

BRETtenham MAGAZINE

Aug 2022
No 415



Thank you Larry and Wendy for these lovely photos from Humphrey's Orchard, a wild orchid and lupins, so beautiful.



We had record breaking scorching temperatures in July. The thermometer in my green house registered 43° at 2pm ,19th July. **Carrie**



Front cover image:
Wilf Schofield's winning entry at the Summer Fair.

Bigger Ernie Winners

July Draw

- 1st Charles Camp
- 2nd Colin Warner
- 3rd Ian/Caryn Franklin

Village Noticeboard

Village Hall

To book contact Julie or Ozzie on 07810434470 or email bvahallbookings@gmail.com
To request a licenced bar contact Peter Truin 07799 640326 or petertruin@aol.com

Village Website

www.brettenham.onesuffolk.net
If you would like to see something new on the website please contact Beth Clarke
clarkeeac3@gmail.com

facebook 

Where to get Village News?

Check out the latest village news on the **BVA Facebook** page
Facebook.com/pg/BrettenhamVillage/posts
If you would like anything added to the page contact Greg Potter at greg.potter66@me.com

If you would like to receive regular village **email updates** please contact peterkt@live.co.uk



Suffolk Mermaid Fish & Chips

Every Thursday, from 6.40pm to 7.10pm
outside the church



September Mag Deadline:

15th August

Brettenham magazine is published and edited by the Brettenham Magazine Editing Team (brettenhammagazine@outlook.com) on behalf of Brettenham Parish Council. The views expressed by the contributors to the magazine are not necessarily those of Brettenham Parish Council. As well as the printed copy, the magazine is available online, in full, via the village website: www.brettenham.onesuffolk.net

Brettenham Parish Council

Email Distribution from Parish Council

Messages have been sent out in various ways to ask anyone who would like to be on the email distribution list for the Parish Council to let Della, our Parish Clerk, have your details so you can be included. This will ensure you receive agendas, minutes and any notices that may be of interest to you directly.

Emails to brettenhamparishcouncil@btinternet.com. Notices will still be displayed on the Village Hall noticeboard, where appropriate, and anything of particular interest I will do my best to have included in the magazine.

Have your say...

The Parish Council is currently undertaking projects to improve facilities and enjoyment of the village. One of these areas is the playing field by the village hall, it already has a good array of equipment, but it has been suggested there could be additions to suit a wider age-range of user, including potentially outdoor adult fitness equipment. The results of the neighbourhood survey also included suggestions about play equipment above all else so we are concentrating early efforts on this.

If you have ideas about what you would like to see there or would like to get involved in the planning and research of equipment, please contact Della at brettenhamparishcouncil@btinternet.com or contact me in the first instance, a note or call will be welcome. It would be particularly good to hear from families who use or would use the equipment, but also anyone interested in the adult fitness equipment.

Alyson Wilson

BPC Chair, 07798 633044 Spinney Cottage

Clerk / RFO: Della Clarke

Email: brettenhamparishcouncil@btinternet.com

Chair: Alyson Wilson

Food Bank Update

It is a matter of hard reality for many of us, as the cost of living continues to rise sharply, that we may find ourselves in a position we never anticipated in terms of making ends meet. In these increasingly trying times, to continue to receive donations of food and money is very humbling to see.

Financial aid continues to be accepted by cheques payable to Bildeston Community Support or via BACS to Bildeston Community Support, Account No 49886479, Sort Code 52-30-31.

Food donations can be left in the church porch or the woodstore on my drive.

To find yourself in a position where a hand up may be needed is a difficult and often unfamiliar place. I would encourage anyone needing that hand to come forward and lighten your load a little.

Individuals/families do not need to be referred by the authorities. Locally, for either help with giving or receiving donations, please contact in confidence:

Alyson Wilson, Spinney Cottage 07798 633044

Anne-Marie Hodgkiss 07818 286770





Pilates is back at Brettenham Village Hall!

