

**BRETENHAM  
MAGAZINE**

**DECEMBER 2022  
No 419**



***Tidings of Comfort and Joy***

*Come along to the Village Inn*

*Christmas Eve 2-6pm*

*Then it's a quick dash up The Street to the  
Carol Service at St Mary's Church 6.30pm*

**Welcome...**

...to this edition of the [Brettenham magazine](#). Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this edition. There have been some amazing photo opportunities and we have tried to include as many as we can. It really is a bumper edition. Don't forget to get your quiz team organised for Saturday 28th January. There are more dates for your diary on page 8. Dave Golding is testing our latin with a Nature's Notes quiz (page 13) and the recipe is a Pithivier. It's all Greek to me but one thing I do know is that Christmas is nearly here. A time for the village to get together—share past memories and make new ones. We hope as many people as



possible can join Pete and Em at the Village Inn on Christmas Eve. The editorial team are very grateful for your contributions whether news, photos, jokes or anything else of relevance, so please keep them coming to [brettenhammagazine@outlook.com](mailto:brettenhammagazine@outlook.com).

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a peaceful and prosperous New Year. Carrie, Beth and Michelle

**No pilates on 27th December and  
3rd January. Back on Tuesday 10th  
January at Brettenham Village Hall 6pm**



Beginners welcome. £6 per class. Any queries, please email [leoniegeorgina@gmail.com](mailto:leoniegeorgina@gmail.com). Please bring a mat and towel.

**Natures Notes  
Quiz**

Answers are on page 17  
... a little bird told me!

**Bigger Ernie Winners**

**November Draw**

1st Prize- Anne Cadman

2nd Prize-Victoria Savidge

3rd Prize—Peter Truin

## Village Noticeboard

### Village Hall

To book contact Julie or Ozzie on  
07810434470 or email  
[bvahalbookings@gmail.com](mailto:bvahalbookings@gmail.com)  
To request a licenced bar  
contact Peter Truin 07799  
640326 or [petertruin@aol.com](mailto:petertruin@aol.com)

### Village Website

[www.brettenham.onesuffolk.net](http://www.brettenham.onesuffolk.net)  
If you would like to see  
something new on the website  
please contact Beth Clarke  
[clarkeeac3@gmail.com](mailto: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](https://www.facebook.com/pg/BrettenhamVillage/posts)  
If you would like anything added to  
the page contact Greg Potter at  
[greg.potter66@me.com](mailto:greg.potter66@me.com)

If you would like to receive regular village  
**email updates** please contact  
[chairbva@gmail.com](mailto:chairbva@gmail.com)



### Suffolk Mermaid Fish & Chips

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



### January Mag Deadline:

15th December

*Brettenham magazine is published and edited by the Brettenham Magazine  
Editing Team ([brettenhammagazine@outlook.com](mailto: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](http://www.brettenham.onesuffolk.net)*

## Brettenham Parish Council

### Parish Council - Have your say

Last month I updated that we planned a meeting with Kompan, the company that supplied the play equipment on the Village Hall field. We have now had that visit and a number of options are being considered to continue and possibly extend the current equipment to meet the needs of a diverse age and activity range. We look forward to getting some formal quotes and being able to make some decisions after that - money, space and retaining the current aesthetics of the field being the key factors. Many thanks to the parish councillors who attended during the morning visit and to Grahame Moulding who was able to provide his knowledge and experience from the original work to provide the existing play area.

Your views on any issues relating to the Parish are welcomed, please speak to a member of the Parish Council or contact the Parish Clerk.

Wishing all our residents a safe and happy Christmas.

The next Parish Council meeting will be **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2023.**

**Alyson Wilson, Chair**

**07798 633044**

**Clerk / RFO: Della Clarke**

**Email: [brettenhamparishcouncil@btinternet.com](mailto:brettenhamparishcouncil@btinternet.com)**

**Chair: Alyson Wilson**



### Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

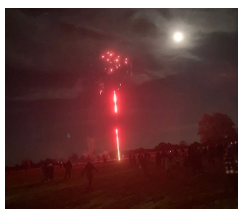
Thank you so much to everyone who  
donated so generously this year.  
Alfie and Elsie wore their poppies  
with pride.

**Jane MacDonald**

Autumn skies—a photo from Annie Tavener



## Centre Academy Fireworks



An Incendiary Delight on 9th November, a write up by Larry.

