

THE BROMLEY MESSENGER

APRIL 2013

Volume 28 No 1



... AND NOW

Picture above: Vera & Jim's bungalow "Berriedale" showing the fine tree at the memorial.

Part 3 of Vera's memories can be found on page 9



THE FIRST PAGE



The snow and ice has hopefully had its final fling and we can get out into our gardens. It is with our thanks that Kate Strowbridge has kindly agreed to take over Frank Griffiths' wheelbarrow each month to bring us her news, views and advice in the garden. It is also splendid to have a long report of the activities of the Cricket Club together with a list of their fixtures. With regards to Club reports is there anyone willing to take on writing a monthly/ occasional report for the Carpet Bowls Club. If so please contact me at bromlemessenger@btinternet.com or 01206 231262. I would be pleased to hear from you.

We saw in the December/January magazine a picture of the tree in the middle of the road by the war memorial. This month on the cover we see it from a different angle together with how the same view looks now and in the piece on Vera Biddis' memories the different tradesmen who would have circled that tree on a weekly or daily basis are recalled. Great Bromley has planted many new trees over the last few years and Little Bromley is busy doing the same. I passed Anita Spall and another volunteer on a bitterly cold day busily planting. I was returning to a warm fire and was impressed with their being out

in such weather.

The news on the A120 looks hopeful and maybe in the not too distant future it will be sorted as there has been an increase in accidents at the junction since they changed it. Broadband news is not so good but Neil Skinner has continued working hard on seeking out better broadband for us all and now he is looking at a different way of delivering it for us, so please fill in and return the card enclosed with this copy of The Messenger as soon as possible. The future is also on hold for the path down which our church will journey following the retirement of the Rector after Easter as it is not yet known whether we will remain as a parish with an interregnum or become part of a team ministry. We will let you know everything as and when we hear.

The daffodils are coming into bloom, the crocuses are out, the birds are singing and pairing up. All are looking to the future and so should we.

Leonie Henderson

MATERIAL for the **MAY** edition of 'The Bromley Messenger' should reach the Editor, Leonie Henderson, by **14th APRIL, 2013** please. Contributions from anonymous sources will not be printed. Whilst the editor welcomes contributions, photographs etc this is on the understanding that there is no obligation to publish, that the item may be edited and that there is no breach of copyright. Publication is in good faith and neither the editor nor the publisher accept any liability in respect of the content of any article, photo or advertisement, including any error or omission, responsibility for which remains with the author. Copy can either be delivered by hand, sent by post or e-mail. (see inside back cover for details) or via the link on the websites www.greatbromley.org.uk or www.littlebromley.org.uk

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It's time to start thinking about

THE BROMLEY'S 'SCARECROW FESTIVAL'

Our theme for this year
will be

**A character from a
children's book**

This event will coincide
with the great Bromley
flower festival at the
end of June 2013

- More details next month -



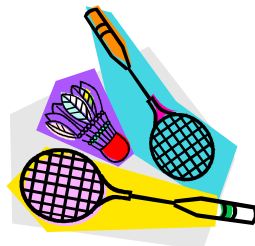
Would
YOU

like to join a

Badminton Club

in Great Bromley?

Purely for fun
to be held in Great
Bromley Village
Hall
during the
afternoon or early
evening



Cost to cover the
hire of the hall

If you are interested please contact
Kate Strowbridge tel: 01206 230211

GT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB



Great Bromley and District Cricket Club recently held its AGM and there were a number of changes following the meeting. Lance Grainger stood down as Chairman after three years. The Club has certainly moved on under his Chairmanship and the Club thanked him for all his efforts. He now will be helping the Club to increase its sponsorship and profile and we would very much like to hear from local businesses who may be interested. Dave Hardy resigned from the position of Club Secretary to concentrate on getting the Club its Club Mark Certification. The Club really have appreciated the number of years that Dave has held the position even with his playing days having been over for several years now. The men's cricket was extremely successful last season with the Saturday 1st XI winning Division 5 of the two counties and gaining promotion to division 4 and the Sunday 1st XII gaining promotion to the Piri Piri Premier Division. It was a great effort by all the players and supporters were certainly entertained throughout the season. The Club has now added a 2nd XI team to play in Division 8 of the Two Counties League on a Saturday.

The committee is now as follows.

President	Linda Allam
Chairman	Pip Allam
Secretary	Trudy Dodd
Treasurer	Matt Foley
1st Team captain (Saturday)/Club Captain	Richard Lawson
2nd Team Captain	Andy Fowles
1st Team Captain (Sunday)	Craig Perrin
Membership/fixture secretary	Tracey Wareing
Colts Co-ordinator	Pip Allam

The club is looking for new players to play in the Saturday and Sunday teams and for the U11-U15 colts cricket. Should you be interested, or know of anyone interested, in playing for a friendly and well run cricket Club please contact Tracey Wareing on

07941 803475 or 01206 251434.

Great Bromley Cricket Club is always grateful of support on a match day and on home games the bar is always open. If the forthcoming season is only half as good as last season we can promise you some exciting cricket to watch.

The home games for April and May are as follows:

April:	Saturday 20th and 27th
May:	Saturday 4th 11th 18th 25th
May:	Sunday 5th 26th

We hope to see familiar faces for the new season and welcome some new and pray for a warm and dry season of cricket.

Tracey Wareing

100 Club Winners January

1st.	Mrs. Fiona Garnham
2nd.	Mr. Alistair Robinson
3rd.	Mr. Nick Holyman

February

1st.	Mrs. Kirsty Simms
2nd.	Mrs. Lisa Davis
3rd.	Mrs. Tracey Redfern



FRIENDSHIP CLUB



At the February meeting members were given a very interesting talk by Mrs Bambridge on

her work in Rwanda helping the orphans and villagers with various projects to improve their skills in order to obtain work.

The funds raised by a Charity set up by Mrs Bambridge are used to provide school books and equipment which are sent out to Rwanda through the port of Felixstowe.

The Charity's project for 2013 is to build a health Centre with Maternity Unit for the local population.

