

# THE BROMLEY MESSENGER

## *DECEMBER 2015 / JANUARY 2016*

Volume 30 No 9



### **"The Karen Carpenter Story"**

A fantastic evening!

My thanks to everyone who came to this event on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November at the Great Bromley Village Hall. We raised an amazing £1,171.00 through the raffle, bar and tickets sales for the Little Dragons Pre-School.

My thanks also go to all the kind people who donated raffle prizes.

**The Bromley Messenger wishes all  
our readers a Merry Christmas and a  
Happy New Year**

# THE FIRST PAGE

Once again I apologise if this appears on your doorstep late. It is my fault. The computer is working, as is the printer. I am not on holiday but I was struck down with a nasty tummy bug which completely floored me. Anyway up and running again on most cylinders and completing the double issue to take you through until February. The next copy deadline is 14th January so I also have a month off with the New Year's Resolution of Must Do Better!

Being a Mrs Grump I, personally, do not like the Estate Agent boards advertising various Christmas events (not the sale of a house as one would expect) which have sprung up everywhere in our villages. Quite apart from the fact they are not attractive the text on them is small, difficult to read and therefore (to my mind) pose a potential hazard for road users as the signs are peered at with the result that not enough attention is paid to the road especially now that the weather is becoming colder and the roads icy.

Most of us enjoy the fun that comes with this time of year - the parties, the presents, the sending and receiving of cards and the decorations but we should also not forget the reason why we even celebrate Christmas. All because of a special birth of a baby boy in a stable a long time ago. In

the early 70s I worked in Israel and we went on Christmas Eve not to Bethlehem (absolutely packed with people) but to a place just outside Bethlehem known as Shepherds in the Fields where the most memorable and moving of services was held in the open air under the stars. It was also rather cold!! In our churches there are Christingle services, carol services and midnight mass - a service to suit everyone.

I went last night, no thanks to the trains and signal failure, to Covent Garden to see the ballet, Two Pigeons. I had never heard of it before and, apparently, it has not been performed for 30 years. I had no idea therefore what to expect. It was a perfect ballet and a delight to see. The story contained love, flirtation, jealousy, fisticuffs and sentimentality. The dancing was superb, the music beautiful and the two white doves performed their entrances and exits to perfection. To cap it all there was a happy ending and not many dry eyes in the House.

Wishing you all a very happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Leonie



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your time...your hospice  
Registered Charity Number 280919

## ST HELENA HOSPICE GT BROMLEY STALL

Once again it has been a good year at the stall with lots of produce etc to sell. Bob, our neighbour, has brought vegetables etc and William, from Gourmet Mushrooms, has delivered mushrooms on a weekly basis. Robert and Peggy have kept up a steady supply of apples and pears when in season. Thank you Bob, William, Robert and Peggy.

We would also like to thank ALL the other people who have donated produce and other items to sell; it has all helped to raise this year a record total of £12,236.01 which has been forwarded to the Hospice. The Stall also benefits from the use of our little allotment on Greenacre Cattery field. Thank you Liz and Ian.

Finally, on the thank you side, we would like to thank all the people who purchase from the Stall. It makes it all worthwhile. We started the stall with a "little white table" on Saturday 2nd August 2008 selling a few flowers and home grown vegetables hoping to raise a few pounds but, due to people's kindness, generosity and unselfishness we have now, between us all, raised an amazing £37,486.93p for the Hospice. THANK YOU ALL.

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

*Jenny and John*

P.S. Please remember we close the Stall at 1.00pm on Sunday during the winter months.

## FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Beryl welcomed everyone to the October meeting and reminded members of the arrangements for the Christmas meal on 25th November.

The Harvest Praise afternoon at St, George's school was thoroughly enjoyed by those who attended and the children were delightful, making sure we were all served tea and cakes after their excellent performance. We look forward to being invited again next year!

Our December meeting will be a buffet tea, and the entertainment by Roger Jennings. Please bring a plate of nibbles and raffle prize. There will not be a competition that month.

On to 2016 - January will be our AGM. No Speaker but Barbara, our Treasurer, will give a report on funds etc. We may even have time for a game of bingo! Competition -something red.

Beryl then introduced our Speaker for the afternoon, Paula Short, who gave a very interesting talk on Captain Cook's voyage to Australia's east coast in 1770 aboard the "Endeavour". Paula and her family had enjoyed a wonderful holiday in the country some years ago, and we saw slides of the area and heard many tales of their adventures.

A very merry Christmas to everyone and a happy and healthy New Year.



## VILLAGE HALL TRUSTEES

As the year draws to a close, the village hall trustees are busy

planning the annual Christmas Fayre which will take place on 12th December in the village hall. This year, trustees will be working together with the PCC and Church community to organise and deliver what is one of the highlights of the village calendar, offering everyone the chance to have some fun and do a little pre-Christmas shopping whilst raising much-needed funds for both the village hall and St George's Church. The event kicks off at 10.00am and boasts a good selection of stalls and activities for all ages including the chance to see and hear the popular St George's School Christmas Choir in action - back again by popular demand following their acclaimed performances at the Christmas Fayre last year.

A good selection of food will be available in the restaurant as usual, catering for a range of ages and tastes. The Grand Christmas Draw will take place at the end of the Fayre, giving all ticket holders the opportunity to win a large number of worthwhile prizes, including the main prize of £100 in cash. We look forward to seeing you there!

Grand Draw tickets are available from village hall trustees, members of the PCC or from me priced at 50p each. The final function at the village hall in 2015 will be the New Year's Eve Ball which is already looking like a sell-out success and promises to be as enjoyable as usual. The village hall trustees look forward to welcoming you at one or more of these events and also to providing hall accommodation for you whether it be for a birthday party, meeting or musical event. As the hall is fully licensed, there is scope to undertake a wide range of activities in



the accommodation - all at extremely competitive hire rates. If you want to know more about what the hall can offer, or if you wish to make a booking, please contact the bookings secretary Mary Fawcett on [villagehallbookings@greatbromley.org.uk](mailto:villagehallbookings@greatbromley.org.uk) or 07957962788. A tour of the facilities can be arranged on request.

*Martin Frostick*

[villagehallsecretary@greatbromley.org.uk](mailto:villagehallsecretary@greatbromley.org.uk)  
or 01206 250263

## 1ST ARDLEIGH SCOUTS

1st Ardleigh Cub Scouts meet weekly and we have boys and girls attend from Gt Bromley, Ardleigh and Dedham. We have had a busy year with our highlight being our summer camp at Thorrington. During the year we have worked on many different badges, which have lead to nine cubs achieving their Chief Scout Silver Award. This is the highest badge that a cub can earn. We have worked on various safety badges as well as navigator and pioneer badges. We mix some of the traditional skills of scouting with some newer aspects of the modern world! The main task is to have fun whilst learning some important life skills. 2016 is the Centenary year for Cub Scouts and we have lots of activities planned with a number of camps, our first one in February. We have a few spaces available currently so if you are 8 – 10 ½ years old and would like to join us, please contact Akela (Liz) at either [ardleighscoutgroup@outlook.com](mailto:ardleighscoutgroup@outlook.com) or on 07747 792392.



