



The Magazine of the
villages of Great &
Little Bromley

December 2023



We would love to invite you to our
Festive Coffee Morning
On **Saturday 9th December**
between **10am** and **12 noon** at

St. George's Church
Great Bromley, CO7 7TS



There will be lots to enjoy in our lovely church

Refreshments of mulled wine/tea/coffee/mince pies
A **Cake Stall**, a great **Raffle**, Childrens **Lucky Dip**,
Christmas Arrangements to buy, some **Bric a Brac**,
Book stall, **Bag a Bola**, a few **Christmas bits**, etc.

Free Admission

THE FIRST PAGE

Dear all,

Christmas is firmly in the minds of most of us and the shops have been ready since the middle of November. Colour schemes have been selected (ours is pink this year), trees are taking pride of place and the Advent calendars are good to go. We put our tree up quite late compared to most I know; I like to wait until after the shortest day on the 21st. I have carefully negotiated with the girls and said they can have whatever decorations they'd like in their rooms, but the lounge can have only Christmas ornaments for now. We have a small real Christmas tree growing in our front garden with some lights and that will be our tree until the 22nd!



Remembrance services took place across the country on Sunday 12th November, including services at the War Memorials in Little Bromley and Great Bromley. Thank you to those who made these services possible, allowing local residents to remember. Some pictures from the services are on pages 3 and 5.



Three things to do before Christmas:

- ◆ Check on elderly or vulnerable

neighbours. Have a cuppa and a chat together.

- ◆ Make a festive wreath by collecting foliage from the garden or local footpaths and re-using old decorations.
- ◆ Bake festive cookies and gift them to neighbours.



Awareness days in December include:

- 2nd - National Grief Awareness Week
- 5th - Illumination Street Week
- 7th - Christmas Jumper Day
- 12th - National Workplace Day of Remembrance
- 20th - Festival of Winter Walks



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

The Messenger is back in February 2024.

*Take care,
Lizzie*



MATERIAL for the **FEBRUARY 2024** edition of 'The Messenger' should reach the Editor, Lizzie Ridout, by **14th JANUARY 2024** 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.

Copy can be delivered by hand, sent by post or e-mail (see inside back cover) or via the link on the websites www.greatbromley.org.uk or www.littlebromley.org.uk

For details of availability and costs for **ADVERTISING** in the 'The Messenger' please contact the Treasurer on 01206 230537

Please support the sponsors of our magazine.

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS & ADVERTISERS



more than a pub...



We would like to thank all our volunteers, customers and shareholders for their continued support throughout the last year and we wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

December Festive Period Events

Every Tuesday Darts Matches and Cribbage Club 8pm

Every Wednesday Coffee Morning, Post Office and Library

10am to 12pm

Every Thursday Mobile Fish & Chip Van 6.30pm to 7pm (est)

Saturday 2nd Dec - Beetle Drive 7.30pm

Wednesday 6th Dec - Christmas Coffee Shop 10am-12noon.

Cake Stall, Wrapping paper, Cards, Decorations etc

Saturday 9th Dec - Casino Party Night 8pm (in aid of

East Anglia's Children's Hospices)

Thursday 14th Dec - Open Mic Night 8pm

Saturday 16th Christmas Carol sing-a-long

Thursday 21st Dec - Friendship Club 2pm to 4pm

Thursday 21st Dec - Charity Xmas Quiz at 8pm

Saturday 23rd - Christmas Party Night with

Christmas Jumper Competition and a Table Quiz

Christmas and New Year Opening

Volunteer Bar Staff Needed

For more information on our Christmas Opening times throughout the festive period, and to volunteer so our pub can remain open, please visit our website or Facebook page for contact information.

<https://greatbromleycross.pub/> info@greatbromleycross.co.uk Tel:01206 621772

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM



Left: Cllr Rob Lord with Sebastian Lord (9), who did a reading and sung a song as part of St Georges Primary school participation.



Above: The poppies in the porch display at St George's were created by the Gt Bromley W.I. Knit & Knitter group which meets monthly at Seven Rivers Cheshire Home.

Left: Residents at Little Bromley War Memorial

My Boy Jack - by Rudyard Kipling

Written in memory of Jack Cornell, the youngest ever recipient of the Victoria Cross, who died in the Battle of Jutland, aged just 16

"Have you news of my boy Jack? "
Not this tide.
"When d'you think that he'll come back?"
Not with this wind blowing, and this tide.

"Has any one else had word of him?"
Not this tide.
For what is sunk will hardly swim,
Not with this wind blowing, and this tide.

"Oh, dear, what comfort can I find?"
None this tide,
Nor any tide,
Except he did not shame his kind---
Not even with that wind blowing, and that tide.

Then hold your head up all the more,
This tide,
And every tide;
Because he was the son you bore,
And gave to that wind blowing and that tide.

**Children from
St George's
School read
poems and
sang in the
service and
Charlie Sharp is
seen here
reading the
poem he had
written about
Remembrance.**



MANNINGTREE & DISTRICT PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY



Club members enjoyed a busy November which included presentations by Barbie Lindsay and Roger Hance, a PDI mono competition judged by Tony Bramley FRPS and a field trip to Green Island Gardens.

We are now looking forward to the club's Christmas Dinner in December and we would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas.

Please visit our website for details of our full programme together with competition results, photo albums and further club information.

