

THE PARISHES OF BRANDESTON AND KETTLEBURGH

Dear Friends

Last weekend, we had my Son's family staying with us. One of our grandsons is an adventurous chap with an insatiable appetite for information. At moments during the weekend, when I was stoking up the wood-burning stove or laying the table for the next meal, I would hear a voice at my elbow saying "What are you doing, Grampy?" Usually, there was only time for the shortest of explanations before that question was followed by another, often completely unrelated. It is amazing how many questions can be fitted into a couple of days, and it is amazing how much information a four-year-old can absorb. It is all good preparation for life!

This year, the annual season of preparation for Easter which we call "Lent" starts on 17th February. Over the years in our different parishes, I'm sure that we've all used Lent in different ways, but its purpose is the same, to enable us to prepare for our encounter with the new life in Jesus Christ at Easter.

This year, rather than following an imported Lent course, we thought we could use Lent as an opportunity for us ALL to ask questions. The starting point will be to explore our Church buildings, and ask ourselves how and why we use them in the way we do, how what we do in them reflects what we believe, and what difference it makes. My grandson will not be asking the questions, so there are lots of opportunities for the rest of us. Working together across the wider Benefice, we hope to explore how our Church buildings tell the story of the faith of earlier generations in our villages, and of their relevance to our faith today.

Leaflets are being distributed throughout all seven parishes (there should be one with this magazine) that explain how and where and when these Question sessions will take place, and what the main theme of each one might be. They will take place on different days of the week and at varying times, and of course they are open to everyone. Each will include a short act of worship and time for refreshments and chat, but mostly we will be asking questions; simple questions, difficult questions, deep questions, questions you've never had answers to, questions you've never asked before; answering them may take us to places we rarely visit in thinking about God or in worshipping him.

I do hope you will be able to join us. We hope that, when we come to Holy Week and Easter, we shall all have made new discoveries of faith and understanding in preparation for our Easter encounter with the risen Lord.

With love

Robin Alderson

Assistant Priest: Reverend Robin Alderson		01728 688255 Mob. 07790 242002
<u>Brandeston</u>		
Elders:	Mrs Mary Baker	685807
	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 2010		
Thursday 4 th	10.00am	<u>Brandeston Coffee Morning and 100+ Club Draw</u> at Village Hall
Friday 5 th	10am – 12	<u>Coffee Morning</u> at Kettleburgh Village Hall
Friday 12 th	7.30pm	<u>Brandeston Film Club</u> – “Slumdog Millionaire” at Village Hall – see below.
Monday 15 th	7.30pm	<u>Mardle</u> – “Eclipses and Auroras” at Easton & Letheringham Village Hall – see below.
Saturday 20 th	10am - 12	<u>Coffee Morning and Bring and Buy Sale</u> at Easton & Letheringham Village Hall.
Saturday 20 th	8.00pm	<u>Neil Innes Show</u> at Brandeston Village Hall – see below.
Friday 26 th	6.30pm for 7.00 start	<u>Whist Drive</u> at Brandeston Village Hall - see below.
Saturday 27 th	9am – 1pm	<u>Farmers Market</u> at Easton Farm Park

BRANDESTON FILM CLUB

12th February – Slum Dog Millionaire – the recent acclaimed film about a boy from the slums of Mumbai.

12th March - Revolutionary Road. Based on a novel by Richard Yates it is a story about a young couple living in a Connecticut suburb during the mid 1950s struggling to come to terms with their personal problems while trying to raise their 2 children.

9th April – The Boat that Rocked. A period comedy about an illegal radio station in the North Sea in the 1960's.

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

MARDLE

Dr Paul Whiting of Felixstowe will talk about Eclipses and Auroras. Dr Whiting has long been associated with the observatory at Orwell Park School, and is a real expert on this subject, having been interested in the stars since a very early age. He studied Maths and Astronomy at University, and is now a member of three national bodies including the Royal Astronomical Society.

7.30pm on 15th Feb at Easton and Letheringham Village Hall.

