

The Bromley Messenger

October 2009

Volume 23



Photograph by kind permission of Maureen Stokes

COLCHESTER TOY LIBRARY FUNDRAISER

Much merrymaking was had at the medieval night at Pond Farm, Great Bromley on 5th September which raised a much needed £1948.00 for the toy library in celebration of its 25th year.

Knights, monks, wenches and damsels partook of a spit roasted hog and were entertained by a fire-eating, juggling, stiltwalker and a wandering minstrel. After feasting Maidens danced around the Maypole whilst others tested their skills at archery, jousting and pelting the hapless soul in the stocks.

Linda Pinhey of Sweet Success organised the event assisted by Eugene and Julie and Blanchett who were founder members of the charity. Thanks go to the many other willing volunteers who assisted with the event. Thanks also go to all those who contributed to the bounteous raffle which raised over £400.

EDITORIAL

Katisha thanks all those who commented so favourably on her editorial last month. She is 'purrleazed' with the praise but I am worried that she might get big headed and consider herself 'purrfect'! However she is uncertain about a remark made by Frank Griffiths who feels sure that Mrs Fitzgerald at St George's School would, if asked, help with her spelling during the holidays. Katisha accepts that spelling and grammar are important but says she only uses it when helping me out. Her main aim in life is to keep the rodent and rabbit population down.



This month we have an article on page 5 by Hugh Frostick in New Zealand who, on a recent visit, began to record on paper/

computer memories from village friends and relations which will hopefully become a book in the future. As many of you know this is a subject dear to me. Life and times have changed so much since Queen Victoria died that to record the events of village life and its personalities is almost a must if we are not to lose them. Enjoy the photos also which we reproduce with thanks from the owners. Should anyone have memories (or photographs) of village life, from ancient to modern, that you wish to share do please contact Hugh, as he indicates on page 6, or write them down, send them to me and I will make sure he

receives them.

Work on the Village Hall roof will have begun by the time you receive this issue and will be completed ready for the worst of the winter weather when the hall will be snug, dry and weatherproof.

Sadly yet again this month there are yet more reports of scams, bogus calls and claims. Do read them and try not to get taken in by any of these people.

There is good advice to be had on page 18 as to whom to contact in the case of medical non-emergencies, injury etc. I had no idea there were so many ways of sorting out a non-emergency situation when the doctors' surgeries are closed. Following that is an article on how to avoid wasting medicines (and tax-payer's money!)

Our Parish Councils work hard on our behalves. I, personally, am pleased to see that Little Bromley Parish Council is monitoring the corner by their War Memorial where there is a new hedge that was planted too close to the edge of the road and which is not kept severely cut back. It makes turning right into Church Road from Shop Road extremely dangerous. Oncoming cars are barely visible and motorcyclists cannot be seen at all. One day there will be a horrible accident.

Leonie Henderson

MATERIAL for the **NOVEMBER 2009** edition of 'The Bromley Messenger' should reach the Editor, Leonie Henderson, by **14th October, 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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For details of availability and costs for **ADVERTISING** in the 'The Bromley Messenger' please contact the Treasurer on 01206 251264



Photograph by kind permission of Maureen Stokes

Medieval Banquet at Pond Farm



LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Report of Parish Council Meeting at Little Bromley held on 27th August 2009.

The meeting was joined by 10 members of the public and the following subjects were discussed at length.

Road Safety and in particular speeding through the village.

A small volunteer group would, in conjunction with the council and the police, investigate the best way of tackling the problem. It seems that there is still a problem with visibility with the hedge opposite the War Memorial. The Clerk will keep monitoring the problem.

Enquiries about the newly built shop in the village opening in the near future?

The Clerk agreed to find out about costings and availability of electronic speed warning signs.

Enquiries about the possibility of church weddings at St Mary's Church, Little Bromley

This was raised by one member of the public. Information should be obtained from the PCC or to the Rector direct as it is almost certain a Special Licence would be required.

Bulk Rubbish is on course still for 19th September 2009.

The Amenities Committee

And persons involved in the running and organisation of the Village Fete were

Continued ...

**PLEASE SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS -
ESSEX STAIRLIFTS & LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

...continued

thanked by the Chairman. Two cash donations and a very generous first prize for the raffled ended in about £500 being raised. Much discussion for a Fireworks Night annually has taken place but it was pointed out that an alternative means of raising funds would be necessary if the present bi-annual system were to change, and there would have to be a more "hands on" approach as there is a lot of hard work involved!

The Chairman raised the subject of more plants/bulbs etc for the War Memorial. Funding was agreed. It was also suggested that some might be available from the District Council.

Planning in respect of the Old Smithy still ongoing and change of use from agriculture to paddock at Triangle Farm was agreed by the council.

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.



Photographs courtesy of Brian Connor



Little Bromley Fete 2009



My father's, Charles Frostick, Riley 1 1/2 litre Saloon - well remembered in the village.
Photo courtesy Edward Barrett



Old Forge, Little Bromley - next to 'The Haywain' (formerly 'The Fox & Hounds')
Photo courtesy of Geo Kent

