

The Bromley Messenger

April 2008

Volume 22 No 1



Sports Relief

Brightlingsea & District Rotary Club made a last minute commitment to participate in the Sport Relief Mile.

The picture shows 4 Rotarians and 3 wives (who were taking part on behalf of their decrepit husbands) before the walk and in torrential rain. Needless to say over £350 was raised by them, showing that even small Clubs can help to contribute to Charity when the occasion arises.

THE NEW LOOK

I hope you like our New Look cover. Our regular cover this year will feature the pubs of Great and Little Bromley unless, like this month, a photograph of someone or something local is received which can be used instead. So bear this in mind when you have an event - take a good clear photograph and send it to me for everyone to see, enjoy and wish that they too had been with you.

The Messenger is delivered free to every house in Great and Little Bromley. It is funded through the generosity of sponsors as well as by the business advertisements and the Bromley Messenger would like to thank all those of you who have sponsored a month this year already. The magazine has no other funding. However, this year fewer sponsors have come forward. Without funding the magazine will struggle to continue so, if you feel able to sponsor us, please contact Len Christodoulides, the Treasurer, on 01206 251264. Lastly, a plea to please let a sponsor or an advertiser know where you saw their name when you contact them so that they know this is a good place to be seen in.

The Reservoir meeting saw a large number of people come to the village hall to hear what the representatives of the Applicants had to say. As the article on page 7 reports concerns regarding various aspects of the

proposed reservoir were expressed and will hopefully be addressed.

While I was in the Post Office at The Cross recently, someone from Sussex came in to ask the way to Manningtree. They were intrigued by our Post Office attached to a pub and remarked that it was the smallest one they had ever seen. With the constant threat of post office closures around the country we are very fortunate to have our tiny but friendly and efficient post office and thank them for their hard work.

While on the subject of thanks this magazine comes to you not without a lot of team work. The many people within the villages who regularly send me reports of the goings on around and about, Len who looks after the money, Ann and her Distributors who make sure the magazine comes through your letter box each month and Nat who casts her beady eye over my work to make sure I have not made too many mistakes! Not forgetting the Hot-Line Printers who efficiently print this magazine each month.

*Leonie
Henderson*



PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Great Bromley Parish Council

www.essexinfo.net/gbpc

Report of parish council meetings held on 14 February and 13 March 2008

PLANNING

The Council considered and agreed no objections to the following planning applications:

The Willows, Frating Road – replacement chimney stack.

Marks Farm, Frating Road – single storey extension.

Nettle Croft, Chapel Lane – replacement roofing.

Cold Hall, Harwich Road – change of use of agricultural barns to storage and distribution.

Morants Hall, Colchester Road – replacement barn.

Arcan, Colchester Road – rear extension and conservatory.

The Council considered and agreed to object to the following planning application:

Talisman Coach Station, Harwich Road – variation of condition of planning approval to allow up to 20 coaches to operate from the site at any one time.

Tendring District Council has decided the following planning applications:

Little Paddocks, Frating Road – three holiday cabins (refusal)

Bush Farm, Hall Road – general storage building (approval)

Community grants

The council has agreed the allocation of

community grants totalling £3235 to the following local organisations: Bromley Messenger, Royal British Legion, Bromleys PCC (St George's church grass cutting), Tendring Citizens' Advice Bureau, Hamilton Lodge, Great Bromley Cricket Club (towards cost of replacement mower), Great Bromley Friendship Club (towards cost of replacement public address system) and Great Bromley and Frating Playgroup.

Policing

The council has held discussions with Sgt Matthew Mallett and PCSO Les Barnes who are responsible respectively for policing and patrolling in our area. It was agreed that the policing priorities for the village should be reduction in speeding, enhanced police presence and better communications with the community. The following activities will hopefully contribute to achieving these objectives: neighbourhood speed watch; regular patrolling by PCSO Barnes and a monthly 'surgery' – the first being between 7 pm and 8 pm on Monday 3 April at the village hall; regular policing reports in the Messenger.

For non-emergencies the police can be contacted on either 07967 466876 or 01255 221312.

The next meeting of the Council will be at 7.30 pm on Thursday 10 April 2008 at the Village Hall Great Bromley.

POLICING IN THE TENDRING DISTRICT

The East Essex Area Forum will next meet

at 2 pm on Tuesday 8 April
at the Columbine Centre,
Walton-on-the-Naze

(Prince's Esplanade, tel: 01255 851680)

The theme will be local policing with the following in attendance: Chairman of the Essex Police Authority, the Assistant Chief Constable and the Divisional Commander responsible for the Tendring and Colchester area.

All are welcome to attend and, if they wish, put questions to the police

FLY-TIPPING AND RUBBISH DISPOSAL

A recent inspection of local roads, hedges and verges by the county highways department and parish council identified a number of sites targeted by fly-tippers. Fly-tipping is the illegal dumping in public areas – and on private land without the owner's permission – of any material *including garden waste*. It is a criminal offence with perpetrators liable to a substantial fine and/or imprisonment. As well as being an eyesore fly-tipping is a potential health and safety hazard.