Starting on Tuesday 6th September at 6pm. Beginners welcome. £6 per class. Any queries, please email leoniegeorgina@gmail.com. Please bring a mat and towel.

Brettenham Village Association (BVA)

BVA Musings— Constant change, decisions, and choices

The marquee's safely stored: another summer fair over. Wonderful weather, fun and games (pre-eminent pitching and putting, top-flight tombola), perennial pocket-money permutations (penny-pinching or profligacy?), renewed friendships (fondly remembered bric a brac's annual reappearance), plants and produce (the embarrassing sizes of my spuds!), making new friends, sitting in the sun with a BBQ lunch, a drink from the bar, or cuppa and cake from the kitchen, serious chatting.

Finding fault's easy ('... wouldn't do it that way') yet every year Brettenham entities - Church, BVA, PC, individuals - arrange well-supported events and activities - safari suppers, BLOATERS (like the 60s: if think you remember them you probably weren't there ...), village inns, apple days. These happen because people work, support each other, whinge sometimes, but always try to engage positively.

And people move on: did you think a year or so ago we'd be facing another leadership ballot? But now Oz is elected why not consider helping him carry the baton from Pete? Join his merry BVA band of brothers, sisters, and LGBTQIA+ volunteers. The sunlit uplands of village inns, parties, and who knows what (cricket?) beckon.

I'm unreliably informed the proverb 'many hands make light work' is the key to China's social success (as opposed to their illumination policy), and if you can cook, serve drinks, laugh in the face of adversity, and enjoy engaging, your village needs you. As someone else apparently said, 'we have nothing to offer but blood, toil, beers, and sweat (and possibly a chilled prosecco)'. Come on, you know you really want to!

Paul Bendall

Friday Village Inn

5th August, Brettenham Village Hall



With food provided by Wagyu Burgers and
Street Food from 4.30pm-8pm

See their menu on their facebook page:
[www.facebook.com/
wagyuburgersandstreetfood/](http://www.facebook.com/wagyuburgersandstreetfood/)

Sunday Village Inn

Sunday 21st August, from 12.30pm

Brettenham Village Hall

Dates For Your Diary

Friday 5th August - Village Inn 7.30pm
Sunday 21st August - Village Inn 12.30pm
Friday 2nd September - Village Inn 7.30pm
Tuesday 6th September—Village Hall 6pm Pilates
Thursday 8th September - Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm
Tuesday 13th September—Village Hall 6pm Pilates
Sunday 18th September - Apple Day 12pm
Tuesday 20th September—Village Hall 6pm Pilates
Tuesday 27th September—Village Hall 6pm Pilates
Friday 7th October - Village Inn 7.30pm
Sunday 23rd October - Village Inn 12.30pm with Pumpkin Carving
Friday 4th November - Village Inn 7.30pm
Thursday 10th November - Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm

St Mary's Church Brettenham

Rev'd Canon Tiffer Robinson

Tel: 737197 or 07789 772024

Email: tifferrobinson@gmail.com

Church Warden Annie Tavener Tel: 736412

Email: annie_tav@hotmail.com



August Programme of Services in the Benefice

7	The Eighth Sunday after Trinity		
	Rattlesden	9.45am	Holy Communion
	Thorpe Morieux	10.00am	Morning Prayer
	Hitcham	11.00am	Morning Prayer
	Brettenham	11.15am	Family Communion
	Rattlesden Pavilion (Birds Green)	6.00pm	Praise and Donuts
14	The Ninth Sunday after Trinity		
	Brettenham	8.30am	BCP Holy Communion
	Rattlesden	9.45am	Morning Prayer (Streamed)
	Thorpe Morieux	10.00am	Family Communion
	Hitcham	11.00am	Holy Communion
21	The Tenth Sunday after Trinity		
	Rattlesden	9.45am	Holy Communion (Streamed)
	Thorpe Morieux	10.00am	Morning Prayer
	Hitcham	11.00am	Family Service
28	The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity		
	Brettenham	8.30am	BCP Holy Communion
	Rattlesden	9.45am for 10.15am	Breakfast Church (Streamed)
	Rattlesden	11.00am	Quiet service
	Hitcham	11.00am	Holy Communion
	Thorpe Morieux	6pm	BCP Evensong

Someone bought a new home and the estate agent wanted to send flowers for the occasion. The new owner arrived at the house and read the card; it said "Rest in Peace".

