

The Messenger

The Magazine of the
villages of Great &
Little Bromley

February 2023



THE FIRST PAGE

Dear all,

Welcome to 2023! I hope you all had a peaceful and enjoyable Christmas and New Year.

I've now completed the NHS-supported Couch to 5K running programme, graduating in December. I'm dodging the showers/wind/snow/ice and trying to continue running two or three times a week, and I've also managed a couple of Parkruns. The Clacton Seafront Parkrun takes place on a Saturday morning at 9am starting at Martello Bay with three laps along the lower promenade and back along the top promenade. Despite the steep angle on the slope I was able to complete the 5km in 31 minutes. The course record is just under 16 minutes! Parkruns are also held in Harwich and Colchester and you can find details online. My next goal is to take part in the Bromley 10K Run which takes place on Sunday 16th April. I'm advised that the course is as flat as a pancake, and I'm asking for a little bit of sunshine. Not to be outdone, Mr R has also taken up the Couch to 5K challenge...watch this space!

Don't forget to check with your GP first before taking on any new exercise.

Elections take place on Thursday 4th May this year for parish and district council. If you are interested in becoming a councillor, you can find more information on the Tendring District Council website, or by contacting the Elections team at Clacton Town Hall. Important dates and timescales are published once known and are being updated regularly.

If anyone is interested in working as a poll clerk or count assistant, speak to the Elections team at TDC. It's a long day from 7am-10pm, or a long night if you are counting after 10pm but it's a vital and interesting part of the democratic process.

Awareness days in February include:

- 2nd - Time to Talk Day
- 4th - World Cancer Day
- 6th - National Sickness Day
- 9th - Toothache Day
- 14th - Valentine's Day ♥
- 21st - Shrove Tuesday

Thanks to Paul for this month's cover photo of some young saplings.

*Take care,
Lizzie*

MATERIAL for the **MARCH 2023** edition of 'The Messenger' should reach the Editor, Lizzie Ridout, by **14th FEBRUARY 2023** 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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You still have time to use your reliefs and allowances this year

Are you ready for tax -year-end?

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Build a strong financial foundation finding the right balance of savings and investments. I can help you to achieve long-term goals with the best tax-savvy strategies still this year.

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STOUR VALLEY U3A

Make the most of life once you're no longer in full time work and come and explore new ideas, interests and skills. Across the country U3A members are learning, staying active, meeting new people and having fun later in life. It's local, social, friendly, low cost and open to all.

We have over 40 interest groups including walking – from strollers to 5+ milers – theatre, film, garden visits, art appreciation, curry club, science group, keep fit, international travel, pickleball there's something for everyone. Do visit our website and see what we offer.

Monthly coffee mornings are held on the first Friday of the month 10am – 12pm at the Lambe School, East Bergholt. Our monthly talks are held on the second Wednesday at 2pm at in

Constable Hall, East Bergholt. On 8th February we have a speaker from the Co – Op's Estate Planning Dept who will advise on making a will, inheritance tax, living wills & other tax issues for our generation.

Then on 8th March our speaker is Christine Beedle whose talk is entitled "Confessions of an Essex Scrubber". You will be disappointed if you anticipate a seedier version of 50 Shades of Grey! Instead, you will hear about a lady who grew a business employing 850 staff and was awarded an MBE for her services to industry.

Please take a look at our website www.u3asites.org.uk/stourvalleyfor more information and contact details. We look forward to meeting you.

DEANERY CHOIR

February 12th

The Deanery Choir will be singing at St George's church at Great Bromley at the 10.30am Communion service.

The anthem that they are singing is The prayer of St Richard of Chichester by J.L.White and arranged by Alan Bullard.

St Richard, who was Bishop of Chichester for eight years in the mid-13th century, was well acquainted with both hard work and suffering. Though a gifted scholar and lawyer, he did not flinch from physical labour; and as Bishop he found himself a homeless outcast in his own diocese, until King Henry III finally accepted his appointment by the Pope. His prayer reflects the commitment and 'stickability' needed by anyone who seeks to be a true follower of Jesus.

February 23rd

The Deanery Choir will be singing at the Confirmation service at Harwich at 7pm and the anthem they have chosen to sing is Lead me, Lord a setting by Fred Bock.

In Christian churches that practise infant baptism, confirmation is seen as the sealing of the covenant created in baptism. Those being confirmed are known as confirmands. For adults, it is an affirmation of belief. It involves laying on of hands by the Bishop and is a very important service in the church calendar.

