

The

Messenger

The Magazine of the
villages of Great &
Little Bromley

September 2022



THE FIRST PAGE

Dear all,

The extreme heat continues! I hope you are finding some way of keeping cool. I'm off to Wembley tonight to see Coldplay...just a little bit excited!

We had a great time on holiday last month in Bulgaria, it was just what we needed. There were none of the reported problems at the airport; the media have a ridiculous habit of exaggerating all manner of stories, but I can honestly say I've never been through baggage drop and security so quickly. More importantly, we didn't catch Covid! Plenty of sunshine and relaxation was had by me, and Immy spent the entire week either in the pool or at the snack bar. Perfect!

We're due some thunderstorms over the next few days and hopefully some rain to help make the garden green again. Our wisteria managed a second flowering just as it did last year, so Mr R was happy, although our supplies of rainwater are almost depleted. Andy and Judy have some good advice in that respect for your gardens this month. Also in this month's magazine is an article that Hugh discovered from the 1950's, written about life in the late 19th century.

It's just a matter of a few short weeks

until the children are back to school, so good luck to all those moving up to new schools or classes, or those starting new courses.

This month's cover is a special guest appearance from HM the Queen and Paddington, and of course the marmalade sandwich in the bag, courtesy of Gill Rumney. Details of the WI afternoon are on page 19.

Awareness days for September include:

- 2nd - National Doodle Day
- 13th - Roald Dahl Story Day
- 15th - Pension Awareness Day
- 19th - Youth Mental Health Day
- 29th - Thankyou #Hiddenheroes Day

As always, a big

Thank you 

to authors, advertisers and distributors for making the magazine possible.

**Take care,
Lizzie**

MATERIAL for the **OCTOBER 2022** edition of 'The Messenger' should reach the Editor, Lizzie Ridout, by **14th SEPTEMBER 2022** please.

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LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs Dawn Sauka

Chairman: Mr Jon Buxton

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Tel: 07484 617583

Email: littlebromleypc@gmail.com



Little Bromley Parish Council is here to listen to residents' concerns and act on them. We aim to support programs that benefit the Village and be responsive to any queries. We are proud to do this, whilst having one of the lowest precepts of any local Council.

Parish Council meetings are held every two months on the third Thursday of the month at The Haywain, and are open to all residents of the Village. If there are issues you are concerned about, or ideas you would like to share, please come along and talk to us or email the Clerk on littlebromleypc@gmail.com.

Join us - come along to the next meeting on Thursday 15th September or email us at: littlebromleypc@gmail.com

You can see all Agendas and Minutes and Parish Council information at www.littlebromley.org.uk

Jonathan Buxton – Chairman Little Bromley Parish Council

GREAT BROMLEY IN 1878

In the late 19th century a family called Sturgeon moved from Suffolk to Great Bromley and spent a few years here. The 1881 Census shows John and Mary living on Colchester Road (the one via Elmstead, I assume), in the 1891 Census they lived on "Back Road", and by 1901 they were gone. I was given an interesting old newspaper article, written by their son Arthur Sturgeon sometime in the 1950s, and his memories are condensed below.

In the year 1878, at 12 years of age, I started as a baker's boy with a Mr. Brookes of Great Bromley. I helped a man to make the bread in the morning and in the afternoon we went into five different villages to serve the customers. We only called once a week as bread made with stone ground flour would eat better stale than new.

I noticed a lot of women picking stones into hods and making heaps in the fields. One day a week each farmer would send a man, horse and tumbrel, and they would cart those stones to the side of the main roadway and then men with long handled hammers would break the large stones into smaller pieces and put them on the roadway where they would be ground down by the ordinary traffic. My mother and the great majority of women looked upon that as a necessary job of work as they wanted their highway to be high, dry and hard, so that the rain would run off into ditches. Then the public could walk to church with clean boots.

As Colchester was five miles away about twice a year one of the seven regiments would march onto the village green opposite the Black Boy inn and the Colonel would buy each man a pint. While the men were refreshing themselves the band was playing all the popular tunes of the day, such as "Champagne Charlie is my name" or "Little Polly Perkins of Paddington Green" and the Sergeant with a hat of

coloured ribbons would be walking around trying to get the young chaps to take the Queen's shilling.

In the big white house in the park lived a gentleman who was connected with steamship companies, which were booming in the 1870s. He used to have a lot of visitors in the summer from the towns, staying for a fortnight or more. When the girls left school at 13 they went to work in the big house and as soon as they got a little experience as house or nursemaid they would be asked "Would you like to come and live with me in my town house as a maid?" That is how my two young sisters came to work in West End houses, and that left no young women for the young chaps to court.

