

The Messenger

The Magazine of the
villages of Great &
Little Bromley

November 2020



THE FIRST PAGE

Dear all,

The majority of Essex has now gone into Tier 2 of the government's new system of restrictions in relation to Covid-19. It's important to note that this is not a lockdown, but it is an increase of restrictions. Hopefully, if everyone does their bit in abiding by the rules we can avoid excess deaths and suffering, and also avoid going into Tier 3.

Please continue to look out for your neighbours, particularly the elderly or vulnerable. As we move into the colder months, it's also worth remembering that some people may feel isolated and generally low. There's a lot to be said for good mental health, and if you can do anything to help someone that's not doing so well, please do, while adhering to the restrictions of course.

My children are less than impressed and worried about how these restrictions affect them and their social lives, but I've reminded them how lucky they are and to try hard to make the best of a bad situation. The college which my eldest attends has reverted to online lessons only due to some positive cases. I really wish I hadn't bought a season rail ticket! I have a half-term week plan of baking, movies, and good quality time at home. I'm

sure there will also be some disastrous make-up sessions (usually tried on me) and a constant demand for food, but I'm looking forward to a week off, once I've stocked up the larder.

Our pond is completed and the plants returned to their natural habitat. The water butt did very well over the summer at looking after them. We've reverted to doing DIY indoors although there's not much left to do; the new way of life has enabled a lot of decorating!

We have two guest authors in this month's issue. Martin has contributed a piece about a wild flower meadow with some great images from Paul - thank you both. There is also a write-up of an exciting day for Class Four from Daniel H at St George's Primary School - Well done Daniel! I was delighted to have the offer of additional interesting items for the magazine. If anyone wants to contribute to future issues the details are below. Don't be shy.

November is the month of Remembrance, for all those lost in conflicts - Lest we forget.

Take care, Lizzie

MATERIAL for the **DECEMBER 2020** edition of 'The Bromley Messenger'

should reach the Editor, Lizzie Ridout, by **14th NOVEMBER 2020** 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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R. Gwinnell & Sons Funeral Directors in Manningtree

R. Gwinnell & Sons Funeral Directors in Manningtree is an independent family-run business providing the best care and support to people who have been bereaved.

We recognise it is a difficult time for you and are here to help, whether you prefer to visit us in person, chat to us over the phone or would like our team of Matt, Roy or Sharon to come to you.

Please call us at our High Street branch on 01206 391506 or out of normal working hours on our emergency number 01206 868585.

R. Gwinnell & Sons Funeral Directors in Manningtree also serve surrounding villages including Ardleigh, Bradfield, Brantham, Dedham, East Bergholt, Holbrook, Lawford, Mistley, Shotley, Stutton, Tattingstone and Wix.

Thank you R. Gwinnell & Sons!



GT BENTLEY DOCTORS' SURGERY

WINTER DEMAND – Help us to help you! As we head into winter, demand for our services usually increases substantially. We really do need all of our patients to consider whether they really need to see a doctor before calling and consider using other local services which might be more appropriate. Of course if you consider your problem urgent we are always here to help and our daily on call doctor triage system will ensure you are seen in a timely manner.

As well as some great websites below, you can also get professional medical advice from your local pharmacy and patients can call 111 at any time 24/7 for help and advice.

There is plenty of help on the internet, so why not try the following websites:

www.nhs.uk www.patient.co.uk

There is also an excellent leaflet for parents called “When Should I Worry” giving guidance on coughs, colds, earache and sore throats which can be downloaded at **www.whenshouldiworry.com**

ATTENDING THE SURGERY FOR AN APPOINTMENT Due to social distancing we now have to limit the number of patients in the waiting room. To assist us with this please do not arrive more than a minute before your appointment time. If you do arrive early we will have to ask you to wait outside the Surgery or in your car, so please help us by arriving on your appointment time. We are very aware that as winter approaches we do not want to have to ask patients to wait outside in the cold so by arriving on your appointment time we can avoid this.

We also ask that patients do not bring anyone with them to their appointment. The only exception to this would be for a child or a patient who is particularly unwell or frail and needs assistance to come into the Surgery.

PRESCRIPTION REQUESTS Our Prescription Clerks are getting a lot of calls from patients checking to see if their prescriptions are ready. If you put in a request for your prescription this will be issued within three working days unless we contact you. If you wish to check if the prescription is ready rather than contacting our Prescription Clerk, can we please ask that you contact your Pharmacy who will be able to confirm if they have received it.

PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP At the time of writing the Newsletter there isn't a Patient Participation Group meeting planned in November. If this situation changes then PPG members will be informed by email and we will also advertise this on the Surgery website.

Sue Mitson – Operations Manager

SEASONAL RECIPES FROM THE WI

A couple of Seasonable Recipes for your delight taken from the W I Bromley Cook Book of Essex Recipes 1992.

Enjoy!

Essex Pumpkin Pie

1 lb of diced ripe pumpkin
1/2 lb diced apples
1/2 lb currants
1/2 lb raisins
1/4 lb brown sugar
Mixed spice
Ginger
Juice of a lemon.
Make short pastry - 1/2lb
flour and 4 oz lard or
margarine Put in pie dish
cover with pastry cook in a
slow oven

Essex Mincemeat

2 apples
2 oz blanched almonds
8 oz shredded suet
8 oz caster sugar
1 lb raisins
8 oz currants
2 oz chopped candied
peel
1 tsp grated nutmeg
1/2tsp ground cloves
1/2 tsp ground mace
2 tbs brandy
Juice and grated rind of 1/2 lemon.
Peel, core and chop apples. Chop the almonds finely. Thoroughly mix all the ingredients and turn them into clean, dry jars.
Cover each jar and seal.
Store in a cool dry place.



GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

www.gbpc.org.uk

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



I frequently receive telephone calls or emails regarding planning matters. Planning is something that involves the whole community.

Some people agree with decisions and some disagree. It is something that is not straight forward. I have asked Councillor Rosemary Heaney to write a piece about planning.

Rosemary has been chair of Tendring District Council planning committee and has very good knowledge of our local planning system. As I have written before, all comments must be in to TDC planning department prior to building commencing. It is important to look on the TDC planning portal where all

applications are displayed. The Parish Council is usually notified in respect of planning applications and we can comment, and these are displayed on the Agenda. However Agricultural applications are different and the Parish Council is notified when TDC has approved them. We are not invited to comment.

I have been informed by local residents that a well-known developer from the Clacton area has purchased a considerable amount of land around the Cross area and intends to build houses.

Cllr Fred Nicholls

Planning Determinations

REFERENCE	PROPOSAL	LOCATION	DECISION
20/00682/ FUL Mr Fairley - Henry Fairley and Son Limited	Proposed change of use of building to B2 general industrial.	Park Farm Hilliards Road Great Bromley CO7 7US	Approval - Full 07.09.2020
20/00660/ FUL Mr & Mrs Brazier	Variation of Condition 3 of 18/01123/FUL to allow changes to the fenestration of the proposed dwelling, the provision of a balcony and changes to the design of building 1.	Bush Farm Hall Road Great Bromley CO7 7TR	Approval - Full 16.09.2020 Delegated Decision

Planning Applications

REF	PROPOSAL	LOCATION
20/00872/ FUL Mrs Hilary Read	Change of use from preschool back to residential dwelling. Great Bromley Parish Council had no objection to the application.	Church Meadow Bungalow, Hall Road Great Bromley CO7 7TR
20/01070/ FUL Mr Bryn Jones	Proposed two storey and single storey extensions and alterations. Great Bromley Parish Council had no objection to the application.	Newhouse Farm, Hall Road, Great Bromley CO7 7TP
20/01228/ FUL	Variation of condition 2 of approved application 17/01706/FUL to reflect minor alterations to the siting and depth of the proposed utility room. Great Bromley Parish Council had no objection to the application.	Grange Hall, Hall Road, Great Bromley

INFORMATION ABOUT PLANNING APPLICATIONS

A planning application should start with the person making the application discussing it with planning officers at their local council. In this area this is Tendring District Council. This does not always happen, but if a planning applicant does do this they will get a better idea if their application is feasible or not.

The plans for the planning application are drawn up, and then sent to the planning officers by the applicant. Most planning applications are for what is called an Outline Planning Application. This means the designs and siting of the houses have not been finalised. This is done because of the expense of a completed planning application, and most applicants want to get planning permission before they finish their designs.

An outline planning application has to include the number and types of houses or bungalows proposed, an idea of what they will look like including their roofs, windows and doors, and where they will be sited on the application site. They also have to include a planting scheme, which will show any trees and hedges they intend to remove, and what they intend to plant instead.

The planning officers will make sure the applicant has done all the required surveys. These will include bat and reptile surveys, and surveys looking for small animals like dormice. They will check that any trees that the applicant intends to remove do not have tree preservation orders on them.