We continue to have fun with our monthly Facebook Challenge and our public Manningtree Photographic Club Facebook page also features various club news and activities.

This month's featured image, is Portstewart Strand by Mark Rivers, which won a recent prints competition.

We are a small group of photography

enthusiasts with a wide range of photographic experience and knowledge. The club aims to provide a friendly environment for members to enjoy the development of their photographic skills through a variety of activities in the company of like-minded individuals

If you are interested in photography, at whatever level, you would be most welcome at M&DPS and we would like to invite you to come along to a free club meeting. We meet at Mistley Village Hall, on the 2nd, 4th and 5th Thursdays of the month between September and May at 7.30pm.

For further information please contact our Secretary Pat Ainger on 01206 231242 and email: madps@post.com

Website: <https://e-voice.org.uk/manningtreeanddistrictphotographicsociety/>



ARDLEIGH & DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

"Tools with A Mission" will be the subject of the talk by John Harper at Ardeleigh Village Hall, Station Road, Ardeleigh, CO7 7RS on Thursday 14th

December at 7:45pm. Free admission to members, non-members £2. Mulled wine & mince pies after the talk
Everyone welcome.

GREAT BROMLEY FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Due to illness and holidays we had a small attendance at our October meeting, but enjoyed an excellent talk by Mr Anthony Vickers about robots and their increasing use.

At our November meeting names will be taken of those wishing to join our pre Christmas lunch which this year will be held at the Snooty Fox, date and time to be confirmed.

A wreath has been ordered for Remembrance Sunday and will be

taken to the service at the church.

The competition for November is a teapot.

There will not be a Speaker at our December meeting, but we are holding a large raffle which we hope will be well supported.

We do hope to see more new members joining our Club in the New Year – meetings are held at the Cross Inn on the 3rd Thursday each month at 2pm. You will be made very welcome!

Memory Tree at Little Bromley

Once again from 1st December at St. Mary's, Little Bromley we will have a **Memory Tree** inside the church.

This Christmas tree is there for anyone who wishes to write a message to a loved one on a tag. Once you have filled it in you can then place it on the tree. The tree always looks lovely in the church. After you have filled in your tag (should you wish to), a small donation to the Churches Conservation Trust would be very welcome. There is information beside the tree on how to do this.

Please remember that the Church is always open and loves to have visitors. Entrance is through the back door. We also have a visitor's book for you to sign (if you wish to).

We are planning to have a **Carol Service on Saturday 23rd December 2023 at 2.30pm**. This will be followed by refreshments. We would love to see you there.



Dec 3rd

The Deanery Choir will be supporting the Patronal service, with an Advent theme, at 3pm at: **St Nicholas Church, 67 Church Street, Harwich. CO12 3DR**



Supporting Church music in the Tendring area

The anthem that they will be singing will be 'A spotless rose' by Herbert Howells, a haunting melody that repeats throughout the anthem.

Herbert Howells was born in Lydney, Gloucester on 17 October 1892. He showed a keen interest in composition early in his life and, at the age of eighteen, became a pupil of Herbert Brewer, Organist of Gloucester Cathedral. In 1912 he was awarded a scholarship to the Royal College of Music and studied under Charles Villiers Stanford, Walter Parratt, Charles Wood and Hubert Parry.

Dec 10th

The Deanery choir will be singing at **St Georges Church, Great Bromley CO7 7HZ** at the 10.30am communion service. The anthem that they will be singing is 'Bethlehem Down' by Peter Warlock.

"Peter Warlock" was in fact the pseudonym under which the multi-talented Philip Heseltine released his compositions to the world. Heseltine was a gifted writer and music journalist, an editor of early music at a time when it was generally neglected, and a generous encourager of the efforts of other composers. But most importantly of all, he was a spontaneous and original composer (as Peter Warlock), chiefly of a large corpus of over 100 songs, written between the end of the First World War and his death in 1930.

Dec 16th

The Deanery Choir will be performing 'A living Christmas '23' at **St Mary Magdalen Church, Clacton Road, Thorington CO7 8HA** at 7pm. A concert of music by contemporary composers and arrangers, who are still alive, interspersed with readings reflecting the Christmas message. The talented Peter Clayton is our organist.

Graham Bell
Deanery Choir Organiser

A LIVING CHRISTMAS '23

Music & arrangements by contemporary composers

with

THE DEANERY CHOIR

and Peter Clayton (Organist)

Saturday 16th December
7pm start

Burton - Sparkhall - McDowell
Briggs - Lumsden - McGlynn - Carter
Forrest - Porter - Chilcott

St Mary Magdalen Church
Clacton Road
Thorington
CO7 8HA

Retiring collection for Church funds



GT BENTLEY DOCTORS' SURGERY

Merry Christmas from all the Surgery Team On behalf of the whole team at the Surgery, we would like to wish all our patients a very Happy Christmas.

CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR SURGERY OPENING HOURS The normal Surgery opening times are from 8.00 am to 6.30 pm Monday to Friday.

Over the Christmas/New Year period the Surgery will be closed on Monday 25 December, Tuesday 26 December 2023 and Monday 1 January 2024.

PRESCRIPTIONS Please remember to order your December prescription in time for Christmas. You can order these up to 14 days before they are due, to ensure you don't run out over the Christmas period.