During the two years I was in the village there was only one maid and she worked at a farm, every Sunday afternoon she would come out of the white gate where there would be about 20 young chaps waiting for her. She would have a chat with them, then pick out the one she was going to court for that afternoon. We younger boys were watching at a distance and as soon as they dispersed we would run to church as fast as we could. We did not want to meet the disappointed ones, as they had used their boots [on us] once or twice.

The parson and the farmers would cooperate to get enough labourers to work the land.

The parson would advertise that he wanted a groom or gardener for his rectory and if anyone applied for the job he would engage them on a month's trial. They would live in a two-roomed cottage that belonged to the rectory and cook their own meals, and if they suited they were engaged and their wives and children moved into the cottage. That is how my father was lured into Essex from Suffolk.

When my mother and two sisters arrived at the village they found the two roomed cottage a tight fit, so when the parson said to father, "I have got a better place for you at the cold Hall Farm; They want to stockman and you are just the man for the place; 1s. more money and a nice cottage rent free at the entrance gate," my father was delighted because he had got a horse to look after and drive about.

The farmer at Cold Hall was a gentleman farmer who used to drive about north Essex and buy bullocks, also sheep for the cattle markets, and my father would fetch them the next day and put them in the straw yard at the home farm. On the Saturday my father and another man would drive two lots to Colchester cattle market, and if not sold there they would be taken to the railway station and put in trucks for Caledonian market in London and the railwaymen would feed and water them.

That farmer was a good one to his men. If the land was not fit to till he would say "Hedging and ditching today" and the men would sharpen their tools and go and cut the hedges and clear out the ditches. The wood was equally divided amongst his eight men who worked for him, also a good stack at the farm, so my mother had plenty of wood to heat her oven. Another concession was a tumbrel load of good manure shot in each man's garden for his vegetables. That put several shillings into the

workers pockets.

Father was a Conservative but the head foreman was a Liberal, and also a preacher in the village Chapel. [They argued about politics] and had a first-class row so the farmer had to part them.

That meant father had to leave his nice cottage, and the parson had to find him another job. That was soon arranged at 1s. a week less wage, and a cottage at 1s. a week rent, minding sheep. That farmer liked his men to keep a pig in the sty. He provided the pig, the miller provided the barley meal, and mother did all the work. She had always got the pot boiling with spare vegetables for the pig. When she brewed her sweet wurt from malt and hops the grains put a bit of flavour in his dinner. When father's turn came to kill the pig it was split up into 10 portions, one leg for the farmer, the other for the miller, then eight portions for the men, two rib spears, that two loins cut into four, the pluck and the other portions equally divided. I know my mother had plenty of fat bacon hanging up the chimney getting smoke-dried, which I was fond of.

Now I want to point out the benefit of going to church. The farmer said to father "Why did not your wife come to church yesterday?" Father said, "She is very queer worrying about our eldest son. He is working in London near where that gunpowder explosion took place at Regents park."

The farmer's wife told the parson's wife, and they both went round to our cottage and found mother very ill. They sent for the doctor, who ordered beef from the butcher to make beef tea and some chops, also a pint of full cream milk a day. That was a luxury for a farm labourer's wife, as practically all full cream milk was turned into butter or cheese, and taken to the market in town

and sold to the public by the farmer's wife.

The half-man took the milk to the dairy after the cows had been milked. [illegible line missing] flat milk pans in position. She strained the milk through muslin into them and they stood there for 24 hours. At the 12th hour the farmer's wife would skim the cream into a wooden pail, at the 24th hour the farmer's daughter would skim the cream off that. That was then called skim milk, and the sold to their farm labourers' children at ½d. her quart. The half-man would be waiting to take what was left, to mix with some barley meal for his pigs. My mother used to boil that skim milk and pour on stone ground wheaten flour bread, and the bread used to swell to double its size. It was a nourishing breakfast food for children.

Now I want to explain the wages. A boy at 13 would get 4s. [shillings] a week until 15, then he became a half-man at 6s per week, at 17 a three-quarter man at 9s. per week, at 21 a man at 12s. per week. When that man got older and not so active and could not hump a sack of corn or lift a sheep into a cart for the butcher, he would revert back to the three-quarter man at 9s. per week.

My father came under that category when he reached 65. He had been caring for sheep, and when I had my annual holiday I would go with him onto a field of turnips to help him shift the hurdles to make a fresh bite. If the sheep's feet were sore he had lotions, and put rags on, then some sacking tied on. If it did not get well, he would fetch the cart from the farm and take it to the butchers to be killed for mutton.

