

# The Bromley Messenger

*JUNE 2012*

Volume 27 No 3



## The Friends of Little Bromley Church

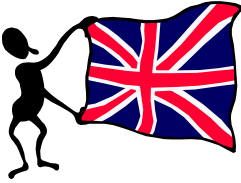
We would like to thank all those who attended our coffee morning and meeting on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> May. We had a good turnout during the morning and whilst everyone enjoyed our refreshments we were very lucky to listen to the music provided by Julie Harmer and Peter Clayton. Julie played the flute and Peter played the harpsichord and beautiful music filled the church. We would like to express our thanks to all those who provided cakes and did the lovely flower arrangements for our enjoyment. We also thank our Chairman, Gregory, for organising the morning for us and presiding over our annual meeting.

Don't forget about our Jubilee weekend on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> June. Look out for our scarecrows around the villages, prizes to be awarded on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> in Little Bromley Church.

Remember that we have a concert on the 17<sup>th</sup> June to look forward to by the East Anglian Single Reed Choir, tickets only £6, free if under 20 years of age. Tickets available on the door.

- Carol Cordwell

# THE FIRST PAGE



I was three when the Queen came to the throne and four at the time of the coronation. Although we had a television, and I am sure my parents watched the proceedings on it, I have to admit to no recollection of either event. However, Jane Colvert (nee Pache) has sent me her memories of June 1953 and the coronation and Hugh has written of the day in 1958 when the Queen came to Great Bromley. If any of you have any memories of that time to share do please send them to me and, as an added bonus, any photos you may have. If you cannot scan them in as an attachment to email you can always send me your print to scan. I promise to take care of anything you send me and return it to you safely.

I may not remember 1953 or 1954 but, married and with young children, I do remember 1977, the Queen's Silver Jubilee. We lived in Frating where much of the village got together for a barbeque - a dull, grey day which I remember as a sunny, happy day. All the children were presented with Jubilee mugs.

Diamond Jubilee celebrations are being held in both Great and Little Bromley so

there will be much to do for everybody. The prizes for the red, white and blue themed scarecrows will be presented at Little Bromley church. By the time you receive this scarecrows will have been popping up around the villages for all to see and enjoy.

My thanks to Vicky Griffiths who is handing over the mantle of writing the Friendship Club reports to Anne Evans. Vicky has been writing reports for the Club for a considerable time and I thank her for all her work and always getting them to me on time.

What a wet and chilly time we have had over the last few weeks. Our main crop potatoes have not been seen, presumably rotted in the section of veggie patch that became a lake for a few days. Also every single broad bean has been eaten as they came through and nor does it look as though we will have any apples this year, so I am hoping the rest of the vegetables fare better over the coming weeks. Warm, sunny weather with rain by night is what is needed both for the garden and the full enjoyment of coming summer events, although being British we will have a good time whatever the weather!

*Leonie Henderson*

**MATERIAL** for the **JULY 2012** edition of 'The Bromley Messenger' should reach the Editor, Leonie Henderson, by **14th June, 2012** please. Contributions from anonymous sources will not be printed. Whilst the editor welcomes contributions, photographs etc this is on the understanding that there is no obligation to publish, that the item may be edited and that there is no breach of copyright. Publication is in good faith and neither the editor nor the publisher accept any liability in respect of the content of any article, photo or advertisement, including any error or omission, responsibility for which remains with the author. Copy can either be delivered by hand, sent by post or e-mail. (see inside back cover for details) or via the link on the websites [www.greatbromley.org.uk](http://www.greatbromley.org.uk) or [www.littlebromley.org.uk](http://www.littlebromley.org.uk)

For details of availability and costs for **ADVERTISING** in the 'The Bromley Messenger' please contact the Treasurer on 01206 230537

***Please support the sponsors of our magazine.***

# Seven Rivers

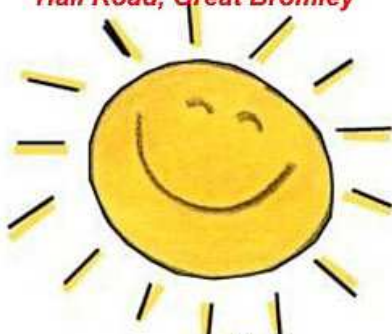
Residential Care Home  
Hall Road, Great Bromley

**Grand  
Raffle!**

**Music!**

**Fancy Dress  
Competition!**

**Licensed  
Bar!**



**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> June  
from 1pm**

**There's fun and games at the Fair  
Enough for one and all to share!**

**Stocks!    Arena Events!    Tombola!    Barbeque!**

**Marching  
Majorettes!**



**Face  
Painting!**

**Train  
Rides!**



**Children's  
Tombola!**



**Toy  
Stall!**

**Cake Stall!**

**Bouncy Castle!**

**Lucky Ducks!**

**PLEASE SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS**

## 'The Essex Way'

### Seven Rivers Sponsored Walk

It could be said that this event was our spinoff of 'The only way is Essex' being it was a Sunday event, and also all the walkers would be so right in shouting 'SHUT UP!' to the weather that descended upon us.

But the rainy weather did not dampen the mood for the day. Eighteen walkers met at Lawford Church, ready to do the seven-mile round trip that we had planned to walk in glorious sunshine!