For location details please visit Facebook page 'All Saints' Harwich or telephone Revd Kirsty Emerson on 07956 688304.

IN THE GARDEN WITH ANDY & JUDY

A happy new year to all and even though the weather may continue to be wetter and warmer this year hopefully nothing as extreme as last year. You may be keen to get sowing seeds for your own garden plants this year, but try not to sow too many seeds in a propagator or greenhouse too early. Whilst you will get reasonable germination, remember, you will need some form of protection to the seedlings/plants until the last frost passes, usually late May to early June. Although we have not had many late frosts in recent years, it only takes one severe frost to damage or destroy several weeks work.

You also need to factor in that seedlings raised in early February will need to be potted on several times before being planted in the soil or their final container. Seedlings either direct sown or pricked out into a small module will need to be moved on again in 4 weeks and moved on again in a further 4-6 weeks, which can cause space problems in the greenhouse and cold frames.

In February unless you are really committed there are relatively limited jobs to do. Often the weather and soil condition is such that external work is either impracticable or uncomfortable. A few jobs which are recommended are:

- Gooseberries should be pruned with the end result of producing an open centred goblet shape. Any suckers growing off the roots should be torn off rather than cut.
- Any helebore leaves that have blackspot should be trimmed off at the base
- Subject to soil conditions it is still a good time to plant bare rooted roses and shrubs.

- Wisteria should be pruned again, usually to 2 or 3 buds.

It is a good time to plant extra snowdrops whether from small pots already flowering or by purchasing from a specialist nursery that sells them in larger quantities. We bought several hundred for the banks of our ditch from Euro Bulbs, Wisbech in January. They came as sprouting bulbs and as we did not have the time to plant them out individually, we have potted them, 3 and 4 to a pot. They should grow well in February/March for planting out once they have flowered and the banks of the ditch are more stable.

Seed potatoes are now available and should be set up in a cold but frost free space with good natural light where they will produce short sturdy shoots. They are easily set up in egg trays with the old withered stem down and the rose end with the majority of growth eyes pointing upwards. If left too long in poor light in the suppliers bags they will produce long thin shoots that may tangle in the net and could be broken off either when being taken from the bag or when being planted.

For those struggling with the use of peat free composts and the different techniques required to use them successfully, help is on the way. The RHS are leading a 5 year project with 5 commercial nurseries to develop and share best practice guidance. The RHS is committed to being peat free by 2025. For those of us who are unsure of the scale of peat use it is estimated that 1.7m cubic metres was used by the horticultural industry in the UK in 2021. When available, findings will be shared with the industry including specialist nurseries and the UK's home and community gardeners.

ST HELENA HOSPICE NEWS

St Helena Hospice open the doors of its newest charity shop in Clacton on Tuesday 14th February and is looking for volunteers to help in the store.

The shop is located at 188 Old Road, Clacton, CO15 3LR, and stocks clothes, shoes, accessories and general items kindly donated by the community in support of St

Helena Hospice. The charity already has a popular shop on Station Road in Clacton and a clearance shop on North Road, Great Clacton.

Ian Daniels, head of retail at St Helena Hospice, said: "We have always received amazing support from the people of Clacton, so we're thrilled to be able to give them another shop in a different part of the town."

St Helena Hospice is calling for people to volunteer in the new shop or in its other shops across north east Essex.

Wendy Marcon, volunteer services manager, said: "Volunteering in one of our shops is a great opportunity for people to make new friends and develop their skills while supporting St Helena Hospice."

"We would love to hear from people interested in volunteering regularly for a few hours in the new shop or any of our 22 shops across north east Essex. Our shops raise a huge income to help us support people living with incurable illness and bereavement and we couldn't do it without the help of our amazing volunteers."



To find out about volunteering in a St Helena Hospice shop email volunteer@sthelena.org.uk or call 01206 931 466 for details or visit www.sthelena.org.uk/volunteer to apply online.

The new shop on Old Road will be open Monday to Saturday 9am - 5pm and is closed on Sundays.



GT BENTLEY DOCTORS' SURGERY

SERVICES TO HELP WITH THE WINTER PRESSURES This winter we have found the demand on our Practice services even greater than ever. In order to try and manage this demand I have given details of services below that you may find useful.

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

A&E – Please remember that A&E is for **emergencies only**. Before going to A&E please consider if another service might be more appropriate.