Cont'd...

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In some cases the planning officers will put preservation orders on trees on the application site to prevent the trees being removed during the development of the site.

The planning application will be put on the district council's website for comments. The public can usually make comments for 28 days, but after that time any comments made will not be taken into consideration. The parish or town council and the district councillors will also be notified. They will be able to comment as well, unless they are a district councillor who sits on the planning committee. Orange coloured notices are displayed by the district council outside planning application sites. This is to alert the public to a planning application. The planning application will be removed from the website when the application is either passed or refused.

If the planning application is not for a large site it may be passed or refused by the planning officers. Villages and towns have development boundaries, and if an application is outside the development boundary it will usually be turned down. This does not include extensions to houses. Otherwise the planning application will be considered by the planning committee.

At Tendring Council the planning committee are obliged to visit all the sites of the planning applications they will be considering later on that day. They go on a bus with a planning officer. They will have the plans with them, so they can see what the planning application would look like when completed. If a member of the committee does not visit the site at the same time they are unable to take part in the subsequent decision by the committee.

The planning committee either passes, or refuses an application. They can also suggest to the applicant that they make specified changes to their application, and bring it back to the committee. If the committee passes an outline planning application they will make a condition that the planning application comes back to the planning committee when it is then what is called a Full Application. This is when the design has been completely drawn up. The committee will have to agree the design before the full application will have planning permission.

If the application is turned down the applicant can appeal to the planning inspectorate, who can overturn the decision of the planning committee. A planning inspector can also add their own conditions if they decide to approve it.

The exception to this system are Brownfield Sites. A brownfield site is one which has previously been built on. An applicant has a legal right to build on it, even if it is outside a development boundary. Even so, an application to build on a brownfield site will go before the planning committee, who can try and change the proposal if they do not like what is being proposed. Although the brownfield site will be eventually built on it is possible for the committee to ask the applicant to make changes. Some applicants are happy to do this, as they understand the planning committee is not going to pass their application, and it is expensive to make an appeal to the planning inspectorate.

Rosemary Heaney, member of Great Bromley Parish Council and former chairman of Tendring Council's planning committee.



Great Bromley Parish Council
is pleased to present

a Christmas-themed

AFTERNOON TEA

Delivered to residents of Great Bromley who are senior citizens or considered vulnerable, in the comfort of their own home to ensure safety.

If you, or someone you know meets this criteria, you can request/nominate them to receive an afternoon tea.

Please check for dietary needs and that the recipient(s) is happy to receive.

Orders should be placed via
email: clerk@gbpc.org.uk
or telephone: 01206 230688

December delivery date to be advised

The Great Bromley Autumn Litter Pick

will take place on Saturday 7th
November, meeting at 10am in the
Car Park of the Bromley Cross Inn.

Volunteers (the more the merrier, but
over 18's only please) should bring
appropriate footwear and gloves. Hi-
visibility clothing, bin bags and litter
grabbers will be provided.

More details can be obtained from
Owen Blowers on 01206 231010.

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

If you need to contact your local District Councillors please do get in touch with:

- Cllr Gary Scott by telephoning 01206 820769 or emailing cllr.gscott@tendringdc.gov.uk
- Cllr Ann Wiggins by telephoning 01206 825153 or emailing cllr.awiggins@tendringdc.gov.uk

If you are in need of red/green recycling boxes or small/large food waste caddies then do get in touch and we can bring them to you.

We meet at the Cross Inn on Wednesday mornings between 10.30 am and 12.00 midday if you have a query or concern, or even just a chat.

We are here to help,

Gary and Ann

IN THE GARDEN WITH ANDY & JUDY

Before global warming the garden used to slow down in Autumn but grass now grows right through the autumn and winter needing the occasional cut. Don't forget that if it's not too wet, and the grass not too long, the mower is a relatively easy way to pick up leaves. It also chops them up which assists with rotting down if adding to the compost heap or bags of leaf mould. Be aware that rose blackspot will over winter on fallen rose leaves so if you have had an outbreak this year you should pick them all up and dispose of them.

November is my main month for lifting show plants. Having cleared the cucumbers, peppers and tomatoes from the greenhouse in October, it has now been cleaned ready to receive the gladioli corms and dahlia tubers. Once lifted, the gladioli corms will be left in the greenhouse to dry off and during December, cleaned off and moved into storage ready for the next season. The dahlias will be cut down to about 250mm and placed upside down on the greenhouse staging to allow any water to drain out of the stems. Other than occasional inspection they will be left until after Christmas. The greenhouse will be kept frost free and a cold fan used to keep the air moving to aid drying and on sunny days I will open the roof vents.

