

The Bromley Messenger

September 2009

Volume 23 No 6



KATISHA'S KOLUM

The Master and Mistress hav been away for a fu days visiting wun of the Young Masters of the House near Stratford-upon-Avon. Althow they enjoyed themselves going to the theatre where they sor 'The Winter's Tail' (wot a silly play to see in the summer), going to the races and visiting Kenilworth Castle where he is getting married, it was wet a lot of the time so Mistress has abandoned the computer and the magazeen to sit in the garden in the sun while there is still sun. So here I am, cum to the rescew to enshaw the magazeen gets to the printers on time.

First of all Mistress made a typo (disgraceful) in the August magazine in the information about the Medieval Charity Banquet to be held on 5th September at Pond Farm. **Three** courses are being offered and not the eight stated. She apologises for this mistake, which was nothing to do with me, and hopes you enjoy the evening which I am shaw will be a grate success.

Reports on the Community Day, St George's Flower Festival and the Little Bromley Barbecue and Fete appeeer in this ishew. Much hard work went into these events so that meny cood enjoy themselves, so meny thanks to all involved. Had there been a competition for the Best Looking Cat at eny of these events, I hav no doubt I wood have wun.

There are harvest thanksgivings and lunches this munth. The crops are being brawt in with the result that I am catching larger than usual numbers of mice and rabbits as they leeve the feelds. I have cawt so meny I cannot eet them all so Mistress has been finding ded mice being devoured by wasps (of which there seem to be a large number this year) and the dog ate a rabbit which was too much for

me but which unfortunately upset her (the dog's) stomach - but why shood I hav got the blame for that?

I had a traumatic experience very recently. I was in such shock that I cannot tell how it happened but somehow I fell into muddy water. I returned to the house to find everyone in the kitchen where I was dried after I had been unceremoniously dunked in cleen water, fed (which I probably didn't need) and fussed over. I then slept for the rest of the day to get over it. It was a good thing there was not a Top Cat competition that day as I coodn't do a thing with my fur.

Friends of Essex Churches are holding their annual sponsored Ride and Stride Day on Saturday, 12th September. Any wun can take part and there is no set root - you just get on your bike (or walk) and visit as meny, or as fu, churches as you wont/can in a day. It runs from 10am-6pm. Great Bromley church will be open and Little Bromley church is also holding its Heritage Open Day on the same day.

Must get on and sawt those mice out befaw they think of cumming in to the howse for the winter. I shall be too bizzy next munth to help out with the magazeen but Mistress will be indaws again by then.



Seven Rivers Cheshire Home

is holding a sale of new, 'not on the high street' items

on

Tuesday 6th October

10.30am-3pm

at Great Bromley Village Hall, C07 7JA.

**Articles for sale will include ladies' clothing,
toys and stocking fillers, china, cookware,
jewellery and a wide range of gift ideas.**

Entry fee: £2

Coffee, cakes and sandwiches will be available

**All proceeds go directly to
the Seven Rivers Cheshire Home at Great Bromley**

For further information please contact:

Helen Harvey (Chairman of Appeals Committee) 01206 250320

helenharvey6@hotmail.com

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS & ADVERTISERS

No COMMUNITY SPIRIT?

Or so I thought on returning to live in Great Bromley early in 2005!!!

2009 and you have proved to me that there is a heart, there is community spirit in Great Bromley and you have restored my faith in village life especially in the present doom and gloom of our economic climate. There has been life, vitality and working together throughout the summer months this year.

For instance the Community Fun Day was a roaring success – not only did every organisation in the village participate they put the F back in Fun! And made money too!

The Flower Festival at St George's has continued this trend and the weekend of July 17th, 18th & 19th was full of positivity, good humour and community spirit. Despite the unseasonable weather the action packed weekend that was planned carried on regardless of the wind and stormy conditions.

The festivities began on Thursday when a feisty band of flower arrangers adorned St George's church with fantastic floral art interpreting the theme "All things Bright and Beautiful!" The atmosphere was charged with jolly chatter and enjoyment. All enjoyed a Bring and Share lunch at which they were joined by the hard working band of men from the meadow who were erecting tents, fetching tables and chairs, putting up bunting and signs and running electric cables for lighting and power. A very tasty fruit loaf homemade was made for cups of tea later by one of our very own husbands. Transformed the church looked fabulous, it was a great honour to be part of a team who produced such beauty.

The Festival proper began at noon the following day – A Festival Lunch prepared by Barbara and her

granddaughter made a memorable start to our weekend. The Lady Chapel in our church became a very usable refreshment area for the weekend.

That evening Brenda and Richard Perry from the Cross Inn organised "Folk on the Green" open air concert. We had imagined a balmy evening of folk entertainment on the green of Church Meadow in front of the church. The marquees were arranged to encompass this outdoor summer concert, electricity had been supplied and organised for lighting and power for the microphones and other equipment that our performers would require. At 7 o'clock the decision had to be made to retreat to the safety and warmth of the church to enable our concert to continue, the cheerfulness and co-operation of the organisers continued despite the weather and those of us that braved the elements were treated to a super concert – a relaxed, informal atmosphere made the concert very special and I can't wait till the next Folk Concert – we surely have some very special talent in our community!

