

**THE PARISHES OF
BRANDESTON AND KETTLEBURGH**

Dear Friends

The year 2008 is unusual and remarkable in one respect if no other; Easter comes earlier this year than it has done since 1913, and it will not be this early again this century. The result is that Shrove Tuesday will be the first Tuesday in February.

In church, we scarcely complete our celebration of Epiphany before Ash Wednesday is upon us. It feels very rushed, as if we haven't a moment to think!

But then there is Lent. It is not so much a time for giving up things we enjoy or restraining our appetites, as a time for reflection, for thinking about how we are living our lives, setting our priorities and encountering other people.

You will find, elsewhere in this edition, details of this year's Lent Course. We shall be looking at the words of the Lords Prayer, exploring the meanings and associations which lie behind the words and which have far reaching implications about us, about our attitudes to other people and the world around us, about our past and our future.

It is a fact that infinitely more people pray than visit a church. Prayer is, mostly, a private activity and not something that many of us wish – or find it easy – to talk about. We might feel that our own inner thoughts and beliefs do not benefit from being discussed publicly, and that the times when we particularly feel drawn to pray are moments of difficulty, sadness, worry or concern about things we may not necessarily want to share for all sorts of reasons. And yet; we can find that there is encouragement to be found in listening to other peoples' experience of praying, and that it can be helpful sharing ideas and thoughts about prayer. I hope this year's Lent Course will prove helpful to everyone who feels able to come to it. Above all, during this time of Lent, I hope you will feel encouraged in your own prayers whether you join the course or not.

On a practical note; I have asked the PCCs whether we can make a small adjustment to the times of services in February. I hope this will be an improvement. We are trying to find the optimum arrangement of service times to meet the needs and preferences of our three Churches. May I encourage all of you who have a point of view to let me know what you think.

May you know God's blessing this month.

Robin Alderson

Assistant Priest:	Reverend Robin Alderson	688255
<u>Brandeston</u>		
Elders:	Mrs Mary Baker	685807
	Dr Anthony Fletcher	685508
	Miss Eileen Leach MBE	685298
Churchwardens:	Miss Eileen Leach MBE	685298
	Mrs Alison Molyneux	685244
<u>Kettleburgh</u>		
Elders:	Mrs Jackie Clark	723623
	Mrs Valerie Upson	723078
Churchwardens:	Mr John Bater	723532
	Mrs Valerie Upson	723078

DIARY FOR FEBRUARY 2008		
Friday 1 st	10am – 12 noon	<u>Kettleburgh Café</u> coffee morning at Kettleburgh Village Hall
Thursday 7 th	11am	<u>Brandeston 100+ Club Draw</u> at Coffee Morning in village hall.
Friday 8 th	7.30pm	<u>Brandeston Film Night</u> at Village Hall – see below.
Saturday 9 th	8.00pm	<u>Valentines Dance</u> at Brandeston Village Hall – see below.
Sunday 10 th	3pm	<u>Post Christmas Film Show (Children)</u> at Brandeston Village Hall – see Brandeston Children’s Committee below.
Wednesday 13 th	10.30am & 7.30pm	<u>Start of Lent Groups</u> – see below.
Friday 15 th	8.00pm	<u>Wine Society</u> at Brandeston Village Hall – see below.
Saturday 16 th	7.30pm	<u>Family Bingo Night</u> at Brandeston Village Hall – see below.
Wednesday 20 th	10.30am & 7.30pm	<u>Lent Groups</u> – see below
Wednesday 27 th	10.30am & 7.30pm	<u>Lent Groups</u> – see below
Friday 29 th	7pm for 7.30 start	<u>Whist Drive</u> at Brandeston Village Hall – see below.

KETTLEBURGH CAFÉ – Coffee Morning

Friday 1st February, 10am – 12 noon.

