




The Magazine of the  
villages of Great &  
Little Bromley

December 2024



Everyone welcome, please come to our



# Festive Coffee Morning



at St. George's Church, Great Bromley

on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December

10am - 12 noon

lots of stalls, bric a brac,  
Christmas bits, raffle and refreshments

Free admission



# THE FIRST PAGE

Dear all,

Have you picked your colour scheme for this year? Last year, ours was pink, but since then we have redecorated the lounge and this year we'll be going with a navy blue theme. As always, I'm not getting the tree out of the loft until the weekend before. But I have let the girls get some ornaments out and we have created a snowy Christmas village scene in the unit under the TV. It used to house DVD, video and sound systems but they are no longer needed since TVs seem to do it all themselves now. One of our cats has taken to sleeping on the fake snow among the tiny houses.



Remembrance services took place across the country on Sunday 10th November, including services at the War Memorials in Little Bromley and Great Bromley. Thank you to those who made these important services possible, allowing local residents to remember and reflect. A wonderful poem written by Sebastian Lord (10) is on page 21.



If you can, please spare a thought for any lonely neighbours over this festive period. Loneliness is an awful thing, a

cuppa and a chat can really brighten someone's day.

Awareness days in December include:

- 2nd - National Grief Awareness Week
- 11th - National Workplace Day of Remembrance
- 13th - Christmas Jumper Day
- 26th - Festival Of Winter Walks



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

The Messenger is back in February 2025.

*Take care,  
Lizzie*



\*A big thank you to all our authors and contributors, our Treasurer, delivery team, and advertisers. If anyone wants to have a go at writing an article or a short story, please send it in - don't be shy. Any interesting or unusual hobbies, recipes to share or short stories, it's all welcome. As long as it follows the guidelines below, you really can't go wrong.

**MATERIAL** for the **FEBRUARY 2025** edition of 'The Messenger' should reach the Editor, Lizzie Ridout, by **14th JANUARY 2025** 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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*more than a pub...*

## Opening Times

**Wednesday Coffee Shop, Post Office and Library 10am to 12pm**

**Tuesday and Thursday 6:30pm - Friday 5pm -**

**Saturday 6:30pm—Sunday 12pm to 3pm**

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

## Festive Period Events

**Every Thursday Mobile Fish & Chip Van 6pm to 6:30**

**Every Wednesday Coffee Morning, Post Office and Library 10am to 12pm**

**Saturday 7th - Casino Party Night 8pm**

**Thursday 12th - Open Mic Night 8pm**

**Saturday 14th—Live Music with Tim Hackford**

**Wednesday 18th—Xmas Coffee Shop : Draw for Xmas Hamper**

**Thursday 19th - Charity Xmas Quiz at 8pm**

**Thursday 19th - Friendship Club 2pm to 4pm**

**Saturday 21st - Xmas Jumper Party 7:30pm**

**Wednesday 25th—Open from 12pm to 3pm**

## Christmas Opening Times

**24th: 6:30pm to 11pm \* 25th: 12pm to 3pm \* 26th: Closed**

For more information on our Christmas Opening times throughout the festive period, please visit our website or Facebook page

<https://greatbromleycross.pub/> [info@greatbromleycross.co.uk](mailto:info@greatbromleycross.co.uk)



# MANNINGTREE & DISTRICT PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY



In September we began our 2024/2025 year with a picture sharing session. Since then we've held competitions, open colour PDI, open Mono Prints and Food Photography. We've had field trips to Orwell Park, Furze Hill and Landguard Point, a workshop with members sharing expertise, and a talk by Stephen Harper – "Wildlife Tour of Britain"

Our 2024-2025 programme is available on our website together with competition results, photo albums and further club information. Our public Manningtree Photographic Club Facebook page also features various club news and activities.

This month's featured image "*Natasha*" by Hasje Mousley was the winner of a recent PDI 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 have an interest in photography, at whatever level, you would be most welcome at M&DPS. We meet at Mistley Village Hall, on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of the month between September and May at 7.30pm.

For further information please contact our Secretary Pat Ainger on 01206 231242 or email: [madps@post.com](mailto:madps@post.com)

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





# GREAT 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 8.00am to 6.30pm Monday to Friday.

Over the Christmas/New Year period the Surgery will be closed on:

Wednesday, 25 December,  
Thursday, 26 December 2024 and  
Wednesday, 1 January 2025.

**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.

**SURGERY NEWS** We are very sorry to let you know that Sister Susan Webb one of our Advanced Nurse Practitioners who has worked in the NHS for 48 years, will be retiring in January 2025. We all wish Sue a very happy and well deserved retirement after such a long career in the NHS.

**FLU AND RSV VACCINATIONS** If you have received a message saying you are entitled to either a flu or RSV vaccination and haven't booked this yet, please contact reception on telephone number 01206 250691 who will be happy to book an appointment for you.

**NEW PATIENT REGISTRATION SYSTEM** A new system has been introduced in England for patients

needing to register with a GP Practice. Rather than coming into the Surgery to complete registration forms, patients are now able to do this on-line by visiting our Surgery website:

[www.greatbentleysurgery.nhs.uk](http://www.greatbentleysurgery.nhs.uk).

They just need to click on the 'new patient' tab, check they are in the Surgery catchment area and if they are click on 'fill out an on-line registration form'. Once the form has been completed and submitted the patient is normally registered at the Practice within a few days.

