

The Messenger

The Magazine of the
villages of Great &
Little Bromley

March 2025



THE FIRST PAGE

Dear all,

Welcome to the February edition of our Village Magazine!

As we enjoy the February half term, the cold weather still lingers, but there's a promise of milder days ahead. We've been fortunate to have a few sunnier days, and with warmer weather on the horizon, many of us are looking forward to new projects and outdoor activities.

In our household, we're excited to start a new garden project, which we've affectionately named the 'bistro' area. This project involves extending our car port to double its length, providing continuous cover from our back door to the garage. It will create a lovely sheltered space for those particularly hot days - if they ever come back!

For many students, this half term offers a welcome break before the mock exams begin. We wish them all the best in their preparations.

This month's magazine has a 'heroes' theme, celebrating the many residents who are making a significant difference in our community. From volunteers to local leaders, we are proud to highlight their contributions and share their inspiring stories.

Thank you for your continued support. Let's celebrate our village and the incredible people who make it special!

Awareness days for March include:

- 3rd - World Wildlife Day
- 15th - World Sleep Day
- 21st - International Day of Forests
- 22nd - World Water Day
- 23rd - National Day of Reflection

***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. Our village is a tapestry of rich history, diverse talents, and unwavering warmth. Each contribution to this magazine is a thread that strengthens the fabric of our community.

MATERIAL for the **APRIL 2025** edition of 'The Messenger' should reach the

Editor, Lizzie Ridout, by **14th MARCH 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.

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 Editor via the1986messenger@gmail.com
Please support the sponsors of our magazine.

A HEARTFELT THANK YOU TO OUR VILLAGE MAGAZINE HEROES



As we reflect on another successful year of our village magazine, we are filled with immense gratitude for the incredible team of contributors, advertisers, sponsors, and delivery people who have made it all possible.

Your dedication and hard work have kept our community informed, entertained, and connected.

To Our Contributors:

Your creativity and passion shine through every article, story, and photograph. Whether you are sharing local news, personal anecdotes, or stunning visuals, your contributions bring our magazine to life. Thank you for your time, effort, and unwavering commitment to quality content.

To Our Advertisers:

Your support is the backbone of our magazine. By choosing to advertise with us, you not only promote your businesses but also invest in the vitality of our community. Your advertisements help us cover production costs and ensure that our magazine reaches every corner of the village. We deeply appreciate your trust and partnership.

To Our Sponsors:

Your generous contributions have been instrumental in sustaining our magazine. Your support allows us to enhance our content, improve our distribution, and reach a wider audience. Thank you for believing in our mission and for your invaluable support.

To Our Delivery People:

Rain or shine, you ensure that our magazine reaches the hands of our readers. Your reliability and dedication are truly commendable. Thank you for your hard work and for being the vital link between our magazine and the community.

Together, you have all played a crucial role in the success of our village magazine. We look forward to another year of collaboration and community spirit. Thank you for being the heart and soul of our publication.

With heartfelt gratitude,
The Messenger Committee



LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Email: littlebromleypc@gmail.com

Such are the responsibilities of a parish councillor that I am writing this at extremely short notice, as our usual correspondent enjoys a well-deserved holiday, and the Chairman is visiting family in hospital many miles away, which is really me getting my excuses in early for the lower than usual quality of this article!

But it does remind me that life in a village like Little Bromley is always going on, even when all seems outwardly quiet. Like the proverbial swan, gliding silently and gracefully across the lake, while below the water the feet are paddling away furiously... for while parish councillors are very often doing things for the village that may not be seen, there are many other members of the community constantly working for the good of the place they live, to try to make it a better place... or at the very least to try to prevent it becoming worse – and yes on that score, think pylons, underground

cables, interconnectors and substations, etc. The work involved in just reading through all the paperwork and keeping up to date with the constantly shifting goalposts is immense but fortunately we have people in the village who are doing just that for the benefit of us all.