This will be an opportunity for local people to see a matchstick model of Tannington Church. It was made in the 1970s by Doris Diggins who then lived with her husband George at Homelea, The Street, Kettleburgh. *WMW*

FILM NIGHT

The next film will be Walking The Line – the story of Johnny Cash – showing on Friday, 8th February starting at 7.30 p.m. New members are always welcome – membership is £10 for the whole season. Once you have become a member all films are free.

Sue Thurlow

VALENTINES DANCE

Don't forget the dance to a live band – Tyler Kent – on Saturday, 9th February. Good music and a romantic evening with friends and loved ones - £10/ticket from Fred Muglestone – 685661. Ring now as only a few tickets left.

BRANDESTON CHILDREN'S COMMITTEE

The BCC had a rather quiet year in 2007 but this year we are hoping to hold some fun events for all the families of both Brandeston and Kettleburgh. We are kicking off the new year with a post Christmas Film Show followed by hot dogs and ice-cream on Sunday 10th February, 3pm, at Brandeston Village Hall. We will be showing 'Balto' a lovely family animation about the true story of a half wolf, half husky dog who is desperately trying to deliver medical supplies to a village that has been cut off by the blizzard. It has some loveable characters and is really suitable for all ages. This is instead of a Christmas party so the BCC will provide everything including the popcorn! Please feel free to bring friends along but, if you can, let us know as we need a rough idea of numbers for the sausages.

We are also looking for new committee members so if you are interested please contact either:

Kathy Churchill 685303

Marian Hutson 685565

Karren Piper 685688

We hope to see you all on the 10th - Happy New Year.

LENT GROUPS IN 2008

THE LORD'S PRAYER – Praying it, meaning it, living it.

During this five-part course we shall be thinking about the best-known prayer ever, words of which are used by all Christians and are familiar to many other people. Does prayer change things? What do these words tell me about life and death? What do they say about my life-style, values and preferences? Each session will include the recorded comments, experience and understandings of three speakers, Margaret Sentamu (wife of the Archbishop of York), Kenneth Stevenson, the Bishop of Portsmouth who has undergone treatment for leukaemia, and David Wilkinson, Principal of St John's College Durham, and time will be devoted to discussion and questions.

Although the meetings will take place in Easton on Wednesday mornings and in either Brandeston or Kettleburgh on Wednesday evenings, everyone from any parish will be welcomed at any of these meetings, coming to all or some or as few as they like. It is always worth a try!

Date	Time	Venue	Topic
13 th February	10.30am	'Bickley', 5 Harriers Walk, Easton	Our Father . . .
	7.30pm	The Old Wheelwrights, Brandeston	
20 th February	10.30am	Easton House, Easton	Thy will be done
	7.30pm	Windy Ridge, Kettleburgh	
27 th February	10.30am	Donnington, School Lane, Easton	Our daily bread
	7.30pm	The Forge, Brandeston	
5 th March	10.30am	To be confirmed	As we forgive
	7.30pm	Rose Farm, Brandeston	
12 th March	10.30am	To be confirmed	In heaven
	7.30pm	The Priory, Brandeston	

WINE SOCIETY

The next wine evening will be Friday 15th February, 2008.

We're intending to do Italian wines. Please ring Martin Churchill – 685303 – if you want to come along as we're hoping to do a bit of food to complement the wine. So numbers to cater for will be important.

FAMILY BINGO NIGHT AT BRANDESTON

The next Family Bingo night will be on Saturday, 16th February at the village hall starting at 7.30pm. Fees will be £1 entry plus £4 for the bingo tickets, all of which will be returned as prizes. Food and drinks will be on sale on the night with proceeds going to the village hall. All ages are welcome - contact Pat Morgan (685378) for more details or to confirm that you will be there.