That 9s. a week business upset my parents so they made up their minds to end their days in Suffolk, going back to Ipswich in 1893, where he found a light job at a windmill.

In the year 1908, when they were both 80 years of age they retired on the old age pension of 5s. a week. They found the 10s. was not enough to live on so they asked five of us to send them a shilling a week each, until a supplementary pension of 2s. 6d. was given. Then mother sent the 1s. back to us saying that 15s. was ample for their requirements. A few years after that they passed on.

***Dr Hugh Frostick 07722 253962
hugh@greatbromley.org.uk***

APPOINTMENT OF NEW PRIESTS

On Sunday 24th July an announcement from the Bishop of Colchester and the Archdeacon was read out in the churches of the nine 'rural' parishes of the Harwich Deanery (Dedham, Ardleigh, The Bromleys, Lt Bentley, Gt Oakley, Tendring, Wrabness, Beaumont-cum-Moze and Wix). The Bishop has appointed the first of two 'rural missionaries', the Revd Phillip Young, currently assistant curate of Wootton in Bedfordshire. The Bishop of Chelmsford, the Rt Revd Dr Guli Francis Dehqani, will license Phillip at 7.30pm on 4th October at St George's Church, Great

Bromley. Phillip, Louise and their family will live in the vicarage at Dedham. We offer our prayers for Phillip as he prepares to move and for his ministry here. The intention is to appoint a second rural missionary to work alongside Phillip. An advertisement for the second Rural Missioner (and Area Dean role) will be published in the Church Times on 26 August, with details available at www.harwichruralmissioners.uk. It is hoped the interview process will be on 17 and 18 November. We will keep you updated.

LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Email: littlebromleypc@gmail.com

The last Parish Council meeting on the 21st July was well attended, with the National Grid East Anglian Green and Five Estuaries Windfarm projects and their impact on Little Bromley causing much discussion. The National Grid project was debated in the House of Commons on the 19th July with the debate being opened by our local MP Sir Bernard Jenkin. All MP's from our region raised their concerns and support for an Offshore alternative for power transmission was highlighted. The transcript and recording of the debate can be found online.

Five Estuaries has now published better quality maps showing how their onshore work is likely to affect Tendring and Little Bromley. These can be found at the Five Estuaries website and we have also copied relevant maps to the Little Bromley website. These maps allow residents to see in better detail proximity to properties and proposed

cable routes.

Five Estuaries is working to a similar timescale to National Grid with Development Consent Order application planned for 2023, decision expected in 2024/ 2025, construction following the decision with the windfarm operational in 2030.

There is a change to your Parish Council with the resignation of Councillor Spall – we would like to thank her for her service over the years.

The post of Vice Chairman has been taken by Councillor Smith and we welcome him to his new role. A Council vacancy was published on the 12th July 2022, and are pleased to advise that a new councillor will be announced during our September meeting, which will be held on Thursday 15th September at the Haywain at 7.30pm.



GREAT BROMLEY FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Attendance for our July meeting was a little reduced due to a number of reasons, but members had a very enjoyable afternoon in spite of this.

Donations had been sent in memory of Jean and Pauline and we were informed that Pat is making good progress after his accident.

Coral is also recovering well from surgery, and we look forward to seeing

them soon.

After delicious refreshments we all enjoyed a couple of games of bingo – complete with prizes for the winners!

We would love to welcome new members, so do please come along and join us if you are free on the third Thursday of the month between 2pm and 4pm. and make some new friends.

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

www.gbpc.org.uk

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



At our latest Parish Council meeting on August 10th we welcomed four members of the public. We do value your attendance and opinions. All of them very concerned with the latest planning application by Orwell Housing and were against any further development at Robinson Close in Mary Lane.

Robinson Close was built by Orwell Housing following the purchase of land from a local land owner, who also donated some land for a parking area for use by the school and residents which is located immediately on the right hand side when entering the development. There has been considerable confusion and unpleasantness over this parking area. The Parish Clerk and myself met with a representative of Orwell Housing to discuss this problem which also included the untidy state the developers had left the site, including a sign that should have been removed, general maintenance of ditches and grass and the unfinished path way to allow pedestrians safe access to and from the school. These issues are still not resolved. The residents mentioned flooding problems which would only be increased with extra dwellings. The application consisted of six affordable dwellings and three open market houses. Councillors were not in favour of this application. The previous development by Orwell Housing saw a number of one bedroom affordable dwellings constructed despite the Parish Council requesting two and three affordable dwellings. We were totally ignored by this development company.