## IN THE GARDEN WITH KATE



I can't believe it is the middle of November as I write this, and we are heading for Christmas. The weather has been so mild that it doesn't seem like autumn at all. My plants are confused, with several of the bedding plants such as pelargonium

and cosmos still flowering fit to bust. The upside of this mild weather has been that my runner beans, which were disappointing this year during the summer, have taken on a new lease of life and are happily producing enough for a couple of meals a week. Undoubtedly though, plants are confused, with daffodils emerging from the ground, and primroses in flower, whilst around them, the trees, which still look beautiful in their autumn colours, are shedding their leaves. Which brings me to leaf mould. Whilst it is still mild outside, there is nothing more satisfying than sweeping up leaves from the lawn, and putting them in a bin to compost - leaf mould is an excellent soil improver, and better still, it's free! I must confess I do not clear the flower beds, though some say you should, as they shelter over wintering slugs, but I feel that it acts as a natural mulch.

The puppy is now eight months old, and loves "helping" me in the garden. However, he doesn't, quite rightly, see why I am allowed on the flowerbeds (to weed) and he isn't! He also likes to start the shredding early when I am pruning, though he is a touch more circumspect since he discovered that some prunings, such as blackthorn, have nasty spiky things on them. Leaf sweeping is another pleasure as he leaps into a carefully swept pile of leaves, scattering them around the garden again. Oh the joys of having a dog!

Although the garden is now "going to

sleep", there are still many jobs to be done when the weather is reasonable. Tubs and hanging baskets, if not planted already, can be planted up with winter flowering plants such as pansies and primroses.

Bare root shrubs can be planted now if the ground is not too cold or waterlogged. If it is in the plan to plant some, it is worth preparing the hole early, incorporating some organic compost and grit, as more plants die from becoming waterlogged than do from severe temperatures.

Shrubs can be pruned, tied in (if climbers), and trees checked that their stakes and ties are still firm, but not too tight. Fruit trees, except the plum family, can be pruned now, and generally shaped.

In the vegetable garden, Brussel sprouts, Christmas broccoli, parsnips and leeks can be harvested. Stored fruit and vegetables need protection from hungry mice, so break out the mousetraps. I find Nutella and peanut butter work well as bait.

At the beginning of December, it is probably wise to cut any holly, with berries, that you will need over Christmas, and store it in an unheated greenhouse in a bucket of water. The best thing about this time of year for gardeners, I think, is sitting in front of a roaring fire perusing seed catalogues, and dreaming of next summer's display!

There is no Messenger in January, so I wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

*Kate Strowbridge*

## LITTLE BROMLEY AMENITIES GROUP

The Group held their biennial fireworks display on Saturday 7th November, with a superb public attendance of between 350 and 400 people. With the very generous donations and sale of sparklers etc. the total amount of money made for the evening was £643. Our thanks go to all from the local and surrounding communities who attended and made the evening the huge success that it was once again.

The weather was very kind to us. There was a bit of a wet and windy start to the day but all was clear from about 3.30pm and it continued to stay dry for the rest of the afternoon and evening.

Thanks go to Amenities Group members who helped set up the field for the event namely, Brian Connor, Anita Spall, Ken Hatch, Robert Barrett, Dawn Newton, Steve and Ann Clark, Alix and Adrian Ludlow, Shelley Bellett, Karen Tarling and Jade Anderson. Thanks also go to Kate Everett, Steve Clark and Michael Thursfield from Colchester who manned the car park for the evening and thanks also to Brian Connor and Ken Hatch for lighting the fireworks.

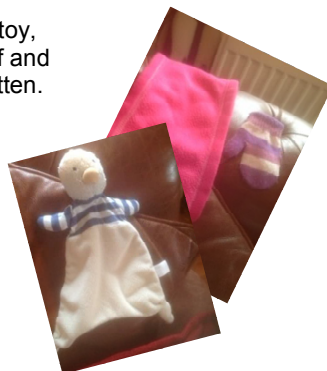
Thanks also go to Mary Roughley for the loan of the field and Robert Fairley who, with his tractor, opened up the field and piled the wood onto the bonfire for us. The fireworks were supplied by Genies Fireworks from Clacton on Sea.

On the following day, Sunday, 8th November, our Remembrance Service was held at the War Memorial. It was well attended and our thanks go to Gregory Frostick for conducting the service.

### Lost and Found at Little Bromley

Fireworks:  
Childs cuddle toy,  
Pink girls scarf and  
purple/pink mitten.

Please call  
Christine on  
07767  
238870 if any  
of these items  
belong to you.



**theWI**

## WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

“Show & Tell” is the name, please get up and play the game. Joyce was first to kick off. She has lived in the village all of her life, she explained how she has seen the village change over the years. The A120 effectively cutting the village in half as it had cut half the population from the village centre, making it very difficult to maintain a cohesive group, but she felt they had succeeded. She also transported us back in time to when her family had a dairy herd of 30 all named after flowers. Joyce could remember the buses that worked from the village, no mighty national companies then just Bests and Sages; many of us present

could also remember.

Lisa, a relative newcomer to the village, lives in the house along the road from Joyce and she spoke about her upbringing in Malta which was under British rule from 1814 – 1964 and as an island was awarded the George Cross during the war. Lisa has an interest in Maltese Balconies, traditionally made from wood which indicate the social standing of the family who lived in the house. The balconies are very much a way of Maltese life and are decorated on high days and



holidays. Lisa had brought with her a model of a balcony that had been given to her and her husband on the occasion of their marriage.

Jane followed with her talk about Daisy, Dolly, Edward and Candy. Not her children but her donkeys. Candy is a miniature and used for showing who she gave birth to Rusty in May. Jane told us that she not only loves the donkeys but that she also makes her own panniers for them as well as the donkey hats and garlands they wear for shows. They take part in all aspects of village life from church on Palm Sunday to the local pig farm and butchery open days and they have also been to London. She has recently acquired a very large donkey called Elliot.

Joyce W. has lovely memories of the village even though she lived in a neighbouring one, memories of the pantomime group and coming every year to see the talent of local people as well as visiting Seven Rivers Cheshire home for the fetes with her children. Joyce and her husband, who was from Poland, ran a land settlement place growing all kinds of salad for the market. She moved to Colchester 25 years ago and worked in the hospital pharmacy until her retirement.

Mary spoke about her love of knitting and nattering with ladies from the W.I. and others who join them. Hats, scarves for shoe boxes, hats and blankets are made for premature babies at the local hospital. They have recently begun a new venture going into St George's primary school after school and giving knitting lessons to some of the children which is so popular it has now acquired a waiting list. Chris, a friend and visitor, also had a knit and natter group who knit for Chelmsford hospital tragedy teddies, jumpers for Romania, and also for shoe boxes, hats scarves and baby items.

