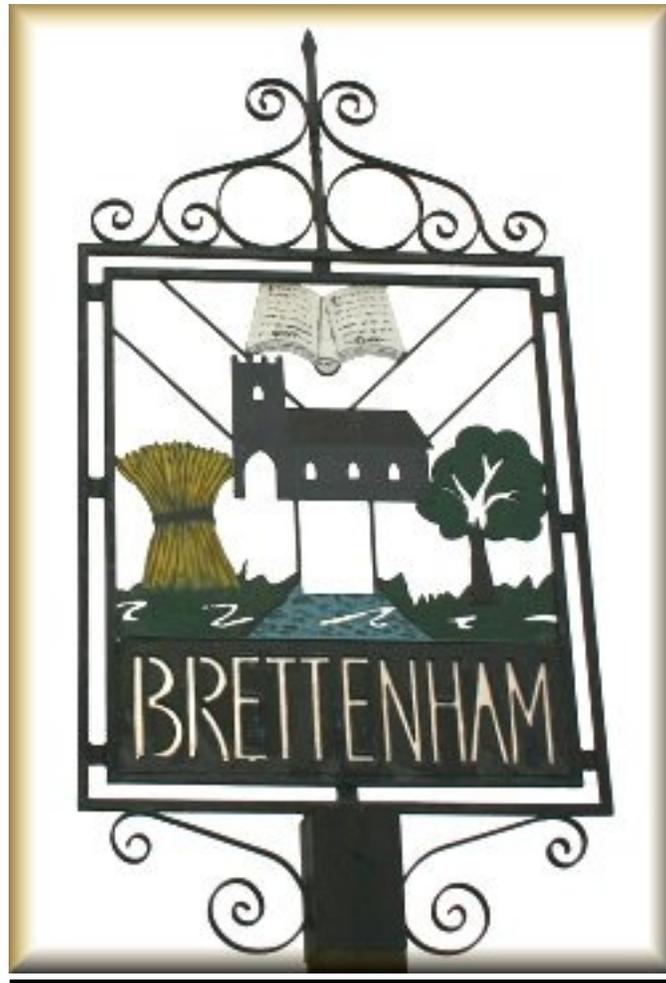


LIVING IN BRETtenham



Created September 2006
Updated March 2012

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	Page 3
CHURCH – ST MARY, BRETtenham	Page 4
CATHOLIC SERVICES	Page 4
CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU	Page 4
CLUBS, ORGANISATIONS, ETC.	Page 5
CONSERVATION AREA	Page 5
COUNCIL TAX	Page 6
ELECTRICITY	Page 6
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH	Page 6
FOOTPATHS	Page 6
HISTORY	Page 7-9
LIBRARIES	Page 9
LISTED BUILDINGS	Page 9
LOCAL GOVERNMENT	Page 10
MAGAZINE	Page 11
MEDICAL SERVICES	Page 11
MOBILE SERVICES	Page 11
NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH	Page 11
OPEN SPACES	Page 12
POLICE	Page 12
POST BOXES/OFFICES	Page 13
PUBLIC TRANSPORT	Page 13
PUBS	Page 13
RECYCLING	Page 13
SCHOOLS	Page 13
TELEPHONE	Page 14
TREES	Page 14
BRETtenham VILLAGE ASSOCIATION *	Page 14
VILLAGE HALL *	Page 14-15
WATER	Page 16
USEFUL CONTACTS	Page 17
MAPS – CONSERVATION AREA)	Appendices
FOOTPATHS)	

INTRODUCTION

It is hoped that you find this booklet helpful. It is meant principally for newcomers to the village but whether you are a stranger to this area or have lived locally before, you will find it packed with useful information.

Over the years there have been many changes including the loss of most of the village services. This is common to most rural areas now but, as you will see in this booklet, there are still several local tradesmen if you care to use them and local organisations who will be pleased to have your support.