Even as I write this there is a surprisingly large group of villagers braving the weather and the traffic to pick up litter and clear rubbish from the ditches and hedgerows.

And we have a fantastic volunteer who has stepped forward to fill the vacancy on the parish council, so subject to formal ratification at the next meeting we will be back up to full strength!

Do please come along to our next Parish Council meeting, we want to know your thoughts, and we meet in the pub, so there's usually a drink involved afterwards...!!

Cllr Neil Stock OBE

BOOK CLUB IN GREAT BROMLEY

Are you a lover of books and live in Great Bromley
or the surrounding area?

Would you like to join our small, friendly book club?

We meet at The Cross Inn, Great Bromley on a Tuesday evening every six weeks; the next date is Tuesday 8th April. It's a casual meet up for a chat, to share books, make friends and have a drink or two.

If you would like any more information please contact
Sarah on 07742 105972



GREAT BENTLEY DOCTORS' SURGERY

Surgery News

I am very pleased to let you know that Samantha Quinlan who is a qualified Practice Nurse, has now joined our Surgery team.

Pharmacy First Service

The Pharmacy First Service has now been running for over a year. This is just a reminder for patients that participating pharmacies in this scheme are able to see patients for the following 7 common conditions and prescribe appropriate medication:-

Conditions	Age Range
Acute Otitis Media	1-17 years old
Impetigo	1 year and over
Infected Insect Bites	1 year and over
Shingles	18 years and over
Sinusitis	12 years and over
Sore Throat	5 years and over
Urinary Tract Infections (Uncomplicated)	Women 16-64 years old

AskmyGP Update

We are very pleased to report that 8,760 patients have now registered for our digital platform.

For urgent and routine requests for GP appointments and our Nurse Practitioner minor illness appointments, patients will need to submit their requests between 7.30am and 4.00pm Monday to Friday. If you try to request a routine or urgent appointment outside of these times, then your request will be declined.

Home Visit Requests

We are only able to offer home visits for

patients that are housebound or who are too unwell to come to the Surgery. All other patients needing to be seen will be requested to come into the Practice for their appointment. In order to manage our workload, we would ask that if you do need to request a home visit, that you ensure you make your request for this by 11.00am on the day.

Prescription Requests

We are receiving an increasing number of early requests from patients for their medication. Please remember that you are not able to request a further supply of medication until it is at least 14 days since your last prescription was issued.

We would also ask that patients only submit one request for their medication, as we have been receiving duplicate requests via different platforms which is causing confusion and additional work for our prescription clerks. Medication can be requested via the NHS App, AskmyGP or by putting in a handwritten request into the Practice.

Surgery Training Afternoon

Along with all other surgeries in the area we will be closed from 12 noon on Wednesday 26 March 2025 for staff training.

Patient Participation Group Meetings

The next meeting of the Patient Participation Group will be held on Thursday 27 March 2025 at 6.30pm at Great Bentley Village Hall in the Mitchell Room.

Sue Mitson
Operations Manager

LITTLE BROMLEY LITTERPICK

Ten Little Bromley residents braved a chilly morning to revive the village litter pick, which hadn't been carried out for sometime. The arctic air did not sway their determination to clean up the village and surrounding roads.

All were surprised by the vast amount of rubbish collected, and the items dumped by the wayside, a breadbin and a kitchen cupboard being two that were mentioned.

Bentley Road had rubbish from Macdonalds, KFC, Costa, many cans and glass bottles. Everyone felt that the majority of rubbish was thrown from cars.

It seemed like cans (especially Carlsberg) had been scattered like confetti along Spratt's Lane! Unfortunately many had ended up in steep sided ditches.

But apart from the horror of the amount of rubbish collected, the morning must be seen as a very successful one. It was also a chance to meet up and socialise.

Once again thanks go to Charlotte and Rob at The Haywain, who provided a warm welcome and complementary coffee to all litter pickers. Rob's offer to dispose of the rubbish collected was more than welcome as we had been let down at the last minute for these arrangements.