At 11pm the weary organisers were still smiling whilst they packed away their equipment at the end of a very long evening – possibly the real ale and BBQ helped to keep us all going.

The weather brightened on Saturday and visitors to our Festival had time after the visit to the church to wander leisurely around the various stalls in the Meadow: the BBQ, the WI stand, the Tombola, Cakes, Raffle and the Children's Stall or climb the 98 steps to the top of the Tower and see the splendid view across the surrounding countryside. More musical treats were in store for us. Those of us that happened to be in church for the

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lunchtime concert by the students from East Bergholt school were stunned by the talents of these young people who entertained us for three quarters of an hour performing with instruments and singing popular songs from the shows.

Stewards were available throughout the weekend to show visitors around our lovely church and direct them to the light refreshment and delicious cakes which were available in the Lady Chapel and view the entries for the children's colouring competition displayed there.

What luck, we had four tents throughout the weekend which enable our stall holders to man their stalls protected from the strong winds and rain. Thanks to Pender Richardson for loaning his Gala tent and to the Cricket Club, who in lieu of sponsorship, loaned us their two Gala tents. The fourth tent belongs to St. George's Church.

The Festival Eucharist on Sunday was a well supported and fittingly happy, joyful service during which the St George's Singers sang the anthem 'Day by Day' and the sun shone. On Sunday evening the Cello Concert featured the professional cellist Orlando Joplin who was the grand conclusion to our weekend of celebrations. The Repair Committee of St. George's organised this final concert and supper evening. The willing team of helpers arrived at 4pm and by 5pm the marquees were transformed into seating and tables for a hundred people, flowers, table clothes a splendid buffet table and licensed bar. The concert organised by Gregory Frostick and his committee was an absolute joy, the supper that followed was impressively delicious and enjoyed by the hundred who were sat in the marquees protected by that, still buffeting, unrelenting wind.

Events such as this weekend do not just happen - a large team of helpers worked

with me from April 2009. I would like to thank every single person who helped me (and there are really too many to mention in case I forget one!). Without exception the team were cheerful, willing, very capable and very supportive, I thank the sponsors who helped with donations which contributed to the financial success of the weekend. £3825+ for the General Fund and £1,800+ for the Repair Fund - an exceptional result.

A particularly huge thank you to our new rector, Fr Robert Farrell, who was so supportive to everyone from Wednesday, Thursday and throughout the whole weekend. Always available to welcome and chat to our many visitors and helpers. The warmth of the feeling and friendship that I had from you all during the Festival weekend made the hard work and sore feet worthwhile.

Lets keep the spirit going – here's to 2010 – and I have an idea to bring back our "Open Garden Event" to raise more funds for the Church – if you would like your garden included (possibly late May or early June) please let me know. I thank you for a truly memorable weekend.

Jenny Nicholls

THANKS

I would like to thank everyone who so kindly contributed to the St George's Flower Festival Cake Stall giving time, effort and ingredients. It is very much appreciated. The sum of £293.51p was raised over the three days.

Thank you for your generosity both as contributors and customers.

Ann Fairley

CHURCH NEWS

St George's Church News

Flower Festival 17-19th July

Many thanks to all those individuals and local institutions who supported the Flower Festival. Your gifts of time, in kind and in money, are greatly appreciated. The total raised was £3825 which is a life line for our General Fund finances. And it was a really enjoyable community event with wonderful flowers, stalls, and refreshments. Thanks to Jenny Nicholls, the organiser, to Brenda Perry for arranging the excellent Folk Evening on Friday, and to Lucy Bloor and the East Bergholt High School musicians who gave us a happy and varied lunchtime concert on Saturday.

Repair Fund Concert 19th July

The final event of the Flower Festival weekend was a concert by the acclaimed 'cellist Orlando Jopling, who played three suites by JS Bach. This was thrilling music-making and with a buffet supper afterwards made a great result of £1821 for the St George's Repair Fund. Thanks to St George's Fabric Committee for organising the event. And thanks to Orlando for his generosity in supporting the repair of historic Essex churches with his series of 'Cello Pilgrimage' concerts.

Parochial Church Council

The PCC meets about seven times a year. It is chaired by the Rector and is the elected body to govern Church of England matters in Great and Little Bromley. The meeting of 26th June included a presentation by Annie Coley, the deanery development officer, about TRIO which is a scheme to help church members increase their financial giving. The PCC agreed to adopt the recent guidelines on Safeguarding Adults in Church. The PCC supported Claire Scargill, the benefice Pastoral Assistant, to go forward for

selection to train for the Local Ordained Ministry.

The meeting of 25th July agreed to pursue the TRIO scheme this year among church members. It was also agreed to have a Gift Day in September. Further discussion on proposed new Facilities was deferred for the moment because of the pressing financial problems with basic running costs.

Church Finances

We are very grateful for the support we already receive from regular churchgoers and from many others who value the role of the Church in community life. Unfortunately we are now in a very poor financial situation because our income is not sufficient to meet our expenditure. It costs £500 per week (excluding church repairs) to run St George's and the work of the Church of England in Great and Little Bromley. Fund raising events such as the Flower Festival are a big help but we still have a financial shortfall and our reserves have run down to almost zero.

