshments plus lots of fun in getting kites aloft and keeping them there. Tickets £5 for adults and £2.50 for children.

Tickets purchased before the event would help the catering. Please ring Sue Thurlow on 685673 or Fred Muggleston on 685661. Look forward to seeing you there.

Sue

Thurlow

ADVANCE NOTICES

Sat 4 th Sept.	2.30pm	Kettleburgh Village Produce Show at Village Hall
Sun 5 th Sept.	10am	Lesser Benefice United Service at Easton – see below.
Thurs 9 th Sept.	7pm	Auditions for Kettleburgh Panto at village hall – see below.
Sat 11 th Sept.	9am-6pm	The Church Bike Ride – see below
Mon 20 th Sept.	7.30pm	Talk by Dr Daniel Poulter at Brandeston Village Hall – see below

Thurs 30 th Sept	6.45 – 9.30pm	Alpha at Hacheston – introductory evening for start of Alpha Course at Hacheston Village Hall - see below
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LESSER BENEFICE UNITED SERVICE AT EASTON ON SUNDAY 5 SEPTEMBER

A special Benefice United Service will take place at Easton Church at 10.00am on Sunday 5th September. Much of this service will be led by the young people of COSMIC (Children On Sunday Morning In Church). They will welcome the congregation, read and give us their reflection on the Gospel reading, they will lead us in prayer and help throughout the service.

I hope that COSMIC will be supported in all this by a good congregation from all three churches. Young people from Brandeston and Kettleburgh who would like to help COSMIC on this special occasion are asked to contact Carol Davis (746162) as soon as possible.

Readers of this magazine will realise that this special United service replaces the Benefice service which was due to take place on the 5th Sunday in August over the Bank Holiday weekend.

Robin Alderson

PANTO TIME!

I know, I know, it is far too early to be seeing those words but auditions for the next amazing Kettleburgh Players Production start on **Thursday 9th September at 7 pm** in the Hall and that is only a few weeks away.

What are we doing? **Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs**, so lots of opportunities for the usual restrained and elegant acting style that you have all come to appreciate.

Come along on the 9th - it's fun and there are lots of ways to get involved, not just the larking about on the stage bit. We welcome everyone - from eight to eighty!

Production dates are 10th, 11th and 12th February 2011

THE CHURCH BIKE RIDE

It's nearly here again. It seems to come round quicker each year.

The Bike Ride for the Church is a very pleasant thing to do. You can take your time, plan your own route, have a picnic, or stop at one of the pubs.

This year, once again, the day will start at 9am instead of 10am and will finish at 5pm instead of 6pm. Most of the churches you visit will have refreshments.

Sponsor forms are now available from

Pat Peck (Kettleburgh) – 620114

Ruth Garratt (Brandeston) – 685233

DR DANIEL POULTER MP: My First 120 Days in Parliament

On Monday, 20 September 2010, Daniel Poulter will be giving a talk on his first three months as a new MP. This is an excellent opportunity to listen to and meet Daniel. The talk will take place in Brandeston Village Hall starting at 7:30; tickets are £2 each and will include nibbles. This is being widely advertised and we expect that tickets will go quickly so early booking is advisable. Tickets are available from the Coffee Morning, and Pat and Darryl Morgan (685378).

ALPHA AT HACHESTON

Have you seen those ubiquitous posters around the country? Have you heard other people talking about “ALPHA” and wondered what it was all about?

Well, now, “ALPHA” is coming to the Greater Benefice – it’s going to take place in Hacheston Village Hall. It’ll take place on Thursday evenings from 6.45 to about 9.30pm, with an introductory evening on Thursday 30 September, and the final session on 9 December.

Each evening will consist of a simple meal together, a talk and then time for discussion. There will be one whole-day session during the course. This will take place on Saturday 13th November: that day there’ll be three talks, and again there’ll be time for meals and discussion.

Each evening, the talk is concerned with finding the answer to a question. Here are a few examples from the first few evenings:

- | | | |
|----------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| Introductory evening | - | Is there more to life than this? |
| Session 1 | - | Who is Jesus? |
| Session 2 | - | Why did Jesus die? |
| Session 3 | - | How can we have faith? |
| and so on | | |

Who is ALPHA for and how does it work? Well, someone has come up with a mnemonic: A is for anyone! those who aren’t Christians,
those who aren’t church-goers,

and those who are but who want to “brush up” on the basics.

- L is for learning and laughter
- P is for potatoes (baked) . . . or pasta (i.e. simple food)
- H is for helping one another explore and discover
- A is for ask you can ask anything!

