

# ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR, GREAT BROMLEY

united with St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh



# June 2006

Vol 20 No 3

## LOOKING BACK AND LOOKING FORWARD

### Services for June

1st	7.00pm	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
2nd	11.00am	The Eucharist	<i>Seven Rivers</i>
3rd	9.00am	The Eucharist & Rosary	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b>Sunday 4th Pentecost</b>			
	7.30am	Morning Prayer	<i>St George the Martyr</i>
	8.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	10.30am	The Parish Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	12 noon onwards	Churches Together	<i>Laford</i>
5th	9.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
7th	7.00pm	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
8th	7.00pm	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
9th	11.00am	The Eucharist	<i>Seven Rivers</i>
10th	9.00am	The Eucharist & Rosary	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b>Sunday 11th Trinity Sunday</b>			
	7.30am	Morning Prayer	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	8.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	10.30am	The Parish Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
12th	9.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
14th	6.00pm	The Eucharist	<i>Hamilton Lodge</i>
15th		<b>Corpus Christi</b>	
	7.00pm	The Parish Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
16th	11.00am	The Eucharist	<i>Seven Rivers</i>
	5.00pm	Wedding of Loretta Lonergan & Sean Williams	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
17th	9.00am	The Eucharist & Rosary	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b>Sunday 18th Trinity 1</b>			
	7.30am	Morning Prayer	<i>St George the Martyr</i>
	8.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	10.30am	The Parish Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	<i>St George the Martyr</i>
19th	9.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
21st	7.00pm	The Eucharist	<i>St George the Martyr</i>
22nd	7.00pm	The Eucharist	<i>St Mary the Virgin</i>
23rd	11.00am	The Eucharist	<i>Seven Rivers</i>
<b>Sunday 25th Trinity 2</b>			
	8.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	10.30am	The Parish Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
26th	9.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
28th	7.00pm	The Eucharist	<i>St George the Martyr</i>
29th		<b>SS Peter &amp; Paul</b>	
	9.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
30th	11.00am	The Eucharist	<i>Seven Rivers</i>
31st	9.00am	The Eucharist & Rosary	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>

Twenty years ago this month the first edition of 'The Bromley Messenger' was delivered free - as it is now - to every house in Great and Little Bromley. This all came about through the hard work of the then Rector, The Revd Paul Davis (editor), Len Christodoulides, the Treasurer (then and now) and Lorna Brown who was in charge of distribution. The WI were responsible for folding and stapling it with Meriel Davis typing it up on her typewriter

community issues such as the fact that parcels - not for you - have been left on your doorstep, posting on-line the finding of lost keys or even a discussion about all those rubber bands the postman keeps leaving. Actually I wonder what to do with those too. One wonders where this is all leading and whether in 20 years' time the magazine will be being distributed electronically to every household. More and more organisations now send out newsletters or e-zines by e-mail.

The object was "to have a very readable and interesting magazine which will reflect and report on the many activities of our two villages.



In order that this happens, it is essential that reports are submitted for publication. ... These aims are the same today, 20 years on, and I hope you feel it is a good read. Paul Davis edited the magazine until April 1993 when I took over as editor typing out the May 1993 issue on our new PC (15Mhz 1Mb RAM 20 Mb HD - we tend to forget what it was like!). The early editions were duplicated on a roneo. There then followed a period when a "hard" or paper copy, literally produced by "cut and paste" methods, was sent to the printers. Today the whole magazine is produced on the computer before being sent as a .pdf file by e-mail to Hot-Line Printers for printing as an A5 booklet and also to the Webmaster who puts it on the village site on the internet. How technology has moved on!

Looking back over 20 years of the magazine one sees that there have been many changes to the villages, some good, some not so. There are no longer any youth

organisations in the village and some of the annual events such as the carnival and the pantomime are no longer run. However there are still many things going on and this month, included with the Gt Bromley magazines, is the Village Appraisal 2006 for you all to complete and return to Ken Bromfield, Clerk of the Parish Council. This is a really comprehensive questionnaire to help find ways of benefiting our community and much thought and hard work has gone into producing it.

On the subject of anniversaries this is also the year of the Queen's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday and John Appleby remembers the day in March 1958 when the Queen stopped in Great Bromley en route to Holland via Harwich.

I read an article the other day about community forums whereby you can have on-line chats with your neighbours about

*Leonie Henderson*

## TENDRING DISTRICT PLAN

The parish council has established a working party, in conjunction with our neighbouring parish councils, to prepare our case for submission to the inspector at the public planning inquiry. If you know a reason why there should not be industrial or housing development in our village, please tell our parish clerk.

