

THE BROMLEY MESSENGER

AUGUST 2016

Volume 31 No 5



St George's School celebrates completion of Heritage Lottery Fund funded repairs to the porch at St George's Church.

THE FIRST PAGE

From floods last month to a heatwave this one! I wonder what August will bring? It is 28°C outside as I write but, and please don't think I am grumbling because I am not as I was fed up with the chilly evenings, the wind and the rain, the temperature is too hot for me!

Just two weeks ago I went on a trip to the Somme. I had been lucky enough to get tickets for the centenary service at Thiepval for 1st July. It was an early start (3.15am!) in order to get through the strict security in place and to seat the 10,000 people attending the service. The service itself was sensitive and thoughtful and I am glad that I was there. During one of the readings at a meaningful place in the wording the heavens opened upon us and although we became very wet it was somehow appropriate and in keeping with what all those men went through in their time. I had gone out to visit, with my brother, my great uncle who died on the first day and who lies in one of those cemeteries where the men were buried where they fell. It is a peaceful spot in a beautiful valley wonderfully looked after by the War Graves Commission.. On the days either side of the Thiepval event we were taken round the battlefields, the cemeteries, the craters and we heard the stories. The landscape stretches out before one, now covered in crops of varying kinds, but it is

also somehow so easy to visualise the noise, the mud and the confusion of that period. My great uncle has a grave which we can visit, as can relatives of John Bourne (p.23) who died in the August, but Charles Lucas about whom Hugh has written on page 23 was not so lucky. He was never found but his name is remembered on one of the pillars at Thiepval. The Memorial is awe inspiring and can be seen for miles around containing as it does all the thousands of names of those men whose bodies were not found. I came home from this trip with my shoes and clothes clattered with the Somme



slippery mud. It rained a good deal and we were grateful for those moments when the sun shone, albeit briefly, warming and lighting up the land around us.

15th July, St Swithin's Day, this year was warm and dry so the weather should hold for the 40 days following. Let us hope that it does for the farmers to bring in their hay and harvest their crops and for families to enjoy their holidays before Autumn is once more upon us.

Have a very happy summer.
Leonie

MATERIAL for the **SEPTEMBER** edition of 'The Bromley Messenger' should reach the Editor, Leonie Henderson, by **14th AUGUST 2016** please.

Contributions from anonymous sources will not be printed. Whilst the editor welcomes contributions, photographs etc this is on the understanding that there is no obligation to publish, that the item may be edited and that there is no breach of copyright. Publication is in good faith and neither the editor nor the publisher accept any liability in respect of the content of any article, photo or advertisement, including any error or omission, responsibility for which remains with the author.

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GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

www.gbpc.org.uk

Clerk: Lizzie Ridout Email: clerk@greatbromley.org.uk

The meeting held on 12 July was attended by nine residents who shared their concerns and frustrations over the recent flooding experienced by many in the village. The general feeling is that some ditches are not being maintained regularly and causing significant problems across the village. Therefore, landowners and householders are reminded that it is their responsibility to keep ditches and drainage pipes on their land clear to facilitate the free movement of storm water.

The Council has also decided to organise a meeting where representatives from Essex County Council's Flood and Water Management Team, Highways Team, Anglian Water, TDC's Engineering Manager and the MP for Harwich & North Essex, Bernard Jenkin. We'll let you know when the meeting has been arranged so you are able to participate.

The meeting was also attended by Essex Police District Commander for Tendring, Russ Cole. He gave us an overview of current crime across Tendring and although there has been a small increase in crime, Tendring remains the best in relation to arresting people and bringing to justice. There are 10,000 crimes a year reported in Tendring, however Great Bromley remains one of the safest areas in Tendring.

The Tendring District Council Local Plan Consultation is now underway – details of the consultation are:-

- Monday 18 July 2016, 3pm-7.30pm:
Clacton Essex Hall, Town Hall, Station Road, Clacton, CO15 1SE
- Wednesday 20 July 2016, 3pm-8pm:
Baker Hall, Crossfield Way, Kirby Cross, Essex, CO13 0LL
- Wednesday 3 August 2016, 9.30am-1.30pm: Weeley Council Chamber, Council Offices, Weeley, CO16 9AJ
- Saturday 13 August 2016, 10.30am-2.30pm: Tendring Enterprise Studio

School, Jaywick Lane, Clacton-on-Sea, CO16 8BE

- Tuesday 16 August 2016, 3pm-7.30pm:
Dovercourt Central Church, Main Road, Dovercourt
- Friday 19 August 2016, 3pm-7.30pm:
Weeley Council Chamber, Council Office, Thorpe Road, Weeley, CO16 9AJ
- Monday 22 August 2016, 1.30pm-6.30pm: Venture Centre 2000, Bromley Road, Manningtree, CO11 2JE
- Tuesday 30 August 2016, 2.30pm-6.30pm: Elmstead Community Centre, School Road, Elmstead Market, CO7 7ET

Consultation materials and representation form can be downloaded from the Tendring District Council website and also available for viewing at:

- Local libraries
- Weeley Council offices during normal opening hours, and
- Clacton Town Hall.

Comments must be received through written representation and not by any other means including petitions and voice mail.

We end this edition with the extremely welcome news that we have been given a grant of £3383 by the Ardleigh Solar Farm Community Fund for the Village Pond Restoration Project, for which we are most grateful, along with £5817 for a solar powered speed sign and £800 for a Speedwatch device – absolutely marvellous news which will help tremendously in reducing the amount of speeding vehicles in the village.

Our Speedwatch scheme has restarted and spent the second week of July in the centre of the village and the fourth week in Hare Green.

*Lizzie Ridout
Parish Clerk, Great Bromley*

GT BROMLEY PLANNING APPLICATION

REFERENCE	LOCATION	PROPOSAL
16/00782/ OUT	Park 2 Land at Badley Hall Farm, Badley Hall Road, Great Bromley	Outline planning application with all matters reserved for the erection of 24 new dwellings, including affordable housing and the provision of additional church and school overflow parking within the new site for approximately 30 no. private cars.

LT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Email: littlebromleypc@gmail.com

The next meeting of Little Bromley Parish Council is on 18th August and will be held at the Great Bromley Village Hall at 7.30pm.

All welcome

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR NEWS

The new proposed Local Plan was open for public consultation on 14th July, the consultation period runs until 8th September. At the end of the public consultation period the plan will be submitted to a government inspector for public examination before TDC can adopt its own Local Plan.

At the public hearing chaired by the appointed government inspector representations can be made. Members of the public can challenge aspects of the plan, developers can also challenge the plan requesting their land be included. All residents are urged to make their own comments to TDC regarding the plan. *If you don't take part, please don't complain afterwards.*

As I stated in my last article the proposed consultation event for our ward is Tuesday 30th August at Elmstead Community Centre, School Road, Elmstead Market.

Comments can be made online or by writing in to TDC Planning at Weeley.

Flooding in the ward is still of great concern to many residents. I have written to the

Essex County Councillor, Councillor Eddie Johnson, for Highways requesting his department undertakes a full comprehensive survey of drains and ditches. It is however the responsibility of individual landowners, whether they are farmers or individuals to ensure all ditches on their land are kept clear to enable water to flow freely. I will be requesting Essex County Council to take enforcement action against any landowners who fail to do so.