While the jury may still be out on whether Guy Fawkes was (or was not) the only person to have ever entered Parliament with honest intentions, his failed 1605 Plot to blow up the building has in the years since provided a great opportunity to make merry and gather round a fire/let off fireworks. For the first time (to my knowledge) this year villagers were invited to attend the event held by the Centre Academy, and free of charge at that.

The event was very well organised, with clear lighted pathways in and out, helpful staff, and plentiful food and drink on sale. There was a most talented female student from the school providing a spirited selection of songs. While the blaze itself was, how shall I put it, somewhat intermittent that was of little consequence. This was because the extensive firework display was outstanding, going

on for a considerable time. So, congratulations to the Centre Academy Staff, students, parents and helpers for such a memorable event. Well done!

## Brettenham Village Association (BVA)

### Pumpkintastic!



Firstly, can I begin by thanking everyone who afforded the time in supporting and contributing to this year's inaugural Halloween Pumpkin Carving Competition, which emerged as a fabulously attended and hugely successful event. Clearly, there are some hidden talents harbouring within our community where flair and aptitude for creativity were abundantly evident on the day. Of course, there are always exceptions to the rule where some of the efforts could be best described as 'traumatic' by design, nonetheless aiding to the overall ghoulish ambiance and hitting the brief. I'm sure you'll agree that the photo montage illustrates the depth of proficiency within our village.

Runners-up in the junior category were Georgia Hart and Xavi Greenwood only narrowly pipped by some exceptional creativity from Izzy Schofield who claimed 1st prize. Well done also to Michelle Harvey for winning the adult category with some extraordinary use of spaghetti for effect.

I would also like to thank Tom Cornell for joining me on the difficult judging panel and deserving a mention for delivering the 'Gold Standard' in terms of pumpkin carving, which sadly could not be entered due to his neutrality.

### Lines of communication

Since taking the mantle of Chair for the BVA some months ago it remains increasingly evident that some within our community believe that the Chair is the POC for all things - Sale & Wants, adverts regarding functions outside of the BVA and Lost & Found, which has included but not exhaustive to, small mammals, keys, money and a rather large exotic bird, to illustrate a few examples. I would like to take this opportunity in sign-posting all to our Brettenham FaceBook page, which is a fabulous social media platform containing a trove of information including chat, features detailing a myriad of local events and links to various other useful online sites. Our FaceBook page has a much broader appeal and a far more reaching audience than my village distribution list. (Trust me I've done the maths).

### Friday Village Inn and BVA events

As you'll no doubt realise our usual Friday Village Inns (FVI) have not recovered to their usual format since the outset of the rudely disruptive pandemic and while there have been several valiant efforts in trying to

reinstate these evenings to the original format, the tragic reality is that we have a continued reliance on concession stands to plug the sizeable gaps within our FVI diary. However, the church, Riding for the Disabled and Bloater chefs are keen to continue with their regular slots, so I urge you all to help support these groups where and when available, to help promote the need for our return to normality, if there is such a place!

If anyone would like to volunteer to take up one of the remaining FVI slots then please don't hesitate in contacting chairbva@gmail.com where you'll be welcomed into the FVI schedule.

Sadly, we have been unable to secure a live band for this years New Year's Eve celebration. Instead, we will open the Village Hall bar and welcome all within the BVA to help create our own party in a similar fashion to last year's event (for all those that attended). It's planned that the BVA will serve up a cheese board for the occasion in addition to whatever treats/ party food you would like to bring along for your table. To understand the number that might wish to attend, again, please contact myself (chairbva@gmail.com) for us to gage the quantities of cheese the BVA will need to provide. More info on this will be promulgated idc. (Via email!)

In this edition of the magazine, you'll also find details of the increasingly popular Xmas Eve opening times ahead of this year's Carol Service in St Mary's Church. So please come along and lubricate your larynx in preparation for a great festive evening.