FLU VACCINE We are still offering appointments for flu jabs. If you wish to book this, please contact reception on tel. 01206 250691.

DECEMBER IS BEREAVEMENT AWARENESS MONTH

Symptoms of bereavement, grief, and loss Bereavement, grief, and loss can cause many different symptoms and they affect people in different ways. There's no right or wrong way to feel.

As well as bereavement, there are other types of loss such as the end of a relationship or losing a job or home.

Some of the most common symptoms include:

- shock and numbness – this is usually the first reaction to loss, and people often talk about "being in a

daze"

- overwhelming sadness, with lots of crying
- tiredness or exhaustion
- anger – towards the person you've lost or the reason for your loss
- guilt – for example, guilt about feeling angry, about something you said or did not say, or not being able to stop your loved one dying

These feelings may not be there all the time and powerful feelings may appear unexpectedly. It's not always easy to recognise when bereavement, grief or loss are the reason you're acting or feeling differently.

Things you can try to help with bereavement, grief and loss

Do

- Try talking about your feelings to a friend, family member, health professional or counsellor – you could also contact a support organisation such as Cruse Bereavement Care or call: 0808 808 1677
- If you're struggling to sleep, get sleep tips from Every Mind Matters
- consider peer support, where people use their experiences to help each other. Find out more about peer support on the Mind website
- listen to free mental wellbeing audio guides
- try the 6 ways to feel happier, which are simple lifestyle changes to help you feel more in control and able to cope

Don't

- Do not try to do everything at once – set small targets that you can easily achieve

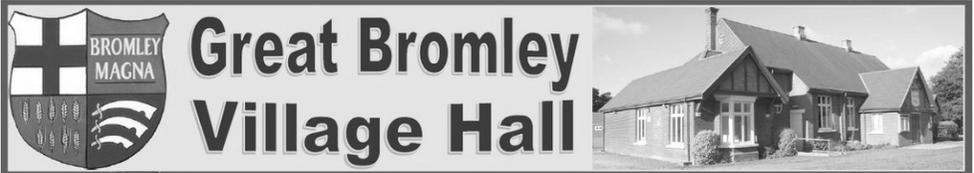
- Do not focus on the things you cannot change – focus your time and energy into helping yourself feel better
- Try not to tell yourself that you're alone – most people feel grief after a loss and support is available
- Try not to use alcohol, cigarettes, gambling or drugs to relieve grief – these can all contribute to poor mental health
- Losing your partner or child in pregnancy
- Losing someone to suicide on the Mind website
- The GOV.UK website also has information about what to do after someone dies, such as registering the death and planning a funeral.
- If you have been struggling to cope with stress, anxiety or low mood for more the 2 weeks call your GP Surgery on 01206 250691.

You can find further information and support about:

- Bereavement support for adults and children at St Helena Hospice – www.sthelenahospice.org.uk/bereavement
- Grief and bereavement on the Cruse Bereavement Care website

Please remember the Patient Participation Group does not meet in December.

Sue Mitson
Operations Manager



As another busy and successful year draws to a close, the village hall management committee would like to take this opportunity to wish all members of our communities a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Your continuing support for our treasured community

facility is much appreciated and we look forward to seeing residents from both villages at some of the many activities taking place in the village hall in 2024.

Martin Frostick
01206 250263

villagehallsecretary@greatbromley.org.uk

STOUR VALLEY 3A - learn, laugh, live

We have over 40 interest groups including walking – from strollers to 5+ milers – theatre trips, garden visits, art appreciation, curry club, science group, languages, keep fit, pickleball, overseas travel there's something for everyone.

Monthly coffee mornings are held on the first Friday of the month 10am – 12pm at the Lambe School, East Bergholt. Come along, meet some members, hear more about us and decide whether you'd like to join. Monthly lectures are held on the

second Wednesday at 2pm in the Constable Hall, East Bergholt. Guests are welcome for a charge of £4. There is no talk in December but we resume on 10th January with Edward Vipond "Life as a Suffolk Farmer – Am I a food producer or conservationist ?" and on 14th February we have Dr Tobias Capwell, curator of arms and armour at The Wallace Collection.

Please take a look at our website www.u3asites.org.uk/stourvalley for more information and contact details.

Hello Great Bromley,

This is the month we remember the brave men and women that made the ultimate sacrifice in defence of our freedoms. Ali, a longstanding member of the admin team of over 20 years' service to Seven Rivers, had the honour of laying the wreath on our behalf. Ali's leaving us this month and will be sorely missed by all; we wish her every success in her new endeavours.

The service on Remembrance Sunday at St Georges got me thinking, how to express just how much they sacrificed for us all. After some soul searching, I thought it best to allow the words of one brave soldier, Private Albert Ford who wrote to his wife, Edith, on a scrap piece of paper before going 'over the top, to tell a story that I couldn't.

"My darling if this should ever reach you it will be a sure sign that I am gone under and what will become of you and the chicks I do not know but there is one above that will see to you and not let you starve."

"You have been the best of wives and I loved you deeply, how much you will never know.

"Dear heart, do think sometimes of me in the future when your grief has worn a bit, and the older children, I know won't forget me, and speak

sometimes of me to the younger ones..."

"Dearest, if the chance should come your way for you are young and good looking and should a good man give you an offer it would please me to think you would take it, not to grieve too much for me..."