I also lift all Chrysanthemum plants (stools), cutting them to about 250mm. The root area is reduced to get six stools into a pre-drilled plastic cat litter tray. I remove all leaves and shoots above soil to encourage young fresh shoots in the spring. The stools are boxed in the cat litter trays, using a mixture of sieved compost from the old tomato pots with some soil-based compost and perlite to give an open

and free draining compost. They will then be placed in the cold frame and sprayed with an insecticide and white rust fungicide.

Dahlias and gladioli left in your borders will come again next year, as long as they do not get too wet or frozen. If in a frost pocket, the protection of a mulch is recommended. It is to personal choice whether you cut down herbaceous perennials that have died back or leave them until next spring but one benefit can be the protection they afford vulnerable plants. In wet weather they can look a soggy mess but on a frosty morning they can look stunning and should provide some shelter/food for birds and other wildlife. Talking of which, please remember to clean out your bird boxes ready for reuse and when checking stored apples, place the rejects out for the birds.

Finally, we were very pleased to get an email from a friend about two relatively new pests she has seen in the area. The pests are **Box Tree Moth** which has white wings with black edges, something else for the poor Box species to cope with as well as blight. Vitax sell a trap for these and nematodes are available from amongst others, dragonfli.co.uk. The Brown **Marmorated Stink Bug**, looks like a brown shield bug but with striped antenna can cause havoc to apple crops. I am not aware of a specific pesticide available to amateurs but the internet gives a DIY recipe for a spray of 1 part water, 1 part washing up liquid and 1 part lavender oil. This combined with husbandry tips to deter the bug appears to be the only way forward for many of us.

2020 EVENTS

NOVEMBER

- 7 Litter pick - 10am at The Bromley Cross
- 11 Great Bromley Parish Council - Venue TBA 7.30pm
- 12 ECC Mobile Library - Church Meadow 9.45-10.15am
- 19 Little Bromley Parish Council - venue TBC 7.30pm
- 22 Great Bromley Antiques and Collectors' Fair 9.30am - 3.30pm

Secure dog walking at Park Farm

I was interested to learn of a new local venture, and a new concept to me: exclusive, enclosed dog walking. The Covid-19 distancing requirement were one driver, I should think, but I know from my daughter's experience with her dog, some innocent creatures can attract trouble and are best walked well away from the unpredictable behaviour of some other dogs, which are ill-trained or simply have irresponsible, inconsiderate or just inattentive owners. The idea is to hire an enclosed paddock for a set time so your dog(s) can run unrestrained without worry of squirrel chasing or interference from other hounds.



Full details are on the farm website www.henryfairleyandson.com
Hugh Frostick



The Post Office at The Cross

Wednesday mornings
10.00am-12 noon

Community Library at The Cross

Every Wednesday
10.00am-12 noon

Essex Oil Club



If you would like to pay less for your oil, wood and coal, come and join the Essex Oil Club and get discounts for these products by buying in bulk with other local people.

For further information and to register online go to <http://www.essexoil.club/> or call Lesley on 01206 231703.

Message from the Chairman of Great Bromley Parish Council

I urge you all to keep up to date with and follow the latest advice issued by the Government in relation to the COVID-19 outbreak. I would also ask that we all be aware of our neighbours, and be on hand to provide support to those who might need it, particularly the elderly and those who are vulnerable.

For anyone who is struggling to find support, please call me on 01206 230688.

Cllr Fred Nicholls

Use the NHS 111 online coronavirus service if:

- you feel you cannot cope with your symptoms at home
- your condition gets worse
- your symptoms do not get better after 7 days

Only call 111 if you cannot get help online.

The Mobile Library visits Church Meadow every three weeks

Day of visit: Thursday

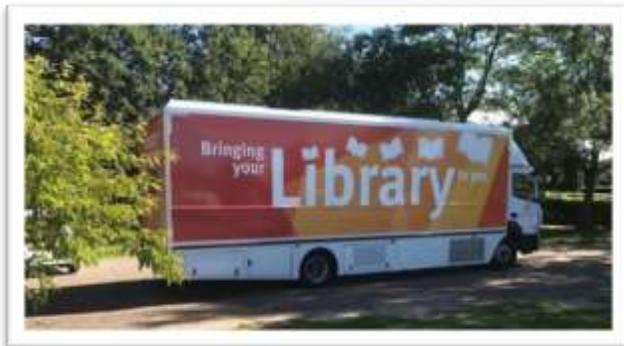
Time of visit: 9.45am to 10.15am

Route: County Mobile 2 week 1

There is a 2 week break over the Christmas and New Year period.