There are also many concerns regarding speeding of vehicles through our ward. Heavy Goods Vehicles are blatantly ignoring weight restrictions on our roads. These matters have been reported to our head of police in Tendring, Chief Inspector Russ Cole. He has explained the amount of officers he has at his disposal is insufficient to deal with every complaint. However he will try to assist as and when he is able to have specialist traffic officers in our area.

Fred Nicholls

FLOOD RE

What is Flood Re?

Flood Re is a re-insurance scheme that has been set up by Government to help those households who live in a flood risk area find affordable home insurance.

Flood Re makes no difference to how you purchase your home insurance, whether that's through a price comparison site, directly from an insurer or through a broker – you just need to make sure that your chosen insurer is signed up to Flood Re. Once you have purchased your policy you will always deal with your own insurer even if you need to make a claim. You do not need to contact Flood Re directly.

How does Flood Re work?

- Flood Re collect an annual tax from every home insurance company in the UK
- That tax contributes £180m to a fund each year which is managed centrally
- Your insurer passes on the flood risk part of your policy to Flood Re, so you don't have to do a thing
- Flood Re then take responsibility for that part of your policy and if you make a valid claim on your insurance it will be reimbursed to the insurer from the central Flood Re fund.

With this support from them, insurers should be able to provide more competitive pricing on their policies. Over time, it is estimated that Flood Re will benefit over 350,000 households by having access to those more affordable policies.

Who is eligible?

If your home meets the following criteria then insurers participating in the Flood Re scheme should be able to offer you an affordable home insurance policy:

1. The insurance contract will be held in the name of, or on trust for, one or more individuals or by the personal representative of an individual;
2. The property has a domestic Council Tax band A to H (or equivalent);
3. The property is used for residential purposes;

4. The property has an individual premium;
 5. The holder of the policy, or that person's immediate family, lives in the dwelling for some or all of the time (whether or not with others) or the dwelling is unoccupied;
 6. The property was built before 1st January 2009 (and if a building is demolished, built before 1st January 2009, and rebuilt, the new property is still eligible); and
- If you are uncertain on whether you qualify for the Flood Re Scheme then you can contact your insurer.

What insurers are currently signed up?

The list is constantly growing and the most up to date information can be found on the Flood Re website (www.floodre.co.uk). The insurers currently participating in Flood Re are:

- Admiral
- AIG
- Allianz
- Avantia (HomeProtect)
- Aviva
- Axa
- Bank of Scotland
- British Gas
- Cherish Insurance Brokers
- Churchill
- Direct Line
- First Direct
- Halifax
- Haven
- Hiscox
- Legal & General
- Lloyd and Whyte
- HSBC
- Liverpool Victoria
- Lloyds Bank
- Marks and Spencer Bank
- More Than
- Nationwide
- Natwest
- NFU Mutual
- Oak Underwriting
- Ocaso
- Policy Expert
- Privilege
- Prudential
- RBS
- Sainsbury's Bank
- Santander Home Insurance
- Swiftcover

Little Dragons Pre-School - Great Bromley & Frating

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

Website: www.littledragonspreschool.org
Email: littledragonspreschool@gmail.com



OUTSTANDING OFSTED INSPECTED

BREAKFAST AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS- PLACES AVAILABLE

Tel: 01206 231823/ 07857 503103

If you require further information please call us on the numbers above or pop in to see us.

Fantastic news! We are delighted to confirm we have been successful in obtaining a grant of £9500 from the Ardleigh Solar Farm Community Benefit Fund.

This superb outcome will fund a shelter for our outdoor environment and a 'living willow' dome. These will bring opportunities for the children to experience the changing seasons with the freedom to explore using their senses. Being outdoors in all weathers has a positive impact on children's sense of well-being and helps all aspects of a child's development.

BABY DRAGONS

We are pleased to announce that 'Baby Dragons' - our Parent and Toddler group is running on Fridays at Little Dragons, Church Meadow Bungalow. The session will run from 9.15 am-10.30am, the price of £2.50 will include tea/coffee and children's snack. The group will run term time only, all welcome.

SUMMER HOLIDAY CLUB

We are running holiday clubs on the following days in the Summer Holidays:
Tuesday 26th and Wednesday 27th July
Tuesday 2nd and Wednesday 3rd August
Tuesday 9th and Wednesday 10th August
Tuesday 16th and Wednesday 17th August
The sessions will run from 8.30am – 4pm. Please contact us to book a place for your child.

FUNDRAISING

A very big thank you to everyone who supported our 'Summer Fayre' on 18th June. It was a great success, the weather

wasn't brilliant but at least it stayed dry! Lots of families came and enjoyed all the attractions and were also treated to a small performance of songs from the children. On Thursday 30th June we took part in the Barnardo's Toddle around the beautiful grounds of Leonard Cheshire Disability. This year the theme was animals and the staff and children looked great all dressed up. The weather was lovely and some of the residents cheered us on from their windows. A big thank you to all who took part and the money you raised.

PLEASE SAVE YOUR BISCUIT WRAPPERS AND 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

Dates for Diary:

Mon 5th September Autumn Term begins

PROPERTY LEVEL PROTECTION GRANT

Essex County Council has set aside funds for a Property Level Protection (PLP) grant to help homeowners affected by flooding. If you have been flooded internally from surface water, groundwater or ordinary watercourses you may be eligible for up to £5000 worth of Property Level Protection to reduce the risk of your property flooding in future rainfall events. The scheme includes a free property survey to determine the most appropriate products for you and consultation with our flood protection specialists.

The grant covers a variety of products such as flood doors, barriers, air brick covers and non-return valves, amongst many others.

You may also choose to use the grant to make modifications to your property to reduce the impact of flooding, such as raising the level of electrical sockets or replacing the flooring or skirting boards with flood resilient products. There are a wide range of options available to suit each individual property and resident and our flood protection specialists will be able to give you all the advice and information you need to make the decision on what products to choose.

To register your interest please visit www.essex.gov.uk/flooding and click on "Property Level Protection Grant" under the "Grants" subsection, or call 0844 798 1261.



St Helena Hospice
your time... your hospice
Registered Charity Number 28019

ST HELENA HOSPICE

Pedal for your local hospice!

Whether you are a long-distance cyclist or just enjoy a leisurely family bike ride, why not turn your pedal power into pounds by joining in one of St Helena Hospice's cycle events?

First up there is the London to Brighton 54 mile route on Sunday 11th September starting at Clapham Common and finishing on the iconic Brighton Pier. The ride is open to all cyclists from age 16 upwards and is perfect for aspiring or seasoned cyclists, or corporate teams.

London to Brighton is renowned for its amazing atmosphere and sense of fun. This cycle challenge is perfectly placed to offer small or large groups a great experience. Participants will come away with wonderful memories and a sense of achievement! To find out more about this challenge please visit www.sthelenahospice.org.uk/challenges

If London to Brighton isn't for you, then how about taking part in the annual St Helena

Hospice Cycle Ride on Sunday 2nd October? There is a route for every cyclist over the age of five, with 5, 24, 56 or 100 miles around beautiful countryside to choose from, all starting at Monks Farm in Dedham.

To take on the five mile challenge, registration costs £7.50 for under 16s and £12.50 for adults, and to register for the 24, 56, or 100 miles it costs £15 for under 16s and £25 for adults. Please visit www.sthelenahospice.org.uk/cyclerride16 to register online today.