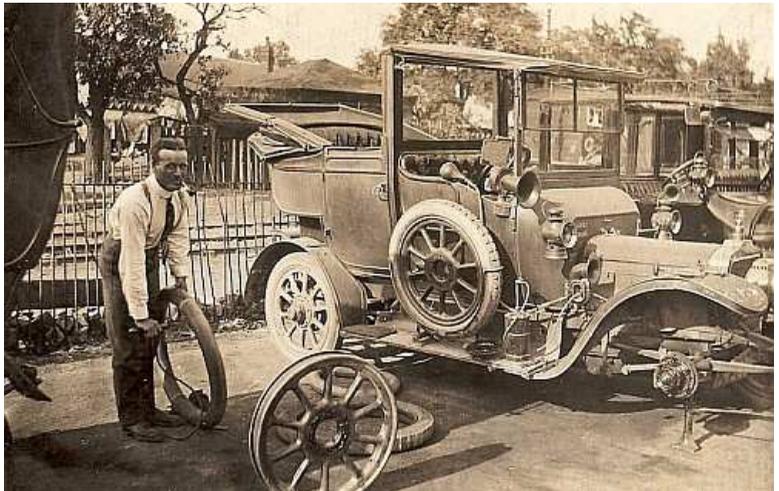


Dick Hayward's father at a Higham point-to-point of the Essex & Suffolk Hunt.
 Extreme left Mrs Wright from Tending, next at this level John Jiggins from Bradfield, then Herbert Hayward from Badley Hall, Gt Bromley, with cigarette, standing on boot of Austin Cambridge? Immediately below him John Girling from Brightlingsea.

Photo courtesy of Dick Hayward

Gwen Barrell's uncle Herb Arthey repairing his taxi in Colchester

Photo courtesy of Gwen Barrell



ABOUT THE PAST

I was fortunate enough to be able to escape some miserable wintery Wellington weather in late June and all of July, with a visit back to the Bromleys. Arriving to a sunny 32 degrees, without humidity, was a wonderful surprise! Of course the English summer served up some of its usual - driving through Elmstead Market after a cloud burst one night, with lightning all around, and all the lights (including traffic lights) of that village going out for several seconds raised a big grin on my face. (Wellington does not have many electric storms - but we do have good earthquakes like the 5.3 magnitude that woke my daughter up at 2:10 this morning.)

With Wimbledon on, the wonderful church flowers weekend and concert, and the local cricket chairman's lunch to enjoy (despite the very unfortunate accident to Gwen Hayward) and seeing my son climb the old oak tree by the cricket green which I used to climb as a boy, it was all very nostalgic!

Part of the purpose of my trip was to carry out some family tree research, and it was a treat to discover, and get in contact with, relatives I didn't know about - and some of them very local too. I also take a general interest in 'the old days' of our villages and was very grateful for time spent with old family friends like Beryl & Geoff Hurst, Tubby & Jean Austin, Peter & June Wenden, Gwen Barrell, Edward & Marion Barratt down in Sussex, Ida Rudd, George Kent, John Appleby, the Haywards & the Kempsters to name but a few.

My laptop computer and portable scanner, which I bought for the purpose, was running red hot as I copied interesting photos and articles. I got writer's cramp from furiously scribbling down notes from the historical chatter, in deference to my rotten memory.

I was very glad that some people had kept scrapbooks for quite some years, and were happy to share them with me, and allowed me to look through their old photographs. John Appleby has of course created the wonderful book of postcards for Great Bromley, and I was pleased to be able to preview the proposed contents of the Little Bromley version - we all anxiously await its publication. Dick Hayward kindly trawled his loft for old farm wage books and other records to see if any of my ancestors worked at Badley Hall farm. Apparently not - but there were lots of local names I did of course recognise.

All this made me realise what a wealth of knowledge and resources about our locality resides in the back of cupboards and in dusty attics. Conversely, I was trying to find out about an aunt I never knew, and learned that all photos and family documents had been burned prior to a house move some years ago, which was very sad to hear.

So I urge everyone who is sitting on some local history, whether it is still of interest to you or not, to not throw it out. Instead, plan to pass it on to someone who is interested, either in the family, a local friend or the local history recorder. Oh - and don't we wish we'd penciled names on the back of family group photos, before we forget who all those people are? I shall be trying harder myself from now on.

I hope to return for another visit before too very long. And maybe get that book started! If anyone wants to talk to me about their memories of the Bromleys please leave a message with Martin or Jill on 250263 and I will call you back.

Regards from New Zealand,
Hugh Frostick

GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 301310



The Committee has placed the order for the new roof and work is due to start on Monday, 28th September. It is estimated that

the work will take about four weeks, weather dependent. **The Hall will be open as usual** and it is hoped that apart from the noise and a smaller parking area all will go smoothly. Besides a new roof some of the wood on the roof ends will be removed, broken guttering replaced and the soffits and barge boards repainted. Rumour has it that it might be dark blue rather than green. Bryn Jones has given huge amounts of time, effort and expertise to the project so far. Well done and a big thank you from the Hall committee, thank you Bryn.

All leaders of groups who use the Hall should have had a detailed letter by the time of reading this.

We will be having a working party to tidy the garden and paths around the Hall in the near future. All help will be gratefully received. More details soon.

Did you know thatBack in February 1971 the work was very nearly finished on the new kitchen, store room and toilet. Work had started the September before but there was a growing list of repairs and the exterior needed painting. The problems

with the work continued beyond July. Let's hope that the work in 2009 is much smoother than in 1971!

Get in quick as tickets are limited for Saturday 21st November Cabaret & Supper evening. 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 any committee member. My contact number is 07825 300516 or email sailspar@me.com

Saturday December 5th, the Christmas Fayre with raffle

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. Please contact anyone on the committee if you can help.

Next meeting Tuesday September 29th 7:30pm.

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

David Beech



Sallywags



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 CHURCH NEWS

Parochial Church Council

The PCC met on 7th September. We are still without a Secretary but Leonie Henderson has kindly agreed to be Minutes Secretary and will be co-opted to the PCC at the next meeting.