Elsbeth Knott

GREAT BROMLEY FRIENDSHIP CLUB

After discussing our accounts and balance sheet at our January meeting it was decided to increase our annual subscription to £7.50 payable at the February meeting.

The competition for March is a photograph and we do hope to welcome new members this year with new ideas for speakers. Do come along on the third Thursday each month to the Cross Inn between 2pm and 4pm for a pleasant afternoon.

Table Top Sale

Sunday 25th May 2025
11am - 3pm
Great Bromley Village Hall

Craft Stalls
Tombola Raffle
Refreshments will be available to purchase

Tables are £10 Each
Limited tables will be available
Please book your table in advance
Email: annie@dawnsupport.co.uk

Fundraising for DAWN and Brightlingsea Hedgehog Highways Rescue



GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

www.gbpc.org.uk

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



We're excited to announce new initiatives aimed at raising our profile and increasing community engagement. As part of these efforts, the Council has launched a new Facebook page to keep residents informed about ongoing projects, upcoming events, and important decisions affecting our community. You can find the page on Facebook by searching for Great Bromley Parish Council.

Why follow the Parish Council on Facebook?

By following the Parish Council's Facebook page, residents can:

- Stay updated on local news and developments.
- Participate in community discussions and provide feedback.
- Learn about volunteer opportunities and ways to get involved.

Join the Parish Council

In addition, the Parish Council currently has two vacancies. We are looking for passionate and dedicated individuals to join us and help shape the future of our community. These positions can be co-opted, meaning interested residents can be appointed to the Council without an election.

How to Apply

If you are interested in joining the Parish Council or would like more information, please contact our Clerk, Lizzie, via clerk@gbpc.org.uk. We encourage all residents who are passionate about making a difference to apply.

Stay connected and get involved!
Follow us on Facebook and be a part of the positive changes happening in our community.

PLANNING DETERMINATIONS

REF	PROPOSAL	LOCATION	DECISION
<u>24/00508/ FUL</u> Mr and Mrs Brooks	Planning Application - Replacement self/custom built dwelling and demolition of existing dwelling following construction.	Kenley Harwich Road Great Bromley	Approval - Full 16.01.2025 Delegated Decision
<u>24/01696/ FULHH</u> Mr and Mrs Shimwell	Householder Application - single storey rear/side extension.	Essex House Harwich Road Great Bromley	Approval - Full 14.01.2025 Delegated Decision
<u>24/01618/ VOC</u> Colchester Development 2 Limited	Application under Section 73 of the Town and Country Planning Act for Variation of Condition 9 (Boundary Planting) of application 21/01679/VOC to ensure highways compliance.	Land at Little Paddocks Frating Road Great Bromley CO7 7JL	Approval - Full 31.01.2025 Delegated Decision

MANNINGTREE & DISTRICT PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY



In February Members enjoyed a talk on Mobile Phone Photography, a field trip to Daws Hall Nature Reserve and a competition (Open colour prints).

In March we are looking forward to;

- 13th March – Talk on Portraiture by Rory Essery
- 15th March – Field Trip – Holbrook
- 27th March – PDI Competition – Smart Phone Images

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 by Sandra Crittendon was the winner of a recent competition – theme Industrial.

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 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 or email: madps@post.com

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



St Helena's Hero Run returns for March 2025!

Run, walk or fly across the finish line at St Helena Hospice's Hero Run this March!

Hero Run is coming back on Sunday 23rd March at Colchester Sports Park, and everybody is invited! Children aged 4 and above can participate in the 2km Family Fun Run, with a parent accompanying them for free!

Alternatively, you can choose to take on the 5km or 10km runs, with the 5km open to ages 7 and above, and the 10km open to ages 16+.

What matters is to come dressed as your hero, whether that's a superhero, a sports icon, a family member, a celebrity or a nurse. After all, not all heroes wear capes!

This year, there will be an expanded event village for more family fun. A variety of exciting activities await you there – delicious food, classic games, face painting, and meeting our mascot,

Saunders!

