

The Messenger

The Magazine of the
villages of Great &
Little Bromley

August 2025



THE FIRST PAGE

Dear all

We're back in the swing of things after a lovely break in sunny Spain — think sandy toes, lazy afternoons, and plenty of ice cream. The sunshine's been pretty generous here too, although more muggy than Spain.

Imogen had her big Prom moment and officially waved goodbye to high school, which was in equal parts proud and emotional for us. She's now looking forward to results day and starting the next chapter at college in September. She's also been able to help me again with some editing of the magazine this month, so it's becoming very much a family affair.

As we write, the forecast is teasing dramatic storms overnight and tomorrow. I can hear farmers in the distance harvesting field after field. I hope the forecast rain doesn't interfere with their work.

Highlights in this month's issue include an invitation to everyone to commemorate the 80th anniversary of VJ Day - details on page 21, guidance from Essex Fire & Rescue on checking in with vulnerable neighbours during the hot weather on page 17, and an announcement of Manningtree Rotary Club's new President on page 13.

We hope you enjoy flicking through this edition as much as we enjoyed putting it together, whether you're reading from a garden chair or dodging the raindrops. Here's to cooler days ahead!

Awareness days in August include:

- 2nd - National Mustard Day
- 7th - Cycle to Work Day
- 8th - International Cat Day
- 15th - Victory in Japan Day
- 18th - Never Give Up Day

*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 **SEPTEMBER 2025** edition of 'The Messenger' should reach the Editor, Lizzie Ridout, by **14th AUGUST 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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GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

www.gbpc.org.uk

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



Thank You to our Residents — and an Invitation to Get Involved

We'd like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all the residents who joined us for our recent council meeting. Your presence, input, and thoughtful engagement are deeply appreciated and make a real difference to the work we do in shaping and supporting our local community.

We hope you found the meeting both informative and thought-provoking — perhaps even inspiring. Council meetings are not only a chance to hear updates and discuss local matters; they're also a window into the decision-making process that guides our village's future.

Currently, we have **two vacancies for co-opted councillors**, and we would warmly encourage any interested residents to consider putting

themselves forward. It's an opportunity to play an active role in shaping policies, supporting projects, and helping make choices that affect the lives of everyone in our parish. Whether you're passionate about green spaces, keen to boost community events, or eager to improve local services, your contribution could have lasting impact.

Serving on the council is also a meaningful way to give something back to the village we call home. If you're curious or would like more information on what's involved, please don't hesitate to reach out to Lizzie, our Parish Clerk.

Together, we make Great Bromley a better place to live, work, and thrive.

Community starts with you — why not take that next step?

BE EXTRAORDINARY

Great Bromley

Be a[^] 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

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

REF	PROPOSAL	LOCATION
<u>25/00683/</u> <u>FULHH</u> Mrs Dionne Wilson- Fairwade	Placement of domestic oil tank. Great Bromley Parish Council had no comment.	Meyrick, Colchester Road, Great Bromley CO7 7TN
<u>25/00928/</u> <u>COUNOT</u>	Prior Approval Application under Part 3, Class Q of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended) for conversion of two agricultural buildings into two dwellings. FOR INFORMATION ONLY	Roline, Harwich Road, Great Bromley
<u>25/00911/</u> <u>AGRIC</u>	Application to determine if prior approved is required under Part 6, Class A of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended) for a new barn in line with previous application (23/01704/AGRIC). FOR INFORMATION ONLY	Park Farm, Hilliards Road, Great Bromley
<u>25/00903/NMA</u>	Non Material Amendment to 20/00547/OUT - To delete 'three' and replace it with 'five' so that it states: Application for approval of the reserved matters shall be made to the Local Planning Authority before the expiration of five years from the date of this permission. FOR INFORMATION ONLY	Hamilton Lodge Parsons Hill Great Bromley CO7 7JB