If patients are not able to access our website, then they can still come into reception and complete registrations forms but will need to bring in photo ID and proof of address.

For any new patients planning to register at the Practice, could we please ask that if you are on repeat medication you request a month's prescription from your previous GP just prior to completing the registration form, to ensure you do not run out of medication during the registration process.

**ASKMYGP UPDATE** I just wanted to add to what I previously wrote in the November 2024 Newsletter about AskmyGP which was as follows:-

*Patients will now need to request all doctors' appointments and minor illness appointments with our prescribing nurse practitioners via our digital platform, AskmyGP. If patients haven't signed up for this yet, then please do this by visiting our website:*

[www.greatbentleysurgery.nhs.uk](http://www.greatbentleysurgery.nhs.uk)

Please be assured that if you do not have access to the internet or someone that can do this for you, then you can of course contact the Surgery by telephone on 01206 250691 and one of

our reception team will put the request through for them. This will involve the receptionist going through the questions that need to be completed for their request.

If patients do have access to the internet, then we will ask them to register for the digital platform. I do

hope this helps to reassure patients and clarify the situation.

### **PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP**

The Patient Participation Group does not meet in December.

**Sue Mitson**  
**Operations Manager**



## **Great Bromley Village Hall**



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 this key 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 2025.

**Martin Frostick**  
**01206 250263**

[villagehallsecretary@greatbromley.org.uk](mailto:villagehallsecretary@greatbromley.org.uk)

## **GREAT BROMLEY FRIENDSHIP CLUB**

We had a very interesting speaker, Mr John Keen, at our last meeting. Mr Keen brought along many items he had discovered during his metal detecting trips which members were allowed to handle.

A wreath from the Club for Remembrance Sunday was laid.

We hope to have a special raffle at our December meeting and would ask members to please wrap their donations.

A Christmas lunch on the 5th December at Craft Nurseries is being organised.

A donation to the Air Ambulance in remembrance of one of our long term members, Mr Tom Bush has been sent.

A very happy Christmas to everyone.

### **BE EXTRAORDINARY**

#### **Great Bromley**

Be a<sup>^</sup>Parish Councillor

#### **Would you like to:**

- make a difference to local people?
- give something back to your community?
- help shape change for the benefit of your local area?

**ordinary  
people  
doing an  
amazing job!**

For more details,  
email  
[\*\*Clerk@gbpc.org.uk\*\*](mailto:Clerk@gbpc.org.uk)

# GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

[www.gbpc.org.uk](http://www.gbpc.org.uk)

Clerk: Mrs Lizzie Ridout Email: [clerk@gbpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@gbpc.org.uk)



Just a short update of what has been going on for the last few weeks.

Firstly, we were all saddened by the passing of one of our fellow councillors, Ros Tovell. It was very sudden and she will be greatly missed.

Other sad news was the passing of Henry Fairley, a former Chairman of this Council, who served the members of this Parish for many years.

On a lighter note, the litter picking day on the 2nd November was a great success with over 30 volunteers joining in and collecting over 30 bags of rubbish. Special thanks go to our friends, the Plymouth Brethren, who provided very welcome hot drinks and bacon rolls for the volunteers, despite the rain.

The turnout in the village for Remembrance Sunday at the War Memorial was very good. The two

minutes silence was extremely poignant and this was followed by a Service of Remembrance at St Georges Church, which was also well attended.

I have still not given up hope of some kind of Village Fete next summer. To date, I have had one volunteer contact me with an offer of help. I cannot believe that this challenge does not appeal to people in the village. Please contact me, any offers of help will be well received.

Finally, as we move into the festive season, be assured that your Parish Council continues to task Essex Highways and TDC with requests, prompted by you, to make our roads and byways safer for us all. These are issues that are very close to the hearts of all our Council members.

***Best wishes  
Ian Murch***

## PLANNING DETERMINATIONS

REF	PROPOSAL	LOCATION	DECISION
<u>24/01293/OHL</u> Daniel Cooper - UK Power Networks	Overhead Lines Application - erect new single wooden electricity pole within an existing overhead line to re-supply two residential properties.	Hobbles End Ardleigh Road Great Bromley CO7 7TL	Application Closed 10.10.2024 Delegated Decision
<u>24/00897/FULHH</u> Mr Craig Burden	Householder Planning Application - The construction of a new boundary wall and alterations to existing boundary fencing.	4 Little Paddocks Great Bromley Essex CO7 7GN	Approval - Full 23.10.2024 Delegated Decision

# HENRY JAMES FAIRLEY

3 AUGUST 1934 – 16 OCTOBER 2024

Henry was born at home in Falkirk to James & Mary Fairley, a brother to Richard and Jim. Subsequent siblings, born in England, were Margaret, Tom, Robert and John. Their father was a dairyman who delivered milk with his horse and cart, their mother baking and selling her goods from the dairy. Mother was known to remark, "My three sons who were born in Scotland did not drink, nor did they smoke, but the three who were born in England *all* drank and smoked!"

James (Jimmy) Fairley wished to purchase land but found there was little for sale in Scotland, so he looked to move to Essex.

Henry was a babe in arms when his parents rented Stock Street Farm in Coggeshall from September 1934. He was very happy attending St Peters Primary school, and going up to Endsleigh School, Lexden Road, Colchester, an all-girls school which started accepting boys, of which Henry and Jim were amongst the first. In 1952 Jimmy was in a position to purchase his own farm, the Grange.