Living in Brettenham will not be distributed throughout the village but only to newcomers and those who ask for a copy. It has been further condensed from the original because some information included therein quickly became outdated.

Whilst all information is given as correct at the time of going to press, things are always changing. Where possible, alterations will be given in the magazine and, if you wish, you could update this booklet. 'Living in Brettenham' is also on the village website www.brettenham.suffolk.gov.uk and will be updated from time to time.

Thanks are due to those authorities and local people who helped to provide the information given.

THE CHURCH OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BRETtenham

Priest in charge: The Revd Carol Mansell, Dawning, Rags Lane, Woolpit IP30 9SG
07788 157147 carol.mansell@btinternet.com

Churchwardens: Lindsey Collings 01449 737660
Annie Tavener 01449 736412

The present pattern of services is as follows:-

1st and 3rd Sundays of month – Mattins at 9.30 am

2nd or 4th Sundays of month – Holy Communion (BCP) at 9.30 am

There is a Family Service on the 1st Sunday of the month at 11.15 am

When a 5th Sunday occurs, a United Benefice service is held in one of the four churches, Brettenham, Thorpe Morieux, Hitcham or Rattlesden.

There are occasional Special Services and Evensongs – details given in the Brettenham Magazine.

The present church building dates from the 14th century, when the nave and tower were erected. The tower, which contains a medieval bell frame and three bells, is on the south side of the nave and its base serves as a porch. Only 14 Suffolk churches were so constructed. The chancel was added during the 1420's and the church contains examples of decorated and perpendicular styles of architecture. A major restoration was carried out in 1866 and important renovations were done in 1931, 1962, 1979 and 1995.

Notable internal features include the 14th century octagonal font, the late 17th century Communion rails and the fragments of medieval glass incorporated in a north chancel window. Late Victorian paintings of the three Magi and of Jesus with two disciples on the road to Emmaus adorn the wall on each side of the beautiful east window. The chancel contains several memorials to the Wenyeves, an ancient family associated with Brettenham for almost five centuries. In the church is a copy of the Vinegar Bible (1717), so called from a mis-spelt headline above chapter 20 of St Luke, which reads "Parable of the Vinegar" instead of "Parable of the Vineyard". The Lord Chancellor is patron and the registers date from 1584.

CATHOLIC SERVICES:

Brettenham comes under Stowmarket parish – The Church of Our Lady at Stowmarket has Sunday Masses at 8.30 and 10.15 am. Contact Fr David Finegan – 612946

CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

5 Milton Road South, Stowmarket IP14 1EZ Free confidential, impartial advice to everyone. Details of what they offer and times are on the Notice Board at Village Hall.

CLUBS, ORGANISATIONS ETC

Book Circle: This group is open to all and meets in members' houses on a regular basis at dates and times as advised in the magazine, to discuss the book handed out at the previous meeting. The books are very varied in style and the meetings friendly and informal. Contact Beverley Cronk, Rose Farm (01449 737270)

Carpet Bowls: Meets at the Village Hall on Monday evenings, 8.15 – 10.30 pm. Bar available.

Cricket Club: Brettenham Park Cricket Club is one of the oldest in the area and celebrated its centenary in 1990. New players are always welcome. Please contact Secretary Richard Carter on 677493.

Gardening Club (Thorpe Morieux & District): Meetings are held most months at Thorpe Morieux Village Hall on third Monday of the month, commencing 7.30 p.m. or there are outside visits to places of interest. Programme includes a coffee morning and plant sale in May, an Annual Show in August and a Christmas meal in December. Contact Secretary Thelma Crane 01449 736222.

Swimming Club: Brettenham Park Swimming Club has the use of the outdoor swimming pool at Old Buckenham Hall School for specific hours (to fit in with School timetable) from May through to September. Supervision is provided on a rota system by members. Contact Lynne Golding 01449 737172.