This only leaves me to bid you all within the BVA a very merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

**Ozzie, BVA Chair**

More Pumkintastic pics on page 21



## Village Inn, Friday 2nd December

in aid of church funds

### Menu

#### Main courses

Chile Con Carne with peas and baked potato (GF) £10

Portuguese chicken with green salad £10

Roasted vegetable lasagne with green salad (V) £9

#### Puddings

Apple fool with homemade shortbread £3

Mocha slice with cream £3

## Dates For Your Diary

Friday 2nd December—Village Inn 7.30pm

Sunday 18th December—Village Inn 12.30pm

Christmas Eve 24th December— 2pm—6pm

Christmas Eve Village Carol Service, St Mary's Church 6.30pm

New Year's Eve 31st December—New Year's Eve Celebration

Friday 6th January—Village Inn 7.30pm

Sunday 22nd January—Village Inn 12.30pm

Thursday 26th January—Village Hall 7.30pm Parish Council meeting

Saturday 28th January—Village Hall 7.30pm Charity Fun Quiz Night

Friday 3rd February—Village Inn 7.30pm

Sunday 19th February—Village Inn 12.30pm






## Heart of Suffolk

in Thorpe Morieux  
December 3rd & 4th, 2022 10am-4:30pm




**PREVIEW**  
Friday December 2nd 6-8:30pm









Andrea Wright  
Annabel Ridley  
Caroline Fish  
Cathy D'Arcy  
Dominica Yannaghass  
Douglas Page  
Fiona Camp  
Gay Hutchings  
Jane Lewis  
Jocelyn Hollis

We are artists with studios in the heart of Suffolk, taking inspiration from our beautiful surroundings.







## Heart of Suffolk

Thorpe Morieux Village Hall  
IP30 0NR



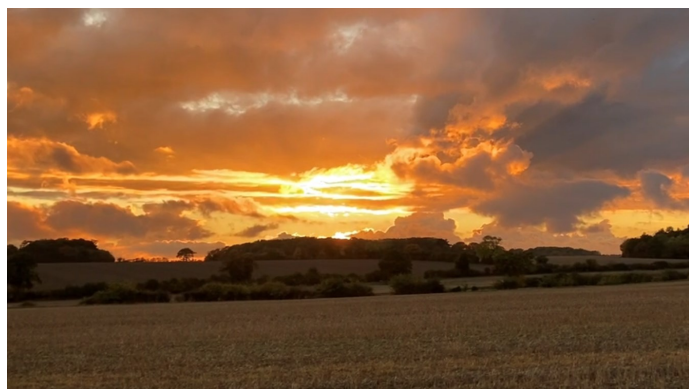





Jon Warnes  
Judith Glover  
Lucy Scott  
Pauline Manders  
Pru Green  
Rebecca Moss Guyver  
Ruth Simpson  
Simon Sharp  
Sam Hacking  
Tanya Hamilton

**PROJECT 21**

Pop up cafe and prize draw  
to benefit Project 21



Charles Camp catches the sunset towards Brettenham

## St Mary's Church Brettenham December Programme of Services in the Benefice



You can join via Facebook on the following link:

[www.facebook.com/rattlesdenbenefice/live](https://www.facebook.com/rattlesdenbenefice/live)

|                            |                |                  |                              |
|----------------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------------------|
| 4 Second Sunday of Advent  |                |                  |                              |
|                            | Rattlesden     | 9.45 for 10.15am | Breakfast Church             |
|                            | Rattlesden     | 11.00am          | Quiet Service                |
|                            | Hitcham        | 11.00am          | Morning Prayer               |
|                            | Brettenham     | 11.15am          | Family Communion             |
|                            | Thorpe Morieux | 6.00pm           | Advent Carols by Candlelight |
| 11 Third Sunday of Advent  |                |                  |                              |
|                            | Brettenham     | 8.30am           | Holy Communion BCP           |
|                            | Rattlesden     | 9.45am           | Holy Communion               |
|                            | Thorpe Morieux | 10.00am          | Family Communion             |
|                            | Hitcham        | 11.00am          | Holy Communion               |
| 18 Fourth Sunday of Advent |                |                  |                              |
|                            | Brettenham     | 8.30am           | Holy Communion BCP           |
|                            | Thorpe Morieux | 11.00am          | Carol Service                |
|                            | Hitcham        | 3.00pm           | Carol Service                |
|                            | Rattlesden     | 6.00pm           | Carol Service                |
| 24 Christmas Eve           |                |                  |                              |
|                            | Hitcham        | 4.00pm           | Crib Service                 |
|                            | Rattlesden     | 4.00pm           | Crib Service                 |
|                            | Brettenham     | 6.30pm           | Carol Service                |
|                            | Thorpe Morieux | 11.00pm          | Midnight Mass                |

|           |                      |         |                     |
|-----------|----------------------|---------|---------------------|
| <b>25</b> | <b>Christmas Day</b> |         |                     |
|           | Rattlesden           | 9.45am  | Christmas Communion |
|           | Brettenham           | 10.30am | Christmas Communion |
|           | Hitcham              | 10.45am | Christmas Communion |
|           | Thorpe Morieux       | 11.00am | Christmas Communion |