Ann Seldon was working as a clerk in Lloyds Bank and was a member of Witham Young Farmers. In 1958 she met Henry, a member of Braintree Young Farmers, at a Barn Dance where they enjoyed Scottish Dancing together. Despite Ann's Uncle's best efforts to discourage her from courting Henry, by sending her on a pony trekking holiday to Cornwall, their friendship grew. Henry and Ann were married on 29<sup>th</sup> November 1958 and shared a long and happy marriage together, raising three children: Margaret, Elizabeth and Andrew, and in turn having five grandchildren: Sarah, Alistair, Fergus, Alex and Naomi, and recently two great-grandchildren, Elsie and Liam.

The young family moved to Park Farm, Great Bromley in 1966 with 304 acres of land and the infrastructure in place for breeding pigs. Starting with a herd of 20 breeding sows, all of whom had names, he grew the business over the years. Farm workers included Ronnie Soames, David Daniel, Julian, Alan and Reg.

As usual in family farms, as soon as the children reached an age where they



could get involved, they could be found helping muck out pig pens, mixing up meal, catching piglets, picking up potatoes and grading them, and stacking straw bales.

Jimmy Fairley had managed to purchase a farm for each of the sons, as had been his plan. With Richard and family emigrating to Australia, Henry became Chairman of James Fairley & Sons Ltd from 1982 until 1997. Thereafter he formed Henry



Fairley & Son, that son being Andrew who runs the farm today.

From their love of village life, the churches, and the countryside, Henry became involved in many different ways. From his first arrival to the village he was involved with the Hare Green Playing Field Committee. In 1973 he joined Great Bromley Parish Council and became Chairman in May 1982, standing down in May 1995 to George Kempster some 13 years later. He was also involved with the Village Hall committee 1984 to 1991, with the Conservative Club, Thorpe Discussion Group, The Bean Group (Tendring Producers), Colchester Thieves, and Tendring Hundred Farmers Club, being President of the Tendring Hundred Show in 1996.

Henry also found time to enjoy some country pursuits such as the visit of the Essex & Suffolk Beagles to Park Farm, and driving the beaters' trailer on shoot days at Sladburys Farm.

Over the years Henry suffered several farming accidents. As time went on he seemed to forget that although he was young and energetic on the inside, his body did not reflect this.

Ann and Henry's love of Scottish Dancing meant they spent many years as members of the Caledonian Society, regularly joining friends on a Monday night... not to mention the annual Burns dinners. The Society was a big part of their lives until they became less mobile. Henry was President from 1986 to 1989, and helped keep the Society going, serving on the Committee right up until he became too frail to attend.



Henry and Ann were very active at both St George's and St Mary's Churches. Whether it was blessing the crops during a Rogation Service at Park Farm, the loan of chairs and tables from the barn for harvest lunches, to "Plant a Tree in '83" with Kathy Hayward, to sorting out the brass candlesticks for a candlelit Christmas service, nothing was too much trouble. Henry was a very practical person and concerned for the fabric of the buildings, in whatever form was needed - restoration of the tower, the organ, the bells, sorting out the tarpaulin when the lead was stolen from the roof, the new sound system, fixing the heating under the church, or clearing the compost heap. He was "a really good, dependable friend to the Church" and his many efforts were recognised in the form of a Pride of Tendring Award in 2013 and then recognition from the

Church in 2023.

Henry was always a good person to go to for a discussion but he was like a Jack Russell – once he got hold of something, he would not let things go! He embraced new technology and was always keen to learn new things, but often called on additional support from the youngsters!

Henry became very proficient at homemade fruitcakes, something which Ann was keen for him to learn prior to her decline in health, having seen so many people during her Meals-on-Wheels days who had little knowledge of even the most basic cooking skills. He certainly mastered the process and always managed to have at least one fruit cake in the tin, and one spare.

Henry led a very full and active life, was passionate about his business and the community in which he lived, and all would agree that the village is the poorer for his passing.

*HGF from the family eulogy*

## ARDLEIGH & DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

"Arctic Dreams" will be the subject of the talk by Christopher Hamblin at Ardleigh Village Hall, Station Road, Ardleigh, CO7 7RS on Thursday 12th

December at 7:45pm. Free admission to members, non-members £2. Everyone is welcome.

## MEMORY TREE AT LITTLE BROMLEY

Once again from 1<sup>st</sup> 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).

Our **Carol Service** takes place on **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2024 at 3.00pm**, followed by refreshments. We would love to see you there.



# ST HELENA THANK YOU DAY

St. Georges received an invitation in August to attend 'A Thank You Day'. Over the recent years St. Georges has become a close friend of Helena Hospice. Our recent contact at the Hospice is a young man called James Martin-Whymark and he is the Community Fundraiser for our area.

James spent a day with us in June, meeting our community at our Flower Festival and helping with the BBQ and setting up stalls.

It was a super surprise to receive an invitation to the St Helena Thank you Day.

The invitation read – we would like for you to join us in recognition of your commitment and dedication to St Helena and having played a key role in helping us to continue to be there for local people in the face of dying, death and bereavement.

There will be a variety of long service awards presented to our volunteers on the day and you will be served with a light lunch of sandwiches and cakes and refreshments.

"Our Thank You Day" is a great opportunity to celebrate your achievements and come together, chat with our volunteers and meet other local businesses in attendance,

After consultation with the PCC of St. George's Church Fred and I readily accepted this very kind invitation and attended this fantastic event.