Next visit dates

- 12 November 2020
- 03 December 2020
- 24 December 2020
- 14 January 2021



FRIENDSHIP CLUB

The committee hopes all members are keeping well during these difficult times. We are looking forward to resuming our monthly meetings as soon as conditions allow. Meanwhile, the Christmas lunch which we all

enjoyed so much last year at the Cross Inn may be possible if the situation improves.

Please could members let Beryl know if they would be interested in attending.



SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME

Hi Everyone,

By the time you read this I hope we have been able to make our Guy wishing you all a happy Bonfire Night. We have been making masks for Halloween and thought it would be nice still to make a Guy to wish all Great Bromley a happy bonfire night. If Guy is finished in time I will send a photo of him before closing date for items for November, if not I will send for the December issue. The residents have really enjoyed this activity, glue and paper everywhere, but great fun.

We had a choice to make full horror mask or more elegant ones and we have a nice mix of both. We have used a twig tree that we used last Christmas to showcase our work to all the staff. Our horror tree is filled with hand made cobwebs, bats, monsters, and spiders. We will be dressing up on the day and have asked the chef for a special menu to include Blood soup with bread fingers, Bat wings, and eyeball pudding. Sounds nice don't you think? Just trying to make it a bit more interesting for us all.

Once all our masks are completed we will start on our Christmas

decorations; once again glue, paper and paint everywhere. One of the Christmas entertainment ideas is a Seven Rivers has Talent, and a dress up as your favourite film star, both of which will be taking place during December.

We have not only been busy with our craft, we have been doing our everyday things also, quiz mornings, board games, painting, and our daily exercises. In the next few weeks, we will also be having some new activities from the games we used to play like the fishing magnet game to Who's that baby.

So, as we are coming to the end of a very difficult year for us all, we are trying to keep our positivity up and our resolve to get through this high, I trust you will all feel that too.

Next month how our new look Christmas is looking.

Take care and keep safe.

Liz xx

When I was asked to write something for the Messenger on behalf of the WI this month I couldn't think what to say. So, I decided to write my initial thoughts and parallels between the WI and the current pandemic.

So here goes...

When I joined the WI I felt nervous and worried the same as I currently do about the Coronavirus.

At my first meeting everyone was friendly, caring and pulling together, the same way we all did during lockdown.

One of the main values of the WI is friendship and keeping in touch, which we continually do with weekly phone

calls and bubble hobby groups of up to six people. In this challenging environment, we can't see our family and friends so we adapt, thinking of other ways to keep in touch.

When this is all over and we get back to normality will we continue to support those around us with this renewed attitude and understanding? I hope so!

But one thing is certain the WI will still be here, apprehension and worry will still be here, but most importantly of all so will friendship.

Keep safe.

Sue Clark

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

With the current restrictions placed upon us in relation to Covid-19, Great Bromley Parish Council will be contributing to Tending District Council's online commemoration of Remembrance Sunday. This will be shown via Facebook - you do not need a Facebook account to view the service. It's planned to be shown at 10.55am on Remembrance Sunday. The Remembrance commemorations in Great Bromley will comprise of a silence at the War Memorial, followed by wreath laying. If there is a church service, this will be at the discretion of the St George's PCC. Details will be on their website - www.greatbromley.org.uk

If you are planning on attending, you must adhere to social distancing and the restrictions in place at that time.

Don't forget that younger or the artistic people among us can also paint stones with poppies and place them at the War Memorial.





GREAT BROMLEY ANTIQUES & COLLECTORS FAIR

Sunday 22nd November 2020

Also on 17th January 2021

9.30am – 3.30pm

at Great Bromley Village Hall, Parsons Hill, Great Bromley CO7 7JA

ENTRY - £1. (Before 9.30am £2) No Concessions.

6 Foot Trestles £25 or 2 for £45.

Hot Food and Drinks Available. Free Parking

COVID 19 SECURE, Face Coverings must be worn. Etc.

Table bookings only in advance.