Pat Morgan

CELEBRATE THAT EXTRA DAY !! JOIN THE WHIST DRIVE AT BRANDESTON

You have an extra day this month so make it memorable!! Come to a fun Whist Drive at Brandeston Village Hall on Friday, 29th February. You do not have to be a proficient card player - just fun-loving and sociable !! Doors open at 7.00pm and cards are dealt at 7.30pm sharp. Drinks and good food are provided together with the presence of the very best of local company. The cost is a mere £2.50 per person with profits going to Brandeston Village Hall.

Don't be a Couch Potato - spend the evening away and celebrate your extra Day !! Phone Pam or Rick Reade on 685920 for a place at our Fun Whist Drive

ADVANCED NOTICES



Kettleburgh Café

2008

- 4 JANUARY**
- 1 FEBRUARY**
- 7 MARCH**
- 4 APRIL**
- 2 MAY**
- 6 JUNE**
- 4 JULY**
- 1 AUGUST**
- 5 SEPTEMBER**
- 3 OCTOBER**
- 7 NOVEMBER**
- 5 DECEMBER**

Tuesday 4 th March		Eastern Angles Production at Brandeston Village Hall – see below.
Saturday 10 th May	8am - noon	Kettleburgh Plant Sale at Village Hall
Saturday 7 th June		Kettleburgh Fete
Saturday 21 st June		Brandeston Fete

EASTERN ANGLES.

We welcome back Eastern Angles to Brandeston village hall after a break of some years. They will be performing a play called Cuckoo Teapot written by Kate Griffin on Tuesday 4th March, 2008.

Yorkshire-based writer Kate Griffin tells the story of Ned a young Norfolk lad who returned from The Potteries without a teapot, but with a baby instead! As the drama unfurls we see ‘Norkies’ pitted against ‘Burtonians’ in a battle for jobs and a young couple, Joseph and Emily involved in a Romeo and Juliet-style love affair.

Tickets available from the Brandeston Thursday Coffee Morning, the Queen’s Head or Sue Thurlow 685673 – price £7 each: £6 concessions. Get your ticket early as with the actors, set etc, we will not be able to seat the full capacity of the hall.

PAST EVENTS

CAROL SINGING IN KETTLEBURGH

It was cold, but thankfully dry when five hardy souls set out from the Village Hall at 6pm on the Tuesday before Christmas. As we sang our way around the village, others gradually joined us and our choir was soon augmented to ten, (including two children and a dog). It was also an excellent opportunity for Robin to say hello to people in Kettleburgh that he had not yet met. Our last stop was at the Chequers where, as well as singing, we enjoyed sausage rolls and mince pies – thank you Debbie! Thank you also to all who contributed. Just over £160 was raised for the Children’s Society. *JC*

MIDNIGHT SERVICE

All Saints Church in Brandeston was almost full for a wonderful service at 11.30pm on Christmas Eve. With lovely flower arrangements and candles, the church felt peaceful and spiritual for our main service of the Christmas period.

We have to thank Colin Matthews, our organist, for coming to play, and with so many young voices, the carols were sung to great effect.

The service was led by Robin Alderson who reminded us that an inn was centre stage in the Nativity story 2000 years ago, and in 2007 our “inn” in Brandeston also provided hospitality – this time in the form of mince pies and sausage rolls after the service.

Our grateful thanks go to Alan and his team at the "Queen's Head", for standing in the cold porch and providing sustenance to all the congregation as they left.

Alison Molyneux

CHRISTMAS AT ST ANDREWS

On 16th December the **Christingle and Gift service** took place and people were generous in bringing their gifts for needy children, which were placed under the Christmas tree. The band accompanied the hymns and we sang Away In A Manger whilst carefully holding our lighted Christingles. Later the gifts were taken to the Ormiston Children's Centre in Ipswich and the following letter was received from Alison Gillies the Service Leader:-

Dear Members of St Andrew's Church Kettleburgh,
Thank you so much for the wonderful Christmas gifts that you donated to the families who attend the Centre. They make a significant difference to those who receive them and we thank you very much for your kind generosity.
All good wishes for 2008.
We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very merry Christmas and a peaceful new year.