Tendring District Council will remove fly-tipped material reported to it and also then try to trace and prosecute the perpetrators. You can help by reporting incidents of fly tipping to the District Council by *either*: telephoning 01255 686788/686868 *or* emailing wcrusader@tendringdc.gov.uk *or* completing a report form at www.tendringdc.gov.uk/TendringDC/Environment.

The parish council will arrange an annual collection of large items for disposal – with the first 'big rubbish collection' day being 26 April. The district can also collect your own large items for a small fee. Otherwise they can be taken to the Lawford waste/recycling centre. Serviceable furniture, electronic and electrical goods can be donated to Tendring's recycling schemes (01255 476068 and 01255 863007).

See the district council's website (<http://www.tendringdc.gov.uk/TendringDC/Environment/Rubbish+Waste+and+Recycling>) for further advice on disposing of or recycling other domestic items such as cycles, paint etc.

There are several ways of disposing of garden waste: through home composting using inexpensive bins available from Tendring Council; by taking it to the recycling centre at Lawford; by putting it out in white bags with the weekly collection of refuse and recyclables. These bags are available from Veolia (01255 431620).

The parish council would like to thank residents for their co-operation in helping to keep our village clean and tidy. Information on environmental matters will be available from time-to-time in the *Bromley Messenger* and its *Handy Book* of local services.

Great Bromley Parish Council

Little Bromley Parish Council

The next meeting of Little Bromley Parish Council will be held on 10th April (Public Assembly) at 7.30pm.

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

Great Bromley Parish Council
Tendring District Council

Big Rubbish Collection Day!

Saturday 26 April 2008

Veolia vehicles will be making a special visit to Great Bromley on 26 April to receive *large* items of *domestic* waste such as furniture, fridges, TVs, cookers etc etc

Bring any item – ***large or small*** – (except tyres and gas bottles) to the following locations on Saturday 26 April between the times indicated:

**The Cross Inn:
8.00 am – 9.00 am**

**Church Meadow:
9.15 am – 10.15 am**

From ***10.30 am to 11.15 am*** the vehicles will call to ***collect items from elderly or infirm residents*** who are unable to get to the above locations. *(This must be arranged in advance by telephoning Great Bromley Parish Council on 01206 230089)*

Please tell your family, friends and neighbours about this opportunity to dispose of large items of domestic rubbish!

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

WORKING GROUP REPORTS

WG 5 – Hazardous Roads

Following the recent survey of roadside hedges and trees in the village, those



landowners whose hedges and trees are believed to require attention have been contacted in person or by letter. Many areas of concern have been

addressed already by the owners, for which the parish council and Essex County Council are most grateful. Landowners with work outstanding are requested to tackle this as soon as possible in an effort to bring roadside vegetation in all parts of the village up to a safe, tidy and legal standard.

Some, but by no means all, of the ECC Highways tasks identified in a village survey last autumn have now been completed. Pressure will continue to be applied for the remaining work to be undertaken at the earliest opportunity. However, funding constraints have resulted in much work being deferred to the new financial year.

Martin Frostick

WG 11 - Litter Picking and Village Spring Clean'

What have the following in common - computer, a 'For Sale' sign, a beanie hat, a wooden crutch, a set of tyres, a shower tray? Yes, you are right, they are all items found during the Village Spring Clean on 10th March. These, along with 50+ bags of rubbish, were collected by the 28 doughty volunteers who turned out on a surprisingly balmy morning. It was definitely a case of 'many hands making light work' as, by midday, the whole of Great Bromley had been 'picked clean' and I am sure that every parishioner would like to congratulate the teams on their

result. Whilst this is not the pleasantest of tasks, everyone said that they had really enjoyed working together and relished the sense of achievement when the task was completed. Mention was made of what a good opportunity it was to meet fellow villagers and forge new friendships.

'We'll meet again' in the autumn - why not join us then- it would be very good to see some families involved in this communal effort.

Brenda Perry

WG 13 – Tree Planting

The village tree and hedge planting project is now complete for this season. A total of 234 trees and 640 hedging plants and shrubs were planted around the village. These figures include the hedging planted by WG 9 around the closed churchyard and Church Meadow. The remaining trees in the village tree nursery have been pruned ready for the growing season and it is intended to plant out about 600 trees and more hedging next winter, assuming that suitable sites and willing volunteers can be identified.

Thanks are due to those volunteers who helped to plant the trees and hedging. A big thank you also to Dean's Garden Centre for their generous donation of planting compost and for supplying discounted nutrients. The assistance given by Ken Robinson with clearing vegetation from planting sites and for digging holes was much appreciated, together with the loan of his equipment.

I should be grateful to receive any suggestions for suitable locations in which to plant trees next season so that these can be considered during the planning process - please contact me on 01206 250263.

Martin Frostick

RESERVOIR



Proposed Agricultural Reservoir at Slough Farm, Great Bromley

Report on meeting held at 6.30pm at Great Bromley Village Hall, 13th March 2008
Approximately 100 people attended the meeting which was arranged by Mineral Services Ltd to enable parishioners to discuss their concerns with representatives of the Consortium proposing to construct the reservoir.