Earlier this year the PCC decided that there will be a separate charities account. This means that payments to charity will only come from funds specifically given for that purpose. We are currently looking at a Christian Aid partnership scheme in Africa.

The scope of Benefice News, the monthly church newsletter for Ardleigh and Bromleys is under review. Hilary Powell, the editor, has proposed a single information sheet and welcomes the views of readers about this.

The Finance report was delivered by Marion Bromfield. We are just above water currently thanks to the Flower Festival but we do need increased giving to avoid running out of money in 2010.

The Fabric Committee report was

delivered by Gregory Frostick. There is much progress and also two visits from English Heritage in September. More details next month.

The PCC has written to the Parish Council to thank them for the great improvement to the car parking layout in Church Meadow. The PCC agreed to suggest only a minor modification to the layout and thought that additional lighting was not currently required.

Ann Wild has stepped down from organising the church cleaning rota - many thanks to her. Hilary Powell has taken this on and welcomes volunteers to help with occasional light cleaning.

Next meeting October 10th. If any of our readers have comments or suggestions for the PCC please don't hesitate to get in contact with any of the PCC members or the Rector. Full minutes of PCC meetings are displayed in the Church.

Gregory Frostick



ESSEX POLICE



Incidents in Great Bromley for the month of August

Disturbance - Rectory Road - (Hamilton Lodge)

Suspicious Circumstances - Hall Road

Les Barnes PCSO 71909

Thorpe Le Soken NPT Eastern

Internal Ext : 487603

External 01255 862843

Email : leslie.barnes@essex.pnn.police

website : www.essex.police.uk

NEWS LETTER FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2009

Calls are being received by members of the public from a company calling themselves International Credit. The call is a recorded announcement stating that they can offer better deals on credit cards. The voice you will hear has an American accent and asks you to press 6 on your key pad. Should you receive this recording please do not press 6 just hang up.



There are bogus callers claiming to work for Essex Police stating that they can fit alarms. Essex police do not recommend or endorse any specific alarm or security company.

When purchasing alarm systems or security devices always obtain written quotations from at least three bone-fide alarm companies. If you have any doubts about any alarm company then you should not sign any agreement.

If you should receive a phone call from cold callers please do not take up their offers.

If you are unhappy with any company that you have dealt with please contact Essex Trading Standards on 08454 040506.

Please be aware that phone calls are being received from a recorded announcement stating that you have won a cruise. The voice is a female with an American accent. The recorded announcement is asking you

to press 9 on your phone in order for you to receive the prize. Please do not press 9 just replace the receiver.

Please remember if you have not entered any prize draws or lottery you can't win

Be aware that a male is making telephone call to residents claiming to be a police officer. This male calls himself DC Ron Harper and is giving collar number 4191074. The male is asking for information about how much money people have in their properties and to confirm the security number on the back of their credit/debit cards.

Please do not give out any personal information over the telephone and do not call back the number that is given to you by these people.

Should you receive any telephone call or a knock on the door please contact 0300 333 4444 to report the incident with as much information as possible.

THE DEDHAM EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

The Governors invite applications from residents in the Parishes of Ardleigh, Bradfield, Dedham, Great Bromley and Stratford St Mary for financial grants that are available in the following categories:

Secondary Schools & Sixth Form Colleges

Applicants must be at least 12 years old on 1st August in the year of application.

Universities & Colleges of Further Education

Applicants must have lived in one, or more, of the five Parishes for at least 2 years prior to the application date.

For an application form, or further details, contact the Clerk to the Governors, Mrs Jean Flewin, Coppins, Crown Street, Dedham, Colchester, Essex COP7 6AT
Closing date for applications: 30.10.09

BE AWARE

The new telephone 'scam' has arrived.

I received a call from a 'representative' of BT, informing me that he was disconnecting me because of an unpaid bill. He demanded payment immediately of £31.00, or it would be £118.00 to re-connect at a later date.



The man wasn't even fazed when I told him I was with Virgin Media; allegedly Virgin Media have to pay BT a percentage for line rental!

I asked for the mans phone number he said - 0800 0800 152. Obviously the man realised I didn't believe his story, so offered to demonstrate that he was from BT. I asked how and he told me to hang up and try phoning someone - he would disconnect my phone to prevent this. AND HE DID!! My phone was dead - no engaged tone, nothing - until he phoned me again.

Very pleased with himself, he asked if that was enough proof that he was with BT I asked how the payment was to be made & he said credit card, there & then. I said that I didn't know how he'd done it, but I had absolutely no intention of paying him, I didn't believe his name or that he worked for BT.

He hung up... I dialled 1471 and phoned his fictitious 0800 number - not recognised.

I phoned the police to let them know - I wasn't the first! It's only just started apparently but it is escalating.

Their advice was to let as many people know by word of mouth of this scam. The fact that the phone does go off would probably convince some people it's real, so please let as many friends & family aware of this.

This is good but not that clever. He gave the wrong number - it should have been 0800 800152 which takes you through to BT Business. The cutting off of the line is very simple, he stays on the line with the mute button on and you can't dial out - but he can hear you trying. (This is because the person who initiates a call is the one to terminate it). When you stop trying he cuts off and immediately calls back. You could almost be convinced! The sad thing is that it is so simple that it will certainly fool the elderly and vulnerable.

HAVE YOU A CAR?

Could you spare 2 mornings a week to deliver papers for me in the Frating area?

Approximately 2 hours (6am-8am)

Contact Stephanie 077749414772



Great Bromley & Frating Playgroup

At Great Bromley Village Hall.