The owner was confused and called the florist to complain. After he had told the florist of the mistake, the florist said, "Sir, I'm really sorry, but more importantly that means there is a funeral taking place today who have been sent flowers with a note saying, "Congratulations on your new home"

As you may or may not have heard, I am moving on at the end of September, to be the vicar of St Mary's with St Peter's Bury St Edmunds, based mainly at St Mary's. It will be so sad to leave these lovely villages, where we have been so happy for the last decade, but it's a great opportunity to minister in a totally different context, whilst remaining close enough for our children to remain at their wonderful schools (not a luxury most clergy children enjoy!). My leaving service hasn't been set yet, but I will be instituted (!) on the **5th October at 7.30pm at St Mary's** (the big one next to the cathedral, see pic). You would all be most welcome.

A number of people have said "congratulations on your promotion", and I am quick to point out that I won't be being paid any more! It's a great church, both in terms of the building and the people, but although there will be a steep learning curve I think I do want to push back against the idea a little bit,

because being the Rector of four rural villages isn't exactly a walk in the park! Remote rural villages like yours are where about a fifth of the population of England live, but almost half of all Church of England worshippers. Attendance in rural churches is twice as high, per capita, than in urban or town churches. If they had the same proportion of the population going to church in my new parish, they wouldn't all fit in St Mary's (which is the third biggest parish church in England!).

Now of course, there are many more churches there and people of other faiths too, but it shows that rural churches are just as important, just as



valued as anywhere else. I will continue to advocate for rural churches and I suspect I shall be returning to rural ministry in some form in the future.

It will take a while to choose a new Rector here, and I am incredibly grateful to our team of lay ministers and some local retired clergy who have offered to take a lot of services while that happens, and do offer your help and support to our churchwardens and everyone who will keep the show on the road in the meantime. And please do go along, and not just for festivals!

When I arrived, I said in one of my first sermons that my task while here is to encourage as many people to follow Jesus, and that if people follow me instead they will just end up at the pub! Now that's not the end of the world, except when it is the end of the world, you will wish you had followed Jesus towards eternal life, and escape the day of judgement. I pray that your next Rector will lead even more people in these villages to know and love the God who is Love, and I will continue to pray for these villages and churches as I depart. Please also pray for me, and our family, especially for our house move, and that everything would go smoothly. You'll hear from me again before I go!

Reverend Canon Christopher "Tiffer" Robinson

Reverend Canon Christopher "Tiffer" Robinson

Bert Ward 1936—2022

Very sadly, Bert Ward, a long term resident of Brettenham, passed away on 27th June aged 86. His full name was Bertram Barry Ward, but he was known to us all as Bert or Bert the Bus Driver. He moved to 29 (Quality Row) The Street, Brettenham in 1982 with his wife, Shirley and their two sons, Mark and Barry. It was only in the last few months, following an illness, that he moved into the Ashmore Nursing Home where he passed away. His funeral was on 28th July.

We hope next month to have a fuller tribute to this Brettenham veteran but in the meantime, our thoughts and condolences are with his friends and family.

Old Buckenham Hall Celebrates 160 Years

Dear Residents,

As a state-educated Welshman whose home is a small-holding in Snowdonia, I never expected to be writing in the Brettenham Magazine. Indeed, when I began my teaching career in inner-city comprehensives in Cardiff, I never expected to be the Headmaster of an independent school, especially one in Suffolk. Nonetheless, here I have been since 2018!



