

BRETtenham MAGAZINE

FEBRUARY 2024
No 433

Winter Colour in the landscape



Welcome...

... to the latest edition of the Magazine. February can be a bit of a dull month when little seems to be going on, but not in Brettenham! There are no fewer than 8 events in the village this month taking place at the Village Hall, and there is the excitement of the online Auction Of Promises which runs from 1st—29th February. There are a lot of promises to bid for, see more information on page 16. Remember, if you're not in it you can't win it, so have a go! All the money raised is in aid of the Raise the Roof Campaign to make repairs to our church roof. RtR are also providing food at the Friday Village Inn and having a Book Sale so there are lots of opportunities to get involved in a fun way and show your support.

As always we are very grateful for your contributions for the Magazine, news, photos, jokes and anything else of relevance, so please keep them coming to: brettenhammagazine@outlook.com.

Dates For Your Diary

Friday 2nd February—Village Inn 6.30pm

Tuesday 6th Feb—Coffee Morning 10.30-12

Thursday 8th February — Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm

Friday 9th February—Mobile library

Saturday 10th February—Big Brettenham Book Sale

Monday 12th February—Bar volunteers training evening

Sunday 18th February—Sunday Village Inn

Monday 26th February—Brettenham Gardening Club AGM in the Village Hall. Prompt start 7.30pm

Friday 1st March—Village Inn 7.30pm

Tuesday 5th March—Coffee Morning 10.30-12.00

Saturday 16th March—Film showing 'The Dig'

Sunday 17th March—Sunday Village Inn. The start of the Potato in a Bucket Competition 2024. Collect your potato at the Village Inn

see page 22 for more details.

Saturday 23rd March - An evening with Charlie Haylock

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 Michelle Brown
dan.michelle@hotmail.com



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 or be part of the village
whatsapp group** please contact
chairbva@gmail.com



Mobile Library

Stops at the village Hall
12.45-13.05
Church 15.20-15.35
Friday every 4 weeks
Next visit– 9.02.24

March

**Mag
Deadline:**

15th February

*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

Have your say...

You will hopefully now be aware that the Neighbourhood Plan is going through its first consultation period, which means you have the chance to view the Plan and make comment on it. You should have received an information leaflet on how to do this a couple of weeks ago, but as a reminder it is available to download at <http://brettenham.onesuffolk.net/> where an online comments form can be completed. If you don't have access to the internet, paper copies of the Plan will be available to borrow for a short period from Nick Tavener (01449 736412/ 07711 927202) or myself, we will also have a supply of paper forms available if you wish to submit comments. The Plan has been founded on results of the extensive survey completed by village residents at its initial stages so you should recognise some of the areas and issues mentioned. Any comments need to be in place by Friday 8 March please.

Those who weren't at the Sunday Village inn last month may still not have noticed the arrival of a young beech tree on the green behind the Hall. Thank you to Emily Woods and Andrew Gooderham for donating the tree to the village in celebration of the Coronation of Charles III. A suitable plaque will be provided in due course.

Finally a reminder that Della does circulate reports, agendas and minutes for the Parish Council. If you would like to be added to the circulation email for these please contact her and let her know.

Next Parish Council Meeting is Thursday 8th February

Alyson Wilson, Chair

07798 633044

Parish Clerk

Brettenhamparishcouncil@btinternet.com

Coffee Morning

Come along for tea, coffee and
more importantly a chat and a laugh with
fellow villagers

Tuesday 6th February from 10.30 till 12.00.



Hope to see you there!

For more info contact:

Val 07711 562520 or

Michelle 07535 814939

VACANCY

The Brettenham Village Association is looking for a Cleaner/Caretaker for our village hall.

The position will include a weekly clean (usually around 1 hour per week), which is dependent on village hall usage/additional functions.