Mrs Bambridge brought along a selection of goods made by the villagers which were for sale to help raise funds for her work.

At the March Meeting the Manningtree Daytimers will come along to entertain, and the competition will be a pink object.

The meal at the Frating King's Arms was enjoyed by those members who attended.

At the April Meeting Fred on the Piano will come along to entertain us, and the competition will be a Spring flower.

Sylvia Ward

IN THE GARDEN

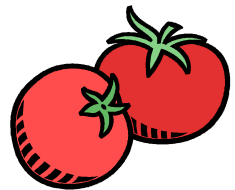
Having been asked to try and write some intelligent remarks about gardening as Frank has hung up his trowel, I must explain that compared to his vast gardening experience, I am a mere novice with only 35 years of gardening. As my husband was in the Army, I have moved house 19 times, and obviously could make limited impact on those gardens, so gardening was limited to tubs and troughs.

13 years ago I moved to Great Bromley and now have a garden of 1 acre which is half cultivated, and half field cum orchard.

So, to gardening.

Like everyone else I think this year I have been itching to get out and start doing some gardening. It has been very tempting on those warm and sunny days (like today as I write) to get carried away and start planting seeds, but I suspect we will get more frosts. Last year we had frosts in late April after the fabulous March, and I and many others lost all the blossom and, subsequently, fruit on all the trees in the orchard.

I think that I will have to restrain myself and get on with weeding (the weeds are undeterred by the cold) digging and general tidying up, and for now merely plan my planting. The only exception of course are chillis and tomatoes which need to be started in heated propagators.



All things being equal, with all that rain last year, and a fairly cold winter, the harvest ought to be reasonable this year. Now that's what you call a triumph of hope over experience!!!!

Kate Strowbridge

TAILS FROM PRIMROSE FARM

What a month it has been with suddenly the horsemeat scandal making the media say shop locally and ensure you buy British. British meat which is all fully traceable to farm origin and beef comes with a passport. **Our** food miles are so low!!!

At the turn of the year we had lost two farmers' markets Brightlingsea and Rowhedge with closure due to poor attendance and dwindling customers. But with local campaigning and the stall holders persuading the organisers to keep going we have successfully managed to keep them open. Primrose Pork goes to three markets a month selling frozen pork. Firstly Rowhedge on 1st Saturday of the month in Rowhedge Village hall from 9-30 to 1pm. A lively market that is run by Rowhedge Volunteers with plenty of Village atmosphere. Wivenhoe farmers' market is going from strength to strength and this success is due to the involvement of Transition Wivenhoe .a local campaign group. who successfully run a coffee shop and attract young families to the market. This market is the 3rd Saturday in the month in the Methodist Hall High street, Wivenhoe. Lastly is the longest running Farmers' market in Brightlingsea held on the last Thursday in the month in the Community Centre. Well supported by Brightlingsea people and visiting tourists in the summer from the caravan parks of Brightlingsea and St Osyth. Brightlingsea and Rowhedge have a reprieve for six months so if you like to shop for local produce pay a visit to these very local markets because if the support does not continue then they will unfortunately close. They all have a good selection of local produce.

A reminder that Kerry is coming to Primrose Pork the first and third Thursday in the month selling locally caught fresh fish from her husband's boat, so if you like fresh fish please support her.

The evenings and mornings are getting lighter and early one morning on a dog walk

I was privileged to stand and watch a barn owl hunting and swooping over the shelterbelt wood. His cream coloured wings stood out against the dark leafless trees. He kept taking off and landing working the woodland looking for his breakfast.

The water table is beginning to drop but the nature pond continues to remain high. This means the long awaited start of our house has taken place. The builders have dug out the footings, concreted and have got the floor nearly laid. We have lived in Great Bromley for two years now in the caravan and are so excited to see the house finally take shape. We have already cut from a fallen oak tree from the roadside border a mantelpiece and porch door post. Both have been crafted down and restored, they have fantastic markings and features which have kept Robert busy all winter!!!!.

Karen Moss

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 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 in Great Bromley for February

- Burglary Other** - Springhill Close - (Tools taken from shed)
- Theft (Attempted)** - Harwich Road - (Attempted theft of a caravan)
- Theft** - Briar Road - (Money taken)
- RTC** - Park Road

PCSO LES BARNES 71909

Childhood Days by Vera Biddis (Part 3)

The village rounds (written 1978)

I can still see the men, especially my Uncle Tom, bringing tumbrel loads of sprats from Ardleigh station to put on the land for manure in the Spring, the seagulls were delighted! If you took your basin out they would always give you some sprats for your tea. We used to fetch milk from Mr & Mrs Venn's or Townlands, 3 halfpence [1½d] a pint for skim or three pence [3d] a pint of new. Sometimes we would try the trick of swinging the can round and round with the milk in, either with the lid on or off, and sometimes you got it all over you.

Every Monday we had a rag and bone man come round pushing a handcart from Colchester, we used to call him the Monday man but his name was Watson. He would buy your rags or rabbit skins and sell you cottons, tapes, elastic, buttons etc. At tea time Brown's oilman came from East Street; Mondays was also Co-op grocer day when he brought your order for the week.

The baker came Monday, Wednesday and Friday. On Tuesdays the fishman, Horrie Howe, came; he also sold bananas. Mr Grant, the other fishman, would come on Thursday with cold fried fish as well as fresh. Wednesday was Co-op oilman day; Thursday the coal man. On Friday Mr Cook the butcher called from the butcher's shop at Broomhanging Farm, Crockleford (where the Culleys live now) owned by a Mr Norfolk. The "Clacton Man" who sold linens and clothes came on Thursday and the Colman Brothers from Thorpe came on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Maurice Wenden brought round farmhouse butter on Thursdays in a horse and trap. He had sometimes been on the bottle! Mr and Mrs Faims (?) would call and collect any eggs mum could spare. We also had hens sitting on eggs in the spring so of course we had baby chicks. I used to love it when mum brought them inside in a basket whilst the late ones hatched out. I used to feed them on newspaper on the table with Quaker Oats.