Monday & Wednesday 9.15-11.45am & 12.15-2.45pm

Thursday 9.30-12 noon

Session Tel No: 0785 7503103

(Lunch time session also available)

Children: 2 - 5 years. £7 per session.

Lunch time sessions also available Monday & Wednesday Cost: £1.50

Ofsted inspected.

For more details/visits, please contact Group Secretary-Jean on 01206 250694

OCTOBER GARDENING TIPS



If you are having trouble with earwigs, as we all do, one method I use is to place an old glove on the ground near where the problem is. In the morning you will find that you

have caught several earwigs which you can dispose of in a pail of water, then replace the glove.

FLOWERS

The garden centres are now stocking their winter plants: winter pansies and primroses—all suitable for hanging baskets and tubs all of which need the minimum of attention during the winter. Other autumn and winter flowering plants are the cyclamen which come in a wide variety of colours and can be planted from now on.

When the dahlias have finished flowering

they can either be lifted and stored in a frost proof shed or garage or if you're lazy (like me) you can cut the stems down to approximately 4" and cover with well rotted compost. Gladioli bulbs should all be finished now so should be dug up and stored for planting next year.

VEGETABLES

The last of the cauliflowers should have their leaves bent over to protect the curd. Otherwise, the work in the vegetable garden consists of clearing up, digging and rotovating and also manuring this month for next year. Where potatoes, brassicas and other leafy crops are to be planted it is advisable not to grow the same vegetables in the same plot every year.

Frank Griffiths



WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Barbara Faulkner, accompanied by Ann Smith, came along to our September meeting to tell us about "The Proms" and their history.

The first Promenade Concert was held in the Vauxhall Gardens, London and was introduced by Wallace Arnold about 1740. There were buskers, jugglers etc and the audience was provided with instruments. The concerts were moved to the Queen's Hall, London in 1887 and were led by Robert Newman, who thought that everyone should appreciate music. He died in 1926 and Sir Henry Wood was appointed to take his place.

Sadly in 1940, the Queen's Hall was destroyed during the blitz of London. In 1942, the BBC became involved with the Proms which enabled many listeners to radio (wireless) and later television to be able to enjoy "The Proms" music. Sir Henry Wood, who was much loved, died

in 1944, aged 75 years, and he is remembered each year during the Promenade Season when a laurel wreath is placed on his bust at The Royal Albert Hall, London, the current home of "The Proms". Today, they are still very popular with a selection of orchestras and conductors taking part.



Afterwards, we enjoyed joining in singing traditional songs, waving flags etc, led by Ann Smith dressed as "Britannia".

In October, our speaker is John Nicholls with his subject being "Paramedics". You are welcome to join us in Great Bromley Village Hall on Wednesday, 7th October at 7.30pm.

June Willgress

Forthcoming Events

OCTOBER

- 3 Flower Arranging Afternoon, St Mary's church, Lt Bromley, 2.30pm
- Countryside Day & Farmers Market, Gt Bentley Village Hall, 2.00pm
- 4 Harvest Festival, Lt Bromley church
- 6 Autumn Sale Seven Rivers Cheshire Home, Village Hall, 10.30am
- 7 WI meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 8 Gt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 10 Cricket Club/PTA Autumn Ball
- 9-11 Lt Bentley Flower Festival & Concert
- 13 Police Public meeting
- 14 Friendship Club meeting, Village Hall, 2.00pm
- 21 Beat Surgery, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 31 Quiz Night, Village Hall, 8.00pm

NOVEMBER

- 11 Beat Surgery, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 21 Cabaret evening, Village Hall
- 24 Friendship Club Christmas Lunch

DECEMBER

- 5 Christmas Fayre, Village Hall
- 23 Beat Surgery, Village Hall, 7.30pm



Little Bentley Harvest Thanksgiving

Flower Festival & Concert

9th-10th-11th October

Friday 9th - Harvest Festival – 7pm

followed by Refreshments

Saturday 10th October - Flower

Festival in Church 10am-6pm

Refreshments available.

Concert by Ipswich & Norwich Brass

Band 7.30pm

Tickets £7.50 each

Tickets available from Great Bentley

Food Hall, Tendring Post Office or 07802

282193

Sunday 11th October - Combined

Service in Church – 10.30

Flower Festival 12 noon – 6pm

St Mary's Church, Church Rd, Lt

Bentley CO7 8SE

COUNTRYSIDE DAY & FARMERS MARKET

Great Bentley Village Hall

Saturday 3rd October

From 2pm

ADMISSION 50p (By Lucky

Programme) Children free

Essex County Council Wastebuster

Bus

Displays

Have a go at various crafts

Face Painting

Meet Casper the Barn Owl Spinning

Refreshments



Gt Bromley & District Cricket Club

QUIZ NIGHT

Gt Bromley Village Hall
on

Saturday 31st October

8.00pm start

Maximum 8 per team

£3 per head

To book a table contact

Phil Allam (01206 230375) or

Bill Kempster (01206 252100)

Please bring your own drinks and nibbles

Friends of Little Bromley Church

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Welcome to all on

Sunday 4 October

when the church will be decorated with locally gathered flowers and fruit.

There will be activities for children and tea from 3 – 4:30pm.

Evensong will be at 6:30pm

with a special anthem sung

by some of our youngsters

Refreshments afterwards.



For any extra information,

CABARET & SUPPER EVENING

Saturday 21st November
in Great Bromley Village Hall

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.