Everyone who sent a form to Tendring District Council objecting to the Oasis industrial development and who does not intend to speak at the inquiry, should inform the parish clerk (tel. 230089). It is important that the parish council knows the names of all objectors in order to represent them at the inquiry. This will greatly help our case.

*James Heaney  
Chairman, Gt Bromley Parish Council*

## GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE APPRAISAL AND PLAN

As outlined in the May edition of the Bromley Messenger, Great Bromley Parish Council intends to undertake a Village Appraisal during June and July 2006. This appraisal comprises a simple questionnaire which has been delivered to you with this magazine for completion at your convenience. The questionnaire offers all households in the village the opportunity to give their views on a selection of topical issues – and to raise any other points or concerns that they may have about the environment, community and services within the village.

Completion of the questionnaire will ultimately benefit YOU as it will enable Great Bromley Parish Council and other local organisations to direct attention and resources where residents consider them to be most needed. Knowing what is most important to you and your household also offers the chance to improve community relationships and the general environment in the village. Although sponsored by the Parish Council, the

questionnaire has been drawn up by a committee comprising representatives of various organisations in the village with one aim in mind: to make the most of the village in which we live.

Please complete the questionnaire as soon as possible and return it in the stamped addressed envelope **by 10<sup>th</sup> July at the latest**. The questionnaire is in **two parts**. **Part A** is for an adult to complete, giving the representative views of adults within your household. **Part B** is for a young person (11-17 years) to complete, giving the representative views of young people in this age group within your household (if any).

The questionnaire takes only a short time to fill in **and is completely anonymous**. Please return yours promptly and help to make Great Bromley a more vibrant village and an even better place in which to live.

*Martin Frostick*

**The Parish Council** are pleased to have sponsored this month's 'Bromley Messenger'.

Look out for the Council's Annual Report for 2005/2006 in next month's magazine.

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**THE UNITED PARISHES OF ARDLEIGH AND THE BROMLEYS**

The Rectory, Hall Road, Great Bromley, CO7 7TS



Dear Parishioner,

Every five years central Church encourages her members to think and pray on what is called the "Parish Vision". Every Parochial Church Council has to produce a document laying out the present situation and looking forward to the next ten years. This process is underway now so I am writing to ask you as members of the parish how you see the Church Of England in this place and how you would like to see it - if that is different!

Answers you give on Great Bromley's questionnaire will be of great use, and those of you in Ardleigh, Little Bromley or who travel in, can respond either verbally or via the written word. The PCC will then have to formulate a response for the autumn that will go to make an area plan for the Deanery of Harwich. This is not merely an exercise on paper as it will result in central church looking at which churches are to be kept open, when clergy and resources are to be channelled.

We are in the fortunate position here of having lively, growing congregations in beautiful historic buildings; but resources are being stretched and no one is immune to that. We can work on our plan from a strong place and seek to build for future generations as signs of our confidence in God's love for all forever.

The primary vision must be for Christians that God is worshipped and served in this place. From that though flow many different ideas and paths. The provision of facilities in the Churches is a practical way that the PCCs are seeking to serve God in His people; making our beautiful

Churches welcoming places of sanctuary. Serving God first, then you his children, is what we are about. So if you have any ideas how you'd like to see that happen please let us know.

Yours in His Service  
*Fr Nicolas*

## THANKS

**Thank you to all of you** who helped with the Plant Sale at Ilex Farm on 6th May. The weather was kind to us and so were many of you for supporting us, thank you so much. To date we have raised £988.50.

*Ann and James*



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## CHURCH NOTES

The Parochial Church Council met on April 19<sup>th</sup>.

Priority was given to consideration of the issues about which concern was expressed at the Annual Meeting in March. These issues were: women priests, the links between church and school and the proposed new facilities. Discussion in relation to the two former matters will be continued at the next meeting on June 21<sup>st</sup> and decisions taken will be reported in the 'Bromley Messenger' as well as in the Benefice Newsletter. With regard to the new facilities, the application for a faculty (the church equivalent of planning permission) has been submitted to the diocese. There have been formal objections to the plans and these are now being considered by the diocese. We are waiting to hear how the church authorities wish to take the matter forward.

A barn dance was held in the village hall on April 22 and was an enjoyable occasion. The plant sale at Ilex Farm on May 6<sup>th</sup> raised the excellent sum of £1,000. Thank you to everyone who assisted with these events.

A Flower Festival will be held in St. Mary's Ardleigh over the Bank Holiday weekend, May 27/28/29<sup>th</sup>. There will be stalls and a display for Water Aid and a warm welcome is extended to everyone.