All independent schools that I have been involved with have had mixed relationships with local residents (some good, some less so) and that has been the case for OBH. This year the school celebrates its 160th Anniversary and I believe that we are the oldest prep school in Suffolk. We are certainly regarded as one of the finest preparatory schools in the UK. The school is thriving with record numbers of children which provides employment opportunities for over 100 staff. In this anniversary year, our 66th at Brettenham Park, there is a lot to celebrate and I hope that some will take enjoyment from knowing a little more about our travels.

The school does have a published comprehensive history which we are currently reviewing for a 2nd Edition. Brettenham Park itself has an incredible history which can be quickly Googled for those interested. On Friday, 13th May, we held a Thanksgiving Service at St. Edmundsbury Cathedral with some 850 in attendance. This was a special venue given that we used to have a choral link with the Cathedral until the mid-1990s. The next pages contain my potted history, delivered at the Service. If any residents would like to visit and tour the school, you are always very welcome, please just drop me a line.

Best wishes,

David Griffiths, Headmaster OBH

Continued over page

'On the 24th January, Westminster Bridge opened, overlooked by the three-year-old face of Big Ben. On the 28th November, the world's oldest football club, Notts County F.C. was founded. In July, Gustav Klimt was born, to be followed a month later by "the elephant man" Joseph Merrick, and Claude Debussy.

Unsurprisingly, I refer to the year 1862. The year that South Lodge, since 1937 named Old Buckenham Hall, was founded. It was a Dame School created by two spinster sisters, Ellen and Margaret Ringer. Such schools increased in number with the growth of philanthropy throughout the 18th and 19th centuries, though the quality of education varied enormously. Dame schools provided foundation education to such heavyweights as William Wordsworth and Charles Dickens. South Lodge (as was) also had its fair share of noted alumni. William John Birkbeck who went on to become a renowned scholar of Russia and the Balkans, was said to have been given an excellent grounding in English. Another alumni from 1885-1891, Sir Robert Brooke-Popham, later Governor of Singapore, wrote in his 1952 autobiography that he was delighted not to be half-starved while at the school, but was constantly cold. He liked the one teacher, Mr. Ammesley, but did not recall any sports fixtures or a sports day. How different it must have been to today.



Brooke-Popham (left)

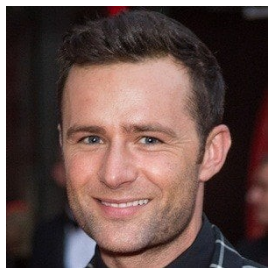
In 1891 the Reverend W. Richmond Phillips became the Headmaster. Serving for 32 years, he expanded the buildings by purchasing Claremont House to add to South Lodge. In 1892 it is believed he was one of the founding members of the Incorporated Association of Prep Schools (IAPS). One of 54 Heads who created the organisation that now encompasses 663 outstanding schools across over a dozen countries. OBH was there at the beginning. He was the Headmaster who guided the school through the Great War, even temporarily relocating it from Lowestoft in 1914 when a German naval shell destroyed part of the playground. This followed several near misses by Zeppelin raids. It would have been a more interesting than the usual risk assessment!

In 1923, Phillips decided to close the school unless it was taken on by the relatively young Elliott Sewell (T.J.E.S.) as he was known by staff, or Old

Beaky by the boys. Thankfully he did, and so began a 44-year headship that incorporated guiding the school through the Great Depression, a move to Old Buckenham Hall in 1937, the Second World War, and two devastating fires which finally landed us at Brettenham Park in 1956. By that time the school had grown from 37 boys in 1923 to 84 boys. Perhaps most impressive was the gifting of the school into a charitable trust by the Sewell family in 1967 upon Elliott's retirement as Headmaster. I am delighted that members of the family have joined us here today.