Representatives:

- Mr D Symes - Mineral Planning & Development Consultant
- Mr N Gant - Mineral Services Ltd
- Mr D Brooks - Robinson Hall (Land Agents)

The meeting was chaired by Col M C Frostick OBE

Mr Gant introduced the representatives and gave a brief overview of the proposal.

Mr Symes, the consultant who prepared the Screening Request and who is responsible for bringing the reservoir application forward, gave a presentation during which he explained

- the due process leading to eventual submission of the planning application
- that the Screening Request was the first step in the procedure
- how the reservoir would be constructed
- how, when and in what quantities water would be extracted and stored
- how the disposal of surplus minerals from the excavation would be undertaken
- the measure to be put in place to minimise noise, nuisance and pollution from the site and from the transport of the waste to Ardleigh quarry
- the reasons why the Applicant deemed the reservoir to be necessary.

My Symes reported that the Screening Request had resulted in Essex County Council directing that an Environmental Impact Assessment be undertaken and an Environmental Statement produced. The next stage in the process was the preparation of a Scoping Request by the consultants which was now in hand, together with a more

detailed analysis of groundwater issues by hydrologists.

A copy of this would be sent to appropriate Parish Councils.

Mr Symes sought to reassure the audience that the construction of the reservoir would have minimal impact on the community, the local residents and the environment.

A question and answer session ensued during which the audience, both individually and collectively, made clear their extreme concerns about water extraction and the impact of fluctuating water levels on habitats, particularly as the local water table has declined progressively during recent years and forecasts indicate that this situation will not improve. It was pointed out to the Representatives that some residents in properties adjacent to the site are totally dependent on well water and any extraction may have a profound impact on supplies. A view was expressed by some members of the audience that there seemed to be a discrepancy in the figures quoted in the Screening Request regarding the amounts of water to be extracted in relation to the size of the reservoir.

Similar concerns were expressed about noise, pollution, safety hazard arising from the substantial increase in heavy traffic (in an area where road safety was already an issue) and environmental damage to surrounding areas, not least to ancient woodland nearby.

Questions were raised about the possibility of mineral extraction subsequently being extended over adjacent farmland owned by the Applicant.

After a further discussion, the Applicant's representatives accepted that their comments had not allayed the fears of local residents regarding the construction and use of the reservoir and that the members of the audience were not reassured by the answers given to their questions.

The Chairman thanked the Representatives for their participation and the meeting ended at 7.45pm.

Brenda and Richard Perry

CHURCH NOTES

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting was held on after the morning service on March 16th. 25 people attended. Barbara Hall and James Wild were re-elected as churchwardens and Guy Everington, Jenny Nicholls, Caroline McShane, Ann Oughton, Gregory Frostick and Marion Bromfield were re-elected to the PCC. The Deanery Synod representatives are Dee Barrell and Ann Wild.

There is still no news about a new priest for the Benefice. The Patron, Fr. George of the Mirfield Community in Yorkshire and the Bishop of Colchester have asked to delay advertising the vacancy for a little longer while they pursue the 'head-hunting' approach. This feels somewhat frustrating but is not untypical of the way that things work in the Church of England.

It was agreed to press ahead with the plans to install a toilet near the south door of the church and to re-site the vestry near the north door. Similar alterations have been made in St Mary's at Ardleigh and are very successful. Another £15,000 is needed before the work can commence. The further alterations - the installation of a meeting room and kitchenette - which would involve more structural changes, have been put on hold for the foreseeable future.

Several people in the village who are not church members, but who recognise the architectural and historical importance of the church building, have expressed an interest in joining a re-established Fabric Committee. It is hoped to hold an initial meeting of this committee on April 12th. If anyone else is interested in helping the church in this way, please contact Marion Bromfield (230089) or Jenny Nicholls (230688). We would be delighted to hear from you.

There is a Choral Evensong at St George's at 6.30pm on Sunday, April 20th.

To all the Parish and beyond

Following the release of some recent literature at the public meeting on 13/3/08 to discuss a reservoir, I would like it known that Henry Fairley and son of Park Farm, Great Bromley are not involved, or beneficiaries of, the proposed gravel extraction in Carringtons Road, Great Bromley and do not wish to be associated with it.

Andrew Fairley

KITCHEN CORNER

Coconut Delights (makes 20)

2½ oz flour
2 oz desiccated coconut
2oz margarine
½ tsp bicarbonate of soda
4oz sugar
2oz oats
Pinch of salt
2 tsp golden syrup
1 tbsp boiling water

Melt margarine and sugar together and add to dry ingredients. Mix well. Dissolve the soda in boiling water and stir in to make stiff dough. Form into balls and press out onto greased baking sheet. Cook in moderate oven at 180°C for 10-20 minutes.

Jill Frostick



These services are now held monthly and have proved to be a welcome addition to our service pattern. Do come and join us.

Finally, the children and staff of the St George's School will be holding a special service in the church to commemorate St George's Day at 9am on Wednesday, 23rd April. Tea and coffee will be served prior to the service and everyone is most welcome to attend.