Marcus Poston, St Helena Hospice fundraising manager, said: "We are thrilled to be bringing back Hero Run once again and we hope to see lots of families and individuals joining us, dressed as their heroes, to have fun and raise money for St Helena Hospice."

"This year is extra special as it's St Helena's 40th anniversary. By taking part, you will be helping more local people to access the end of life care and support they need to allow them to make their own choices and live with dignity, regardless of their personal circumstances."

"By getting involved and dressing up as your hero, you will be a hero to the 4,000 plus people supported by St Helena every year."



WINTER SUPPORT

Scams, which include cold caller on the phone, at your door or via email. It might be tempting to agree to low prices being offered but think twice.

Here is some useful information when it comes to plausible scams.

Never agree to have any work done as a result of a cold call, and don't be pressurised into having the job done immediately

If you think work needs doing to your home, get quotes from other traders in the same field. Ask friends and family for recommendations of traders who have carried out work for them. You can also check Essex County Council Trusted Trader for traders that have been vetted and approved by them. Just pop into Google Essex Trusted Traders and you will be able to go to the Essex County Council website. <https://www.essex.gov.uk/business/trading-standards/trading-standards-consumers/find-trustworthy-trader>

Make sure you ask for the full name address of any trader before considering dealing with them, and never rely solely on a mobile phone number

Ask for a written quotation detailing all the proposed work and a final price for the job before any work begins.

Report all doorstep callers to Trading

Standards via Citizens Advice Consumer Service on 0808 223 1133.

You can request a free "no cold calling" door sticker from Essex Police, and your local council.



NO COLD CALLING!

- **We do not buy goods or services at the door.**
- **Uninvited callers are not welcome.**
- **Callers who persist will be reported to the police.**
- **Please respect my wishes and leave.**



Business Approval Register.com

DAWN also have some free laminated window cards.

Email: annie@dawnsupport.co.uk or telephone 07720468344

Stay alert and safe!

The warm hub received visits from Sir Bob Russell and Sir Bernard Jenkin. Look out for a press release on the Warm Hub and the work of DAWN. We are looking for more funding, due to the popularity of the hub. It is a lovely event, and everyone is welcome.

There will be a TableTop Sale on Sunday 25th May at Gt Bromley Village Hall. Tables are going fast, so book early.

Annie Sands

Dates for your diary



MARCH

5	Ash Wednesday, St George's Church	from 10:45am
6	WI meeting, Liz Cutting: 'Where has all the wildlife gone?' Competition 'C'. Village Hall	7:30pm
7	World Day of Prayer	
12	Great Bromley Parish Council, Village Hall	7:00pm
20	Great Bromley Friendship Club, The Cross	2:00pm
20	Little Bromley Parish Council, The Haywain	7:30pm
25	WI Crafting Social, Village Hall - £4	10am-12:30pm

APRIL

2	WI Meeting - Village Hall - Cherry Burroughs: The Great Flood of 1953 and why she wrote her book 'The Farmer and the Flood' Competition 'D'	7:30pm
8	Book Club - The Cross	
9	Great Bromley Parish Council, Village Hall	7:00pm
17	Great Bromley Friendship Club, The Cross	2:00pm
25	WI Crafting Social, Village Hall	10am-12:30pm

MAY

14	Great Bromley Parish Council, Village Hall	7:00pm
25	Tabletop Sale - Great Bromley Village Hall	11am-3:00pm

BE EXTRAORDINARY

Great Bromley

Be a¹ Parish Councillor

**ordinary
people
doing an
amazing job!**

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?

For more details,
email
Clerk@gbpc.org.uk

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

- 06 March
- 27 March
- 17 April

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



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.



CALL FOR HERITAGE SITES

The Council is compiling a list of non-designated heritage assets to guide decision making in the future.

Anyone can submit suggestions to the Council during our 6-month 'Call for Sites' consultation.

**A nomination form is available on our website:
www.tendringdc.gov.uk/content/heritage**

Consultation closes 2nd June 2025.



