

July 2015

the Brandeston

The London Season looks positively boring compared to **THE SEASON** in Brandeston. Forget hitting balls in front of posh people and wearing ridiculous outfits on stilt-like stilettos while watching the gee-gees Brandeston has HAD IT ALL.

Early summer was packed with frantic activity. On the last weekend of May Janet Weston propelled All Saints church towards a thaumaturgic Music and Flower festival based at Brandeston Hall and the church.

The event produced a cornucopia of music, Morris dancing, cream teas and 1000 plants for sale. This was Clemency Cunliffe's amazing Swan Song following years of raising money for All Saints through producing plants for the fete. Your editors do not have a total for her



contribution over the decades but we know it is many thousands of pounds. We are all so grateful to her for her dedication to our most historic building.



THE FETE was a highpoint in **THE SEASON**. Wendy Grimwood and her team took up Clemency's mantle on the plant stall. Fighting Mother Nature and the weather she beat the odds to set the bar very high for future years. The legacy will be seen in the magnificent colours that will enhance gardens for miles around. Clemency enhanced the total by bringing along her own special favourites. Susan Thurlow was on the Booze Barrow (*No surprise there and a change from being on the wagon! Eds*)

Sandra from the Grange, sold scrummy cakes, other favourites included Bric a Brac, books, the draw, Tombola etc. The Fete raised 3351.73 but this does not quantify the fun, the continuity of traditional rural life and the friendships which bloom on the day. The fete was opened by Liz, Matt, Felix and Benjamin Cobbald who have moved into Red Gables in Mutton Lane.



Florence Rose Little was a very special presence at the Music and Flowers as our youngest villager - she was born soon after her parents moved into Clovers, in Mutton Lane.

100+ Club winners

June £25 Colin Matthews £10 Dr Paddy Fielder

July £ 25 Graham & Sue Edhouse £10 Paul & Shirley Rozier

August and September Films

7.30pm at the Village Hall every 2nd Friday

August 14th The Invisible Woman Charles Dickens meets a younger woman who becomes his secret lover until his death. Director: Ralph Fiennes Stars: Ralph Fiennes, Felicity Jones, Kristin Scott Thomas

September 11th Far from the Madding Crowd (2015) 2015 production of Hardy's best loved story. Director: Thomas Vinterberg Stars: Carey Mulligan, Tom Sturridge, Matthias Schoenaerts

PETER ARBON

Following the loss of our beloved Peter a plaque has been placed in his special spot in the gardens at Brandeston Hall, a place that he spent a lifetime caring for. His ashes have been returned to his favourite area of the churchyard and once again, he is back in the village that he loved and gave his life to, amongst the people for whom he showed such affection.

Who's for tennis?

The new court is already being put to good use. Great to see so many of our younger villagers, (and the oldies,) having fun on it. A new committee has been formed and will formulate some sort of booking scheme. Until then it's a case of 'turn up and take your chance that it's free'.

There are tennis rackets and balls for anyone to use in the chest in the tennis court along with the spare sets of petanque boules. So if you fancy a game just help yourself.

Every Wednesday evening sports/BBQ - the BBQ will be lit at 6.30. Hope to see you there.

The Kevin Duffy Band played at the Fete and also at the Village Hall recently raising a magnificent £1000.02 for the Village Hall. A huge thank you.



It's Your Village following our campaign in the last edition of this weighty publication we almost had enough candidates to force an election. However instead we had an uncontested election.

Your new Parish Councillors and their roles are:-

Will Elson Chairman— 685503

Helen Buckingham Vice-Chairman 685795

Daniel Norman Conservation & Tree Officer 685396

Kathy Churchill Village Hall rep, Footpath Officer, (a role that will include noting and dealing with litter and instigating a litter clean up when necessary. 685303

Paul Kirton 684405

Richard Mitson-Woods Suffolk Association of Local Councils rep. 684026

Please ring your councillors with issues you have. They have been elected to care for the village, represent it to the wider world and to promote the interests of everyone.

Next meeting September 8th, 8pm in Village Hall Committee Room—everyone welcome, have your say in the open session.

See PC folder in VH foyer for Minutes and Agenda and Brandeston.net.