CONSERVATION AREA

Much of Brettenham is a Conservation Area and the map (at the back of the booklet) shows the limit of this. As a result, Babergh District Council as Local Planning Authority, are able to control or require the following:

- i) consent is required for almost all demolition work, including boundary walls;
- ii) even if a tree does not have a Tree Protection Order on it, in a Conservation Area six weeks' notice of intent is required before carrying out work on all trees, such as cutting down, topping, lopping and uprooting.
- iii) the permitted development rights on residential properties (the amount of development you can undertake without requiring planning permission) is reduced significantly giving the Planning Authority greater control over new development in the area;
- iv) the Council is able to secure a higher standard of design on extensions to existing buildings and new buildings to ensure they acknowledge the vernacular architecture of the area and are constructed of materials common to the locality; and
- v) carry out enhancement schemes, when resources permit. An example might be the undergrounding of overhead wires.

COUNCIL TAX

Council tax is collected by Babergh District Council, based on the relevant band of value (set at 01.04.91). The bill includes monies collected on behalf of Suffolk County Council, the Police Authority and the relevant Parish Council, as well as its own charge. The Parish Council sets its precept (its share of the Council Tax) at their November meeting for the year commencing 1 April the following year.

There are around 230 names on Brettenham's Register of Electors with, say, 112 dwellings, but this is always changing.

ELECTRICITY

EDF Energy Helpline and loss of supply (0800 7838838), both 24/7 availability.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Wheelie Bins Each property has been provided with two free bins, black for household waste and blue for recyclable material. Collections are early morning on Fridays unless there has been a bank holiday in which case the collection is made on the Saturday, with special times for Christmas and Easter – a list is provided by Babergh District Council. **Extra bags, boxes and loose material will not be collected.** If you have an overloading problem, contact Babergh District Council. Brown bins for compostable materials have to be purchased and collections paid for.

Civil Amenity Sites These can be used for the disposal of any domestic or garden waste, large or small. They are open 7 days a week during daylight hours. Do not take trade waste, toxic or liquid waste to these sites. The nearest site in our District is at the Lady Lane Industrial Estate, Hadleigh. There is also one at Stowmarket off A1308 (Mid Suffolk District Council).

Bulky Waste If you have large items like a double bed which you cannot take to the above sites, Babergh District Council will collect them for a small charge providing they are from the house and freestanding – make an appointment with them. This service is for all furniture and appliances but not for DIY or builders waste, fixtures and fittings or garden waste, for which a charge is made.

Cesspool/Septic Tank Emptying Service. There are various local companies who offer this service. Babergh District Council provide a list for information only and they are not subject to Council recommendation. Contact their Environmental Health Department. See phone list at end.

FOOTPATHS

There is a map of footpaths in this parish at the back of the booklet, 14 in all. The Parish has a Footpath Liaison Officer – Beverley Cronk – 01449 737270.

Under the Rights of Way Act 1990:

Suffolk County Council is responsible for

- assuring and protecting the public's rights;
- keeping rights of way free of obstructions;
- keeping the path surface clear of natural vegetation;
- signposting rights of way where they leave a metalled road;
- waymarking the path where the way is unclear;
- recording rights of way on the definitive map.

The landowner or farmer is responsible for:

- maintaining stiles and gates;
- cutting back overhanging vegetation;
- not obstructing rights of way;
- not ploughing field-edge paths
- re-instating cross-field paths within 2 weeks of ploughing or within 24 hours of any subsequent disturbance;
- ensuring that the line of the path is clear on the ground in cultivated fields and not obstructed by growing crops.

Footpaths must be a minimum width of 1 metre across fields and 1.5 metres on field edges.

HISTORY

The first documentary evidence of Brettenham is contained in the Domesday Book (1086). There are four entries relating to the village. Robert, Count of Mortain, held Brettenham as Manor, while the Abbey of St Edmundsbury held an estate stretching from Thorpe Morieux across to Brettenham and Risebroc (Dux Street), part of which eventually formed the nucleus of Ryece Hall Farm. Richard, son of Count Gilbert, had two holdings, 30 acres in the village and 10 acres in Risebroc (probably Dux Street).