<https://www.tendringdc.gov.uk/content/heritage>



locallist@tendringdc.gov.uk



01255 686177



Tendring
District Council



SCAN HERE

March 9th 2025

The Deanery choir will be singing at **St George's Church, Great Bromley CO7 7TS** at the 11am Communion service.

The choir will sing 'Sicut Cervus' by Palestrina.

Palestrina was born in the town of Palestrina, near Rome, then part of the Papal States, to Neapolitan parents, Santo and Palma Pierluigi, in 1525, possibly on 3 February. His mother died on 16 January 1536, when Palestrina was 10. Documents suggest that he first visited Rome in 1537, when he was listed as a chorister at the Basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore, one of the papal basilicas of the Diocese of Rome, which allowed him to learn literature and music. In 1540, he moved to Rome, where he studied in the school of the Huguenot Claude Goudimel. He also studied with Robin Mallapert and Firmin Lebel. He spent most of his career in the city.

March 23rd 2025

The Deanery choir will be singing at **St Leonard's Church, Beaumont CO16 0AZ** at the 6pm Choral evensong service. The choir will sing the anthem Cantate Domino by Pitoni. Giuseppe Pitoni was taken to Rome as an infant, he began vocal study with Pompeo Natali at the age of five and sang in the choir of San Giovanni dei Fiorentini from age eight. At Santi Apostoli he sang and studied counterpoint with Francesco Foggia, where his early compositions were performed. By age sixteen he was *maestro di cappella* at Santa Maria Maggiore, Monterotondo, a historic church near Rome. In 1673 as *maestro* for the cathedral at Assisi he began intensive study of the works of Palestrina, and in 1676 moved to the cathedral at Rieti.



Supporting Church music in the Tendring area



Graham Bell
Deanery Choir

grahambell493@gmail.com

TENDRING TALKING TIMES

charity no.273432

MEMBERS OF THE TALKING NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

Welcome to our new website, and to those who have difficulty in reading news media we have, since 1976 produced, on a weekly basis, news and articles and other interesting local reading in the Tendring area and beyond.

You can reach the website, www.tendringtalkingtimes.org.uk which provides all the comprehensive information needed, both to join our number of current listeners, and to answer any questions.

National and International news which we consider of note is also covered by our editors.

The **Tendring Talking Times** has a team of volunteers making this all possible at no cost to yourselves.

We thank you for your interest.

STOUR VALLEY U3A - learn, laugh, live

Make the most of life once you're no longer in full time work and come and explore new ideas, interests and skills with University of the Third Age.

Across the country U3A members are meeting new people, learning, staying active, and having fun later in life. It's local, social, friendly, low cost and open to all.

We have over 40 interest groups including walking (from strollers to 5+ milers), theatre trips, garden visits, art appreciation, curry club, international dining, science group, languages, keep fit, pickleball, overseas travel there's something for everyone. Membership costs only £15 a year.

Monthly coffee mornings are held on the first Friday of the month 10am – 12pm at the Lambe School, Gaston

Street, 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 2.15pm in the Constable Hall, Gandish Road, East Bergholt. Guests are welcome for a charge of £4. Our speaker on 12th March is Claire Benn who is returning to update us on "Artificial Intelligence and ChatGPT", on 9th April Sally Sibley who will tell us about the latest happenings at Sutton Hoo and on 14th May we have Sally Hattingh from Right at Home talking about safety issues so that seniors can remain in their own homes as long as possible.

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

STOUR CHORAL SOCIETY SPRING CONCERT

Stour Choral Society will perform 'Messiah' by Handel on Saturday 29th March 2025, 2.30pm, at Mistley Church, New Rd, CO11 1ER. The concert will be directed by Susanna Rose, and accompanied by Stephen Smith, organ, Glyn Sweeting and Geoffrey Harniess, trumpets, and Ben Steinitz, timpani.

The soloists will be Anna Maria Rose, soprano, Joanna Arnold, mezzo-soprano, Philip Clieve, tenor, and Peter Grevatt, bass.