Beryl spoke about the Burnt Heath Silver Band for which her grandfather played the cornet. In a



local book about the band in 1936 of the 23 members of the band nine were Jaggards - Beryl's maiden name. They played concerts on Sunday afternoons, in church every year for harvest festival and on Armistice day. They had also been to Crystal Palace and won a medal.

Jill spoke about the village before the war where everyone worked on the land and how it was so different then with sheaves of corn after harvest standing in the fields. She remembered the jumble sales, re-using knitted garments to make fresh ones and old clothes being used to make rag rugs.

Jenny, our president, finished the evening by telling us about her son, a police dog handler, whose dog was training to be used for search of blood and bodies. She now had one of the retired dogs her son had used to search for drugs, explaining that it had taken quite a bit of work to stop him searching everyone's bag who came to the house. Her son was campaigning for proper treatment of dogs dying whilst on duty, and also for a garden at the National Memorial Arboretum. Her son had been the model for the police officer to be used in the garden.

A brilliant evening and very different to our usual evenings. We all learnt a lot about the village and also a lot about each other.

*Joy Rolfe*

### **WI Diary Dates**

Wednesday 2nd November  
Christmas Party  
Village Hall at 7.30 pm

Visitors are very welcome to come and join the fun. Please telephone 230688 for catering purposes. Line dancing led by Debbie Millar and carols led by Barber Shop Quartet. Prize for the best cowboy hat or costume

First Meeting in 2016                      All Welcome  
Wednesday 6th January - Bruce Root  
"Birds and Butterflies" 7.30pm. in the  
Village Hall

# Little Dragons Pre-School - Great Bromley & Frating

Church Meadow Bungalow, Hall Road, Great Bromley CO7 7TR  
Ofsted Inspected

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

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



## OFSTED \* INSPECTED OUTSTANDING

### Breakfast & After School Clubs

Places available Tel: 07857 503103

Both the breakfast and after school clubs are doing well and growing in numbers- there are still places available. If you require further information please call the number above or pop in to see us.

September 2015 - we are now also running a breakfast club at Tendring Primary school so tell your friends.

Our Dads Week held week beginning 9th November was very well attended, thank you to all the Dads that were able to come along and join us in our sessions, the children definitely enjoyed having you. We take the lead from our children's interests and experiences to plan the learning activities and we recently set up a role play Costa Café the children made salt dough cakes and cardboard paninis with various fillings. Costa in Colchester kindly donated cups, napkins and accessories for us to use too and the Dads have been willing customers for the children to serve.

The children have enjoyed participating in lots of fun activities while learning about Diwali and how the Festival of Lights is celebrated which also links to our twinning with a pre-school in India.

We have been continuing to observe the changing season and have been talking about hibernation. The children have been leaving food and water out near our hedgehog house, in the hope of attracting one to overwinter in our garden. Fingers crossed.

We are now looking forward to another busy month. December is always a special and exciting time at pre-school; it doesn't seem possible that this is our third Christmas in our lovely building. On the last day of term we invite our parents and friends to join the

children in singing some festive songs to the residents at Leonard Cheshire Disability. The children have been working hard and practising the songs ready for their performance. We will finish with our Christmas Party and hopefully a visit from Santa.

Finally we would like to take this opportunity to thank all our parents and friends for their continued help and support over the year and to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

### Fundraising

#### Please save your biscuit wrappers & bottle trigger heads

We have registered with Terracycle and are currently collecting biscuit wrappers and plastic bottle trigger heads and caps from washing up bottles. These we send away and are then paid according to the weight. So please ask friends and family to help us collect as many as possible.

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.

#### Party Table and Chair Hire

Having a party for Pre-School children?

We can offer 4 perfectly sized tables & 20 chairs.

Deposit only £10 Tables only £5.00 each Chairs

Only £1.00 each

Collection Only - Contact us: Tel: 07857 503103

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

#### Dates for Diary:

Thursday 17th December Last day of

Autumn term. Concert and party

Monday 4th January. Start of Spring Term





# TAILS FROM PRIMROSE FARM

On 3rd November, 2015, the best sausages in East Anglia and East Midland region were crowned as part of British Sausage Week, which this year celebrates the nation's Sausages of Distinction. The region covers Essex, Suffolk, Norfolk and Lincolnshire and throughout Britain there were 630 entries that were all cooked up and tested. There were two categories: Best Traditional sausage and Best Innovative category and the competition also was for independent butchers as well as catering firms who supply the supermarkets.

Robert Moss from Primrose Farm, Great Bromley, Colchester, Essex has won a Banger Award for Best Innovative Sausage for their Pork and Ginger Sausage named Autumn Bliss.

Two-star Michelin chef and British Sausage Week ambassador Michel Roux Jr was on hand to preside over the awards at 'SMITHS' of Smithfield in Central London. As well as crowning seven regional winners, the competition also awarded the trophy for Britain's Best Butcher's Sausage and for the best sausages from supermarkets, pubs and brands.

Primrose Pork's pork and ginger combination has a fantastic tangy and aromatic flavour. This 'zesty' sausage sets the taste buds tingling and giving an unforgettable flavour of a British sausage. Winner of the Best Innovative sausage in East Anglia and East Midlands, our ingredients are locally sourced and they include Tiptree Ginger Conserve to give it that special distinctive taste. The idea came from Kim Fisher who works in the shop by experimenting with different tastes and combinations until we found what we believe to be a really fantastic taste.

Primrose Farm Butchers is a family run farm business that supplies local meats through its farm shop in Great Bromley

Colchester Essex. Robert Moss has built the farm butchers shop up by selling locally to farm shops, pubs, delicatessens and at local farmers' markets. The local farmers' markets of Rowhedge, Alresford and Wivenhoe are excellent promoters of local foods and continue to grow with local support. The farm butchers shop employs local staff and are proud of a young apprentice Alex Souch who has just passed his NVQ in Butchery at the age of 17 with Meat Ipswich. It is a village resource that is a centre of the community promoting and sponsoring village events.



Now in its incredible 18th year, British Sausage Week aims to highlight, via its national competition, the sheer range and quality of sausages being produced today and, this year, British Sausage Week is encouraging people to 'go gourmet' with their bangers and create some delicious recipes using quality British sausages enhanced by contemporary ingredients to revamp the great British banger for 2015.