The church will be contributing questions to the village appraisal currently being carried out by the Parish Council. Members of the PCC are anxious to learn how residents of Gt. Bromley view St. George's and its role in village life.



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## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

### Great Bromley Parish Council

#### Report of the Annual Parish Assembly and annual and routine parish council meetings held on 11 May 2006 Planning

*The Council considered and agreed views on the following planning applications:*

**Southerndown, Frating Road** – rear conservatory (no objections).

**Quintrel, Chase Road West** – single story extension (no objections).

**Elm Cottage, Harwich Road** – two replacement bungalows (no objections).

**Land Adjacent to The Spread Eagle** – stable block, store, tack room and manège (objections).

*Tendring District Council has made the following planning decisions:*

**16 Bromley Road** – two-storey rear extension, (refusal).

**'Junedene' Frating Road** – amendments to scheme (approval).

**'Wayside' Hall Road** – garage conversion and porch, (approval).

**Coppice View caravan site, Carrington's Road** - extension to utility block, (approval).

*Planning applications received for consideration at June meeting:*

**The Cross Inn, Ardleigh Road** – application for change of use from public house to private dwelling.

#### Annual Parish Council Meeting

At the annual meeting Major Heaney and Col Frostick were elected respectively chairman and vice-chairman of the council. The following appointments were also made: Footpath Warden – Mr Sievewright, Col Frostick – Tree Warden, War Memorial Custodian – Mr Bloomfield, Auditor – Mr John Turner.

#### Annual Parish Assembly

Three residents were present to hear reports presented by the chairman and other councillors and officers. There was then an opportunity to ask questions of the council. The council's annual report will be lodged in due course on the village website.

#### Future meetings

The next meeting of the Council will be at 7.30 pm on Thursday 8 June 2006 at the Village Hall Great Bromley.

### Hanningfield Awards 2006

Each year the County Council provides grants of up to £2000 each to young people in Essex to help them undertake innovative or challenging projects. Projects can be concerned with for example: community development, volunteering, the environment, disability, the arts, international understanding etc..... Applicants must be between 16 and 25 years old and can apply as individuals or as a group.

Further information and application forms can be obtained from: Hanningfield Awards c/o Jillian Frake PO Box 47 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor E Block County Hall Chelmsford CM2 6WN, tel: 01245 436632, email: [Jill.frake@essexcc.gov.uk](mailto:Jill.frake@essexcc.gov.uk). The closing date for receipt of applications is 23 June 2006.

### Little Bromley Parish Council

The next meeting of Little Bromley Parish Council will be held on 8th June 2006.

For the time and venue please contact the Parish Clerk on 01206 391015.

## FROM THE PAST ...

### H.M. MEETS MRS JOANNA LOCKE

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh were en route by road to Harwich and Holland on Monday, 24th March, 1958 and it was arranged that there would be a stop at Hare Green to allow Her Majesty to meet Mrs Joanna Locke, aged 105. Joanna lived in chapel Lane.

It was estimated that there was a crowd of some 2,000 along the route through the village. I took the pupils of Thorrington School to my house at Elmstead Market and they cheered her there.

As it was cold the Queen insisted that Joanna should remain in the car of the Rector, the Revd James H Ransom, and she would go to her there.



The Editor of the East Essex Gazette newspaper offered to donate a seat with an inscribed plaque on it and it could be placed at the stopping point. The Rector obtained an enlarged photograph of the event and one was placed in the Village Hall and one in the School whose pupils were there to see the Queen.



Joanna, born on 13th February, 1853 at Peldon, died ten weeks after the event on 10th June and was buried in the grave of her late husband at Langenhoe. A message from the Queen was read at the service.

David Harding whose birthday was on 13th February, 1953, visited her at the time and took her a sheaf of daffodils.

King George V always sent a telegram and a box of purple South African grapes to those who reached one hundred years when there were not so many who reached that age!

The seat was presented by Mrs Geoffrey Hirst, Managing Director of the East Essex Gazette on Sunday, 12th October, 1958. The local Burnt Heath Silver Band was in attendance.

John Appleby

## Proverbs of the 3rd Millennium

- Home is where you hang your @.
- The email of the species is more deadly than the mail.
- A journey of a thousand sites begins with a single click.
- You can't teach a new mouse old clicks.
- Great groups from little icons grow.
- Speak softly and carry a cellular phone.
- In some places, C:\ is the root of all directories.
- Oh, what a tangled Website we weave when first we practice.
- Pentium wise, pen and paper foolish.
- The modem is the message.
- Too many clicks spoil the browse.
- The geek shall inherit the earth.
- Don't byte off more than you can view.
- Fax is stranger than fiction.
- What boots up must come down.
- Windows will never cease.
- Virtual reality is its own reward.
- Modulation in all things.
- There's no place like your homepage.
- Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day, teach him to use the Net and he won't bother you for weeks



## ESSEX POLICE

Some weeks ago I sent word that there is a new sergeant based at Weeley (along with a small team of

neighbourhood officers) and therefore the following areas were covered by Weeley police – Lt Clacton, Thorpe, Weeley, Elmstead, Frating, Thorrington, Beaumont, Gt Bentley and **Gt Bromley**. Brightlingsea were to cover Brightlingsea, St Osyth and Alresford.