Registration will be closing on Friday 30th September at 12pm and re-opens on the Sunday morning of the event when the cost to register for the 5 mile route will be £12.50 for under 16s and £17.50 for adults, and to register for the 24, 56 or 100 miles it costs £25 for under 16s and £35 for adults.

To talk to the St Helena Hospice events team about either of these cycling challenges, please call 01206 931468.



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

Telephone: 01206 230305

A very busy few weeks at St George's

We have welcomed Lisa from Essex Fire Service who led an assembly for pupils in Y2-6

about Summer Safety. The children all listened really carefully and learned some valuable tips about staying safe when they are out and about this summer.

We held our annual Helpers' Tea Party to thank all those volunteers who give their time to support the children, and staff, at St George's. In attendance were members of the PTA, the Governing Body and others who help out with school activities and after-school clubs on a regular basis. We really are very lucky to have such committed volunteers and appreciate the time they give and the contribution they make. The Year 3 and 4 children sang beautifully for our guests and the Year 6 pupils did a marvellous job preparing and serving afternoon tea, as well as performing a lovely 'Thank you' poem.

We were visited by the 'Night Owls' company. The children thoroughly enjoyed meeting Whisper, Dotty, Hattie, Chip, Murphy, Oscar and Tango the owls. As well as learning lots of interesting facts about the owls, we were treated to a flying display. A great experience!

Mrs Keitch



Sports Day

Despite a brief rain shower, we were able to go ahead with our Sports Day in the afternoon. The children did themselves proud and we had a great time cheering everyone on in the races. Thank you very much for attending and thanks to Mrs Fairley for organising the event and the parent volunteers for manning the finish line. Another victory for Scott – but a very close result this year!





VILLAGE HALL TRUSTEES

NOTIFICATION OF AN INCREASE IN VILLAGE HALL HIRE RATES – EFFECTIVE FROM 1st JANUARY 2017

Following a review by Village Hall Trustees of the current hire rates, which have been unchanged for the last 3 years, it has been decided to increase the rates slightly for all activities which take place after 1st January 2017. The charges agreed for occasional event bookings already made for 2017 and beyond will be honoured and the new rates will apply for all future 2017 bookings. The rates for regular bookings will automatically change as at 1st January and will be reflected in invoices issued at the end of this year.

The revised hire charges are listed below. All charges are on an hourly basis with the same charges applicable throughout the year; there will be no distinction between summer and winter hire. Depending on the length and type of hire, a set up and clear up time of up to half an hour may be allowed either side of the period booked at the discretion of the bookings secretary. However, heating will not be on during this time but experience has shown that the temperature will be adequate during the period half an hour prior to the booking commencing and the room will still be warm for at least half an hour after the session has finished. Set up and clear up periods in excess of half an hour must be negotiated with the bookings secretary and formally booked.

All booking charges include occasional use of the kitchen to produce hot drinks and light refreshments. If heavier use of the kitchen is required, including the oven, this must be declared at the time of booking to ensure that this is amenable to concurrent hirers of other rooms at the hall. If refreshments are to be served in the Small Hall, then that

room must also be included in the booking.

WiFi is available now to hirers for an additional charge of £1 per hour for the duration of the session booked. Although the 4G bandwidth available normally varies between an excellent 16-58 Mb/s depending on which room(s) have been hired, there is a data limit in place and the streaming of films and other data-hungry activities is not permitted. WiFi requirements should be specified at the time of booking.

Facility	Village Hirer Rate	External Hirer Rate
Main Hall	£15	£18
Millennium Lounge	£ 9	£11
Committee Room	£ 7	£ 8
Small Hall	£ 6	£ 7
Main Hall & Millennium Lounge together	£20	£25
Exclusive Use of Whole Hall	£27	£32

The Village Hall Trustees have not taken the decision to increase hire rates lightly but, as most hirers are aware, a major refurbishment programme is now well underway which includes refurbishment of the stage area and lighting/sound system, refurbishment of the main hall and small hall floors, internal redecoration, external redecoration, new car park lighting, improved internal lighting, the provision of new furniture and a central heating upgrade. Although grants have been received towards the cost of this, a significant amount of money from village hall reserves will also be spent which will need to be partially replenished by a small increase in the annual hire income received.

That said, the village hall currently is in good financial health and the trustees believe it will remain one of the community halls with the best facilities and most competitive hire

rates in the area. We hope you agree and look forward to welcoming you to our refurbished facility in 2017 by which time all improvement work should have been completed.

Should you wish to know exactly what the price increase will be for a regular booking or have any other queries on the contents of this letter, please contact Mary Fawcett

our bookings secretary in the first instance on 07957962788 or villagehallbookings@greatbromley.org.uk.

Martin Frostick
Secretary to the Great Bromley Village Hall
Charity Trustees

WEA

WEA Ardleigh Branch

now meeting in The Millennium Room
Great Bromley Village Hall
Autumn Term

FILMS and FAIRY TALES

Tutor: James CLARKE

This course will explore the longstanding relationship between cinema and the literary tradition of the fairy tale. It's a relationship that reaches back to early cinema. Over the past several years, fairy tale films have enjoyed huge success and it's a reminder of how longstanding the connection between film and fairytales has been over the decades.

Each week, we will focus on a specific fairy tale and its filmic interpretation. In doing this, we will consider the nature of adaptation, the role of the author in literature and in cinema and the particular creative achievement of each film and written text. The course will be underpinned by a range of reference to secondary reading (about fairy tale, cinema etc.) and each week, a handout will be provided that summarises a given session and which will indicate further reading and viewing to extend the content of the class. We will view excerpts from films produced in France, America and Britain .

Each class will centre around a lecture delivered by the tutor who likes to foster an atmosphere of open discussion within each session so that there is sufficient opportunity for students to ask questions and make comments within a session.

Details about the Tutor, James Clarke
He is the writer of a number of books about film and filmmakers and these include: The Virgin Film Guide: War Films and The Pocket Essentials: Steven Spielberg. James has also contributed to The Rough Guide to Film (Penguin Books) and other film volumes.

He has taught Film Studies at the University of Sussex, UCS Ipswich and the University of Gloucestershire. He has also served as Acting Head of Department for Media Arts at Hereford College of Arts. James writes regularly for the bestselling magazines SciFi Now and 3DArtist and his writing has also been published by The Times Higher Education magazine, The Guardian, Country Walking and Resurgence magazine. He has also worked extensively as a writer and producer for The British Council and the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust. He is currently working on a new book project and also a feature film screenplay.

A 9 week course

First meeting 29th September 2016

14.30 - 16.00

Cost of course £50

Come along to the first week and see if it is the course for you

Payment must be made on the second week of term

For further details please contact
John Terry (Chairman) on email
john@terrys.org.uk

or Jill Frostick (Secretary) on
01206 250163 or
jill@frostick.net



SAVE THE BROMLEY CROSS

Our community offer to buy the Cross Inn has been accepted!

The offer is for £190,000 and if that sounds like a lot of money, then let's add some perspective. The price includes the pub and car park, but not the old patio or garden, which was sold separately and now has planning permission for 2 houses. The pub includes 3 bedroom accommodation upstairs, which we hope to rent out. We paid for a valuation of the pub last year, which was £200,000 including the patio but excluding the garden. A structural engineer has looked at the building and has not found any significant structural defects.

So now we need to raise £210,000 to buy the pub, and make some basic improvements. So let's start with the good news. Three local couples have agreed to underwrite up to £150,000 of the purchase, and then sell their share of the pub back to the community at cost, if and when the community can afford to buy it. The precise nature of this funding is yet to be agreed and depends on the outcome of legal advice and discussions with the tax man.