Robert Moss can be contacted on 01206 230454 or 07860774729. The Primrose Pork web-site is [Primrosepork.co.uk](http://Primrosepork.co.uk) and Facebook: Primrose Pork



## Cricket Club

### 100 Club Winners

#### October

1st. Jack Allam  
2nd. Mr. John Boulton  
3rd. Miss Lucy Baines

Gt. Bromley cricket club would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

## COFFEE BREAK NUTRITION

As a resident of Great Bromley for the past 38 years and a nutritionist, I have decided to spread a little bit of my nutritional wisdom via the Bromley Messenger. With Christmas just on our doorstep, it's time to give a little thought to the food we are going to eat this Christmas. There is so much information out there telling us what is good for us one week only to be contradicted by headlines in the papers the next.

As a nutritionist I closely follow many of the latest research articles as well as reports on TV, in newspapers and on the Internet and it isn't easy for everyone to understand what some of them mean. Who are we to believe?!

Well, it is actually quite simple. If we look back to our ancestors it isn't hard to see where we should be looking for the answers. Humans only started settling into communities some 10,000 years ago. This is an incredibly short time for us to adapt to this new way of life. Before that we were still living in caves, foraging, hunting and gathering. We still need the same nutrients and vitamins we had evolved with to thrive on. We have slowly got accustomed to some of the changes, but what has happened, especially to our food production in the past 70 years or so, no one could predict. Our food has been highly processed, refined and modified and this is one of the reasons we are seeing so many problems emerging from obesity, diabetes, dementia, cancer, as well as autism in children, hyperactivity like ADHD, to name but a few. The NHS is buckling under the strain, so what should we do?

Simply put, EAT REAL FOOD! Food that is grown and raised locally, ideally organic. Look for grass-fed beef, outdoor reared pigs, line caught fish or locally grown vegetables, fruit or eggs sold on the roadside. Go to the local Farmer's Markets

in this area, there are many smallholdings in nearby villages where you can buy fruit or vegetables in season, or a health food shop for seeds, nuts and wholefoods. So there is no excuse not to eat loads of fresh local produce. Ready meals may be convenient but they are relatively more expensive than real food and much more processed!

So just to wrap up my rant for this Christmas issue, make sure you know where your food comes from this Christmas. Get a farm fresh turkey, plenty of sprouts, broccoli and carrots. Make a stew from the turkey bones adding a teaspoon or two of apple cider vinegar to draw out the beneficial nutrients from the bones, but, most importantly, try to cut down on sugar. You don't need refined sugar. There is plenty of natural sugar in fruit and vegetables. Something to think about when you have that extra-large slice of Christmas pudding followed by a mince pie with custard or cream and brandy butter and 2 glasses of wine. All sugar, alcohol, white flour, pasta, potatoes, sugary drinks are all carbohydrates and turn into glucose (sugar) in your body. What the body doesn't use for energy will get stored as fat. A complicated process but, in short - too many sugary foods are bad for you.

I don't want to be too much of a spoilt sport, so just enjoy your Christmas and eat real food in moderation. And maybe you won't even have to think about that traditional 'New Year's Resolution' in January! This should be the start of your new way of eating – always, for optimum health.

Have a great Christmas and I'll be back in February with a new article for you to 'chew' on! Happy New Year!

*Suzanne Abbott*

# GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

[www.gbpc.org.uk](http://www.gbpc.org.uk)

At the November Parish Council meeting it was noted that the War Memorial had been tidied up prior to the Remembrance Day Service and Cllr Rob Lord had placed the wreath at what was a fitting tribute.

There have been three applications for the Handyman contract and a decision will be made shortly.

There was some discussion around the lack of volunteers to participate in the proposed Village Fair/Fun Day 2016 and also attendance at litter picks and other village events. Councillors are very keen to engage with residents and build a strong community – which is in everyone’s interest - and if residents have ideas about how to do that then please send your comments to me or come along to the Parish Council meetings and share your views.

There is still a **vacancy for a Footpath Co-ordinator** – please contact me if you are interested in helping out.

There is a concern with children crossing the road from the school into Church Meadow and Cllr Frostick is in discussion with various stakeholders to decide on the most appropriate way forward. If you have any views then please let me know.

The Closed Churchyard has been neglected for some years and Councillors agreed that measures will be put in place to tidy up the area.

Councillors discussed at length the applications for Section 137 grants and those successful applicants have been notified with cheques being presented at the December Parish Council meeting on 9th December at 7pm.

Finally, the second phase of the Hare Green renovation is taking place week commencing 9th November with installation of the play equipment which, by the time of reading should be completely

installed and in use.

It just remains for me to wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and a very Happy 2016 on behalf of the Parish Council.

*Karen Tarling*

*Clerk to Great Bromley Parish Council*

## LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

### **Vacancy - Parish Clerk**

Due to a recent resignation, we have a vacancy on Lt Bromley Parish Council and in the first instance, if anyone is interested, please email the Clerk at [littlebromleypc@gmail.com](mailto:littlebromleypc@gmail.com)

# 2015 EVENTS

## DECEMBER

- 2 WI Christmas party, Village Hall, 7.30pm  
5 Amenities Group Children's Christmas Party, The Haywain, 2.00pm  
6 Christingle Messy Church, Ardleigh church, 3.00pm  
9 Gt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.00pm  
12 Christmas Fayre, Village Hall, 10.00am  
17 Lt Bromley Parish council meeting, The Haywain, 7.30pm  
19 Amenities Group Christmas Dinner, The Haywain  
23 Carols by candlelight, Lt Bromley church, 6.30pm  
24 Crib service, St George's church, 5.00pm  
The Bromley Cross Pop Up Pub, Village Hall, 8.00pm  
Midnight Mass, St George's church, 11.30pm  
31 New Year's Eve Ball, Village Hall



## 2016

### JANUARY

- 6 WI meeting - Birds & Butterflies, Village Hall, 7.30pm  
18 Amenities Group meeting, The Haywain, 7.00pm  
21 WEA course - Local History, Buildings & Landscape, Village Hall, 2.00pm  
Friendship Club meeting, Village Hall, 2.00pm  
30 Alternative Quiz, Village Hall, 7.00pm



### APRIL

- 10 Sponsored run/walk in aid of painting St Mary's Lt Bromley fence

### Save The Bromley Cross Pop Up Pub

Christmas Eve  
(24th December!)  
at Great Bromley  
Village Hall  
8.00 till 11.00pm



### Dates for your 2016 Diary?



Do send in any dates  
you may have for  
future events in the  
village to avoid any  
duplication of dates.

Lt Bromley Amenities Group

5th December  
The Haywain  
2.00-4.00pm

### Children's Christmas Party

19th December

**Amenities Group Christmas Dinner**  
The Haywain

18th January

**Amenities Group Meeting**  
The Haywain at 7.00pm

**Childrens Christmas Party**  
**Saturday 5th December**  
**2-4pm at The Haywain**  
**Tickets £3pp**

Food  
 Music  
 Santa  
 Games  
 Face Painting

Tickets available at The Haywain or ring for more info.