Quite an event the morning when you saw Toby coming up the road. He was a little man with a round trilby hat and buskins, and he carried a large round basket on his head carrying such goods as jugs, bowls, teapots, saucepans, cups and saucers, plates etc. He never asked you straight out if you wanted anything, he used to say "Jug you don't want, teapot you don't want, enamel bowl you don't want". He was a lovely little old man really and never took offence if you didn't buy from him. "Oh well, see you when I come next time" he would say.

Mr Trybshoe came for years from his bakery at Ardleigh. Mr Ratcliffe had a village shop at Nursery House before he had a new shop and house built where it still is today. Mr Ratcliffe's son, Albert, had the business for several years but married and moved away somewhere. Then Reg and Lily Keeble had the business until Reg died in 1965, and Mr and Mrs Brackpool are there now.

We used to play such games on Frank Quinton who used to bring round Jersey milk from Joslins at Ardleigh. He brought in a can (churn) and ladled it out into jugs. We used to tease that he hadn't given us enough in the measure! He loved mum's buns. Frank Bevis delivered the newspaper and Mr Johnnie Harrington cycled round with the letters from Ardleigh for years. He would mend your cycle if you got it to his house in Ardleigh. Fred Skeet brought round groceries on Fridays, Albert Ratcliffe on Saturday mornings. These are just a few of the folks who came round with their wares - all these people coming round, with far less money about then, but I'm sure Mum managed to buy something from them all each week.

© Hugh Frostick 2013

More soon! Many thanks to Jean Austin for letting me borrow, edit and reproduce Vera's handwritten memoir and also the photo.

There may be some transcription errors by me on names and so on; always glad to be corrected!

THE DOCTORS' SURGERY NEWS

Gt Bentley Surgery

It seems this year that every time we think we are through the worst of winter along comes either another really cold spell or a few days of heavy rain. I've already used up my annual allowance of salt on de-icing the car park this year and I dread to think what this quarter's bill for heating the surgery will be. Maybe by the time you read this we really will be heading into a nice warm spring. And pigs might fly!

Talking of pigs, a new bit of European legislation comes into force this month which is good news for local pet owners and which is going to have a fairly dramatic effect on the surgery. From the first of the month, GPs who have been qualified for at least five years are permitted to treat animals as well as people.

This is excellent news for the practice because as the government seeks more savings in its fight to reduce the budget deficit, it is squeezing GPs' income severely. There isn't a veterinary service in the village so we can fill this gap and capitalise on the new rules. Veterinary work will not be covered under the NHS of course, so the income we generate by looking after small domestic animals will help subsidise some of the services such as phlebotomy and smoking cessation support which had been at risk because of impending cuts.

We are very lucky in that Dr Cavenagh has a keen interest in cats and dogs – he has been known to lay hands on them as a favour when visiting elderly patients over the years – and Dr Hunt has always been very strong on reptiles. With Dr Nambi also having advanced qualifications in minor surgery, we are in a strong position to get the new service started immediately.

If you don't think it is a good idea to mix

people and pets, and I'm sure that some of you won't, please don't worry. We know that some people have problems with animals – perhaps because they are allergic to them or, in a few cases, they just don't like them – so the pet-care service will be kept totally separate from normal surgery sessions. To achieve this, on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons we will no longer be seeing human patients in the surgery which will instead be opened up for veterinary use. If demand turns out to be great enough, we are considering also offering a Saturday morning home-visiting service for local farmers who keep livestock, but this will have to be carefully thought through over the next few weeks.

If you would like to register your pets so that we can start looking after them, please ask at reception for a Form E384a "Registration of Small Animals" and we will get them onto our list. We are limiting pet numbers to one thousand initially, and it will be on a "first come, first served" basis, so I would advise you to get in quickly.

The reverse of this coin is that the legislation also allows vets to start dealing with minor human ailments. I think that they always have in remote areas anyway, but the new rules mean that they can make it official. You won't be able to register yourself on a vet's list as they will only be dealing with things like coughs, colds, earache and warts etc, but if there is a vet's surgery close to where you live and we are short of appointments, they might just be able to see you sooner than we can.

Next, I'm afraid we are asking for everyone's help again. I'm not sure if it has been the bad weather, but the number of requests for home visits by doctors has been exceptionally high since Christmas and many of them have not really been appropriate. The doctors have now decided that in future they will be assessing every visit request before agreeing to come out. The receptionists will make a note of people

asking for a visit and a doctor will then decide if it is appropriate, which may well involve ringing the patient before coming out.

Rest assured that the doctors will always visit if it is clinically necessary; that is, if someone is genuinely too ill to come to the surgery. However, please note that they won't do home visits for social reasons. Bad weather, transport difficulties or having other things to do are not reasons for a doctor to come out to you.

It's worth noting that there are a number of disadvantages to home visits. Firstly, you will almost certainly be seen sooner if you come to the surgery as except in emergencies, visits have to wait until the end of surgery. Visits are also a very inefficient way of using doctors' time. Usually in the time that it takes to make one

visit, up to half a dozen people could be seen here. Additionally, don't forget that at the surgery we have the equipment etc that is needed for carrying out tests and for initiating treatment that might be urgently needed.

For those of you who have access to the internet, there is a good article about home visits on the BBC's website. The link is http://www.bbc.co.uk/health/support/talking_to_your_doctor/home_homevisits.shtml. It is written by a doctor and explains the situation far better than I can. It will also show you that this is an issue for all surgeries and it isn't just us being awkward. Thank you in anticipation of your help.

Hugh Cronin
Practice Manager, Great Bentley Surgery

Leonard
Cheshire
Disability

SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME

Bowled Over, We Were!

The competition was hot even if the weather was cold! It might have been snowing outside and the car park at the Leisure World Bowl may have turned white but inside, the competition was hot, hot, Hot!

Lesley got off to a great start with a very stylish cross-body arm swing that sent the ball straight down the middle - **sometimes!!**

Al, meanwhile, had the knack of setting up the bowling ramp to just the right angle and



was rewarded with some good pin scores whilst Hazel whacked 'em down with gusto - to mixed results!