E Mail nigel@garden-shows.com 07802 282193

CONTACT GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Cllr Fred Nicholls (Chairman) Fryerning, Hall Road, Great Bromley CO7 7TS
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07546 912972
fred@fryerning.net

Cllr Rob Lord (Vice Chairman) 07747 787270
rob.lord@bt.com
Emergency
Planning Officer
St George's School
Representative

Cllr Owen Blowers Bottle House, Carringtons Road, Great Bromley CO7
Accounts Monitoring 7XA07879 433716
Officer Village owen@blowers.org.uk
Maintenance
Manager

Cllr David Hardy 07817 451401
Hare Green dwhardy007@gmail.com
Recreation Ground
Representative

Cllr Andrew Fairley 07710 009934 or
Footpath eve 01206 392486
Liaison

Cllr Rosemary Heaney Bay Cottage, Chase Road East, Great Bromley CO7 7UN
01206 250180
Bromley Messenger Rosemary.heaney07@btinternet.com
Management
Committee and St
George's Parish
Church
representative

Cllr Carole Mander 01206 231879
Footpath Liaison carole.mander23@btinternet.com

Cllr Becky Robinson Badley Hall Farm
07720 833207
beckysbutchers@gmail.com

VACANCY

Parish Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer

Lizzie Ridout
c/o Great Bromley Village Hall, Parson's Hill, Great Bromley CO7 7JA
Clerk@gbpc.org.uk

WILD FLOWER MEADOW

Earlier this year after a period of ill health, I returned to Great Bromley to live with my mother for several months. With time on my hands I decided to indulge my passion for nature and wild life and try to create a wild flower patch on a rough uncultivated piece of land the other side of the stream at the bottom of my mum's garden. This land belongs to Ken Robinson who kindly gave permission for the project.

Nettles dominated the patch of land so I started by pulling these up and digging out the roots. I then cleared the remaining debris. The soil is heavy clay so it was an arduous and back breaking task. I then sprinkled several packets of wild flower seed over the area and sowed a grass seed on a strip alongside the flower bed. I also made a wood pile – a large 'bug hotel' for

creatures and insects to nest. I bought an extension for the garden hose and kept the area well watered for several weeks.

I was delighted and a little surprised, when in late August, the sunny side of the patch was a mass of colour. There is rose mallow, purple dwarf mallow and rosebay willowherb and with the help of a friend and the internet, I've also been able to identify corn marigold and pineapple weed. Love in a mist and pink and white cosmos are also evident. The shady area of the patch has been less successful, nettles having returned in full vigour but I did see a hedgehog under the woodpile.

Paul Cudmore took the photos – thank you Paul.

Martin Bromfield



LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Email: littlebromleypc@gmail.com

Council meetings continue to be held via Zoom due to the pandemic and restrictions in place. Public participation is still welcomed though - please email the Council and request the log in details.

The Remembrance Service on the 11th November will, as far as we are aware at this time, be going ahead. The Service will be run following Government Covid guidelines. For those wishing to attend, please meet at the memorial at 10.40 a.m. We will

look to provide any updates on the Little Bromley website.

We are still waiting for the Village sign to be put up. Unfortunately there has been a delay due to illness with the contractor but we are hopeful that this will be resolved shortly.

The next meeting of the Council will be on the 19th November at 7.30 pm and at the present time, this will be a Zoom meeting.



STOUR VALLEY U3A

News Knocked back by Covid we are now rebuilding as quickly as is safely possible. The majority of our activity groups, including walking, ten pin bowling, fitness, canoeing and kayaking, are back up and running.

Other groups, from philosophy, to book club and languages, continue to operate using Zoom.

Our gardening group has a number of visits planned, including a week away to Harrogate next year.

Membership We are always open to new members. Our fee for 2020/21 is just £8. To find out more, visit our website to see how we work and get the latest updates about our local activities: stourvalleyu3a.org.uk.

You can also get in touch by email:
Graham Manuel
(chair) gandamanuel@gmail.com or
Sue Basted
(secretary) susanbasted10@gmail.com

About us Stour Valley U3A is one of more than 1,000 U3A groups in the UK. We have just over 400 members based in the Essex/Suffolk border encompassing areas including Manningtree, Dedham, East Bergholt and Shotley.

We work with neighbouring branches in Hadleigh, Harwich and Colchester which provides a wider range of social and learning opportunities.

The Third Age Trust looks after all U3As nationally bringing together people in their "third age" to develop their interests and continue learning in a friendly and informal environment. Third age is a time after you have finished working full-time and have time to pursue interests or just try something new.