Light Broomley Ardenians Group

**Alternative Quiz**  
 Saturday 30th January  
 7-10pm

Great Bromley Village Hall  
 Teams of 8 (no more please)  
 £3 per head  
 Bring your own drinks and nibbles  
 Raffle

Please book your table with Kate on  
 07592735600

WEA Ardeigh Branch  
 (now meeting at Gt Bromley Village Hall)

**Local History, Buildings and Landscape**

Tutor: Patrick Denney  
 Meetings Commence  
 Thursday, 21st January 2016  
 2.00 - 4.00 p.m. Fee £48

A Seven Week Course

This course will introduce students to the way in which many of our villages have evolved over the years and how such issues as parliamentary enclosure and the formation of country parks have impacted on the landscape.

Further information form  
 John Terry (Chairman Ardeigh Branch)  
[john@terrays.org.uk](mailto:john@terrays.org.uk) or 01206230490  
 or  
 Jill Frostick (Secretary Ardeigh Branch)  
[jill@frostick.net](mailto:jill@frostick.net) or 01206263

All proceeds to the Children's Society  
 Donations of £1.00 per child  
 (Accompanying adults free)

**Messy Christingle!**

Food  
 Craft

Come and have some family time,  
 some messy Fun and a light tea  
 on  
**Sunday 6th December**  
 Registration at **3.00pm - 5.30pm**  
 At **St. Mary's Church, Ardeigh**

**All Welcome!**  
 For more information please contact:  
 Carol Cordwell: 01206 395103  
 United Benefice of Ardeigh and the Bromley's

**Great Bromley Christmas Fayre**  
 10am to 1pm  
 Saturday 12th December  
 Gt Bromley Village Hall

Come and listen to the Children's Christmas Choir

We have lots going on including:

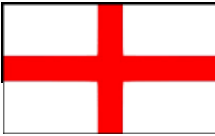
- \*\*\* Grand Christmas Draw \*\*\*
- \*\*\* tombola \*\*\* slot car racing \*\*\*
- \*\*\* Kids craft \*\*\*
- \*\*\* Cakes & produce \*\*\*
- \*\*\* Children's competitions \*\*\*
- \*\*\* Christmas wreaths and decorations \*\*\*
- \*\*\* stocking fillers and gifts \*\*\*
- \*\*\* books \*\*\*
- \*\*\* Selection of Children's Games \*\*\*
- \*\*\* Jewellery and crafts \*\*\*
- and much more

We will also be serving drinks and refreshments for all ages  
 All Proceeds to Village Hall and St George's Church funds

## Albert Payne K.I.A. 7th December 1915

Unfortunately we don't know much about "A Payne" on the Little Bromley memorial. The Commonwealth War Graves Commission records shows us an Albert Payne, son of Robert and Nora Payne, of Little Bromley, who was in the 10th Battalion Hampshire Regiment, Private No 16508 (formerly No 54481 in the Royal Garrison Artillery). He was killed in action aged 27 and is commemorated on the Doiran Memorial in Greece.

The regiment number leads us to his medal and personal effects records, but as yet we have not been able to tie him or his parents down to Little Bromley. There were several Payne families, and still a Paynes Lane in the village, and we hope some more information will turn up at some stage. If you know anything about this family, please contact me. Hugh Frostick 07722 253962 [hugh@greatbromley.org.uk](mailto:hugh@greatbromley.org.uk)



## SAVE THE BROMLEY CROSS

Save The Bromley Cross wants to thank

everyone who came to our 1st Pop Up Pub, on Saturday 14th November. We had over 60 "customers" in the pub, which until a few hours before had been Linda and Steve Pinhey's cart lodge. It was an amazing transformation, not just because it looked like a pub, but more because it had the community spirit of a village pub, something we're trying to save at the Bromley Cross end of the village. I'm sure everyone had a great night and I've heard nothing but positive feedback. Thanks to our hosts and all the volunteers and a special thank you to Linda and Phil Reeve for their donation of the super Sticklegs bitters. We made over £400 profit which will go towards our funds to save the Cross Inn, and hopefully bring it into community ownership.

The latest news is that the Asset of Community Value moratorium on the sale of the Cross Inn has ended and the pub can now be sold on the open market - prior to this it could only be sold to community groups like ours. We've been told that there have been no offers for the full asking price of £395,000 but are waiting to hear whether any of the offers have been accepted. If not then the group will be launching our share prospectus to raise the

funds to make another bid, assuming we can agree a fair price.

In the meantime, in any of you are at a loose end on Christmas Eve, then we'd love to see you at our next Pop Up Pub. We'll have a licensed bar in the small hall at Great Bromley Village Hall, with more great local Sticklegs bitter, from 8 o'clock till 11. Thanks for all you support so far and we hope to see you there.

*Jim Craddock, Secretary, Save The Bromley Cross*

# DISTRICT COUNCILLOR NEWS

## October/November 2015.

The Local Plan Committee have agreed the number of houses for Tendring should be no more than 10,000 . It appears the committee, which is made up of different political parties, has agreed to work together to try to justify the reduction in the number of houses. There are large numbers of speculative new housing applications coming before the council, therefore, it is important the new Local Plan is agreed as soon as possible. Parish councils affected by the Central Tendring Village proposal are all working together to object to this scheme-- submissions are now closed. It appears at the last Local Plan committee that Central Tendring Village is the least favoured amongst the options.

Developers responsible for new housing at Meadow Close in Elmstead have been granted more time to agree to the conditions imposed by TDC when granting planning permission.

Next meeting of TDC full council is on Tuesday 24th November.

TDC Chairman's Charity Quiz will this year be held at Clacton Town Hall on Friday 4th December 7.30 for 8pm start. Teams of 4 to 6 --£3.50 each person, everybody is welcome.

On a Civic note, Jenny & I have had a busy two months--- on 16th September attended the Epping Chairman's civic lunch, ---18th September Rochford Chairman's tour of Foulness Island,-- 20th September hosted my own Civic Service at St George's Church which was attended by over 160 people,--- 23rd September attended Colne School, Brightlingsea Awards evening,-- 24th September visited Teen Talk Harwich Open Day, --27th September attended Pearly King & Queens Harvest Festival at Guildhall Yard, London. --1st October supported Harwich Mayflower Project by attending charity event "An Evening with Boycie" at the Electric Palace, Harwich.---

15th October I hosted my Civic Lunch in Harwich in aid of the Mayflower [project at](#) the Harwich & Dovercourt sailing club barge. 16th October I opened the new Sainsbury local store in Clacton, 19th I attended the charity Open Road in Colchester. 22nd Jenny & I attended Jack Petchey Girl Guide awards, 24th we helped to launch this year's Poppy Appeal with members of the British Legion. 3rd November I presented awards at the Tendring Sports Personality evening, 6th November we attended the unveiling of a memorial to Ian Dibell, the police officer who was shot and killed in Clacton. The prime Minister David Cameron was present along with various distinguished guests. The same evening I attended the Tendring Voluntary Services dinner, 8th November I attended Remembrance Day service at Clacton War Memorial, attended by an estimated 3,000 people. 10th I chaired the local Community Initiatives Panel, that gives grants to voluntary organisations in Tendring, 11th we attended the Armistice Day Service in Clacton. On 12th November I opened this year's Men's Health Day in Clacton and in the afternoon we attended Thurrock Chairman's afternoon tea. On 14th we opened the Victorian Market in Clacton Town Hall. On 15th we attended Romford Mayors Charity evening

*Fred Nicholls*

[Phew! - Ed.]