Caretaker duties include, but not exhaustive to:-

- Legal and compliance checks - weekly, monthly and annual.
- Simple maintenance tasks/repairs as and when required.
- Reporting of faults to the BVA Chair.
- Liaising with the booking clerk regarding functions and usage.
- Rate of pay to be discussed on application.
- Applicants must be over 18 years of age.
- Full training will be given

To find out more please contact Ozzie - chairbva@gmail.com

Closing date - 04.03.24

Photos: Marzipan Xmas

Food Bank Update

Many thanks for all your donations. 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 in the box next to the woodstore on my drive at Spinney Cottage, Brettenham.

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 Tel: 01449 257136

Please support this worthwhile locally run charity. Local families and individuals in need can access this food bank easily and the more we can support the food bank the more we are directly supporting them.



Photo: The Bloaters in the kitchen. Thanks for the delicious food!

Peter Knight



Village Inn Friday 2nd February

A menu with a continental touch

All proceeds to go to the Raise the Roof fundraising

Main Course

Hungarian Goulash £10

Coq au vin (Gluten Free) £10

Vegetarian Lasagne (Veg) £10

All served with Baked Mediterranean Vegetables and Jacket Potato

Dessert

Fruit Pavlova and cream £3.50

Baklava and cream £3.50

Dishes may contain allergens, please ask kitchen.

From the BVA

As we start to accelerate into 2024 I thought it would be an appropriate time to express a sincere thank you to some hard working BVA members. Our BVA New Year celebration and party in the village hall made me realise that we're still capable of establishing fabulous parties while attracting great live music and so, again, thanks must go out to Michelle Brown and family for their hard work in getting the end-of-year soiree together and providing yet another memorable occasion. Also, a huge thanks to Julie Ozficici and Peter Truin, who lasted the course and helped serve drinks for the entire evening. Those who have worked the bar will understand that it can get rather hot in there, hence the reason why myself and Julie emerged after midnight with the complexion of a couple of Chernobyl firefighters.

What a wonderful spring board to discuss the next key opportunities for great evenings. The film night organised by the Raise the Roof (RtR) team scheduled for March 16th, while appealing to those movie buffs with Dominos on speed dial and poor social skills, remains a brilliant initiative to kick start movie evenings as we go forward throughout the year. The tragic reality that we'd cancelled the first movie night in late '23 due to a lack of interest has seemingly been overturned by the RtR team. They have tackled this in a very different manner insomuch that the take-up for 'The Dig' (movie) and the subsequent follow-up talk by Charlie Haylock (23rd Mar), will, I'm sure, prove to be another over-subscribed and hugely successful event. Early indications suggest you'll need to get your tickets, sharpish! Equally, I hope we'll see the value of these new style events as we seek to have more of the same throughout '24.

The Friday Village Inns are now booked and confirmed with chefs in the kitchen up until July, when we'll see the return of the mobile pizza company, which has been agreed as a hybrid solution to our Friday Village Inn catering.

Always on the lookout for new bar staff, I'm handing over to Mick and Peter to highlight a training day for all current and new prospective bar members so please consider getting on-board for.....

Ozzie, BVA Chair

.....FREE DRINKS !

Village Hall Bar Staff Training and Recruitment

Monday 12th February 7.30pm

Bar staff training will be taking place to ensure that staff are aware of current legislation, rules and regulations surrounding the management and distribution of alcohol whilst serving behind the bar in the Village Hall. This will include the procedures for opening and closing the bar, general good practices and housekeeping tips for the maintenance and smooth running of the facility. This provides an excellent opportunity for existing and new volunteers to come along and see how the bar functions and may wish to consider joining this growing team.

Attendees please rsvp to petertruin@aol.com or michaelkelly@live.co.uk

Village Inn Friday 2nd February 2024

Please support the earlier opening of February's Friday Village Inn, where the bar will open at 6.30pm.

We are trialling this to see whether there is interest from families and new or existing patrons. Food will be available as usual from 7.30pm.