PLANNING DETERMINATIONS

REF	PROPOSAL	LOCATION	DECISION
<u>25/00472/</u> <u>FUL</u> Mr and Mrs Volf	Change of use of land from agricultural to residential curtilage, and erection of barn for use incidental to the enjoyment of the existing dwellinghouse.	Morants Hall Colchester Road, Great Bromley CO7 7TN	Approval - Full 24.06.2025 Delegated Decision
<u>25/00835/</u> <u>NMA</u> Mr C Rouse	Non Material Amendment to 24/00787/FUL - Addition of window to gable wall and change of materials.	Land Adj Police Mast, Hilliards Road, Great Bromley CO7 7US	Approval Non Material Amendment 24.06.2025 Delegated Decision

Hello Great Bromley,

Question of the month, flies and more flies, where on earth are they coming from and why? I've heard many theories on this subject, but none that I can substantiate. I keep thinking my little office would be a sanctuary from these little demons, but there's always one that manages to sneak in. That's when all hell breaks loose, for some unknown reason they always need to buzz right by my ear. I don't know about anybody else, but I need to get him. I've tried leaving the office door open thinking he will make his way out, but it only seems to be counter intuitive, as it's his opportunity to invite his brothers and sisters to join him, I'm sure he has a tiny bugle to summon them with a rallying call. I know what you're thinking, Lee's obsessed, put it this way, I'm no Buddhist so he needs to die, it's me or him.

I've included a photo I took covertly of Dave the evil one, I'm sure you'll agree he has that smug look on his face, but

hopefully not for long. I was thinking of taking a poll on that question, but I thought I might lose.

As for everything else, we've had some gorgeous days and managed a few trips out with our residents, which has been good for them and good for the accompanying staff. It's always great to get out and in amongst the community, of course we hope the good weather will continue, giving us more opportunities for trips, if you see us out and about, don't hesitate to say hello.

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



FASCINATING FACTS

Did you know that wombat poo is cube-shaped? It helps prevent the droppings from rolling away — handy for marking territory in the Australian bush.

Speaking of shapes, bananas are technically berries, but strawberries aren't. Nature clearly has a quirky sense of classification.

Octopuses have three hearts and blue blood, and when stressed, they can tastefully squirt ink and slip away like underwater escape artists.

Over in space, astronauts can grow up

to two inches taller in zero gravity — ideal for reaching high shelves on the International Space Station.

Meanwhile, the world's deepest postbox sits 10 metres underwater in Susami Bay, Japan, and still gets mail.

And here's a delight for book lovers: Oxford University's Bodleian Library has over 13 million printed items — enough to build a paper fortress.

Sometimes, truth really is stranger than fiction.

LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Email: littlebromleypc@gmail.com

We hope everyone has been enjoying the beautiful weather over the past three months. Our gardens certainly appreciated the single day of rain in early July, and I doubt there will be many complaints if we get a bit more soon. Please be vigilant when lighting garden fires in this dry weather.

We are excited to announce that our War Memorial has officially been added to the List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest and is now listed at Grade II. The application process began on 4th June 2024, so it has been a lengthy journey. On that note, a big thank you to Shelley and Christine for sprucing up the War Memorial and planting some lovely new additions. If you would like to assist with its maintenance, please get in touch—we would be grateful for any help.

Parish Council members have been busy attending meetings related to various National Infrastructure projects. The first meeting was with

North Falls and Five Estuaries, who explained the Joint Substation Design Guide process. The initial draft is expected in August, followed by a four-week engagement period where they will seek input from the Parish Council and residents. They are planning a public event, and we will let you know the date as soon as it's confirmed. Another recent meeting with Essex County Council and Tendring District Council focused on the Community Benefits process and funding, including timelines and opportunities for affected villages. While discussions are still in the early stages, we will keep you updated as we learn more.

If you have not yet checked out our Community Library (the Red Telephone Box) in the Car Park, be sure to stop by—it's filled with some interesting reads.

Wishing you all a wonderful August!

Christine Barrett

LITTLE BROMLEY VILLAGE FUND

Further to our previous notice to donate the remainder of the Village fund to the Church bell repairs, we have since received an objection to this plan.

We've been asked to provide a further £111.82 to the POWER group to fund their website for another year.

The Trustees are in agreement to this proposal, so barring any further

objections, a cheque will be given to the POWER group for this and the remaining funds will be donated to St Mary's Church towards the restoration of the church bells.