Donald Sewell took over the reins from his father having been co-Headmaster for several years before. He developed and grew the school including the building of the Music block, and the now named Learning Success accommodation. Fundraising for these included donations from alumni and parents who had an eye to the future we enjoy today, as well as initiatives such as a raffle for a brand new Mini-Metro car. When he retired in 1991, he passed on a school of some 150 boys to Hugh Cocke. Since then, the school has continued to grow, albeit with peaks and troughs. Girls were finally officially welcomed in the late 1990s by the Headmaster, Martin Ives. Twenty-five years later OBH is a truly co-educational school and in our 160th year enjoys a near 50/50 ratio. We now educate almost 250 children.

By my estimation there are approximately 1500 alumni (Buckeneers) alive today, 36 more will be added to their number in just a few months' time. They are a small and, therefore, special group. Their lives and careers have been spent across the world, some famous, some obscure, some wealthy, some who have struggled. Some are second, even third generation Buckeneers. The School and its staff have brought unbounded joy for many, with the most marvellous memories that have lasted a lifetime. Sadly, in the past, the school has fallen short for some.



Buckeneer, Harry Judd,
drummer with McFly

I wonder what the Ringer sisters would make of the school were they alive today. I dare say that if they were to sit down with me for a discussion, they would be shocked by the culture – possibly surprised by the democratisation of education, possibly appalled by the enlightenment of punitive Victorian educational standards.

For my part, I would thank them for the creation of

the now oldest surviving prep school in Suffolk. For planting the acorn that continues to grow. I would share with them the outstanding work of our teachers, our boarding staff, and our support staff. I would invite them to this thanksgiving service. If they were here today, I would ask them to look around, I would then look them in the eye. I would remind them of the words on the Epitaph of Sir. Christopher Wren. Words that were also spoken in remembrance of Elliott Sewell at the OBH Sport's Day in 1973. The translation of the Latin is "If you are looking for a memorial, look around you." I thank all who have contributed to the story that has brought us all here today.

David Griffiths, Headmaster OBH



Next month we will be starting a new series with Stuart Earle's memories of "A Rural Education".

Summer Swimming at OBH

Swimming sessions will commence on Monday 18th July and end on Saturday 3rd September.

The following sessions will run daily (Monday – Saturday).

9.00-10.00 10.30-11.30 12.00-13.00
14.00-15.00 15.30-16.30 17.00-18.00

Swim sessions will be charged at £2.75 per swim session, per swimmer. Free to OBH staff. If you are interested please contact Mollie at lifeguard@obh.co.uk in the first instance. Mollie will check availability and respond asap. Please be aware that 2 days' notice would be preferable.

Enjoy the Summer Swimming





Brettenham Gardening Club



Turning first to the Summer Fair, another lovely day.

Potato in a Bucket Competition

As always, this potato growing competition attracts a lot of entries and 2022 was no exception. This year the winner was Michelle Harvey, who entered the competition for the first time. So for anybody thinking of entering next year, it is great fun and well worth a go. We must thank Jo and Tim Schofield who did a tremendous job of weighing all the potatoes - Thank you. The full results are on page 17.

See the back cover for photos of some of the Platinum Jubilee Competition entries and winners.

Plant and Produce Stall

Thank you so much to all the contributors who provided produce for the stall, most items were sold and funds raised went to club funds.

Moving on to other matters...

Village Green

Just a quick note of thanks to all the kind volunteers who have helped with the watering of the village green so far this year. With a particularly dry start to the season, we really appreciate your time watering; it has certainly been a huge benefit having the water supply on the green.

Date for the Diary 13th August

Sara and Peter Lennard have kindly agreed to open their gardens for the club members to visit. They have both spent a lot of time planning, building and maintaining their garden since they moved to their house on the edge of Brettenham (but officially a Buxhall address!) a few years ago. It is a wonderful garden and well worth a visit. Refreshments will be provided. Please let us know if you wish to attend and we will provide you with the exact location.