Michelle Brown

St. Mary's Stall

The stall is continuing to do well but I must admit I am running low on stock. Please could you all have a little tidy out of "your drawers" and see if you have any suitable items. Maybe even have a look in the shed! Again, I IMPLORE you not to just leave items at the stall but to put them in our cart lodge at Buggs Farm, it's not far to come and then I can price them up and I also know what needs to come in if it starts raining.

Thank you everyone.

Viv Bourne

Hello from all of us at Rattlesden School

Happy new year to everyone in our community. We have had a few ups and downs to start the term off, dealing with the flood water. Getting all of our staff in from all directions, who also have to often drop their own children off before getting to work, is a bit of a logistical challenge as you can imagine. Once we make it in, we need to make sure the parents and children are all safe. I am so hoping for a long dry spell so we don't have continued problems.

The children were a little tired on the first Thursday and Friday when we returned back, but this new week they have really picked up and are full of energy and fun. The sunshine helps!

Our theme in Collective Worship this half term is Respect and Reverence, which ties in nicely with the thoughts of spring around the corner and the new beginnings of a fresh term and year. Next week we will be visiting St Nicholas church for our half-termly service. The children are very familiar with the church and enjoy being there, even if is a little nippy!

All best wishes,

Helen Ballam, Headteacher

Rattlesden C of E Primary Academy

Rattlesden

IP30 0SE

01449 736335

A view from the other side of the teacher's desk

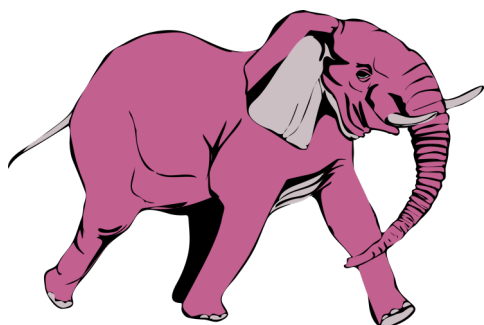
About five weeks into my very first teaching job it was my turn to be on late duty. This involved getting a small table and a chair and sitting at the main entrance of the school. The pupils that arrived after 9.00 had their name, class and reason for their lateness recorded. Being a newby and not knowing most of the pupils very well, I was determined to carry out my responsibilities correctly. The reasons given for their lateness by the first eight or nine pupils were what you would expect; "I couldn't find my

school shoes", "my mum forgot to wake me up", "I was just finishing off my homework", "my alarm never went off" and so on. At about 9.10 the main doors were pushed wide open and this tall lad ran up to me, slammed his hands down onto the desk, gasping for breath.

"Oh dear, what's the matter? Why are you late? I asked.

"I've just been chased by an elephant" the lad said.

"What do I do now?" I quickly thought to myself.



I didn't know the lad at all. Was he a joker? Do I write his reason down with the possibility of making a complete fool of myself once the word got round all the classes? What would the staff think? "Are you honestly that gullible?"

I did consider writing down a common reason for lateness, as

mentioned above, and then forget all about it. It would save the Head of Year taking me aside later in the day and having a quiet word with me. By this time a few other late pupils were arriving so I quickly took the pupils name, class and wrote "chased by an elephant" in the late book.

Lunchtime arrived and no one on the management team had approached me so I went into the school office and had a quiet word with the ladies that worked there.

"A boy called Gary from class 4B was late this morning and said his reason for being late was that he'd been chased by an elephant" I said.

They both looked at me and smiled. "Gary's a lovely lad and wouldn't have the nouse to make up a reason like that. It's true, he came and told us about it at morning break. The circus rocked up on Wanstead flats yesterday afternoon, and Gary was running a little bit late this morning and so took a short cut between the tents and circus vehicles. As he did so he spooked one of the elephants that was being exercised."