Everything was well

organised, warm and welcoming from the time we set foot in the Community Stadium. I think there must have been nearly three hundred people attending as we all found a seat at the beautifully dressed tables, with so many lovely folk to talk to.

As the afternoon progressed it became very clear to me that St. George's Church was going to be in line for an award. As the name of our church was announced, I felt so proud to be accepting it. As I've said before, our team works so hard for our village, community and those beyond in the Tendring Area, raising funds not only for the Church but for other worthy charitable organisations, such as St. Helena Hospice.

The wonderful collection at our recent 'Light A Candle' Service is destined for St Helena Hospice, who are not only looking for donations but volunteers too who are so valuable to the smooth running of this fantastic organisation in Colchester.



# CHURCH JOTTINGS

We are now planning for and arranging our services and special services for January 2025!

We are moving forward, led by our two very hardworking and very inspiring young priests. Please look for dates and services in our super village magazine in 2025, or if you can look at our website. Please look online or sign up to our newsletter which is fab!

But first of all, the days of December are approaching quickly, and we have lots of exciting dates for your diary – please phone me at home if you have any queries.

- December 1<sup>st</sup> – “Darkness to Light” 4pm. Lighting candles throughout the church.
- December 7<sup>th</sup> – Festive Coffee Morning 10am – 12pm Everyone welcome, free entry, donations welcome.
- December 9<sup>th</sup> – Installation of new priest at Harwich 6pm.
- December 14<sup>th</sup> – Deanery Choir Concert 7pm Donations welcome. Festive Nibbles for all.
- December 18<sup>th</sup> – School Carol

Service 2pm. All welcome.

- December 22<sup>nd</sup> – Church Carols 4pm.
- December 24<sup>th</sup> – Crib Service 4pm. Carols at Seven Rivers 4.45pm.
- December 25<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Day 11am.
- December 29<sup>th</sup> – 9 Parishes Together at St. George’s 11am.
- December 31<sup>st</sup> – The Bells will ring.

We are always looking for new ideas and activities at St. George’s; please let me know if you have some thoughts about fundraising, activities or services?

Do you know of any folk in our village who need help, support and would like a visit to enjoy a cuppa?

Finally, for this last entry of 2024, I would like to thank you all for being such a lovely, supportive community.

Wishing you all a very, very happy Christmas and peaceful New Year.

*Jenny*

## A FESTIVE AFTERNOON TEA WEDNESDAY 18TH DECEMBER 2024

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

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

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

Orders should be placed via email: [clerk@gbpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@gbpc.org.uk)

Due to limited funds, we regret that numbers are limited this year, and requests will be taken on a first come, first served basis. Provided by Great Bromley Parish Council.



## St Helena Hospice Christmas Tree-cycle returns in January 2025

The popular St Helena Hospice annual Christmas Tree-cycle is returning!

Save yourself the trip to the recycling centre and let St Helena Hospice take care of the Christmas clean up for you.

If you live in postcode areas: CO1-CO9, and CO11 to CO16, St Helena Hospice's team of volunteers can collect your real Christmas tree in return of a donation.

Your donation will help provide compassionate care and support to people in your community facing incurable illness and bereavement. You can feel good knowing you are not only reducing waste, but you're also helping ensure St Helena Hospice



can be there for the people you love, when they need it.

Collection is between Friday 10th and Monday 13th January 2025.

Simply register before Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> January at [www.sthelenahospice.org.uk/treecycle25](http://www.sthelenahospice.org.uk/treecycle25).

Would you like to volunteer? If you would like to help collect trees, or if you could supply a van for the volunteers to use, please contact the fundraising team on [fundraising@sthelena.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@sthelena.org.uk) or call the fundraising office on 01206 931 468.

The Christmas Tree-cycle is kindly sponsored by Tree & Lawn Company and supported by Birch Airfield, Essex Reclamation, Love Essex, Colchester City Council, Essex County Council and Tendring District Council.

Everyone welcome, please come to our

# Festive Coffee Morning

at **St. George's Church, Great Bromley**

on **Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December**

**10am - 12 noon**

**lots of stalls, bric a brac,**

**Christmas bits, raffle and refreshments**

*Free admission*



## INSPIRING WOMEN

The WI enjoyed an evening with President Dorothy O'Grady giving a demonstration of interesting and waste-free gift wrapping ideas. We explored the possibilities of creating beautiful presentations out of wallpaper, old calendars, fabric and even j-cloths! We finished with everyone having a go at making some pretty decorations from gift wrap.

Merriel masterminded a trip to the Air Ambulance for a fascinating tour to learn about the great life-saving work they do. Our monthly lunches continue, as we munch our way around local hostelrys getting to know each other and sampling some lovely fare.

Our monthly Crafting Social continues to be a delight - a lovely, warm and friendly drop-in group who share skills and help each other learn new things, sharing resources and exchanging fabrics, patterns and materials.

Maybe we will see you at one of our gatherings next year! All women are welcome to drop in and visit.

A Very Happy Christmas to you all!

**December**

Wed 4th at Noon Christmas Lunch at the Courthouse Inn  
 Tues 10th 10-2pm Village Hall.  
 Crafting Social - we will be making wreaths, table centrepieces and other Christmas crafts, followed by a shared lunch. Maybe you'd like to join our new challenge, making something imaginative or useful out of any kind of denim! All welcome.

**January**

Wed 8th Noon Village Hall. WI monthly meeting - A look at our new Resolutions with Pat Ainger, followed by lunch together to start the New Year.