New members are always welcome at the Gardening Club

Contact Jane McDonald 01449 736957 felicityjmcdonald@hotmail.co.uk
or Jane Moulding 01449736178 grahame.moulding@btopenworld.com

Summer Fair - Thank You

What a lovely day we had for the Summer Fair. Beautiful weather, lots of people, lots of activity and lots of money raised - over £1800 which will be very useful towards our church expenses and the repair of our church roof. Thank you so much to everyone who helped so willingly in so many ways.

Annie Tavener

Thank you to Victoria Savidge for sending this photo montage of the Summer Fair.



Potato in a Bucket Competition Results

Name	LBs	Name	LBs
Wilfred & Issy Schofield	0.64	Mick 37	0.60
Jo & Tim Schofield	1 potato	Rachel Comber	1.19
Bev	0.73	Lynda Roberts	2.27
George Gordon	1.92	Denholm Chapman	1.74
Jacob Gordon	2.01	Lee Comber	0.40
Michelle Harvey Adults' winner	3.88	Steve Smith	1.30
Simon Harvey	3.88	Mark Baker	1.34
Martin Dye	2.84	Jane & Gordon MacDonald	3.55
Carrie Dye	2.65	Annie Tavener	0
Gary Roberts	2.27	Shirley Baker	2.62
Jane and Gordon	3.87	Charles	2.01
Tenyson Chapman	2.38	Stauss Chapman	2.91
Ella Brown	1.17	Jane Moulding	3.31
Annie Brown Children's winner	1.41	Pete Knight	1.37
Pat Harpley	1.50	Val	1.08
Isla Turner	0.24	Emily Wood	2.27

Recipe Page

Potato Salad

New Potatoes
(award winners if possible)
Dried Mixed Herbs
Mayonnaise
Butter
Maldon Sea Salt

1. Clean potatoes and boil in a pan until soft.
2. Drain water and put in a serving bowl. Add butter and mayonnaise and stir.
3. Leave to cool.
4. Add Mixed herbs and sea salt.



Stir and serve.

Perfect with BBQ's and ideal for a summer picnic.

Michelle Harvey

Safari Supper

We had an amazing 32 people take part in the Safari Supper on Saturday 25th June 2022, and we had a glorious evening for it. Thank you to all of you for making it such a great and fun evening, to all the hosts for the great food, drink and conversation, Peter and Paul for the welcome drinks, Ozzie and Julie for the last minute borrow of extra champagne flutes, Greg for getting behind the bar with me for the after drinks, Pete for helping with organising and Ozzie for arranging the group photo, which is a great memento of the evening.

And finally, a big thank you to the Centre Academy for loaning us their minibus and the lovely Alison who drove it for us. We really appreciated it, and it definitely helped with timings for the evening and getting people transported safely round the village!

To anyone who wasn't able to make it this year or who was a little unsure, hopefully you can make a future one and join in the fun.

Em



Heads Up!

Well, if potato growing wasn't your thing, perhaps pumpkin carving will be. Start to think about your designs for the BVA Pumpkin Carving competition this Autumn at the Sunday Village Inn on 23rd October. More details to follow.



Getting to Know ...Elizabeth Brandon-Daniell

Full Name:	Elizabeth Brandon-Daniell
Birthplace:	California, USA
How long have you lived in Brettenham?	10 glorious months
Current/Last Job:	I work in Foreign Rights at Penguin Random House
Do you have any pets?	Just the fish in our pond!
What is your biggest fear?	Getting on the wrong side of the Neighbourhood Watch. I've seen Hot Fuzz.
What makes you laugh the most?	The Marx Brothers and Monty Python
What would you change about yourself if you could?	I'm lazy - but can't be bothered to do anything about it
What is the favourite place you have visited?	Milos, Greece
What really makes you angry?	Being in London instead of here when it's sunny
What is your favourite book/film/play/show?	I love classic Hollywood: most things with Fred Astaire, Audrey Hepburn or Humphrey Bogart
What has been the proudest moment of your life?	Being interviewed by this magazine
What did you want to be when you were growing up?	A starving artist
If you could choose to do anything for a day, what would it be?	Sit in the garden and draw or read, go for a long walk