David Golding

St Mary's Church Brettenham

Rev'd Sharon Grenham-Thompson

Tel: 07894 467157

Email: rectorrattlesden@btinternet.com

Church Warden Annie Tavener:

Tel: 01449 736412 Email: annie_tav@hotmail.com



February Programme of Services in the Benefice

Sunday 4th February

Rattlesden	9:30 am	Holy Communion
Hitcham	11:00 am	Morning Prayer
Brettenham	11:00 am	All Age Holy Communion
Thorpe Morieux	9:30 am	Morning Prayer

Sunday 11th February

Rattlesden	9:30 am	Morning Prayer
Hitcham	11:00 am	Holy Communion
Brettenham	8:00 am	BCP Holy Communion
Thorpe Morieux	9:30 am	All Age Holy Communion

Ash Wednesday 14th February

Rattlesden 7pm Holy Communion and ashing

Sunday 18th February

Rattlesden	9:30 am	Holy Communion
Hitcham	11:00 am	All Age Service
Thorpe Morieux	9:30 am	Morning Prayer

Sunday 25th February

Rattlesden	9:30 am	Breakfast Church
Rattlesden	10:30 am	Quiet Church
Hitcham	11:00 am	Holy Communion
Brettenham	8:00 am	BCP Holy Communion
Thorpe Morieux	6:00pm	BCP Evensong

Rector's Reflection

This month we celebrate the execution of a 3rd century Christian Bishop (or possibly lower-ranking priest) in a flurry of flowers, chocolate and red satin. St Valentine is a bit of a mysterious figure, but he was a real person, probably executed by the Roman emperor Claudius II, on account of his Christian beliefs. The fervently anti-religious might not blink an eye at that, but it's still strange to think 21st century Britain marks a day which has its origins in religious martyrdom.

It seems such a massive contradiction. Violent events across the world, often carried out in the name of 'religion', have demonstrated just how dark the 'dark side' can get. Right-thinking people of all faiths and none have been horrified by shootings, bombings, mass killings and the like, carried out by fundamentalists across a broad spectrum. Surely, St Valentine's Day simply reminds us this kind of madness has been going on for centuries?

But just as the hearts and lace of February 14th are a parody of what makes a relationship work, so too are the stereotypes of religious people being insane at worst and benign idiots at best. The name 'Valentinus' has its origins in the Latin word for 'worthy' or 'strong' - and the eponymous saint is venerated for being faithful. Thus St Valentine's Day is a welcome reminder of some true fundamentals of life: a love which stands the test of time is faithful - and a faith for testing times is loving. Many, many more people of religion - whatever religion - are good and loving and 'worthy' than are not.

In fact, in my view, (with St Paul's famous passage in 1 Corinthians as the basis), the test of anyone's faith is whether they have love in their hearts. Not a wishy-washy, puppies and rainbows kind of love; and certainly not the gruesome distortion that drives people to murder. But if someone demonstrates compassion, generosity, integrity, humility - with or without a belief in God as we understand it - then I would say we're on the same side. We might disagree about our foundations and motivations; and certainly, as a follower of Jesus, I still want to share 'the reason for hope that lies within me' (1 Peter); but still we can work together for the same, positive, result - an increase of love.



Reverend Sharon Grenham-Thompson

Carol Service

It was lovely to have such a full church for our Carol Service on Christmas Eve. Thank you to everyone involved with the service, and with decorating the church and to Old Buckenham Hall school for donating the beautiful tree. We are also extremely grateful to Tim Schofield for donating the profits from his mulled cider at the Village Inn that evening to our Raise the Roof fund.

We will be donating £175 to the Samaritans from the collection at the Carol Service.

A belated Happy New Year.

Annie Tavener

Village Inn

Friday 2nd February

Bar opens early at 6.30pm

Food available as usual from 7.30pm

See menu on page 7

See you there!