On **Christmas Eve** the church was packed for our service of Nine Lessons and Carols. There was a wonderful atmosphere with the flickering candles and Christmas tree lights.....a lovely start to Christmas.
On Christmas morning we welcomed Graham back to celebrate Holy Communion. The church looked lovely and thanks must go to all who gave their time to arrange flowers or otherwise decorate the church, to Colin and Anne who played the organ for the services and, of course, to the bellringers.

Val Upson

DISCUSSION GROUP

Our January meeting took the form of looking at Christmas cards and turned out to be surprisingly worthwhile. We started by asking ourselves why we send cards and came to the conclusion that there were a number of reasons, but the most important one was to keep in touch with friends and particularly those friends whom we see infrequently. We also discussed "round Robin" letters which get such a bad press, but which most of us felt helped us keep up to date with friends and family who live at a distance. Often it is the only time in the year when we get a picture of how they are and what they are doing.

We then discussed the factors that come into play when we pick them: a chosen charity, the picture, the size and price, the way they relay the Christmas message and so on. We had brought along some of our favourite cards and discussed what we like (and don't like) to see on them. Predictably many of us had chosen nativity scenes as our favourite, but other winter and Christmas scenes were chosen. Some of us particularly appreciated

hand-made ones as they were personal and special. There was also a discussion as to what we do not like to see on cards...

So what was our "ideal" card? It was a combination of who the card was from, what it depicted, the message in it and its relevance to Christmas.

For those who have children present over the Christmas period, we talked about games which can be played with the cards, like dealing them out, and having to follow suit (e.g. a robin following a robin and so on, and where there is no obvious follow-on, the person has to present an argument or reason why they can follow suit with something else. The most persuasive person who gets rid of all their cards first is the winner.) Other games were cutting (non-current!) cards in half and getting children to find the matching half and pelmanism (or pairs) with the cards face down and having to find a "matching" one (this had to be prepared in advance so that there were pairs of similar pictures to match up).

The **Lent Group** meetings will start soon, when meetings will be held each week throughout Lent. The course is based on the Lord's Prayer and is a York Course with a booklet and CD. The first meeting will be on Wednesday 13th February and all the meetings will be at 10.30 am in Easton and in the evening for Brandeston and Kettleburgh (either set of meetings is open to anyone in the benefice) – see LENT GROUPS earlier in magazine for programme. *JWE*

LINK ROMANIA SHOEBOX APPEAL 2007

A big thank you to everyone who contributed to the shoebox appeal 2007. A record 1029 shoeboxes left the Wickham Market area on route to Romania in time for Christmas.

Having been involved for a number of years in the collection of the boxes it was always on our "to do" list to be able to be in Romania to help distribute them and to see for ourselves that end of the operation. So in December we travelled to the city of Iasi in the north of Romania with a team from Link Romania to actually be involved in giving out the shoeboxes.

Each day we would load up approximately 500 boxes and visit schools, families, etc. Our first task was a visit to the "Shanty Town" on the outskirts of the city. This is a community of mainly gypsies who have set up "home" on the edge of the river. Their houses are built out of anything they can find and some have no water or electricity. As we plodded around through the deep mud giving out the boxes we were greeted with much delight and gratefulness. These families live in such appalling conditions both inside and outside their homes without even having the basic things we take for granted.

We had the privilege of meeting the street kids who live underground in the city. Home for them is down a manhole where the hot water pipes criss-cross the city. Brian actually ventured down the hole to experience for himself the appalling conditions that these boys

live in. Home for them used to be the state orphanages but as they reached a certain age, then the streets was their only option. Thankfully the charity is in touch with these boys and is working to help them. They were so pleased with the gifts of shoeboxes and food that we gave them.

