

A TRIBUTE TO PETER ARBON, LATE OF BRANDESTON

Peter Arbon, one of Suffolk's great characters, has died at the age of 88. Resident in the village of Brandeston for virtually his entire life he had, latterly, been well looked after at Allonsfield House Care Home, in Campsea Ashe, where he passed away on Sunday, 12 April, 2015

The youngest of a family of 13 children, Peter was the last surviving member of his generation of Arbons. He first attended the village school, then Framlingham Modern only to leave, as many did, at the age of fourteen. He had, as a youngster, helped out on the Brandeston Hall Estate. The War Years apart, when he worked for the family at Monewden Hall when they relocated, temporarily, to Aldeburgh his entire working life was spent at Brandeston Hall, once it was established as the Junior School of Framlingham College.



Peter enjoyed a fearsome reputation at horticultural shows around the County, invariably coming away with a guaranteed haul of medals and certificates for both vegetables and blooms of immaculate quality. When not exhibiting himself he was much in demand as a qualified show judge. He served some 60 years with the village bell-ringers group and his name was rarely absent from the crib and steel quoits team sheets at the Brandeston 'Queen' – nor from that of the Earl Soham 'Falcon' bowls team. Peter was also a keen motor-cyclist and always easily identifiable as such, on the highways and country lanes of Suffolk. He once wrote off a Honda 125, legend has it, by running it up a tree in Earl Soham (a story probably embellished in the re-telling!) Indisputable though is the fact that, at the age of 84, he promptly invested in a replacement!

Bob Williams (Hon OF)
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