An evening with Charlie Haylock



A fascinating evening with Suffolk author and dialect expert Charlie Haylock who will take us behind the scenes of the Netflix hit film The Dig

Saturday 23rd March
Brettenham Village Hall
7pm for 7.30pm start

Ticket price includes the talk, a two course meal and showing of the film 'the Dig' on Saturday 16th March

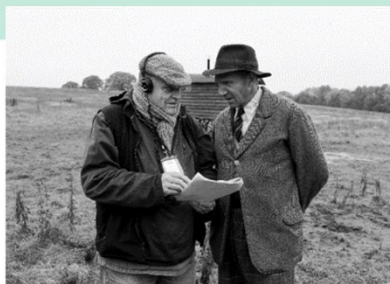


Photo: Larry Horricks, Netflix 2021

Tickets: £20
01449 736412
annie_tav@hotmail.com

An Auction of Promises

Auction starts at 11am— 1st Feb

Closes at 20.00pm—29th Feb

Our amazing auction of promises has begun!
We have a huge selection of promises already!!! However we will always welcome more. If you would like to contribute to the promises please email promise@brettenham.org

The Auction is being held online at
<https://auctionofpromises.com/RaiseTheRoof>
(or by using the QR code)

To bid on a promise you will need to create an account.
The instructions on how to do this are available on our Village website.
If you would like any help please email promise@brettenham.org it really is very simple

**Please note—these links will only be
Accessible once the auction has started
On the 1st February**



Further details will be published on the village website.

<http://brettenham.onesuffolk.net/>

Raise the Roof

Thank you for your continued support on this project. Current figures have our total so far at **£24,000 towards the target of over £200,000**. Thank you to everyone who has helped to organise or taken part in our fundraising events. February events include the Mediterranean village Inn on the 2nd, Big Brettenham Book Sale on the 10th and Auction of Promises, which goes on throughout the month. Don't forget to buy tickets for the Charlie Haylock evening in March too!

Lynne Golding

Planting for the future

In recognition of the coronation of King Charles III, the village now has a commemorative oak tree, donated and planted by Emily Woods and Andrew Gooderham on the village hall field. We hope it will flourish and provide pleasure for future villagers.



Nature Notes

Towards the end of February and early March catkins will become visible on a number of trees including Hazel and Silver Birch. Catkins play a vital role in tree reproduction, releasing pollen into breezes. They then fall as the leaves begin to unfold. If you look at a catkin closely, you will see that it's made up of tiny flowers, some with small petals and some with none at all. They allow the female flowers to be pollinated as the pollen from the male flowers is blown by the wind. Once the seeds have developed they rely on the wind to blow them away from the parent tree.

David Golding

Hazel



Silver Birch



Various brand-new dog accessories for sale.

Dog Jackets
Leads
Collars
Training toys
Miscellaneous items

If you are looking for any of these items and want them at half the RRP, give me a call and I would be happy to see if I have something left in stock which I have from previously having a dog rehab business. Everything must go due to moving. Tel 07493352950.

Jo Handley-Howard, 3 the Street.

Village Inn Sunday 18th February

The bar is open from 12.30pm.

Drinks only. Come along for a relaxed chat with friends, neighbours and family.

Pilates Tuesdays 6pm—7pm in the village hall

This is a friendly group with an experienced teacher. It is suitable for all levels of fitness (unless pregnant or injured).

Please note, classes start again on the 9th January 2024.

Classes cost £7 a class, pay-as-you-go.

For more information, contact Leonie on 07866897651



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



Farming Focus

Although this is a quiet time of year, I've been busy recently making sure that everything is in place and up to date for our annual Red Tractor farm assurance inspection. Red Tractor is the main national body which covers the supply of produce from the farm to the retailer to ensure that food safety standards are being upheld and to ensure traceability as well as trying to reduce the impact of farming on the environment. For us as arable farmers it involves a half day inspection of everything from spray records to health and safety policy and checking what date we cleaned our grain trailers!

One of the main areas of the inspection is checking that chemicals and fertilisers are being used appropriately and safely. All spray records, fertiliser records and chemical stock are checked to ensure that all products used are legal and being applied at the correct timings by trained operators. I have my annual sprayer operator compulsory training coming up next week which ensures that I am up to date with any changes in legislation and following best practice when using the sprayer and handling chemicals. For fertiliser use, we have to produce a nutrient management plan to show that fertiliser requirements have been properly assessed for each crop and field so that there is less environmental risk.