Admission £6 which includes a drink and tasty canapés. Everyone welcome.

Sylvia Keene

NEIL INNES SHOW

On Saturday, 20 February, Neil Innes will be performing in his one-man show at Brandeston Village Hall. Those of you who were at the French Evening will remember how entertaining he was and we are really pleased that he has agreed to return to the village. Tickets are £15 (which will include canapés during the interval) and we are expecting them to go quickly. Call Pat Morgan as soon as possible on 685378 to reserve a place.

Pat Morgan

FEBRUARY WHIST DRIVE

The next Whist Drive will take place on 26 February 2010. Doors open at 6.30 pm. for a 7.00 pm prompt start. Refreshments will be provided during the interval. Cost of entry is just £2.50 per person. Everybody is welcome. We would especially like to see newcomers to the game of Whist.

It would be most helpful if you could advise Pam or Rick Reade if you would like to attend so that they can make sure that the right number of tables are available on the night. Please contact Pam or Rick on 685920 as early as possible in order to ensure your place.

Pam

Reade

ADVANCED NOTICES

4 th – 6 th February		Kettleburgh Pantomime – see below
7 th March	10.30am	Kettleburgh Village Breakfast at village hall – see below.
26 th March	7.30pm	Film Evening - Chris Parfitt's travels in South Africa at Kettleburgh Village Hall
6 th April	7.30pm	Eastern Angles at Brandeston Village Hall – see below.

KETTLEBURGH PANTOMIME

Tickets for Jack and the Beanstalk are on sale now! Phone the Box Office - 01728 723623 to get your tickets. Performance dates are: February 4th, 5th and 6th at 7.30 pm. with a matinee on Saturday 6th at 2.30 pm.

Come along and see all your favourite characters - the Dame, the beautiful Princess, the handsome Hero, the Cow with attitude, the really nasty Villain and his master, the Giant, the all singing, all dancing chorus - what more could you possibly want? Laugh with them, sing with them - just be there. You'll enjoy it. Oh, yes, you will!

Liz Marzetti

THE VILLAGE BREAKFAST IS BACK!

Yes, on March 7th from 10.30 onwards, at Kettleburgh Village Hall you'll have another chance to enjoy a delicious cooked breakfast, whilst chatting to your friends and neighbours, or perusing the papers

Offers of help gratefully received – Helen Kay 01728 723900. In aid of Kettleburgh Green Trust

EASTERN ANGLES - 6th April

'The Long Way Home' by Charles Way - a modern translation of an old European folk tale. Tickets £7.50/£6.50 - on sale 1st March from Jacky O'Brien 685266 or Thursday Coffee Mornings.

O'Brien

Jacky

PAST EVENTS

CANDLELIT EVENING

Snow on the ground made for a real feel of Christmas for the candlelit evening in the Old Chapel on the Saturday 19th December. Lots of supporters braved the cold weather to enjoy a glass of mulled wine, finger buffet and chat with friends. It was a very jolly evening which raised £386.50 for the restoration fund. Many thanks to all the helpers for providing the excellent food, and to the team who prepared the chapel with fairy lights, Christmas tree etc. to provide the right atmosphere for this annual Christmas event.

Sue Thurlow

POPPY APPEAL

Brandeston Hall School, Nancy Demetriadi, Brenda Martin, Mary Moore, Alan Randall (Queen's Head), Ruth Risk, Helen Saxton, and Peter Smyth collected donations amounting to £599.57 in Brandeston and Monewden for the 2009 Poppy Appeal with

Church services in Brandeston (£431-22) and Monewden (£133-00) raised £1163-79 for the Earl Soham Branch of the Royal British Legion.

In 2008 the Branch collected a total of £3928-69 plus a £1000 contribution from Branch funds to send to the Nation's 2008 Poppy Appeal.