Urgent Treatment Centre, Clacton Hospital – This service is available for help with minor ailments such as rashes and minor skin infections, ear and throat infections and coughs and colds. They are also able to deal with minor injuries such as wounds, sprains, strains, minor dislocations, suspected fractures, removal of foreign bodies, burns, scalds, bites and stings. This is not exhaustive but gives you an idea of what NOT to attend A&E for.

Urgent Treatment Centre, Colchester – This service can be used for the same things as the Urgent Treatment Centre at Clacton Hospital.

NHS 111 – This service can be used 24 hours a day, 365 days a year and can provide telephone advice out of

hours when we are not available. They can also advise you of the best place to go if you do need to see someone face to face.

There is also additional health information on the ICB website: [Your Health and Services - NHS Suffolk and North East Essex ICB](#).

FLU VACCINATIONS With an increase in the number of patients having flu symptoms, if you haven't booked your flu vaccination yet, it isn't too late to do this. Please contact a member of the reception team on tel. 012106 250691 who will be happy to book this for you.

SURGERY TRAINING AFTERNOON Along with all other surgeries in the area we will be shut from 12.00 noon on Thursday, 23 February 2023 for staff training.

PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP MEETING There isn't a meeting of the PPG in February. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 15 March 2023 at 2.00 pm in the Michael Wright Room at Great Bentley Village Hall.

Sue Mitson – Operations Manager

Little Bentley Coffee & Cake

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



Great and Little Bromley villagers
are very welcome

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

www.gbpc.org.uk

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

I would like to wish all residents a very Happy and Healthy New Year.

The Parish Council has received a number of thank yous from residents in response to the Parish Council Festive Afternoon Teas that were well received. I would like to thank Vicky of "Patisserie

which equates to £1.14 per annum per household for an average Band D property in our parish.

The number of new planning applications for our village seems to have slowed down considerably, thankfully.

It seems that ECC Highways has repaired a number of potholes in the village. I think we are all thankful for that.

Councillors discussed and agreed to support the Essex 20 is Plenty campaign and to inform ECC Highways.

I mentioned to Councillors that a young child was killed in the North of England by a decaying tree that fell during high winds. The tree should have been felled following an inspection. The Council were fined almost £30,000 by a court as they were found guilty of failing to act to prevent the tree from causing danger. This does not include any damages claimed for the death of the child or for injuries by other children involved. It highlights the need for our council to act correctly and appoint a suitably qualified

Arboricultural Consultant which we do. Councillors agreed to accept a quote for some low level maintenance to our trees following our Consultant's annual inspection.

Cont'd...

4 U" for the excellent teas provided, and the volunteers who helped deliver them.

A budget meeting has been held and councillors agreed to an increase of 2%



Spring bulbs have been planted around the Village Pond. Please do not cut the grass round the pond, to allow the bulbs to come through.

Some footpaths in the village require some attention, this has been reported to ECC and our village handymen.

King Charles III Coronation was discussed. It was agreed the Council would seek to liaise with our Church to organise a service followed by tea and cakes. It was agreed to obtain quotes for

Commemorative Mugs for our school children, it was also agreed to obtain quotes for an Oak tree and a commemorative plaque.

A reminder, parish and district council elections take place in May this year. Any residents interested in becoming a parish councillor, please contact our clerk to express your interest.

***Cllr Fred Nicholls
Chairman***



GREAT BROMLEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

In December we enjoyed a shared homemade Christmas lunch and made beautiful Advent wreaths from fun, ecological bases made from brambles and honeysuckle, or an original approach using large potatoes as a centre and greenery from our gardens.

January brought us a soup-maker demonstration from our own Sue Clarke; we sampled favourite soups and homemade bread while Pat Ainger led a discussion about the Resolutions the WI may adopt this year.

Our February Crafting social will give us a chance to explore mandala dotting.

Forthcoming events: Ladies are welcome to join us for the following:

Wed Feb 1st VH 7:30pm 'Battle of the Plays': Gt Bromley and Bradfield WIs will each present a short play followed by refreshments. The Constable Cup will be awarded to the winners.

Wed 8th Cheshire Home 2-4pm Knit and Knatter, come and knit for a good cause or just drop in for a chat. All welcome

Wed 15th Noon Ladies' Lunch at the Courthouse Inn

Tues 28th VH 10:30 – 1pm Crafting Social. Learn something new, work on your own project or just join us for coffee, cake and social time. £2. All are welcome.