# THE DOCTORS' SURGERY NEWS

## Great Bentley Surgery



**Merry  
Christmas  
to all of  
our  
patients.**



Most of us are lucky enough to spend time over the holidays with our families in a comfortable and safe environment. However for thousands of people, this year will be very different for them.

Thousands of refugees are arriving on the Greek island of Lesbos from Syria fleeing a very dangerous war. They are arriving after surviving a perilous journey across the Mediterranean in boats unfit to transport people safely in these numbers. As a result babies, young children and adults are dying with many suffering from illness or at risk of becoming very ill due to lack of medical facilities. Greece is not equipped to deal with this massive influx and many charities including Mercy Worldwide Trust are helping. Our senior partner, Dr Bhatti, our practice nurse, Bonnie Beard, and our recently qualified registrar GP, Dr Bowry, will be travelling over to help these vulnerable people at the end of November.

They will be providing medical care for extremely vulnerable people in a desperate situation. This newsletter is published the day after they get back and I'm sure they will have both harrowing and uplifting stories to tell. All of us are incredibly proud to support them 100% as I'm sure all of our patients do too. Even though not all of us have the same skills to help in the same way, we can still help by making a donation to Mercy Worldwide Trust using the link below. You can also select the designated fund to help Syrian Refugees:

<http://www.mwtrust.com/donate/>

Give a Christmas gift knowing this will make a massive difference to ordinary

people just like us who really need our help right now. Thanks.

*Richard P Miller, Practice Manager*

**Winter is here, please use the NHS wisely:**

**A&E** – Please remember that A&E is for **emergencies only**.

Before going to A&E please consider if another service might be better.



**Minor Injuries Unit in Clacton**

This service is to help with minor accidents, like wounds, sprains, strains, minor dislocations, suspected fractures, removal of foreign bodies, burns, scalds, bites and stings. This is not exhaustive but gives you an idea of what NOT to attend A&E for.

**Colchester Walk in Centre**

This service can be used for the same things as the minor injuries unit in Clacton (and now have x-ray facilities over the winter), but also minor ailments such as rashes & minor skin infections, ear & throat infections and coughs and colds.

**NHS 111**

This service can be used 24 hours a day, 365 days a year and can provide telephone advice out of hours when we are not available. They can also advise you of the best place to go if you do need to see someone face to face. There is already access to a GP 24/7 if you need it unlike the Government claims!

**Community Pharmacies**

Most people are not aware, but your local pharmacy can provide a wide range of help and advice. They offer advice on common problems such as coughs, colds, aches and pains, as well as healthy eating and stopping smoking. They can also help you decide whether you really need to see a doctor.



# THE DOCTORS' SURGERY NEWS

## Ardleigh Surgery

Everybody wants to be well for Christmas, but I am sure you can remember at least one Christmas that you spent in bed with a cold or flu. There is so much pressure now to have the 'perfect' day, but sometimes our bodies do not co-operate, and we are left facing a number of guests feeling less than our best. I can certainly remember spending one Christmas morning when my children were little, at the local Out of Hours GP service with a very poorly child.

Short of moving Christmas to the summer months, there will always be coughs, colds, flu and tummy bugs circulating around Christmas. The more families are together indoors, the more the likelihood of sharing these infections. So what can you do to protect yourself?

- ◆ If you are entitled to an NHS flu vaccination, make sure that you visit your surgery and have this done. If you are not entitled, but would like to have a vaccination, a lot of the supermarkets and larger pharmacies are offering private vaccinations at around £8. This year we are again vaccinating young children with the nasal flu vaccination and if your child has been invited, please contact the surgery to have this done. This vaccination not only protects your child, but older people with whom they may come into contact.
- ◆ Other vaccinations are routinely offered to promote good health in the older age groups – there is a vaccination to help prevent pneumonia available for the over 65s and those under 65 with chronic diseases. Unlike the flu jab, this is a one off vaccination. Shingles, as anyone who has had it will know, is a painful condition and a vaccine has been developed to protect against it. This year, this is being given to those born between 2.9.1942 and 1.9.1945 and also those born between 2.9.1935 and 1.9.1937. Please contact the surgery for any further information on these vaccines or to book an appointment.
- ◆ Keeping yourself in tip top condition is obviously important. There is little time now to lose weight or stop smoking before Christmas, but exercise is important and a daily walk in the fresh air does wonders both for morale and fitness. Losing weight or stopping smoking can be one of your new year's resolutions, and the surgery is able to help with both.

- ◆ If you are on medication, make sure that you take your medication regularly and ensure that you have enough medication to see you through the Christmas and New Year period. Whilst you are going through your medicine cabinet, make sure that you also have a supply of 'homely' remedies – that is to say medicines that you can buy over the counter, like paracetamol, ibuprofen or indigestion medication.
- ◆ To avoid food poisoning, store all food correctly and cook thoroughly. To avoid the spread of illnesses, make sure children (as I am assuming adults are good at this!), use tissues and dispose of them hygienically. Good hand washing never goes amiss, but is particularly important to stop the spread of illnesses such as diarrhoea and vomiting.
- ◆ Most importantly remember that although we may be shut, you are not on your own if you need advice. If you have a computer NHS Choices website has lots of advice on how to treat various symptoms and if you dial 111 from your phone (which is a free call) you will be able to get advice from a clinician. The 111 service can also arrange for you to have an appointment with an out of hours doctor if they feel that is appropriate.
- ◆ Obviously the emergency services and the Accident & Emergency Department at Colchester and Ipswich Hospitals remain open throughout the holiday. Please use these services sensibly and for life threatening conditions only.

I really hope that you have a wonderful and above all healthy Christmas.

Ardleigh Surgery will be closed from Christmas Day and will reopen on Tuesday 29th December. On behalf of every one at the surgery, I would like to wish all our patients a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

*Stephanie Durrant, Practice Manager*





## Volunteers

At St Helena Hospice we are always looking for new volunteers to join our team and we are currently looking for the following volunteers:

**Online Assistants** - Do you have experience in researching products, photographing and listing them on Ebay or Amazon?

We are currently looking for enthusiastic volunteers to join our online team at the Angora Donation Centre, selling, packaging, dispatching and filling in relevant paperwork. If you have specialist knowledge or interest in stamps, coins, jewellery, fashion, pictures, Warhammer or Pokémon cards we would also like to hear from you.