"I should not have left you thus bringing suffering and poverty on a loving wife and children for which in time I hope you will forgive me.

"So dear heart I will bid you all farewell hoping to meet you in the time to come if there is a hereafter. Know that my last thoughts were of you in the dugout or on the fire step my thoughts went out to you, the only one I ever loved, the one that made a man of me."

Now close your eyes and imagine yourself in his place, a man with everything to live for, minutes before the sound of the whistle echoing in his

ears to go over the wall to face death square in the face, and all he could think of was his loved ones, a true hero.

Albert was killed in action on 26 October 1917. His last letter was treasured by Edith until her death. She never remarried and as she lay dying in February 1956, she said she could see Albert in the corner of her bedroom.

I can only hope that Albert and Edith are together once again, God bless them all.



NEWS FROM ACORN VILLAGE

After much thought we have decided to rename our onsite Coffee Shop. We felt its beautiful setting left it deserving a name more fitting and so we are proud to unveil The Walled Garden Café! Visitors are always amazed to see the lovely outside space at the rear of the building and we encourage people to take a look even if they sit inside. We now have a team volunteers that support Becky, Rachel and Jacqui during opening hours of 10am to 4pm Monday to Friday. There is a breakfast menu available 10am-11.30am, a kids menu, a main menu and lots of tasty specials. Friendly dogs on leads are welcome and can have a complimentary dog biscuit! We hope to see you soon.

Next to the Café we have our onsite Charity Shop and we also have one in Manningtree High Street, why not pop in to grab a bargain. Both the Café and the Charity shops income goes to supporting adults with learning disabilities.

Acorn Village is a charity that was set up more than 50 years ago by a group of dedicated parents that wanted a better way of life for their children with learning disabilities as they become adults. They fundraised to raise the money to buy the

14-acre site in Clacton Road, Mistley and continued to do so over the years to ensure the model of care and support they wanted was able to carry on. There are currently 53 adults with learning disabilities that live at Acorn Village and every one lives their life to their full potential. Care is provided on a daily basis by a team of Care Support Workers, many of whom have worked here for many years and are passionate about the work they do. Our residents and tenants enjoy a wide range of activities and workshops that cater for all their interests and that help their learning development. These opportunities are also available to adults with learning disabilities that live in the wider community. For more information on what is available please email AcornWorkshops@acornvillages.com

If you are interested in supporting Acorn Village by taking on a fundraising challenge we would love to hear from you, please email Supportus@acornvillages.com

Check out Acorn Village on social media we have accounts on both Facebook and Instagram, where you can get the latest news and pictures.



Dates for your diary



DECEMBER

6	WI Christmas Lunch at the Courthouse	12:00pm
9	Festive Coffee Morning, St George's Church	10:00am-12:00pm
12	WI Crafting Social, Make wreaths or share Christmas crafting ideas, Village Hall	10:00am-12:30pm
13	Great Bromley Parish Council, Village Hall	7:30pm
17	Community Carols, St George's Church	6:30pm
23	Carols in the Afternoon, St Mary's, Lt Bromley	2:30pm
24	Churchyard Crib Service, St George's Church	4:00pm
25	Christmas falls on a Monday this year	

JANUARY 2024

3	'WI Soup and Resolutions', Village Hall	7:30pm
10	Great Bromley Parish Council, Village Hall	7:30pm
18	Little Bromley Parish Council, The Haywain	7:30pm
23	WI Crafting Social, Crafting and refreshments in the warm!	10:00-12:30pm

FEBRUARY 2024

7	WI Meeting: Learning British Sign Language, Village Hall	7:30pm
14	Great Bromley Parish Council, Village Hall	7:30pm
27	WI Crafting Social, Village Hall	10:00am-12.30pm



We would love to invite you to our
Festive Coffee Morning
On **Saturday 9th December**
between **10am** and **12 noon** at

St. George's Church
Great Bromley, CO7 7TS



There will be lots to enjoy in our lovely church

Refreshments of mulled wine/tea/coffee/mince pies
A **Cake Stall**, a great **Raffle**, Childrens **Lucky Dip**,
Christmas Arrangements to buy, some **Bric a Brac**.
Book stall, **Bag a Bola**, a few **Christmas bits**, etc.

Free Admission

Christmas at St George's

Great Bromley
CO7 7TS



December 2023

Sunday 17th at 6.30pm
Community Carols with Choir

Sunday 24th at 4.00pm
Churchyard Crib Service

Monday 25th at 10.30am
Christmas Day Eucharist



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

- 30 Nov
 - 21 Dec
- 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.



Post Office & Community Library

The Cross
Wednesdays
10.00am - 12 noon



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

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

Also at the Cross Inn is a Bleed Kit. The kit, provided by Great Bromley Parish Council, contains specialist equipment to help stem extreme blood loss before ambulance crews arrive.

Bleed control kits, also known as emergency trauma packs, are similar to first aid kits but include trauma dressings, gauze, chest seals and tourniquets to help stop serious bleeding. They can help victims of violent crime, those involved in road traffic accidents or workplace accidents, and could be particularly useful in rural areas where ambulance response times may be slower.