Church Warden: Annie Tavener: 736412 / [annie\\_tav@hotmail.com](mailto:annie_tav@hotmail.com)  
 Priest: Rev Canon Sharon Potter, the Rural Dean: 01284 828599 /  
 07825086063 / [revsharon2@gmail.com](mailto:revsharon2@gmail.com) (Sharon does not work Fridays)

Our service rota has been continuing as normal with the Rev Paul Grover taking most of our services, for which we are very grateful. Our Carol Service will, as usual, be on Christmas Eve, with mulled wine and mince pies afterwards and everyone is very welcome to join us - Christmas for me starts with the Brettenham carol service.

Plans for finding a new Rector are under way and Lynne Golding and I will be the two representatives from Brettenham on the interviewing committee; we hope we will be in a position to meet prospective candidates early in the New Year.

If you have been inside the church recently you will see that half the pews have been moved. This is in anticipation of a structural surveyor inspecting the roof timbers with a cherry picker so he can ascertain how much work needs doing on the roof which has been in a bad way for many years and damaged even more by the storm in July last year. Unfortunately, having removed the pews the inspection has been delayed by a month but services will continue as normal and, fingers crossed, everything will be back in place well before Christmas.

Please note that books are still on sale at the back of the church as usual.

**Annie Tavener, Churchwarden**

## Food Bank Update

Thank you for your continued support. Christmas may be difficult for more people than usual this year and giving may be more of a stretch. Your contribution, however small, will make a difference to someone.

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.

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**

If you would rather contact the Foodbank directly you can do this through Facebook messenger from the Bildeston Foodbank Facebook page, email or call: [Bildestoncsg@gmail.com](mailto:Bildestoncsg@gmail.com) Tel:01449 257136

## The Brettenham Flyers

If you're considering a new challenge, or just fancy joining us on a morning jog/walk around the village for a little exercise (approx. 5.7K), come and join the Brettenham Flyers for a Sunday morning lift.

**Every Sunday at the Village Hall**

**Walkers / Dogs—08:50**

**Runners / Cyclists—09:00**

**All ages, abilities & animals welcome**

**For more info contact Ozzie:**  
[chairbva@gmail.com](mailto:chairbva@gmail.com)



## Nature Notes

This month David has given us a quiz to try. What's your Latin like? For a bit of Christmas fun can you match up these Latin words with 5 British birds, 5 British trees, 5 British wild animals and 5 words that describe plants. Ed has helped you get one right! Answers on page 17.

### David Golding

#### British Birds

- |                       |                 |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Turdus Merula      | A Blackbird     |
| 2. Corvus Coroners    | B Carrion Crow  |
| 3. Paris Major        | C Robin         |
| 4. Passer Domesticus  | D Great Tit     |
| 5. Erithacus Rubecula | E House Sparrow |

#### British Trees

- |                     |                |
|---------------------|----------------|
| 1. Betula pendula   | A Rowan        |
| 2. Corylus Avellana | B Sessile Oak  |
| 3. Quercus Petraea  | C Silver Birch |
| 4. Sorbus Aucuparia | D Hazel        |
| 5. Viburnum Opulus  | E Guelder Rose |

#### British Wildlife

- |                        |              |
|------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Lepus Europaeus     | A Badger     |
| 2. Arvicola amphibious | B Brown Hare |
| 3. Capreolus Capreolus | C Mole       |
| 4. Meles Meles         | D Water Vole |
| 5. Talpa Europaea      | E Roe Deer   |

#### Latin words that describe plants

- |              |                       |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Igneus    | A has two leaves      |
| 2. Flexuosus | B flame red in colour |
| 3. Diphyllus | C speckled            |
| 4. Nanus     | D wavey               |
| 5. Consersus | E dwarf in size       |

## Write on...

Let's be honest, much of the news this year has been pretty awful which can make it hard to keep one's spirits up, but I find this quote from Mahatma Ghandi is a good antidote to all the gloom. So, I hope that if you're finding it hard to feel that Christmas cheer, this will help you:

Keep your thoughts positive because your thoughts become your words.