That leaves us a minimum of £60,000 to raise by selling shares to the community, though we'd like to raise a lot more. This is the same approach taken very successfully by both the Case Is Altered in Bentley and The Maybush in Great Oakley. We have formed our co-operative company, the Great Bromley Cross Pub Community Benefit Society Limited (phew) or the CBS to our friends. We will sell shares of between £250 and £20,000 in this CBS and the CBS will use the money to buy the pub. Investors will receive 30% tax relief on their investment, which must be kept for 3 years. After that we plan to offer a small amount of interest on the shares, and the CBS will endeavour to provide a mechanism for investors to sell their shares, at cost if required. One very important point is that the shares will never increase in value, which is a fundamental legal requirement of a Community Benefit Society.

We intend to open the pub as soon as possible after the sale has gone through. It will initially be run by volunteers, and only sell drinks, no food, for a few sessions a week. Again we're following the successful model adopted by other community pubs. We'll have music nights, quiz nights and hope to offer food of some sort occasionally, maybe via a fish and chip van in the car park, or by deliveries from local take aways. We're also very optimistic that the Great Bromley Village Post Office, which was based in the pub, will be re-opened for a couple of sessions a week in the same pub back room, but run by an "outreach" post master.

We have a draft share prospectus and business plan, and just need approval from the appropriate bodies before we launch the scheme, though sadly they may take a couple or three months. If you'd like to keep in touch, then drop us an email to SaveTheBromleyCross@yahoo.co.uk, or join our Facebook group, <https://www.facebook.com/groups/SaveTheBromleyCross>

In the meantime, thank you for keeping the faith. We know how difficult it has been, especially when the bulldozers moved in, but we really do believe we can see the light at the end of the tunnel. And thanks to everyone who came to our public meeting in the Cross at the start of July. Your support and enthusiasm made our committee believe this really is achievable. You reminded us of the value of community and the important role that a local pub can play in this.

We hope to see lots of you at our next Pop Up Pub at Primrose Farm, Great Bromley on Saturday 13th August from 5pm. Our bar will be in the Sticklegs Brewery which moved to the farm recently, we'll have a Primrose Pork barbecue and entertainment from Harwich Leading Lights Morris Dancers.

Jim Craddock, Secretary, Save The Bromley Cross

COFFEE BREAK NUTRITION with Suzanne Abbott

THE 'BREXIT DIET'

We are still digesting the outcome of the 'Leave' vote and, to some, that is difficult to swallow.

But we need to look on the bright side of things as they stand, and move forward to a hopefully brighter and healthier future for the UK. Perhaps the surprising outcome of the election will put more focus on, and resources towards, the NHS?

So, what can we retain from the EU that would help us through the quagmire of health information, that doesn't cost too much? How can we individually take control of what is supposed to be good for us? One answer could be: The Mediterranean Diet. Why? It is a fusion of eating styles from many nations that border the Mediterranean sea – Spain, France, Italy, Greece, Turkey, the Middle East and the North African countries; an array and variety of healthy and wonderfully different tasting foods – a mixed dish similar to what the EU offered us over the past 40 years.

So why is this diet supposed to be so good for us? There have been many studies carried out confirming that the Mediterranean Diet helps to reverse heart disease, and lower cholesterol and high blood pressure. Antioxidants in fresh fruit and vegetables help to improve brain function, ease constipation, irritable bowel syndrome or acid reflux and arthritis, amongst other degenerative diseases.

This is what you need to eat:

- Fresh organic vegetables - full of vitamins, nutrients and fibre. Eat 3 or 4 pieces of fruit a day or make a smoothie. You can even add some lettuce or celery to your smoothie with the fruit.
- Berries like black grapes, strawberries, blueberries or blackcurrants are an excellent source of antioxidants and phytonutrients (*substances that protect us against disease*).
- Organic foods such as brown rice, oats,

nuts and seeds. Beans, lentils or chick peas should be a daily staple - a nutritious source of B vitamins and iron, and full of fibre.

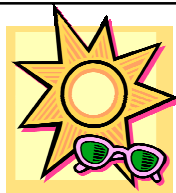
- Nuts are an excellent source of monounsaturated fat that doesn't stick to artery walls.
- Red meat, which is beef, pork and lamb (*fat in red meat is 'saturated' – not good for the arteries*) should be reduced to a few times a month.
- Fish or chicken - a few times a week.
- Olive oil as the basis of your everyday fat intake. Drizzle olive oil over your vegetables or salads with a squeeze of lemon juice.
- Tomatoes – one of the staples of the Mediterranean Diet - delicious mixed with mozzarella and some basil leaves. And, of course, not forgetting garlic. It has many wonderful health properties, such as boosting your immunity; it is anti-fungal, anti-bacterial and also has blood thinning properties.

Pasta in Italy goes back centuries. Good quality, whole durum wheat pasta should be eaten no more than 2 – 3 times a week. As far as pizza is concerned it should be considered as a 'treat'. Moderate intake of wine is OK. Red is better for you.

With this said, all we need to do now is to re-name the Mediterranean Diet as the 'Brexit Diet'. We shouldn't LEAVE it to others to decide what we should eat but try to REMAIN calm and stay IN CONTROL of our health.



2016 EVENTS



AUGUST

- 3 WI Outing to Essex Wildlife Centre
- 10 Gt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 12 Cricket Club chairman's Day
- 13 Pop Up Pub, Primrose Farm, from 5.00pm
- 14 Bromfest Lt Bromley Folk Day, Lt Bromley Church, 12 noon
- 18 Friendship Club meeting, Village Hall, 2.00pm
- Lt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Gt Bromley Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 20 Sponsored Dog Walk & BBQ, The Haywain
- 24 WI Activity Day
- 30 Local Plan Consultation, Elmstead Community Centre

SEPTEMBER

- 5 Little Dragons Pre-School Autumn Term starts
- 7 WI meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 14 Gt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 15 Friendship Club meeting, Village Hall, 2.00pm
- 17 Abba Night (Cricket Club)
- 20 Amenities Group AGM, The Haywain, 7.30pm
- 29 WEA - Films & Fairy Tales, Village Hall, 2.30pm

OCTOBER

- 5 WI meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 12 Gt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 20 Friendship Club meeting, Village Hall, 2.00pm
- 22 Lt Bromley Autumn Litter Pick
- 28 Children's Hallowe'en party, The Haywain

NOVEMBER

- 2 WI meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 9 Gt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 12 Bingo, The Haywain
- 14 Quiz Night (Cricket Club)
- 17 Friendship Club meeting, Village



ASHERN HOUSE CHARITY BBQ

3RD August
12:00 – 14:30

All donations will go to
Children's Respite Care to raise funds for
a wheelchair friendly trampoline

St Mary's church, Gt Bentley Flower Festival & Art Exhibition

Saturday 17th September
10.00am - 5.00pm
Sunday 18th September
11.00am - 5.00pm

Consultation event for the Local Plan

for our ward is on Tuesday 30th August
at Elmstead Community Centre, School
Road, Elmstead Market CO7 7ET.