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
<u>23/01390/ FULHH</u>	Proposed single storey rear extension. Great Bromley Parish Council had no comment.	2 Meadow Close
<u>23/01413/ FULHH Mr & Mrs Lawes</u>	Proposed removal of existing garage and replacement with a new cart lodge. Great Bromley Parish Council had no comment.	Spread Eagle, Brook Street, CO7 7HX
<u>23/01434/ FUL</u> Mr J Connor - Inova (UK) Ltd	Full planning application and listed building consent for the conversion, alteration and extension of existing barns and cottages to form 5 dwellings, including alterations to existing vehicular access and frontage wall. Great Bromley Parish Council had no comment.	Newhouse Farm, Hall Road, CO7 7TP
<u>23/01481/ LBC</u> Mr J Connor - Inova (UK) Ltd	Alterations and extensions to facilitate the conversion of existing barn into residential use, including alterations to frontage wall. Great Bromley Parish Council had no comment.	Newhouse Farm, Hall Road, CO7 7TP
23/01491/ NMA	Non Material Amendment to application reference 20/00547/OUT for alterations to windows and materials on plots 1-11. For information only.	Land Site of Former Hamilton Lodge, Parsons Hill
<u>23/30191/ PREAPP</u>	Proposed change of use of existing buildings to mixed commercial uses, erection of a community shop with outreach store, change of use of remaining land to place of worship including erection of a meeting hall and construction of a new vehicular access with the highway. Great Bromley Parish Council was unable to comment as the link had restricted access.	Bromley Barns, Harwich Road



TENDRING TALKING TIMES

We produce a weekly audio recording of local news and other items of interest. We are looking for new listeners who are visually impaired or who have some temporary or permanent disability which makes reading a strain.

If you know someone who fits into one of the above categories yet does not have a subscription with ourselves, then please see the contact details below and get in touch, provided you have that person's agreement.

This recording comes out each week via the Royal Mail and should arrive on

a Saturday morning. This comes in the form of a memory stick that can either be played on a computer, laptop or even a tablet. However, the listener does not need to own one of these devices as we will lend the listener a playback device, free of charge, and demonstrate how the listener can use it.

The memory sticks are then returned in the wallet that it arrives in, at no cost to the listener under the Royal Mail's concession for "Articles for the Blind". The wallet is then reused on another occasion.

If for some reason, the listener does not wish to listen to a particular article, the listener can simply fast forward to the next article or rewind to listen again. The listener can stop their free subscription at any time simply by contacting us.

Tendring Talking Times is produced by the Tendring Talking Newspaper Association which is a registered charity established in 1976. We are members of the Talking Newspaper Federation which supports and represents the work of all local UK Talking New organisations.

You can contact us by email on: tendringtalkingtimes1976@gmail.com

By post to: Tendring Talking Times, 29 Church Road, Clacton-on-Sea, CO15 6AS

By leaving a voicemail on 01255 422307.

**ST MARY'S CHURCH
GREAT BENTLEY**

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL



Theme - 'Christmas Songs'

**SATURDAY 2nd DECEMBER
10.00am - 4.00pm**

**SUNDAY 3rd DECEMBER
11am - 4.00pm**

Christmas Food Stall: Bottle Tombola:

Christmas Gifts/Crafts:

Tombola & Raffle: Teddy Stall:

Light Lunches and Refreshments:

Christmas Music:

Pre-order your Christmas Wreath

ring Mary 01206 250524 or

Jackie 01206 250717

Entrance £1.00 Children free

PLANNING DETERMINATIONS

REF	PROPOSAL	LOCATION	DECISION
23/01192/ FULHH S Gilby	Proposed single storey rear extension.	Winton, Mary Lane South CO7 7UD	Approval - Full 18.10.2023 Delegated Decision
23/01270/ FULHH Mr and Mrs B Meadows	Proposed side/rear single storey extension and first floor extension.	1 Chapel Lane CO7 7JT	Approval - Full 26.10.2023 Delegated Decision

StHelena Hospice
For the people you love

Christmas tree-cycle

Collecting and recycling real Christmas trees in postcode areas...

CO1 to CO9, CO11, CO13 to CO16

Register your real Christmas tree at www.sthelena.org.uk/treecycle24



Sponsored by



Supported by



Booktrust Storytime voting is now open!

Essex Libraries are again taking part in the national poll, running from November to the end of March. At the end we will find out, from a shortlist of five, which is the nation's and Essex's favourite storybook.



Libraries will be running special storytimes where you can come along and enjoy the brilliant stories and be part of this exciting event.

Vote at your local library at the end of the storytime session and make sure your favourite book wins! You can also take part in the Essex vote online. [Find out more about voting and the events.](#)

(Link: <https://libraries.essex.gov.uk/news/booktrust-storytime-2023>)

The Winter Reading Challenge, 2023/2024



Our plucky penguin is back once again! But this year, she's setting off on an even bigger journey...

Join Lyra as she travels around the world, finding out all about endangered animals. There will be 12 challenges

for your little ones to choose from. Once they complete six of the challenges they will be rewarded with a certificate and a prize (while stocks last).