GET INVOLVED ONLINE WITH GREAT & LITTLE BROMLEY

The Great Bromley and Little Bromley village websites have been refreshed in April 2020, so I thought this a good time to share a list of websites and main social media pages for our villages.

Great Bromley village website

www.greatbromley.org.uk with links to most village media pages including:

- ◆ Parish Council website www.gbpc.org.uk
- ◆ Village Hall website www.greatbromleyvillagehall.org.uk

Little Bromley village website

www.littlebromley.org.uk incorporating the Parish Council pages and with links to most village media pages.

Some other village organisations, pubs, and businesses have a website or social media; you can find links to many of them in the village websites and in The Messenger.

Social Media

You can pick up links to these via the village websites or your search engine.

Facebook

Great Bromley Community
Little Bromley Community
Great Bromley Village Hall
Great Bromley Church
Friends of Little Bromley Church

Twitter

Great Bromley Parish Council
Great Bromley Church
Friends of Little Bromley Church

Next Door

www.nextdoor.co.uk is a free neighbourhood website which allows members to sign up by postcode to share information about their local communities. Several locals use this, and Little Bromley Parish Council use it for their community messaging.

Mailing Lists

e-Mailing lists exist for *Friends of Little Bromley Church* and *Great Bromley Church*. You can refer to the websites and sign up to hear about news and events.

Hugh Frostick

Victim Support is looking for reliable volunteers with great listening skills to join their local team, providing emotional and practical support to people affected by crime.

Help people in your local community and learn new skills.

Call 01277 357557 or email:
essexvolunteering@victimsupport.org.uk





STOUR VALLEY MEN'S PROBUS CLUB

Sadly, this will be the last article appearing in this magazine from our Club. An Extra Ordinary meeting, called by the Committee, was held on Wednesday 16 September at the covid secure Ogilvie Hall, Lawford to discuss "The Future Of The Club".

In past years, despite trying hard, we have been unable to recruit sufficient new members despite a strong presence in many local magazines and the local paper. With an ageing membership most members had, over the years, held various committee positions.

Having been formed in 1985 we have held meetings at various local halls and we now find ourselves, due to COVID restrictions, without access to our

current venue, the St John Ambulance HQ in Manningtree, with no known date for a future opening, if at all.

The number of active members has reduced to such a position which is not self-financing and the committee recommended to members that the club be closed. After discussion the proposition was unanimously approved by the members present and following the constitution it was agreed that funds held by the Club after all debts are paid-off will be distributed to charity as agreed by the committee.

Please ring President Dave Carman on 01255 880202 or Secretary Graeme Forsyth on 01206 399049 if you need to make contact with the Club.



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

Telephone: 01206 230305

The Haka! As part of their topic 'All Around the World', Class Four have been finding out about the traditional Maori ceremonial dance, the Haka. In their Music lessons, they watched the Haka, learned about the symbolism and history and then created their own dances in small groups.

Having fun with our learning in Class Two The children in Class Two have settled back into school really well. The move from Reception to Year One is always a big step but the children have adapted really well and are enjoying their learning in Key Stage One.

Harvest at St George's Each class in turn visited St George's Church to look at the Harvest display and decoration.

Some classes also performed their contribution to our virtual Harvest service while in the Church. It was lovely to be back at the church after such a long time away, although a shame we cannot all be there together.

The sun streamed through the stained glass window and the children were very calm, respectful and well-behaved. Children donated food which will be donated to the Food Bank. ...Cont'd

...Cont'd

Tendring Junior Ambassador Project
Class Four were treated to a day of African culture as part of the Tendring Junior Ambassador Project.

First we met our session host, Anna Modeka, who is from Zimbabwe. To begin with, Anna explained to us that in her country, great spiritual importance



is placed on their ancestors.

Then she told us the story of her ancestor, a girl whose father was sick. Her ancestor told the girl to visit a python so she went to the python's cave and the python said, "Are you not scared little girl?". She replied with "No, I need my father to get better and I have been sent by my ancestor to visit you." The python crawled up and wrapped around the girl's body. She walked back to the village to take the python to her father. The python gave her some medicine to help her father get better and within a week he could walk again. She returned the python back to its cave and the python gave her some gold for her bravery.

We then created our own story where we all had our own roles: drummer, singer, dancer, actor and narrator.

We all really enjoyed meeting Anna and finding out all about her culture.