The course isn't free, but there won't be a charge or a fee for it! All we ask is that you make a contribution to help cover the cost of the food and other aspects of the course.

Eleven evenings, each about 2½ hours long; a full Saturday; twelve meals! That's a big commitment for both your diary and your digestion! But the commitment will be worth it if you really find some of the answers to those big questions of life.

If you are interested, or you'd like to know a bit more before committing yourself, do find an opportunity to speak to Harry Edwards, Robin Alderson or Deirdre West.

At the beginning of September, we shall be encouraging people to respond to the ALPHA invitation. It is an invitation that is open not just to anyone but to everyone. That means you'll be welcome. RA

PAST EVENTS

CONGRATULATIONS to Caroline and Angus on the safe arrival of their baby boy, **Keir Douglas Wheeler-Rowe**, who was born on 5th July and weighed 8lb 11oz.

BRANDESTON MARRIAGE

Congratulations to **Carlos Reynell and Jenny Kirk** who were married at Brandeston Church on Saturday 10th July. It was a perfect summer's day and evening for this very happy occasion.

Carlos, who is known as a friend to Brandeston people, is sSports Director and Head of R.E. at Brandeston Hall, whilst Jenny is a newsreader/journalist for BBC East, where she has worked for over 5 years: look out for her on Breakfast or Late News – she's so good at it.

Their reception was held at Brandeston Hall which was steered along by Bob Williams who was Master of Ceremonies, photographer and speechmaster (good work!). The couple's honeymoon began in a Norfolk Cottage, then to a tent at Latitude (Arts Festival) and then for ten days in Iceland where they will tour in a hire-car. So much experience to remember for always!

The church was beautifully decorated by the Brandeston ladies led by Nancy Demetriadi, the predominant colours being blue and orange. Jenny wore a stunningly beautiful full

length dress of cream satin, a lace bolero over her shoulders; the back being laced at the top and buttoned running down the back to a long train, ably controlled by her only bridesmaid, Emma.

We wish Carlos and Jenny much happiness now and in the future, as they build their home together. May God bless you both.

GV

SUFFOLK SHOW 2010

We congratulate our winners this year -

EASTON FARM PARK - who won the Ken Steward cup in the class for “Showing Agriculture in a Unique and Enterprising Manner”, for the eighth time! The cup was received from Mr George Paul, this year’s President of the Show, by Dick and Val Hunter (see photo below). Both Dick and Val have spent a great deal of their working lives bringing about and encouraging the success of Easton Farm Park. We thank them for this and especially their work with the Suffolk Punches. Jill Kerr reports that Dick and Val always put in a huge amount of time and hard work getting the animals to the Show and keeping them in tip-top condition for the two days they are there. The stand is always exceptionally busy, with hundreds of visitors. The animals are always a great attraction, particularly with the children handling the baby ducks and chicks and watching eggs hatching!

EASTON HARRIERS HUNT - who won the Inter Hunt Relay Race from a field of seven other local hunts, those being Cambridge University Drag Hunt, East Anglian Blood Hounds, Essex Hunt, East Essex Hunt, Essex and Suffolk Hunt, Suffolk Hunt and Waveney Harriers. Last year Easton Harriers came second in the race.

For this event the show ring is designed to simulate an average hunting field with hedges, fences, a wooden bridge, handles and a gate to be opened and closed whilst on horseback. This interesting course was built and designed by “Country Care” of Hacheston. There were four riders in each team, the baton which they exchanged being a riding crop. Again, I say how exciting it was to see Easton Harriers beating the East Essex Blood Hounds by three seconds in the final, thanks to some desperate riding and a great deal of vocal support from the Hunt followers! The riders were Julia Taylor, Simon Bloss, Stephen Foster and Stevie Foster.

Well done!

Graham Vellacott

BRANDESTON FETE

Imagine a balmy, midsummer's afternoon on the Queen's Head lawns. The marquees are in place; the bunting just rustling gently; the stalls tastefully set up. Already the BBQ coals are alight, Pimms in people's hands and we're ready for another Brandeston fete.

Well, that image was rudely disrupted by heavy torrential downpours and winds of over 20 mph that had the eager crowds of visitors scuttling towards the precarious shelter of billowing tents or the bar in the Queen's Head. The bottles on the bottle stall were doing their domino impression, scarves and handbags were rescued from the perimeter ditch and cakes and plants covered with protective plastic sheeting.

Then, suddenly, we are away! The Brandeston village fete at the Queen's Head is in full swing.