Great Bromley & Frating Playgroup

At Great Bromley Village Hall.
Monday & Thursday 9.30-12 noon
Wednesday 9.15-11.45am
& 12.15-2.45pm

Session Tel No: 0785 7503103
(Lunch time session also available)
Children: 2 years-6 months to 5 years.
£5.50 per session. Ofsted inspected.
For more details/visits, please contact
Group Secretary-Debbie on 01206
250183

Last term our theme was 'Countries'. The children enjoyed learning about different countries through play with activities such as our 'Chinese Restaurant', making didgeridoos, snakes and examining a real lizard. We also had rice and noodle tasting and made our own pizzas. This term our theme is going to be growing and weather with lots of activities planned. We would like to welcome Courtney, Ross and Oliver to Playgroup and hope you enjoy your time with us.



Scallywags

At Great Bromley Village Hall
Friday Mornings 9.30-11.30am
0-5years.Parent and child group.
Activities/themed sessions/play
equipment etc.
For more details or visits please
contact 01206 230625

St. George's (C of E) School, Gt. Bromley

Head teacher: Pat Fitzgerald
Telephone: 01206 230305

Family Learning Programmes

Keeping up with the Children

For two hours once a week for 12 weeks some parents/ carers will be obtaining information about the structure, teaching methods and contents of the Literacy Curriculum, so that they can support their children's literacy at School. The session will be held in the School Hall. The tutor is Sue Allpress. This is a trial arrangement for the School and if successful other courses could be run e.g. Numeracy, Confident Children.

Healthy Schools

Schools Sports Partnership

For the first half of this term all children had workouts in the Hall with the Coordinator, John Finch. Mickey Cook, coach and ex-captain of Colchester United, provided sessions over a 6 week period. Competitive volleyball, basket ball and football against other Schools are ongoing.

Meals

A new cooker and potato peeler has been acquired and all the children have undergone a survey giving us 100% return. Suggestions included more milk to drink, stronger juice drinks, larger portions for the bigger children and less spicy alternatives which will be actioned. Other suggestions will be put on hold indefinitely: fillet steak, Big Macs, saveloys and chips, and coke.



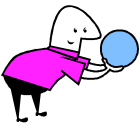
*Len Christodoulides - Community
Governor*

CARPET BOWLS

We played Silver Dawn at home in February and managed to win 6-2.

Brumbella Cup

We held our contest for the 'Brumbella Cup' on 8th March. This year we raised funds for the "Afghanistan Trust". Before the competition started Andrew gave an explanation as to how the money will be used. It is given entirely to the injured and disabled servicemen for necessary everyday items, sometimes equipment for the home that enables them and their families to adapt to a new way of life. Something which can easily be overlooked by the average person. We appreciated very much the generous donations from two local couple who both keep the armed forces very much in mind.



Pat Petchey, Chairman, welcomed everyone, 15 visiting teams, and a special welcome to Joe Canham who was then presented with a commemorative plate signed by all club members in recognition of his time with the club, he being the founder member in 1987. Joe told us that he was born in September 1909 so I will leave you to work that out - I don't think that will be telling tales!

We had a splendid day - the extensive raffle was well supported and the home-made refreshments did a regular trade. Thanks are due to the ladies who worked so hard in the kitchen: Nan, Evelyn and June with back up from Pauline, Pam and Richard.

Jayne did her usual excellent match organisation and kept everything on schedule. The semi-finals were Wix 12 shots to Langham's 6 and Walton 2 beat Lawford 8 shots to 2. About 45 people stayed to watch the final. The teams started off taking alternate ends in a see-saw game - Wix finally getting 2 shots over Walton on end 9 and therefore taking the Brumbella Cup. Treasurer, Derek Frostick, was then able to tell us that, after expenses, we had raised 530. Our thanks to everyone who took part.

Nancy Kempster

CRICKET CLUB

The A.G.M. was held in the Pavilion on Wednesday 27th February, 2008. The Chairman, Mr. Bill Kempster, thanked the retiring Committee. He congratulated the 1st X1 for gaining promotion and he also congratulated the U.16's in winning the Colchester Premier League.

The following Officers were elected:-

President	P. P. Allam Esq.
Chairman	W. Kempster Esq.
Secretary	Mrs. K. Foley
Treasurer	M. Foley, Esq.
1st. X1. Captain	P.S. Allam, Esq.
1st. X1. Vice-Captain	R. Lawson, Esq.
2nd. X1. Captain	D. Hardy, Esq.
2nd. X1 Vice-Captain	L. Perrin, Esq.
Fixture Secretary	C. Perrin, Esq.
Welfare Officer	S. Wright. Esq.
Colts Manager	L. Fisher, Esq.

The Club are running three Colts teams this season, U.11, U.13 and U.16 and Kwik Cricket on Friday evenings.

Our first home game is against Eight Ash Green on April 20th. Anyone who does not get a fixture card and would like one please call at the pavilion. We look forward to seeing you on Match days.

Phil Allam.