Gift Day 26th September

All residents of Great and Little Bromley are invited to come with a gift to support the work of the Parish Church. Fr. Robert and our two churchwardens, Mr James Wild and Mrs Hilary Powell, will be outside the church from 10am to 4pm on Saturday 26th September to receive donations for the running costs and everyday expenses of St George's. Please be generous and support this appeal. Special 'gift aid' envelopes will be available so we can claim a tax rebate on your donation. Thank you.

Gregory Frostick



LITTLE BROMLEY BARBECUE AND FETE



On Saturday the 25th July 2009, we held our Fete. Once again we were very lucky with the weather, the

sun shone brightly and there was no wind or rain as on the previous day.

There was a good turn out of local people and we had quite a few helpers from the village. There were a variety of games, tombola, raffle, a cake and produce stall, and some bric - brac. Dawn, from the Haywain, provided the drinks, whilst Stan and Tony provided a lovely barbecue. We had two craft stalls to add to the attractions.

Our Lucky Ticket holder won a meal for two in a top Colchester restaurant.

We are pleased to announce that we raised around £400 towards next year's fireworks, this money includes some very kind donations.

We would once again like to thank Mary and Stan Roughley for letting us hold the Fete at Mulley's Farm. We would also like to thank Anita and Brian for all those posters around the village.

Thanks to all those who attended or helped for making the afternoon very enjoyable.

Carol Cordwell
On behalf of the Little Bromley Amenities Committee and the Parish Council.

THE DOCTORS' SURGERIES



Influenza vaccinations

We will be holding 'Flu Clinics' as normal for seasonal flu vaccinations on Thursday afternoons during October.

However, the organisation of these clinics will have to be co-ordinated with the availability of the swine flu vaccine.

At the time of writing this article in August to meet the magazine deadlines, we are still waiting for more information about the swine flu vaccination programme. We do know that both vaccines can be given at the same time and similar at risk groups with specific medical conditions will be a priority. Seasonal flu vaccination will be

offered, as usual to all those, aged over 65 and younger people with an 'at risk' medical condition. However, the swine flu vaccination will only be given to those particularly at risk irrespective of age if they have one of the following medical conditions; heart disease, diabetes, respiratory disease including asthma, renal disease or who are immunocompromised or pregnant. Frontline health and social care workers will also be a priority.

However, we understand that the swine flu vaccination will require a second injection, at least three weeks after the first. So, a logistical challenge for general practices in terms of the organisation and clinical manpower to do all these vaccinations in a short period of time.

Please telephone the surgery to book into one of the flu clinics. We encourage patients to attend these clinics rather than use valuable normal appointment slots unless you are attending the doctor or nurse for some other reason.

New GP Trainee

A new GP Trainee, Dr Ayisha, started her training year with the Ardleigh practice on the 6 August. Dr Sajid previously worked at Ipswich Hospital.

We are pleased that our former GP trainee has secured a GP position with the Rowhedge practice.

Fred Merrin, Practice Manager

LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

The next meeting of the Parish Council is to be held on 22nd October at 7.30pm at The Haywain, Little Bromley.

TENDRING DISTRICT COUNCIL IN CONJUNCTION WITH LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION DAY

Saturday 19th September 2009

Static refuse vehicles will be parked at
Car Park, Shop Road
(Opposite Old Post Office)
From 8am - 11am

The elderly or infirm who are unable to take
rubbish to these locations should contact;
Council Clerk 01206 391015
Ray Coote 01255 686770

Who will arrange for the rubbish to be collected
from their property.

RESIDENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO MAKE USE OF THIS EXCELLENT
OPPORTUNITY TO CLEAR RUBBISH AND UNWANTED ITEMS

**Please note the following cannot be collected
or taken to the vehicle, gas bottles, fridges,
car batteries, lorry batteries, tyres or asbestos**

GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 301310

The holiday season is upon us but it is all happening in September with the new roof due to start and to be completed. The village hall was successful in its application for the £5,000 grant for the roof repair from the Grass Roots Charity. Great work by Fred Nicholls and Ken Bromfield in getting this grant and all the other grants that have funded the repair.

It is important to remember that the Hall will be open as normal during the building period.



The committee has also looked into further grant availability for further improvements.

For the hard of hearing, good news, the hearing loop is installed and is working well. People with hearing aids will be able to tune in and hear what is being said directly from the microphone.

Did you know that on 18 July 1978 the Men's Social Club bought the full size snooker table to replace the ¾ size table!

Saturday 21st November is the Cabaret & Supper Evening with the return of Eve Bridger, from the Golden Girl Murder Mystery Evening. Also comedian Olly Day, a very funny man from Norfolk. It promises to be an excellent evening's entertainment. Admission price to be £15 and there will be a bar. Sarah Nicholls-East has kindly agreed to do the catering. Tickets will be on sale in September from David Beech, telephone 07825 300516 or email sailspar@me.com.

Saturday 5th December the Christmas Fayre. More details soon.

A Quiz Night is being looked into for a night in February, so if you are like me start revising soon.