Alan's traditional fete morning rain dance has worked intermittently. Out comes the sun and the smiles and the selling begins. David Risk, celebrating 50 years of village service as a parish councillor, opens the proceedings and his reference to the five cornerstones of traditional village life strikes a chord. We have lost our shop but the pub, village hall, church and school have all pulled together to organise an event which displays the best side of village life – community spirit. Alan at the pub is supported not only by his wonderful staff but by his parents, Andrew and Sandra, and other members of his family and their friends. They lend a willing hand to prepare the pub's grounds from Thursday and are still there helping with the final clear-up on Monday. Alan and Robin, our priest-in-charge, did an inspired job-swap with Robin pulling pints at the Beer Festival bar and serving burgers, while Alan talked about belonging to a village at the Sunday service at All Saints.

We say this every year but it is at the fete where everyone comes together that we experience this sense of community at its best.

Eileen and Peter Arbon, in their 80s now, worked tirelessly on the draw and bowling respectively, and at the other end of the age spectrum, the young children in the village did their bit by thinking up even more ingenious games to raise money.

After a gap of possibly 30 years, the "lads" of Brandeston took on Kettleburgh and guests for a spot of friendly village rivalry in a Tug-of-War. It was such a laugh that no one minded who actually won honestly! This event was followed by the unexpected arrival of Dr Daniel Poulter, our new MP, who was escorted around the stalls by David Risk for an informal chat.

As the afternoon drew on, stallholders (too numerous to mention by name) refined their selling techniques in order to shift the contributions so generously donated. We must especially applaud those whose hard work behind the scenes contributes so much - those

who constructed the games and signs, organised the publicity, sold raffle tickets, loaned the tents, put up the marquees (and took them down), shifted chairs, straw bales, plants, and books, and made those journeys to the charity shops and the dump with the unsold goods when the rest of us (using the standard World Cup cliché) thought it was all over.

Paul Baker then counted the money and came up with the final figure – an amazing £4960.67. Who would have thought it was possible on a shiveringly cold and wet day in June. So, until we start planning for Brandeston Fete 2011, is the 2010 fete actually over? It is now.

A report on the Tug-of-War and photos from the fete can be seen on the web site.

Pat

Morgan

STRAWBERRY TEA

The Strawberry Tea, held in the village hall on what was one of the hottest afternoons of the summer so far, was well attended in spite of England playing Germany in the World Cup. (We were kept well informed of the game and score by lovely Megan who lives next door to the hall.) Derek Hill had opened his gates so we were able to have tea, cake, and strawberries and cream after a walk round his lovely garden. A big thank you to all the ladies who helped with the provision of cakes, flowers on the tables, the draw and the washing up afterwards. The money raised was given to St. Andrew's Church Fabric Fund.

Anne Bater

1ST EARL SOHAM SCOUT GROUP ANNUAL DUCK RACE

Many thanks to all those who turned out again this year to support us with the above event, which has become somewhat of a tradition now. We were blessed with a glorious evening, and a fantastic number of people willing to join in the fun. It was wonderful to see children having such a lovely time doing such simple things as bouncing, eating cake and squirting each other with water pistols! We are pleased to announce that we make just over £1,400 and this will go to buying and maintaining equipment for the Group. The Scouts are shortly off to Yorkshire on their annual Summer Camp, and we hope they have a great time. Thank you again, and hopefully we will see you all again next year!

Sally Western for 1st Earl Soham Scout Group

WINSTON, THE SINGING FARMER: July 2nd

Proceeds for Mid Suffolk Carriage Driving for the Disabled

Winston, from Norfolk, delighted a capacity audience at Brandeston with a lively mix of songs and humour delivered in his cheerful and friendly style, accompanying himself on

guitar. He also showed great skill playing a variety of harmonicas, including a clever impression of a train journey from start to finish.

The dedicated team from the Group provided first-class refreshments as always, which were greatly appreciated by all.

The new trailer, the cost of which was to be covered by our event, was brought for all to see; it has been named the Brandeston Trailer! We were delighted to hand over a grand total of £796, which met the cost with some to spare. Our very grateful thanks go to all who supported our event so generously in so many ways. Without their help an event like this would be impossible.

Valerie, Trevor and

Mary

CATS' PROTECTION COFFEE MORNING, 6th July

The weather was lovely, Mr Rob Dunger of BBC Radio Suffolk was introduced by Judy Butler, a stalwart friend of Cat's Protection branch, stalls were set up by the untiring team, Ipswich Community Wind Band entertained us, Alice supervised, dressed in white and tortoiseshell, John and Robert transported chairs and Darren (Bishop) offered his help as always. The pre-announcements and advertisements brought many visitors and the total raised was £646.44 which will help a few unwanted cats and kittens. Grateful thanks to all who helped to raise the total. A vote of thanks was given by Mr Peter Roberts, publicity officer for the Framlingham and Saxmundham Cat's Protection Branch.