By the 12th century, Richard's descendants, who had by then taken the surname of De Clare and had been invested as Earls of Gloucester, had taken control of the bulk of the village with the exception of the Abbey land. By then both estates were being let to the Sampson family and were not separated again at a village level until the 17th century. It was William Sampson who established Brettenham Park when in 1247 he was given Royal permission to establish a hunting reserve on his demesne lands.

In the 15th century the Sampsons inherited the Fellbrigge estates by marriage and moved

to Playford. They retained control of their Brettenham estates until c1512 when, through lack of a male Sampson heir, it passed through the female line to Thomas Felton. The Felton family held the Brettenham lands until the early 1600's when both estates were purchased by Thomas Cutler, who was a wealthy merchant and portman of Ipswich. In 1641 Ryece Hall Farm was settled by Thomas on his daughter, Elizabeth, the wife of Dr Matthew Wren (uncle of Sir Christopher Wren). Ten years earlier, in 1631, Edward Wenyewe had purchased the freehold of Brettenham Manor from Thomas Cutler. The Wenyewe family had been slowly accumulating property in the village since their first appearance in the late 14th century. By 1636 Edward Wenyewe had constructed his family a new mansion within the grounds of the enclosed parkland.

The Wenyewe family were to stay in possession of the estate until 1847 when, after a long legal battle over the property, the executors of Col John Camac (husband of the last of the Wenyewes) were ordered by the Court of Chancery to dispose of the property. Prior to this, in an attempt to make the estate viable, Col Camac had let the Hall, the most notable tenant being Joseph Bonaparte, ex-King of Spain and Naples and brother to Napoleon.

The estate was bought by Mr Joseph Parker in 1850 and although the family was not resident for long, they did make some improvements. In 1856 a new wheelwrights shop was built on the site of an old derelict cottage; this eventually became the petrol filling station, itself now closed with a new development on the site. In addition, the old wheelwrights shop, opposite what is now the Village Hall, was demolished and a row of four cottages together with a new blacksmiths shop was constructed (Quality Row). The estate was sold again in 1860 to Mr Thomas Beale, who carried out some further improvements by constructing a new Park Farm to replace the old farm buildings that were still situated in the Park. In 1902 the estate was purchased by the Warner family of Essex. The estate was finally dissolved in 1956 when the Hall and Park were sold to Old Buckenham Hall School, bringing to an end almost 1000 years of estate history. The farms and the cottages were also sold, mostly to their sitting tenants.

From its beginnings, Brettenham had been a self sufficient agricultural community; right up until the 20th century most services required by the community could be obtained in the village. Like many other medieval villages it had had open fields that were farmed in common. But by the end of the 17th century these had been almost entirely enclosed and only fragments of these once large open fields remained, mostly as strips of glebe. However, many of the farms in the north of the parish reflected this history with their fragmented holdings until well into the 19th century.

Like any other agricultural community it also had its poor, although it does appear to have tried to deal with them as humanely as possible. The extent of poverty in the village is highlighted by the 1664 Hearth Tax. Out of 44 households, 20 were deemed to be too poor to pay and were excused payment. In 1720, in an attempt to alleviate the problem, the village opened a workhouse for 20 inmates. This was used to house the very poor and infirm until Brettenham joined Cosford Union in 1872; after this any residents destined for the workhouse were sent to Semer. The workhouse may have been the house that once stood on Townfield next to Quality Row as this seems to have fallen

into disrepair at the time that the village workhouse was vacated. Most services were provided for the poor, ranging from medical treatment, clothing, firing, rent payments and house repairs. The most aged and infirm were also supported with weekly pensions. The parish also had a small number of townhouses (almshouses) for the poor.