As is often the case in the police service the sergeant was transferred suddenly and I find myself covering both Brightlingsea and Weeley police areas.

We have a mobile phone at both Weeley and Brightlingsea for persons, such as parish councillors, to contact local officers on NON – URGENT matters, these numbers are –

Weeley – 07967466876  
Brightlingsea - 07801316876

Please do not hesitate to contact me or local officers if required.

*Andy Hastings, Police Sergeant 2326, Brightlingsea, 17140*

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**WHO ARE THEY?**



The above photograph has recently been sent to me and was taken at the Great Bromley carnival in 1978. The theme seems to be road signs but does anyone remember what it is all about. And who are the children?

If anyone knows anything do please let me know - Editor

*The photograph has been reprinted courtesy of Let's Talk! Archant Suffolk.*

**20 YEARS CELEBRATION OF  
'THE BROMLEY MESSENGER'**

The Bromley Messenger is marking the 20 years of its  
existence with a get together of all the people involved in its  
production and distribution on  
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## WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Recently, at the end of April, ten of our members spent a pleasant time at the 'Spring Group Meeting' arranged by the Wrabness WI. Gt Bromley won the competition cup with a display of five items for a wedding, laid out in an area the size of a card table.

It was our 'Resolutions Meeting' last month and we had two to discuss. The first one, 'Sport for a healthy population' urges HM Government to recognize that sport is an essential factor of a healthy population, to ensure re-establishment of sport in the school curricula and to reverse the decline in provision of sporting facilities particularly in the light of the 2012 Olympics being awarded to London. The second resolution, 'Renewable Energy', is to urge the Government at all

levels to put in place legislation and policy requiring the use of renewable energy technologies in all new buildings, rebuilding and renovation projects.

We were in favour of both Resolutions and our Delegate will vote accordingly at the National Federation of Women's Institutes Conference, to be held in Cardiff in June. Afterwards, we all thoroughly enjoyed the surprise refreshments which our committee had prepared for us.

This month the committee will have a well earned rest as it is the Members' Meeting. We will be pleased to see anyone who would like to come along on Wednesday 7th June at 7.30pm in the village hall.

June Willgress

## FRIENDSHIP CLUB

**OPEN DAY:** Last year it was an "experiment". This year it was a SUCCESS to which we owe many thanks to many people. Firstly to the members who collected things for their stalls and put on a very good show. Next to everyone who supported us by their attendance. To Deans Nursery and Blenheim Nursery who donated plants sincere thanks and to the generous people who donated money as they were unable to attend.

Lastly, but not least, very special thanks to Angie Diggins, TV Personality, who gave such a wonderful performance with her beautiful singing and playing on the organ which was made more interesting by a very large mirror placed behind it to allow us to see her hands whizzing along, with her feet constantly working on the pedals. Well done Angie - come again soon.

Our next meeting is on 15th June and the competition is "A small picture of a woodland scene".

Vicky Griffiths



## MATERIAL for the JUNE

2006 edition of 'The Messenger' should reach the Editor, Leonie Henderson, by **MONDAY, 19th June, 2006** please. Contributions from anonymous sources will not be printed.

Copy can either be delivered by hand or sent by post, fax or e-mail. (see inside front cover for details)

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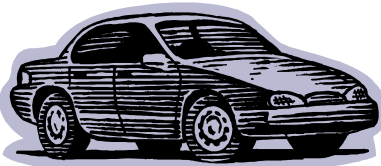
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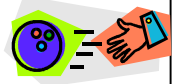
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## CARPET BOWLS

On 29th April Brenda and Richard welcomed 20 Club members and guests to the Cross Inn for our Annual Dinner. They all enjoyed a very good meal in a very lively atmosphere. Thanks go to Pat for making the arrangements.

Now, coming down to earth, we have played two friendly matches recently at home, we beat Jaywick 7-2 and on 10th May Stratford St. Mary 8-1. Everyone gets at least two 7 end games in a friendly match and there is no restriction on the number of players a club can field.