As we travelled out to the remote gypsy villages we visited the local schools where we were met with big smiling faces as we gave out the boxes. To see the children opening them, and hearing shrieks of delight as they found all the goodies that had been sent, was a great blessing to us. Some of the schools were so cold that that the teachers and children sat in their coats and hats all day!!

Special memories include seeing a small boy take a precious bag of sweets from his box and share them with everyone in the room , and visiting a family who prepared a feast for us even though they had very little, and noticing that previous years shoebox wrapping paper adorned the wall of this very basic home.

The whole trip was very emotional and enlightening, a real joy and privilege to see for ourselves what blessings each of the shoeboxes are to the very needy people in Romania.

Your love and support in helping to bring some joy and happiness to those living in very difficult circumstances is very much appreciated and, on their behalf, we thank you.

Brian and Alison Nobbs





BRANDESTON 100+ CLUB

January 2008 winners were :-

1st prize Darryl Morgan

2nd prize Ian Harvey

Draw for February will take place at the village hall at 11.00am on Thursday 7th February 2008.

Mark Hounsell

NOTICES

LORD OF THE MANOR OF KETTLEBURGH

We are pleased to bring you a letter from April Gamble, dated 1st January 2008, with very exciting news.

Dear Kettleburgh Friends

The sale of the Lordship of Kettleburgh has now been completed and soon you should be meeting your new Lord of the Manor. I hope he is as excited, curious and honoured as Ted and I have been these years.

I will always be grateful to the community that made us feel welcome, taught us so much and fed us so well. I have so many fond memories and photos and I thank all of you who over the years opened your hearts and homes to us. Thank you.

Love,

April Gamble

We are extremely grateful to Ted and April Gamble for all that they have given in time, interest and money, whilst they have held the Lordship of the Manor of Kettleburgh. Both Ted and April have shown a keen interest in the life of the community, made and maintained many friends, given generously, attended the fete, and generally been very good for us all. It is our hope that we have given something of our love and friendship in return, a welcome to them and an interest in the American way of life.

The Lordship of Kettleburgh has taken a while to sell but it has sold now and we are grateful to April who has sent us the net proceeds and they are like this-

Kettleburgh Lord of the Manor Fund	£1673.00
St Andrew's Church	£500.00

As I write we do not know the name of the new Lord of the Manor but once we do, arrangements will be made for everyone, who wishes to, to meet him and give him a warm welcome to Kettleburgh.

Some people will know little about the past history. There have been times when I have spoken about the Gambles in the magazine but let me summarise:

Ted Gamble had been an active businessman all his life; one of his positions held was as a Vice-President of Pepsi-Cola. Ted and April lived in California, now April lives mostly in London.

The Lordship of Kettleburgh was bought in 1988 by April Gamble and given to her husband, Ted, for their wedding anniversary in December 1987. The Lordship holds nothing physical, it is only a right written on a piece of parchment, with accompanying documents. Ted and April came to Kettleburgh church and saw the bells on the floor, which had been taken down some years earlier because the tower wasn't strong enough for them to be rung, and decided they would like to restore them. They paid for the tower to be strengthened and a steel bell frame installed to replace the old wooden one, and for three new bells to be cast and the 3 existing bells returned. This meant them visiting the Whitechapel bell-foundry on 19th December 1991, together with the churchwardens (Derek Hill and John Bater) and their wives, and Roger and Stella Dixon. The names of the churchwardens, along with Mary Levy, were cast into the bells for ever.

In the summer of 1992, July 4th (American Independence Day), the restored tower was re-consecrated by the Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich, followed by a large party on Church meadow under a marquee. At a Christmas party, hosted by the Gables, everyone was given a small silver bell to take home. This restoration of the church tower and vestry has been the most noteworthy event embraced by Ted and April. Sadly Ted died in 2000 after a difficult illness - April took on the Lordship herself but realised it was not the same on her own. Once again we thank April warmly for all both she and Ted have done for Kettleburgh and wish her well in the future – God bless you. *GV*

THANK YOU

Vicki and Derrick Neilson would like to say thank you to everyone in the village who helped, offered to help, or sent good wishes to Vicki following her recent accident at home. Both of us were pleased and grateful for the 'good neighbour' attitude.