Tickets £15 and there will be a bar. available from Village Hall committee members

Profits from proceeds for Village Hall funds



FLOWER ARRANGING AFTERNOON

at St. Mary's Church, Little Bromley
on Saturday 3rd October 2009
between 2.30 and 5pm.

We would like to invite anyone interested in flower arranging to come and join us for a friendly afternoon creating Harvest arrangements.

You can bring anything from your garden, the hedgerows or somewhere local to make your display. You will also need a suitable container, but we can help with oasis and anything else you might need. Once made you can leave your display to decorate our Church for the Harvest service on Sunday the 4th or you can take it home, it's up to you.

So, if you enjoy making arrangements or would like to try something new, just come along and meet, talk, pick up tips and create while we supply you with tea and cake.

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

KITCHEN CORNER

Pumpkin Pie

This is a good way to use the flesh from a pumpkin after you have scooped it out to make lanterns for Hallowe'en.

Line a plate or tin with shortcrust pastry. For the filling you will need 500g pumpkin flesh, cooked and mashed, then mixed with 3 beaten eggs,

4 oz brown sugar, 4 tbsp cream, ½ teasp salt, and spices to flavour. Choose from ginger, nutmeg, cinnamon, ground cloves or allspice according to taste.

I use a mixture of several. Pour into the flan tin and bake in a hot oven 15 minutes, then reduce the heat and bake a further 20-30 minutes till set.

This amount will need a large tin and 8oz of pastry.

Any pumpkin left over makes excellent soup. Happy baking!

Jill Frostick



ST. GEORGE'S (C OF E) SCHOOL, GT. BROMLEY

Head teacher: Pat Fitzgerald
Telephone: 01206 230305



All children have settled happily in school and we are looking forward to a very busy term ahead.



The whole school will be celebrating Harvest on 1 October in St George's Church at 2.15 pm. We are looking forward to once again welcoming the Great Bromley Friendship Club to

school on 2 October where they will enjoy an afternoon tea and receive a harvest basket from the children.

The PTA are holding a joint Autumn Ball with the Great Bromley Cricket Club on 10 October. We are hoping that this will again be a very enjoyable evening for all and help to raise funds for the school.

CARPET BOWLS

The last result of the Summer League was a 7-2 home win against Wix. We ended up in 5th position in the league table. By the time of this publication the Winter League 2009-10 will be under way. Due to late-summer holidays, attendances have been down recently, but no doubt everyone will soon be back to normal and refreshed and playing like 'champions'?

On 6th September, Linda, Jayne, Ron C and Andrew played in the Essex Open Fours at Braintree. They had a very good day, winning three matches, losing one, which just prevented them making the next round - missing out on that by one shot. I wish all Club members a successful bowling season.

Nancy Kempster



THANKS



Ruby Wedding Thanks

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who made our Ruby Wedding such a wonderful occasion. It was lovely to be able to celebrate with so many family members and friends and we cannot begin to tell you all how much we appreciate your generosity, kindness and thoughtfulness. We are so thrilled about the rail trip - special thanks to Dinah for being the 'brains' behind the idea - and we are hugely grateful for the donation of £300 in total for the Donkey Sanctuary and E.S.T. - the money is already going towards a new centre for children with severe learning difficulties. Thank you so much to everyone.

Lots of love

Brenda and Richard

P.S. Extra thanks to all for mucking in to clear the Hall—you were true stars!

'Ride and Stride' 2009

On Saturday September 12th the annual ride or walk in aid of Friends of Essex Churches coincided with a fabulous sunny day. James Wild, veteran cyclist in previous years, was sadly unable to take part this year following his recent operation but Hilary Powell on bike and Gregory Frostick on foot (not together!) each clocked up a lot of miles. The money goes 50% to FOEC who make grants for the repair of churches and chapels in Essex and 50% to St George's Repair Fund. Thanks to those who sponsored us - we raised over £1000.



PARISH COUNCIL

Great Bromley Parish Council
www.essexinfo.net/gbpc

Report of a parish council meeting held on 10 September 2009

Planning

The Council considered the following planning application and had no objections:

Badley Hall Farm – farm irrigation reservoir (further plans and information)

Tendring District Council has approved the following planning applications:

Land East of Hall Road – new access track.

Bush Farm, Hall Road – erection of four bay stable block, store and tack room and change of use of agricultural land to horse paddock; erection of hay store/barn (following demolition) and cattle shed and associated yard.

Land opposite Bush Farm, Hall Road – erection of general purpose agricultural building.

Public rights of way

Ken Stokes has taken over as the village's Footpath Warden following Alan Sievwright's retirement from this role. Ken will work closely with Deborah Lawes who has assumed responsibility, from Ann Jones, for co-ordinating the public rights of way working group. Ken will be monitoring and reporting on the state of our public rights of way and liaising with the County's Highways Department which has overall responsibility for ensuring that they are adequately maintained. Deborah will be coordinating the working group's activities which are primarily to keep the footpaths and bridleways clear and generally in good order.

The parish council acknowledges with thanks the valuable contributions made

by Alan Sievwright and Ann Jones over a number of years.

Parish Council finances

The Audit Commission has signed off the council's 2008/9 accounts as being entirely satisfactory. These accounts and the 2009-10 budget can be found on the council's website or are available from the Clerk.

Project fund raising

Following its success in obtaining a majority of the funds needed to replace the village hall roof the council's grants working group has begun raising money for further projects. These include improvements to the village hall car park, modernising the village hall kitchen and installing replacement and additional play equipment at the Hare Green recreation ground.

Separately the parish council is indebted to the Messenger for making a significant contribution towards the cost of the proposed village information centre that will be located in Church Meadow.