The Little Bromley Village Fund will then be closed down. We aim to pay the cheques by the 11th August

Anita Spall



GREAT BENTLEY DOCTORS' SURGERY

ASKMYGP

We have now been using our digital platform, AskmyGP, for just over 12 months. I am very pleased to report that out of our 11,750 patients registered with us, over 10,000 have now signed up to use this service. If you haven't signed up for this yet then it is very easy to do by visiting our website

www.greatbentleysurgery.nhs.uk. You just need to scroll down to the green box which says 'get help now' and click on the button below 'submit a new request'. It then gives you an option to register for the system.

Once you have registered for AskmyGP, the easiest way to put in a request is to go to our website, scroll down to the green box and click on 'submit a new request'. Patients have reported problems when trying to use the Evergreen App, so we would always recommend putting in requests via the website.

If you aren't signed up for AskmyGP yet and need help and advice if you are struggling with this, then please contact

a member of the reception team on 01206 250691 who will be able to assist you with this.

SURGERY NEWS

I am very pleased to let you know that Dr Asra Asim a Salaried GP will now be working for us at the Surgery on a Monday and Wednesday. We would like to welcome her to our team here at Great Bentley Surgery.

URGENT PRESCRIPTION REQUESTS

We are getting an increasing amount of requests for urgent prescriptions, particularly on a Friday afternoon where patients have forgotten to order their medication. Please help us by ordering your medication in good time to ensure you don't run out. If you put your request in a week before you need it, it will be the Chemist for you to collect.

PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP MEETING

There will be no meeting of the Patient Participation Group held in August.

Sue Mitson
Operations Manager

BEWARE - Telephone and text message scams appear to be on the increase

Never disclose the following details over the phone:
four-digit card PIN to anyone, including the bank or police
full password or online banking codes
personal details, unless you are sure who you are talking to
Call Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040 to report incidents

**CALL YOUR
LOCAL
POLICE**



101

**IN AN
EMERGENCY
ALWAYS
CALL 999**

Passing the Torch: Manningtree Rotary President Paul Leech hands over to incoming President Nigel Dyson

Paul Leech, the outgoing President of Manningtree Rotary Club, officially handed over the reins of leadership to the incoming President, Nigel Dyson. The event marked both a celebration of achievements and a renewed commitment to the club's enduring mission of service above self.

The informal handover ceremony was held in Nigel's garden in Little Bentley with over forty members and their families attending a fun and enjoyable afternoon with a BBQ.

In his final address as President, Paul Leech reflected on the year that was—a year marked by both challenge and accomplishment. "This club has always thrived on the collective strength of its members," Paul said. "I am deeply grateful for the support and enthusiasm each of you has brought to our shared endeavours. Together, we have continued to make a positive difference in Manningtree and beyond."

Nigel then had the pleasure of welcoming Stephen Coiley into the esteemed position of President Elect—a role pivotal to the club's continued growth and enduring legacy. As an experienced Rotarian and current community team leader, he brings a wealth of expertise and established connections with local businesses and community organizations.



Achievements Under Paul Leech's Presidency

Paul was particularly proud of the club's commitment to environmental stewardship, Rotary's newest area of focus. The club's footpath clean-ups, were made possible by the enthusiasm and hard work of members and local volunteers. The club also continued its support for international Rotary initiatives, including the fight to eradicate polio and providing clean water to communities abroad.

Numerous local charities and organisations were also supported from the fundraising initiatives that members undertake throughout the year.

Perhaps most importantly, Paul championed inclusivity within the club, reaching out to potential new members and welcoming guests from diverse backgrounds.

Getting to Know Incoming President Nigel Dyson

As he accepted the chain of office, Nigel Dyson spoke with energy and optimism about the year ahead. Having served previously as Vice-President and chaired numerous committees, Nigel is no stranger to the club's operations and ethos. Nigel brings a deep knowledge of local issues as well as a network of contacts across business, education, and the charitable sector. He has been a Rotarian for almost 40 years, previously belonging to the Rotary Club of Kelvedon and District.

Nigel's professional background in International Textile industry positions him well to continue—and expand—the club's efforts. In his inaugural speech, he outlined his vision for a Rotary year built on three pillars: strengthening community partnerships, fostering innovation in service projects, and nurturing the next generation of Rotarians.