As for carer Jacqui and volunteer

Colin - well, least said and all that....!

But, as the games progressed, the slow-burn star of the show turned out to be new-boy, Lloyd. Once he had got his eye in, there was no stopping him - two strikes in a row at the end, would you believe!

Mind you, we gave him a good run for his money and in the end most of us broke the magical 100 barrier on the score board - "Good game, good game!" as somebody once said!

We had to stop early because the weather was closing in but it was a fun afternoon all the same - and we got a credit note for our un-played game so we'll have to go back again - and soon!

Colin File
Volunteer Newsletter Editor

A Date for your Diary
Seven Rivers Summer Fete
Sunday 30th June 1.30pm
BE THERE!

This Meeting was to show some of the expert talent we have within the membership of the Women's Institute.

June and Joy guided us through the basics of flower

and textures to create interest to the design and advice on how to cut the pieces to obtain an overall evenness to the design. We then went to flower insertion with advice on how to deal with difficult daffodils and wayward tulips. At the end of the evening everyone present had produced a very pretty design for their tables. Especially pleasing, was that we had a full house with all our members present. It was to prove that every one given time and help can produce an arrangement they can be proud of.



arranging to produce a spring table arrangement to take home and enjoy. It



all started in February when the members were given a list of items to bring with them to the March meeting; they were also shown some ideas of very basic designs they could use. The Institute would supply foliage, oasis, and tape whilst the members were given a free hand with the flowers they might wish to use, preferably a supermarket bunch as garden flowers can be a little temperamental for the inexperienced (although many of our members do have experience).

The speaker at our next meeting on 3rd April will be Louise Brundell talking about the Hearing Dogs for the Deaf.



All visitors welcome.

Joy Rolfe

June and Joy went right back to basics before showing and helping the members to cut their oasis and tape into the container. The next thing to be shown was the outline of the foliage, and also a mixture of colours



THANKS

LITTLE BROMLEY AMENITIES GROUP

Tree Planting

I would like to thank all the people who have offered support and help with the planting out of various trees in Little Bromley. Thanks to Tabor Farms for giving us some space on their land to plant on and to Martin (Gt Bromley's tree warden) for all the trees from his tree nursery and to all the volunteers who helped dig the trees up and plant them on the day. We have created a tree nursery of our own on land that's been loaned to us for this purpose and the plan is to be able to plant these out when they've got a bit bigger. We've now got 25 new trees in and around the Village including three Cherry trees which should look beautiful for years to come. We've also been given an Oak sapling from the Royal estate to grow on and it would be nice to see that planted out somewhere prominent in the Village when it's large enough.

Little Bromley Tree Warden



Great Bromley Post Office - Martin's Retirement

Martin has decided to retire as of the end of March. We have worked together for 6 years and, although not on the same days, we have been a great team and I will miss him. I am sure that, along with me, you would all like to wish him a happy retirement.



Dinah Jones

Spring Litter Pick



The Little Bromley Amenities Group held their Spring litter pick on

Saturday 9th March. We were lucky with the weather as although it was cold at least it was dry! 15 Volunteers started out from the Car Park and by 12 o'clock had collected 28 bags of rubbish, a shower door and the usual load of tyres. Dawn (landlady of The Haywain) provided her usual spread of sandwiches, cake and tea afterwards which was very welcome! The next litter pick will be held in late Autumn - date will be announced.

Chairman, Amenities Committee

2013 EVENTS

APRIL

- 2 Messy Church Eggstravaganza, Ardleigh Village Hall, 10.00am
- 3 WI, Hearing Dogs for the Deaf, meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 5 Coffee Morning, Hamilton Lodge
- 6 Spring Litter Pick, Car Park of Cross Inn (10.00am) or Courthouse Inn (10.30am)
- 10 Gt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 14 Fr Robert's Retirement lunch, Village Hall, 1.00pm
- 18 Friendship Club meeting, Village Hall, 2.00pm
- 20 Home game, Gt Bromley & District Cricket Club, Cricket pitch
- 24 Village Hall A.G.M., Village Hall, 8.00pm
- 27 Home game, Gt Bromley & District Cricket Club, Cricket pitch
Quiz Night at Little Bromley

MAY

- 1 WI meeting, AGM, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 2 Lt Bromley Parish Council Public Assembly ACM, Haywain, 7.30pm
- 4 Home game, Gt Bromley & District Cricket Club, Cricket pitch
- 5 Home game, Gt Bromley & District Cricket Club, Cricket pitch
- 5 Bluebell Service, Lt Bentley Hall Woods, 2.30pm
- 8 Gt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 11 Car Boot Sale, Seven Rivers Cheshire Home, 8.00am
Plant & Garage Sale, Ilex Farm, 10.00am
Home game, Gt Bromley & District Cricket Club, Cricket pitch
- 16 Friendship Club meeting, Village Hall, 2.00pm
- 18 Annual Meeting, Lt Bromley church, 3.00-5.00pm
Home game, Gt Bromley & District Cricket Club, Cricket pitch
- 25 Home game, Gt Bromley & District Cricket Club, Cricket pitch
- 26 Home game, Gt Bromley & District Cricket Club, Cricket pitch

The Great British Fish & Chips Supper

supporting Spinal Injuries Association

Friday 17th May, 2013

To request a fundraising pack:

Call: 0845 0714350

Email: fundraising@siafishandchips.co.uk

Visit: www.siafishandchips.co.uk

Lt Bentley Hall Waterways & Garden Show

Saturday 1st June & Sunday 2nd June 2013

Opening Hours – 10am- 5pm

Entry – Adults £8. Children U15 – Free

Garden Open, Show Gardens, Gardening &

Food Talks,

Childrens Garden Competitions, Childrens
Fairground,

Hot & Cold Food. Afternoon Tea Garden.