For more info: gtbromleywi@gmail.com or Dorothy 07791974053

BROMLEY 10K RUN

The Bromley 10K Run will take place on **Sunday 16th April 2023**.

This popular run is now open to enter. If you would like to take part please go online and search for **little bromley 10K** which can be found on the harwichrunners.co.uk website.

Carol Cordwell and the Bromley 10K Committee

JANET HAMILTON ROWE

1ST JUNE 1929 - 23 NOVEMBER 2022

Janet touched the lives of many people over her 93 years and there are words and phrases that appear time and again of how people remember her: happy, strong, independent, determined, caring, cheeky, always wanting to help.

After childhood she became a nurse at Ipswich Hospital. "Sister Janet Miller" to some, "Matron" to others. She loved being a nurse, always wanting to "make everyone better" in a career of which she was immensely proud.



Married life with Michael started in Stanway and soon moved to Carringtons, Great Bromley and so began her next stage as farmer's wife, homemaker and mother to Andrew, Jane and Anne. There was always cake and cheese scones in the tin and tea in the pot. She loved these family times and

ran an open house at Carringtons that extended to livestock: The pony coming into the kitchen, Anne befriending a jackdaw, various dogs bringing in the occasional dead piglet, as well as numerous cats. She took all of this in her stride. Janet mostly welcomed the children's various friends at all times of day and late nights, but on one particular evening the children and their guests used all the milk for coffees leaving none for Michael's breakfast. She was furious but that did not last long and cuddles soon followed.

Janet greatly enjoyed village life: She and Vera Biddis started the Bromley Brownie pack from scratch, although we never saw her jump the toadstool! No-one who came to the village pantomime could forget her many parts, always playing Baron Hardup, no matter what the panto! Her duet of "There's a Hole in my Bucket" with Peter Wenden was legendary!

For the annual Tendring Hundred Show Janet and the children entered an array of home-made 'creations' which she would not let out of the house until she 'made them perfect' with her titivating: Garden on a plate and many batches of jam tarts (to find the perfect ones). Michael loved those days as the bakes came back for him to eat...

After the children moved on in 1974, rather than suffering Empty Nest Syndrome, Janet started *Danvic Gifts*, a fancy goods and giftware shop in Manningtree. This was a natural habitat for a lady who liked the finer things in life. She took great pride in window dressing for which she won many prizes. She had an uncanny eye for knowing her customers and what would appeal to

them and took great pleasure in going to gift fairs for stock, often taking the caravan with Michael - shopping all day, camping at night.

They retired to Elmstead Market, spending a decade or so getting used to life without the farm. Sadly it was here that Michael had his stroke but with Janet's dedication he came through this as best he could, until he passed away 13 years ago.

In 2013 Janet settled comfortably in Frinton - inside the gates! - where she found many new friends who would say that Janet was a joy to visit and showed them how to live a good life. Right to the end, she was always one for "Keeping Up Appearances"! She will be very much missed by all.



From the eulogy by the family



Ever thought the name 'Outreach Bus' is just a little boring? Us too! But we need your help to give it a new all-singing, all-dancing name.

After all, the purpose is to reach as many people as possible, so we want everyone to know about it!

It could be a pun, a play on words, or

something completely different! It's up to you. We'll then pick the best one to put on the side of our outreach vehicle.

Make sure you're following us on social media @EssexLibraries to be the first to know when the competition goes live. We can't wait to hear everybody's suggestions!

Dates for your diary



FEBRUARY 2023

- 01 Little Bentley Coffee & Cake, Church Hall - 10am-12pm
- 01 WI - Battle of the Plays - Village Hall - 7.30pm
- 08 WI - Knit and Knatter - Cheshire Home - 2-4pm
- 08 Great Bromley Parish Council, Village Hall - 7.30pm
- 09 Ardleigh & Dist. Horticultural Society, Ardleigh Village Hall - 7.30pm
- 15 WI - Ladies Lunch - Courthouse Inn - Noon
- 16 Friendship Club, The Cross - 2pm
- 28 WI - Crafting Social, Village Hall - 10.30am-1pm

MARCH 2023

- 1 Little Bentley Coffee & Cake, Church Hall - 10am-12pm
- 08 Great Bromley Parish Council, Village Hall - 7.30pm
- 16 Friendship Club, The Cross - 2pm
- 16 Little Bromley Parish Council, The Haywain - 7.30pm
- 19 Antiques & Collectors Fair, Village Hall 9am-3pm