Once the one bedroom flats were completed TDC was unable to find enough local residents to occupy them. Therefore residents from within the Tendring District Council area were

allocated for the remaining properties. If you have any concerns regarding this further unnecessary development please write to TDC Planning Department or contact me when I represent you at the planning committee hearing and I will voice your concerns.

The Council felt that as more affordable properties will have to be built at Hamilton Lodge, as part of the planning permission, there was no requirement for more affordable houses at Robinson Close. It was also felt that over development was another objection. The developers were intending to build further along Mary Lane. The Council requested that our District Councillors "call in" the application to TDC's Planning Committee to enable us, the Parish Council, to be heard. We wait to hear when this meeting will be held, which residents will be able to attend.

A new dog fouling bin and cycle rack have been requested from TDC Open Spaces department for installation in Church Meadow. This will be considered by that department. The Open Spaces team at TDC will also be visiting Hare Green Recreation Ground to consider what help can be given for enhancement of the play equipment and additional benches. It is not too late for residents to express their opinion on Hare Green, this is a recreational area for the whole Parish.

The Parish Council has a small number of the Queen's Platinum Celebration mugs available for sale. Please contact the clerk if you would like one.

I have been asked recently why there is no pre-school in Great Bromley, I will try to answer this question next month.

Clr Fred Nicholls



GT BENTLEY DOCTORS' SURGERY

We are fast approaching flu vaccination season and I want to take this opportunity to remind everyone who is eligible to **call us from the 5 September 2022** to make an

appointment for your annual NHS flu jab. Flu vaccinations will be available this year to all patients aged 50 and over and those under 50 with chronic health conditions.

Although I cannot give you exact dates as I write this Newsletter, the Flu Clinics will start in late September and will be running on a Saturday. We will of course continue to provide vaccinations opportunistically during normal routine appointments for eligible patients, (subject to deliveries of the vaccine being on time), so there is no need to book a separate flu appointment if you are seeing a clinician for a face to face appointment.

Flu is an unpredictable virus that can cause mild or unpleasant illness in most people, BUT it can cause severe illness and even death among vulnerable groups including older people, pregnant women and people with an underlying health condition. If you are not sure if you are eligible, please give us a call. We are unable to provide private vaccinations, but many local pharmacies do.

By having your flu jab, you are not only helping yourself, but you are also helping to protect the wider population from this nasty virus which can easily spread to vulnerable



people who are much more at risk from complications.

For those patients eligible for a Covid booster vaccination, we are hoping to be able to give this along with the flu jab, as long as we receive delivery of the vaccine in time.

Surgery Premises Update

We have been asked for an update on what is happening with regard to our Surgery premises. Please see the article below from Dr Freda Bhatti, our Senior Partner.

To clarify, there will be no new surgery development in Great Bentley or elsewhere in the foreseeable future. The process of building a new surgery is immensely complicated and involves not just the Doctors but a developer, Clinical Commissioning Group (now Integrated Care Systems) and NHS England. Unfortunately, any development proposal that has been made has not fulfilled certain criteria in that process. There are many obstacles that must be overcome and there is little point being too specific, other than to state we have not been successful with the plans proposed to date. That is not to say we will not succeed one day in a new surgery building for Great Bentley and surrounding areas. The new Integrated Care Systems (our one is Suffolk and North East Essex - SNEE), established on 1 July 2022 with the end of CCGs, have been instructed by NHS England to place emphasis on improving primary care estates, as like us, many GPs nationally function out of buildings no longer fit for purpose for the modern day demands placed on GPs.

As to expansion – yes we are considering that option but have not advanced further as that is again

dependent on many factors including NHS England agreement on any plans, but also the financial burden that would place on the Partnership.

Surgery Training Afternoon

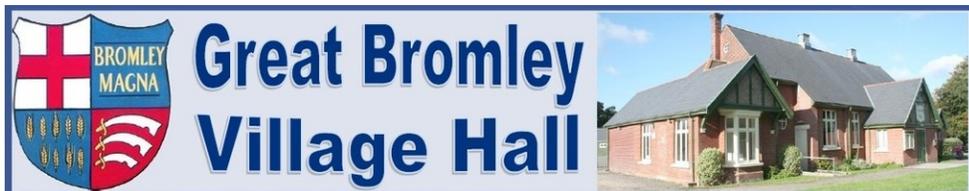
Along with all other surgeries in the area we will be shut from 12 noon on Tuesday, 27 September 2022 for staff training. If patients require urgent care

on this afternoon then they can contact 111 for assistance.