Lyra will be leaving on Saturday 25 November and returning on Saturday 3 February. [You can find out more about the Winter Reading Challenge here.](#)

(Link: <https://libraries.essex.gov.uk/news/winter-reading-challenge>)

ST. MARK'S ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH



The tradition of the Christmas crib – reflection by Pope Francis

“Setting up the Christmas creche in our homes helps us to relive the history of what took place in Bethlehem. Naturally, the Gospels remain our source for understanding and reflecting on that event. At the same time, its portrayal in the creche helps us to imagine the scene...as contemporaries of an event that is living and real...The Christmas creche is part of the

precious yet demanding process of passing on the faith. Beginning in childhood, and at every stage of our lives, it teaches us to contemplate Jesus, to experience God’s love for us, to feel and believe that God is with us and that we are with him, his children, brothers and sisters all, thanks to that Child who is the Son of God and the Son of the Virgin Mary.”

Weekday and Sunday Masses and devotions

All are very welcome to attend services; it is not necessary to be a Catholic. The following are the usual mass times but please check the parish website for updates in case of changes:

www.stmarksparish.org.uk or the noticeboards outside the churches.

Christmas Day masses will be at the same time as for Sundays.

Saturday	17.30 St. Mark’s vigil mass with confessions from 17.00
Sunday	09.00 Holy Family Brantham
	11.00 St. Mark’s
Tuesday	10.00 Holy Family mass with Adoration from 09.20
Wednesday	09.30 St. Mark’s
Friday	12.15 St. Mark’s mass with Adoration from 11.40

Father Luke’s Sunday sermons are available at anchor.fm/fr-luke-goymour

Events & Diary Dates

The popular **Bring & Buy Coffee Morning** at Viv Szitasi’s home, Paddock Gate, Whitehorse Road, East Bergholt CO7 6TR will take place on **Thursday December 21st** 10.30 to 12. Everyone is most welcome.

Living Stones prayer group meet on the first, third and fifth Mondays each month at 6pm at St. Mark’s, beginning with guided adoration and at

St. Mary's, Ardleigh (CO7 7LD) at 6.30pm on the 2nd and 4th Mondays. New members welcome.

The Sick & Housebound

Please let Fr Luke know of anyone who is ill at home, housebound or in hospital, so that they may receive appropriate pastoral care, he can be contacted on 01473 684963.

St. Mark's, Hawthorn Drive, Ipswich IP2 0QQ

Holy Family Church, Ipswich Road, Brantham CO11 1TB

Parish Priest: Rev Fr Luke Goymour
The Presbytery, 180 Hawthorn Drive, Ipswich IP2 0QQ

Tel: 01473 684963
revgoymour@googlemail.com



GREAT BROMLEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE



We had a very sporting attendance at the November WI Line Dancing evening, with our ladies demonstrating a nimble turn of foot and good sense of humour! Thanks to Debbie Millar and her helpers who showed us the way. We look forward to a luxurious Christmas Lunch together at the Courthouse Inn, and to exploring next year's proposed resolutions over warming home-made soup in January. Women always welcome to join us.

Happy Christmas to everyone!



LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Email: littlebromleypc@gmail.com

On Sunday 12th November a Service of Remembrance was held at Little Bromley war memorial. The Service was lead by Gregory Frostick with 17 residents attending including Little Bromley Parish Councillors and Clerk. Wreaths were laid, one from the Parish Council and one from the Bromley Parochial Church Council. A wreath was also laid from the local Conservative Association.

We are continuing to explore installing a 'traditional' telephone box in the car park on Shop Road to be used as a book exchange. Councillor Barrett has applied for a community grant from Tendring District Council to help with the purchase and installation. Our application has been acknowledged and we await the outcome of the process.

We have been advised that the Corbeau Seats Rally has been cancelled for 2024 due to budget cuts and there are no current plans for future events in the Parish.

We have had no further updates from National Grid, Five Estuaries or North Falls on their infrastructure development plans for the Parish. Another potential developer is Tarchon who plan to build a subsea electric link between the UK and Germany. Tarchon have been offered a connection by National Grid to their substation proposed for the western side of the Parish. Tarchon will require a substation and a converter station and say that they will make landfall in Essex. They now have a website tarchonenergy.net and state that their detailed environmental and technical studies will commence in 2024 with planning applications

submitted in 2026. The lobbying for an offshore solution continues which would negate the requirement for these developments in Little Bromley.

I am sure that you have noticed the large amount of rainfall we have had recently. According to my rain gauge in October we had 153.5mm (over 6 inches) and as of writing this article in November so far we have had 78.5mm (over 3 inches). This follows a wet summer. Please let the Parish Council know of any roads or areas in the village which are especially prone to localised flooding and we will contact Tendring District Council and Essex Highways to see if they can assist.

We held our last Parish Council meeting of 2023 on November 16th at the Haywain. Our next Parish Council meeting is on Thursday January 18th 2024. We look forward to seeing you there.



The Friends of St. Mary's Church
would like to invite you to

Carols in the Afternoon

starting at 2.30pm



St Mary's Church, Little Bromley
Saturday 23rd December 2023

Join us for Carols and Readings
followed by free refreshments
Donations welcome

The Churches Conservation Trust is the national charity that protects historic churches at risk. We've saved over 340 unique buildings which attract more than a million visitors a year. With our help and your support, they are kept open, in use and free to all - living once again at the heart of their communities.

visitchurches.org.uk

The Churches Conservation Trust, 1 West Smithfield, London EC4A 3EE
Telephone: 020 7213 0560
Registered Charity No: 264807 - 810277000

ARDLEIGH SURGERY

Season's greetings to all our patients, friends and advocates of Ardleigh Surgery.