APRIL 2023

- 05 Little Bentley Coffee & Cake, Church Hall - 10am-12pm
- 12 Great Bromley Parish Council, Village Hall - 7.30pm
- 16 The Bromley 10K Run
- 20 Friendship Club, The Cross - 2pm

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GREAT BROMLEY ANTIQUES & COLLECTORS FAIR

Sundays 19th March 2023 & 21st May 2023 9am – 3pm
at Great Bromley Village Hall, Great Bromley CO7 7JA

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

Hot food and drinks available

Email nigel@garden-shows.com Tel: 07802 282193

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

- 09 February
- 02 March
- 23 March
- 13 April

9.45am to 10.15am



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.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

REF	PROPOSAL	LOCATION
22/02014/ FULHH	Retrospective application for a detached single garage for private use. Great Bromley Parish Council had no objection to the application.	Plot 6, 8 Paddock House, Little Paddocks, Frating Road
22/02049/ FUL Mr Neil Napthine - BrandArt Ltd	Proposed construction of buildings to serve a class E use (including offices; financial, professional, and medical services). Plus ancillary site works (car parking, landscaping, new vehicular access points off Harwich Road and stopping up of existing access). Great Bromley Parish Council objected to the application for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The new proposal contravenes what the previous appeal allowed regarding landscaping; • There would be increased traffic on 60mph road, and increased deliveries etc; • There was insufficient parking onsite, and no overflow area near by other than the roadside; • Loss of wildlife and damage to the environment; • It will set a precedent for building from the A120 down to the bridge on A133 slip road; and • Out of character for the local open landscape. 	Land adjacent Cliphedge Farm, Harwich Road, Little Bentley CO7 8SZ
22/02082/ FULHH Mr Oliver Burfoot	Proposed erection of new garden room and workshop following demolition of existing sheds. Great Bromley Parish Council had no comment on the application.	Grange Hall, Hall Road, Great Bromley CO7 7TS
22/01776/ FUL A Lochore and Sons	Proposed agricultural storage building. Great Bromley Parish Council had no comment on the application.	Holly Lodge Colchester Road Great Bromley
22/01780/ FULHH Mrs Rozalynne Johnson	Proposed erection of rear extension, additional floor and re-profile of roof. Great Bromley Parish Council had no objection to the application.	The Nook Colchester Road Great Bromley CO7 7TN

Hi Everyone,

Welcome back! It's so nice to write to you all again. I hope you have been keeping well. We here at Seven Rivers have started our year with our normal Haggis for Burns night as we have a few Scottish residents who enjoy this tradition, and our preparations are underway for the Coronation of King Charles III. We are all going to be starting a new era this year.

Do any of you sing or play a musical instrument as we are looking for entertainers to come into the home. We can pay a small fee, but since Covid we seem to have lost the entertainers who used to come in and we need to have a few more on our books so we have a variety of acts. We will need to see you before we book anything so if you have a YouTube video of your act please contact

the home.

We are also looking forward to planning our new programme of events for the coming year with all restrictions off we are able to get back to our fundraising. As for everyone over the last few years it's not been easy but we have had help from the local community which we are very thankful for, so please keep an eye out for upcoming events from us.

We are hoping to hold a fete in the summer date to be confirmed, but for now does any one have any contacts with rides or stalls that might like to be included. We are also looking for helpers. If you can help in any way please phone me or Wendy on 01206230345.

For now I will leave it there as I hope to have more news next time.

So take care

Liz x

LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Email: littlebromleypc@gmail.com

Happy New Year from Little Bromley Parish Council. At our last Parish Council meeting in November we discussed the village Precept for the coming year. We agreed unanimously to maintain at the current amount. With this decision we believe the Parish will continue to have one of the lowest Precepts In Tendring District.

We have been asked to comment on a Planning Application for Proposed Ground Mounted Solar Panels at Newhouse Farm in Shop Road. Information can be found on the Tendring District Council Planning Portal under reference 22/02128/FULHH.

We expect that 2023 will be a busy year for Consultations from the various Energy Infrastructure projects in the Parish and

surrounding area. We will continue to review and update the village. There is an East Anglia wide group - Essex Suffolk Norfolk Pylons - who are lobbying for power to be distributed offshore rather than over a new pylon network. This group has organised an event at the Royal Hospital School, Holbrook on the 9th March at 5pm. There will be a number of speakers including our MP Sir Bernard Jenkin who will talk on the group he chairs, OFFSET (OffShore Electricity Grid Task Force). Information can be found on Facebook. You can also contact the Parish Council and we can send you further details.