100 Club March Winners

1st.	MATT HASLEY
2nd	HARRY HITCHCOCK
3rd	S PRESNEY



Forthcoming Events

APRIL

- 2 WI meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 3 Police 'Surgery', Village Hall, 7.00-8.00pm
- 8 East Essex Area Forum, Columbine Centre, Wateon-on-the-Naze, 2.00pm
- 10 Lt Bromley parish council meeting (Public Assembly), 7.30pm
- Gt Bromley parish council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 11 Day of Fun, Fitness & Frolics, Village Hall, 11.00am
- 12 Church Fabric Committee meeting
- 22 Village Hall committee meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 23 St George's Day service, St George's church, 9.00am
- 26 Big Rubbish Collection Day - Cross Inn 8.00-9.00am,
Church Meadow 9.15-10.15am
- Open Morning, Little Bromley Church, 10.30am

MAY

- 5 May Day Hog Roast, The Haywain, 1.00pm
- 8 Gt Bromley parish council meeting (Parish Assembly), Village Hall, 7.00pm
- 10 Plant & Garage Sale, Ilex Farm, 10.00am-1.00pm
- Angie Diggens, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 14 Village Hall Charity A.G.M., Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 24 Coffee Morning, Village Hall

St George's Church

Evensong 6:30pm
 Sunday 20th April
 with the St George's Singers
 Anthem: *Christ the Lord is risen* by
 Anthony Foster
 All welcome



St George's School

will be holding a special service
 in St George's Church, Great Bromley
 to commemorate

St George's Day

on Wednesday, 23rd April
 Tea & coffee served prior
 to the service

ALL WELCOME



Saturday 18th October 2008

*Great Bromley Village Hall Management
 Committee are holding a*

Musical Murder Mystery evening.

This will be an enjoyable evening with
 good food, music and intrigue.

The professional company of actors
 include such names as Eve Bridger (who
 has starred on some of the biggest cruise
 ships in the world, she has appeared on
 television and has sung at Royal Festival
 Hall)

Matthew Kinross (who works on the
 cabaret circuit as a stage hypnotist) and

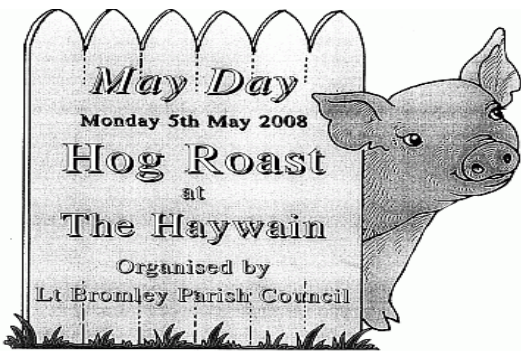
David Canova (who has made several
 television appearances)

The play is set in the cabaret room at
 London's Savoy Hotel, if you can guess
 who the murderer is before he or she is
 revealed a bottle of champagne is yours.
 This promises to be a great evening's
 entertainment with plenty of music, drama
 and comedy as well as a meal.

Tickets will be limited so watch this
 space!!"

*Fred Nicholls
 Chairman, Gt Bromley Village
 Hall Management Committee*





Hog Roast carved from the spit 1—3pm

Served with stuffing and a large bread roll with Potato Salad, Green & tomato Salads, Coleslaw

Vegetarian Option available

Tickets £6.00 each

Available from the Haywain 01206 390004

Carol Cordwell 01206 395103

Anita Spall 01206 390033

Spare plates for small children on request

Additional parking at Mulley's Farm

Friends of Little Bromley Church

Saturday 26th April 10:30am – 12:00

Open morning at the church - all welcome to a village social morning

Admission and light refreshments are free!

View the interior of the building and explore the churchyard



Programme for 2008 events will be available
The aim of the Friends is to promote the use of our beautiful historic church for village social and artistic events.

AN EVENING OF ENTERTAINMENT WITH ANGIE DIGGENS



on Saturday 10th May at 7.30pm

Tickets may be reserved from Beryl Hurst on 01206 230578

In aid of Village Hall Funds

St George's Plant & Garage Sale

at
Illex Farm, Waterhouse Lane
on
10th May
10.00am - 1.00pm



Donations plants and anything for the Garage Sale (no books/clothes) gratefully received before the sale.

Ann 01206 230679

Proceeds to St George's church new facilities

A Day of Fun, Fitness and Frolics

Great Bromley WI invite you to a day of

Fun, Fitness and Frolic

on Friday, 11th April from 11.00am until 3.30pm at Great Bromley village hall.

The day will be led by Debbie Miller and will be suitable for all abilities, ages and fitness and will consist of an easy line dance session, a chat on aspects of healthy living, including nutrition, and a final session to include easy tap dancing and theatre. A healthy lunch will be provided as well as tea and coffee.

There will be no charge - please just come along and enjoy the day. To assist catering arrangements please book a place by calling Ann on 01206 230563 or Sue on 01206 251949.



The April Quiz

1. Which are the two signs of the zodiac in the month of April?
2. Yuri Gagarin, a soviet astronaut, was first person to orbit the earth, on what date in April?
3. April has always been the fourth month in our calendar, true or false?
4. "And after April, when May follows" What poem is this a line from, can you remember the first line, name the author and title?
5. In 1886 Dr John Pemberton marketed a new 'brain tonic'; it is still in production today (with a modified recipe) and is sold around the world, by what name do we now know it?
6. What is 'Apeirophobia'?
7. When is our queens actual birthday?
8. Who was hanged in York on 19th April 1739?
9. "April, come she will ..." to what is this song or poem referring?
10. The U.S.A began minting its first coins in April 1792, what were they?
11. St George's day is April 23rd but when is St Mark's day?
12. Why are soldiers tired on April 1st?