By Daniel H

Midday Assistant Wanted

We are looking to recruit a Midday Assistant to work with our children three days per week (Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 11.45am-1.00pm). If you think this may be of interest to you, please contact the school office to find out more

Due to the current arrangements in place, the role entails supervising a single class of children out at play and while eating their lunch. It would be ideal for someone living locally.

PTA School Lottery - The PTA have signed our school up to taken part in the St George's Your School Lottery. This is an important source of fundraising for us at this time as we are unable to hold our usual events. Please help us raise funds and consider joining. You will be able to find our school and purchase tickets by following this link: <https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/st-georges-church-of-england-primary-school>

DVDs Wanted - We would like to add some more titles to our DVD collection for use at our wraparound club. Do you have any 'U' rated films that you no longer watch and would like to donate? If so we would be very happy to take them off of your hands/shelf/bookcase!!

Please drop off at the School Office

MORE THAN JUST A FARM

As we enter the last few months of 2020, our jobs around the farm are about getting ready for winter. The cattle came in from the grass meadows to allow them to rest and grow ready for their return in the spring.

The rain did eventually fall by the end of September (24th) where we had around 150 mm of rain. It allowed the land to slightly moisten and make cultivation slightly easier. In the middle of October, we started drilling our winter barley and wheat crops. This year we are also growing potatoes too.



Game season is now upon us and we will have local pheasant and partridge products including pies available in the butchery. The shooting season starts in October and will finish at the end of January.

With Christmas just round the corner the butchery has been busy prepping their Christmas Order form. From turkey to beef to pork to lamb we will have it available for whatever your Christmas maybe this year. Our order form is available online or pop into the shop – do take a look!

Last month we put our Rams in with our Ewes. Ewes are pregnant for 143-153 days; this will take us to the first week of March. March has been a good time for us to lamb as the weather isn't as cold and also slightly lighter days too.

Our resident Sow, Ruthie, had another litter of piglets in October. The gestation (pregnancy) period of the female pig is 114 days. She is an excellent mum and is a very quirky character around the farm.

Until next time, Thank you
Becky

www.beckysbutchers.co.uk

HARVEST AT ST GEORGE'S CHURCH

September/October are traditionally the months in which we celebrate Harvest. St. Georges is situated within a traditional farming community so come what may we were determined to celebrate this great event.

On Sunday September 20th at 6.30pm Laura Garnham led our service of Praise and Thanksgiving within the limitations of the Covid Regulations and we were able to have a fantastic service. We had a service with music, song and ceremony and also the celebration for the return of our Processional Cross, which was Rededicated and welcomed back to church.

The church looked stunning, instead of our wonderful flower arrangers working together in the church, we asked them to prepare a Harvest Basket and leave it in the porch where



Dorothy and I moved them into the church. Thank you flower arrangers, the baskets were beautiful !

As the congregation of 30 came into church, they were asked if they would like to donate to our local food bank rather than contribute to our Church Funds - £211 was collected for this



worthy cause. Thank you very much.

On September 30th we were delighted to welcome staff and children from school to visit and celebrate the Harvest. Again very carefully adhering to Covid Regulations, all children came in their separate bubbles performing for the video camera which enabled parents to view on YouTube. Well done everyone, although very different to our usual celebrations, we were able to come together in a different and special way.

Thank you everyone who supported us.

If you would like me to drop a copy of our monthly newsletter through your door please just give me a ring.

Jenny
01206 230688



ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH GREAT BROMLEY



www.greatbromley.org.uk

Welcome

St George's has COVID precautions in place and we welcome you back to church. Or if you are not used to coming to church why not give it a try? All our services have organ music and singers. The church is also open every Wednesday 9am-5pm

Light a Candle Service 15th November

To commemorate someone who has died, please come to light a candle at the short All Souls service at 6.30pm. You can also email church@greatbromley.org.uk or ring 01206 230688, and we will say a prayer and light a candle for them.

Best wishes
Churchwardens

St George's Services for November

Please check latest info on the church page at greatbromley.org.uk

- + **November 1st** Parish Eucharist (BCP) 10.30am
(note the new time)
Church open to visitors 12 noon - 5pm
- + **November 8th** Remembrance Sunday
Remembrance services are currently on hold.
Please see the village website for details.
Church open to visitors 12 noon - 5pm
- + **November 15th** Light a Candle Service 6.30pm
Church not open today except for the service
- + **November 22nd** Parish Eucharist 10.30am
Church open to visitors 12 noon - 5pm
- + **November 29th** Advent Service 6.30pm
Church not open today except for the service