The next meeting of the Council will be at 7.30 pm on Thursday 8 October 2009 at Great Bromley Village Hall.

VACANCIES - CAN YOU HELP?

St George's Church - would welcome help for occasional light cleaning. Why not spend an occasional hour in a beautiful building and help to keep it looking clean and tidy? Please contact Hilary Powell 01206 252049

ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMUNITY INITIATIVES FUND 2009/2010

What is the Community Initiatives Fund?

Essex County Council is continuing to provide support for communities throughout Essex to deliver improvements that matter to local residents. The main aim of the Community Initiatives Fund (CIF) is to help fund projects or initiatives that will promote the social, economic or environmental well-being of the locality and result in the creation or enhancement of a physical asset.

What does it fund?

Eligible projects could include community, social and recreational facilities, village halls, community transport initiatives, land purchases, playground equipment, environmental works and any related feasibility, design and planning work.

The project should take account of Essex County Council and Essex Partnership priorities including tackling crime and anti-social behaviour, improving local environmental features, access to services and supporting communities.

Projects will be given preference if they can attract matched funding, have the potential to add value to other work being undertaken in the locality and have been identified in local 'health checks' or parish plans.

Who does it fund?

Applications are invited from bodies which are properly constituted and broadly representative of their local community or neighbourhood. These include: parish councils, neighbourhood committees and forums, residents' associations and community organisations.

Qualifying criteria

The project should have the support of the parish council.

Evidence that matched funding has been investigated or secured must be provided with the application.

The expenditure must be capital in nature.

Evidence that the project meets local needs must be submitted with grant applications.

The applicant should be able to demonstrate that it can meet any ongoing revenue costs.

The facility or project should be available to all sectors of the local community and must not be political or religious in nature.

Successful applicants must work with the County Council in promoting and publicising their initiative.

Any funds granted must be spent by 31 March 2011.

Projects that are *not* eligible

Grants will not be made to individuals

Applications will not be considered from the

following types of organisations: statutory bodies (apart from parish councils), schools or PTAs, national organisations. All other applications will be judged on their merits and on the evidence of strong community support and need.

Grants will not be made for the purposes of: the promotion of religion or political ideals, work that has already taken place, activities which a statutory body is responsible for, animal welfare, fabric appeals for places of worship, fundraising events or activities, individuals including students or revenue costs.

Funding available

There is £100,000 available this year for each District covered by Essex County Council.

Capital v revenue costs

Capital costs (eligible) – examples include major works to village/community halls such as replacing roofs, renovating kitchens, providing disabled toilet facility, etc., play area equipment, purchase of land for community use (e.g., playing field), fencing work to secure community area, notice boards, community transport initiatives, new community buildings, etc.

Revenue costs (not eligible) – examples include salary payments, rental payments, uniforms, small sports equipment (footballs, small portable equipment, etc.), day trips, day to day running costs, routine repairs and maintenance (painting, etc.), grass-cutting machinery.

Costs such as computer equipment, furniture and white goods in kitchens *on their own* are not eligible, but if they form part of a larger refurbishment or new build project, they are eligible.

Assessment of bids

Judging Panels comprise a group of relevant local representatives, typically representatives from District Associations of Local Councils, Residents' Associations (or similar) and the District council for voluntary service. The Panel will be chaired by the Chairman of the District Council, who will not have voting rights. There is no right of appeal.

Timescale and application process

All applications must be made on the prescribed form, with a delivery **deadline of Friday 6th November 2009**. Further information and application forms from: Beverly Davies on 07929 543523 or email info@communityinitiativesfund.co.uk. See also www.communityinitiativesfund.co.uk.

THE DOCTORS' SURGERIES

Grumbling about waiting times in Accident and Emergency is almost as great a British tradition as moaning about the weather, so I am delighted to suggest a few alternatives that you can try if you feel the need for some sort of non-emergency medical attention when the surgery is closed.

Firstly, if what you need is good, common sense **medical advice**, you can get it by telephoning NHS Direct on 0845 46 47. This is a nurse-led service which specialises in giving expert guidance on straightforward matters that don't need the immediate attention of a doctor. In many cases, they should be able to sort you out without you ever having to be seen.

If you have a **minor injury** that needs attention you can go to the Minor Injuries Unit at either Clacton or Harwich Hospitals between the hours of 9.00am – 9.00pm. You don't need an appointment and I am told that the waiting time at both units is usually quite short, contrasting sharply to the under-4-hours target at Colchester A&E. Please note though, that "Minor Injuries" means exactly that. Anyone turning up with an illness will be turned away as the units are not equipped for or intended to deal with sick people.

If you have an illness that needs attention and you can travel, as an alternative to the often over-stretched Out of Hours Service, why not try the new Walk-in Centre in Colchester? It's on Turner Road, quite close to the hospital, and is open from 7.00am until 10.00pm every day of the year. Again, you don't need an appointment, and going there must be a better bet than queuing for ages amongst the blood and guts of A&E.

If you are ill - not to the point of it being an emergency, of course – and genuinely cannot travel, in the first instance please call the Harmoni Out of Hours Service. (Here at Great Bentley, if you ring the surgery out of hours on 01206 250691, you will automatically be transferred to

Harmoni.) You will be assessed over the telephone and, if it seems necessary, a duty doctor will be sent to visit you.



Incidentally, the GPs here advise that if you have a sick child, even one with a fever, it is best to take him or her to the doctor rather than waiting for one to come to you. To put this into perspective, even if your child is ill enough to need hospital treatment, the hospital wouldn't come to you. He or she won't come to any harm from being put in a car and taken to a surgery or Out of Hours centre for treatment.