A school was constructed in 1841 and enlarged in 1871 to accommodate 80 pupils (the building at Old School Corner). By the end of the 19th century there was an average attendance of 50 per week. A new school was built by public conscription in 1908 on land donated by a local farmer. This school was closed in 1959 with just 12 pupils. (I am very grateful to Mr Malcolm Marjoram Scarff, MA, for the above. Copies of his history of the village are available from Mr A Webster, The Thatched House – 736609)

LIBRARIES

Books borrowed from Suffolk libraries can be returned to any other library in Suffolk. Nearest are at Lavenham, Stowmarket, Hadleigh or Sudbury. They have varying times of opening, check with Suffolk County Council by phone 01473 588522.

MOBILE LIBRARY visits bi-monthly on Friday stopping at Brettenham Village Hall between 1.15-1.30 pm and at the Church, 3.25-3.40 pm (under review for reducing to once a month).

LISTED BUILDINGS

There is a wealth of listed buildings in our village, as under:-

Category I

Church of St Mary the Virgin

Category II*

The Popples
Brettenham Park (OBH School)

Category II

West lodges and gates to
Brettenham Park
Brewers
Chapel Hill
Charlie's Cottage
Church Farmhouse
The Barn
Crownings
Dove Farmhouse
Francis House
Hitcham Lodge
Lower Farmhouse

Pound Farm
Rose Farm
Ryece Hall
Poplar Farmhouse
St Mary's House
Sparrows Pond and
7 The Street
Thatched House
Tudor Lodge
Walnut Tree Cottage
Nos. 8 and 9 The Street
Nos. 23 and 24 The Street

The owners of the above properties should be aware of their listing and the effect of it but the Clerk has a booklet and further information and free advice is available from Babergh District Council.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL – County Councillor Mr Jeremy Pembroke, Tye House, The Tye, Kersey 01787 210416 (Next election 2015)

BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL – District Councillor Mr Desmond Keane, 37 Chapel Street, Bildeston, IP7 7EP, 741684. (Next election 2015)

BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL OFFICES: Corks Lane, Hadleigh, Ipswich IP7 6SJ. Telephone 01473 822801.

BRETENHAM PARISH COUNCIL meets second Thursday bi-monthly starting January in Village Hall. Agendas displayed on notice board at Village Hall and in Parish Council file in the Church; all residents welcome to attend. Although only Parish Councillors are allowed to speak and vote on issues, there is an open session before the meeting proper starts to allow residents to bring up any matters of concern.

The Annual Parish Meeting is held in April when reports from various local organisations are received and comments, suggestions and complaints are welcomed from all.

Parish Council Members (next election 2015)

A Chairman and a Vice Chairman are elected at the AGM held in May.

Mr Chris Clarke, Arundell House, The Street 01449 736607 - Chairman
Mr David Golding, The Old Forge, The Street 01449 737172 - Vice-Chairman
Mr Paul Brinkley, The Victorian School - Councillor and Planning Committee Chairman
Mr Peter Truin, Cock Farm - 01449 736278 - Councillor
Mrs Lindsey Collings, St Mary's House - 01449 737660 - Councillor
Ms Beverley Cronk, Rose Farm, The Street – 01449 737270 Councillor and Footpath Liaison Officer
Ms Emily Adie, 29 The Street – 01449 736965 - Councillor

Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer appointed by the Parish Council is Ms Margarett Birkinshaw, 4 Cottesford Close, Hadleigh, Suffolk – 01473 822860

The Register of Electors is issued every year and is held by the Parish Clerk.

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT – Mr Tim Yeo, MP, House of Commons, Westminster, SW1 0AA. We have 7 members of the **EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT** representing the Eastern area of UK; please contact Electoral Registration Officer at Babergh District Council if you need more details.