Instead, our journey was very wet but included much hilarity with tackling the



obstacles of glorious mud, styles and BIG puddles one of which was so large Yvonne was actually given a lift by a good Samaritan in his car

through the puddle whilst we all looked on amazed by the kindness of the gentleman.

We had already contacted the Marlborough Inn in Dedham. We were welcomed and catered for and Lauren and Emma went around the pub with the collection boxes and collected £17.00. The Manager also very kindly donated a Meal voucher towards our raffle collections.

As we left the heavens opened even more so than earlier but we all kept each other going, laughing, chatting and tackling the hills, with more puddles and styles that lay ahead. As we saw Lawford Church ahead the sky lightened and as we reached the Church itself the sun shone down for a brief



few minutes – we had done it and had done well! The sun does shine on the righteous!

We all said what a great day it was, weather aside and best of all, we raised over £1,000 in sponsorship!

Well done and thank you to one and all; these funds will go directly to the fund for the new Summer House we are planning to buy for the residents.

*Linda Short, Administration Assistant*

## GT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB

### 100 Club Winners for April

- 1st. Mr. Steve Simms
- 2nd. Mr. Richard Lawson
- 3rd. Jack Allam



# GREAT BROMLEY OIL BUYING GROUP

It's been a while since we set up our Oil Buying Group so I thought I'd better let you all know how it is going. Those of you who are already members of the group will have already been getting good discounts off your heating oil – 2-3p per litre cheaper than Boilerjuice seems to be the norm and it soon adds up. As I write this, there are 117 members of the local group and we in turn are members of a bigger group with around 1400 members all over Essex and Suffolk. That's what I call real buying power.

So if you are new to the area, or if you just haven't got around to joining us, then please go to [greatbromley.net](http://greatbromley.net) and use the *Register* option to open up an account. Once you've registered, you are under no compulsion to buy from the Group. You can just check the price that we get on the buying date or ring your own favourite supplier to get a quote. The beauty of the group is that we all benefit – if you only want 500 litres, then you will get the same price as someone who orders 1500 litres. This allows you to "top up" when maybe in the past you'll have waited for an almost empty tank so you can get the maximum discount on the higher volume.

The next Buying Period is on 28<sup>th</sup> May.

Other buying dates are listed on the website. So why not give it a go?

Some of you have asked if the group is for Great Bromley residents only. The answer is no - anyone in the *local* area can join – Little Bromley, Ardleigh, Frating etc. The website is called "greatbromley.net" because it's a Great Bromley initiative. The good thing about having the oil delivered at the same time is that we have considerably less heavy lorry movements on our roads. That can only be a good thing.

The other good news is that I have been receiving a very small amount of commission on the total oil price paid from September up to March this year. I am donating the money made to the Village Hall and to the Bromley Messenger, since they have both supported this initiative. However, the Oil Group organisers have decided that in the future they will waive all commission so that they can pass on even cheaper prices to you, the consumer.

*Lesley Broadbent*  
([cradbent2000@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:cradbent2000@yahoo.co.uk)) or 01206 231703

*[The Bromley Messenger thanks, and is grateful to, the Oil Buying Group for their donation - Ed,]*

## IN THE GARDEN IN JUNE

It is not too late to plant courgettes. There are several versions you can grow from the small ball types to the conventional shape. Courgettes are not mini marrows and planted now will give a good supply of courgettes right through to the autumn. Most garden centres will stock the seeds. Plant in 3" pots, two seeds to the pot. When the seeds germinate remove the weakest one, the remainder can either be planted in a sunny corner of the garden or grown in a 12" pot or gro-bag.

Make sure the tomatoes and other plants you have in your greenhouse do not run short of water, it only takes missing a day and the plants will start to wilt. Most of the trouble one has with tomatoes is allowing them to dry out, then you will get blossom end rot.

If you are troubled with white fly try growing African marigolds near them, also keep the hand sprayer filled with a mixture of washing up liquid handy.

*Frank Griffiths*

## “Baa Baa Black Sheep” OR “Brumleya Black Wool”

**WOW !** Another extremely interesting and entertaining talk at our May meeting, given once again by a member of our community here in the Bromleys

Natalie Smith, who lives at Little Bromley Hall, came to talk to us about her passion for Rare Breed Sheep and the resulting development from this to producing special Brumleya Black knitting wool from their fleeces. She has farmed sheep for fifteen years and has a rural background having studied and gained a degree in agriculture at Newcastle University.

At first Natalie began farming Portlands, a rare breed of sheep that are not easy to farm – they were not easy to handle preferring to disperse rather than flock together making it difficult for the farmer. Consequently Natalie decided to farm Black Leicester Long Wools, a most agreeable and friendly rare breed of sheep, these are the sheep Natalie farms and she has 13 ewes, 3 rams and 20 lambs at present. (The rams presently reside with the Fairleys at Park Farm)

Black Leicester Long Wools have very distinct features, white tear marks and white noses. All Natalie's sheep are named and come when called, they are treated like pets and love their “tit bits”. They have a life span of roughly 11-12 years.



Natalie spoke fondly about Matilda and Delilah.

The Rare Breed Society have a formula for naming the pure black sheep, this year the letter is “O” and Natalie's new lambs have names such as Oxo, Orchid, Olive and Opera etc.