Many thanks to all contributors and collectors

David Risk (Brandeston warden)

ANOTHER FANTASTIC YEAR OF CHARITABLE FUNDRAISING

Ron and Debbie at the Chequers Inn, Kettleburgh are due some recognition and a vote of thanks for their ongoing fundraising efforts throughout the year. 2009 culminated in a superb effort during Christmas and New Year raising a staggering total £657.90. The Christmas draw, with 13 prizes headed by a microwave oven raised £230 for Sue Ryder, the Sloe Gin Afternoon (a relaxed competition!) raised £161.40 shared equally between the Air Ambulance and St Elizabeth's Hospice and finally the New Year's raffle and festivities raised £266.50 for the Multiple Sclerosis Trust.

This is not just a sterling effort it's also fun too, so be sure to join in 2010!

Patrick Garland & Trevor Jessop

CHURCH BIKE RIDE

Congratulations and thank you to all who took part in the Suffolk Historic Churches Bike Ride in Sept. The final sums raised in our parishes were Brandeston £803 and Kettleburgh £694.60.

BRANDESTON 100+ CLUB

Please note winners for January 2010:-

1st Teresa Drury
2nd Richard Daykin

February draw will be at the village hall on Thursday 4th Feb.

Mark Hounsell

KETTLEBURGH GREEN TRUST LOTTERY

Draw on 8th January 2010:

1st Prize: Jackie Driver
2nd Prize: Ken and Pauline Redmond

Trevor Jessop

A poem written by Pam Reade for Brandeston Village Lunch, inspired by Carole Anne Duffy, our new Poet Laureate.

BEAUTIFUL BRANDESTON

*What did M.P.'s do with the trust of our vote?
One hired a flunkey to flush out his moat!
The rest crafted claims - with great guile one senses
Most made themselves rich just by claiming expenses!*

*What did Gordon Brown do one day over lunch?
Waived rules so greedy bankers could cause the Credit Crunch!
We cannot look to Whitehall to grant the smallest gain
For soon they'll increase taxes to bring us still more pain!*

*This year we should think back to that old golden rule
That "What is Small is also - really Beautiful!"
Don't bother looking outwards for joy and salvation
Just cherish what you have in your village location!*

*Our Parish Council Chairman always on the go -
Even sanding roads himself in recent ice and snow!
A Village Hall to be proud of - and much good intent
We live in the most marvellous environment!*

*We have community spirit and talent galore
Despite increased taxes we can never be poor!
No matter how Whitehall tries to add to its gold
We should really appreciate all that we hold.*

*Monthly luncheons - provided by Mary and team
With fine food fit to die for - its always a dream!
Yet this is but one aspect we can draw upon
In our lovely village - Beautiful Brandeston.*

Pam Reade

NOTICES

SAXMUNDHAM DISTRICT ROTARY NEWS

Rotary Clubs throughout the country and the world are helping to deal with the results of the earthquake in Haiti. Local Clubs here have organised street collections to fund various aspects of the relief work, and Rotary's international disaster relief charity ShelterBox is a good example of this – millions of people are in need of shelter, and ShelterBox specialises in emergency shelter provision. Humanitarian aid is delivered in iconic green ShelterBoxes. Each one contains a tent for up to 10 people, a stove, blankets, water purification, tools and other items essential for survival. There is also a childrens' pack containing drawing books, crayons and pens.

ShelterBox quickly responds to disaster with the aim of helping people who are most in need. Every box is individually numbered and can be tracked by its donor. Each box costs £490 – including the cost of all materials, packing, storage, transport worldwide and distribution to the needy. Assuming six months' use this equates to shelter and warmth for less than 30p per person per day. All delivery is carried out by trained ShelterBox response teams - often speedier than any other organisation. ShelterBox has pledged to ship 3,300 boxes immediately, with many more to follow – this is already shelter for 33,000 people!

Your help with this particular initiative, supported by Rotarians throughout the world, is needed urgently – for more information please contact the President of Saxmundham Rotary on 01728 452228, or at derek.cook@uwclub.net.

POST OFFICE SERVICES - SUFFOLK ACRE WANT YOUR VIEWS!

Suffolk Acre, your local community council is working to support services available to rural communities and would like your views on the current financial/ banking services offered by the Post Office and any new services you would like be introduced.