The committee is still short of someone to audit the Hall accounts. Just audit the accounts in April, contact anyone on the committee if you can help.

Next meeting is on Tuesday, 29th September at 7.30pm in the village hall.

That's all for now. Thank you for your support and please put the forth coming event dates in your diary.

David Beech, Secretary

PARISH COUNCIL

Great Bromley Parish Council
www.essexinfo.net/gbpc

Report of a parish council meeting held on 13 August 2009

PLANNING

The Council considered the following planning applications:

Badley Hall Farm – Farm irrigation reservoir (no objections).

Bosco House Farm, Harwich Road – change of use from agricultural to light

industrial (no objections).

Land East of Hall Road: Three further poultry units, access tracks and storage (objections).

Tendring District Council has decided the following planning applications:

Talisman Coachlines, Harwich Road – variation of condition of approval to allow up to 20 coaches to operate from this site (refusal)

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Westward House, Camp Road/Mary Lane North – applications to allow the removal of 32 trees/tree stumps and possible damage to 5 others (part refusal & approval)

Badley Hall Farm – Farm irrigation reservoir (prior approval required)

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

Elm Cottage site, Harwich Road – Two chalet bungalows and garages (approval)

Land corner Brundells/Frating Road – Lawful Development Certificate for caravan, shelter, shed and leisure use (refusal)

Speed Watch

The council is planning to re-launch the speed watch scheme for the village. This is where trained volunteers undertake speed checks using a 'radar gun' detector and then report



offenders to the police. The main objective is to deter motorists from speeding. Please contact the Parish Clerk if you would be interested in becoming involved.

Neighbourhood Watch

The council is planning to re-launch the neighbourhood watch scheme for the village. Please contact the Parish Clerk if you would be interested in becoming involved – particularly as a co-ordinator for your local area.

Footpath Warden

Following Alan Sievewright's recent retirement from the post the council is seeking to appoint both a new footpath warden and a co-ordinator for the public rights of way working party. Please see the notice elsewhere in this magazine. If you are interested in this post then please contact the Parish Clerk.

The next meeting of the Council will be at 7.30 pm on Thursday 10 September 2009 at Great Bromley Village Hall.

WORKING GROUP REPORTS

WG 5 – Hazardous Roads

With the 2009 bird nesting season now well behind us it is timely for landowners and householders to trim their roadside hedges and trees where appropriate to ensure that these are not presenting a hazard to road users and pedestrians. From a recent survey of roads in the village it is clear that most of the unsatisfactory areas identified in 2007/2008 have now been rectified. However some overgrowth still remains elsewhere and will require attention in the coming weeks.

Given that the highway boundary varies in width from location to location, it is difficult to generalise as to how roadside hedges and trees should be cut back by landowners, but the following general guidance from Essex County Council may

be helpful:

- Roadside verges should have a clear minimum width of 450mm at all times from the road edge. This means that hedges should be cut back at least one metre from the road edge to allow for vegetative growth.
- Hedges should be cut back regularly such that there is no overgrowth of metalled footways. This includes brambles during the growing season.
- Trees overhanging the road should allow a minimum clearance of 5.1 metres above the road surface, including on the road edge/kerb line. There should be a minimum clearance of 2.4 metres above footways.

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Where the highway boundary is more than 1 metre from the road edge, then hedges may need to be cut back more severely. A useful guide is the position of road signs, which are

properly surveyed in when installed. If a road sign is obscured, then almost always the hedge is encroaching on highway property and should be cut back.

WG 5 volunteers will be visiting



landowners and householders during December to discuss those hedges which are still considered to be a hazard. Further information/advice can be obtained from me.

Martin Frostick
Telephone 01206 250263

WG 13 – Tree Planting

Tree planting in the village during the coming winter will be limited mainly to replacement of the sixty or so young trees which have died during the recent hot weather (despite copious watering!). Planting will take place in December with volunteers being notified of exact dates in due course. Please contact me on 01206 250263 if you would like to volunteer to help.

FIREWATCH

Colchester & Tendring

Who Started it?

Report it to

01206 562643

Call in confidence



**Working together
to reduce arson**

Forthcoming Events

SEPTEMBER

- 2 WI meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 5 Medieval Charity Banquet, Pond Farm, 7.00pm
- 9 Beat Surgery, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 10 Great Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 12 Heritage Open Day & Bike Ride, Lt Bromley church, all day
- 17 Friendship Club meeting, Village Hall, 2.30pm
- 19 Environmental Action Day, Car Park, Lt Bromley, 8-11.00am
- 22 Friendship Club outing
Little Bromley Parish Council meeting, The Haywain, 7.30pm
- 24 WEA course starts, Arleigh Village Hall, 2.30pm
- 26 Gift Day, outside St George's church, 10.00am-4.00pm
- 27 Harvest Lunch, Village Hall, 12.30pm
Dedham Run, Dedham Playing Fields, 11.00am
- 29 Village Hall committee meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm

OCTOBER

- 4 Harvest Festival, Lt Bromley church (see p13)
- 6 Autumn Sale Seven Rivers Cheshire Home, Village Hall, 10.30am
- 7 WI meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 9-11 Lt Bentley Flower Festival & Concert (see page 14)
- 13 Police Public meeting (see page 19)
- 21 Beat Surgery, Village Hall, 7.30pm