Keep your words positive because your words become your behaviour.

Keep your behaviour positive because your behaviour becomes your habits.

Keep your habits positive because your habits become your values.

Keep your values positive because your values become your destiny.

The beauty of the landscape around us is another source of joy even in tough times. Thank you to Vera Philpott for these photos that capture this so well.

### Carrie Dye



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

[brettenhammagazine@outlook.com](mailto:brettenhammagazine@outlook.com)

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







## Brettenham Gardening Club



The Village Green planting is now complete and we are looking forward to a vibrant display of tulips and pansies in the spring. Many thanks to all those who helped to nurture the plants, clear all the beds, dig them over and plant out over the two days. Many thanks also to Annie and Nick for taking away all the old plants and debris for their compost heap. We had lots of volunteers this year which was wonderful so thank you to everyone that helped.



The Gardening Club also held a meeting in the Village Hall on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November which was very well attended. We were able to review the events of the year and also had

some good discussions for events to take place in 2023. We are now looking for some new blood to help with the running of the club as the two Janes would like to take more of a back seat if possible next year. So if you would like to take on this roll and feel you could inject some enthusiasm and new ideas we would really love to hear from you. As always, if you would like to join the Gardening Club, new members are always welcome. For more information contact:



Jane Moulding: 01449736178 / [grahame.moulding@btopenworld.com](mailto:grahame.moulding@btopenworld.com)

Or Jane McDonald: 01449736957 / [felicityjmcdonald@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:felicityjmcdonald@hotmail.co.uk)



More autumn colours - photo taken from the footpath behind The Street



## Rattlesden Gliding Club Liaison Committee

I would like to introduce myself - following some concerns expressed about the potential impact of changes to planning permissions for the Rattlesden Gliding Club on Brettenham residents living close to the airfield, I volunteered to represent the village on the Gliding Club Liaison Committee which meets once a quarter to ensure good communication between the Rattlesden Gliding Club and local residents. I attended my first meeting of the group on 1st November (my sincere thanks to Larry O'Hara for standing in for me at the previous meeting in August which I was unable to attend).

In recent discussions it was felt that a positive step in ensuring good communication between the Gliding Club and local residents would be for the Club to provide an article for the Brettenham residents. This has been written by Gary Western on behalf of the Club and is available on the Brettenham website. Some useful contact details for the Club are below and also available on the website. Going forward, I will be working with the Club to provide advance publicity about future Club activities through this magazine.



If there are any issues relating to the Club's activities which you would like to be raised at future meetings of the Gliding Club Liaison Committee,



please feel free to email me on: [christopher.garibaldi@gmail.com](mailto:christopher.garibaldi@gmail.com) (NB please note Christopher out in full - not Chris - otherwise it goes to a bemused marine biologist in Australia!).

The next meeting of the Liaison Group will be on Tuesday 7th February 2023.

Many thanks – Christopher Garibaldi, Dux Street

Contact details for the Club are:

Phone: 01449 737789

Mobile: 07484 148015

Launch Point: 07926 812833

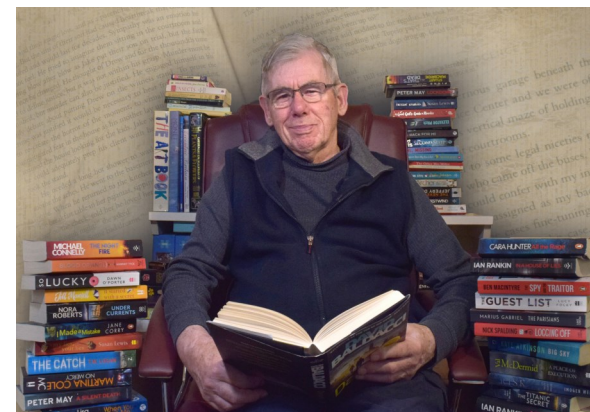
Email: [info@rattlesdengilding.com](mailto:info@rattlesdengilding.com)