Tickets (£15 adult, free for under 18s) are available from Howell's hardware store in Manningtree, by email: info@stourchoralsociety.co.uk,

telephone 07511 908213, or from choir members. We recommend buying tickets in advance as recent performances have been close to capacity, but there will still be some tickets available on the door. We now have a card machine for payments at the door, but cash and cheques will still be accepted.

Keep an eye out for our posters, Facebook posts, and website, www.stourchoralsociety.co.uk, and feel free to contact us for further information. Do join us for an uplifting performance of this popular Oratorio.

IVAN ARTHEY (AUGUST 1933 – DECEMBER 2024)

Richard Ivan Arthey was born in Great Bromley but as a toddler his parents George, an agricultural engineer, and Florence, a seamstress, moved the family round the corner to Frating. Although she named him Richard, his mother quickly decided she didn't want him to be called 'Dickie' so he was always known as Ivan. He was the youngest of four siblings, John, Betty and Peter. When the Second World War broke out, Betty remembers nights on the floor under the bedframe, trying to get a very lively six year old Ivan to sleep by telling him stories.

He was always hard working. He first earned pocket money helping his mother making military uniforms, and then collected eggs for a local farmer before school and on the weekends. After leaving school he took a Carpenter and Joiner apprenticeship with a firm in Elmstead Market and picked up general building skills. He joined Everetts builders in Colchester and went on to become Clerk of Works, in charge of the building of some massive housing estates. In a project at Greenwich he was delighted to be working over the international timeline. He had many tales from rich London projects, including mansions in Kensington Palace Gardens for Crown Princes of Middle Eastern countries and a couple of Embassies. Perhaps his biggest job was at historic Somerset House where he oversaw the development of the Courtauld Gallery, during which time he met Princess Margaret and the Queen Mum - he always said she had a lovely smile. He

somehow acquired the nickname "Ivan the Terrible" – which he liked and shortened to ITT - although this nickname was ironic for somebody the very opposite of terrible. In later years he had his own business as a General Builder, and many readers will have his work at their property. He carried on into his 80's, although he decided not to work up ladders anymore!



When Ivan married Dorothy they bought part of a cabbage field in Hare Green, where Ivan designed and built a bungalow 'Vandora', and had two daughters Melanie and Janice. He developed a productive and pretty garden and grew all their fruit and vegetables. Ivan is remembered as a wonderful father. He took the young girls out for long bike rides after teaching them to ride: "Pedal or you will fall off!" and taught them how to swim in the open pool at Point Clear, saying "Swim or you will sink!" The garden was a fine playground, with a playhouse and a three-storey scaffolding tower to play on - no health and safety other than a "Be careful!" They had cats, chickens, ducks, a guinea pig, a tortoise and rabbits, one of which he hand-reared and thought he was its Mum. Ivan drove the girls to

activities in the back of his mini-van, no seats or seat belts, just a bit of carpet over the battery and his toolbox to sit on amongst tools and timber, and at various locations he would point out “that’s my porch roof there” or “I made those garage doors”.

Ivan had done his National Service with the Army – being sent from a small farming village to Kenya for two years had a huge impact on him, and was fondly remembered, and several things stuck. When the girls were putting on wellies Ivan would always remind them to “shake the scorpions out of your boots”. For years Melanie thought some British species of scorpion looked like lumps of dirt! He would use silly words that they thought were made up, like “nomna-he”, “ockcoo” and “pacey pacey” and only later did they realise this was pidgin Swahili he had picked up in Africa.

He was a staunch member of the Men’s Club and filled all committee roles at one time or other and won the Snooker Tournament several times. The girls dressed up to take part in the annual carnival, riding in a trailer float that Ivan helped make. He was immensely proud of his daughters and his 7 grandchildren.

After Dorothy died in 2009 Ivan travelled extensively with his beloved sister Betty to Australia, America and South Africa. He had 10 happy years until the cruel disease of vascular dementia came along, most unfortunately coinciding with Covid lockdowns, and he had to leave Vandora.