Food traceability is ensured by making sure that we record where every trailer load of crop from the combine is tipped and where it ends up being stored. Samples have to be kept from each trailer load as it goes into the store as well as when it leaves the farm and the load has to be accompanied by a crop passport.

We have to take the inspector on a tour of the farm to check things like the chemical store is up to spec and that that diesel is being stored securely to avoid pollution of watercourses. The grain store is inspected to make sure it is clean and free of insect or rodent pests and that there is no risk of contamination of stored grain. Records have to be provided to show that all grain handling equipment, from the combine and trailers to the forklift bucket and grain store has been cleaned properly prior to use.

Most of the areas inspected are common sense and just part of running an efficient and safe business. Red Tractor has had a few controversies

recently though with food mislabelling issues and undercover journalists highlighting animal abuse on some assured livestock farms. It is also not popular with all farmers as the cost is all borne by the producer and the associated record keeping is time consuming. It is technically a voluntary scheme but in reality it is virtually impossible to farm without being a member as there are very limited markets for non-assured produce. One of the main gripes is that it does not provide any premium to British farmers over imported products which do not necessarily have to meet any of the assessed standards. There was recently a proposal to introduce a new Greener Farming module to the Red Tractor standards to reduce the carbon cost of food production. This is obviously a positive goal and something we need to aim for but it has to be done in a way that doesn't leave farmers bearing all of the cost with no reward. The British Retail Consortium is also one of the owners of the scheme, so many also consider that it would allow food retailers, particularly the powerful supermarkets, to pass on all the costs for high quality and more environmentally friendly food production to farmers while they take most of the profit.

We obviously need a good farm assurance scheme to ensure that food is produced safely and animals reared humanely. There is currently a big review of Red Tractor and its ownership taking place so hopefully it will evolve into a more reliable scheme which producers and consumers have more trust in and which delivers a premium to those farmers who make efforts to farm in the most responsible way, particularly as we become more reliant on imported food.

Tom Tavener



Work continues on the new national pipe line which crosses Ryece Hall Farm. Currently an archaeological survey is underway.

Photo by Carrie Dye

Brettenham Gardening Club

Our AGM is booked for the 26th February in the village Hall for a prompt 7.30pm start. It would be lovely to see you all there. This is your village and your club, so let's see what you would all like to achieve this year.

Potato in a Bucket Competition

The potatoes are on order and will be chitted and ready for planting in March. I will be at the Sunday Village Inn on 17th March at 12.30 if you would like to buy your potatoes.



Fred, last year's winner

£1 per entry. A real bargain!!!!

For those of you that are new to the village or if you have never taken part before, give it a go.

You need to buy your potato from me. If you can't make the Village Inn email brettenhamgardeningclub@gmail.com and I can arrange to get your potatoes to you.

You will need a standard builder's bucket (nothing bigger) This makes it fair for everyone. You need to plant your potato as soon as you get it and nurture it until the summer fayre. At the summer fayre bring along your potato still in the bucket. Your potato bucket will be emptied and your potatoes weighed. It's as simple as that but really good fun. It still amazes me how competitive everyone is.

Open Gardens 6th July

Jane McDonald and myself are in the process of organising Brettenham Open Gardens. This is to raise money for the church "Raise the Roof" If you would like to take part by opening up your garden to visitors, please get in touch with either Jane or myself and we can give you more details. If you feel you can help by selling plants on the day. Making cakes or serving drinks please let me know.

Michelle Harvey



Recipe - Peanut Mousse

This is a quick 5 minute pudding. Simple but very tasty and can be adapted for individual tastes and allergies. Cream can be replaced with natural yogurt for a healthier option, or dairy free alternatives to the cream cheese and cream for any dairy intolerances.

