

**BRANDESTON AND KETTLEBURGH
PARISH NEWS
FEBRUARY 2011**



THE PARISHES OF BRANDESTON AND KETTLEBURGH

Dear Friends,

As I write, the rather gloomy January afternoon outside contrasts, in my mind's eye, with the destination in Central America to which D and I will travel this spring.

Certainly, the week or so we plan to spend in the bright air of the sub-tropical Spring in Belize, with its off-shore coral reefs, timber-rich rain forests and pine-clad inland hills, is a delightful prospect at this point of the year. But for us, this will be not so much a holiday as a journey of re-discovery.

Thirty-five years ago, as a very young family, my wife D, our children and I spent a little less than two years in Belize. Our circumstances there exposed us to all sorts of new influences, friendships and spiritual encounters. For us, all these were the starting point of a slow journey of faith and experience that eventually led me to ordination, six years ago, and us to where we are now.

This Spring, we look forward to meeting old (some very old) friends and revisiting an environment and a culture which was formative for us in all sorts of ways. Of course, Belize now is very different to how it was in 1975. But so are we. That is the excitement of our returning now.

Doesn't life sometimes feel like a game of "consequences"?

Of course, everyone has their own story to tell about the circumstances life immersed them in and how they responded. But it is always interesting, particularly in retrospect, to ask what part our "faith" (or dare we even say "God") played in shaping the consequences, either in us or in others?

Some of us may feel our story is un-dramatic or even mundane, but something about it may make it quite remarkable to others. But, dramatic or not, it can still be interesting for us to think back, to revisit in order to rediscover what was really happening. Was there a moment when we actually allowed God's unseen presence or power to become part of our response to events? And when we did, what happened next?

During this year's Lent course, we hope to share experiences of such journeys and of the part faith has played in them. Rediscovering our own journey will be good preparation for that. I hope we will all find encouragement in the stories people tell of the journeys that they have made and are making.

Not surprisingly, the course will be called "Faith Journeys", and we can look forward to reading more details in next month's Magazine (Lent doesn't start until 9 March this year).

We can also look forward to seeing the signs of Spring when they appear, whether we see them here in beautiful Suffolk, or in some more exotic place to which God might take us. Until then, I hope you can keep warm and dry; and may God's blessing go with you.

Robin

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

DIARY FOR FEBRUARY 2011		
Thursday 3 rd	10.00am	<u>Brandeston Coffee Morning and 100+ Club Draw</u> at Village Hall
Thursday 3 rd	7.30pm	<u>Film Club</u> "The Hurt Locker" at Brandeston Village hall – see below.
Thursday 3 rd Friday 4 th Saturday 5 th		<u>Kettleburgh Pantomime</u> "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" at Kettleburgh Village Hall. Tickets available on 01728 723623
Friday 4 th	10am-12	<u>Coffee Morning</u> at Kettleburgh Village Hall
Saturday 12 th	7.30pm	<u>Quiz Night and Sausage Supper</u> at Brandeston Village Hall – see below.
Monday 21 st	7.30pm	<u>Mardle</u> at The White Horse, Easton – see below.
Friday 28 th	6.30pm for 7.00 start	<u>Whist Drive</u> at Brandeston Village Hall – see below.

BRANDESTON FILM CLUB

The film club in 2011 will be held on **the first Thursday of the month at 7.30 p.m.** Membership is £10 which entitles you to see 12 films throughout the year.

February 3rd – The Hurt Locker. Set in Iraq soldiers are forced to play a dangerous game of cat-and-mouse in the chaos of war. Starring Jeremy Renner and Anthony Mackie.

March 3rd – Crazy Heart. A faded country music musician is forced to reassess his dysfunctional life during a doomed romance that also inspires him. Starring Jeff Bridges and James Keane.

April 7th – Tamara Drew A young newspaper writer returns to her home town in the English countryside where her childhood home is being prepped for sale. Starring Gemma Arterton.

Sue Thurlow

QUIZ NIGHT & SAUSAGE SUPPER – Saturday, 12th February at 7.30 p.m. at Brandeston Village hall.

Teams of 6 players invited to enter – tickets £5 per person from Sue Thurlow (685673) to be booked beforehand please. No entries at the door. Come along and enjoy a fun evening trying to beat the quiz master.

**2011
MONDAY MARDLES**

7.30 at the White Horse Easton

Monday 21st February

Anglo-saxons, language and Suffolk

Richard Dance of Cambridge University

Monday 21st March

The ancient parish of Letheringham an unconventional guide

John Rogers of Rendham

Please note that these first three mardles of 2011 will be held in the Glevering Room at the White Horse at Easton, as Easton Village Hall is being refurbished

A pay bar and nibbles will be available – no free drink this time, but the donation amount has dropped to £5!