Natalie's choice of sheep is very rare and to ensure a good bloodline breeding has to be organised and monitored very carefully. There is some concern for the future of the

bloodline and Natalie is constantly sourcing for new blood lines to improve the quality and colour of the wool that the fleeces produce

At the moment the Natural Fibre Company buy all Natalie's fleeces. It is a huge company in the West Country who process the fleeces in an organic way. No chemicals are to be used on the fleeces for at least three months before shearing which in its self may cause problems for the farmer particularly with infestations of fly – only natural remedies are allowed to prevent the eggs and maggots burrowing into the sheep.

Natalie has tried shearing herself but it is not an easy process, (there were smiles when she likened herself to the chap in the spec savers advert!)

Fleeces are collected by courier and taken to the factory where they are hand sorted, washed, spun dry, carded, condensed and finally spun into balls of knitting wool which Natalie now sells at Farmers' Markets and local outlets.

One of our very own members has used “Brumleya Black Wool” to crochet a super jacket and handbag and these were displayed for all to see.

How very fortunate we are to have such talent in our community. Natalie was a brilliant speaker, most informative and amusing too, with her tales of ewes who were reluctant mothers, shearing escapades and sleepless nights at lambing time!

Thank you Natalie we wish you well with your new knitting wool venture. Natalie kindly stayed for our refreshment time as it was our 64<sup>th</sup> anniversary and cut the birthday cake.

June 6<sup>th</sup> is Members' meeting at which we are having a “Queens Night” to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee.

*Jenny Nicholls*

# BROMLEY MESSENGER ACCOUNTS

## BROMLEY MESSENGER Treasurer's Report - Unaudited Statement of Accounts 2011/2012

Income	2010/2011	2011/12
	£	£
Donations	22.58	36.30
Adverts	3,498.00	3,073.00
Sponsorship	652.00	656.00
Inserts	0.00	52.00
	4,172.58	3,817.30
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Printing	4,067.04	3,958.29
Expenses/Postage	403.19	232.77
Donations	1,200.00	000.00
	5,670.23	4,191.06
<b>Profit/(Deficit)</b>	(1,497.65)	(373.76)
	£4,172.58	£3,817.30

Having completed my first set of accounts for the Bromley Messenger, I realise, more than ever, how much work Len C put into this task over many years, and I would like to add my personal thanks to him for being such a 'smooth operator' - he really did a marvellous job.

Advertising revenue remained low for most of the year, with a number of businesses choosing not to continue to advertise with the magazine. The good news is that, for the last two months, all available space has

been booked and we look forward to a balanced year. Last year realised a small loss of £373.76, but we are confident this amount will be recouped during the coming year.

Once again, we have failed to secure an auditor - if any reader feels they may be able to resolve this situation, do please let Leonie or me know.

*Richard Perry, Treasurer*

## CRAFTY LADIES

If you would like to join our growing group of Crafty Ladies who get together once a month to patchwork and quilt, knit, crochet, card make, or any other craft, we meet again on WEDNESDAY 13th JUNE at

Langham Community Centre, between 10am-4pm. Arrive any time and leave when you like for a fee of £4.00

For more information please contact Jacqui on 07979 947931 or Toni on 07871 875455 We look forward to hearing from you.



## VILLAGE HALL TRUSTEES

**It's all go** at the Village Hall again with volunteers

gathering on a Saturday morning of the last Bank Holiday weekend to clear the old committee room of accumulations of stuff. The thinking is that with the room clear it could be another source of income in these tough times.

Two grants have been obtained for the new curtains in the main hall with the bulk of monies coming from Village Hund Funds. New grants are being looked into for upgrading both the ladies and gent toilets. Fresh paint and sprucing up for these two areas too shortly.

We are also looking at more storage for cleaning supplies and materials in various places but this will depend on whether the Playgroup continue at the Village Hall or not.

Surprisingly, nobody has owned up to stealing the heating oil and the same applies to the break in. No-one has been caught either. The Police have had nothing to report.

It has been proposed that the new Committee set up a Sub Committee to look after fundraising. This will be, I am sure, one of the items up for discussion with the new members at the meeting on 29th May. What could be more fun than to have a say in the Village Hall's activities?

We are still looking to upgrade the security on the oil tank with Martin coming up with some new ideas. We will keep you posted.

### **Future Events to look forward to**

The Parish Council is running an event on 3rd June to celebrate the Queens Diamond Jubilee and the Village Hall has been asked to run the barbecue. So come on down, see what is going on and grab a tasty snack at the same time.

Other ideas that are being planned include A Bingo Night, A Quiz Night, Essex on Tour Cabaret Night, a Murder Mystery Night as well as the usual favourites. More details coming very soon.

That's all for now, as always thank you for your support and please put the Tea event in your diary. Leave spaces free for all those events yet to be planned. Let's all make the most of Great Bromley Village Hall in 2012.

Next Committee meeting Tuesday 29th May at **8:00pm**.. As always all welcome.