Knit and Knatter

meets in Seven Rivers Cheshire Home
2.00pm-4.00pm

Just come along with knitting
needles or crochet hook - or
whatever! - and create and
chat



For more information contact Mary Hart
All welcome

Little Bromley Amenities Group

Sponsored Dog Walk

20th August
starting at 2.30pm
Leaving from The
Haywain Pub



In aid of the Dogs Trust

Sunday 14th August

Bromfest Little Bromley Folk Day

12-5pm
at Little Bromley Church
Delicious lunches and teas available.
Free event
All welcome



The Bromley Cross Pop Up Pub

Pop Up Pub
at Primrose Farm, Hall Road, CO7 7TR
on **Saturday 13th August**
from 5pm
with the Harwich Leading Lights Morris
Dancers
Bar in the new Sticklegs Brewery on site
and Primrose Pork barbeque.

WEA Ardleigh Branch

now meeting in The Millennium Room
Great Bromley Village Hall

Autumn Term

FILMS and FAIRY TALES

Tutor: James CLARKE

A 9 week course 14.30 - 16.00
First meeting 29th September 2016

See page 15 for full details

LAWFORD VENTURE CENTRE

HONEY POTS PATCHWORK SEWING BEE

An introduction into the wonderful world of patchwork & quilting.

We are a friendly group of like-minded people who meet up every other Monday at the Venture Centre, Lawford 10am-3pm.

If you are interested in learning or improving your existing patchwork and quilting skills for more information contact Pauline on

07921 682057 or take a look at my website: www.paulinehoneypots.co.uk

TABLE TENNIS FOR FUN

Every Monday morning 10 am- 12 NOON
Non-league, any standard any style.

Make new friends, learn new skills, get fitter. Bats and coaching available.

Contact George Earle On 01206 323264.
OR JUST TURN UP and enjoy Monday mornings again. All for only £2.50 per session..

YOGA CLASS - new

Starting on Tuesday 26th July at 6:30 - 7:30 at the Venture Centre 2000 Lawford.
This class is aimed at the beginners and those with basic yoga skills. Contact Grace on 07486398138 or via email grace42899@gmail.com for more information. The cost is £5 per session

Autumn Craft Fair Saturday

22 October 2016 10.30am - 4pm
In aid of The Multiple Sclerosis Society – Colchester

22 tables are available at £18 each for the day and are available on a first come first served basis.

The event will be well advertised and, to maximize potential for each stallholder, we are limiting bookings to ensure that there is only one of each craft exhibited.

Entrance is Free. Refreshments will be available throughout the day.

To book your table, please contact:
Louise Joplin on 01206 396868 or email louisejoplin@btinternet.com
Booking deadline **31 August 2016**

CHARLES LUCAS 1880-1916

Charles Lucas was born in Manningtree in late summer of 1880, most likely in his parents' house on Quay Street. Both of Charles' parents were from Manningtree or Mistley, his father Benjamin was originally a Labourer, though he later earned a living as a Fisherman. Benjamin Lucas had married Eliza Lay in 1876 and they went on to have 13 children, of whom Charles was the third.

After he left school, Charles became a Fisherman – quite possibly working for his father – though by April 1911 he was employed as a Quay Labourer. At some time between April 1911 and December 1914, Charles moved from Manningtree to Little Bromley, though evidence found to date does not indicate where in the village he lived.

In mid-December 1914 Charles went to Colchester and volunteered to join the Essex Regiment, and was subsequently posted to the Regiment's 10th Battalion. With the 10th Essex, Charles was sent to France as part of the 18th (Eastern) Division and disembarked at Le Havre in the early hours of 26th July 1915.

Over the next 11 months the Battalion's tours of duty in the front line were all spent in what was at that time a quiet sector – the Somme. This is not to say that it was free of danger, and the Battalion suffered many

casualties, including its Commanding Officer who was killed.

The 10th Essex were involved in the fighting on 1st July 1916, the first day of what is now commonly called The Battle of the Somme. The 18th Division was one of the very few which attained almost all of its final objectives on that day. The Battalion remained in the front line for the next week, and during that time were responsible for the capture of Caterpillar Wood.

Charles and his battalion returned to the front line early in the morning of 14th July, when they were moved up in support of an attack to capture Trones Wood. They initially occupied positions in Bernafay Wood, and a trench called Longueval Alley which connected Bernafay Wood and Trones Wood.

Both Longueval Alley and Bernafay Wood were shelled heavily during the day, and the Battalion Headquarters itself received 5 direct hits although it survived intact.

One of those killed by the shelling was Charles Lucas. Charles is officially commemorated on Face D of Pier 10 on the Thiepval Memorial to the Missing of the Somme.

JOHN EDWARD BOURNE (D. 13 AUGUST 1916)

Ellen Thornton from Balls Green married John Edward Bourne at Great Bromley, in 1908. John was the son of Edward Bourne, and his late wife Fanny, and appears to have been born in or near Worcester, where his father was a builder, in 1878 or 1879.

During the course of John's childhood the family moved around the country; for a time they lived just outside Worcester before moving to Liverpool. By April 1891, they

had moved again and were living in King's Norton, south of Birmingham. Tragedy struck shortly afterwards, when John's mother died.

John followed his father's trade, and became a bricklayer. After his marriage to Ellen, the couple moved down to Hampshire, and later Wiltshire. They had four children, the first being a boy who was named John Edward after his father.

John enlisted in the Army at Devizes in

Wiltshire, joining the Royal Engineers as a Sapper. By 1916 John had been posted to the 65th Field Company of the Royal Engineers, though circumstantial evidence suggests he joined them prior to his departure from Britain in July 1915. He took part in the Suvla Bay landings on the Gallipoli Peninsular in early August. His unit remained there until September when they sailed to the island of Mudros before disembarking in the port of Salonica.

The move of two British Divisions to Salonica (Thessaloniki) in Greece, was part of a belated and unsuccessful Anglo-French attempt to aid Serbia against a combined attack from Germany, Austria-Hungary and Bulgaria. After advancing into Serbian territory, the Allies were forced to retreat following defeat at the Battle of Kosturino in December 1915. They

retreated to Macedonia where they were able to fortify the line, and the front remained there in a state of stalemate until 1918.

The Salonica campaign has been described as one "fought with limited resources, over difficult terrain, in extremes of climate and with the ever present threat of malaria." In fact, non-battle casualties were approximately 20 times greater than those from the fighting. John was one of those who contracted malaria.

On 13 August 1916, aged 37, John Bourne died of the disease at the 21st Stationary Hospital in Salonica. Unlike many of those who died in that campaign, John has a known grave and rests in Grave 310 in the Salonika (Lembet Road) Military Cemetery in Thessaloniki.

KITCHEN CORNER

Potato Bake with Tomatoes and Basil

Serves 4-6 people

Ingredients:

2lb (900g) potatoes, skins on.

1lb (450)g red ripe tomatoes

1 onion, finely chopped

3 tbs fresh basil leaves

1 fat clove of garlic, finely chopped

1 tbsp extra virgin olive oil

salt and freshly milled black pepper.

A round or oval gratin dish approx. 9in (23cm) wide, lightly oiled.

Skin the tomatoes by pouring boiling water

over them and leaving a minute. Drain and slip off the skins, then chop small.

Slice the potatoes thinly. In a prepared gratin dish lay a layer of sliced potato. a little chopped onion and garlic and some seasoning, followed by some chopped tomato, more seasoning and a few torn basil leaves Repeat all this until all the ingredients are used up then drizzle with olive oil over the surface and bake in the oven about one hour or till the potatoes are tender.