So, there you go! If everyone sticks to these alternative providers and leaves A&E for serious Accidents and Emergencies, this unwanted British tradition will gradually die out. The Minor Injuries Units, Walk-in Centre etc are there to be used and if fewer people end up at A&E unnecessarily, service and waiting times will improve dramatically for those who really need to go there.

I'd like to introduce you this month to the newest addition to our team – Mandy Fowler – who joined us as a Receptionist at the beginning of June. Mandy lives here in the village with husband Rod and their three sons – not forgetting the rabbit and the goldfish. She held a variety of Civil Service positions until youngest son, Joshua, came along about five years ago, and luckily decided not to go back. We are already getting a lot of benefit from her wealth of customer service training and experience.

Finally, a rare sports report. Dr Hunt took his catamaran to the national championships a couple of weeks ago. He and helmsman John Payne turned in their best ever performance, finishing fifth overall. They even won one race. Have they peaked too early for 2012, I wonder?

Hugh Cronin, Practice Manager

WASTE MEDICINES

Costing NHS in North East Essex £5million Every Year

Every year the North East Essex PCT spends approximately £5million on prescription drugs. It is estimated 10% - £5million worth - of these medicines are returned, incinerated and destroyed having never been taken or used. This £5million could have been spent elsewhere and paid for:

- 1000 Hip replacements
- 7000 Cataracts
- 150 Community nurses
- 700 Heart bypass operations
- 900 knee replacements

Some wastage is inevitable and unavoidable but much of it isn't. It is vital that patients receive the medicines they need but we know that many patients still automatically tick every item on their repeat prescription slip, even if they are not actually taking all of these medicines. Some patients may continue to order medicines because they worry they may be removed off their repeat list if they do not but this is not the case and it leads to stockpiled drugs which are then wasted. The more careful people are about what they reorder on repeat prescriptions the more money we would have to spend on healthcare locally. You could help us reduce this waste and save money by following these few simple rules when you order your repeat prescriptions:

- ✓ Only order what you need – check your medicines before reordering
- ✓ Don't tick all the items on your repeat list unless you really need them – they won't be taken off if you don't order them.
- ✓ Do not mark items that you do not want on your repeat slip as

this leads to confusion at the surgery particularly if some have a 'tick' and some have a 'cross' against them.

- ✓ Tell your GP or pharmacist if there are items on the list you no longer take
- ✓ Return all unwanted medicines to your local pharmacy for safe destruction

Local community pharmacies now offer a free medicines use review (MUR). This is an opportunity for people to talk with experts about their medicines, ask any questions and discuss any concerns or worries they may have.



Remember think before you tick and help us to make more of your local NHS



You Talk We Listen

THE TENDING CRIME & DISORDER REDUCTION PARTNERSHIP

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

Make a difference – help shape policing in your area

Tending Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) and the Essex Police Authority (EPA) are holding a Public Meeting in your district to give you an opportunity to discuss issues face to face with Senior Police Officers and partners within the CDRP.

Your feedback regarding local issues is highly valued and will contribute to future priorities.

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.



Transport provided - for those who do not have transport, we can provide this service free of charge and from the venue. (Vehicles will have facilities to transport wheelchairs)

This service must be pre-booked as spaces are limited.

For further details and to book your place, contact Lisa Staras by telephone on 01255 686355 or email: lstaras@tendingdc.gov.uk by Friday 2nd October

Pick up points include:

Spring Road, St Osyth / Brightlingsea Community Centre, Ford Lane / Alresford / Brooklands Gardens, Jaywick / Golf Green Road, Jaywick / Maldon Way, Clacton / High Street, Manningtree / Mistley Police Station / Bromley Road / High Street, Thorpe Le Soken / Wiveley / Elmstead Market / Hall Lane and High Street, Walton / Triangle Shopping Centre Car Park, Frimton / Walton Road, Kirby Le Soken

NATURE'S DIARY

As a past owner of an elm tree which died and an elm hedge which barely survived I was pleased to read recently that saplings taken from trees that survived Dutch Elm Disease in the 60s and 70s will be planted by a charity of David Bellamy, the botanist, thus bringing back to the countryside this beautiful and stately tree. Early days yet but it looks hopeful.



October is the month when mammals fatten themselves up in preparation for winter and hibernation: bats

will hibernate in their winter roosts and hedgehogs look for a place to curl up snugly and safely until the warmer days are back. Insects find good cover (i.e. ivy) in which to hide themselves away and special hibernation boxes for butterflies and ladybirds can be bought (or made). Squirrels and jays are busy burying nuts (hazel, acorns, beech mast etc) in the ground in preparation for food scarcity during the winter months. If you see them do watch the jays - or magpies - tail the squirrels discreetly before digging up their just buried food to be put elsewhere for their own use. No wonder squirrels think they are forgetful as to where they hid their food! It is amusing to watch but must be very annoying for the original nut owners.

Damp autumns are the time when fungi of all shapes and sizes make an appearance. They can be found in woodlands and old pastures, on rotting wood as well as healthy trees, some are edible but unless you know what you are doing leave them well alone and do not touch - just admire their shapes and colours.

The over-wintering and migrating birds will be making an appearance so now is the time to start putting bird feeders out if you have not continued doing so through the summer. Flocks of greenfinches are amongst those who will be returning to the garden. Leave seedheads on plants for

food - don't make your garden ultra tidy by cutting everything back. Goldfinches enjoy feeders of nyjer seed but they also like thistle-headed type seeds. Long tail tits prefer insects and fats containing insects and peanuts are always gratefully eaten.