Seven Rivers Cheshire Home

AUTUMN SALE

Ladies clothing, sports gifts, shoes,
toys, cookware,
china, jewellery, greetings cards,
stocking fillers,
and a wide range of gift ideas
at

Great Bromley Village Hall, CO7 7JA
on

Tuesday 6th October 2009
10.30am to 3.00pm

Entry: £2.00

Refreshments including coffee, cakes
& sandwiches will also be available



WEA

Ardleigh Branch
September Term

Understanding Scenery
Tutor - Adrian Wright

Venue - Arleigh Village Hall
Starting Date - Thursday 24th
September 2009. (There will be one
week - 8th October where, because
of other commitments for the Tutor,
we will not meet, there will be no half
term)

The course will be ten weeks long
starting at 2.30 p.m. and finishing at
4.15 p.m. (a fifteen minute tea break
included)

The fee will be £43.50 per person

For further details please phone Jill
Frostick on 250263 or John Terry on
230490

Medieval Charity Banquet

In Aid of Colchester Toy Library 25th Anniversary

5th September 2009

Ye Olde Barn, Pond Farm, Great Bromley, CO7 7JP

7pm - 'Oise & Carro Depart 1am

Music and Merriment

£25 per Head

3 Course Rustic Menu

Wine and Ale On Sale



Country Raffle

Medieval Dress Preferred

Cheques Made Payable To: Sweet Success

Tel: 01206 230126

Free Overnight Camping Available

Breakfast: Booked in Advance £5

Thank You For Your Support

St Georges Church
Great Bromley
Supporting Water Aid

Harvest Lunch

At Great Bromley Village Hall
Sunday 27th September
12:30pm for 1:00pm

Tickets: Adults £6 Children £3
Available from 01206 230089 or
01206 230688 and members of the
PCC

Bring your own drinks, glasses,
cutlery, and crockery



2009

CABARET EVENING

Saturday 21st November
In Great Bromley Village Hall
Excellent entertainment plus Supper
Tickets: £15
available from Village Hall committee
members

Profits from proceeds for Village Hall funds

ST MARY'S CHURCH, LITTLE BROMLEY

Saturday 12th September - Heritage Open Day & Bike Ride

Little Bromley Church will be open all day.

Please drop in, or if you would like to be on duty for an hour to say hello
and help sign in the cyclists please ring Ann Fairley 01206 250229

This is the day when virtually every historic church in England is open to
celebrate the glories of our heritage.

It is also the bike ride day in aid of Essex Historic Churches Trust and local
churches..

Please sponsor James Wild (01206 230679) and companions who are riding to
support repairs to St George's Church, Great Bromley.

Sunday 4 October - Harvest Festival

3-4:30pm Family Fun afternoon and tea. Games for children (and adults too!)

6:30pm Harvest Evensong with choir. Refreshments afterwards



VACANCIES - CAN YOU HELP?

Vacancies arise occasionally

within local organisations for volunteers willing to give a few hours of their time to help these organisations support the community they serve. Although unpaid, these appointments give volunteers the opportunity to contribute to the community and work with other volunteers as part of a team to keep village institutions functioning and vibrant.

The following two vacancies exist currently for volunteers. Anyone interested is asked to contact the person shown:

Footpath Warden/Footpath Working Group Co-ordinator (Great Bromley)

A detailed description is given below.
Contact Ken Bromfield on 230089

Great Bromley Village Hall Accounts Examiner

A volunteer is required to undertake an annual review of the village hall accounts at the end of the financial year. A financial / accounts / ledger background would be helpful but is not essential.

Contact Fred Nicholls on 230688



If your organisation has vacancies then please let us know and we will publish monthly.

FOOTPATH WARDEN/WORKING PARTY CO-ORDINATOR

A vacancy has arisen for the above voluntary post which could be shared by two people.

Footpath Warden

The Parish of Great Bromley has a large number of Public Rights of Way (PROW) and Bridleways. The Footpath Warden relies on members of the public to report any obstructions to these paths to him/her. Duties include to receive and monitor the condition of PROW and Bridleways from members of the public. To report any defects and obstructions to Essex County Council Highways Department and to the Parish Council. To ensure that cross field paths are cleared by landowners.



Co-ordinator

To convene meetings with the Working Party to discuss the findings of the Footpath Warden and to carry out small clearances as appropriate.

To report to the Parish Council on work pending and completed.

If you are interested in the post please contact the Parish Clerk.

KITCHEN CORNER

Quick and Easy Fruit Cake

225g (8oz) mixed dried fruit
100G (4oz) light muscovado sugar
75g (3oz) butter
175G (6oz) self-raising flour
Pinch of salt
2 medium eggs, beaten
1 x 227g can pineapple chunks in natural juice, drained
50g (2oz) glacé cherries, halved
50g (2oz) desiccated coconut

Put the mixed fruit in to a large bowl and cover with boiling water. Allow to soak for 10-15 minutes. Drain really well. Put the sugar and butter in to a large saucepan and heat gently until melted. Add the fruit and cook over a low heat, stirring often for 3-4 minutes. Transfer to a mixing bowl and cool completely.