'One of the finest Private Gardens in East Anglia'

Disabled Access. No dogs except guide dogs.

www.littlebentley.net or 07802 282193

NEW LIFE EGGSTRAVAGANZA

at Messy church

Come and have some family time,
some messy fun and a light lunch
on **Tuesday 2nd April**

10.00am – 12.30pm

at **Ardleigh Village Hall**

All Welcome

For more information please
contact Carol Cordwell: 01206
395103



Gt Bromley & District Cricket Club

Home Games - April & May

April: Saturday 20th and 27th

May: Saturday 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th

May: Sunday 5th 26th

Little Bromley Amenities Group

QUIZ NIGHT

27th April

proceeds split between Guide Dogs for the Blind and the Amenities Fund.

COFFEE MORNING

Hamilton Lodge

Friday 5 April 2013

in aid of Autism Awareness



GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL

Village Hall AGM

24th April 8.00pm

Leonard
Cheshire
Disability

SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME

Hall Road, Great Bromley

CAR BOOT SALE

Saturday 11th May

Opens 8.00am

£10 per car

Refreshments available

Please contact Pauline

Melton on 01206 230345 to

book your pitch or just come on the day.

Registered Charity No 218186



Friends of Little Bromley Church

Coming Events

18 May Annual Meeting, 3-5pm

8 June Social Coffee Morning,
10.30am

20/21 July Art Show Weekend

17 August Folk/Music Day

6 October Harvest service

21 December Carol Service 3.00pm

Seven Rivers Summer Fete

Sunday 30th June 1.30pm

BE THERE!

Plant & Garage Sale

at Ilex Farm, Waterhouse Lane, Ardleigh
on 11th May 10.00am - 1.00pm

Proceeds to

St George's School, Gt Bromley PTA
and

St Michael's church, Thorpe-le-Soken

Plants and anything for the Garage Sale
(no books/clothes) gratefully received on or
before 10th May

Further details tel: 01206 230679

Rock and Roll Night

Saturday 27th July in Little Bromley

A local rock and roll group - Foxy Rock -
will be hosting an evening of dance - and
giving lessons on how to jive etc - Hot
buffet will be provided for a ticket price (to
be decided)

Little Bromley in Bloom

Open to anyone living in Little
Bromley - enter your garden in
our Village Competition. All
entries will be judged and the
competition is open to gardens
great or small - we're looking for
bloom and colour - use your
green fingers to make our

Village look more beautiful.

Entry is £1.00

Entry forms will be available at The Haywain,
Little Bromley and Harlequin, Little Bromley.

Judging will take place to coincide with the
Scarecrow festival on 28th, 29th and 30th June.
This event is being sponsored by Heart's Delight
who are kindly giving £50 Garden Vouchers to
the winner. Email Amenitiesgroup@gmail.com
for more details.



Fr. Robert's Retirement

April 14th

A lunch is arranged at

Great Bromley Village Hall at 1.00pm
to celebrate Fr Robert's ministry here in

The Bromleys and Ardleigh
and to wish him a happy and healthy
retirement.

You are welcome to join us.

Tickets are £5 each, please contact Ann
250229, Jenny 230688 or Ruth 230384 for
more information and tickets.

Venture Centre, Lawford

Babyballet

The babyballet Song and Dance Academy is an educational "movement to music programme" for pre-school boys & girls from 6 mths to 5 yrs
Classes starting in September 2013

STRICTLY COME CEROC

CEROC is a funky fusion of Latin Salsa and French Jive, a devastating mixture which produces a stylish and elegant movement, whilst ensuring that the Latino passion still runs strong. Classes are held at the Venture Centre 2000 Lawford on a Sunday evening.

Brantham Leisure Centre

200 mile outer edge Suffolk Bike ride

Trevor Nobbs and Phil Wainwright will be attempting to cycle approximately 200 miles around the outer edge of Suffolk from Friday 24th - Sunday 26th May in aid of Parkinson's UK. If you would like to support Trevor and give money see attached link.
<http://www.justgiving.com/Trevor-Nobbs>

Brantham Bowls Club invites you, your family & friends to a FUN DAY on Saturday 4th May, all day from 10.30am.

Everyone is invited, young or old from youngsters to grandparents. Coaching will be available and there will be a chance to win prizes in a fun game of Target Bowls.

For more information please contact Carole Weller on 01206 322877

BLUEBELL SERVICE

in Little Bentley Hall Woods
on Sunday 5th May.
Meet at Church for Direction at 2.30pm.
Service at 3pm.
Do come and join us in Little Bentley Woods for this wonderful service with Nature. Dogs, Horses, Children everyone welcome.

NEW TV CHANNEL

The Bromley Messenger has learnt that as part of the Government's Communities Programme a new local television channel is being trialled this month which will enable local



communities that apply to broadcast programmes produced by them relevant to their community.

These programmes can be dedicated to promoting the attractions of the neighbourhood such as the A120 junction, eclipsing the church, gallows corner, the mast, spotting metal detectors working the fields and other local activities.

Therefore organisations should be planning how to take advantage of this service should the trial be successful.

Any further information received by The Bromley Messenger will, of course, be passed on to our readers.

PROPOSALS FOR NEW SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS ON A120 TO BE MADE WITHIN WEEKS

Highway bosses have promised to come up with proposals on how to improve safety on the A120 in Tendring within a matter of weeks.

Representatives from various agencies and local authorities met at Clacton Town Hall this morning to discuss a safety audit carried out following changes in road layouts made last year.

The changes were carried out at the Hare Green junction and at Pellen's Corner – but local residents and councillors have claimed that they have only made the matter worse.

Among the conclusions in the audit were that over the past 11 months the frequency of personal injury accidents along that section of the A120 was substantially higher than the predicted national average.

Those at the meeting made a number of observations about the audit and those comments will be taken into account along with all the information and evidence to come up with new proposals.

Eric Cooper, Essex Asset Manager for the Highways Agency, said: "We will take away all the views expressed and come back within a week or so with a way forward. We need to look at what can be done now and also work on a longer term solution."

Harwich and North Essex MP Bernard Jenkin also promised to meet the

Government Minister to discuss the matter further following the meeting today.