Tues 23rd 10-12:30pm Village Hall.  
 Crafting Social - Come and see the makes our friends have produced out of denim!

**February**

Wed 7th 7:30pm Village Hall Liz Hutchins: Colour Analysis; find out which colours suit you best.

Tues 27th 10-12:30pm Village Hall  
 Crafting Social

**BROMLEY 10K RUN**

We are pleased to announce that the Bromley 10K Run will take place on **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2025.**

This popular run is now open to enter.

If you would like to take part please go online and search for **Bromley 10K** which can be found on the [harwichrunners.co.uk](http://harwichrunners.co.uk) website.

We will have some more information next year.

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year,  
**Carol Cordwell and the Bromley 10K Committee.**

# Dates for your diary



## DECEMBER

10	WI Crafting Social and Lunch, Village Hall	10am-2pm
11	Great Bromley Parish Council, Village Hall	7:00pm
12	Ardleigh & Dist. Horticultural Society, Ardleigh Village Hall	7:45pm
23	Carol Service, St Mary's Church, Little Bromley	3:00pm
25	Christmas Day	
26	Boxing Day	

## JANUARY 2025

8	WI meeting and lunch, Village Hall	12:00pm
8	Great Bromley Parish Council, Village Hall	7:00pm
16	Little Bromley Parish Council, The Haywain	7:30pm
23	WI Crafting Social, Village Hall	10am-12:30pm

## FEBRUARY 2025

7	WI meeting, Colour Analysis, Village Hall	7:30pm
12	Great Bromley Parish Council, Village Hall	7:00pm
27	WI Crafting Social, Village Hall	10am-12:30pm



Come and celebrate  
the advent of Christmas.  
Candles, readings and music for  
choir and congregation.

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

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2024  
at 4.00pm**

**ST MARY'S CHURCH  
GREAT BENTLEY**

**CHRISTMAS TREE  
FESTIVAL**



**Theme - 'Christmas Carols'**

**SATURDAY 7th DECEMBER  
10.00am - 4.00pm**

**SUNDAY 8th DECEMBER  
11am - 4.00pm**

Christmas Food Stall:  
Tombolas & Raffle: Christmas Gifts  
Light Lunches and Refreshments:

Christmas Music:

Handcrafted Christmas Wreaths  
The wreaths can be preordered

ring Mary 01206 250524 or  
Jackie 01206 250717

**Entrance £1.00 Children free**

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

- 12 December  
9.45am to 10.15am



## **Post Office & Community Library The Cross Inn**



**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](http://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.



## KNIT AND KNATTER

Knit and Knatter meets every month at Seven Rivers Cheshire home

Around a table, our ladies and the residents of Cheshire Home sharing coffee, tea, cake and sausage rolls, we have great fun working together from 2:00 until 4:00pm every second Wednesday. After the success of our Bee project, we all decided to knit and crochet a nativity scene to display at the Cheshire Home throughout Christmas.

What should we make? Who shall we make? How tall will they be? How many animals shall we knit? And many more

questions! The project is now well underway, and we hope to complete it by 11<sup>th</sup> December. Thank you Debbie, for taking the photographs showing our work in progress.

*Jenny*



## LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Email: [littlebromleypc@gmail.com](mailto:littlebromleypc@gmail.com)

Our last meeting of 2024 has been and gone, only 8 people attended the Remembrance Sunday service on 10th November, despite being a dry and relatively mild autumnal morning, this was once again kindly led by Gregory Frostick.

We are still inviting reports of any

unwanted HGV traffic through the village, and ideas regarding the Clacton-bound bus stop.

Please send these, or any other correspondence to the Parish Council at [littlebromleypc@gmail.com](mailto:littlebromleypc@gmail.com), via our website or Facebook page, or preferably in person at the meetings of

the Parish Council, held at The Haywain from 7:30pm from 7:30pm on the 3rd Thursday of the odd months.

The Annual Meeting is the exception starting at 7pm.

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



# REMEMBRANCE

## *That one fatal day*

November skies, the air's heavy with pain,  
Poppies on our chests, we honour the slain.  
Heroes in the silence, they fought through the night,  
For freedom and peace, they stood up to fight.  
In trenches and battles, their courage was bold,  
Stories of valour and sacrifice told.  
From fields far away to the hearts of our kin,  
We remember their struggle; we remember their win.

That one fatal day, the echoes remain,  
We gather in silence, to honour the pain.  
With heads bowed low, we remember their way,  
In the heart of our country, on Remembrance Day.

War's cruel reality, the toll it exacts,  
Lives lost in the chaos; the truth never lax.  
Young men turned to legends, their dreams put on hold,  
They fought for tomorrow, for stories untold.  
Each name on the wall, a life lived and lost,  
We carry their spirit; we bear all the cost.  
So, we stand in remembrance, united we say,  
Their legacy lives on, in our hearts every day.

That one fatal day, the echoes still remain,  
We gather in silence, to honour the pain.  
With heads bowed low, we remember their way,  
In the heart of our country, on Remembrance Day.

Now we build our future on the ashes of past,  
With lessons of courage that forever will last.  
Let peace be our mission, let love light the way,  
For the souls of the fallen, we pledge, and we pray.

So, here's to the brave, who answered the call,  
With honour and pride, we remember them all.  
As the bugle plays softly, in the dawn's gentle ray,  
We stand together strong, on Remembrance Day.