News from the surgery We have a clinical pharmacist; his name is Joseph Davies. Joseph will have patient consultations on Tuesdays both face to face (F2F) and telephone and admin on Wednesdays. Joseph will be dealing with the following:

- Medication reconciliation i.e., making sure that your discharge medication, outpatient medication changes are reconciled with your repeat prescription list on your GP system.
- Prescription queries - Complicated, Patients on multiple medications
- F2F & Telephone Consultations for minor health conditions like flu, constipation
- Care homes medication queries
- Medication reviews
- New patient for their first medication issue

Dr Babalola our GP trainee has now finished his training and will be leaving us to take up a substantive GP post in London. We wish him good luck.

Lisa Sotheron our health care assistant and phlebotomist is now a qualified nurse and she will be working as a practice nurse and will not be doing routine phlebotomy clinics.

We have recruited a new GP assistant, Joshua Scoote who replaced Sam Taylor.

We now have extended access GP clinics at our sister surgery Riverside health centre in Manningtree. This will be on the third Saturday of every month dependent on staffing.

You should now be able to see your notes GP notes if you register with the NHS app.

Information for all our patients Please book yourselves and your children to have

your flu vaccinations if you have not already done so. There is a high prevalence of viral respiratory illness this winter as we are all mingling without face masks.

The bank holiday hours for Ardleigh surgery are as follows:

We are open at 0800hrs and close at 1830hrs every weekday over the holidays except the 25th, 26th of December 2023 and the 1st of January 2024.

As the dispensary and pharmacist will be busier than usual, please request your medications early but no more than a week earlier than usual.

The next compulsory Northeast Essex Surgery training afternoon will be on Tuesday the 30th of January 2023. The Surgery will close from 12.30hrs and dispensary from 12.00hrs.

Future dates are:

- Tuesday 30th January 2024
- Thursday 22nd February 2024
- Wednesday 27th March 2024

In this episode I reviewed complaints to the surgery from January to September 2023. We received eighteen formal written complaints from January to September 2023. They centred around six main reasons.

- + Lack of access to GP services
- + Medication request
- + Appeal against removal from our list
- + Perceive unprofessional attitude of staff.
- + Disagreement with diagnosis or plan of action
- + External and non-NHS services.

Please go the Ardleigh surgery newsletter page on our website to read the analysis.

Happy Christmas and all the best wishes for the new year.

The Ardleigh surgery team

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

www.gbpc.org.uk

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



Our Remembrance Service at the War Memorial and afterwards in the Church were very well attended with over 100 people present remembering those that have died during the World Wars and other conflicts.

The Festive Afternoon Teas provided by the Parish Council will be delivered to those residents who have ordered on 20th December. It would be appreciated if you will not be at home for the delivery that you make alternative arrangements.

Our Speedwatch group have been out and about in the village and reported a total of 27 motorists whom were found to be exceeding the speed limit in our village. Those details have been reported to the Police. If you would like to join our Speedwatch group please contact our Clerk.

Community Carols will take place on 17th December in St Georges Church commencing at 6.00pm, the Parish Council are supporting this event.

Fly tipping still appears to be a problem in the village, gas canisters have been dumped in Mary Lane North and green waste dumped in Honeypot Lane. Both incidents have been reported to TDC. If anybody has knowledge of the person(s) responsible please report it to the Police as this is a criminal offence.

Manningtree Rotary have offered to help Seven Rivers to maintain part of their grounds, any offers of help will be welcome, please contact our Clerk.

S137 grants were discussed and after a considerable discussion it was agreed to be fair and keep the grants

to more or less the same as last year.

Some landowners in the village have been maintaining their hedges and verges, the Parish Council are very appreciative of their efforts.

Arrangements are in the process of being made for a site visit at Hamilton Lodge, an update following the visit will be provided in the next edition of the Messenger.

A meeting with a playground supplier for equipment in Church Meadow is being arranged.

Wishing all residents a very happy Christmas and New Year, on behalf of GBPC.

Cllr Fred Nicholls



**St George's Church
Great Bromley**

**Sunday 17th December 2023
at 6.30pm**

**All are very welcome
Collection for
The Children's Society
Refreshments afterwards**

RECTOR'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

Let me introduce myself. I am John Saxon, Harwich Deanery Rural Missioner and I am pleased to be called to a new ministry post to be with you to witness to God's love to all in our village communities. Thank you for the welcome my wife Dawn and I have received since moving into the Rectory at Great Oakley earlier in the Autumn. We haven't quite yet made it to every church in the group of nine parishes seeking to work together here, but hope to do so soon.

Dawn and I met at a Colchester church and we spent over 30 years in the town (now city!) raising our family there. Now all grown up, we have three daughters and a son and two grandchildren. I was a Paramedic for 15 years and covered many calls across the Tendring peninsula in that time. When our family were still young I gave up shift work to train as a primary school teacher. I later moved to work in a special school for many years before retraining again to be ordained Priest in the Church of England in 2018. My first ministry post was in Saffron Walden with the group of villages surrounding the town seeking to work together more closely in ministry.

Dawn worked in a bank before leaving to become a full-time mum. Returning to work when our children were older, Dawn has had various roles in administration, not least two long term positions as 'Parish Administrator' in the churches we have belonged to.