Compiled by Val and Ian Harris

Answers on page 27



WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Our meeting in March was a very pleasant evening. Members and guests came along to find out about our courses at Denman College which twelve of our members attended last January. Five did embroidery, a rose worked in long and short stitch whilst the other seven did craft work, Celtic Designs. Jill Frostick gave a very good description as to how our courses went and everyone was able to look at the results of our efforts. Afterwards, we had tasty refreshments supplied by the committee.

The speaker in April will be Martin Frostick who is telling us about "Keeping Bees". If you feel interested, do come along to the village hall on Wednesday, 2nd April at 7.30pm. We will be pleased to see and welcome you.

June Willgress



FRIENDSHIP CLUB

At our last meeting we had a very interesting talk on Russian Dolls. The first doll looked about 12" high but as each top was removed another doll slightly smaller was revealed until the last doll which was only about ½" tall. They were made of wood and painted in various patterns on each doll in bright red, blues, green, yellow etc.

It was discussed at the committee meeting that we may be able to arrange an outing to Southwold in June. If you are interested you should give your name in at the April meeting. More details later.

The competition for April is any item, lavender coloured.

Vicky Griffiths



GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

The Village Hall committee met on 4th March with all members, except one, present. The Chairman, Fred Nicholls, welcomed those present.

The proposed Great Bromley Community Event 2009 was discussed and the committee were generally in favour of supporting such an occasion should the Parish Council decide to hold it.

Thank you to all those who organized and supported the dance on 15th March when "Nostalgia" Big Band made a return visit to the village hall.

On Saturday, 10th May at 7.30pm there will be an evening of entertainment with Angie Diggins at the village hall following on from her shows at other venues in the

UK. Tickets may be reserved with Beryl Hurst on 01206 230578.

The Annual General Meeting of the Village Hall Charity will be on Wednesday, 14th May at 8.00pm. You are very welcome to attend and participate.

The next committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, 22nd April at 7.30pm in the hall.

To book the hall, contact Mrs Lynda Allam on 01206 230375 who will advise on availability and cost. The hall may be seen on www.greatbromley.org.uk and click on "village hall".

Bevan Willgress



GARDENING TIPS FOR APRIL

If you have rhubarb in the garden why not try forcing a root. Place a large pot or bucket over and cover with a piece of old carpet or sack. This will keep the plant warm and you will have rhubarb weeks earlier.

Although we have had one or two good heavy downpours of rain, it will only take a couple of weeks' dry weather before the pots, tubs and garden will need watering,

so make sure your rain butts are kept topped up.

This is the month to plant annuals. The following is just a selection: nasturtiums, aster, tagetes, zimmia.

'Fig Tree Update' No. 2. The small green buds are being shy and are not moving very fast. More next month.

Frank Griffiths



MATERIAL for the **MAY 2008** edition of 'The Messenger' should reach the Editor, Leonie Henderson, by **Monday, 14th April, 2008** please. Contributions from anonymous sources will not be printed. Whilst the editor welcomes contributions, photographs etc this is on the understanding that there is no obligation to publish, that the item may be edited and that there is no breach of copyright. Publication is in good faith and neither the editor nor the publisher accept any liability in respect of the content of any article, photo or advertisement, including any error or omission, responsibility for which remains with the author. Copy can either be delivered by hand, sent by post or e-mail. (see inside back cover for details) or via the link on the websites www.greatbromley.org.uk or www.littlebromley.org.uk

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POLICE



Police in February:
Burglary in Mary Lane
North
Theft from motor vehicle
in Badley Hall Road

Extracts from the March issue of *Upbeat*, the Police E-zine

0300 333 4444

Essex Police has launched its new 24-hour non-emergency number. Call the 24-hour non-emergency number 0300 333 4444 to contact Essex Police.

What is the new non-emergency number for?

The new number is a 24 hour service that will connect you to a 24-7 switchboard at Essex Police. Your call will then be re-directed to the most appropriate person, department or station. The new telephone number does not replace 999.

What are the benefits of having a non-emergency number?

The new number will improve access to

Essex Police and ensure that your call is dealt with quickly and efficiently.

When should I call 999?

If there is a crime or serious incident in progress, a serious risk of injury or a risk of serious damage to property you should dial 999.

Police precept rises by just 11p a week

Essex Police Authority has approved a budget of £251m for the force for 2008/9. The difference between the level of external funding of £173m and the budget set by the police authority will be met by an increase in council tax of 4.95 per cent. This means council tax payers will pay just an extra 11p a week towards police funding.

Chairman of Essex Police Authority, Robert Chambers said: "I am pleased that the authority has managed to increase the budget by just 11p a week which will help fund extra police officers on the front line as well as ensuring that they are properly equipped."

Chief Constable of Essex Police, Roger Baker, said: "This budget allows us to deliver what the public wants and meets the operational needs of Essex Police."