Our next Parish Council meeting will be held on Thursday March 16th at 1930 at the Haywain.

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL BUDGET STATEMENT

Cllrs Lord and Fairley, along with the Clerk, reviewed and discussed the Budget for 2023-24 and presented the budget setting statement to Members as follows:

Financial planning for GBPC set a budget for financial year 2022-2023 of £34,506. The actual expenditure for same period is projected to be £36,145. This overspend of £1,639 or 5% is largely explained by higher expenditure on Community Projects (in what was the Platinum Jubilee year), mandatory yet unexpected Government pay awards and financial subsidy to The Messenger publication. These cost pressures were diluted by lower expenditure on Grounds Maintenance (explained by lower demand). The overall gap between income and expenditure being addressed by draw-down on GBPC reserves which independent auditors had previously recommended (as good practice).

In setting the budget for financial year 2023-2024, GBPC has studied our expenditure from past year and also factored known 'one-off' expenditure;

the latter including financial provision for things like public elections and a contingency fund to deal with any financial risk associated with the Hare Green Improvement Project (which has now been instructed with suppliers). The net outcome of that exercise sees a projected expenditure of £37,433 for next year, an increase of £1,288 or 4% against past year expenditure. GBPC can confirm that this additional budget will require an increase of 2% in precept tax; in absolute terms this only represents an annual increase of £1.14 to individual households. The gap between income and expenditure will be closed from Parish financial reserves (in line with best practice recommendation) and also income from a larger addressable tax base (explained by more households).

GBPC thanks Parishioners for their support and is confident that our expenditure is concentrated on what matters most to residents. A practical illustration being that 33% of total expenditure is spent on Grounds Maintenance which for a 'Green' community is a priority.

HARE GREEN PLAY AREA

The installation of the new play equipment should be completed by the start of February, depending on weather conditions. The Parish Council would like to thank all residents who contributed to the user survey, and particularly those residents who gave up their time to contribute to the working party, it's very much appreciated. The purchase of equipment was made possible through S106 contributions ring-fenced for the Hare

Green playing field, with the shortfall coming from Parish Council reserves. We hope that everyone is pleased with the result, particularly our younger residents. If you have any photos that you'd like to share, please send them to the1986messenger@gmail.com.

PLANNING DETERMINATIONS

REFERENCE & PROPOSAL	LOCATION	DECISION
22/01566/FULHH Mr and Mrs Brownsdon Proposed demolition of existing attached double garage, conservatory and lean-to. Construction of single and two storey rear and side extensions to provide additional living space, single garage and one bedroom annexe.	Bromley House, Harwich Road, CO7 7UL	Approval - Full 07.11.2022 Delegated Decision
22/01575/COUNOT Mr P Allam Prior Approval Application under Part 3, Class Q of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended) for the change of use of 1no. agricultural building (reference barn 3) to a dwelling house (Class C3) and associated operational development.	Blue Gates Farm Carringtons Road, CO7 7UZ	Determination prior approval not reqred 07.11.2022 Delegated Decision
22/01620/FULHH Mr Wayne Knowles Proposed extensions to existing house including new balcony and 3no first floor dormer windows.	Byeways Mary Lane North, CO7 7TZ	Approval - Full 23.11.2022 Delegated Decision
22/01775/AGRIC A Lochore and Sons Prior Approval Application under Part 6, Class A/B/E of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development)(England) Order 2015 (As Amended) for the erection of a further agricultural storage building.	Holly Lodge Colchester Road CO7 7TN	HHPN - Prior Approval Not Required 23.11.2022 Delegated Decision
22/01779/NMA Mr M Shaikly Non-Material Amendment to application reference 17/01252/FUL for internal alteration/replan of layout, minor changes to locations of external windows and doors. Changes to new side extension.	Lilleys Farm Carringtons Road CO7 7XA	Approval Non Material Amendment 23.11.2022 Delegated Decision
22/01551/FULHH Mr A Sherwood - Gro Living Ltd Proposed extensions, alterations and improvements to the existing bungalow and erection of an associated cart lodge.	Church Meadow Bungalow, Hall Road, CO7 7TR	Approval - Full 01.12.2022 Delegated Decision
22/01054/FULHH Mr Neil Atkinson Proposed erection of cartlodge and annex.	Badley Hall, CO7 7UU	Approval - Full 05.12.2022 Delegated Decision
22/01776/FUL A Lochore and Sons Proposed agricultural storage building.	Holly Lodge Colchester Road CO7 7TN	Approval - Full 21.12.2022 Delegated Decision

CHRISTMAS AT ST GEORGE'S

Before I tell you about our exciting Christmas '22 at St G's may I first wish you all a very Happy, Healthy and Peaceful New Year from all our team.