The meeting was called by Tendring District Council (TDC) Leader Peter Halliday and involved Essex County Council, Essex Fire and Rescue, Essex Police, East of England Ambulance Service, Highways Agency, Mr Jenkin, Tendring Councillors Peter Halliday, Neil Stock, Sarah Candy and Fred Nicholls as well as officers.

Cllr Halliday said that he felt that further progress had been made through the talks. "It was a very constructive meeting and we now wait for the professionals to go away and consider all that has been discussed along with the evidence they have gathered themselves," he said. "They have promised to come back quickly with what can be done as a temporary measure and we look forward to that. "We cannot make that decision about what is the right thing to do on the grounds of safety - and we will leave that up to those who are responsible for making those decisions."



8/3/13



GREAT BROMLEY POST OFFICE at The Cross Inn

Ardleigh Road, Great Bromley CO7 7TL

Telephone: 01206 231073

Mon/Tues: 9.30am-2.00pm Wed/Thurs/Fri : 10.00am - 2.00pm

Sat : 9.00am-midday

- Please note that there is now a wide selection of cards and wrapping paper available.
- A dry cleaning service is also available.

Please ask for details at the counter.

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

www.gbpc.org.uk

At the time of writing the snow has just passed and it is hoped that we can all look forward to the start of Spring, the longer days are certainly to be welcomed anyhow.

You may have noticed that the War Memorial has been tidied up with the planting of several new shrubs. The Parish Council are most grateful to our tree warden, Martin Frostick, for giving up his time for the benefit of the village. Speaking of the War Memorial, it will be remembered that 2014 marks the centenary of the commencement of World War I. The Parish Council would wish to mark this important event and some ideas have already

been forthcoming as to how we might do this. Any further ideas would be gratefully received.

Many of you will be aware that the Parish Council have worked tirelessly to enable superfast broadband in the village as soon as possible. Essex County Council have received a budget to ensure that the areas not covered and most in need receive it. All householders in the village will be receiving a card with information as to how to register, and you are urged to do so. The more that do the better.

Finally, it is worth remembering that our role as Parish Council is to represent your interests, and to that end you are most welcome to attend our monthly meetings and talk with us. These now take place at the Village Hall on the second Wednesday of each month, starting at 19.30.

Laura Austin



BROADBAND



Those who registered an interest in the high speed broadband solution proposed by County Broadband will no doubt be frustrated at the lack of progress or indeed communication from them on where they are with their solution. The latest formal notice from them suggested the service would be in place by the end of March - something that clearly now isn't going to happen. Those who have managed to get a response from enquiries made to County have been told that licensing issues, administrative problems regarding planning permission and delays in obtaining the promised finance are the reasons for the delay. Any information received on progress will be posted on the Great Bromley Parish Council website (www.gbpc.org.uk)

In the meantime there has been progress in Essex County Council's (ECC) efforts to get Superfast broadband to those areas not considered financially viable by the likes of BT. ECC has obtained a sum of money from the BDUK initiative launched by the government which they have matched giving them approximately £12 million. This will be used to ensure at least 90% of properties in rural Essex have access to superfast broadband by the end of 2015. (By Superfast they are talking about greater than 20Mbps). The remainder should expect at least 2Mbps. ECC will

basically subsidise the likes of BT and Fujitsu - the two main players in the scheme but there are others - to install the necessary infrastructure. The decision on who gets what and when will be based on a number of issues, not least demand. As such Tendring District Council (TDC) and ECC, in conjunction with certain Parish Councils are compiling a database of what services are available and where and what the demand is across the district.

To ensure Great Bromley gets to the head of the queue it is essential that as many people as possible register an interest. This can be done by going to the Super Fast Essex website -

www.superfastessex.org - and clicking on the Register For Broadband link.

Alternatively you will have received a Freepost card with this edition of the Messenger which you can complete and return to TDC.

Remember, the more people who register either online or by post the more chance we have of getting decent broadband to the village. So please remind your friends and neighbours to respond, even if they think perhaps it's not for them. Thank you.

Neil Skinner



VILLAGE HALL TRUSTEES

£435 was the final figure raised on the Quiz Night. Well done

Jayne, Dinah and Les. Even better than we thought in the Messenger last month.

On Saturday the 9th we held a Table Top Sale which was a great success with many new residents attending and a friendly open atmosphere too. A great effort, very well advertised, marketed and organised by

Jacquie Terry. The money raised was as follows Tables sold £126.00, door entry £53.50, £10.80 from the book table and £2.60 from the refreshments. A lovely surprise was the £123.00 also raised for Comic Relief. Thank you all for attending and supporting and well done Jacquie.

A Race Night is happening in early June. Sponsors can book their races for £20 and horses can be bought for £5. More details

to follow soon but please talk to Filipe soon as the races were sponsored very quickly last time. We held one of these events a couple of years ago and it was great fun and by the end of the evening everyone had forgotten that they were British. As mentioned last month Jane and Dinah are organising the New Year's Eve evening with food by Linda Pinhey and a Disco has been booked too. The last one in 2011 was over booked so watch out for ticket sales. The Whist Drive is in doubt as it seems that many people no longer play. Mary is still looking at a Murder Mystery Night which I am dying to attend (no pun intended). I am looking into Film Nights, The first of the Visiting Plays is booked for October 19th.

Work on all the toilets started in February. The Ladies has been finished and it is



transformed, very smart, clean, bright and light. The Disabled toilet is well under way with the Gents to follow. Great work Andy, a job very well done. The main hall floor will finally be sealed later this month. This was supposed to happen just after the New Year but 'flu struck and the contractor was unable to make it.