Home Thoughts, from Abroad

Oh, to be in England now that April's there,
And whoever wakes in England sees,
 some morning, unaware,
 That the lowest boughs and the
 brushwood sheaf
Round the elm-tree bole are in tiny
 leaf,
While the chaffinch sings on the
 orchard bough
 In England - now!
And after April, when May follows
And the white-throat builds, and all
 the swallows!
Hark, where my blossomed pear-tree
 in the hedge
Leans to the field and scatters on the

 clover
Blossoms and dewdrops - at the bent
 spray's edge -
That's the wise thrush: he sings each
 song twice over
Lest you should think he never could
 recapture
 The first fine careless rapture!
And though the fields look rough with
 hoary dew,
And will be gay when noontide wakes
 anew
 The buttercups, the little children's
 dower
- Far brighter than this gaudy melon-
 flower!

Robert Browning

FROM THE PAST

GREAT BROMLEY VETERINARY SURGEONS

Gt Bromley Veterinary Surgeons Part II

The Hazells as seen in the Census
returns.

1861 Parsons Hill Entry 109

John J Hazell 38

Member of the Vets College, London

Born Great Bromley

Mary Hazell 38

Born Little Bromley

1871 Manningtree Road Entry 61

John J Hazell 48 Vet Surg.

Mary Hazell 48

John Hazell 21 Born Great Bromley

The 1848 Essex Directory lists John
Joseph Hazell as farrier and farmer and
William Hazell, wheelwright.

John Appleby

... AND 20 YEARS AGO

This Modern 'Throw Away' Society

Much time has spun since Bromley won
against strong opposition

The Shield and Crest of the Best Kept
Village Competition,

And though we've tried, with civic pride,
this honour to regain,

So far it seems our hopes and dreams
have somehow been in vain.

In spite of splendid gardens tended, and
lawns all trim and neat,

With flowering trees so sure to please and
blooms with perfume sweet

Plus well tilled fields with good crop
yields, fair meadows lush and green,

With sense of peace to never cease to
bless this rural scene.

This seems just where, in spite of care,
our efforts come to nought,

Just walk today, our main highway; it
gives one food for thought.

The roadside grass is full of glass, waste
paper, cans and plastic,

Bottles abound and rubbish found is
simply quite fantastic.

The passing motorist persist in throwing
out each day

Every sort of rubbish brought from places
far away.

The hedgerow brambles in their rambles
clutch this windswept litter,

And plastic wrapping madly flapping
creates an obscene glitter.

Now if we make with broom and rake a
cleaning up campaign,

The wayside green will soon be seen to
be as bad again.

For every village suffers spillage of trash
from passers-by,

Roadsides, I fear, can't be kept clear
however hard folk try.

It seems to me a fantasy to claim a place
'Best Kept',

When very soon more trash is strewn, just
after it's been swept.

Thus 'Best Kept Village', mid such
spillage is a title quite unsuited,

So one thing's vital, change this title to
'Village Least Polluted'.

PS

Just one point I'd like to stress,
I hope we 'clean up' with success!

A.H.C.

*'A.H.C.' wrote a number of poems which
were published in the Messenger over the
years and this one from the April 1988
edition is still a very recognisable scenario
although the village Litter Picking Working
Parties have recently been addressing
this problem that has been the scourge of
towns, countryside and wildlife for a long
time now. Can anyone tell me the name
of A.H.C. and when did Great Bromley
win the Best Kept Village Competition? -
Ed.*

Colchester Museum Service

The Great Rat Hunt in Colchester

Thursday 1st – Saturday 31st May 2008

2008 is the Year of the Rat and a group of these furry friends are paying a visit to the museums in Colchester. They have decided to play a little game of hide and seek with us and we need your help in tracking them down!

Throughout May you can visit Colchester Castle Museum, Hollytrees Museum, the Natural History Museum and Tymperleys Clock Museum to see if you can spot any of them. Just pick up a sheet from any of the museums, then make your way around them, noting down the rat positions as you go.

Complete the challenge and hand your answer sheets in at any of the museums. All entries will be put into a prize draw to win one of several great prizes.

Free to enter

Admission charge applies to Colchester Castle, all other museums are free.

Chinese Kite Making @ Colchester Castle

Monday 26th – Friday 30th May

Come along to Colchester Castle and go sky high with ideas when you can make your very own kite! Using all sorts of fabulous shapes and colours you can make a kite of your own design, with the help of our friendly artist.

11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2.30pm and 3.30pm

Book in advance on 01206 282940 or drop into Hollytrees Museum

£1 per person after normal entrance charge to the castle

Sorry, we are unable to accept large group bookings

Suitable for ages 4 - 12

Fantastic Fans @ Hollytrees Museum, Colchester

Monday 26th – Friday 30th May

Come along to Hollytrees Museum and get in a flap for fans! In this fun and creative workshop you can make your very own fan. Using silk and crepe paper your fan will be a

work of art as you hand paint your very own design onto it. Using images of nature as inspiration for the design of your fan you may want to paint butterflies, birds or insects – the choice is yours!