"We must build on our foundations, but also look forward with curiosity and ambition," said Nigel. "Our community is evolving, and so too must we. Let's continue to be the change-makers Manningtree needs".

Rotary's motto "Service Above Self", remains central to the clubs mission. Whether supporting local families,

championing global humanitarian causes, or fostering friendship and understanding, the club's work is a testament to what can be achieved when people come together with a common purpose.

With the official handover from Paul Leech to Nigel Dyson, the Manningtree Rotary Club begins a new chapter—ready to serve, ready to lead, and ready to make a lasting difference. Leading events already planned are the Mayflower Fun day on 10th August at Furze Hill, Mistley with a 10K Run and lots of Stalls and fund activities from 10am to 5pm. The Club is also running the Annual Manningtree Christmas Market on Saturday 6th December when the High Street is closed to traffic and we will have over 35 stalls and entertainers.

Manningtree Rotary welcomes new members from all backgrounds and genders and anyone who wishes to find out more about the club are welcome to come along to one of the Thursday evening meetings in the Crown in Manningtree. Head over to our website to view our diary of weekly events. www.manningtreerotary.org.uk

LONGMEAD PADDOCKS PLANNING UPDATE

Residents may be aware of the early proposals for the Longmead Paddocks development on Harwich Road. Pre-application work has now been submitted, and updated surveys are currently underway to inform the next steps.

A full planning application is expected to be submitted by September 2025, marking a key milestone in the

progression of the site. In preparation, a second public consultation will be held to gather local feedback and answer any community questions.

Details of the consultation will be published in an upcoming issue of The Messenger, so please keep an eye out and take the opportunity to have your say. Community input remains vital as plans take shape.

ST GEORGE'S CHURCH REPAIRS

The stonework repairs to the North Clerestory are now complete. Well done to all who contributed financially and to Lodge & Sons, the contractor, and Simon Marks (Purcell UK) our architect. You can see before and after photos on the Great Bromley website and the display in church. While the scaffold was up we were able to mend a hole in the lead roof and to replace the rusted down pipes.



Gregory Frostick

GREAT BROMLEY BOOK CLUB

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 Great Bromley Cross Pub, Great Bromley on a Tuesday evening every six weeks. 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.

USE YOUR LOCAL KNOWLEDGE TO HELP KEEP VULNERABLE RESIDENTS SAFE

As someone who has worked helping the communities for many years, I know just how powerful local knowledge can be when it comes to keeping people safe. You know your community. You notice when something feels off. That's why I'm reaching out to parish councils and community members to ask for your help.

At Essex County Fire and Rescue Service, we're encouraging everyone, especially those working or volunteering in the community, to keep an eye out for residents who might be struggling. A rundown or neglected property isn't always just a sign of disrepair, it can be a sign that someone inside is at risk and may need support.

Here are a few things to look out for:

- Homes with poor maintenance—overgrown gardens, broken windows, smoke-stained curtains
- Signs of hoarding—such as cluttered windows or blocked access points
- Elderly or disabled residents living alone
- People who smoke at home

These small signs can be clues that someone is vulnerable or isolated, and that's where we can step in. A simple

referral for a **free Home Safety Visit** can make a world of difference. During these visits, our team can fit smoke alarms, offer fire safety advice, help with escape plans, and even link residents up with other services who can offer additional support.

Referring someone is easy, you can do it through our **Online Home Fire Safety Check** at www.essex-fire.gov.uk/online, or speak to the person yourself and encourage them to get in touch if you feel it's appropriate.

As my colleague Andrea MacAlister, our Head of Prevention, puts it:

"The fire service carries a trusted brand. People open their doors to us, they listen, and they value our advice. That trust gives us a rare opportunity to reach those who may be isolated or overlooked by other services. A simple Home Safety Visit could save their life."

Thank you for everything you do in your communities. Please keep looking out for one another, and don't hesitate to reach out to us if you think someone could use a little extra support.