Oven temp 375F 190C

Jill Frostick

MEN'S CLUB

The Men's club meet every Tuesday evening (about 5pm to 11pm) at the Village Hall for chat and banter, a cup of tea and friendly games of usually snooker, sometimes cards and darts. We are looking for a few new members. Membership Cost is a £5 joining fee and then only £10 per year, plus £4 subs per week that you attend.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

At the June meeting Brenda was pleased to report her coffee morning had raised £330. for the Donkey Sanctuary.

Lunch has been booked at Craft Nurseries on 14th July and names taken of those wishing to attend. 12 for 12.30pm.

The outing to Felixstowe was greatly enjoyed and tea was available at the Spa Pavilion.

Beryl reminded members that items would be needed for the August Auction to raise funds for the Club. Please do have a sort out of those things you no longer need or want.

Our Speaker for the afternoon, Margaret, then gave an interesting insight into her life on Gurnsey as a child during the War, and her evacuation to England. There were many tales of the hardships endured by herself and her sister then the homecoming to Gurnsey and getting back to family life once again.

Sylvia Ward

HELP OUR NATIVE BATS

At this time of the year the bats are out gobbling up thousands of midges and insects. Juveniles will be learning to fly in July. At the end of the summer is mating season, and some males get so excited they forget to eat or drink and exhaust themselves!

Any bat that is found on the ground or in an exposed area, especially during the day, needs help. All bats and their roosts are protected by law. They are nothing to be frightened of. Cats do catch bats but they can often be saved - they need help getting up to strength and can often be released successfully.

For advice what to do when you find a bat see here: www.bats.org.uk - click on "Need Help with a bat" or call the local numbers on www.essexbatgroup.org or call the Bat Helpline 0345 1300 228.

We do have a bat ambulance driver and carer in the area! You can contact Hugh direct on 07722 253962

MIDSUMMER TEA PARTY

Midsummer Tea Party at St. Mary's Church, Little Bromley

On Saturday 25th June we were pleased to welcome lots of our Friends to St. Mary's church for our annual tea party.

After last minute preparations at 3.30pm, Anita began to serve Pimms to willing visitors. Teas, coffees, cake and cream teas started to disappear while everyone settled to await our Cappello Singers.

Sitting in the pews amid lovely flower displays around 25 people listened to Rococo. Led by Gill Christmas, our baritone Wendy Buxton (both from Little Bromley), Claire Bailey, a tenor (from Lawford) and Kate White a bass (from Elmstead), Rococo sang the first of a

couple of sets which were thoroughly enjoyed by all. In between more Pimms and cream teas were eaten.

We would like to thank all of our cake makers, our flower arrangers, those who served the refreshments and those who helped in general. We would especially like to thank our singers and all those who came to enjoy the afternoon with us. All money raised will go to the Churches Conservation Trust.

Look out for the details of our next free annual event – **Bromfest , the Folk Day on Sunday 14th August between 12 noon and 5pm.** Always a lovely day!

Carol Cordwell

IN THE GARDEN WITH KATE

Last month I was sweltering, this month, after extreme rainfall in certain parts of the village, I should be writing about bog plants and pond planting. Certainly, no one seems to be complaining that they need to water their gardens! However, my sympathies to all those whose houses were flooded, a horrible experience, which up to now most of us have only experienced via the television.

I have been asked by several people which plants are hated by rabbits. It does seem to be a big problem this year, partly I think, because the winter was so mild. The rabbits spent little time underground and it is



prolonged time underground when they catch Myxomatosis. Although it is a horrible disease, it has up to now, seemed to keep the

population down. The RHS has a long list of plants that rabbits don't much like, but overall rabbits like soft growth, so even those on the suggested list should be protected until established. A few suggestions from the beginning of the list include *Acanthus*, *Agapanthus*, *Alchemilla*, *Mollis*, *Allium*, *Aquilegia*, *Aster*, *Bergenia*, *Crocsmia*, *Foxglove*, *Euphorbia* and *Iris*, but a full list can be found on the RHS website, and you don't need to be a member to access it.

Even if soggy, your garden is probably looking lovely at the moment, though in my case, the greenery may be helped by nettles, brambles and ground elder! The grass is greener and lusher than I can ever remember at this time of year, and needs frequent mowing.

Harvesting is now underway in the vegetable garden, and there should be ripe

courgettes, onions, marrows, calabrese and summer pumpkins available, together with potatoes, cucumbers, early tomatoes, French and runner beans. In the fruit cage, all gooseberries, currents and summer raspberries should be picked by now, and these can be pruned. In the greenhouse, continue to feed tomatoes, and remove lower leaves from the vines to allow fruit to ripen. Aubergines, peppers and cucumbers will also need regular feeding and watering (and picking when ripe). I read an interesting article about cucumbers, the writer stating that if you only required half a cucumber, you could cut the ripe fruit in half, and leave the other half attached to the plant where it would continue to grow! Has anyone tried this successfully?

Jobs to be done in the garden include deadheading, important to keep the plants flowering, and feeding, especially the tubs, hanging baskets and pots, but also shrubs that have finished flowering such as camellias and rhododendrons. It is the time of year to take semi ripe and heel cuttings from woody herbs, shrubs and roses, and clematis and rhododendron can be propagated by layering.

As plants finish and produce seeds, it is worth saving some for next year. Simply cut the stem and invert into a paper (not plastic) bag and hang in cool dry place for the seeds to dry out and drop out. It is worth mentioning - don't forget to label it. I frequently forget and end up with unidentifiable bags of seed - though it can be interesting sowing the following year and waiting to see what comes up!

Above all, make time and enjoy your garden.

Kate Strowbridge

THE DOCTORS' SURGERY NEWS



Great Bentley Surgery

As I'm certain you're all aware, even with Great Bentley Surgery being fortunate enough to be fully staffed with doctors, patients can still find it difficult to book non-urgent appointments inside of two or three weeks. Although the Government has promised extra GPs by 2020, it's already very apparent that these extra GPs are unlikely to materialise. There is also a 'Five Year Forward View' for general practice which also makes promises of extra resources being made available to practices. With all the current political turmoil, whether or not we end up seeing extra resource or help is anybody's guess. Rather than relying on these promises we have to plan ahead and try to influence the things that we might be able to exercise some control over.

We can't create more appointments from thin air. However, we might be able to reduce the demand for GP appointments by helping our patients' choose what services they use wisely. This could free up more appointments for those patients' who need to see a GP sooner than two or three weeks. Of course all patients who need an urgent appointment on the day will always be seen, that will never change.

We are planning to produce a new patient leaflet which focuses heavily on how to provide self-care and will signpost our patients to alternative sources of help and advice in order to help. It will also explain in detail how our appointment system works and what we are doing about missed appointments and how patients' can help us help the wider population more. If we all work together we can make a difference.

Please note that there is NO Patient Participation Group (PPG) meeting in August.

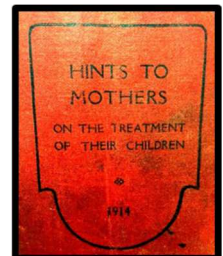
Richard P Miller - Practice Manager

This part of our newsletter publishes suggestions from this 102 year old book called "**Hints to Mothers**" on the health and wellbeing of children prior to the NHS existing. We hope you find this interesting and in many instances still useful even today. ***Please bear in mind this was written a long time ago!***

Cold (Catarrh) – Children are very susceptible to "colds" which should always be treated immediately, as a neglected cold may often lead to more or less serious consequences. The child should be kept indoors, and in one room if necessary. And in the event of the cold being accompanied with fever, the little patient should be put to bed. Feed him with beef tea and farinaceous foods and milk. Should the temperature reach 100 degrees a doctor should be sent for.