**Customer Service Assistants** - Do you have experience working in a customer focused role? Our team of customer service assistants at the Angora Donation Centre is looking for new members to join them. You will be required to greet members of the public bringing in donations, promote gift aid and process the necessary paperwork.

**Retail Assistants** - Have you previously worked in retail or would you like some retail experience?

The furniture shop at Angora Business Park, Stanway, is currently looking for motivated volunteers to work as part of the busy team. You will be assisting the shop manager to maximise income from the sale of donated goods, lifting and moving items of furniture for customers and around the shop. Good communication skills are essential.

**Hairdresser** - Our Tending Centre is looking for volunteer hairdressers to work once a fortnight on a Tuesday, 10.30am to 12.30pm. It's important for people to feel positive about

themselves no matter how poorly they may be feeling; giving men and women a haircut can be that real confidence boost they need to feel good!

All the roles listed above have various hours and days available to fit around you. Please apply via our website [sthelenahospice.org.uk/volunteer](http://sthelenahospice.org.uk/volunteer), by emailing [volunteer@sthelenahospice.org.uk](mailto:volunteer@sthelenahospice.org.uk) or by ringing 01206 931466 and speaking to our volunteer team.

## St Helena Hospice Christmas Tree-Cycle 2016

St Helena Hospice is very pleased to be partnering with Colchester Borough Council and JustHelping for a second year to offer its Christmas Tree-Cycle.

On 9th and 10th January 2016, St Helena Hospice will be out with a team of volunteers collecting your Christmas Trees to be recycled. To take advantage of this service you need to register online and make a suggested minimum donation of £5. The more that you can give, the more you are helping to support patients and their families in your local area when they need it most.

The hospice is asking for people to think of those in their local community dealing with life-limiting illnesses at this time of year. Christmas Tree-Cycle is a practical way for local people to help the hospice continue to provide support to families and patients when they need it most.

To see a full list of postcodes that will be covered and to book a collection slot, please visit the hospice website at [sthelenahospice.org.uk/treecollect16](http://sthelenahospice.org.uk/treecollect16)

## ANDREW JOHN STENNETT 1959-2015



Our Dearest Brother came into our lives, a beautiful little boy, when Penny was 8 and I was 6. He was welcomed by our parents and grandparents as the first son in the larger farming family after many girls.

Andrew couldn't talk

to us in our language, he couldn't walk or do much for himself although he did learn to do many things. He could move around on his bottom, he learnt to go backwards upstairs, he could pick the spoon to feed himself and learnt to help in many ways - swivelling his bottom into the car or lifting his legs over and into the bath - but we all learnt to watch, look and listen, to interpret his needs and look after him; every little sound meant something.

Andrew so loved all music, especially classical. He loved people singing to him, reading him stories - at times we were quite sure he was telling us a story or singing us a song too. He had a great sense of humour, we never knew what the joke was but it was very infectious! He never cried but when emotion got the better of him he would laugh and laugh until, if he could, he would have cried. When he had missed his parents or others and they arrived back in his life, he showed it by laughing. So many children like Andrew only like soft toys. He had a large collection of dolls, flung around by their legs and arms, and at the end of the day a favourite would be found in the pile on his bed just before he went off to sleep.

He didn't like being held or restrained but sometimes I just had to hug him, he would push me off and I would let him go after giving him a kiss. Then I might get the smallest half smile. So little meant so much. People underestimate what goes on inside people who can't express themselves like the rest of us can. But they need love too, they just can't show you or ask for it, or indeed give it. We just have to go and get it.

Andrew was always the centre of our home life, quite literally as his favourite place was on the floor in the middle of the hallway, the centre of the house, where he could hear everything that was going on and any passersby could talk to him. He had wonderful holidays with his family

in Devon and then Cornwall, spring and autumn, for probably 30 years. He has been on beaches, been taken on windy walks, eaten fresh crab and clotted cream teas. Later, with his carers, he even went boating on Lake Windermere and took cruises to exotic places like Venice.

Andrew couldn't have come to more loving, caring, selfless and devoted parents. From the very first they demonstrated how special Andrew was, that he was a valued human being and just as much a part of our family as the rest of us. And we mustn't forget our beloved Mabel who, for nearly 50 years, helped in the house and who loved Andrew and looked after him so well.

Andrew went into 24-hour care in his mid-teens, starting with Turner Village. After that closed down he was lucky enough to move into Church Farm in Colchester with 5 other residents. Until our parents' death he came home every weekend, a measure of their love. Andrew was so lucky to be in a place with a succession of the most wonderful carers, who have been Andrew's other family. They have looked after him, loved him, and entertained him. They understood him, nursed him, and created a warm friendly caring home from home - and finally they did their best to save him but it was his time to go. It is not an easy job, with unsociable hours away from their own families, but they are always cheery, helpful and dedicated to their charges. We love them for that, as he did, and we can't thank them enough. For Andrew, even as he was, he had a life both safe, secure and of good quality.

Andrew has always been our Peter Pan, and was treasured by us all. We feel very blessed to have had such a brother, he has taught us so much about the important things in life and has given us, some would say so little, but we say, so much love. God Rest his precious soul.

*Sarah Stennett*



# THE GREAT ESCAPE AT MESSY CHURCH

On Monday 26th October at Great Bromley Village Hall we held our Messy Church session. The Great Escape retold the story of Moses who parted the Red Sea for the Israelites to help them escape from the Egyptians.

As the doors opened we were pleased to welcome 47 children and their families who joined us for the morning.

After a drink and biscuit followed by our opening story, the children went off to make some crafts. Filling suitcases, painting sea pictures and parting the Red Sea all took place. They also made some very decorative slippers and some lovely houses

with the junk modelling.

This was followed by a song and chat session before they all went into the hall to play a game. Afterwards they all sat down to enjoy some chips and food before going home.

We would like to thank all those who came and all of our lovely helpers who did such a great job throughout the busy morning.

Our next session is our Messy Christingle on Sunday 6th December between 3pm and 5.30pm at St. Mary's Church, Ardleigh. Please come and join us.