Patient Participation Group

The next PPG Meeting will be held on Thursday, 15 September 2022 at 6.30 pm at Great Bentley Village Hall.

Sue Mitson
Operations Manager



The Village Hall Management Committee has taken advantage of the quieter summer holiday period and the dry weather to continue with the external repair and painting programme. The planned work will be complete by the beginning of September and should result in the building being weatherproof and looking much smarter. Some internal redecoration is planned for the winter months.

The Management Committee is jointly promoting one fundraising event this autumn with the Common Ground Theatre Company, who return to the village hall on Sunday 30th October at 7.30pm with their adaptation of The Raven. This acclaimed play is an excursion into the weird and wonderful mind of Edgar Allen Poe and promises to be a treat and well up to the high standard of previous plays performed by this Company at Great Bromley.

The performance here is the final one of the Company's autumn tour, which will see them performing at theatres and community venues across Essex, Suffolk and Norfolk.

Tickets are available from the Common Ground Theatre Company (07807341364 or www.commongroundtc.co.uk) priced at £13 (U21s/those on income support £10).

We look forward to welcoming you to this event and also to providing hall accommodation for you whether it be for a birthday party, meeting or musical event. As the hall is fully licensed, there is scope to undertake a wide range of activities in the accommodation - all at competitive hire rates.

If you want to know more about what the hall can offer or if you wish to make a booking please contact the bookings manager Jackie Lear on villagehallbookings@greatbromley.org.uk or 07543974751.

A tour of the facilities can be arranged on request.

Martin Frostick
villagehallsecretary@greatbromley.org.uk
or 01206 250263

Dates for your diary



SEPTEMBER

- 07 WI - Hugh Frostick: 'Churchill's Secret Army. The British Resistance Force.' - Village Hall 7:30pm
- 13 Crafting Social - Learn to knit, or consult about knitting projects. Materials supplied. £3 Village Hall 9.30am-Noon
- 14 Great Bromley Parish Council, Village Hall - 7.30pm
- 15 Little Bromley Parish Council, The Haywain - 7.30pm
- 18 Great Bromley Antiques & Collectors Fair - Village Hall - 9am-3pm

OCTOBER

- 05 WI - 'Dabble Day' try out 3 different crafts - Village Hall 7:30pm
- 12 Great Bromley Parish Council, Village Hall - 7.30pm

NOVEMBER

- 09 Great Bromley Parish Council, Village Hall - 7.30pm
- 20 Great Bromley Antiques & Collectors Fair - Village Hall - 9am-3pm



If anyone is in urgent need of the flood barrier or water snakes, these can be found in outside storage at The Courthouse, Harwich Road, Great Bromley.



Did you know? Great Bromley has two Automated External Defibrillators. You can access these at:

- The Cross Inn, Ardleigh Road, CO7 7TL or
- The Courthouse, Harwich Road, CO7 7JG

Don't ignore it - Report it at www.essexhighways.org



Essex Highways carry out regular inspections of roads and pavements, but issues may come up between these inspections. These could be potholes or other road surface issues, damaged street lights, street signs, overgrown trees, or issues with public rights of way.

Report maintenance issues online by using the highways reporting tool. If you think there's a risk to public safety please call 0345 603 7631 or if you have hearing problems you can use the text phone service on 0345 758 5592.

Great Bromley WI had a special visitor for the August Strawberry Tea Party. Our theme was 'The Queen' and nobody was more surprised than us when she arrived to join us for a sumptuous spread. Gill Rumney emerged from behind the mask to win the competition and we all tucked into an array of homemade delights.



Next month September 7th there is a change of program, and our guest speaker is local historian Hugh Frostick to talk about Churchill's Secret Army - the local men who trained secretly to be the resistance in the case of invasion. We're looking forward to hearing about his extensive research into the training and cunningly concealed underground hideouts that only recently became generally known.

Women are welcome to come along for the evening to join us. Refreshments served.

Knit and Knatter meet at the Cheshire Home on Wednesday 14th 2-4pm and our Crafting Social is on Tuesday 13th, where we will be offering an introduction to knitting, and the chance to discuss more advanced projects with some experts! All are welcome

For more details call Dorothy 07791 974053 or Carole 07979 726384.