MAGAZINE

The first issue was produced in February 1988 and is published monthly. The Editor from Issue 1 has been David Carter – 01449 737792. Email: davidcarter@aol.com

Contributions are always welcome but name and address of contributor must be given; if it is desired that this information is not included in the magazine, please state. Deadline for contributions is 15th of preceding month, delivery by end of month. It is delivered by a band of volunteers, free to all homes in the village. The cost is met by the Parish Council out of their precept and from donations, sales and advertising revenue.

MEDICAL SERVICES

The village is mostly served by **BILDESTON HEALTH CENTRE**, with Doctor's Clark, Fairweather and Hainsworth. They have their own dispensary. A list of surgery times and special clinics is available from the Centre. Tel No 01449 740254.

HOSPITALS – There are two hospitals – West Suffolk at Bury St Edmunds (Tel 01284 713000) and Ipswich (Tel 01473 712333). Both have accident and emergency departments.

CAR SERVICE/MEALS ON WHEELS – Run by the WVS, contact Mrs Ratcliffe on 740648 for more information.

MOBILE SERVICES

Fish & Chip van calls in the village every Wednesday evening, around 6.45-7.15 pm, stopping at several places between OBH School gates and Church Road

Milk Dairy Crest, Western Way, Bury St Edmunds 01842 855 960

Newspapers Bildeston News, 30 High Street, Bildeston 01449 740375

Grass-fed beef and rose veal available at Punchards Farm Rattlesden Tel 01449 736395

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Set up in 1995, the scheme seeks to help the Police in the prevention of crime. Effectiveness depends among other things on having as many residents as possible involved. If you have a sticker in your window, you are a member! New members always welcome – contact Annie Tavener, The Grange – 01449 736412.

OPEN SPACES

The Village Green is the triangle of land outside the Church and was registered Common Land in 1968. The grass cutting is carried out by the Parochial Church Council's contractor, a donation towards the cost of this and of the burial ground is made by the Parish Council. The Village Sign is here, provided by Brettenham Village Fund and erected in 1988. The wooden seat, dedicated to the memory of Mr Tom Horrex was bought by the Fund in 1989 with a donation from the Village Hall Committee.

On Mill Green, at the junction of The Street and Dux Street, there is a sweet chestnut tree provided by Suffolk County Council to replace the lime killed by their salt for the roads. The seat here was the village's prize for winning the Babergh District Council's Village of the Year Competition in 1995.

The Playing Field beyond the Village Hall is run by Brettenham Parish Council but belongs to Park Farm. The seats there are dedicated to the memory of Mr J Wynne-Williams (previous landowner who arranged for it to be set aside for use by the village) and Mrs Janet Warner. The swings were installed in 1993 and the play equipment more recently, both being paid for by Brettenham Village Fund. Parking spaces run alongside the road leading to Park Farm and were provided at the same time as the most recent improvements to the Village Hall.

There is also a small area opposite the Park gates, sometimes referred to as Pump Green as there is still a pump there though not working.

There is a good show of Spring bulbs along The Street verge provided over the years by residents, floral beds on the Village Green provided/maintained by the Centre Academy for East Anglia (formerly the Old Rectory School), and floral boxes at Pump Green and Mill Green provided and/or maintained by villagers.

POLICE

Brettenham is covered by Hadleigh Police Station. There is information about the relevant Beat Officer(s) on the Village Hall Notice Board. Telephone contact number is 01473 613500 but in cases of emergency ring 999 and ask for **POLICE**.

POST BOXES/OFFICES

These are situated outside The Old Post Office, The Street, Old School Corner and Mill Green. Last collection times are given on the boxes and they are quite early! Felsham Post Office has a later collection time.