Pre-heat oven to 180°C/350°F/Gas Mark 4. Grease and line a 900g (2lb) loaf tin.

Sift the flour and salt in to the fruit mixture, and stir well. Add the eggs, pineapple, cherries and coconut. Stir well. Transfer to the prepared tin and level the surface.

Bake in pre-heated oven for 50 minutes-1 hour. Test the cake with a fine skewer, and if it comes out clean the cake is cooked. If not, return to the oven for a few more minutes.

Peter Wenden



SEPTEMBER GARDENING TIPS

Flowers

This time of the year we start thinking of spring bulbs. Now is the time to plant daffodils and narcissus. Spaces for planting 4-6" apart and approximately 4" deep.

Keep deadheading the dahlias and late flowering annuals.

Sweet peas can be planted this month to overwinter in a cold frame.

Climbing roses should have all the dead blooms removed to allow the last of the season's flowers to give us "the last rose of summer".

Cuttings of hydrangea can still be taken: why not try rooting them in water, a jam jar will do nicely, then when rooted pot up.

Vegetables

The following can be lifted for storing: potatoes, beetroot and onions. If you



want new potatoes for Christmas, cut a growbag in half, stand on end, take out half the compost and plant three seed potatoes in each bag, cover with

the rest of the compost and you should have a good crop of potatoes to last over the holiday but do not let the bags dry out.

Fruit

The fig tree is doing well and I have six figs on it at the moment. The figs, which are only the size of peas, will stay on until the spring when they will grow away and be ready to pick next August.

Take hardwood cuttings of red, white and black currants; also gooseberries.

Frank Griffiths

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Flower Festival: Many thanks to Barbara Hall for the lovely arrangement she did in the church.

Auction: What a selection of things were contributed for the auction—amazing—and we sincerely send thanks to the members and especially non-members for them. We hope everyone enjoyed the very successful day.

Outing: Everything is arranged for our visit to the Police Museum on 22nd September. I could only get a 29-seater coach so numbers are limited.



New Members: We have recently welcomed nine more members. Why not come along to any meeting - the 3rd Thursday in the month - at 2.30pm at the Village Hall. We don't want to know how old you are - just be 55 or more - and forget your chores for one day!

Christmas Lunch: Our next event will be in November so watch out for the date.

That's all for now folks - see you at the September meeting on the 17th and in the meantime keep well.

Vicky Griffiths

FROM THE PAST

A W COLE, Builder and House Decorator

The Guildhall Trustees usually called on local tradesmen where possible. Cole repaired the top of a copper and the furnace in a tenement. He also provided a new lid for the copper. The total cost was 17s 6d in 1933.



Not only was the weekly washing done in a wood or coal heated copper but in some cottages the Mason's Stone Ginger

Beer was also brewed and other brews from local crop and hedges.

No doubt older residents will remember those days and the palaver to get the fire going early so that washing could be put out, weather permitting, to dry or hazel off ready for ironing.

John Appleby

The Pylons at Great Bromley

Julian Foynes has published a booklet
**'A.M.E.S. 24 (Air Ministry
Experimental Station 24)
The Pylons at Great Bromley'**

It has 92 pages, including about 70 pages of text and 13 pages of photos (and maps) tracing the history of the pylons through from 1936 until recently. It is a very readable booklet, although technical in parts, but Mr Foynes has mentioned as many relevant events and people as possible. About seven local farms are mentioned and it is interesting to see how our part of the country was described by outsiders from the Air Ministry and the RAF.

If you would like a copy please send £3 (cheques payable to J P Foynes) to him at 17 Cranmore Avenue, Osterley, Isleworth, Middx TW7 4RW or contact him on tel:0208 5700534 or e-mail: jpfoynes@aol.com

EARTHQUAKE - WHAT EARTHQUAKE!

I have just returned from a two week trip to our little holiday apartment in the beautiful village of Caporciano in Abruzzo, Italy. I know you are probably thinking how wonderful that sounds! However, you may remember that on 6th April this year – L'Aquila – the capital of Abruzzo suffered a 6.3 magnitude earthquake. We all heard about it on the news on the day and for a few days thereafter and it was mentioned again when the G8 summit was held in L'Aquila at the beginning of July. But otherwise people are totally unaware that the people of Abruzzo are still living in tents, waiting for the continuous tremors to stop. There have been well over 1500 tremors to date, since the main earthquake. We've been told that there must be 22 clear days from the last tremor before anyone can do any repairs to their houses, or go anywhere near them – that is if you have a house still standing!

Thousands of people have lost their homes, their belongings, their jobs – everything. The centre of L'Aquila is totally closed off, guarded by the army, so no one can enter the ruined houses to retrieve their belongings. The centre – which has been named 'La Zona Rossa' (the red zone) has been declared to be very dangerous and cannot be entered. Other than L'Aquila, 49 other villages are closed off and non-functioning. Everywhere you go there are blue tents housing the refugees.