The mousse can also be frozen. Especially nice when made with the yogurt for a summer pudding. (Yes, we can dream of summer if we like)

Ingredients:

4 triangles of soft cheese or 2 tablespoons of cream cheese

2 tablespoons of peanut butter

2 tablespoons castor sugar

150ml double cream

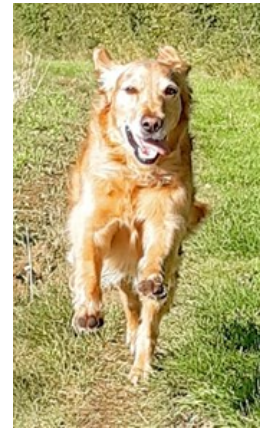
Fruit or crushed nuts to decorate.



Put all ingredients into a bowl and whisk until smooth. Put into individual bowls and decorate.

Michelle Harvey

| Rambling with Gus



This is a circular walk that starts and ends at the centre of Barking Tye. Barking Tye is a long village that is spread out along the B1078 which runs from Bildeston to Needham Market. The footpath starts opposite the post box near the Barking Tye Service Station. I parked on the road.

Distance 3 miles. Time approx. 1 hour.

They say you should not judge a book by its cover. I think this applies to some walks too, as with this one. The first 500 meters is not attractive as the narrow rather dark path from the road, lined with chain-link fencing, winds past a large ungainly water tower. But, once past the water tower, the path takes you into open rolling countryside with areas of well-established woods and views towards Barking church and Needham Market in the distance.

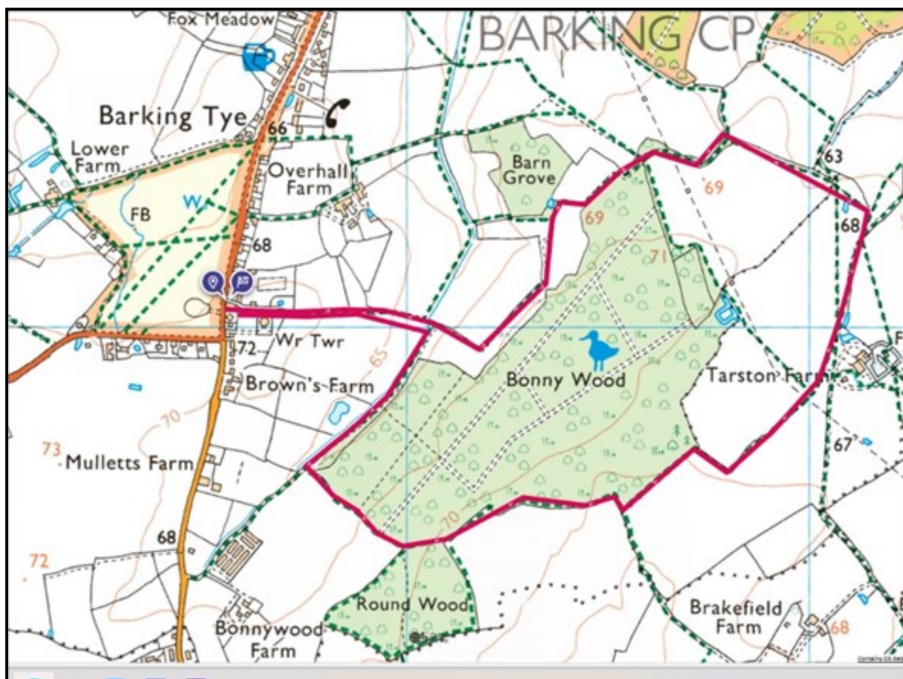
The paths are along grassy field headlands and wood margins or farm tracks. Despite the ground being saturated due to the wet autumn and winter we have had, all the paths were passable if squelchy.

The walk takes you around Bonny Wood which is largely owned by the Suffolk Wildlife Trust and is a nature reserve. There is no access to the wood by road which contributes to the quiet stillness of the place. It is very atmospheric, and no wonder as it is steeped in history dating back to 1251. It has been coppiced since 1356. If you have time, you might like to take a detour here and explore the wood. The best time to visit is April to late June when you will find wood anemone, woodruff and orchids. Some of the wood is designated as being a Site of Scientific Interest.