Museum admission is free

Fan making at 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2.30pm and 3.30pm

Book in advance (10am – 4.45pm) on 01206 282940 or drop into Hollytrees Museum

£1.50 per person

Sorry, we are unable to accept large group bookings

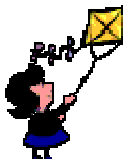
Meet the Georgian Tea Dealer @ Hollytrees Museum, Colchester

Saturday 31st May & Sunday 1st June

In Georgian England, like today, we loved sipping on a good cup of refreshing tea and in this fun activity at Hollytrees Museum you can meet our fabulous tea dealer. Come along and see what she has to offer as well as discover more about her tea-related products. Mistress Spencer will tell you about all the different Chinese teas that she has, and how great Chinese tea really is. No tea will be available for sale at the event, however you will be able to smell different types of fabulous tea.

Free sessions and free admission to the museum

Drop-in 10.30 – 4.30 on Saturday & 11.30 – 4.30 on Sunday



PRINCES THEATRE Town Hall, Clacton

Thursday 3 April

Vienna Festival
Ballet, The Sleeping
Beauty

Friday 7 April

Ray Gelato and his
Giants

Friday 11 April

Cream of Clapton
The Spirit of Pink
Floyd

Saturday 19 April

The Motown Show
Homeward Bound -
Simon & Garfunkel

Saturday 26 April

Saturday 31 May

New Species of Bird

I have kept records of the birds in my garden for some years now and recently have been perplexed by a new visitor which I could not identify. I described it



to the RSPB who identified it as the Dusant, a cross between the duck and the pheasant species. It has been seen in Holland for some time now and the first birds crossed the Channel to East Anglia last autumn. With the change of weather due to global warming it looks as though it will start breeding over here. Now that this area is sinking into the North Sea the Dusant, with its webbed feet, will be ideally suited to the increasing wet ground.

LMH

April Quiz - The Answers

1. Aries the ram (21 March-20 April) and Taurus the bull (21 April-21 May).
2. April 12th 1961 Yuri Gagarin (9/3/1934 - 27/3/1968) flew into orbit aboard the Soviet spacecraft Vostok I becoming the first man in space. He orbited the Earth once before returning for a safe landing in the Soviet Union roughly 90 minutes later. (His capsule was controlled from the ground).
3. Before 700 BC April was the second month in the Roman calendar and March was the first: it became the fourth month when the ancient Romans added two months, January and February and started using January as the first month. The Romans called the month Aprilis. For a while April had 29 days. The name may come from a word meaning 'to open' or it may come from Aphrodite, the Greek name for the goddess of love.
4. "Oh to be in England, now that April's there," Home Thoughts from Abroad by Robert Browning (1812-89).
5. Coco-Cola, it no longer contains coca leaves or kola nut. Pemberton had been a Confederate lieutenant colonel and gained his medical degree at the age of 19 years.
6. The fear of infinity, nothing to do with April.
7. 21st April, she was born in 1926.
8. Dick Turpin was born in Essex 21/9/1706. He is remembered as a daring highwayman who made a dashing ride from London to York on his faithful mare, Black Bess, he was finally arrested for horse stealing in Yorkshire. On 19th April 1739 he was hanged at Tyburn (later called Knavesmire) which is now York racecourse. NOTE: I have also found the date of execution as 7th and 9th April.
9. The cuckoo. This bird arrives in Britain usually in April from Africa south of the Sahara and leaves from mid July to August, the juveniles leave around September. The quotation is from a song by Paul Simon and Art Garfunkel and seems to be based on the old rhyme:
*In April I open my bill
In May I sing night and day
In June I change my tune
In July far far I fly
In August away I must*
10. The silver dollar. The first U.S. dollars were issued in 1794 were based on the popular Spanish dollars (or pesos) which were widely used at the time, being made about the same size and weight. The first issue of dollars featured a Liberty head on the obverse, and an eagle within a wreath on the reverse. This type was issued until 1798 when a new reverse design was introduced with a heraldic eagle bearing the motto "E PLURIBUS UNUM". The word dollar comes from the German word "tal" meaning valley silver crown sized coins from Joachimsthal were known as Joachimsthalers. This eventually became shortened to 'thalers' or 'talers' and further Anglicised to "dollars".
11. 25th April
12. They have just had a 31 day march!!

ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR, GREAT BROMLEY

united with St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh



Services for April

Sunday 6th	8.00am 10.30am	The Eucharist The Parish Eucharist Bishop Christopher to preside and preach	<i>St. George the Martyr</i> <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Sunday 13th	8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm	The Eucharist The Parish Eucharist Evening Prayer	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i> <i>St. George the Martyr</i> <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Sunday 20th	8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm	The Eucharist Parish Eucharist Sung Evening	<i>St. George the Martyr</i> <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i> <i>St. George the Martyr</i>
Wednesday 23rd	7.30pm	St George's Day	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
Sunday 27th	8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm	Rogation Sunday The Eucharist The Parish Eucharist Evening Prayer	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i> <i>St. George the Martyr</i> <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<u>NOTE</u> 1st May	7.30pm	Ascension Day Confirmation with Bishop John	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>

Holy Communion every Friday at 11.00am at Seven Rivers, Hall Road, Great Bromley.



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