The government would like to know what communities think about adding to the financial and banking services already on offer and to this end we are gathering evidence to respond to their consultation on this proposal. Full details can be found at <http://www.berr.gov.uk/consultations/page53848.html>

If you would like to take part in the consultation please would you answer the following questions and send your reply to Jasmine Joolia jasmine.joolia@suffolkacre.org.uk or post it to her **by 14 February** at:
Suffolk ACRE, Brightspace, 160 Hadleigh Road, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP2 0HH.

1. What do you value about the Post Office's existing financial, banking and payment services and what determines whether you use them?

2. Do the products or services offered by post banks around the world provide any opportunities for the development of banking or financial services at the Post Office in the UK?
3. Do you agree that these are the right values for banking at the Post Office i.e. universal, trusted and sustainable?
4. Do you think these are the right areas and products to focus on?
5. What new financial services would you like to see available at your local Post Office?
6. The Government already offers and supports substantial credit services for people on low incomes, such as Social Fund loans and credit unions; what other range of services could the Post Office offer to support those on low incomes and address financial exclusion and how could these best be made to work together?

Yours faithfully
Gillian Benjamin
Business Support team

VILLAGE WEBSITES

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

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, IP13 7LF

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

Please can e-mails be in Microsoft Word format, PDF or jpg for pictures/scans.

Covers are always welcome too!

TIMES PAST

Once more we look at monthly customs; this time those of February. Candlemas takes place on the 2nd. This was the only day when candles and tapers were consecrated, lighted and distributed, they were then carried in procession as a guard against evil spirits and storms. Another reason for the name was that on this day the lighted tapers, used all winter at vespers and litanies were put away until November 1st.

Brandeston has even more reason to remember Candlemas. Now, hanging on the south-west wall of the church nave, is a very decorative peal board which commemorates a ringing which took place on February 2nd 1749. The peal with 5,040 changes took 2 hours and 55 minutes to complete; Francis Goodwill and Francis Genius were two methods, it is thought that these were composed by one of the ringers, Samuel Francis a shoemaker who had associations with Ashfield.

In 1935 the then Vicar, Oliver Chapman wrote'Brandeston is probably the birthplace of campanology as the bells of Brandeston were being rung to science methods probably many years before method ringing was known in the towns and villages of England. The unique peal board reveals one of the oldest records of a peal of minor in the county. The peal board is very quaint – quite flat with mouldings round the edges, each side terminates in a row of bells cut out in wood.' Mary Moore restored this board in 1986.

February 14th, St Valentine's Day was another important occasion in the lives of many country people. In medieval times it was believed that birds began to pair which originated the custom of sending 'Valentines.'

'Valentine's day is drawing near,
And both the men and maids incline
To choose them each a Valentine' 1757

It was also thought that a good goose would lay about this date. Food eaten on this day were plum shuttles or shittles; Valentine buns, dough shaped like a weaver's shuttle, flavoured with currants or caraway seeds.

Easter 2010 is fairly early so that February 16th will be Shrove Tuesday. Before the Reformation this was the day when the parish priest would hear confessions and give absolution (shrive) his parishioners.

'But hark, I hear the pancake bell,
And fritters make a gallant smell;
The cooks are baking, frying, boyling
Stewing, mincing, cutting, broiling,
Carving, gormandising, roasting
Carbonading, cracking, slashing, toasting.' 1684

Ash Wednesday would follow, beginning with the forty days of Lent when villagers gave up all luxuries until Easter Day.

WMW

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

CHURCH CLEANING

Brandeston

7th Ruth Garratt and Mary Baker
14th Kelly, Megan and Connie Jeffry
21st Marian Hutson and Julia Elson
28th Jane Mitchell and Louise Paget
7th Mar Christine Matthews and Don Evans

Kettleburgh

Marion Banyard
Anne Bater
Pat Peck
Val Butcher
Margaret Meadows

CHURCH FLOWERS

7th Ruth Garratt
14th Peter Arbon
21st
28th

LENT

Valerie Upson
Valerie Upson