Concussion – Should a child have concussion of the brain, caused by a fall or a blow, his eyes will be shut, his face may be very pale, and his breathing slow. Put him to bed and keep him warm, and, of course immediately send for a doctor. Vomiting often follows shortly after the blow, and gives immediate relief. A warm drink, milk or tea, should be administered to the little patient.

Luckily these days colds do not generally lead to more serious conditions, as we take much better care of ourselves and our lifestyles provide much more comfort and protection. ***Of course in the case of possible concussion following a fall, we should always dial 999 these days and not move the patient until the ambulance arrives unless they are in immediate danger.***



Back to basics this month with the story of a man with a passion and his herd of Guernsey cows.

Jason Salisbury a Man with a Plan and his Suffolk Farmhouse Cheeses.

Jason is a real character who started his working career with no qualifications other than a passion for Guernsey Cows. When he left school his parents despaired of him and sent him to work on a dairy farm. He loved his work and after a time he was head hunted to be an artificial inseminator advisor to farmers on the best way to select a bull to go with a cow. After a while he went to take charge of the dairy herd at Cambridge University (the only man to go to Cambridge without appropriate qualifications). It was at this time he met his future wife who was studying to be a vet.

In 2004, being in the right place at the right time, they decided to set up a business to make cheese. He acquired a bank loan which was quite substantial (against all the odds) and they bought cows, cheese making equipment, feed and paid the rent on their farm. In October 2004 they had 17 Guernsey cows. In December of that year enough milk was produced to begin the cheese making process, which unfortunately was not successful, but he still managed to sell what he had made by being innovative when he attended farmers markets. In 17 months he had paid off his bank loan.

In April 2005 he had a eureka moment when he realised that the recipe he was using related to black and white cows; he needed a different one for Channel Island milk as it has a higher fat and protein content.

In 2008 Suffolk Farmhouse Cheeses was born and they produce three cheeses, Suffolk Gold, a creamy semi-hard cheese, Suffolk Blue a creamy lightly blue veined cheese., and Suffolk Brie, a rich creamy and full flavoured cheese. They are only available at farmers markets, farm shops and specialist delicatessens. They can be bought direct from the farm, and some specialist orders include cheese wedding cakes.

Despite his protestations he was an excellent speaker and had also brought cheese along for us to buy at a discount rate, and even more specialist his full fat Guernsey Milk which is also sold at the farm (*Whitegate Farm, Creeping St Mary*).

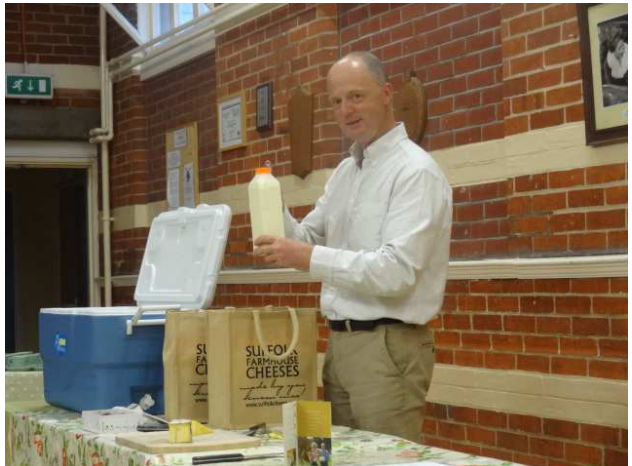
Joy Rolfe

The next W.I. meeting is on 3rd August which is an outing to **Essex Wildlife Centre, Walton**

Meet at the Village Hall at 10am
Contact Mal on 231077

Water Colour Painting Day

August 24th
Numbers limited.
Please contact Mal 231077



THE STONES

In April 1635 two brothers disillusioned by changes and happenings in the Church of England set off to make a new life in America.

Gregory and Simon Stone were tenant farmers in Great Bromley and the surrounding area as far as Boxted and Nayland Gregory and Simon and their families left Ipswich on a ship called the "Increase" and arrived in Boston in July 1635.

Descendants of Gregory and Simon regularly visit Great Bromley to discover the story of their ancestors.

In July 2004 a wonderful lady called Jean Harding, a great friend of my mother, asked me if I would meet and greet these families. I agreed and as a result Fred and I have met some really wonderful people who have travelled from all over America.

Our first visitors this year arrived on April 30th - Ben Stone - Ben has visited St George's several times before -first as an exchange student then in 2000 when there was a "Grand Reunion" organised by Jean in Great Bromley.

Ben G Stone is a director on the Sonoma County Economic Development Board. Ben is responsible for Students all over the world,

in fact he was jetting off to Zurich the morning after his visit on April 30th.

Ben and his travelling friend stayed at the Court House for the night before travelling to Luton the next day. It has always been a

great privilege to meet these descendants of Gregory and Simon Stone and they have been most generous in supporting projects in the church.

If you are interested and would like to learn more of their story there is a special "Stone Window" in the North Aisle of the church and a small display which tells their story. You are very welcome to pop into the church and "have a look"

Jenny. Nicholls



STOUR VALLEY U3A

THE THIRD AGE TRUST



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

Recent Meetings # On Wednesday 13 July Brian Cornell, a former Thames lighterman on the River Thames, talked on “The Thames Watermen & Lightermen”.

This was a most interesting first-hand account of the operating practices of the Port of London in the post-war era

Future Meetings

We don't have a speaker meeting in August but hold our popular Summer Dinner on Friday 5 August at the Constable Hall.

On Wednesday 14 September Dr John Ashdown-Hill FSA, FRHistS, historian, writer & lecturer will talk on “Mythology of Richard III”. He will explore the traditional mythology & modern myths which have emerged since the discovery of his remains in 2012. Was he a usurper? How many did he kill? Who was really responsible for finding his remains?

Meeting Venue

We meet at The Constable Hall, Gandish Road, East Bergholt CO7 6TP at 2.15pm. Annual membership costs £12 a

year and this entitles members to attend the meetings that take place on the second Wednesday of each month, except August and December.

Membership

Our main purpose is to encourage lifelong learning for those who are no longer in full time employment and emphasis is always placed on making learning active and fun as well as helping in developing friendships. We have a wide range of groups including language study, country walking, computer studies and gardens, churches and historic buildings visits. In the main, membership is drawn from communities in the lower Stour Valley and adjacent areas including Brantham, Capel St Mary, Dedham, East Bergholt, Holbrook, Lawford, Manningtree, Raydon, & Stratford St Mary. We are affiliated to the ThirdAge Trust, have over 230 members and 21 groups. For further information please visit www.stourvalleyu3a.org.uk where membership secretary Val Pretty may be contacted.

STOUR VALLEY MEN'S PROBUS CLUB



Recent Meetings On 6 July Lewis Tyler talked to us about “The River Gipping Trust” and on 20 July David Brown spoke on “The Land of the Dragon”. Our popular Summer Lunch took place at the Venture Centre on Sunday 17 July.