PLANNING APPLICATIONS

REF	PROPOSAL	LOCATION
22/01097/FUL Mr and Mrs S Brazier - Toad Hall Free Range Eggs	Proposed erection of an agricultural storage building. Great Bromley Parish Council had no comments to make.	Bush Farm, Hall Road
22/01128/FUL Kandiah	Proposed new stables with existing access. Great Bromley Parish Council had no objection to the application.	Blue Gates Farm, Carringtons Road
22/01199/VOC Mr Lamb - Selectacars	Variation of condition 2 of application 22/00091/FUL to revise drawing number 2162-P01 to allow for alterations. Great Bromley Parish Council had no objection to the application.	Selecta Cars, Harwich Road

**For planning application 22/01010/FUL - Land at Badley Hall Farm,
Robinson Close, please see page 19**

Little Bentley Coffee & Cake

1st Wednesday in month,
Church Hall, Little Bentley
10 - 12 Noon



Great and Little Bromley villagers
are very welcome

Ardleigh & District Horticultural Society

Evening meetings are the 2nd Wednesday
of each month at Ardleigh Village Hall and
start at 19:45.

Admission is free for members and just
£1.50 for visitors, who are always
welcome.

Refreshments are available after the talk.
Membership is only £5 for each season
and you can join at any meeting or at the
show.

The Mobile Library visits every three weeks at Church Meadow on a Thursday - next dates are:

15 September

6 October

27 October

17 November

9.45am to 10.15am



THE DEDHAM EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

The Trustees invite applications from residents in the Parishes of Ardleigh, Bradfield, Dedham, Great Bromley and Stratford St. Mary for financial grants that are available in the following categories:

Secondary Schools & Sixth Form Colleges

Applicants must be at least 12 years old on the 1st August in the year of application.

Universities & Colleges of Further Education

Applicants must have lived in one, or more, of the five Parishes for at least two years prior to the application date.

For an application form, or further details, please contact the Clerk to the Foundation, Mrs. Claire Arculus, at dedhamefclerk@gmail.com or 07752201441.

Closing date for applications:- **31st October 2022.**

CAN YOU HELP AN OLDER PERSON TO REMAIN SAFER IN THEIR HOME?

Since 2019 Able Community Care has given out, free, almost 80,000 of the above door stickers to older and disabled people who do not wish to answer the door to strangers.

Able Community Care is a nationwide, live-in care provider which was established in 1980.

Originally, we just gave out door stickers to our clients, but the demand has grown and since then we have received requests for the door stickers from around the UK.

If you would like to receive any door stickers to give out to older or disabled people you know, please email to: info@ablecommunitycare.com with how many you would like to receive and an address to send them to. (No addresses will be kept or passed on) www.ablecommunitycare.com



IN THE GARDEN WITH ANDY & JUDY

The parched landscapes this summer have been more reminiscent of driving through southern France than our green and pleasant land. For gardeners, this summer has been all about managing water. Unlike the hot summer of 1976, which was preceded by a dry winter, we were fortunate in this area to have had good rainfalls last winter which meant we entered the summer with reasonable levels of water in reservoirs. So, at the time of writing, we still do not have a hosepipe ban, but many are trying to do their bit to conserve available water. The result is a number of failed or smaller harvests which can be disappointing after all the earlier work put in to establish plants earlier, and for local horticultural shows, predictable lower numbers of entries in their first year operating since 2019. On a positive note, at least the shows have been happening and there is always next year!

We are now in the new bungalow but a lot of the planting is only weeks or months old, requiring supplementary watering. More established planting is better able to cope with drought but planting that is less than 2 years old is very vulnerable. Fortunately, one of the design features we decided was worth the investment was a 5000l underground rainwater harvesting tank and water tanks on the garage, greenhouse and sheds. This has helped enormously.

Reading up through this winter on the various ways of improving water management for your garden would be a good investment for the next dry summer, whenever it comes.

It is useful for watering purposes if a plant is in a slight saucer shaped depression to enable supplementary watering to go down to the roots instead of running away from the plant. Mulching

around plant(s) will help to retain moisture in the soil and root ball.

Alternatively bury a small flower pot or a bottle with the bottom cut off and the cap off next to the plant and water into it. Works well but will need the mulch & soil cleared from it to be fully effective.

We heard an interesting tip from Lucy Chamberlain the BBC Essex gardening advisor who suggests it is better to water early in the morning especially for those plants that are eaten by slugs and snails. Her view is that as slugs and snails are nocturnal and feed at night the presence of damp soil makes their feeding easier.

As it is often necessary to increase humidity in the glasshouse during the day the benefit of watering in the morning is that by evening the humidity level will have dropped back. At evening/night too high a humidity level could help to cause/worsen Botrytis and Tomato blight. It all becomes a bit academic in the recent 30-degree centigrade temperatures when greenhouses have needed watering twice a day. If forced to water in strong sunshine take care not to splash foliage or fruit.

Winter squashes and pumpkins will benefit from having the fruit placed on tiles or slates to prevent rotting and they will benefit from a late feed.