Frances Hook shares her recommended reading.

Sometimes in life we read a book that becomes a milestone in our own life education and for me *Anti Cancer: A New Way of Life* by David Servan-Schreiber, has been such a book. I discovered it by accident. Dismayed that it had not been recommended by any of the health professionals that had crossed my path since my own diagnosis, 5 years ago, I now feel a deep responsibility to share it with others. It is an inspiring, informative and uplifting and surprisingly easy read and relevant to everyone. To quote the author: *"All of us have cancer cells in our body. But not all of us will get cancer."*

Shaggy Bird Stories

The Eds are reliably informed that a goshawk landed on Alison Molyneux's roof belonging to the hawk centre at Stonham Barn - was it an omen....?

.....obviously it was as Chris and Les Cullen's dog brought in an injured bird from the garden which promptly put its talons into Les' finger. After the extraction battle they took it to Stonham Barns. It was a sparrow hawk with a broken wing which we believe they will keep in their collection.

Some of us are content just to have robins and blackbirds in our gardens!

More shaggy stories for the next edition please. Eds

Congratulations to Kristina and Carl Webb from Ipswich who were married on 11th July and came to celebrate at the Queen's Head. The happy couple extended an invitation to the whole village. All the best for a long and happy marriage.

Julia and Will Elson held a super drinks and nibbles evening recently raise over £745.00 for the John le Vay Cancer charity. It was the perfect way to help such a great cause and enjoy time with friends. The John Le Vay Cancer Information Centre, located on the ground floor of the Woolverstone Wing, next to the Oncology/Haematology Department at Ipswich, offer offers a drop-in service for patients and carers.

The centre's clinical nurse specialists provide emotional support, advice and information on all types of cancer and its management. In the centre there are quiet rooms for consultations, or a quiet space to sit, with refreshments.

*The centre has space for complementary therapies. There are support groups in the centre including the 'Moving On' programme, 'Chill Out' group, peripheral neuropathy group and myeloma group. The Centre opens 8.30 - 4.30 Monday to Friday 01473 715 748 or go online for more info. **The Elson family are extremely grateful for the generosity of all who stuffed the tin full of money.***

The Queen at Brandeston

We took over the Queen on Tuesday, and progress is going well despite having started out quite slowly. For the next two weeks we are closed to freshen up the interior and do some planting in the garden. We will open again on the night of the 29th for a locals' evening. There will be some complimentary bar snacks, and the doors will open at 5:00 pm. The official opening date will then be the 31st of July, serving coffee/cakes, lunch and dinner with longer opening hours.

The restaurant itself will supply fresh seasonal food, all locally sourced or grown in the garden by our very own full time horticulturist. The plan is to get food from plot to pot in under 30 minutes to optimise taste and nutritional value. As for the prices and atmosphere, our prices will remain reasonable, and we hope to maintain the friendly local pub environment as well as being an exciting new eatery.

We are still very happy to have the fete. I think it's important that the pub is a hub of the community. I don't foresee a problem that a little re-jigging of the stalls wouldn't fix. We really look forward to serving you all.

Alexander and Lillie 17 July 2015

Thoughts from Thurlow Towers

It's a fact not generally recognized that petanque, was in fact originally the invention of the primitive hill tribes of the upper Deben valley. The game first came about as a ritualized means of replacing the bloody skirmishes which frequently took place between the villages here.

But these days matters are more usually settled by way of playing petanque. The failure of the world to give credit to local villages for introducing the game is simply explained. Inter-village violence was replaced by the mere act of chucking a few balls about. At that time the game had no name: it was hardly seen as a game at all. But our French friend, one Pierre de Tanqueville, decided to codify what took place into a set of rules. Pierre eventually left the Deben valley and took his set of rules back to his native France. It was from the bastardized form of his name that petanque got its own. And Brandeston's part in its invention was lost to history.

So petanque, which is as Suffolk-born as anything that comes out of an Adnams beer pump, has instead been credited to the French. Yet still, of a Sunday morning the men (and the women) of Brandeston go out to perform deeds of derring-do on behalf of their village. A voice cries 'Piste off!' and the game commences.

Peter Thurlow

News about village life should be sent to the editors:

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