What is your favourite game/sport?	I play a mean game of Bananagrams
If you could only eat one meal for the rest of your life, what would it be?	Blueberries (does that count as a meal?)
Have you ever had a nickname? What is it?	All the nicknames that come from Elizabeth, and then some
Who would you want to be stranded with on a deserted island and why?	My husband Harvey, because if we didn't survive then at least he wouldn't outlive me
What would you do if you had a significant win in the lottery?	Buy my way out of oppressive insignificance
If you could go back in time, what year would you travel to and why?	2012. Great year.
What's your best claim to fame?	I don't have anything for this, sorry! See above re insignificance
What skill would you like to master?	Driving on the left-hand side of the road. You've been warned.

Still on potatoes...

Could Charles Camp please contact the Chairman to reclaim his entry from this years' Potato in a Bucket competition. Needless to say, this sorry looking crop was found abandoned on the playing field the next day. The local wildlife seemingly not too interested either.



Nature Notes

There have been more sightings of Red Kites flying over the village this summer which could indicate that there is a nest in one of the woods close by. Red Kites have had a lot of press lately and they've been featured on Springwatch several times. They are a large, but very graceful bird of prey in the same family as Eagles, Harriers and Buzzards, with a wingspan of about 6 feet.

In the UK Red Kites have been heavily persecuted in the past and at one time their numbers were restricted to Wales. In recent years they have been reintroduced to England and now their numbers are increasing significantly. Originally the birds were introduced in Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, Northamptonshire and Northern England, but they are now much more widespread. I often see them flying over the M25 in North London and the A1 around Peterborough.

The RSPB estimate they are approximately 1,800 breeding pairs in the UK. This increase in numbers means our population is important on a European scale. So much so, that Red Kites from the UK have been sent to Spain, which has seen a large drop in numbers in recent years. You may have seen this on the TV recently. They are scavengers and so their diet consists mainly of carrion and roadkill, although they do occasionally catch small live prey such as birds, voles and mice. In recent years apparently, some people have taken to feeding them, which has resulted them being attacked. There's an obvious answer to that!

They are monogamous birds, so the pairs will return to the same nest each year, gradually building it up until it becomes an impressive structure. They have one brood of usually three young, and they fledge after about two months. By then, with three large youngsters and two adults, you can see why the nest needs to be substantial. They are beautiful birds to watch as they glide overhead and their tails make them easy to recognise.

Dave Golding



Can you help Kim?

"I am researching my family tree, with the hope of visiting our "family sites" in the near future. Our ancestor is believed to have been a Norman, with a half knights fee at Brettenham. My current train of thought is whether it is possible to narrow down where his land was located. Per the Domesday Book, the Brettenham area was held by 1) Abbey of Bury St. Edmunds, 2) Robert Duke of Mortaine and 3) Richard fitz Gilbert who granted Our Norman the half knights fee. Our Norman took the name 'de Brethenham'. The location of the Abby & Mortaine lands may suggest the remaining lands of Our Norman.

I have noticed that there are paths running from the Thorpe Morieux area to Hastings Wood and on to Brettenham and I wondered what the paths may indicate about tract boundaries, etc. I am hoping that someone in your village may have some interest in local history and might be of help.

I'd be interested to know the age and origin of those paths mentioned above as well as any history of Hastings Wood.

Have any Norman artifacts come to light in the village?

I'd also like to say that I have thoroughly enjoyed your newsletter for the past two years. My brother and I had scheduled a trip to England for May 2020 which was of course cancelled due to covid. I have continued to research our family since then, from our origins in Brettenham, Suffolk to Brettenham, Norfolk to Hempstead near Holt. We still intend to visit in the near future. Meanwhile I have looked forward every month to reading your newsletter, which has been a lifeline to all my hopes for our visit.