MARDLE – A CHAT OR GOSSIP – ALL WELCOME

Proceeds in aid of Letheringham church

**DISCOVER THE JOYS OF THE RENOWNED BRANDESTON WHIST DRIVE -
ON FRIDAY 25 FEBRUARY 2011**

If you would like an evening of fun and laughter - interspersed with short periods of deep thought - then come along to Brandeston Village Hall on Friday, 25th February at 6.30 p.m. for a prompt start to play at 7.00 p.m. All fresh players, including those who are completely new to the game of Whist, will be made extremely welcome.

Great, locally-produced refreshments are included, together with a choice of fine wines, in the entry fee of just £2.50 per person. A donation from the evening's proceeds is made to the Management Committee of Brandeston Village Hall whenever net receipts from the event make this possible.

If you are at all interested in attending please telephone either Pam or Rick Reade on 685920. Your call will help us to estimate in advance how many tables will be required and total numbers expected.

Pam and Rick Reade

ADVANCE NOTICES

Sunday 6 th March	11.00am	Seaside Remembrance Service and Walk for St Elizabeth Hospice – see below.
Friday 8 th April	7.30pm	Kettleburgh Quiz Evening

**SEASIDE REMEMBRANCE SERVICE AND WALK FOR ST ELIZABETH
HOSPICE**

An outdoors remembrance service on a Suffolk beach will be held as part of St Elizabeth Hospice's popular Walk of Thoughts this year.

The fundraising walk will take place on Sunday 6th March 2011 following a 5.5 mile circular route through Dunwich Heath National Trust countryside.

This will be the fifth annual Walk of Thoughts and the sponsored event is set to attract around 150 keen walkers and those who want to remember a loved one. The event is set to raise around £10,000 to help provide St Elizabeth Hospice services free of charge to people with a progressive illness throughout East Suffolk.

For the first time the walk will be preceded by an outdoor remembrance service on the beach at Dunwich at 11am. The service will be led by Hospice chaplain the Revd Jane Kingsnorth and provide an opportunity for reflection for all the walkers, not just those who have been touched by Hospice care.

St Elizabeth Hospice, based in Ipswich, is an independent charity which costs £6.6m a year to run and relies largely on donations and fundraising events.

The walk is open to people of all ages. It will start from Dunwich Beach Car Park and take approximately 2.5 hours.

Walkers can register in advance or on the day at 10.30am.

For more information or a registration form, please contact the fundraising team on 01473 723600, email fundraising@stelizabethhospice.org.uk or visit www.stelizabethhospice.org.uk to download a registration form online.

PAST EVENTS

BRANDESTON BAZAAR

Due to the adverse, wintery conditions the Brandeston PCC took the decision to postpone the Christmas Bazaar, at the beginning of December. However, a mini-bazaar was held on two consecutive Thursday mornings – 8th December and 15th December at the Village Hall, alongside the regular Thursday coffee morning.

There were stalls selling Christmas gifts, dog toys, plants, Christmas decorations, church kneeler postcards*, a bottle stall, general raffle, and a Christmas cake raffle on both mornings.

In excess of £900 was raised to support the fabric of our historic church. The PCC would like to thank Sue, Jackie, and all the coffee morning team for allowing them to re-schedule the Bazaar, and be included in the coffee mornings. *Alison Molyneux*

*** BRANDESTON KNEELER CARDS**

Four of the kneelers, made in the village between 1979 and 1984, have been photographed and made into postcards.

The designs chosen are those of

1. All Saints Church in 1981
2. Brandeston Hall School
3. The Chancel window depicting Katherine of Aragon's emblem – the pomegranate.
4. A hen, memorial to Frieda Galienne who once lived at Brook Farm, Kettleburgh.

These will be sold at 50p each in aid of Church funds. They may be bought at the church, where they are set out on a table, or from

John Garratt, tel. 685233

Wilda Woodland, tel. 685421

BRANDESTON 100+ CLUB

Winners for January 2011 were:-

First Phyll Shaw
Second Eileen Leach
February draw will be at the Village Hall on Thursday 3rd.

Mark Hounsell

KETTLEBURGH GREEN TRUST LOTTERY

The results of the January draw are as follows:

1st E. Davies
2nd Darran Frost

Trevor Jessop

NOTICES

At the end of 2010, Brandeston Church sent a further contribution to The Nansambo School Fund. This article brings news of the fund's work in Malawi.

Visit the Brandeston Village website to see more about this work.

BRANDESTON-SUPPORTING THE CHILDREN OF NANSAMBO IN MALAWI

by Sue Tobin

Nansambo School, in the rural area of Chingale, Southern Malawi, is a school with over 1,300 pupils between the ages of 6 and 15. These children live in fourteen villages in the school catchment area and walk up to 3 km to school each day. More than a quarter of them are orphans who live with extended families.

When we started "The Nansambo School Fund", there were 5 teachers, the classrooms had had almost no maintenance for many years and were very dilapidated, and the pupils had insufficient materials for effective learning.