No more match fixtures for a few weeks, so if anyone wishes to come along and 'have a go' you will be made welcome

*Nancy Kempster*

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## BRIGHTLINGSEA & DISTRICT ROTARY CLUB

Raising money for charity is not the only thing Rotarians do. They, like so many other organisations want to have a social aspect to encourage the fellowship that gives rise to a sense of team effort.

Last month seven couples went to Paris for the weekend. It was during the student "riots" who were protesting about legislation that was trying to make part time employment more equitable to full

time but did allow employers to sack them more easily. We went armed with placards so that we could blend in easily if necessary, but forgot that French people spoke French, not like they do in

Hello Hello or like Inspector Cleuseau. Police were well kitted out with roller blades and there are even roller blade "tracks" around central Paris for locals to use (like bike lanes).

Interestingly you can still walk around the inside of Sacre Coeur while mass is taking place. The Metro system is cheap unlike our underground though I managed to get left behind as there was not enough room for me and a case showing the true attitude of Rotarians and the Team Effort (for which I was awarded the "Pillocks Plate" - but more of this another time).

*Len Christodoulides*

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Now the summer season is upon us outside visits are being organised for the children.

Two of these will have already taken place when you read this, but on any of these visits helpers are often needed and if you would like to be involved please contact the School.

- 15 May - Colchester Zoo
- 19 May - Barleylands Farm, Billericay
- 22 June - Fingringhoe Wick Nature Reserve
- 6 July - It's your move - Lawford Venture Centre



## Great Bromley & Frating Playgroup

At Great Bromley Village Hall.

Monday & Thursday 9.30-12 noon  
Wednesday 9.15-11.45am  
& 12.15-2.45pm

(Lunch time session also available)  
Children: 2years-6 months to 5years.  
£5.00 per session Ofsted inspected.  
For more details/visits, please contact  
Group Secretary-Debbie on 01206  
250183



## Scallywags

At Great Bromley Village Hall  
Friday Mornings 9.30-11.30am  
0-5years.Parent and child group.  
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## KITCHEN CORNER

June is the month for the elderflower blossom, so make the most of its delicious flavouring in drinks and puddings

### Elderflower Cordial

This recipe makes enough to fill two large cordial bottles. Keep in the fridge - or you can freeze it successfully.

3 pints water (boiling)

3lbs sugar

1oz citric or tartaric acid

4 citrus fruits, oranges, lemons or limes or any mixture

24 elderflower heads, preferably just opened.

Wash and slice the citrus fruits, shake the flowers well to get rid of any insects. Put all in a large bowl or a pail and pour on the boiling water. Stir till the sugar has dissolved, then leave to stand overnight, covered. Strain the cordial - a piece of muslin in the strainer will catch any bits, then bottle. Dilute to taste.



### Gooseberry Ice Delight

Serves 4-6

1 pt water ) make a syrup and boil till reduced somewhat  
6 oz sugar )

Add 2 or 3 elderflower heads and infuse for a few minutes before removing them.

Add 1lb prepared gooseberries and simmer very gently till softened but not broken.

Lift out with perforated spoon, and cool in a dish. Cool the syrup before freezing it in a tray.

To serve, put some gooseberries in each glass or dish and top with the sorbet. Hand round shortbread or suitable biscuits with it.

The gooseberries can be frozen in a covered container to keep. The sorbet should also be covered if keeping.



Jill Frostick

## GARDENER'S TIPS FOR JUNE

**SHRUBS:** Take leaf cuttings of clematis, softwood cuttings for fuchsia and cotoneaster

**ROSES:** To get large blooms from hybrid roses start disbudding

**CHRYSANTHEMUMS:** Stop outdoor flowering plants this month

**IRISES:** Tall bearded irises may need supporting. After flowering cut back stems.

Frank Griffiths

Dawn Whitnall  
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## SURGERY NEWS

### Ardleigh Surgery

#### Accessing services

Unfortunately our normal locum GPs are not available this summer and rather than engage locums from an agency we do not know, the doctors have decided to cover the holidays themselves.

This does mean that from June to September we will be setting aside more 'same day' appointments and, therefore, at times patients will be asked to telephone on the day to make an appointment rather than pre-book a few days ahead. This will mean patients may have to wait longer than normal to see a GP of their choice.

It is suggested, that if your doctor asks you to 'come back in x weeks time' that you pre-book the appointment before you leave the surgery rather than telephoning and expecting to obtain an appointment with that particular doctor on that day.