April 24th at 8pm is the Village Hall AGM all welcome. All the trustees will be continuing but Fred will sadly be leaving his post as our Chairman. I moved into the Village about five years ago and was approached by Fred to come on to the Village Hall committee. I went to his house and met with Jane, Tracy and Dinah who had also been approached to join. I met Neil and Fred who talked about what was expected. It

was wonderful to meet a group of people who were prepared to give up their own time to run a facility for the benefit of the Village. It was all go with many improvements being planned and lots of grants being applied for. Some of the major projects that were planned, funded and finished under Fred's leadership are the new roof (£38,000), the loft insulation in all the attics, the new 'Key system', the new kitchen, the outside Hall decoration, the inside Hall decoration, new curtains, the new controls on the heating, the oil tank security fabrication, The Hall clean up and de-clutter, and now the new Toilets.....Who can forget some of the great nights at the Hall, the Drop Dead Divas, Olly Day Cabaret Nights, the Race Night, Dances, discos, Fun Days, Elvis Night, Quiz Nights and many more. Well done Fred and thank you for the huge amount of work put in both under your leadership and behind the scenes too. Thank you.

We are looking for someone. Someone who wants to help, someone who cares about the future of the Village, someone to work on the marketing of our Village Hall. We have a great Hall and we need someone who is willing to be co-opted onto the committee who would help us sell our Village Hall to prospective users. Who would like to help ?

That's all for now, as always thank you for your support. Let's all make the most of Great Bromley Village Hall in 2013 and lets start to look forward to warmer weather

Next meeting AGM Wednesday 24th April at **8:00pm**. As always all welcome.

David Beech

CHILDREN'S PAGE

DRAGON SOCK PUPPET

A craft for
St George's Day - 23rd April

You will need:

A red or green sock
Red or green craft foam
Scraps of red, yellow and orange craft foam
Red or green glitter glue
Fabric glue
Wiggle eyes
Fabric pen

What to do:

- Cut two wings and a tail from red craft foam. Decorate with the glitter glue. (A)
- Put the sock over your hand and mark where you want the eyes, wings and tail to go. Now lay the sock flat and glue on the tail, wings and eyes. (B)
- While this is drying make your flames by cutting out a flame shape from yellow foam, a slightly smaller one from orange foam and an even smaller one from yellow foam. Glue them together in a pile. (C)
- Put on the sock puppet, using your thumb as the lower part of the mouth, and mark where the flames will go. (D)
- Take off the puppet and glue on the flames. These will need to face the back of the sock so that they turn the right way around when you put in your thumb. (E)

A



B
and
C



D



E





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

Head teacher: Julie O'Mara
Telephone: 01206 230305

For the first time, our school invited mothers to join their children for lunch. We were overwhelmed with the numbers who were able to come, well over two thirds! It was a brilliant occasion and thoroughly enjoyed by all those that attended.

Class 1 writes.....

*We really loved the Mother's Day lunch.
We loved the roast dinner with our mums
and our mums enjoyed it too. Our mums
said it was delicious. Thank you mums for
coming it was nice talk to you at lunchtime.
The dinner ladies did a fantastic job
especially Mrs Monger and Mrs Reader
who did most of the cooking, thank you.
We would really like to do it again next year
and can't wait to have lunch with our dads
on 7 June**. Thank you Mrs O'Mara for
inviting our mums.*

**Please note that this is the week before Father's Day due to the Year 5/6 residential trip taking place on 10 - 14 June.

As part of our 150th anniversary celebrations we launched a 'design a new school logo' competition. It was a real pleasure to see how much thought and work went into the designs. A panel of three; an ex pupil and graphic designer, Matthew Calderbank, Mrs Grant, school Governor, and Mrs O'Mara finally decided, after an hour and a half of deliberation, an overall winning design. A winner was chosen from each class and the overall winning design will be sent to a graphic designer to be made into our new school logo. Every child who entered was presented with an Easter egg at our celebration assembly



Little Dragons Pre-School Great Bromley & Frating Ofsted Inspected

Website: www.littledragonspreschool.org

Email: littledragonspreschool@gmail.com

Church Meadow Bungalow, Hall Road, Great Bromley CO7 7TR
Children 2-5 years. Monday – Friday 9am- 3.30pm (extended session available until 4.00pm)
Breakfast club for preschool age 8.00am -9.00am
Breakfast club for St George's children 8.00am-8.45am (and a walking bus to school)
After school club for St George's children 3.00pm – 5.30pm
For more details/ visits please contact us on 0785 7503103

We have had a very busy term. We remained open for the half term holiday and were joined by the older siblings of some of our pre-schoolers. It was lovely to have some of the older children join us and everyone had great fun.

To celebrate World Book Day on 7th March we held a 'book week'. Children brought in their favourite books to share and enjoyed lots of related activities. Our snack food

was linked to a book each day. We had porridge when reading 'Goldilocks' and watermelon and mango when reading 'The Hungry Caterpillar'.

The children made some beautiful cards for Mothers Day and then enjoyed Dad's visiting on our Dad's Week (11th March) Easter activities included making cards and decorations and enjoying an 'Easter Egg Hunt' in the grounds of Leonard Cheshire.

On 15th April we will be launching our '**After School Club**'.

Opening times Mon- Fri 3.00pm-5.30pm.

Aged 2-11 years

A flexible collection service from St.

Georges School will be available from 3pm.

This will include the collection of children from any after school activity that takes place after 3pm.

Fee: £2.20 per 30 mins

The Breakfast Club (see times above)

Children can choose from a range of healthy foods, including fresh fruit, yoghurts, cereal, toast and fresh juices. From £3.90.

Just a reminder that we are collecting the vouchers from 'Nestle Box Tops' and also from Sainsbury's, so please tell family and friends. There is some great equipment to

be had so please get collecting!

We take children from the age of two years and 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:

Monday 15th April Summer Term / After School clubs begin

Monday 6th May Bank Holiday

Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May Half Term Week

KITCHEN CORNER

Homemade American-Style Burgers

about 1 kg of minced beef

1 large onion, finely minced (don't leave this out! You won't really taste it but it is the secret to juiciness!)

salt and pepper

handful of finely chopped parsley

1 egg, slightly beaten

Squirt of ketchup

Dash of Worcestershire sauce

Mix all together well. Depending on the size of your burger buns, take a palm sized quantity and roll into a ball. Place on a square of greaseproof paper, cover with another square, and flatten using the underside of a large plate. Your cooked patty will always end up smaller and fatter than the raw one, so be bold! If the mixture cracks at the edges, push the sides gently back into a round.