*David Beech*

## AIRSOFT

We held another event at Park Farm last Saturday with lots of new players coming for their first ever experience of Airsoft. New games were played too and it is always interesting at the end of the day to assess which games were more popular than others. The least popular seems to be one shot and you are out. Great if you do the shot but not so good if you are hit! To those who have never come across Airsoft before, it involves game scenarios with life-like guns firing plastic ball bearings. Rest assured, all have to wear protective clothing and face guards to play. Great fun was had by all and by the end of the day there were a lot of exhausted people as a lot of running around is involved. This time we also had food on offer which went down particularly well. The next event is to be held on 30th June. All welcome but please pre-book with David Beech on 07825 300516 (after 5pm please). Look at our web site for more info [www.airsoftgb.co.uk](http://www.airsoftgb.co.uk)



# THANKS

## Tortoise Found

**Henry re-appeared** in our garden on 27th April after an extra long hibernation in a slightly different area, I think that his different location had confused his body clock. After emerging he ate a good meal of dandelions then lay in the sun before re-acquainting himself with his territory and is now (at the start of May) probably wishing he had stayed in his warm, dry burrow. Many thanks to all in Hare Green for looking for him.

*Val and Ian Harris  
(and all the  
Grandchildren).*



## Litter Pick

**Thanks to all** the people who came on the Little Bromley Litter Pick on the 28th April - 11 people came along and we collected 21 bags and the usual odd hub cap etc. Also thanks to Dawn for the refreshments.

## Easter Lilies

**Many thanks** to all who sponsored the Easter Lilies in memory of loved ones. Thanks also to the flower arrangers who made St George's church so beautiful this Easter Tide."

# KITCHEN CORNER

As they are much appreciated I have been asked to again give my recipe for

## Welsh Cakes

1 lb Plain flour  
1 heaped teasp baking powder  
Pinch salt  
12 oz butter or margarine  
6 oz sugar  
4 oz currants  
1 large egg + 1 teasp  
water

Sift flour etc and rub in butter, add sugar and currants. Beat egg and water and stir in to make a stiff dough.

Roll out  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch thick and cut into rounds. Cook on heated slightly greased griddle, turning once till lightly browned. Cool on a rack sprinkle with caster sugar as you go. This amount makes 36, or more if you use a very small cutter.

*Jill Frostick*



Charity No. 1136038  
Company No. 7099441

# Little Dragons Pre-School

Great Bromley & Frating

Ofsted Inspected

Website: [www.littledragonspreschool.org](http://www.littledragonspreschool.org)

Email: [littledragonspreschool@gmail.com](mailto:littledragonspreschool@gmail.com)

## Great Bromley Village Hall

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

Children 2-5 years

Lunch club available every day

For more details/visits please contact us on 0785 7503103

**'Baby Dragons' Parent and Toddler Group.** Come and have fun with other parents and their children. Every Wednesday at the village hall in the millennium room (term time only) 9.15am-10.45am. £2.00 + 50p for each additional child. For further information or any queries please contact us on the above number.

Although the weather hasn't been very nice - we have been taking the opportunity armed with our wellies and umbrellas to explore the puddles, sounds and smells etc. that the rain brings.

We have also been busy preparing for our 'Jubilee Celebrations'. We are looking forward to joining in with St George's School celebrations and have been practising a dance with Debbie Millar for the big day.

We are continuing to look at the Olympics and Paralympics and learning about some of the countries that will be taking part.

On 13<sup>th</sup> June we will again be taking part in the 'Barnardos Toddle', this year the theme is 'Superheroes' and on the week beginning 25<sup>th</sup> June we are inviting Dads to visit us for 'Dads Week'. Lots to look forward to.

For the adults - Tickets are now on sale for

our fundraising 'Vegas Night'. Mario is Elvis – Come and join us for a great night out on 29<sup>th</sup> June at the Village Hall. Contact preschool for tickets and further information - £15 each

Just to let you know that we are collecting the Tesco Vouchers so please tell friends, family etc.

We take children from the age of two years and now offer a 'home visit' to families of children prior to them starting Pre-school. This gives the child the opportunity to meet their key-person in their own home, aiding the transition stage to pre-school. It also enables us to collect and share information in a confidential environment.

For further information or to arrange a visit to the setting please contact us on the above number.

Dates for your diary:

4 <sup>th</sup> June	Half term week
11 <sup>th</sup> June	Return to preschool
13 <sup>th</sup> June	Barnardo's Toddle
20 <sup>th</sup> June	Our Olympic Sports Day
29 <sup>th</sup> June	' Vegas Night'
25 <sup>th</sup> June	Dads Week
30 <sup>th</sup> June	Fun Afternoon



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

Head teacher: Julie O'Mara

Telephone: 01206 230305

# 2012 EVENTS

## JUNE

- 2 Flower Arranging afternoon, Lt Bromley church, 2.00pm
- 3 Lt Bromley Jubilee Garden Party, St Mary's church, 10.00am  
Gt Bromley Jubilee Celebrations, Village Hall & Cricket Ground
- 4 Planting of Diamond Jubilee Tree, Lt Bromley church, 10.00am
- 6 WI Members' meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 9/10 Art Exhibition, Elmstead Community Centre
- 12 Gt Bromley parish council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 17 East Anglian Single Reed Choir, Lt Bromley church, 6.00pm
- 21 Friendship Club, Village Hall, 2.00pm
- 29 Silver Jubilee Mass & Barbeque, St George's church, 6.00pm  
Vegas Night, Village Hall
- 30 Southend Festival Chorus Jubilee Concert, St George's church, 7.30pm