Kate Strowbridge, our Nurse Practitioner, will be available to deal with urgent appointments and as a nurse prescriber is allowed to issue and sign prescription forms for a wide range of drugs from the national formulary. Catherine Arter, our other Practice Nurse, can also help



with routine problems and may request a doctor to issue a prescription. Janet Burgess, our Phlebotomist, is being trained currently to undertake the role of a Health Care Assistant. This will enable the practice to use her to support the doctors for routine practice nursing tasks such as blood pressure monitoring, new patients checks, urine testing in addition to her normal work in taking bloods samples.

Once the appointments for the morning are booked, we offer all patients an appointment at 11.40 am if they require to see a doctor urgently that day. This means they have to wait until doctors finish their normal surgeries. Can we remind patients that this session should not be viewed as an 'open' session but only for urgent problems and you may not always be able to see your preferred doctor.

Can patients please avoid telephoning the surgery with routine enquiries at busy times such as Monday and Tuesday mornings. Also please telephone after 2 pm for blood and other pathology results as this gives time for the doctors to review and file the results.

#### Dispensing

We have been experiencing an increasing number of patients who are running out of their repeat medicines and expecting to obtain a supply that day. This is putting a lot of additional pressure on the Dispenser who has to deal with the normal days repeats and requests for medicines for patients with acute prescriptions issued by doctors or nurses during consultations. As patients are aware we do ask for 48 hours notice for repeat medication. This gives time for the Dispenser to order drugs not on the dispensary shelf, dispense medicines and answer queries.

Patients are, therefore, requested to order their repeat medication in a week or so before running out. The bank holidays also present a problem with patients ordering their medication earlier than normal. This means the prescription line and dispensary becomes much busier impacting on the level of service we provide. There is no need to order early if the surgery is closed for a few days unless you know that your medication will run out during that long weekend or you are going away on holiday.



Another suggestion which would help our staff is to avoid telephoning for repeats, if possible, at busy times such as Monday and Tuesday mornings. You should find that you can get through on the prescription line quicker at other times.

The surgery is getting busier all the time and we look to patients to access services appropriately and help us continue to provide a responsive service as far as possible.

#### Choose and Book

The practice is making progress in referring more patients to hospital using the new Choose and Book internet based referral system. The Choose and Book system shows a GP the available hospital services they can refer patients to and background information about the hospital such as star rating and waiting times. It allows the patient make a choice of the hospital they wish to attend and to book their first outpatient appointment at the time they are referred. The doctors can now book on-line with Colchester General Hospital since the hospital upgraded their computer system successfully early May.

## GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

The Villager Hall committee met on 25th April with eight members present and was chaired by Pat Petchey in the unavoidable absence of both the chairman and the vice-chairman.

Many important issues were on the agenda. The end of financial year Accounts were considered and approved; they will be put forward to the Annual Meeting in May. Review of the Hire Charges applicable from 1st September 2006 were discussed, they have remained unchanged for two years, but now we are faced with rapidly rising running costs as the price of fuel and energy increases.

The Review of future Hall projects highlighted some areas requiring attention and it was decided to proceed with the re-decoration of the Billiards Room, Small Hall and Kitchen. Resealing the Main Hall floor is also being undertaken once we can find a contractor who will do the job.

Questions to be included in the Village Hall section of the Village Appraisal being run by the Parish Council were discussed.

On Wednesday, 10th May, the Annual General Meeting of the Village Hall Charity was held with 13 people present. After 15 years in the post of Chairman, Peter Wenden decided to stand down but to remain on the committee. Mention was made of Peter's tremendous effort and progress over this period of improvements to the village hall and of his leadership given to the committee. Thanks were also expressed. Martin Frostick was elected as Chairman and Frederick Nicholls becomes Vice-chairman.

Our thanks are also given to Brenda and Richard Perry for running a Quiz Night on 18th May at 'The Cross Inn' in aid of the

village hall funds. Your support of them for a meal, a drink or a visit to the Post Office they provide will be much appreciated and goes a long way to keeping these services in the village.



On Saturday, 15th July, 10.30am - 2.00pm, a Coffee Morning at 'The Pippins' by the kind invitation of Peter and June Wenden would welcome your support and raise some funds for the hall. Please note it in your diary and make sure you are there to enjoy the event.

*Bevan Willgress*

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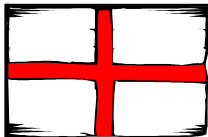


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10th June	ENGLAND - v - PARAGUAY	-	3.00pm kick off
15th June	ENGLAND - v - TRINIDAD	-	6.00pm kick off
20th June	ENGLAND - v - SWEDEN	-	9.00pm kick off

**FOOTBALL & FOOD** (+ the odd pint) - Enjoy a late, late breakfast whilst viewing the match. £3.75 for the full English. PLEASE BOOK IF POSSIBLE.