There are Post Offices at:

BILDESTON – 30 High Street, Bildeston, Ipswich, Suffolk – 01449 740375

FELSHAM – Church Road, Felsham - 01449 736260

HITCHAM – The Causeway, Hitcham – 01449 740224

LAVENHAM – 25 High Street, Lavenham, Sudbury, Suffolk – 01787 247320

The MAIN POST OFFICES are at 62 Ipswich Street, STOWMARKET and 63 High Street, HADLEIGH also at SUDBURY and BURY ST EDMUNDS.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

There is a one bus a day service Monday to Saturday to **BURY ST EDMUNDS departing Brettenham Church 0702 hrs for Bury St Edmunds (bus station/West Suffolk Hospital) returning from Bury St Edmunds bus station at 1745 (Galloways bus service 377)**. As times are subject to change check with Suffolk County Council or Traveline before travelling (see 'Useful Information' at back of brochure for tel nos). The Suffolk Link Demand Responsive Transport (DRT) for the Cosford Area serves Brettenham and bookings can be made on 01473 826242. Journeys using DRT need to be booked in advance.

Nearest rail stations are Stowmarket, Needham Market and Bury St Edmunds.

PUBS

There is no public house in Brettenham now, the last one to close being The Crown, now a private house, Crownings. However the Brettenham Village Association runs a **Village Inn** on the first Friday of the month from 7.30 – 11.00 pm, where good food and drink are available in a friendly atmosphere. The Village Inn also opens at lunchtime 12.30 pm - 2.30pm once each month, on the Sunday two weeks after the Friday Inn.

RECYCLING

Our recycling bins were removed when the Village Hall extension was built but there are bins in nearby villages or at major supermarkets.

SCHOOLS

Brettenham School closed in January 1959. The children of the village are taken by bus to and from the following State schools:

Rattlesden Primary School, for children 5-9 (plus a nursery class)

Beyton Middle School, for children 9-13

Thurston School, for children 13-18.

Old Buckenham Hall School was founded in 1862 at Lowestoft and moved to Brettenham in 1956, becoming a Charitable Trust in 1968. It is an independent day and boarding school for boys and girls aged between 7 and 13 years. The Nursery and Pre-Prep departments take pupils from the age of two and a half. Standing in its own beautiful grounds within a seventy-five acre park in the heart of the Suffolk countryside, OBH offers a rare setting for the achievement of excellence. Further details can be obtained from the School at Brettenham Park, Brettenham Suffolk, IP7 7PH, telephone 01449 740252, email office@obh.co.uk.

Centre Academy for East Anglia (formerly Old Rectory School) is a special needs day and boarding school providing specialist support to children aged 4 (in a pre-prep department) to 18. Further details can be obtained from the School, telephone 01449 736404, email admin@centreacademy.net.

TELEPHONE

There is a public call box in the Church Car Park.

TREES

There are Tree Preservation Orders in effect and owners should be aware if there is such a tree on their property. A detailed list is available from the Tree Warden Dr Wendy Wakeman on 01449 737387 or Babergh District Council. In addition, before carrying out any work on trees growing in the **Conservation area**, six weeks notice to Babergh District Council is required.

BRETTEHAM VILLAGE ASSOCIATION

This was set up in 2009 to take over the responsibilities previously held by two bodies the Village Fund and the Village Hall Management Committee. Officers are elected at the AGM, but all members of the village are members, and can attend and vote on issues at meetings. Organising Committees or task groups are set up as and when required. It is now responsible for organising social activities and fundraising for local amenities, as well as the maintenance and well being of the Village Hall. There will be reports of its activities and plans given at every Parish Council meeting and at the Annual Parish Meeting in April when accounts are also presented to the village. Notice is given in the magazine of elected officers and the committee is a flexible one – meetings are always open to anyone who likes to come along.

Probably their best supported venture is the Village Inn, held monthly in the Village Hall, where good food and drink is available in comfortable surroundings. Another popular event is a Safari Supper (which although not held on a regular basis is arranged from time to time), where participants only have to provide one course for six people (including themselves) in their own home to enjoy an evening of good company, food and drink in other homes with everyone meeting up at start and finish; it is a very good way for newcomers to get to know their fellow villagers. Other regular items are the Quiz, a well supported Bonfire/Fireworks Party is held annually in the OBH School grounds around 5 November in association with Friends of the School.