One day, when I ventured out to go to a shopping centre on the outskirts of L'Aquila, I was shocked to come across a huge camp with hundreds of tents. I found out that it houses around 1000 people from L'Aquila and that is only one of the 4 main camps for the town. L'Aquila is full of builders and construction workers who are desperately

trying to clear rubble of the fallen houses as well as build temporary wooden accommodation for the thousands of homeless people. They are trying to re-house everyone by the end of September – only 6 weeks away! - before the very cold winter sets in. That is, of course, unlikely to happen.

The weather is fantastic in Italy at the moment, but not if you have to live in a tent all the time. The people are trying to be patient, which must be so difficult for them. They are fed, they are well looked after, but the future is looking bleak, with winter not that far away.

In the long winter months, Abruzzo has skiing, long walks in the snowy countryside and the welcome of log fires in homes of a people who are the kindest you could ever meet. Even now, when there is no money, they invite us to share their meal with them and offer their bottomless hospitality...

Money has been donated from other nations to help Abruzzo at this very difficult time, but it still isn't enough for the huge task ahead.

I copied this from the Caporciano website (<http://www.comune.caporciano.aq.it>) and if you would like to make a donation towards the rebuilding and repair of the village you will find the details below:

Bank details:

**Della Banca - 06040 – CASSA
RISPARMIO PROV.DELL'AQUILA
IBAN: IT83S060404077000000096681
SWIFT code: BPMOITQ1XXX**

Reference: **Terremoto (Earthquake)
06/04/09 - Aiuto per CAPORCIANO
(Help for Caporciano)**

All other 49 villages and L'Aquila have their own websites.

Thank you!
Suzanne Abbott

ESSEX POLICE PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

The Essex Police Photography Competition is to find photos of locations in Essex to use on its website.

It is looking for great photos of places in Essex to make sure its website www.essex.police.uk reflects the county it serves. So Essex Police is challenging amateur and professional photographers of all ages to send in their photographs that illustrate what Essex means to them. The force is in the process of designing and developing a brand new website and the winning photos will be used within the new site.

Claire Ziwa, head of media at Essex Police, said: "It is important for us that the new site is interactive and that is why we want to use photos taken by the public. There are no categories so just get out there and get creative - whether it is a summer scene at Southend Pier or a beauty spot in Thaxted. Use your imagination and show us what Essex means to you."

Five photos will be shortlisted. First prize is an Ipad Touch, second prize is a digital photo frame and three runners up will win a digital photo key ring.

To enter, read the terms and conditions which can be found on

www.essex.police.uk/photos

Photos should be emailed to photos@essex.pnn.police.uk. Individuals may submit up to three entries and provide their name, phone number, address, email address and the location of the photograph. Photos must be of places and not include people.

All entries must be received by midnight on Friday, September 4, 2009.

Nicola Bastendorff
Internet Team, Media
Department, Essex Police
College, Ground Floor,
Springfield, Chelmsford
Internal ext: 55815
Direct Dial: 0300 3334444
ext 55815

Email: nicola.bastendorff@essex.pnn.police.uk

Website: www.essex.police.uk



THE TENDING
**CRIME
& DISORDER**
REDUCTION PARTNERSHIP

**You talk
We listen**

www.essex.police.uk/feedback
www.essex.police.uk/feedback

Make a difference – help shape policing in your area

In conjunction with the Tending Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership, Essex Police Authority are holding a Public Meeting in your district to give you an opportunity to discuss face to face with us, Senior Police Officers and members of the Neighbourhood Policing Team any policing issues that matter to you in your area. Your feedback regarding local issues is highly valued and will contribute to future policing activity.

Your local meeting will take place at
**The Princes Theatre, Town Hall,
Station Road, Clacton-on-Sea, CO15 1SE**
on
Tuesday 13th October 2009
at **7.30 pm**

This Public Meeting is open to everyone and we hope representation will be as wide and varied as possible, so please pass this information on to anyone else you think might be interested in attending, having their say, and making a difference in their community.



For more information contact:

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKEDMaureen Browning, Essex Police Authority, 3 Hoffmanns Way, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 1GU
Tel: 01245 291628 E-mail: maureen.browning@essex.pnn.police.uk

NATURE'S DIARY

Animal Kingdom Immigrants. How long does an introduced species have to be here before it is considered to belong here?

Rabbits were introduced by the Romans who brought them over for food. They subsequently escaped by burrowing out of their enclosures and are now largely accepted as a native species. The grey squirrel, despite having been introduced from North America in 1876, is still regarded as an interloper really only because the grey is more successful at surviving than the red squirrel. There is now a mutant black squirrel which is apparently causing the grey a problem. Could the black be considered a native because it evolved here?

In the late 1970s/early 80s the Signal Crayfish (*Pacifastacus leniusculus*) was brought over for farming purposes and, needless to say, escaped. It is now living in many waterways throughout Britain and eating our native crayfish food to the detriment of the native species. Muntjac deer were introduced to Woburn Park in 1893 from Asia. Due to deliberate releases, as well as escapees, they have established a growing feral population. Mink was brought over in 1929, from the States, for their fur but they too escaped from the farms. The Pheasant was introduced a long time ago and shooting for sport has resulted in more recent introductions of a variety of races and breeds. Of the recent immigrants not introduced by man, two spring to mind: the Collared Dove spread across Europe during the early part of the 20th century and established itself here. More recently the Harlequin Ladybirds, in various forms, arrived and are rapidly making themselves at home. Our native ladybird species will have to fight hard for their own survival as again the Harlequin is more aggressive.