**Sebastian Lord**



Rob, Beatrix and  
Sebastian Lord



Hello Great Bromley,

I'll start by saying it was good to have our old friend Brian back to entertain us with songs from the 70s and 80s, which is very popular with everybody here. Everyone had a great time and joined in, in fact Brian thought he performed a miracle when one of our residents stood up from his wheelchair and started dancing. He can stand, although he's a little unstable on his feet but Brian wasn't to know this, the look on Brian's face said it all. The only one that panicked was me, I had to spend the entire show by his side to ensure his safety, His catlike reflexes when he heard a song, almost caught me off guard a couple of times!

We also had a Halloween party with games and fun food for all, the staff also made a great effort this year and everybody looked amazing. Quite a few of our residents enjoyed dressing up for the occasion, I can honestly say they looked brilliant and the face painting was spot on. A couple of bits on our menu were mummies in blankets and meatball toasts, as well as other gory items which the residents thought were fun, so thanks to our chef Steve for making the extra effort. We thought we would try a pinata this year as a finale to our party, but who would have thought they were so well made. Most residents had at least two attempts, we finally had to concede and allow one of our guys to let rip without a blindfold and still it took several attempts. Once the goodies fell to the floor, it was a free for all, and that wasn't a pretty sight, unless you were one of those that managed to get some of the goodies. All in all, a successful party!

Remember, remember the 5th of November, gunpowder, treason and plot. Our fireworks display this year was a more intimate affair for the residents and staff at Seven Rivers. The display turned out better than expected and was enjoyed by all, we'd also like to thank Steve and David for running the show.

Finally, the honour of laying the wreath on Remembrance Sunday, fell to one of our Residents and her husband. As always, it was good to see the village come together on an occasion as important as this, we should never forget.



***Good health to you all until the next time, Lee***

# ARDLEIGH SURGERY

## **Farewell to Dr. Lenart**

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to Dr. Lenart for his many years of dedicated service to Ardleigh Surgery. He retired on November 30th, 2024, after working at the surgery since 2003 and becoming a partner in 2016.

Dr. Lenart was known for his kindness, thoughtfulness, and patient-centered approach. We wish him a happy and healthy retirement, filled with joy and adventure.

## **Welcome Dr. O'Carroll**

We are pleased to welcome Dr. Michelle O'Carroll to our team. Dr. O'Carroll is an experienced GP with a special interest in diabetes and women's health. We are confident that she will provide excellent care to our patients. We are confident that she will be a valuable asset to our team.

## **Important Notice: Transition to Anima Online Platform**

Starting in February 2025, we will be transitioning to the Anima online digital platform for accessing GP services and initial consultations. Please register with the NHS app to prepare for this change. Further information on registering with Anima will be provided as soon as it becomes available.

## **Winter Vaccinations**

**Flu:** If you are eligible and haven't had your flu vaccination yet, please book an appointment at one of our flu clinics or ask your clinician during your next appointment.

**RSV:** The Respiratory Syncytial Virus causes bronchiolitis in infants and chest infections in older adults. The vaccine is now available for eligible individuals, those aged 75-79 and pregnant women over 28 weeks.

**Pneumonia:** The pneumonia vaccine is available for those over 65 and some under 65 with specific conditions. Please book an appointment to receive any of these vaccinations.

## **Winter Demands on GP Services**

As winter approaches, demand for GP services typically increases. Please be patient and considerate when contacting the surgery. We continue to provide approximately 3948 clinician appointments per month for our 7500 registered patients. To ensure timely access for all patients, please consider using the pharmacist first service for minor ailments.

## **Join Our Patient Participation Group**

We encourage you to join our Patient Participation Group to have a say in how our surgery is run. The group aims to improve services and facilities for patients. This group provides a platform for patients to talk directly to the GPs and practice manager and you will be the first to know of any changes to how our practice is run. If you're interested in joining, please contact the surgery.

## **North East Essex GP Educational**

**afternoon** The next educational day will be on Tuesday February the 25th 2025. The surgery and all GP surgeries in North Essex will be closed for staff training. Please bear this in mind and order medications in good time as the dispensary will also close from 1200hrs. If you require urgent care on this afternoon please dial 111 for assistance.

## **Wishing You a Happy Holiday Season**

We wish you all a very happy Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year.



# WINTER SUPPORT

The two advice sessions are going well, and we have been able to maximise income for people living in and around Great Bromley. The advice sessions are the first Wednesday of the month 10-12pm at The Bromley cross and 2-4pm at Great Bromley Village Hall.

We have managed to secure funding for another warm hub. "Ken and Eric's Warm Hub and Calm Colouring" will start on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December. The warm hub is particularly welcoming adults, young people and children who have a respiratory condition, such as asthma and COPD, autism, learning disability or learning difficulties, mental health and loneliness. Of course, everyone is welcome to pop along for free refreshments.

## Pension Credit

Please be aware that on-line calculators are not picking up underlying entitlement to Carers Allowance. If you were claiming carers allowance, before your state pension, then you might have an underlying entitlement. Unless your pension credit claim is straight forward, please get advice from a welfare rights service.

## Personal Independence Payment

I will be providing a free PIP (Personal Independence Payment) workshop for charities, local groups and schools on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 1-3pm at CVST Imperial House, Clacton-on-Sea CO15 1NZ. Please book

by emailing  
[Resilience@cvstendring.org.uk](mailto:Resilience@cvstendring.org.uk)

There have been some scare stories circulating on social media that PIP will be moving over to vouchers. There will be no PIP vouchers, nor are there any plans to move over to vouchers.