**Claire Monk, Live Safe Manager,
Essex County Fire and Rescue
Service**



Essex County
Fire & Rescue Service



Dates for your diary



AUGUST

6	WI - Garden Party	
15	VJ80 - Commemoration at Gt Bromley War Memorial	11:00am
13	Great Bromley Parish Council, Village Hall	7:00pm
16	Ardleigh & Dist. Horticultural Society Annual Show	
26	WI - Coffee & Crafting, Village Hall	10am-12:30pm

SEPTEMBER

3	VH fish and chip supper with the Hoolies Shanty Band	7:30pm
10	Great Bromley Parish Council, Village Hall	7:00pm
18	Little Bromley Parish Council, The Haywain	7:30pm
23	WI - Coffee & Crafting, Village Hall	10-12:30pm

OCTOBER

8	Great Bromley Parish Council, Village Hall	7:00pm
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Pride & Prejudice

This is My Theatre Company

Wednesday 17th Sept at 7pm - Little Bromley Church CO11 2PP

"It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a single man in possession of a good fortune, must be in want of a wife."

At least one of the Bennet sisters must marry well in order for the family to avoid destitution upon the death of Mr Bennet and so the task of finding suitable matches begins. But, as is always the case, matrimony is easier for some than for others. For Elizabeth Bennet in particular, not all judgements quickly made are correct, in particular when the dashing Mr Darcy is involved...

This Summer, critically acclaimed theatre company This Is My Theatre brings Jane Austen's classic tale to life in a stunning one-act adaptation to celebrate the author's 250th anniversary year.

Packed with rivalries, regrets and, of course, plenty of romance, our production is sure to spread joy this Summer!

For info and tickets for this outdoor production (85 mins) please visit the TIMT website thisismytheatre.com

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

- 21 Aug
- 11 Sep
- 2 Oct
- 23 Oct

9.45am to 10.15am



Post Office & Community Library
The Great Bromley Cross Pub



Wednesdays
10.00am - 12 noon



Did you know? Our local area has three Automated External Defibrillators. You can access these at:

- The Courthouse, Harwich Road, CO7 7JG
- The Great Bromley Cross Pub, Ardleigh Road, CO7 7TL
- The Haywain, Bentley Road, CO11 2PL

Also at The Great Bromley Cross Pub 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.

August 10th 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 'Almighty and everlasting God' by Orlando Gibbons. **Orlando Gibbons** (1583–1625) was an English composer and keyboard player who was one of the last masters of the English Virginalist School and English Madrigal School. The best known member of a musical family dynasty, by the 1610s he was the leading composer and organist in England, with a career cut short by his untimely death in 1625. As a result, Gibbons' *oeuvre* was not as large as that of his contemporaries, like the elder William Byrd, but he made considerable contributions to many genres of his time. He is often seen as a transitional figure from the Renaissance to the Baroque periods.

August 31st 2025

The Deanery choir will be singing at **St**



Supporting Church music in the Tendring area

Nicholas Church, Harwich CO12 3DR at the 6.30pm Choral evensong. The Anthem that they will be singing is 'The Fair Chivalry' by Robert Ashfield. Robert James Ashfield (1911-2006) born at Chipstead, Surrey. Educated at Tonbridge School and the Royal College of Music. At the RCM he was taught and inspired by Sir Ernest Bullock, then organist of Westminster Abbey, and became his assistant. The organist at this service will be Peter Clayton and he has composed a new Preces & Responses setting especially for the Deanery Choir. Peter has been organist and choirmaster at St Mary Magdalene church in Thorrington for 16 years.

Graham Bell, Deanery Choir
grahambell493@gmail.com

**Victory in Japan
Commemoration Service
Friday 15th August at 11:00am
Great Bromley War Memorial**

This August marks the 80th anniversary of Victory over Japan Day, a poignant moment in our history that signalled the end of World War II and brought peace after years of global conflict. To honour the courage, sacrifice, and endurance of those who served and suffered, Great Bromley Parish invites all residents to a commemorative service at the village War Memorial on Thursday 15th August at 11:00am.

The short ceremony will include a wreath laying, and a moment of silence. It is an opportunity for our community to come together in remembrance, gratitude, and unity. Whether your connection to this history is personal or reflective, your presence will help ensure that the legacy of those who gave so much is never forgotten.

Please join us in paying tribute to this solemn occasion. All are welcome.

"At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them".

ARDLEIGH SURGERY

Dear Parishioners,

Thank you for your continued support. We are pleased to share that we have successfully appointed a Care Coordinator and new receptionist. We look forward to introducing them to you in due course.