He had lots of sayings and Melanie & Janice would love it if you could keep some of these going, such as “Watch out for the double decker buses” and “See you Christmas, if not before”. A snooker player and fan, Ivan made a very decent break of 91 years.



HGF, from the family eulogy

CHURCH JOTTINGS

Let me take a moment to wish you all a very Happy, Healthy, and Peaceful New Year. I had a break last month, and now I have lots to share with you.

Here at St. George's, we are looking forward to a busy and productive 2025. Maintaining the building in good repair and the fabric of St. George's Church takes a lot of hard work, planning, paperwork (masses!), and many meetings with the P.C.C., D.A.C., architect, and building firms.

We are about to embark on a massive restoration project on the north side of the building - £74,000 has been raised!! Amazing!! – Fundraising events (flower festival, coffee morning, and more) and grants obtained. The full story will shortly be documented and displayed in the porch. Please come and read about this very interesting restoration. We care about our wonderful Grade 1 listed church and want our community to enjoy it for years to come!

We have a vision to form a “Friends of St. George's” group of like-minded folks who want our church to live forever. If you are interested in being part of such a group, please contact us and we will be in touch.

Fundraising is now already underway for the next project, so let's get together and organize some events! You may wonder why the flag hasn't flown lately – the flagpole needs repair! It's on the list.

Our Helping Hands group is growing. It is amazing the work we do together, so enthusiastically and willingly, with much fun and good humor! We met in February (always the first Saturday of the month). We were pleased to welcome Charlie, who was working with us on his Duke of Edinburgh Award –

such a hardworking young man, eager to help and learn!

The Helping Hands group works inside and outside the church, gardening, cleaning, tidying the churchyard and shed, cleaning brasses, and moving cobwebs. Fantastic! Well done, team!

Our Flower Arranging Team has also grown in numbers. Well done! Your beautiful work has been much admired over the Christmas period. Coming together and working together has worked out amazingly, with many of the group learning for the first time about flower arranging, foraging and collecting greenery, conditioning, and using what we have around us in our gardens and wayside – and Always having a cuppa together and perhaps a slice of homemade cake!

Visitors to St. George's come from far and wide to see our beautiful Grade 1 church (in some literature called the “Cathedral of The Tending Hundred”). So I think that's why we work so hard – the comments in the visitors' book are so encouraging and positive.

Our children's club on each Friday during term time continues to thrive – thank you again to our volunteers. We have some super new Duplo, card games, and much more equipment donated to the group, plus a special table for Lego. If you haven't tried J.A.M. yet, please come and join us for a cuppa and a chat. You are very welcome – snacks for the children too.

Our topic this term is families – following on from Christmas, Mary, Joseph, and Jesus – a very special family. (I expect you have heard about them)

In the coming months, our nine churches are going to be thinking about

our “vision” and “mission” – if you have any suggestions or ideas as to how we can accomplish these, please let me know – I’d love to hear your ideas.

Perhaps you would like to join the Electoral Roll of the Church? Come to our Annual Meeting (A.P.C.M.) where you can have your moment to speak.

- PCC is Parochial Church Council, rather like the Parish Council.
- APCM. is the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.
- The Electoral Roll is different from the government Electoral Roll, being just for St. George's. An important group of folk who support St. George's.

St. George's Church also has its very own choir who meet regularly to practice and learn new material. The choir sings once or twice a month during our services, leading our hymns, responses, and usually an anthem. Evensong is always a treat to sing.

There are scrumptious refreshments at 6pm preceding the service, which starts at 6:30pm every month. All are volunteers and enjoy supporting our music.

St. George's has some magnificent bells! The best in the area, I am told! You've probably heard them too, wherever you live in the village. The brilliant skills of our volunteer bell ringers can be heard every Friday at 8pm. Our campanologists are a wonderful group of talent! David (our Captain) is always ready to welcome new members to his team. Experienced or beginners are all welcome – let's keep our bells ringing.