Out of profits, the Village Sign, seats on Village Green and Playing Field, the play equipment on the Playing Field etc plus regular contributions towards the cost of the Magazine have been provided. The Brettenham Village Association is always open to suggestions on how to raise funds and where funds should be spent – contact Chairman Peter Truin, Cock Farm – 01449 736278.

VILLAGE HALL

The Hall began life, like the school and the chapel, in the early 1900s. It was built by Sir Courteney Warner Bt. As the Village Reading Room and newspapers were sent down from the Hall each day for the men of the village to read. A number of indoor games were introduced and the building served as a kind of working men's club. The Deed of Gift, by which Sir Courteney conveyed the premises to his son (later Sir Edward Warner) in 1920, describes the hall as the Village Reading Room and Public Hall. From this time its use as a meeting place for the village clubs and functions steadily developed. Following Sir Edward's death in 1955, the Brettenham Park Estate Company conveyed the hall to the village for the sum of £100, in October 1956. Money from the former Local Nursing Association was used to make the purchase. Adjacent land was acquired in the 1970's for a rear extension and to provide car parking. This extension was demolished and the Hall was extended and up to date facilities, including facilities for the disabled, were installed in 2004.

The Hall is run by the Brettenham Village Association. There are four Trustees serving a term of 4 years. In addition to income from lettings, profits from the weekly whist drives and the monthly Little Ernie draw (see below) go towards the upkeep and maintenance.

WHIST DRIVES are held weekly on Wednesday evenings in the Village Hall. Please contact Eileen Gooderham at 1 Potash Cottages tel 737755 for details.

For details of the **BIGGER ERNIE** draw, please contact Peter Truin on 07799 640326 or David Carter on 01449 737792.

Current letting charges are advertised on the Village Hall notice board. Current booking clerk is Anne Townsend, 65 The Street – telephone 01449 736052. All bookings should be made through her.

WATER

There is no main drainage and your bills should only show a charge for water supply.

Anglian Water's local contact point for enquiries and emergencies is 08457 145 145 and to report a leak 0800 771881.

See next page for Useful Numbers

USEFUL CONTACTS

(Whilst every effort has been made to ensure these numbers are correct their accuracy cannot be guaranteed)

Citizens Advice Bureau	676060/676280
Babergh District Council	01473 822801
Suffolk County Council	01473 583000
EDF Electricity	0800 7838838
Anglian Water	0800 771881/08457 145 145
Suffolk Police	01473 613500
Sudbury Police Station	01284 774300
Bildeston Surgery	01449 740254
West Suffolk Hospital	01284 713000
Ipswich Hospital	01473 712233
Stowmarket Tourist Information	01449 676800
Stowmarket Job Centre	01449 623500
Stowmarket Library	01449 613143
One Railways	0845 600 7245
National Travel	0871 200 3456
Traveline	0871 200 2233
Local Bus Information	0870 608 2608
Demand Responsive Transport (DRT)	01473 826242
Mid Suffolk Leisure Centre	01449 674980
Hitcham Post Office	01449 740224
Felsham Post Office	01449 736260
Cockfield Post Office	01284 828201
Bildeston Post Office	01449 740375
Hadleigh Post Office	01473 822144
Lavenham Post Office	01787 247320
Rattlesden Play Group	01449 736460
Rattlesden Primary School	01449 736335
Beyton Middle School	01359 270347
Thurston Upper School	01359 230885
Buxhall Crown	01449 736521
Felsham Bells	01449 736268
Hitcham White Horse	01449 740981
Thorpe Bull	01284 828320
Greenwood Waste Disposal	01449 740286
Binders Waste Disposal	01473 831582
Tramor Waste Disposal	01787 313795
Cargate Engineering (Waste Disposal)	01284 386538