K. Lusted

DEIRDRE WEST

On Sunday 27th June Eileen Leach and I accompanied Robin to the cathedral at Bury St Edmunds where Deirdre, along with 14 other ordinands was to be ordained deacon by Bishop Nigel. It was a very special service and although the huge number of people in the congregation meant that Eileen and I were seated where we couldn't see what was going on, thanks to the very good sound system we were still able to take part in the proceedings. Living in Campsea Ashe, Deirdre's ministry will cover all seven parishes of the Greater Benefice. Her ordination is the culmination of four years of very hard work and we congratulate her and pray for her as she begins her ministry amongst us.

Valerie Upson

BRANDESTON 100+ CLUB

The winners for July were:-

First prize ; Patience and Bob, The Hollies, Mutton Lane, Brandeston.

Second ; Ian and Jenny Harvey, Grove Farm, Brandeston.

Next months draw will be held on Thurs 5th August.

Don Evans

KETTLEBURGH GREEN TRUST LOTTERY

The results of the KGT Lottery draw on Friday the 2nd July 2010 were as follows:

1st Prize: Sue Scott

2nd Prize: Susan Hall

Trevor Jessop

NOTICES

BRANDESTON FETE 2011 – POSTERS COMPETITION

As part of the advertising for next year's fete, we want to put lots of posters on show in the Street. The style can be either of a conventional poster (there's no need to include the date and time as we'll overprint them later) or your artistic impressions of a fete. The images have to be A4 in size and can be a painting, drawing or whatever. All entries will be laminated and put up in the Street in the run up to the fete. There are three age groups Under 11; 12 to 18; adult. There will be a prize in each category and the best ones will be reproduced as advertising for the fete. Enter as many times as you like. So if you or your children are bored in the summer hols, this is something that can keep you occupied. The deadline is 1 October 2010 and completed entries can be sent to The Yews, Brandeston or left at the Queen's Head or the Coffee Morning.

CAN YOU HELP?

Volunteers are currently needed to help across a range of departments at St Elizabeth Hospice. The charity, which provides services for patients and their families across East Suffolk, is looking for people willing to help with either administration, gardening, manning the dining hall till, hairdressing, retail, or driving just a few hours a week. For a full list of volunteer vacancies visit www.stelizabethhospice.org.uk or if you are interested in these rewarding roles call Claire Lansley on 01473 707016 or email volunteer@stelizabethhospice.org.uk.

LINK ROMANIA SHOEBOX APPEAL 2010



Paperwork for the 2010 appeal has arrived from the Link Romania headquarters in Worthing. Many people now contribute to this charity

each year, and this is just a reminder to start thinking about items for your box(es) this year. If you would like to know more about the appeal, contact Jackie Clark (723623) or take a look at the website: www.linkromania.co.uk Last year a record number - 46,755 boxes were delivered to families in Romania, Moldova, Albania, Bulgaria and Ukraine.

There will be a link on the Kettleburgh website (Church page).

Jackie Clarke

THE SUFFOLK FOUNDATION

The Suffolk Foundation celebrates five years of supporting Suffolk causes to the tune of £2.5million

The Suffolk Foundation is turning five today, celebrating five years of awarding grants to local charities and community groups. Over the past five years, The Suffolk Foundation has awarded grants of over £2.5m to Suffolk charities and community groups, encouraging others to give locally and strengthening people's confidence to find local solutions to local needs. On this special week, we have:

- awarded our 1,000th grant this week, to Home-Start Suffolk Coastal to train volunteers who support families during difficult times;
- opened our 50th Fund: Ipswich Building Society Charitable Foundation has donated £10,000 to be channelled to local grassroots organisations;

As Stephen Singleton, Chief Executive of The Suffolk Foundation explains, "The vision of a community foundation for Suffolk to support local charities and community groups has found a very welcome home in Suffolk and we are immensely grateful to everyone who has helped us along our early journey."

The Suffolk Foundation now manages 50 Funds on behalf of Suffolk individuals, families, companies and statutory bodies – helping them to direct their local giving to grassroots organisations that are often hidden from view. Ian Brighton, Chairman of Ipswich Building Society Charitable Foundation explains why they have chosen to channel their local giving through The Suffolk Foundation: "We are delighted to work with The Suffolk Foundation. This is an excellent way to ensure our charitable giving activities reach those who need support in Suffolk particularly those organisations operating at a grassroots level."