*Carol Cordwell*

## ARDLEIGH and THE BROMLEYS CHURCH OF ENGLAND

### **Christingle Messy Church**

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December in Ardleigh Church followed by Evensong Great Bromley with Bishop Roger

### **Ardleigh & The Bromleys**

O Holy Night - Christmas carols, readings, and refreshments

6.30pm Sunday 20th December

St Mary's Church, Ardleigh

Admission free

### **Friends of Little Bromley Church**

Carols by Candlelight

6.30pm Wednesday 23rd December

All welcome

Collection for The Churches Conservation Trust

### **Crib service**

24<sup>th</sup> December in Great Bromley Church  
5pm

St George's is once again the venue for **Midnight Service 2015**

Please join in this year, all are welcome – it is always a very special service with candles and festive decorations – you are welcome to come and decorate the tree or help with decorations in the Church



### **J.A.M. DROP-IN**

Every Friday in St George's church \*

Term time only

Parents & children welcome

All are welcome \* 3pm to 3.45pm \*

Refreshments, activities

### **Church Lunch**

2nd December at 12 noon

St George's Church

**Everybody is welcome**

Come for a chat, support, bring a friend

# CHURCH JOTTINGS

## **Advent Service, December 6th with the Bishop of Colchester**

On 6th December there will be a special service at 6.30pm followed by refreshments. Do join us for this service of music, prayer, and reflection as we look forward to celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ. Our choir will be singing some special pieces and we will have contributions from Laura Garnham (Lay Reader, Wrabness) and Bishop Roger. If you are not a regular churchgoer this a good service to try! If you would like a lift to this or to the Christmas services (details on the church services page) please contact one of the churchwardens.

## **St George's Church Repair Fund Update Project to repair the south porch**

You may have read in the local newspaper earlier this year that the porch of St George's has been placed on the 'Heritage at Risk' register. In 2013 we applied for a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund and we have been successful. The remaining funding was secured in 2014 with a grant of £5000 from Friends of Essex Churches, and donations totalling £2750 from members of the Stone family in the USA. All the funding has come from grants and donations and we are very grateful to them.

Here is the official announcement made in November: "St George's Church, Great Bromley has received a confirmed grant of £50,700 from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) for stone and flint flushwork repairs to the 15th Century south porch.

The porch of St George's church is on the 'Heritage at Risk' register and this project will enable structural repairs to the porch stone work, flint work, and roof. There will also be improvements to lighting in the porch and entrance area. The works are taking place during October-December 2015.

The porch was built about 1450-1500 and is a fine example of the East Anglian technique of 'flint flushwork' where the surface of the building uses flint in

decorative patterns on the stonework.

St George's has been a focal point of the local community for over 1000 years. As well as church services the building hosts school events, community lunches and concerts, and is open every day to visitors. As part of the project there will be community and educational outreach events and new guidebook materials will be created over the next few months."

Commenting on the award, Gregory Frostick, Churchwarden, said: "The HLF grant is great news for our local heritage. It allows us to repair Great Bromley's wonderful church for the enjoyment and inspiration of future generations".

**Ride and Stride** raises £451 for St George's Church Repair Fund. The Friends of Essex Churches Trust organises the sponsored 'Ride and Stride' every year and on September 12th three supporters of St George's did a 15 miles 'stride' from Ardleigh to Beaumont. It rained briefly at Ardleigh and then the sun shone for the rest of the day. The section between Balls Green and Beaumont was nearly all on footpaths and makes a lovely walk. Thanks to generous sponsorship from Bromleys residents and others we raised £902 for the Trust of which half comes back directly to St George's Repair Fund.

## **Church life and Reorganisation of Harwich Deanery**

We have been without a Rector for nearly three years and the parish is in 'suspension' which means a priest cannot be appointed until the reorganisation is carried out. The number of stipendiary priests will be reduced to six in Harwich deanery (the area covering the northern half of Tendring district), and The Bromleys and Ardleigh will have to share with other parishes. We expect this to be decided in November/December, but it will still take some time before a new priest is appointed. Meanwhile we thank all the priests who are volunteering to help us and especially Richard Allen who sadly is unable to continue due to ill health.

*Gregory Frostick, Churchwarden*

# ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR, GREAT BROMLEY



## ARDLEIGH and THE BROMLEYS CHURCH OF ENGLAND

### Church of England Services

#### DECEMBER

|                      |                                      |                               |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>Sunday 6th</b>    | <b>2nd Sunday of Advent</b>          |                               |
| 8.00am               | Eucharist                            | <i>St. George the Martyr</i>  |
| 10.30am              | Parish Eucharist                     | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>    |
| 3-5.30pm             | Messy church                         | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>    |
| 6.30pm               | Evensong<br><i>with Bishop Roger</i> | <i>St. George the Martyr</i>  |
| <b>Sunday 13th</b>   | <b>3rd Sunday of Advent</b>          |                               |
| 8.00am               | Eucharist                            | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>    |
| 10.30am              | Parish Eucharist                     | <i>St. George the Martyr</i>  |
| <b>Sunday 20th</b>   | <b>4th Sunday of Advent</b>          |                               |
| 8.00am               | Eucharist                            | <i>St. George the Martyr</i>  |
| 10.30am              | Parish Eucharist                     | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>    |
| 6.30pm               | Readings & Carols                    | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>    |
| <b>Wed 23rd</b>      | Readings & Carols                    | <i>St. Mary's, Lt Bromley</i> |
| <b>Thursday 24th</b> | <b>Christmas Eve</b>                 |                               |
| 4.00pm               | Crib Service                         | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>    |
| 5.30pm               | Crib Service                         | <i>St. George the Martyr</i>  |
| 11.30pm              | Midnight Mass                        | <i>St. George the Martyr</i>  |
| <b>Friday 25th</b>   | <b>Christmas Day</b>                 |                               |
| 10.30am              | Christmas Morning Eucharist          | <i>St Marys, Ardleigh</i>     |
| <b>Sunday 27th</b>   | <b>1st Sunday of Christmas</b>       |                               |
| 8.00am               | Eucharist                            | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>    |
| 10.30am              | Parish Eucharist                     | <i>St. George the Martyr</i>  |

#### JANUARY

|                    |  |                              |
|--------------------|--|------------------------------|
| <b>Sunday 3rd</b>  | <b>2nd Sunday of Christmas/The Epiphany</b>  |                              |
| 8.00am             | Eucharist  | <i>St. George the Martyr</i> |
| 10.30am            | Parish Eucharist   | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>   |
| 6.30pm             | Evensong   | <i>St. George the Martyr</i> |
| <b>Sunday 10th</b> | <b>The Baptism of Christ</b>   |                              |
| 8.00am             | Eucharist  | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>   |
| 10.30am            | Parish Eucharist   | <i>St. George the Martyr</i> |
| <b>Sunday 17th</b> | <b>2nd Sunday of Epiphany</b>  |                              |
| 8.00am             | Eucharist  | <i>St. George the Martyr</i> |
| 10.30am            | Parish Eucharist   | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>   |
|                    | <i>with Holy Baptism</i>   |                              |
| <b>Sunday 24th</b> | <b>3rd Sunday of Epiphany</b>  |                              |
| 8.00am             | Eucharist  | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>   |
| 10.30am            | Parish Eucharist   | <i>St. George the Martyr</i> |
| <b>Sunday 27th</b> | <b>4th Sunday of Epiphany/Presentation of Christ in the Temple<br/>(Candlemas)</b> |                              |
| 8.00am             | Eucharist  | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>   |
| 10.30am            | Parish Eucharist   | <i>St. George the Martyr</i> |