As you can see from the map below, there is a good network of paths in the area so you can do many variations of this walk, you could even walk all the way to Needham Market. That's a walk I intend to do on another day.

Carrie Dye



You can find this walk at explore.osmaps.com.
It is listed as Rambling with Gus at Barking Tye.



Stowmarket Choral

Music Director
William Baldry

COME AND SING!

Vivaldi
Gloria
L'Estrange
Love's Philosophy

Saturday 10th February 2024
10.30am - 3.00pm
John Peel Centre
Stowmarket, IP14 1ET

£20 to include music score
(bring your own food)

Booking: 07912 432220
tickets@stowmarketchorale.org.uk



Registered Charity 280488

www.stowmarketchorale.org.uk

A Poem For Valentine's Day

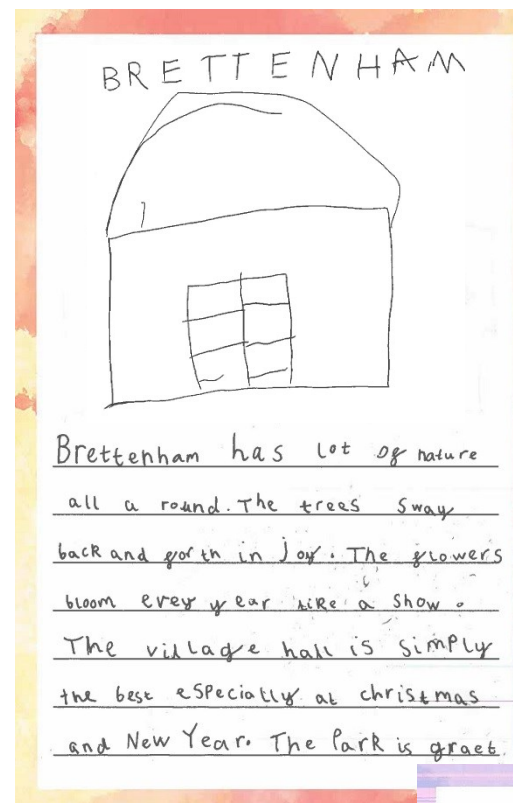
No one says it better than William Shakespeare:

Let me not to the marriage of true minds
Admit impediments. Love is not love
Which alters when it alteration finds,
Or bends with the remover to remove.
O no! it is an ever-fixed mark
That looks on tempests and is never shaken;
It is the star to every wand'ring bark,
Whose worth's unknown, although his height be taken.
Love's not Time's fool, though rosy lips and cheeks
Within his bending sickle's compass come;
Love alters not with his brief hours and weeks,
But bears it out even to the edge of doom.
If this be error and upon me prov'd,
I never writ, nor no man ever lov'd.



Current Village Hall Hire Rates per hour

	Residents	Non-	Commercial
All events	£8.50	£12.50	£15
Community organisations: Parish Council, PCC, Gardening Club	No charge		



Write on.... 

Brettenham is a fantastic village, as this piece by young resident, Annie, explains.

If there are any other budding young poets in Brettenham, we would love to hear from you. Please send your contributions to the email address below.

there is even a park it is so
fun! There are loads of people all
a round. Most of them have
laughter and fun, coffee Mornig
food to eat and you can chat. There
are loads of friends in the
village. So you can be one too!
Brettenham is a beautiful village!
Come and join
the village!
Brettenham everybody in
is Family!

Send your suggestions for this page to
brettenhammagazine@outlook.com



Hedgehog House

Many years ago Martin made some hedgehog houses which he sold at The Village Fete. I bought one and every year I looked to see if it had a resident, with no luck. This year for the first time they have decided it is a des.res! I am so pleased and pray he doesn't come out too early because of the warm weather.

Viv Bourne

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W.A. Deacon

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