Pull out spent crops and either feed to chickens, compost or if diseased dispose of. This removes some possibilities for pests or disease to multiply.

Having spent the last few weeks ensuring maximum ventilation to the greenhouse it will now be time to close doors and ventilators to keep the temperature at night higher and remove shading provided to deal with the summer sun.

Hi Everyone,

I hope you have all enjoyed the six weeks off with the schools and while I think about it, good luck to those starting school or moving up to high school or uni. In fact anyone who is starting something new; that includes our handyman Ian who is leaving to start working at the University of Essex. Good luck to you all.

I have just returned from my Norfolk holiday with the whole family; we all had a great time and who would want to go abroad with the weather we have been having? I know all you farmers and gardeners need the rain but it has been nice to have a summer with long hot days. Looking forward, I do hope we have rain soon as we will all be in need soon, so I will say it can start with the soft gentle rain any time in September.

Here at Seven Rivers we have been melting like everyone in the heat, staff are still having to wear face masks so yes, cooler weather would be nice. But we continue to try and keep busy. We

started going to Harwich Park Pavilion once a month to a singing group for people with disabilities run by Clare, who also runs Harwich Sing and Tendring Voices. All our residents have been enjoying this. Clare is also putting on a show at the Princes Theatre in Clacton on September 10th to celebrate 10 years of the choirs. She tells me tickets are still available from the Theatre's website. This is only for the main choirs, not the disability sing-song that we go to.

In house we have been able to invite the WI Knit and Knatter group back. It was so lovely to see everyone again, plus a couple of new faces.

After all the activities staff have had their summer holidays we should be getting back to our normal routine in September. We have entertainment booked to come into the home and in the next few weeks we will be talking about what we are going to be doing over Christmas (I can hear the moans!). So with that thought I'm going to do a runner.

***So take care until next time
Liz x***



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FLOWER FESTIVAL - CONTINUED

Behind the scenes for the past three or four months a group of us have been working away to get ready for the Flower Festival. Jenny called out the troops and we had flower meetings involving many local organisations.

We have also been exchanging letters and emails with many flower sponsors and raffle prize donators (sometimes both). Just before the Festival the raffle prizes were collected or delivered, along with a few bonus donations over the weekend.

Thanks to these generous businesses, organisations and individuals we were able to decorate the church with lots of wonderful flower displays. We were also able to provide a wonderful raffle to tempt many hopeful winners. Mr Steward sponsored our raffle tickets and many others provided lovely prizes (cakes, wines, meal vouchers, other vouchers and lots more).

The Chairman of Tendring District Council, Peter Harris came to read at the Pet Service on the Sunday afternoon. Afterwards he and his wife very kindly called out the winners of the raffle for us. The first prize of £100 was won by Mrs A. Stanmore.

Inside the church we have lists of our wonderful sponsors up on the walls. They will be on display for the next month. There are too many to mention personally but we would like to thank everyone for making the Flower Festival so successful.

Mrs R. Keitch (St. George's School Headteacher) and the pupils provided us with the lovely posters seen around the villages, towns, etc. They also provided the Flower Booklets given out on arrival at the church for the Flower Festival. The children decorated some jubilee banners which hung across the church and enhanced our display.

We had a lovely weekend and we would like to thank once again, all those who replied to our letters, all those who helped and all those who came to see our beautiful church. The Flower Festival is always a lovely event, but it is really nice to see familiar faces and new faces and to hear the church come alive with chatter, music and friendship.

We are pleased to say that the Flower Festival raised over £3600 towards the church.

Carol Cordwell

DEANERY CHOIR

The Deanery Choir will be supporting the worship of the Holy Communion service at St George's Church, Great Bromley on Sunday 11th September at 10.30am.

Into the Choir diary is our arrangement of 'A Living Christmas' at St Mary the Virgin Church, Great Bentley, on Saturday 17th December, at 7pm. It comprises over one hour listening to the carols of living composers, poems and readings with a retiring donation. Further information will follow nearer the time.

John Kedge
Publicity and bass singer

STOUR CHORAL SOCIETY NEWS

We would like to invite you to join us for an entertaining evening of songs from the stage and screen, including contributions from local young musicians.

'STOUR CHORAL SOCIETY GOES TO THE MOVIES'

Conductor: Susie Hyman, Organist: Stephen Smith: Percussion: Ben Steinitz

SATURDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER 2022, 6.15PM

OLD HALL, EAST BERGHOLT, CO7 6TG

Tickets £10, under 18s free from Howell's hardware store,
Manningtree High Street, from SCS members or email:

info@stourchoralsociety.co.uk

Come and join us! Stour Choral Society is a thriving and friendly choir. We are looking for new members- especially tenors and basses. With new interest in 'singing for health'- what better way is there to meet new people, feel part of the community, and sing away your daily stresses?