There is the possibility of yet another species being brought in next summer. A 2mm bug (*Aphalara itadori*, a type of psyllid - jumping plant lice) from Japan may be brought in to eat the invasive Japanese Knotweed. However what will it do when it has eaten all the Knotweed? Die out? Probably not, it will evolve and adapt and possibly become yet another nuisance to an indigenous species. Has anyone thought about that I wonder?

This month: Look out this month for conkers which are maturing early and for the craneflies (or Daddy-Longlegs) who appear in numbers at this time of year. Crane fly larva is the destructive maggot called a leatherjacket but they - and the adult craneflies - provide a good food source for birds.

The ivy is now coming into flower. It is a most important late food source for bees who turn the nectar into honey for their winter stores. Ivy is also an important habitat for birds, such as insect-eating wrens, who like to nest and overwinter in it. Insects tend to hibernate in the cover of the plant thus giving a fast food restaurant right on the birds' doorstep!

Leonie Henderson



THE RECTORY, GREAT BROMLEY

Dear Friends,

When we say that someone is 'the salt of the earth' we are paying them a great compliment. We are saying that they are utterly reliable, dependable, genuine good and kind; less complimentary is to say of someone that what he or she says is 'to be treated with a pinch of salt' or he's 'not worth his salt'.

In the Gospels we find Jesus addressing his disciples and telling them: 'You are the salt of the earth'.

What exactly did Jesus mean by this? Was he praising his disciples and giving them a 'pat on the back' or was he in fact giving them a challenge and a task?

In the ancient world salt was highly valued because it was connected with three special qualities in people's minds.

- 1 It was connected with purity
- 2 It was a preservative
- 3 As for us today it lent flavour and taste to food.

PURITY

The ancients believed that salt was the purest of all things because it came from the purest of all things, the sun and the sea. It follows that as Christians we are to be like salt: shining examples of purity and integrity in all our thoughts and words and relationships.

PRESERVATIVE

In pre-refrigeration days salt was used to stop meat going rotten – so as Christians we are to have a certain preservative influence in the world; we are to cherish and conserve the good things in our world, the things that 'make for peace and build up our common life', things true, honourable, just, pure, lovely and gracious; in a world which is sometimes ugly.

FLAVOUR AND TASTE

Salt lends flavour and taste to our food, but if we add too much salt the food can taste ghastly!

Christ is saying to us that as salt lends flavour to food so we are to lend flavour to life and to our world, to contribute something distinctive, something which makes a difference; this something is I believe our vision of God and of life which has been shown to us in Jesus. As Michael Ramsey put it, 'Our belief in the infinite value of every person; our belief that suffering may be redemptive; and the humility which knows our need of God, of his love, healing, forgiveness and grace'.

And if we feel as Christians we are in a minority in present day Britain, then we can take heart from history and see that the influence of Christians has often been out of all proportion to their size and numbers.

A prayer:

Lord you tell me that I am to work in the world in hidden ways like salt, giving tone and flavour to the environment in which I am placed and keeping things from going rotten. Let me not be insipid and colourless, let me have the salty tang of your kingdom and renew my saltiness when it loses its power.

With love to you all, *Fr. Robert*

**THE TENDING
CRIME
& DISORDER
REDUCTION
PARTNERSHIP**

**SUFFERING FROM
ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR?**

CALL TENDING'S DEDICATED COMMUNITY SAFETY
TEAM TO REPORT ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR:

**REPORT
ANTI-SOCIAL
BEHAVIOUR**

0845 605 2222

**9am - 5pm Monday to Friday
Out of Hours Voicemail**

You can remain anonymous if you wish

For more information please visit our website at
www.tendingcrs.gov.uk/crimeanddisorder

Graffiti
Nasty Neighbours

**Abandoned or
Excessive vehicles**

Criminal Damage
Nuisance Yards

Fly-Tipping

Drug Dealing
Mint Mates

Intimidation
Misuse of Fireworks

ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR, GREAT BROMLEY

united with St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh



Church of England Services for September

Sunday 6th	8.00am 10.30am	13th Sunday after Trinity Eucharist Parish Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i> <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Sunday 13th	8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm	14th Sunday after Trinity Eucharist Parish Eucharist, All Age Worship Evensong	<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	15th Sunday after Trinity Eucharist Parish Eucharist Choral Evensong	<i>St. George the Martyr</i> <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i> <i>St. George the Martyr</i>
Sunday 27th	8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm	16th Sunday after Trinity Harvest Thanksgiving Eucharist Parish Eucharist <i>Followed by Harvest Lunch at Great Bromley Village Hall</i> Songs of Praise for Harvest	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i> <i>St. George the Martyr</i> <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Sunday October 4th	8.00am 10.30am	17th Sunday after Trinity Eucharist Parish Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i> <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>

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

MATERIAL for the **OCTOBER 2009** edition of 'The Bromley Messenger'

should reach the Editor, Leonie Henderson, by **14th September, 2009** 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.

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