Thanks so much.

Kim Brittingham (fka de Brettenham) Baynard

If you have information for Kim, please contact the editorial team, email brettenhammagazine@outlook.com.

Write on....

Thanks to Pete Knight for suggesting this poem by Brian Bilston. The following information about the poet is taken from the "about Brian" section on his website: <https://brianbilston.com>

*Frequently described as the "Poet Laureate of Twitter", **Brian Bilston** is a poet clouded in the pipe smoke of mystery. Very little is known about him other than the fragments of information revealed on social media: his penchant for tank tops, his enjoyment of Vimto, his dislike of Jeremy Clarkson.*

In 2014 he became the first person to retain the title of Pipe Smoker of the Year [Poetry section] and, over the years, he has won numerous awards for cycling proficiency, first aid, and general tidiness. He won the 2015 Great British Write Off poetry prize for a poem disguised in a Venn diagram.

I have to admit to having to google to find out what a Venn diagram is. It is a way of showing mathematical data by using intersecting circles. It works surprisingly well in Bilson's poem, At The Intesection.

The Last Bee

*After the last ee
had uzzed its last uzz,
the irds and the utterflies
did what they could.*

*ut soon the fields lay are,
few flowers were left,
nature was roken
and the planet ereft*

rian ilston



Please send your suggestions for the page **Write On** to:

brettenhammagazine@outlook.com. It can be poetry, prose, a book or film review or something you have written that you would like to share.

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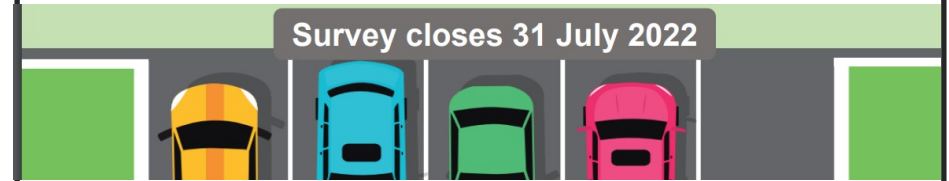
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We have been reminded by the local authority that they are carrying out a parking strategy. This is an opportunity for residents to feedback their parking issues and concerns in a survey. The survey closes on **31st July 2022 @ 11:59pm**. This link will also be available on the Brettenham website. You can email any queries to parking.strategy@babergmidsuffolk.gov.uk

Go to: www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/BMSDCPARKING/



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Hitcham Village Hall

There are many regular activities at Hitcham Village Hall that are open to everyone, including:

Yoga, line dancing, art, gardening, crocheting, floral workshop, pub night, bingo and much more..

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For more information look at the Hitcham Village Hall page on Facebook or email hitcham@aol.com or call 07774744723



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We are **your** local community shop, run entirely by volunteers.

We aim to stock local produce and we have recently introduced cooked and frozen meat from Thurston Butchers.

We stock daily and Sunday papers and are open on Sunday morning for papers and all other goods. Orders can be taken for papers and magazines.

We take credit and debit cards and have introduced a loyalty card for customers. £5 purchase gets a stamp and a book of 10 stamps entitles you to £2 off your next purchases.

Post Office services include cash/foreign currency, home shopping returns, dry cleaning, shoe repairs and flower deliveries.

Open daily 9am to 5pm: Saturdays 9am to 1pm and Sundays 9am to 11am.

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The Post Office opens 9am to 1pm (12.30 Sat) 01449 736197



Hitcham Post Office and Stores

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Gardening Platinum Jubilee Themed Competition

Here are photos of some of the entries







Competition Winners

Left: Adult Winner of the Platinum Jubilee Competition
and receiver of the Cynthia Cup, Carrie Dye

Middle: Junior Winner of the Platinum Jubilee Competition,
Wilf Schofield

Right: Adult Winner of Potato in a Bucket Competition, Michelle Harvey