I should mention the last member of our family, Nahla our 7 year old Cairn Terrier. Dawn and I love taking her for a walk together and are pleased to be near Frinton beach again to enjoy

walks there, remembering many happy summer days with our family when younger. Other interests include reading, music and football for Dawn and vegetable gardening and cooking for John. In recent years we are enjoying holidays exploring the many places of the British Isles we haven't been to before.

Meeting new people and sharing a little of my varied career path, people remark about the challenges of starting over in a new career. Yes, it does present new challenges, and Dawn may well have more to say about that than me, looking after a young family while I was re-training! However, we think it is more about doing the right thing rather than the same old thing. 'If you do what you have always done, you will get what you always got' I was once told. When faced with change I am always encouraged by a popular Old Testament verse, Isaiah 43 v19 'I am about to do a new thing, [says the Lord] now it springs forth do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness; rivers in the desert.'

Change is always a challenge, but it does lead to new opportunities and rewards. As Dawn and I settle to our new lives and ministry here among you, we look forward to all that God will lead us into; new ways of working and supporting each other; new ventures in the lives of our village churches and communities and, we pray, new disciples joining with us as we journey together in the Christian faith.

We hope you can join us as we celebrate the birth of our Saviour this Christmas – see details of our Christmas Services. Do invite your family and friends too. Why not find out more about the Christian faith in

the New Year through Alpha – a course exploring questions of faith in a welcoming and non-threatening way. Look out for more posters in the New Year or contact me for preliminary details now.

Best wishes
Revd John Saxon
Rural Missioner
07484 332734 or 01255 781859

CHURCH JOTTINGS

Over one hundred adults, children and a donkey came together to remember all those folk from Great Bromley who gave their lives for their village and country in the Two World Wars.

The Remembrance Sunday special service led by the Rev Canon Stephen Carter will live in our hearts for many years to come. Co-ordinated by Councillor Rob Lord at the War Memorial, names were read, wreaths from all organisations were laid, two minutes of prayerful silence followed by the National Anthem to the King, was led by our beautiful processional Cross, families walked quietly back to the church, eighty adults and ten children shared a wonderful service in St Georges – organised by Stephen and the P.C.C, service with a true Community Spirit, sharing with families from our local school, Parish Council, Residents from the Cheshire Home and our very special Deanery Choir. The children from the school read very special poems and sang beautifully a rendition of 'For the Beauty Of The Earth' by John Rutter. Jess from Seven Rivers Cheshire Home read a lovely poem, Thankyou Jess. Charlie wrote his own poem, which he read for us and he has sent it to us for you to read too.

Rosie and Fred beautifully read a poem called ' My Boy Jack' by Rudyard Kipling. It was written in memory of Jack Cornwall , the youngest ever recipient of the Victoria Cross who died

at the Battle of Jutland aged just 16.

Certainly a busy time here in St Georges, our long awaited project to create a small 'servery' in the North Aisle has begun, ground works by the West Door, joiners arriving Monday 13th November – all systems go! Sadly we are having to postpone our super children's club ' JAM' until the New year, Sorry.

We are looking forward to welcoming Women's World Fellowship for a Christmas Service on December 7th – they are lunching at the Village Hall afterwards.

December 9th is our wonderful Festive Coffee Morning, 10.00am – 12.00 midday , please 'pop in'! if you can, and we would love to see you. There is no charge for entry, a small donation would be welcome – Coffee, Mulled Wine, Christmas Decorations, cakes and lots of other goodies.

Then it is Christmas. You will find all the services printed on a leaflet tucked inside this magazine.

We are already looking towards 2024, particularly to our Flower Festival in June – come and join us! – if you have any hopes and aspirations please share with us. St Georges is your village church, come and enjoy...



St George's Church Great Bromley



www.greatbromley.org.uk

Parish of The Bromleys

To receive our email newsletter, please sign up via the website or email us at church@greatbromley.org.uk

December 3rd	Advent Sunday	Parish Eucharist BCP Darkness to Light service	10.30am 4.00pm
December 10th	Advent 2	Parish Eucharist	10.30pm
December 17th	Advent 3	Community Carol Service	6.30pm
December 23rd		<i>Carols at Little Bromley</i>	<i>2.30pm</i>
December 24th	Advent 4 Christmas Eve	Parish Eucharist Churchyard Crib Service	10.30am 4.00pm
December 25th	Christmas Day	Christmas Eucharist	10.30pm
December 29th	Christmas 1	<i>Benefice Service at St Mary's, Dedham</i>	<i>11.00am</i>
January 6th	The Epiphany	Holy Communion BCP <i>at St Mary's, Little Bromley</i>	<i>11.30am</i>

Please note the new 11am morning service timing from 7th January

January 7th	Baptism of Christ	Parish Eucharist BCP	11.00am
January 14th	Epiphany 2	Parish Eucharist	11.00am
January 21st	Epiphany 3	Evensong BCP	6.30pm
January 28th	Candlemas	Parish Eucharist	11.00am

St Mary's, Little Bentley

December 3rd	Holy Communion	11am
December 17th	Holy Communion	11am
December 24th	Service of Light	6pm
January 7th	Morning Prayer	11am
January 21st	Holy Communion	11am

**Services details for Dedham/Ardleigh, Moze benefice,
and Manningtree CrossReach parishes
can be found on their websites.**