One of our first events was a concert given by The Black Cactus Choir. I first met Alex at the Jubilee

Celebrations in June 2022 and after contacting him again we very quickly organised "Countdown to Christmas", a concert on December 1st. Those who joined us that evening were treated to a super evening of fun, laughter, singing and entertainment. The energy and enthusiasm infected us all and we had difficulty staying our seats. Thank you Alex and members of the Black Cactus Choir, we are proud to have you in our village and performing in our church. Alex and I are planning at the moment for further concerts in 2023, maybe in May for the Coronation and definitely for Christmas 2023. Thankyou to all who gave so generously to the donation bucket towards the luscious refreshments.

December 3rd St G's held a Christmas Coffee Morning. Thankyou so much to

all who helped and those who came to support this event. Lovely cakes, Christmas flower arrangements, a huge raffle and tasty refreshments. We were also able to support Acorn Village, who gratefully received donations from the Bric A Brac. Lots of time to chat and



meet new friends and old friends. Over £600 was raised from the concert and the coffee morning – money for general funds to help with our rising energy bills! Thank you all so much for your support, we really do appreciate everything and everyone.

Our second Christmas Crib Service on



December 24th. The crib service saw us trying a new location for our stable enabling more folk to be involved and see the tableau. We were overwhelmed by the number of our community who again supported in 2022. It was truly amazing – thank you all for supporting. We thank Reverend Canon Stephen, (who led our service), and Nicky who brought bales of straw for the stable. Mary and Joseph who led the long walk from Nazareth to Bethlehem, Catherine for playing the saxophone and our singers. Over 140 of you from the village came, donations in the bucket for the Children’s Society were very generous too, thank you again.

At the moment we are already planning events and services for 2023 and I think the crib service will definitely be on the list.

We are working closely with our new priest Reverend Phillip Young. If you have any ideas or suggestions for services and activities in your church for 2023 or would like to come and join our team, please let us know – phone or email.

Best wishes, Love Jenny
01206 230688
jenninicholls66@gmail.com



ALAN EDWARD MARSHALL

25TH AUGUST 1932 - 17TH NOVEMBER 2022

Alan was the son of Edward and Dorothy, a younger brother to Eileen.

Eileen and Alan spent their childhood years in Clacton, severely affected by the Second World War when children were often evacuated away from danger. At the outbreak of war Clacton probably seemed safe enough, until a German bomber crashed at the end of their road, killing the crew and some civilians. It later seemed likely to be one of the first places that German invaders would try to land, so Clacton was evacuated. The Marshall children were sent to stay with relatives in Hounslow, near to what is now Heathrow airport. When the Germans

started bombing London, Alan and Eileen were evacuated again, this time to just outside Coventry... until the Germans started to bomb the industrial heartland of the Midlands! It was, by then, deemed safe to return to Clacton.

The children helped their father working in the family amusement arcades near the pier, emptying the fruit machines and bagging all the coin. Many of the customers were service personnel and one of the jobs the children had was to wrap two cigarettes together as prizes, a task they disliked as they stank of tobacco after doing so, and this put them both off smoking for life!

Alan went to Clacton County High School where he excelled at sport and represented Clacton in both cricket and badminton. He knew from an early age that he wanted to grow fruit, and after gaining his degree in 1953 he began working life on George Cockle's fruit farm in Great Bromley. In 1956 Alan's father purchased Old Shields Farm, which Alan took on in 1957, and this became home for fifty years. Whilst the newly planted orchards established themselves he kept poultry and bred Cotswold pigs.

In the summer of 1958 Alan met Barbara Bignall at Great Bentley train station, both on their way to a badminton match; playing badminton together saw their romance blossom and they married in 1960. In 1963 Maia was born,



followed by Bruce in 1964 and Gail in 1966 and so Alan set about building a bigger family home amongst the orchards.