Stack in the greaseproof paper ready to fry or freeze.

Lightly oil and heat a skillet, preferably cast iron. Fry the patties over medium-high heat, so the inside cooks without the outside hardening too much, squashing them down with the spatula as needed!



Serve in a burger bun, with lettuce, a juicy slice of tomato, and relish/mayonnaise and ketchup. Preferably with home fries!

Dorothy O'Grady

So much nicer than the shop ones and contain no horsemeat!! - Editor

THE FUTURE AT ST GEORGE'S

We are very fortunate in the Bromleys to have Fr. Robert as our rector. The Bromleys (Great & Little) form part of a "Benefice" with the church of St Mary's at Ardleigh.

BUT

On 14th April Fr. Robert retires and the parishes will move into an "Interregnum".

The organisation of the priests who will conduct weekly services, baptisms, weddings, funerals and pastoral care become the responsibility of the Church Wardens and the P.C.C. until such time as a new priest is appointed OR other arrangements are put in place.

Arrangements for St George's Day have already been made. You are welcome to join us to celebrate our Patronal Festival at 6.30pm, the service will be conducted by Peter Mann our Rural Dean. Refreshments served afterwards.

At this stage **we do not know** what the

Deanery and Diocese are planning. The Bromleys are part of the Harwich Deanery with parishes such as Lawford, Dedham and Mistley and are part of the Diocese of Chelmsford.

On May 13th the Benefice have a meeting planned with the Bishop of Colchester, the ArchDeacon of Colchester, the Rural Dean from the Harwich Deanery and Lay Chair of the Harwich Deanery when perhaps we shall discover future plans for our parish community here in the Bromleys.

Until that time if you wish to speak to the Churchwardens, Ann (01206 250229) or Jenny (01206 230688) or e-mail Jenny at jenny@fryerning.net, we will do our best to help you.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Fr. Robert for his work here in The Bromleys and wish him a happy and healthy retirement as he moves to his house in Kent.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2013

Women's World Day of Prayer was held this year on Friday March 1st at St. George's Church. The service was prepared by the Christian women of France and the title of the service was "I was a stranger and you welcomed me"

Women from churches throughout our Deanery gathered together in St. George's for this service of unity and friendship.

Several hours of preparation and rehearsal were necessary in order that we could fulfil all the requirements in the booklet and service plan. Aply led by Ann Fairley, a group of 17 ladies played their roles in a very professional manner. The ladies wore scarves of many colours ordered especially for the occasion and set the scene. The singing was wonderful and uplifting. We thank Jill from Dovercourt for playing the organ. We also thank Vera Jane Warner from Dovercourt for a moving reflection of

her thoughts on the theme for the day.

Delicious refreshments of croissants, pain au chocolate, pain au raisin, and tea and coffee were enjoyed by a large congregation afterwards. Thank you June, Peter and Barbara for organising the refreshments for us.

Thank you to all who helped to make the morning such a success... serving aperitifs before the service, meeting and greeting, making sure the church was warm for our visitors – Thank you everyone, it was a truly memorable occasion.

Next year 2014 the theme will be Egypt and the title "Streams in the Desert", please come and join us, it is always held on the first Friday in March (it will be held at another church in the Deanery).

Jenny Nicholls

THE RECTORY, GREAT BROMLEY

Dear Friends,

Easter, the greatest festival of the Christian church, is now upon us. If someone were to ask us where the name Easter came from, those who are only familiar with the King James Version of the Bible would probably quickly answer, "The name Easter is from the Bible". Actually the word can only be found there once, but it is not found in more recent versions because the translation is not a good one. On the other hand, there was a monk who lived 1300 years ago who explained in his writings where the name Easter came from. His name was Venerable Bede and he explained why this church holiday celebrating the resurrection of Christ was called Easter.

This ancient Christian monk explained that the title Easter was used in connection with the Anglo-Saxon goddess called Eostre or Ostara. This was the goddess of spring, to be worshipped at the time of the vernal or spring equinox. It is easy to see that this goddess, and the symbolism around her, closely corresponds to the springtime themes of rebirth, new life, new hope, and light – some of the very themes associated with the story of the resurrection.

According to the legend Eostre saved a



bird whose wings were frozen from the harsh winter by turning the bird into a rabbit. Rabbits, of course are often associated with

fertility, because they reproduce so rapidly.

Consequently, we have today, Easter Bunnies, Easter Eggs and a celebration of spring, none of which is directly related to the true meaning of this greatest of all Christian holidays – the celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

We know that as with many special holidays, Easter has taken on many extra meanings that were never intended in the first place. There is no such thing as a bird turned into a rabbit and laying eggs!

The "Resurrection of Jesus" is the meaning of Easter. Do YOU believe? It is not enough just to have heard about Jesus, or to have known that He was resurrected. We must go beyond hearing and knowing and start believing. This is life transforming, and that is the Easter message, and it leads to the hope that we shall live with God for ever.

A very Happy Easter to you all.

Fr. Robert

ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR, GREAT BROMLEY

united with St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh



Church of England Services

April

Tuesday 2nd	10am-12.30pm	Easter Tuesday	Messy Church	<i>Ardleigh Village Hall</i>
Sunday 7th	8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm	2nd Sunday of Easter Eucharist Parish Eucharist with <i>Holy Baptism</i> Evensong		<i>St. George the Martyr</i> <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i> <i>St. George the Martyr</i>
Sunday 14th	8.00am 10.30am 1.00pm 6.30pm	3rd Sunday of Easter Eucharist The Parish Eucharist - <i>incense will be used</i> Fr Robert's Farewell Lunch Evensong		<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i> <i>St. George the Martyr</i> Gt Bromley Village Hall <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Sunday 21st	8.00am 10.30am	4th Sunday of Easter Eucharist Parish Eucharist		<i>St. George the Martyr</i> <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Tuesday 23rd	6.00pm	St George's Day Patronal Eucharist		<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
Sunday 28th	8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm	5th Sunday of Easter Eucharist The Parish Eucharist Evensong		<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i> <i>St. George the Martyr</i> <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>

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