Thank you to all concerned.

PS Vicki is slowly on the mend !

Derrick Neilson, Barrel Cottages

USED POSTAGE STAMPS

On behalf of the Children's Hospice I would like to say a very big THANK YOU for all the used stamps that have been left at Good Years.

It takes a lot of stamps to fill a glass tumbler – well, believe it or not, you have filled a carrier bag! Please, please keep on saving the stamps. *Pat Bishop*

EASTON SCHOOL NEWS

Year 5 music

A singing event has been planned for all the year 5 children from the Thomas Mills pyramid primary schools (Easton, Charsfield, Wickham Market, Dennington and Sir Robert Hitcham). The concert will take place on Tuesday 4th March at 7.00pm and parents will be expected to take their child and will be offered free tickets to the event.

Snape Maltings Performance

Selected children from years 4-6 will be performing in the School celebration event on March 8th. Pupils from Easton school will be performing songs, dance work and short pieces of drama based on the work of Roald Dahl for their ten minute slot of the closing night of the celebration event.

Cycling Tuition

Pupils in year 5 have been given 'safer cycling' booklets to read and share with their parents. The County have given us the opportunity of some tuition for the children but we have to provide some adults who are willing to aid the tutor and to go out with the children. Safe cycling techniques are crucial for children going on our increasingly busy roads and the 7 hour course raises awareness of these dangers and gives them real, supervised experience on the roads.

This will take place in the summer term and we will need at least two parent volunteers. It will take place in school time. Please let me know if you can help!

A big Thank You...

Mrs See has sent a letter thanking everyone for the lovely gifts. "A very big thank you for all the gifts and your kind wishes on my leaving Easton School. The plate was particularly touching and such a lovely reminder of the children at Easton."

Cheryl Singleton

VILLAGE WEB SITES

For up-to-date information about your village, visit these web sites:

www.brandeston.net

www.kettleburgh.suffolk.gov.uk

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, or e-mail valerie.butcher@talk21.com, tel: 724777.

Also, if you, or your children enjoy drawing and would like to do a magazine cover, they are always very welcome.

Thank you.

TIMES PAST

Matches could be a dangerous source of fire when wrongly used. One instance of this occurred in August 1905 at Halfway Houses, Kettleburgh. At that time there were four families residing in the neighbourhood. Martin Mayhew was a horseman from Combs near Stowmarket, who lived with his wife and son in a four-roomed cottage.

The Framlingham Weekly News reported what happened thus:

‘FIRE AT HALFWAY caused by children playing with matches. This destroyed a barn, a straw stack (the produce of 15 acres of barley) and a double tenement cottage 50 yards away. The thatched roof had been kindled by sparks from the stack. The interior of the cottage was also practically destroyed.

The barn was in the occupation of Mr Fred Goddard. The occupants of the cottage were Martin Mayhew, his wife and child, together with two young children from London who were living with them and Francis Foster and his wife.

Most of the furniture and belongings were saved. The Rector, the Rev Dr Davies and other parishioners did all they could to provide accommodation for them and their furniture. The property was covered by insurance; the barn and cottage by one insurance company, the stack by another. Two men Archer and Smith received nasty cuts on hands and arms from broken glass while helping to remove furniture from the cottage.’

Alfred Smith was probably one of the men named in the paper. His background is also of interest. He and his wife Matilda settled at Halfway in 1899, they both had Romany connections. Their children’s birthplaces ranged from Surrey through Essex to Suffolk. They also bore unusual names. The boys were Adolphus, Kanzia, Venus, Oscar and Caesar, the girls Prudence and Athaliah. It is not known what happened to Alfred and Matilda after the fire but they probably moved to Sweffling in 1915.

WMW