So, just a taster of a busy village church, not just a Sunday venue... we are open every day with lots to do and lovely people to meet.

Come and join us – help us look after our village church for future generations.

Jenny Nicholls

The World Day of Prayer is on Friday 7th March.

This year, the materials have been prepared by the Cook Islands.

We'll be helping WDP locally at a service at **Bradfield Church at 10.30am**, so if you'd like to join in, please put it in your diary!

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

REF	PROPOSAL	LOCATION
<u>25/00096/</u> <u>NMA</u>	Non Material Amendment to 24/00001/FUL - Alterations to door/window combinations, size of entrance lobby and roof including dormer windows.	Byeways, Mary Lane North, Great Bromley
For Information only		
<u>24/01577/</u> <u>FULHH</u> Mr Andrew Wendon Smith	Householder Application for First floor attic storage added to existing approved application with rear window and staircase access. (extension for comments granted) Great Bromley Parish Council had no comments.	Little Paddocks Frating Road Great Bromley CO7 7GN

RECTOR'S LETTER

Dear friends,

Happy March! Yes, we're here already – hard to believe I know, but thankfully the frost and chills of a bleak mid-winter are ebbing away and the effulgence of spring is now (or at least soon to be) in full flow.

The seasons point us to the inevitable flow of the moribund and the bountiful, much like the penitential season of Lent and the contrasting celebration of resurrection power at Paschaltide. It is, as well as a general theme of life, one that is reflected in the experience of the Christian believer. Times of reflection, of fasting, of prayer and of emptying the self can be contrasted with times of hopefulness, of feasting, of rejoicing and of a healthy confidence. The Christian life embraces both in its own way and time.

Where do you sense a need in your life today? Do you need to stop or slow-down, to give up something, to give your mind and spirit some space to process what's going on in your life or to begin to move away from a stream of unhelpful thoughts and actions? Maybe you're more prone to that already and so could do with concentrating your energies on sources of abiding joy, goodness, blessing and deliverance? Both rhythms of life can be found in the Christian faith, for the same faith that proclaims victory over sin, sickness and suffering, takes each of those things very seriously.

On 5 March Lent begins and in our parishes we will be meeting

together mid-week to uncover ancient riches from the early church to help us in some of our situations today. If you'd like to learn more, why not pop in to a service in one of our parishes or find out more on our website www.tendringdedhamparishes.org.uk? We'd love to help you recover joy or make space to slow down and reconnect with something bigger than all that vies for our attention in this fleeting age.

*Best wishes,
Phillip*

St George's Church Great Bromley

ASH WEDNESDAY

5th March 2025



10.45am Sung Mattins & Litany

11.30am Holy Communion (30 mins)

with St George's Choir.

CO7 7TS

www.greatbromley.org.uk



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

March 2 nd	Next before Lent	<i>Group Service at Dedham 11am</i>	
March 5 th	Ash Wednesday	Sung Mattins & Litany	10.45am
		Holy Communion BCP	11.30am
March 9 th	Lent 1	Parish Eucharist	11am
March 16 th	Lent 2	Evensong BCP	6.30pm
March 23 rd	Lent 3	Parish Eucharist	11am
March 30 th	Lent 4	Mothering Sunday Service	11am
April 6 th	Passion Sunday	Parish Eucharist BCP	11am
April 13 th	Palm Sunday	Procession & Eucharist	11am
April 19 th	Easter Eve	Easter Vigil <i>at Little Bromley</i>	8pm
April 20 th	Easter Day	Parish Eucharist	11am
April 27 th	2 nd of Easter	Parish Eucharist	11am

*For Lent groups and Maundy Thursday / Good Friday services
in TADP Group see porch notices or website*

St Mary's, Little Bentley

March 2nd *Group service at Dedham 11am*
 March 16th Holy Communion 11am
 April 6th Morning Prayer 11am
 April 20th Holy Communion 11am