**Thursday 22nd June CHARITY QUIZ 8.15pm PROMPT start**  
In aid of **ESSEX WILDLIFE TRUST**

£3.00 per head includes light supper.

Please book your table to avoid disappointment

**Wednesday 28th June MUSIC NIGHT 8.15pm PROMPT start**

Sing, play or just come and enjoy our evening of traditional music and humorous verse.

### SPECIAL CHARITY EVENT ROCKSYNCHRONY

On 1st July a collaboration takes place between musicians on both sides of “The Pond” to raise funds for the TEENAGE CANCER TRUST (TCT). Last year, just one gig started a chain reaction from its birthplace in a Great Bromley garden, to Canada, throughout the USA, back across the UK taking in Amsterdam en route. The main focus is rock music but we have been asked to host an acoustic session at The Cross Inn. Our fund raising begins with an evening of great music from JURASSIC BLUES on Saturday 17th June at 8.00pm.

No entrance fee but we will be passing the hat round for contributions.

The main event is on Saturday, 1st July—details as follows:

Noon—2.00pm **LISTEN & LUNCH**: A 2-course lunch with entertainment from “PORTRAIT”. Easy listening music for those who enjoy standards, old favourites and country classics. £5 per head. **BOOKINGS NOW BEING TAKEN**

7.00pm—LATE: **MAD ABOUT MUSIC**. Acoustic music of every genre and some comic interludes. Play, sing or just come to enjoy the music and support the fund raising. No entry fee but a collection will be taken, raffle tickets sold etc. We are incredibly proud to be asked to participate in this event. We hope you will enjoy this musical feast and help us raise the maximum funds for this deserving cause.

(More info on [www.rocksynchrony.com](http://www.rocksynchrony.com))

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- Please note that there is now a wide selection of cards and wrapping paper available.
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The PCT has also funded a replacement file server for the surgery and a number of new PCs for the doctors consulting rooms. This will increase the speed of accessing the Choose and Book system which has been slow and, therefore, a significant limitation on the doctors finding time to use the system.

*Fred Merrin, Practice Manager*

## Great Bentley Surgery

We had a reminder quite recently about how much medication – and therefore NHS money – can be wasted by just one person hoarding things. The family of an elderly patient who had gone into hospital brought in a couple of carrier bags which were full of pills, insulin and other items issued on prescription but which had obviously never been needed.



There were a couple of dozen full and unopened packets of one tablet. We can only guess that the patient concerned had not liked taking that one but had been too embarrassed to tell the doctor that he didn't want it. He had been religiously ordering it every month and squirreling it away. There were also numerous untouched packs of insulin and a veritable treasure-trove of unused needles and test strips for a blood-testing kit. All in all, the hoard had cost the NHS several hundreds of pounds.

The real shame is that all this unused medication and other bits and pieces had to be destroyed. None of it could be recycled or reused as once things leave the pharmacy, the pharmacist is not allowed to reissue them if they are returned, as there is no way of knowing if they are still in safe condition.

Tending Primary Care Trust tells me that in its area at least £2,500,000 worth of medication is wasted this way each year. That is 10% of the total drugs budget for Tending literally going up in smoke. Just think how many hip replacements or cataract operations that would fund.

The message is very clear. Please don't hoard medicines. If you aren't using something, don't be embarrassed to say so. Please, please don't keep ordering items that you aren't using for whatever reason, especially not just to make the doctor think you are doing what he or she has suggested. Far better that the money is saved and gets used effectively elsewhere – quite possibly saving a life or enabling someone

to live more independently.

Talking of Tending PCT, sadly it will no longer exist soon. There is yet another major reorganisation of NHS administration in the offing and we will soon find ourselves governed by a combined Tending/ Colchester PCT. This effectively is a return to the not so good old days of the 1990s when Tending was hopelessly underfunded and neglected.

This is a shame, as healthcare in Tending has improved hugely since the area became autonomous about seven years ago. The area got its own health budget, for the first time I think, and ours has actually been one of the few PCTs in the country to stay within budget over the last few years. Hospital waiting lists are now unquestionably shorter. The new Harwich hospital has been built and Clacton hospital has been extended and improved. The PCT is well down the line towards providing a new Primary Care Centre in Clacton. All round, it really has been a success story.

Surprise, surprise – we have no say in the forthcoming changes. We and other local practices will just have to remain very vigilant and vocal to ensure that things continue to be done the Tending way and that your interests are properly considered and looked after during healthcare commissioning negotiations etc.