**** STOP PRESS **** The next deadline for Suffolk Single Gateway applications is 9th July 2010. Applications are encouraged from community and voluntary groups who feel that a grant of up to £3,000 will benefit the community they service, with a new limit of up to £5,000 for the Localities, Social Inclusion and Social Care funds. For application forms and guidance notes, please visit www.suffolkfoundation.org.uk or call Sue Wright on 01473 734127.

VILLAGE WEBSITES

For up-to-date information about your village, visit these websites:
www.brandeston.net

MAGAZINE ARTICLES

Please send, deliver or e-mail any contributions for the magazine by 15th of each month to: Mrs Val Butcher, Woodlands, Church Road, Kettleburgh, IP13 7LF
or e-mail valerie.butcher@talk21.com, tel: 724777.

Please send e-mails in Microsoft Word format, PDF or jpg for pictures/scans.
Covers are always welcome too!

TIMES PAST

Bob Williams, retired Senior Master, Brandeston Hall School, wrote this poem on August 6th 2009, the anniversary of the dropping of atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. By chance he happened to be in Wells on that day when the funeral of Harry Patch (1898 – 2009) took place. Harry Patch was the last remaining returned soldier of the Great War 1914 - 1918.

Bob Williams felt moved to write ...

Harry Patch – ‘Last Man Standing’: A Tribute

Harry Patch, an ordinary man?
Nay, ... an *extraordinary* man;
A window on a world now gone ...

A gentle man, yet fierce in condemnation of ‘la guerre’;
All wars. His view: To take up arms is not the way.
Even a single death in Flanders Field is deeply mourned,
Yet multiplied by tens of ten
An ugly war, with life deemed cheap.
But not to Harry; to shoot to kill an alien call.
Not by choice ‘A Fighting Tommy’ –
But, an unsavoury duty done.

To Wells we came, to mourn a man
Of Somerset and Passchendaele.
A Guard of Honour – young soldier boys,
Once friend *and* foe, now allies all conjoined;
The great and good, the wizened vets, the very young,
To honour an *extraordinary* man.
Tribute in prayer, rich prose and song,
Echo in perfect pitch from vault to vault.
Grief and thanksgiving – a heady mix:
‘Where *have* all the young men gone?
Gone to graveyards every one ...’

Last Post, Reveille, Kohima: a grand farewell.
From open doors the strains of ‘*Nimrod*’ heard:
A quintessential English knell.
Three score years and ten – and one and forty more
Toll out as Henry John
Departs this splendid House of God.
He takes his leave in gentle rain

To wend his way to Monkton's Combe,
To lie beside another soul – a tender age of 27 –
Who did not survive this country's call:
Another conflict in another age.
A loss of life our man of peace would too have mourned
And deemed – a loss too many.

We shall not see his like again:
Harry Patch, an ordinary man;
Nay, ... an *extraordinary* man.

Bob Williams
August 2009

Also published in the Parish News November 2009 of Monkton Farleigh, South Wraxall
and Winsley, Wiltshire. *WMW*

Henry Allingham and Harry Patch, like so many of their generation, preferred to blot out their horrific wartime memories. Both were well past their 100th birthday when they, once again, reflected on their experiences for the public record; their almost unique longevity giving them a, reluctant, celebrity status. Making often physically demanding public appearances – launching the Annual Poppy Appeal, partaking in the RBL Festival of Remembrance at the Albert Hall and leading the Remembrance Sunday ceremonial at The Cenotaph (Nov 2008, with fellow veteran 108 year old Bill Stone, being the last occasion), both used these opportunities to extend their anti-war stance, particularly in their interaction with the present younger generation.

Messrs Allingham and Patch: Two 'gentle' men with a wealth of wisdom to dispense to a world slow to learn from past mistakes; both surviving into their 12th decade, still expounding the message of peace and reconciliation and both ideally equipped to represent their generation as 'the last men standing'.
May they, indeed, rest in peace.

A full list of services can be found in the middle of the magazine

CHURCH CLEANING

Brandeston

1st Christine Matthews and Don Evans
8^h Helen Fletcher and Karren Piper
15th Peter and Trish Smyth
22nd Ruth Garratt and Mary Baker
29th Kelly, Megan and Connie Jeffery
5th Sept Marian Hutson and Julia Elson

Kettleburgh

Anne Bater
Pat Peck
Val Butcher
Margaret Meadows
Sue Scott
Alison Gibson

CHURCH FLOWERS

1st Sue Rainbird
8th Eve Crane
15th Ruth Garratt
22nd Peter Arbon
29th WEDDING
5th Sept Alison Molyneux

Jackie Clarke
Alison Gibson
Alison Gibson
Betty Edge
Betty Edge
Irene Dick