He sold the old farmhouse and piggery and concentrated on fruit; his 48 acres grew to 500 by purchase of some Land Settlements. As well as assistance from family members in running the farm there were many loyal staff, some of whom spent a lifetime working with Alan. The new fruit packhouse was designed to have a very high ceiling at one end so that, outside the packing

season, a badminton court could be rolled out for family and friends.

Tragedy struck in 1992 when Barbara had a fatal asthma attack aged just 59. Support for Alan came from Ruth, a long-term family friend, and they found joy and comfort together and married in 1996. In 2009 they sold the farm and began a wonderful retirement in a bungalow, appropriately named "Little Shields", in Bradfield.

*From the Eulogy by
nephew Michael Sabini*

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

A happy and healthy New Year to all!

Ten of our members enjoyed a pre-Christmas lunch at the Court House on 8th December.

Later in the month we had our meeting with delicious mince pies and sausage rolls to accompany our tea/coffee, and we were very pleased to welcome Jennifer and Roger to the afternoon.

We hope they will be able to join us each month and become members.

The Committee has decided fees for this year will be £5 with 50p for the raffle.

The competition for January is a favourite Christmas card and for February a pretty milk jug.

CAN I BE A PARISH OR DISTRICT COUNCILLOR?

The easy answer is, "almost definitely". As long as you are:

- British or a citizen of the Commonwealth or European Union
- At least 18 years old
- Registered to vote in the area or have lived, worked or owned property there for at least 12 months before an election

If you are in any doubt about whether you are eligible to stand as a Councillor, you should contact the electoral services department at Tendring District Council for advice.

Why be a parish or district Councillor?

- Giving something back to the local community
- Tackle local issues and help solve problems
- Using your skills and developing new ones
- Gain political experience

Please refer to the Tendring District Council website for key dates and information.

RECTOR'S LETTER

Before Lent begins in earnest later this month, we celebrate that famous saint for all true romantics today; St. Valentine. Although from the way we celebrate this saint's day you might be forgiven for thinking that he was a talented matchmaker, he was actually a minister and physician in Rome in the late third century. He ministered to Christians suffering during the persecution of Christians by the emperor Claudius Gothicus and was eventually martyred around 270 A. D. – not very romantic, I confess!

Jesus had much to say about love during his life and ministry on earth. In fact, He gave a new command to His first followers on the subject: "love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." (John 13:34) But what did Jesus mean by love? How are we to love one another? If the books and poems are to be believed, love is an uncontrollable feeling, it

is about how the other person makes us feel: I love you because you are beautiful, kind, funny, clever and so on. There are many kinds of love: romantic love, the love of a parent, the love of a sibling or close friend. But how does Jesus want His followers to love each other? "As I have loved you." Jesus doesn't love us because of anything inherently lovely in us – in fact, He loves us in spite of ourselves. The wonder at the heart of the Christian message, the Gospel is that "God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." He willingly gave up His life to save ours. So when He says, "As I have loved you, so you must love one another" we begin to get a sense of just how big a thing that is!

Why not come and explore more of this message of God's love at one our services this month? You would be very welcome!



**A warm welcome
is waiting for you
at your
local library.**



Warm and inviting spaces, hot drinks, and the opportunity to connect with others are on offer this winter in our 'Warm Welcomes' initiative. This commits to supporting residents over the winter, particularly those affected by the cost-of-living crisis and rise in energy prices.

In addition, every library will be running at least one regular **Warm Welcomes** activity. So – come in out of the cold, and experience a warm welcome in our county's libraries!



St George's Church Great Bromley



www.greatbromley.org.uk

Parish of The Bromleys

February 5 th	Septuagesima	Parish Eucharist (BCP)	10.30am
February 12 th	2nd before Lent	Parish Eucharist	10.30am
February 19 th	Sun before Lent	Evensong (BCP)	6.30pm
February 22 nd	Ash Wednesday	<i>see website/newsletter for services</i>	
February 26 th	Lent 1	Parish Eucharist	10.30am
March 5 th	Lent 2	Parish Eucharist (BCP)	10.30am
March 12 th	Lent 3	Parish Eucharist	10.30am
March 19 th	Lent 4	Evensong (BCP)	6.30pm
March 25 th	Annunciation	Sung Holy Communion	
		St Mary's, Little Bromley	11.30am
March 26 th	Lent 5	Parish Eucharist	10.30am

St Mary's, Little Bentley

February 5th Morning Prayer 11am
February 19th Holy Communion 11am
March 5th Holy Communion 11am
March 19th Morning Prayer 11am

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.