When this June issue of the magazine hits the newsstands, Dr Hunt will be back from his sabbatical and working his socks off again. The last message I got from him said that he was “in a rain-forest with elephants” and asked if he really had to come back. I said I'd go and fetch him if he didn't but unfortunately I'm not needed. His reports on his time away are going to make good reading I'm sure and I expect your editor will twist his arm so that they start in the July issue. Make sure you order your copy.



Having patted Tending PCT on the back (they'll be reeling with the shock of it) I thought I'd blow the surgery's trumpet just a little bit. In 2005/2006, we achieved a score of over 99.5% against the various targets that the government had set us for the year. I'm only too aware that we don't please everyone all the time (please tell us in a positive, constructive way if we don't) but we do try hard and evidently get a lot of things right. I know that the doctors will want to thank all the staff – be they nurses, cleaners or whatever – who work really hard to make this possible.

*Hugh Cronin, Practice Manager*

# Forthcoming Events

## JUNE

- 3-11 Leonard Cheshire Week, Seven Rivers Cheshire Homes—see opposite
- 7 WI meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 8 Lt Bromley Parish council meeting, 7.30pm  
Gt Bromley Parish council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm  
Pre-Inquiry meeting re: Tendring Replacement Local Plan
- 10 Summer Fete/Plant Sale, Hamilton Lodge Trust , 2.00pm  
BBQ, Gt Bromley Rectory, 5.00pm
- 15 Ardleigh PCC meeting, 7.45pm
- 17 PTA Barn Dance, Normans Farm, Lt Bromley
- 17/18 Festival Weekend, Elmstead parish church
- 18 Guide Dogs for the Blind Assn Dog Walk, Dedham, from 10.30am
- 21 The Bromleys PCC, 7.45pm

## JULY

- 10 Return completed Village Appraisal Questionnaire to Gt Bromley parish clerk
- 15 Coffee Morning at 'The Pippins', 10.30am

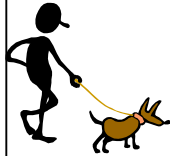
## SEPTEMBER

- 5 Public Inquiry re: Tendring Replacement Local Plan
- 24 Dedham Fun Run

Sunday 18th June

### Stour Valley Branch, Guide Dogs for the Blind Association

extends a warm welcome to all readers to join in their annual Dog Walk along the River Stour. The first walks leave the Royal Square, Dedham 10.30am with the last walk at 2.45pm. Donations on the day or sponsorship forms available. All abilities/ages catered for. No dog - no excuse - we look forward to you joining us for a pleasant stroll. Further details from Marjorie Culham on 01206 393504.



Friends of Elmstead Parish Church

### Art Exhibition

Saturday 17th / Sunday 18th June  
In Elmstead Church

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Pictures for sale at reasonable prices by Essex artists

Saturday 10.30am-5.30pm Sunday 12-5.30pm

Ploughman's lunches Teas & coffees

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#### BETH CHATTO'S GARDENS

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Saturday 17th June only 9.00am-5.00pm

### Dedham

### Run 2006



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race &  
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Fun  
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24 September  
Proceeds to  
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School

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### BBQ

Saturday 10th June  
at 5.00pm  
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Everyone most welcome  
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and salad

Please let Fr Nicolas or a  
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Fr Nicolas, Barbara and James



### SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME

3rd June  
International Fun Day  
2pm- 5pm  
featuring salsa dancers,  
belly dancers, football  
competition, limbo, raffle,  
BBQ



9th June  
7.30 pm  
Quiz Night  
£2 per person  
Bring your own drinks,  
teams 4/5.

Saturday, 15th July  
10.30am - 2.00pm  
COFFEE MORNING  
at 'The Pippins'

by kind invitation of  
Peter and June  
Wenden

All are welcome to  
support and raise  
some funds for Great  
Bromley Village Hall.



### HAMILTON LODGE TRUST

Parsons Hill, Great Bromley,  
Colchester

### SUMMER FETE / PLANT STALL

Saturday 10th June  
2.00—5.00pm

Grand Opening by Bobby  
George, Celebrity Darts  
Player

A visit from Suzy at SGR  
with Black Thunder



Grand Raffle  
Large variety of Stalls and  
Entertainment  
Free entrance and parking

Registered Charity No. 306080

### ST GEORGE'S SCHOOL P.T.A.

Saturday 17th June

We are holding a **Barn Dance**  
at Normans Farm, Little Bromley.  
Tickets will be £10 which includes home-  
made buffet.

There will also be a  
licensed bar.

This was a very good  
evening last year and  
everyone who attended  
had a great time. Please come along and  
support the school. Tickets available  
from School Office or ring Sarah Tyler on  
01206 257433.



Saturday 18th November  
We are organising a **live band**  
at Gt Bromley village hall.

Further details to follow.