The Fund set about meeting the shortfall in government provision for basic educational items – for example exercise books, biros, pencils, rules and even chalk for the teachers! Gradually, as the Fund has grown with support from individuals and one or two churches, it has been able to fund training for four Teaching Assistants at the school, which immediately reduced class sizes to 100, and to consider other projects.

In 2010, as well as the Teaching Assistants at the school, we have provided a variety of sports equipment to both the primary and secondary schools at Nansambo. In May 2010, we were able to fund two new toilet blocks at the primary school – each of 6 toilets – as

well as a new secure storeroom at the school. A contribution from Brandeston helped to make this possible.

For the future, we have a defined annual maintenance programme which includes, among other things, the annual inspection and maintenance of the new borehole we had funded. We understand that replacement filters may be required, work which will be undertaken professionally by The Freshwater Project of Malawi, whose staff will have to travel from Blantyre.

The support we have received from Churches like Brandeston has enabled us to introduce a new Sponsorship scheme in October 2010. This will make it possible for an extra 4 children a year to continue in education beyond Primary School. Throughout Malawi, only 11% of eligible children embark on Secondary Education. Cost is the chief reason for this, since all secondary education costs have to be personally funded. The children we sponsor each year, will be provided with locally made uniforms [including shoes which, though optional at primary, are compulsory at secondary school], satchel or rucksack, exercise and study books, pens, pencils, erasers and rules, and their termly school fees will be paid.

In sponsoring their secondary education, we ask of the students to maintain an 80% attendance record [this allows for one bout of malaria or a family crisis each term], to be of good behaviour, show commitment to study and provide evidence of progress in their termly report from the secondary school.

As well as improving conditions and enhancing the education of children who would otherwise be unable to, we believe that what we are doing will unlock further opportunities for training and education, leading to better jobs, all of which will enable them to build a better life for themselves and contribute to their nation's progress and development.

It is only with such support that a better future can be more than just a dream for children in Nansambo. Among Malawi's problems is poverty to a degree that is almost incomprehensible to us in England. Malawi is a country of immense potential if only its most precious asset - its amazing people – can be given a decent start in life through education.

My son and daughter and I have asked ourselves, do we do nothing because we cannot help everyone, or do we do what we can to help a few? With the help of people such as yourselves in Brandeston and Kettleburgh we have chosen the latter option and we believe that, together, we are making a real difference to the futures of these children living some 6000 miles away in Malawi.

ALPHA COURSE

The course ended on Thursday 13th January, a few weeks later than expected, as the final session was cancelled due to the snowy weather at the beginning of December. There is still the Celebration Supper to come, **7pm Hacheston Village Hall on 17th March**. We have had wonderful suppers cooked for us by our very own 'catering crew' and this evening will be a buffet, with drinks available from the bar/? Or but please bring your own drinks. Guests may be invited, but please let me if you are coming for catering purposes by 1st March.

Deirdre

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 send e-mails in Microsoft Word format (97), PDF or jpg for pictures/scans.
Covers are always welcome too!

TIMES PAST

Kettleburgh residents will probably be familiar with the fact that on the south side of St Andrew's nave, the bottom step of the rood loft stairs, is the lid of an ancient coffin. However finding such an architectural feature is more interesting if a description of its discovery can be read. Here is the account reported in the publication of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology of 1948.

Stone Coffin at Kettleburgh

On the 29th of November 1948, the Rev. Mr Samuel Wynn Davies incumbent of Brandeston and Kettleburgh, reported the discovery of a stone coffin in St Andrew's Church.

Work was going on in the church including the removal of a matchboard dado in the nave. This exposed the sides of a stone coffin which is built into the south nave wall, near the chancel arch at a height of about 2 feet from the floor to the top of the coffin lid. The head of the coffin is towards the west. The coffin is shaped for the shoulders and appears to be of a late type, the ends are flush with the wall, and the shoulder part slightly protruding.

This revealed the skeleton of a male, judged by a medical practitioner to be that of a man who was between twenty and thirty years of age when he died. He would have been five feet 8½ inches in height.

The opening was then sealed up.

A further discovery will be featured next month.

W.M.W

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

CHURCH CLEANING

Brandeston

6th Jane Mitchell and Louise Paget.
13th Christine Matthews and Don Evans
20th Helen Fletcher and Karren Piper
27th Peter and Trish Smyth
6th Mar Ruth Garratt and Mary Baker

Kettleburgh

Margaret Meadows
Sue Scott
Alison Gibson
Jackie Clark
Eddie Bell

CHURCH FLOWERS

6th Jackie Hounsell
13th Eve Crane
20th Alison Molyneux
27th Marion Kirton
6th Mar Peter Arbon

Wendy Griffiths
Wendy Griffiths
Val Upson
Val Upson
Val Upson