## Autism training

We have received a number of requests to put on an autism workshop for parents, siblings, grandparents and other family members. If this is something that might be of interest to you, please can you email me [annie@dawnsupport.co.uk](mailto:annie@dawnsupport.co.uk) I can gauge interest and arrange a training session.

Get ready for a wonderful

# Winter Evening

Ken and Eric's Warm Hub welcomes you on

## Christmas Day

to Great Bromley Village Hall CO7 7JA

Between 5pm and 8pm for light refreshments and music

This event is free

Please call/email: [annie@dawnsupport.co.uk](mailto:annie@dawnsupport.co.uk)

Mobile: 07720 468344 for more information and to book



# PLANNING APPLICATION

REF	PROPOSAL	LOCATION
<u>24/01530/FUL</u>  Mr T Frary	<p>Planning Application - Construction of agricultural building for hay and machinery storage.</p> <p>Great Bromley Parish Council objected to the application as the same justification for <u>21/01277/FUL</u> which within 12 months the applicant applied for B2 commercial use, which demonstrates there wasn't a need for the agricultural requirement in the first place. The highway is becoming congested as a result of the other commercial buildings.</p> <p>GBPC is concerned at the application and would like to make the planning officer or Planning Committee aware of the history of other applications on the site.</p>	Pond Farm, Hall Road, Great Bromley CO7 7TP
<u>24/01547/FULHH</u>	<p>Householder Planning Application - Installation of air source heat pump.</p> <p>Great Bromley Parish Council had no objection to the application.</p>	Draco, Back Lane East, Great Bromley
<u>24/01572/COUNOT</u>  <b>FOR INFO ONLY</b>	<p>Prior Approval Application under Part 3, Class MA of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended) for three commercial buildings to be converted to three residential dwellings and an additional existing building used in association with the existing commercial buildings to be converted into a cycle store for use by the residential dwellings.</p>	The Old Marconi Works, Store and Premises, Hilliards Road, Great Bromley
<u>24/01618/VOC</u>  Colchester Development 2 Limited	<p>Application under Section 73 of the Town and Country Planning Act for Variation of Condition 9 (Boundary Planting) of application 20/00859/FUL to ensure highways compliance.</p> <p>Great Bromley Parish Council had no objection to the application.</p>	Land at Little Paddocks Frating Road, Great Bromley CO7 7JL
<u>24/01610/FULHH</u>	<p>Householder Planning Application - Single Storey Rear Extension.</p> <p>Great Bromley Parish Council had no objection to the application.</p>	Weeping Ash, Ardleigh Road, Great Bromley

## FRIENDS OF LITTLE BROMLEY CHURCH

On Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October the Friends gathered to welcome over 60 people to a Candlelit Reception with music.

Beginning at 6pm, the gleaming brass work and lit candles guided everyone into the church where they could then chat.

After an introduction from Gregory, we had some lovely music performed by Peter and Judith. It was at this point that we heard our new organ played for the first time. At the next interlude refreshments of wine and canapes were taken around.

We then had a performance from Lynne and Neil which was very enjoyable, before more refreshments were passed around. The evening finished with a solo song performance

from Dorothy O'Grady. It was a lovely evening to share with our friends amid candles and pretty flower arrangements.

The aim of the evening was to raise some more money towards our Bells Appeal. We would like to say thank you to our generous donors (including some who couldn't attend); we raised over £1000 towards our target.

Thanks to all those who helped, performed and attended to make it such a nice evening.

**Advance Notice:** We will be having our **Carol Service** on **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December** at **3pm**. Everyone is welcome.

*Carol Cordwell*

## Ken & Eric's Warm Hub and Calm Colouring

**Every Friday 1pm-4pm from 6<sup>th</sup> December  
(except 27<sup>th</sup> December)**

**This is a free event at  
Great Bromley Village Hall, Parsons Hill, CO7 7JA**

**Free refreshments, free draft excluder & knee blankets  
This hub is aimed at adults & children with respiratory  
conditions, mental health difficulties and loneliness**

**All families & carers welcome  
Free welfare advice will also be available**

**Contact Annie for details: 07720 468344  
annie@dawnsupport.co.uk**

# DEANERY CHOIR



**THE  
DEANERY  
CHOIR**



Supporting Church music in the Tendring area

## December 8th

The Deanery choir will be singing at **St George's Church, Great Bromley CO7 7TS** at the 11.00am communion service. They will be singing the anthem 'A Hymn to a Virgin' by Benjamin Britten.

**Benjamin Britten, Baron Britten** was an English composer, conductor, and pianist. He was a central figure of 20th-century British music, with a range of works including opera, other vocal music, orchestral and chamber pieces. Britten was born in Lowestoft, Suffolk, the son of a dentist. He showed talent from an early age. He studied at the Royal College of Music in London and privately with the composer Frank Bridge. Britten first came to public attention with the a cappella choral work 'A Boy Was Born' in 1934. With the premiere of Peter Grimes in 1945, he leapt to international fame. Over

the next 28

years, he wrote

14 more operas, establishing himself as one of the leading 20th-century composers in the genre.