## JULY

- 1 Summer Vintage Fair, Venture Centre 2000, Lawford, 10am
- 7 Summer Fair, Venture Centre 2000, 10am  
Trip to Worksop for Fr Nicolas Spicer celebrations
- 10 Gt Bromley parish council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 21 Country Barn Dance, Coppice Farm, Gt Bentley, 8.00pm

## AUGUST

- 31 Ghost Stories, Lt Bromley Church, 7.00pm

Venture Centre 2000, Lawford

### Summer Vintage Fayre

Sunday 1st July 10am - 4pm

Lots of Vintage fashions and memorabilia

Entrance £1 children under 16 free

phone Linda on 01206 323969

### Summer Fair

Saturday 7th July 2012 10am - 4pm

Entrance £1.00 and under 12's free.

refreshments & food available.

for further info phone Julie on

07809600313

### Country Barn Dance

Saturday 21st July

8.00pm-11.30pm

Coppice Farm Great Bentley

Licenced Bar

Tickets £10 (including food) from Pam

Stephens 01255 831567

## The Friends of Little Bromley Church

### The East Anglian Single Reed Choir

will be giving a performance

on Sunday 17 June at 6.00pm.

The programme will include pieces by Vaughan Williams, Mendelssohn, Purcell, Handel, Irving Berlin & Rimsky Korsakov.

Tickets are £6.00, free entry for under 20's.

Refreshments will be served following the

concert. Tickets available from the

committee members, on the door, or

telephone Susan Scott 01206 -251107.

*In aid of The Churches Conservation Trust*

Date for your diary:

Friday 31 August at 7.00pm - Ghost Stories

### Art Exhibition

at Elmstead Community Centre

of work for sale by the Butterfly Art Group

Saturday, 9th June 12 noon to 5.00pm

Sunday, 10th June 10.00am to 4.00pm

Free Entry. Tea and Coffee available.



## Great Bromley Jubilee Celebrations

Sunday June 3rd  
at the Village Hall and Cricket ground

lots of fun and entertainment for all the family

Friday 29th June  
at 6 pm

To celebrate **25 years** of  
Father Robert's ordination there will be a

### **SILVER JUBILEE MASS**

followed by a **BARBEQUE**

at St George's Church, Great Bromley  
The preacher will be Bishop Christopher,  
the Area Bishop of Colchester

## Little Bromley's Diamond Jubilee Tree

The Diamond Jubilee Tree has been  
bought and will be planted on  
Monday 4th June

Anyone who wants to help with the  
planting meet at the Church at 10 a.m.

## "Jubilee Celebration Concert"

Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2012

St George's Church at 7.30pm  
The Southend Festival Chorus will  
be presenting a "Jubilee  
Celebration Concert"

Tickets including wine and a tasty  
finger buffet are £10.

Please book your tickets early by phone  
or email Jenny Nicholls 01206230688 or  
jenny@fryerning.net

More details on page 35



On 7th July 2012 Father Nicolas Spicer  
is celebrating 25 years as a priest.  
Everyone is welcome. I am organising a  
coach to Worksop Priory for that day. If  
you would like to know more contact  
James Wilde on 01206 230679

We have organised an enjoyable  
afternoon of

## **FLOWER ARRANGING**

At Little Bromley Church  
On Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> June  
2pm to 4.30pm

Have a go at making an arrangement with  
a **royal garden party theme** with our  
other flower enthusiasts.

All you need to bring are some flowers and greenery  
from your own garden or local area, a container  
suitable to hold some oasis, then have fun putting your  
own display together. We will supply anything else  
you might need. No experience necessary!

Don't be shy, come and have a go.

So if you are free on this Saturday, come along and  
meet, talk, pick up tips and create whilst we supply you  
with tea and cake.

For further details phone Carol Cordwell  
on 01206 395103.



## Little Bromley's Jubilee Garden Party

at St. Mary's Church  
Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> June,

10.00am – 4pm

11am Jubilee service of morning prayer  
Organ music with a royal theme.

1 & 2pm Songs of love and life by 'Two  
Cool Dudes' (guitar and voice) .

3pm Presentation of Scarecrow prizes  
Also tea and cakes, cream teas  
(small charge).

Activities for the children.

Bring your own picnic and eat it  
whilst music plays in the church.



## 'Vegas Night'

Mario is Elvis

Come and join the Little Dragons adults for  
a great night out  
on 29<sup>th</sup> June at the Village Hall.

Contact preschool for tickets and further  
information - £15 each

## *Friends of Elmstead Church* **Art Exhibition** 6th/17th June

Elmstead Church, Saturday 10.30am-  
5.30pm Sunday 12 noon - 5.30pm

## FRIENDSHIP CLUB

On the last meeting in April we were a little late with our Easter bonnets competition. The photo shows the entries.



At our meeting in May the speaker will be talking on metal detecting.

At the meeting on 21st June the competition is anything royal to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee. Gilbert will be making his lovely cakes for the winners of the competition.

We are considering a coach outing soon.

*Anne Evans*

## HISTORY OF TENNIS IN GT & LT BROMLEY

For over 50 years I have been researching the history of lawn tennis, mostly in Suffolk and the Midlands, but I would now like to come nearer to home - to Great and Little Bromley. If you have a court (or the site of a former court) in your garden I would like to see it and tell its story in an international tennis magazine and in The Bromley Messenger. I will be delighted to hear from you.