Future Meetings

No meetings take place in August and our September speakers are on 7th - Tom Hodgson “What the Papers Say” and on 21st – Francis Boardman “The Battle of Waterloo”

Meeting Venue

We meet at the convenient St John Ambulance HQ, Manningtree CO11 1EB

New members

Our Club endeavours to be simple in structure, be free of the constraints and

obligations of service clubs, and involve members to a minimal cost. The club is directed primarily to providing fellowship between members who are compatible with each other, and provide the opportunity for development of acquaintances. New members are welcomed by Stour Valley Men's Probus Club, we meet on the first and third Wednesday of each month in Manningtree at 10.30am. Please contact Secretary Brian Rolfe on 01206 393665 for further details.

Charles Stephen (Steve) Dean 1941-2016

Steve was born on 20th September 1941 in Wivenhoe where his father was the local doctor and his mother ran an antique shop. He had a sister Hally and brothers Ant and Dave. Steve had a wild childhood mucking about around the river and clambering on shipyard cranes where he developed his love for engineering. He loved playing with fire, as a child and as an adult. When he was little he set fire to the straw in the goat shed with the flames unfortunately being between him and the door. The girl Lilly, who was looking after him, ran through the flames to grab Steve and carry him to safety; unsurprisingly he held very fond memories of her!

He was a bright boy and won a place at Colchester Grammar School which he didn't enjoy as he was never really into authority. He left before his 'A' levels to study horticulture at Writtle College. Steve and his brother Ant wanted to try growing tomatoes commercially, having cropped successfully in a Wivenhoe field. Their mother had discovered a valuable painting which she sold and loaned the proceeds to the boys for Mill Farm.

In his early teens he met the woman who was to become his wife. Evelyn's brother Jim was a friend of Steve's and they would play together down at Alresford Creek. Back at Jim's house they'd have to include Evelyn in their activities – "the inconvenient younger sister", as she describes it. When Steve's mum planned his 21st birthday party she invited Jim and Evelyn and that's how the romance started. Steve and Eve were married in 1964. In 1968 the dilapidated building opposite Mill Farm was due for demolition but they bid £2,500 in a blind auction. Their bid was accepted and so began the process of doing up the house which has continued ever since.

The following year Frances was born, followed two years later by Peter. The farm lands were a great environment for the children to grow up in, along with Ant's kids, and they enjoyed many camping holidays in this country and France. Frances married Nick and Peter married Helen, and Steve was incredibly fond and proud of all of his four grandchildren: Ben,

Tom, Charlie and Adam who all have fond memories of his many activities and fun projects with them.

Steve retired at 65 but was always ready to help Ant's daughter Sarah as she took over running the business. Four years ago he and Evelyn decided they were getting too old for camping and bought a little campervan. For their first adventure they drove all round the north coast of Scotland, taking time to appreciate the output of the odd distillery...

Over the years Steve had so many interests. He played harmonica in a skiffle band, then learned to play trombone for jazz. He carried on his music for years and on Friday nights many Wivenhoe folk would go to the Manningtree Crown Inn to hear his band. For many years he sang in the university choir, where he had to pick everything up by ear as he could not read music. Evelyn and Steve were also stalwarts of the Wivenhoe Gilbert & Sullivan group, appearing in many musicals.

Steve became very keen on sailing. Ant and he would race their Flying Dutchman yacht from Brightlingsea and they moved on to a succession of ever larger cruising yachts, sailing along the Essex and Suffolk coasts and across to Holland and France.

He had a powerful intellectual curiosity and was interested in everything and how it worked and he loved explaining practical things to his grandchildren. He read fact and fiction avidly and devoured scientific journals in particular. He loved birdwatching and nature in all its forms. He was a grower, a builder, an engineer, a scientist, a musician, a sailor, a cyclist, and a traveller who loved visiting power stations, pumping stations, castles, bridges, mines, and historical buildings.

Steve was a gentleman in the truest of senses. He was honourable, loyal, and funny with his quirky sense of humour accompanied by a very infectious laugh. As well as for food & drink ("Are you hungry?" "Always!") he had a great appetite for life. He will be greatly missed.

CHURCH JOTTINGS

A Tale Of Three Proverbs

I wonder if you've ever heard the phrase 'it takes a whole village to raise a child'?

This proverb has its origin in the Igbo and Yoruba peoples in Nigeria, although it exists in different forms in many African languages. The basic meaning is that the upbringing of children is a communal effort, where the extended family, siblings, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and even other non-relatives - neighbours and friends - participate.

The saying also sums up the African worldview that underlines the value of family. In these cultures, children are seen as a blessing from God to the whole community.

The dis-connectedness of twenty first century living in the western world seems at times to be the polar opposite. Even in the smallest village there are people we know well, some we can nod at as we pass in the street, but others who are strangers. Not only does the whole village not raise a child, because offers of help can be seen as unwelcome interference, but we often just stay well away and ignore what's happening.

There is a wonderful Polish proverb that encapsulates this. 'Not my circus, not my

monkey's'. 'Not my problem' would be another way of putting it, but the Poles express it better. It's not confined to the area of childcare, but also famine in Africa, Brazilian deforestation, or gun violence in America. Unless we ourselves are directly affected, we can be left unmoved and unstirred.

This is not God's way. His way is best summed up by some words of Jesus, which while not strictly speaking a proverb, for the purposes of this piece are worth treating as one.

'Love the Lord your God with all your heart, mind, soul and strength, and love your neighbour as yourself'.

The bible tells us how this vexed an expert in religious law who wanted to know from Jesus who his neighbour was, and in this post Brexit world it's vital we remember this. The answer for him is the answer for us. The people of this world are our neighbour, whatever colour or creed, religion or class. We are called to care for them as we would wish to be cared for ourselves.

Simon

Rev Canon Simon Heron
Lawford, The Bromleys & Little Bentley
Area Dean of Harwich



Cricket Club 100 Club Winners

June

- 1st. Mrs. June Wenden
- 2nd. Mr. Paul Bird
- 3rd. Mr. Matt Foley

ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR, GREAT BROMLEY



Services for August

Sunday 31st July	10th Sunday after Trinity 10.30am Benefice Eucharist at St Mary's, Little Bentley
Sunday 7th	11th Sunday after Trinity 8.00am Holy Communion 6.30pm Sung Evensong
Sunday 14th	12th Sunday after Trinity 10.30am Parish Eucharist
Sunday 21st	13th Sunday after Trinity 8.00am Holy Communion
Sunday 28th	14th Sunday after Trinity 10.30am Parish Eucharist

The church is open daily and you are welcome to visit.
More details and information at www.greatbromley.org.uk

St Mary's Church, Lawford Every Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion 1st Sunday 10:00am Holy Communion 2nd Sunday 10:00am Family Service 6:30pm Evensong 3rd Sunday 10:00am Holy Communion 6:30pm Cafe Church 4th Sunday 10:00am Morning Worship Wednesdays 9.30am Holy Communion	St Mary's Church, Little Bentley First Sunday 10.30am Morning Prayer Third Sunday 10.30am Holy Communion St Mary's Church Ardleigh 1st Sunday 10.30am Parish Eucharist 2nd Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion 3rd Sunday 10.30am Parish Eucharist 4th Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion 5th Sunday 10.30am Parish Eucharist
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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

PLEASE NOTE - There will be **no** lunch
in August, next one will be
FRIDAY September 2nd
12 noon.
ALL very welcome

Can you spare

just one hour to help clean our beautiful
church?
Phone 250299