## December 14th

The Deanery choir will be singing at **St Georges Church, Great Bromley CO7 7TS** at 7.00pm, the concert 'Living Christmas '24'. This is our third Christmas concert and we have chosen to hold it at our practice venue, St George's. All the music sung will be from living composers and arrangers and our accompanist is Peter Clayton. The concert will be interspersed with readings telling the Christmas story. There will be a retiring collection for the restoration fund at St George's.

Not to be missed!

**Graham Bell**



The Friends of Little Bromley Church  
would like to invite you to our

## Carol Service



at St Mary's Church, Little Bromley  
on Monday 23rd December 2024  
at 3.00pm  
Refreshments afterwards

The Churches Conservation Trust is the national charity that protects historic churches at risk. We've saved over 300 unique buildings which attract more than a million visitors a year. All our help and support. They are kept open, in use and free to all - for ever again - at the heart of their communities.

[visitchurches.org.uk](http://visitchurches.org.uk)

The Churches Conservation Trust, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

## THANK YOU

Brenda & Richard want to say a huge thank you to all the wonderful friends and neighbours who have been so kind and supportive during Richard's hospital stay and lengthy recovery this year. We are both so appreciative of all your thoughtfulness, consideration and help - you cannot know how comforting it was to receive a daily call and to know that there was someone to be able to call on if necessary. 'Thank you' seems so inadequate - but it comes from the heart. With our love, B&R

XXXXXXXXXX



# RECTOR'S LETTER

Dear Friends

Before you get completely overwhelmed by Christmas, with all its necessary preparations prior to enjoying any celebrations, take time to pause, reflect and anticipate what is to come. In the church, the four weeks leading up to Christmas is a time to do just this and is called Advent. It is a time of anticipation and waiting. For the young (and perhaps not so young!) chocolate filled advent calendars help us mark off each day through December. In church it is traditional to light a wreath of four candles, one for each Sunday in the four weeks of Advent with a fifth and central candle to light on Christmas Day itself.

In anticipating the Christmas festivities, it may be that you hope for a particular gift. Children are always anticipating what will be in their sacks and stockings on Christmas morning. Others may be looking forward to meeting up with family and friends at a party gathering or around a meal table. Yet, because of all the celebration, others may be fearing rather than anticipating, wondering what it is all going to cost, or perhaps dreading feeling even more lonely in spite of the busyness

of the season for so many.

From a world point of view, there seems to be little positive news to anticipate a better New Year. Two major conflicts still rage as with many other forgotten trouble spots around the world. There have been dreadful climate warming driven extreme weather events just recently too. So, what is there to look forward to apart from some winter celebrations to offer a brief respite.

An Advent Scripture is from Psalm 24, verse 7:

*Lift up your heads; O gates, be lifted up O doors; and the King of Glory shall come in.*

Whereas many Psalms lament the woeful state of society with all its injustices and enmity, this Psalm proclaims a grand entrance as in a royal procession, the like we saw at the King's Coronation. It was a procession to take the Arc of the Covenant (a symbol of God's presence) into Jerusalem. Advent is an opportunity to anticipate and prepare for another grand entrance – the birth of a Saviour, the infant King Jesus born as Immanuel, God with us!

This is worth celebrating as it leads us first to Easter and our salvation. And then it leads us on into the future and the Christian hope of all things being made new in the return of Jesus and a new heaven and a new earth. (Revelation 21)

Whatever your plans for Christmas, we welcome you to come and celebrate with us at one of our Christmas services. Why not come to one of our Advent services before Christmas to take time to pause, reflect and prepare for the coming of our Saviour. Happy Advent, Merry Christmas and a Peaceful New Year!

**Best Wishes**  
**Revd John Saxon**

## Community Carols



**St George's Church, Great Bromley**

Sunday 22nd December 2024 at 4pm

Everybody's welcome!

**Collection for The Children's  
Society**

Refreshments afterwards



## St George's Church, Great Bromley

### *TADP - Tendring and Dedham Parishes*

For contact details, or to receive our email newsletter, please visit the website above or email us at [church@greatbromley.org.uk](mailto:church@greatbromley.org.uk)

<b>December 1<sup>st</sup></b>	Advent Sunday	<b>Parish Eucharist BCP</b>	11am
		<b>'Darkness to Light'</b>	4pm
<b>December 8<sup>th</sup></b>	Advent 2	<b>Parish Eucharist</b>	11am
<b>December 14<sup>th</sup></b>	Saturday	<b>'A Living Christmas'</b>	7pm
<b>December 15<sup>th</sup></b>	Advent 3	<b>Evensong BCP</b>	6.30pm
<b>December 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	Advent 4	<b>Parish Eucharist</b>	11am
		<b>Community Carol Service</b>	4pm
<b>December 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	Monday	<i>Carols at Little Bromley</i>	4pm
<b>December 24<sup>th</sup></b>	Christmas Eve	<b>Crib Service</b>	4pm
<b>December 25<sup>th</sup></b>	Christmas Day	<b>Parish Eucharist</b>	11am
<b>December 29<sup>th</sup></b>	Christmas 1	<i>Group Service - details tba</i>	

### 2025

<b>January 5<sup>th</sup></b>	Epiphany	<b>Parish Eucharist BCP</b>	11am
<b>January 12<sup>th</sup></b>	Baptism of Christ	<b>Parish Eucharist</b>	11am
<b>January 19<sup>th</sup></b>	Epiphany 2	<b>Evensong BCP</b>	6.30pm
<b>January 26<sup>th</sup></b>	Epiphany 3	<b>Parish Eucharist</b>	11am

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