*Gerald Gurney, Guildhall  
(telephone 01206 230330)*

## WI CONSTABLE GROUP MEETING

This annual meet of five Women's Institute groups was hosted this year by Bradfield W.I in Bradfield Village Hall on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2012 at 7.30pm. Dovercourt, Mistley, Wrabness and Great Bromley form the remainder of the Constable Group.

Nearly 100 W.I. ladies joined together for an evening meeting chaired by the W.I.A, Shelia Gunson.

Traditionally there is a competition which, this year, had an Olympic theme. Each Institute were challenged with depicting five different Olympic sports in any media and displaying them on a card table.



Great Bromley's entry was colourful and cleverly executed; it included crafts of knitting, cooking and flower arranging ably co-ordinated by Jean Delgaty. We thank Jean for her hard work on our behalf.

On this occasion Wrabness W.I were the winners. Great Bromley was Highly Commended. Well done to all those who worked so hard.

Next year Dovercourt W.I will be our hosts.

# THE QUEEN'S 1958 VISIT TO GT BROMLEY

In this Jubilee year, what better time to recall the young monarch's visit to Great Bromley in 1958. Most of you will have seen the photo in the Village Hall of the Queen speaking to Mrs Locke. Miss Thomas's Church Records kept us informed of the Queen's visit to the village.

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March 24 1958: Queen Elizabeth II stopped in Gt. Bromley on her way to Harwich, for Mrs Joanna Locke (aged 105) to be presented to her. The Rev J.H. Ransom and Mrs Ransom were also presented.

June 10 1958: Mrs Joanne Locke (born 30 January 1853) died. Buried at Langenhoe, in her husband's grave, on June 13th.

October 12 1958: Seat to commemorate the Queen's visit on March 24 handed over to the parish by Mrs Hirst, director of the East Essex Gazette, who gave the seat. It was placed at Hare Green near where the Queen and Mrs Locke met.

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The East Essex Gazette report at the time of the seat installation tells us:

The seat is a permanent reminder of the occasion when, on her way to Harwich for the State visit to Holland, the Queen stopped in her car in this quiet village. In consideration of the windy day and Mrs. Locke's great age, the Queen got out of the royal car and walked across for a chat with one of her oldest subjects, cottage dweller Mrs Locke. Ten weeks after the meeting Mrs Locke died.

But members of her family were present on Sunday afternoon when, in pale October sunshine, some 200 people gathered. They included mothers with prams and toddlers, children, a group of uniformed Girl Guides and a small section of the Burnt Heath Silver Band.

Mrs Hirst recalled the meeting of the two great ladies, a meeting which was probably watched by many of those present that



afternoon. "The Queen of England takes part in many, many great ceremonials but I think there must have been few as moving as when she paused on her way on her overseas visit to chat with cottage dweller Mrs Locke," she said.

Mrs Locke had lived a quiet life and one might have thought she would never hit the headlines or become famous, but history did touch her when the Queen honoured her. Mrs Hirst said she'd like to think that by her act the Queen was honouring all women who bring up families.

"Some of us thought it would be nice for future generations to know about this historic event," she said and told of the work and cooperation between the Parish Council, Tendering Rural District Council, the rector and Mr Fairclough [*the EEG Editor*] in arranging for the seat to be placed at that spot. She hoped that people would spend many sunny hours on the seat and it would serve to remind future generations of the day when the Queen of England got out of her car and walked over the road for several minutes chat with a simple country woman.

On behalf of the Parish Council Mr Seaborn accepted the seat, which he described as a generous gesture. Unfortunately Mrs Locke had since passed on and he thought it would be appropriate to observe a brief

silence in memory of Mrs Locke. After the silent tribute Mr Seaborn said it was a pleasure to see members of Mrs Locke's family present. "I think we shall have to wait a long time for an event like this to take place in the parish again."

My mother says Mrs Locke lived somewhere down Back Lane so somebody drove her up to the main road. She went along to watch, with my brother Martin who was one of those in a pram mentioned above, but they couldn't see very much on account of the large crowd! She well remembers the seat near the centre of the ex-council houses on Harwich Road. It is no longer there – does anyone know when it went, and why?

*Hugh Frostick, with acknowledgement to the East Essex Gazette.*

## LONG LIVE THE QUEEN - AND GT BROMLEY

With the Queen's Diamond Jubilee fast approaching, I find myself going back in memory to where I was in June 1953 at the time of the coronation; and that place was Great Bromley, with the village celebrations taking place at the village hall. It was obviously a happy occasion, with lots to eat, and all children of school age - and I just made it being 16 at the time - were presented with a commemorative silver plated teaspoon. I would like to say mine was still in my possession, but it went missing some decades ago during various house moves.

What has never gone missing is remembrance of how special we all felt as we gathered together at this dawn of a New Elizabethan Age. The Girl Guides (1st Great Bromley), led by Peggy and Marian Hayward of Badley Hall, put on a pageant of St George and the Dragon. It had taken a long time at Guide meetings to mould the head out of chicken wire and cover over the framework with sheeting, which was then painted. The body section was left a bit to chance, with lots more sheeting draped over as many guides who turned up at the right time to take part. I think I was directing the combat, rather than playing the part of St George or being inside the dragon costume./ I certainly remember how funny it looked when the body segments kept bumping into each other. I also recall that it was rather a damp day, so we had to perform in the hall itself and not outdoors on the green at the back as had

been originally intended.