## Natures Notes—Quiz Answers

| British Birds | British Trees | British Wildlife | Words that describe plants |
|---------------|---------------|------------------|----------------------------|
| 1A            | 1C            | 1B               | 1B                         |
| 2B            | 2D            | 2D               | 2D                         |
| 3D            | 3B            | 3E               | 3A                         |
| 4E            | 4A            | 4A               | 4E                         |
| 5C            | 5E            | 5C               | 5C                         |



## Getting To Know Martin Dye



This portrait photo of Martin reflects his love of reading— Carrie Dye

|   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| 1 | Full Name:   | Martin Ely Dye  |
| 2 | Birthplace:  | Colchester  |
| 3 | How long have you lived in Brettenham?             | 37 years  |
| 4 | Current/Last Job:                                  | Before retirement, I ran my own business building scenery for theatre and TV, and doing flying effects. |
| 5 | Do you have any pets?                              | Gus, our 3rd Golden Retriever   |
| 6 | What is your biggest fear?                         | Needles and there has been a lot of them recently!  |
| 7 | What makes you laugh the most?                     | Good classic TV sit-coms like Only Fools and Horses and 'Allo 'Allo!                                    |
| 8 | What would you change about yourself if you could? | Not to have Parkinsons  |
| 9 | What is the favourite place you have visited?      | Valletta, the capital of Malta  |

|    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
| 10 | What really makes you angry?  | Spending 20 hours in a BBC studio because the actors were fooling around so much.                                       |
| 11 | What is your favourite book/film/play/show?                                 | I don't have a favourite film, but my favourite show is Phantom of the Opera. I read too many books to choose just one. |
| 12 | What has been the proudest moment of your life?                             | Getting married to Carrie   |
| 13 | What did you want to be when you were growing up?                           | Tube train driver   |
| 14 | If you could choose to do anything for a day, what would it be?             | Spend a day driving a tube train  |
| 15 | What is your favourite game/sport?  | Women's football  |
| 16 | If you could only eat one meal for the rest of your life, what would it be? | Homemade rice pudding with lashings of jam  |
| 17 | Have you ever had a nickname? What is it?                                   | No  |
| 18 | Who would you want to be stranded with on a deserted island and why?        | Carrie because she is the one person who really knows me  |
| 19 | What would you do if you had a significant win in the lottery?              | Help the family out   |
| 20 | If you could go back in time, what year would you travel to and why?        | 1957 when I got my first pay packet and became independent  |
| 21 | What's your best claim to fame?   | Working on the Michael Barrymore summer show flying Lulu as Peter Pan and Frank Bruno as Wendy, live on TV              |
| 22 | What skill would you like to master?  | Playing the sax   |

## Recipe

### Leek and Bacon Pithivier

A pithivier is a round pie made by baking two disks of puff pastry together, it has a filling stuffed in between. It is traditionally decorated with spiral lines drawn from the top outwards with the point of a knife and scalloping on the edge.

#### Ingredients

2 large red onions  
 2 leeks  
 6 rashers of bacon  
 40g butter  
 3 tbsp flour  
 250ml milk  
 100g cheddar cheese  
 Salt and pepper to season  
 Optional extras ( small bag of spinach, chopped mushrooms)  
 Two packets of pre made puff pastry  
 1 egg beaten (to glaze)



#### Method

Chop up the onions, leeks and bacon and gently fry in the butter in a large frying pan. When cooked remove from the heat and add the flour, salt and pepper.

Stir in a little of the milk. Return to a very low heat and gradually add the remainder of the milk .

This should thicken to make a creamy sauce. Add the optional extras (or not).

Add the grated cheese and leave to cool.

## A Rural Education Part 4

Roll out the pastry into two circles. Place one circle on a grease proved baking tray. Spoon on the cooled mixture. Place the second circle of pastry on top of the mixture pressing down the edge to seal the circle. Pop a hole in the top and brush with the beaten egg mixture.

These can be a size to suit. You can either make a large single Pithivier or individual small ones. Round or square.

Bake in the oven Gas mark 4, 180C for approx. 35-40mins or until golden brown.

One to freeze and one to cook.



Michelle Harvey

### More Pumkintastic pics!



Stuart concludes his memories of Rattlesden Primary School.