The Tree Council are encouraging everyone to go out and collect, between 23rd September and 23rd October, seeds, nuts and fruits which can be used to grow the trees of the future. Growing trees from seeds found locally is ideal as it means that these species are already well adapted to growing in our area and therefore more likely to survive.

There are over 2,500 species of moths in the UK and they are not always drab in colour and only visible at night. In fact, many species which are beautifully colourful can be found out and about during the day. To attract them into your garden, try planting moth friendly species such as buddleia, heather or knapweed.

LMH

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Our Speaker from the Children's Hospice gave a very informative talk on the running of the hospices and why it is essential for people to donate money whenever possible.

There were articles to purchase plus a raffle which in all meant a very happy lady leaving with a sum of over £80 for their funds. She wishes to convey her special thanks to everyone who helped to raise this amount.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH - 24th November

Make sure you give your name to Vicky if you wish to go.

The competition for October is a BELL.

Vicky Griffiths



THE RECTORY, GREAT BROMLEY

Dear Friends,

Once more it is Harvest time. Harvest is an ideal opportunity for us all to re-examine our spiritual life and our commitment to God. Harvest time crowns the year and traditionally congregations increase for this festival particularly in rural areas such as our own where people's lives are more affected by the hard work of ploughing, sowing and reaping in the Harvest.

There is more to Harvest Festival than the singing of the lovely hymns and giving thanks for all our material blessings. Jesus loved to speak of the flowers of the field, of the time of sowing and reaping, of wheat and tares and the need for good grain. He told parables of ploughing, harvesting, and the man who needed bigger barns. In his teaching Jesus was very down to earth, but he lifted people's thoughts heavenwards.

One of the most memorable of his parables was the parable of the sower. The setting of his sermon was on the northern shore of the sea of Galilee. 'Behold!' he shouted, and pointed across to the hillside where a farmer was sowing seed. He wanted people not just to hear, but to see the truth proclaimed. What they looked upon was not a neatly fenced field of English countryside, but the rugged landscape of Galilee. The ground was rough and stony, crossed by a well-worn footpath, baked hard by the Eastern sun. Here and there, thorn bushes and weeds had taken root among the rocks, making it hard going for the ploughman, and chancy soil for the sower, and above waited the birds, about to snatch away the surface laid seed.

The parable is a simple one and one of the easiest to understand. We are told that, 'the seed is the word of God'. It is good seed. It is the good news of the kingdom of God. It is the Gospel. It may seem tiny, but it will grow. In it lies hope for the souls of men. It is the seed-corn of salvation.

When the Pilgrim Fathers set off in the Mayflower to seek a better life in the New World, they loaded axes to fell trees and build log cabins, tools to till the ground; and what they hoped to be sufficient food to see them through the dreaded winter, until the final harvest. They carefully loaded sacks of precious seed corn, on which they relied for that vital harvest. Any good American can tell the gruesome story of that

awful winter when his ancestors nearly starved to death. It is remembered at every Thanksgiving.

The word of God is the seed-corn of the soul. There can be little doubt that Jesus saw himself as the sower of the seed. The parable was a bit of a biography. It laid out his life's work, the meaning of his mission, and the purpose of his preaching. The Gospel had been preached with grace and without discrimination to people everywhere. He had prayed and suffered for their souls in the hope of reaping. The harvest hymn says:

Behold the heavenly sower
Goes forth with better seed
The word of sure salvation
With hands and feet that bleed.

And of course if we are to understand this parable we must not forget the soil. This is very relevant to all of us as we examine our spiritual lives. This is because we have a Gospel to proclaim.

In the parable there are those whose hearts are hard and whose hearts are shallow and those whose hearts are choked. There are many reasons why we can become indifferent to the Gospel or fall away from believing or praying, or we find our lives are cluttered with other matters. During this Harvest Festival let us all remember that even though the soil is often poor Our Lord goes on sowing his word and offering the Gospel today and he hopes we will respond. He knows some soil is poor; but he knows too, that the seed of the Gospel is good.

And finally Jesus also acknowledges that there are good hearts, hearts receptive of the good seed, of the word of God. The Gospel, said Jesus, is good seed, and, sown in honest hearts will produce thirty, sixty, a hundred-fold!

Let us all ensure this Harvest time that we can encourage each other to respond to the call of the Gospel and remain faithful and steadfast in our faith.

'Here in the church 'tis scattered,
Our spirits are the soil:
Then let an ample fruitage
Repay His pain and toil'.

With every blessing to you all at Harvest time,
Fr. Robert
With love to you all, *Fr. Robert*

ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR, GREAT BROMLEY

united with St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh



Church of England Services for October

Sunday 4th	8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm	17th Sunday after Trinity Eucharist Parish Eucharist Harvest Coral Evensong	<i>St. George the Martyr St. Mary the Virgin St Mary's, Lt Bromley</i>
Sunday 11th	8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm	18th Sunday after Trinity Eucharist Parish Eucharist Evensong	<i>St. Mary the Virgin St. George the Martyr St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Sunday 18th	8.00am 10.30am	19th Sunday after Trinity St Luke the Evangelist Eucharist Parish Eucharist with Baptism	<i>St. George the Martyr St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Sunday 25th	8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm	20th Sunday after Trinity Eucharist Parish Eucharist with Baptism Ecumenical Evensong	<i>St. Mary the Virgin St. George the Martyr St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Sunday 1st November	8.00am 10.30am	All Saints' Day Eucharist Parish Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Monday 2nd November	7.30pm	Commemoration of All Souls Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>

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