If anybody reading this was at those celebrations, and may be still has their teaspoon, I would love to hear from them to swap memories of 60 years ago.

*Jane Colvert (Pache)*



*Jane Pache - aged 12*

*All ready to attend an Essex County Guide Rally held in a big park near Chelmsford at which HRH Princess Margaret took the salute.*

# ESSEX POLICE



If you need to talk to me for any Police Community problems, you can contact me on 07967 466876, or 101 ex 487607 (free phone) or email me [leslie.barnes@essex.pnn.police](mailto:leslie.barnes@essex.pnn.police) please note if you leave a message I will try to reply to your call the day I am next on duty.  
*Les Barnes PCSO 71909*

## Incidents for Great Bromley for the month of April

**Back Lane East x 2** - Nuisance Youth - (Youths Jumping Garden Fences)

### May Newsletter

We have been made aware of a spate of burglaries in the Tendring area whereby properties have been entered and items that have been left by the front door i.e. keys and handbags have been taken. Therefore I would like to remind everyone not to leave any items on display by the front door or in your vehicle and report anything suspicious or out of the ordinary to police, also make sure that that your property is secure at all times and items not left on display.

Police in the north of Essex are reminding residents to be wary when receiving cold calls from people selling security alarms and CCTV. **Cold callers** are people who phone or turn up at your door without warning or prior appointment. Some cold callers are said to be indicating that they are connected with a police crime prevention initiative, or used to be a police officer. In other cases, the cold callers have quoted alarming crime statistics, claiming a massive increase in a certain type of crime in the resident's area, which is entirely untrue and fabricated. Anyone with any concerns should contact their local Crime Reduction Officer on the non-emergency number 101, or Trading Standards at Consumers on 08454 040506."

There are some extremely good burglar alarm installers who provide a professional service at a reasonable price. However, there are also some unscrupulous companies who prey on people's fear of crime to sell their products at extortionate prices. These companies usually use

telephone 'cold calling' as a way of making contact. They will offer free surveys and even free alarms but, those taking up their offer, always end up with a very large and unwarranted bill. In order to further their credibility reports suggest that they will say that they are crime reduction officers from Essex Police or allege that they are in some way working with the Police or the Home Office. Of course, when this is put to them they deny all knowledge of using these tactics. The problem is, when these incidents are investigated, it is their word against the customer's. Any prosecution against them fails because there is no evidence.

I am aware that many people now have ansafones with a speech record facility on them so that you can record a conversation even if you answer your phone. What I would like you to do in an attempt to thwart these companies is.....if you receive and answer this type of call and you have the record facility I have mentioned, press your record button and keep the caller speaking about their product for as long as you can. Then, of course, refuse any offer they make. Legitimate companies won't mind this because they have nothing to hide but you may be able to record false claims from unscrupulous companies that could be used in evidence against them. Then let me know so that we can listen to the conversation. These unscrupulous companies are tricking elderly and vulnerable Essex residents out of thousands of pounds every year. We must do all we can to stop them and we can do that with your help.

*Les Barnes PCSO 71909*



# THE DOCTORS' SURGERY NEWS

## Gt Bentley Surgery

Firstly this month, an apology. We appreciate that it has not been easy to get an appointment in recent weeks and all of us here want to say how sorry we are about that. We know how frustrating and irritating it is for you as patients when you can't get in to see someone quickly, and I'm sure you realise that it puts a lot of extra pressure on reception staff, doctors and nurses when they have to struggle to accommodate people who need seeing urgently, on top of surgery sessions that are already fully booked well in advance. Thank you for being patient with us. This has been one of the longest difficult spells any of us can remember here and we have been working really hard to keep our heads (and yours) above water.

The good news is that we have now found someone who can help us out for a while. By the time you read this, Dr Jonathan Gatland, a very experienced GP who recently retired from a practice in Colchester, will have started doing regular surgery sessions to ease the pressure on the partners. He will be working part-time with us throughout the summer while the other doctors squeeze in their hard-earned breaks, and we hope that this will ensure that all of you can be looked after more easily and with fewer delays.

Sadly, Dr AnnMarie Hilton will be leaving us at the end of July. Many of you have got to know her well since she started here as a Registrar two years ago. After she had finished her training last summer, she gave us some important continuity when Dr Slawson left by staying with us as a Salaried GP. She is now moving on to take up a similar position at Brightlingsea surgery so that she can gain more experience and continue her professional development. We all wish AnnMarie the best of luck in her new job. I know that many of you will miss her.

Dr Hilton's exit means a very welcome return for Dr Arul Nambi who was Registrar here back in 2008. He was a really popular member of the team while he was with us and I'm sure that many of you who remember him will be glad to have him back. He will be

starting at the beginning of September, working full-time, and we are expecting him to be a permanent addition to the team. Anyone who doesn't know him yet will find that he is an excellent GP who already knows our systems and the area, which always helps.