In my class there were identical twins, Peter and Paul Seymour. They often created a bit of havoc by confusing people as to which was Peter and which was Paul. On occasions Mr Northeast would ask the class to assist him in identifying which was which and this turned into something of a habit, probably a useful diversion away from test of spelling and arithmetic. I believe that Paul Seymour joined the police force and may have been based in Bury St Edmunds. One of the annual events was Sports Day and this was held on the playing field of the school. There would be the competitive running races but also such things as the three legged race and the egg and spoon race.

A daily event at school was the morning milk at break time. In each class students were selected to be milk monitors which required the delivery and collection of the milk crates with the small bottles of milk (1/3 pint or 200mls) to the classroom. The provision of free milk had been encompassed in the Education Act of 1944 and was eventually discontinued by the then Education Secretary Margaret Thatcher in the early 1970s. This brought about a public outcry. Apart from the academic staff there are other staff essential to ensure the smooth running of the school. Mrs Nunn was the School Secretary, she would collect the dinner money and was responsible for the administration. Her husband was a local builder and lived at High Town Green. Another important staff member at the school was Mrs O'Brian, she was the caretaker.



On a weekly basis the local Church of England vicar Revd. Brian Thompson would come into the school to conduct an assembly and in later years the local Baptist pastor, John Skull, would also hold an assembly. He would also take the religious education class. Having looked at the website of the school the thing which struck me was the amount of equipment which is in the classrooms and also how bright and colourful everything looks. I noticed that there seems to have been lots of developments around the



main buildings with additional blocks and other outside structures. Something I did notice was that the parquet floor is still in the main hall, I wonder if the smell of furniture polish and disinfectant is still evident? Compared to 1963 there does not seem to be many open areas such as the playing field. Getting to school was on the school bus. Squirrels of Hitcham Coaches was set up by two brother Philip and Mick Squirrel and as well as coaches they also did removals. On one occasion they used a furniture lorry to transport us to school, great fun. Not sure what "health and safety" would make of that. Squirrels remain an active company and are still family owned. A local Brettenham resident Bert Ward drove for Squirrels for many years and probably transported up to three generations of some families to school. It seems quite common that former armed services personnel went on to become teachers, certainly at Beyton Secondary Modern school there were a good number who had a military background. After the second World War there was a recruitment drive to attract teachers under a post war emergency scheme consisting of one year training followed by a two year probationary period. This was a successful scheme as some 5000 candidates a month were applying in 1945 and the difficulty was to find suitable buildings for training colleges. Beyton Secondary Modern school opened in 1953. Next time I will share memories of secondary school life.

Stuart Earle

**Christmas Eve Village Inn**  
**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> December 2.00-6.00pm**

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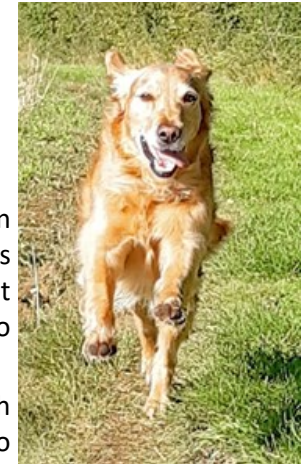


## Rambling with Gus

**Rambling with Gus at Rattlesden**  
**Approx 3.16 miles. Approx 1 hour 10 minutes**

Gus and I did this ramble in the autumn when the hedgerows were full of blackberries, but it is a good walk to do at any time of year as it follows grassy paths and quiet country roads so not too muddy.

The walk starts near the war memorial at High Town Green on the road from Brettenham to Rattlesden. With the war memorial on your left, you take the country lane just next to it. The lane soon turns into a farm track and then into a footpath. From here, there is a warren of paths you can take. My version is to go straight across the fields to Mitchery Lane and then turn left towards Rattlesden. Follow the road until you come to a junction with a road "Baby Lane" coming in from the left. Take the footpath on the left at this junction then follow a circuit of paths that leads you back to Baby Lane. Turn right and go a short distance along the road before taking the footpath on your left. This takes you past King's Wood





which was planted in 2006/7 and is now maturing nicely. Once past the wood, carry straight on along the path that re-joins the path you started on near the memorial.

If using online OS Maps this walk is listed at Rambling with Gus at Rattlesden

Carrie Dye





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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.

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**in aid of 'Success After Stroke'**

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**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2023, 7.30pm**

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