We are offering an
OPEN REHEARSAL on
MONDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER 7.30PM

The Oak Room, Acorn Village, Clacton Road, Mistley CO11 2NJ

Come and experience what it is like to sing in a medium sized mixed voice choir. You can get in touch via our email: info@stourchoralsociety.co.uk, or via our Facebook page, or just turn up. Why not visit our website?
www.stourchoralsociety.co.uk

RECTOR'S LETTER

By the beginning of September, we will know who has been chosen to be the next Prime Minister of the United Kingdom. I am always reluctant to venture into politics, but I must confess to some disappointment that the environment has not featured more in the campaigns of the two contenders. Quite rightly, there has been much debate on the economy. With inflation reaching double figures, the rise in energy prices and growing industrial unrest, our nation is facing a difficult period. Millions of homes will be

experiencing real financial hardship this winter. This parish supports the Manningtree Foodbank, which does such important work in our local community. But many of us have a growing sense of unease, that increasing numbers of people are having to rely on charities to feed their families.

With all these pressing needs it is perhaps not surprising that the environment has been put on the back burner. There is talk that the next government might remove

the green energy levies in an attempt to reduce fuel bills. And there has certainly been some back tracking about the United Kingdom reaching net zero by 2050. The heatwave this summer, and the fires raging across Europe, should surely be a wake-up call. The COP 26 Climate Conference, hosted by the United Kingdom, resulted in a climate pact involving 200 countries. Personally, I felt the president of the conference, Alok Sharma, a member of our own government, brought real energy and commitment to the challenge to create a green and sustainable future. The conference resulted in a compromise, with which Sharma, along with many leading climate scientists was disappointed.

The Church of England has perhaps arrived at a concern for the environment a little late in the day. One of its “Five

Marks of Mission” is “to strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and to sustain and renew the life of the earth” This is not an attempt to be politically relevant. Rather it comes from a fundamental understanding of the theology of creation. This world is God’s world, and human beings have a sacred duty to care for the planet. Our English churchyards have for centuries been a haven for wild life. And St George’s is certainly doing its bit for bat conservation!

So please pray, when the time comes, for our new Prime Minister and for Her Majesty’s government. There are huge challenges facing them. Pray that all their decisions will be for the common good, and that, along with other world leaders, they will do their bit “to sustain and renew the life of the earth.”

Stephen Carter

PLANNING APPLICATION	
REF/ SITE	PROPOSAL
<p>22/01010/ FUL Orwell Housing Association</p> <p>Land at Badley Hall Farm, Robinson Close</p>	<p>Proposed erection of 9 no. dwellings, comprising 6 no. affordable and 3 no. market houses.</p> <p>Great Bromley Parish Council objected to the application for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The site was clearly an overdeveloped site and encroached on grade one agricultural land. • The few facilities in the village could not support more residents. • Affordable housing was already being provided with the Hamilton Lodge development. • Lack of provision for visitor parking. • Loss of privacy and overlooking properties. • Flooding issues. • Outside of the settlement boundary. • Dangerous highway and negative impact on the junction of Brook Street and Parsons Hill. • Cllr Scott had called-in the application to TDC’s planning Committee. • Cllr Nicholls would also speak against the application. He also advised of the aesthetic issues which remained around Robinson Close. Cllr Scott undertook to raise those issues with TDC’s Planning Enforcement team as Orwell Housing had not complied with planning conditions relating to landscaping.



St George's Church Great Bromley



www.greatbromley.org.uk

Parish of The Bromleys

St George's Church, Great Bromley

September 4th	Trinity 12	Parish Eucharist (BCP)	10.30am
September 11th	Trinity 13	Parish Eucharist	10.30am
September 18th	Trinity 14	Evensong (BCP)	6.30pm
September 25th	Trinity 15	Parish Eucharist	10.30am

Services at St Mary's, Little Bentley

September 4th Morning Prayer 10.30am

September 18th Holy Communion 10.30am

Services details for Lawford/Mistley, Dedham/Ardleigh, Moze
can be found on their websites.

Would you like to receive our email newsletter?

All our news and events are in the full-colour, monthly newsletter. You can subscribe on the 'Welcome Page' of the church website: www.greatbromley.org.uk

New to church or new to Great or Little Bromley?

Do get in touch for more information; we'd like to welcome you.