We have a new screening service starting here in the next few weeks, specifically aimed at men aged 65 and above. For some reason, men in this age group are most at risk from a problem called abdominal aortic aneurysm (AAA), which is an enlargement of the main blood vessel in the abdomen. If it isn't spotted and goes untreated, it can be fatal. The problem can be detected by a simple ultrasound scan which takes just a few minutes, and to make this as accessible as possible, the Five Rivers AAA Screening team are bringing a portable scanner to use at the surgery on a few dates over the summer.

Men reaching their 65th birthday this year will automatically be sent an invitation to be screened. Men aged 66 or over won't get an invitation, but can self-refer for screening simply by completing and sending in a Self Referral Form and sending it in to the AAA Screening office. We have a supply of the forms here at the surgery for anyone who wants one. Don't worry, by the way, if you cannot make any of the screening dates that are initially offered. Others will be arranged later.

Finally for this month, a request for help from both us and the Green Pharmacy. If you ask for medication to be delivered to your home, please would you show on your repeat prescription request the day (or date) that you want the delivery to happen. Also, please avoid if you possibly can their busiest delivery days which are Thursday and Friday, when they sometimes struggle to cope. These two simple things will help the pharmacy prioritise their work and ensure that your order arrives on time and when you are there to receive it.

*Hugh Cronin, Practice Manager, Great Bentley Surgery*

# THE RECTORY, GREAT BROMLEY

Dear Friends,

In November 1990 I had an interview with Canon Hardaker in London and my references were circulated as a person who was looking for a parish. This is just one of the ways one can move in the Church of England, and in my case things moved very swiftly! By the end of January 1991 I had several offers, one of which was a parish in which Michael Heseltine worshipped! Parish profiles usually consist of all sorts of information in order to attract priests.

One of the other parishes was St. Luke's Chelmsford. As I sifted through all the information, I decided to come to Chelmsford for an interview and I kept all the other places on hold for the time being. The Bishop of Bradwell was ill, and I was interviewed by the then Archdeacon, Jonathan Bailey. I met the Churchwardens who were also the parish representatives, and they all said yes to me.

We moved to Chelmsford in April 1991. This was my first experience of being an Incumbent. It is quite different from being a curate because you have to bear all the heavy responsibilities and often take the blame (even for the things you have no

influence over). However on the credit side it is a challenge and one which you know you could never fulfil without the help of God.

Chairing a P.C.C. for the first time is a rather daunting experience, especially if you feel like I did that your calling is to pastoral work rather than committees. However all these things are good for us and one acquires new skills with experience. Theological colleges do not seem to give much training on church procedures – you have to acquire these things as you go along. I was so blessed in this regard at St. Luke's because my Lay Reader was a lifetime expert as he was Lay Chairman of the Deanery Synod. His help and advice were invaluable.

I shall complete my story next time.

With love,  
*Fr. Robert*

## CHURCH CLEANING

Can you spare an hour or two of your time to help clean St. George's church?  
Hoover and cleaning materials provided.  
Please contact Ann 250229 if you are willing to join the rota.

## “Jubilee Celebration Concert”

Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2012

St George's Church at 7.30pm

The Southend Festival Chorus will be presenting a “Jubilee Celebration Concert”

Southend Festival Chorus was formed in 1969 and has become one of the leading choirs in the South East of England.

The Southend Festival Chorus has a reputation for outstanding performances of well known and less familiar Choral works. They have performed in Holland, France and Belgium. In the UK performances have ranged from major cathedrals to the Royal Albert Hall, Queen Elizabeth Hall, Barbican Centre and the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham. The chorus works regularly with leading Orchestras such as Royal Philharmonic, The London Concert

Orchestra and the English Chamber Orchestra. On this special occasion the concert will be conducted by guest conductor Vanda Roberts.

It is a great privilege to be hosting a concert presented by such a well known and professional choir. The concert programme promises to be very exciting and will include compositions by Parry, Handel, Elgar, ...”I Was Glad,” Zadok the Priest, “Blest pair of Sirens” to name just a few. The evening's programme will conclude with Land of Hope and Glory, Jerusalem, Rule Britannia and other music from “Last Night of The Proms”.

Tickets including wine and a tasty finger buffet are £10.

Please book your tickets early by phone or email Jenny Nicholls 01206230688 or [jenny@fryerning.net](mailto:jenny@fryerning.net)

# ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR, GREAT BROMLEY

united with St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh



## Church of England Services June

<b>Sunday 3rd</b>	8.00am	<b>Trinity Sunday</b>	<b>HM Queen Diamond Jubilee</b>
	10.30am	Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
		Parish Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	6.30pm	<i>Incense will be used at this service</i>	
		Evensong	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
<b>Sunday 10th</b>	8.00am	<b>1st Sunday after Trinity</b>	
	10.30am	Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	6.30pm	Parish Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
		Evensong	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b>Sunday 17th</b>	8.00am	<b>2nd Sunday after Trinity</b>	
	10.30am	Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
		Parish Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
		Evensong	
<b>Sunday 24th</b>	8.00am	<b>3rd Sunday after Trinity</b>	<b>St John the Baptist</b>
	10.30am	Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	6.30pm	Parish Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
		Evensong	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b>Friday, 29th</b>	6.00pm	<b>SS Peter and Paul</b>	
		Fr Robert's Silver Jubilee Mass	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
		<i>Preacher: Christopher, Bishop of Colchester</i>	

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