Appointment System Updates

We continue to receive both complaints and compliments regarding ANIMA. The most common concern is that the form is too long. To streamline the process, in response to your feedback we changed the form to the general medical advice form which will allow you to write down what your issue is with minimal questions.

Please note that while this may bypass some safety-related questions, it significantly shortens the form. Keep in mind that appointments are often offered on the same day—so it's important to stay available and regularly check your phone for updates.

The Secretary of State for Health have mandated the use of ANIMA (or similar triage software). All GP surgeries were required to have a digital triage system in place by 31st January 2025, as part of the NHS 10-Year Plan, whose slogan is "Digital by Default."

The aim is for one GP to handle up to 120 patients a day, compared to the traditional 36 contacts per day. While this may help ease pressure on the NHS, it may come at the cost of personal touch and continuity of care.

We kindly ask for your patience with our staff as they help you with your queries. As the saying goes, *"In a world where you can*

be anything, be kind."

Practice Shutdown – There is no shut down in August.

Heatwave Advice

We are seeing a number of elderly patients affected by the current heatwave. If you are able, please check in on your elderly friends, family, and neighbours to help ensure they stay hydrated and cool.

Thank you once again for your ongoing support and for being such a vital part of our community. We look forward to continuing to serve you in the months ahead.

Kind regards,
The Team at Ardleigh Surgery

Friends of
Little Bromley Church

Free Concert

The Marenzio Singers
& The Morleys

Saturday 30th August 2025 at 5pm
Little Bromley Church CO11 2PP

Donations in aid of the
Bells Appeal

Complimentary refreshments
please advise numbers to
friends@littlebromley.org.uk
www.littlebromley.org.uk



ST. GEORGE'S (C OF E) SCHOOL, GT. BROMLEY

Telephone: 01206 230305

Could you make a difference in our school?

St George's School in Great Bromley is looking for passionate, dedicated people in our community to join us as school governors. This is your chance to shape the future of our young people, and bring your experience to a role that truly matters.

If you think you could spare approx. 6 hours a term to attend meetings with other like minded people to support the leadership team and ensure the schools strategic vision, then we would love to hear from you.

By joining our board, you'll develop new skills and have a direct impact on the success of our students.

Reach out to us on lsarp@st-georges-pri.essex.sch.uk if you're interested in applying or would like more information about the role.



GREAT BROMLEY FRIENDSHIP CLUB

For our July meeting Ken Marvell kindly agreed to speak about his carpentry hobby and brought along some items he had made.

Spurred on after our talk in April from the Hedgehog Haven Rescue, Ken has designed a hedgehog feeder and nest box among other items, which could be bought.

For our August meeting we have arranged a visit from the Fire Service to talk on fire safety in the home.

The competition for August is a flower from your garden.

New members are always warmly welcomed. Please just come along to the Gt Bromley Cross Inn Pub on the 3rd Thursday of each month, 2-4pm.

£1.50 entry covers tea/coffee, homemade cakes and raffle. Annual membership is £7.50, which helps with the cost of speakers, entertainment and Christmas Lunch.

Jane Hurst

THE DEDHAM EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

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

Secondary Schools & Sixth Form Colleges

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

Universities & Colleges of Further Education

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

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

Closing date for applications:- **31st October 2025.**

LITTLE BROMLEY HISTORIC BELLS PROJECT

The Friends of Little Bromley Church would like to thank the people who have supported the project so far. We are pleased to tell you that the Project is progressing well and that the work is planned to start in the autumn.

We have raised £53,000, thanks to generous donors, our fundraising events, grants, and Gift Aid. But we have two unexpected cost increases. First, the bell frame is in much worse condition than originally thought and will need extensive carpentry repairs. Second, we are now required to apply for listed building consent and this incurs professional fees for the architect and structural engineer.

We still have £13,000 to raise. Donations, large or small, are most welcome.

If you would like to make a donation

please email
friends@littlebromley.org.uk

or phone **07903 405897** for our payment details, gift aid form, or more information.

Your donation with Gift Aid gives an extra 25% from tax recovery. In addition, taxpayers in the higher tax brackets can recover the additional 15% (40% rate) or 20% (45% rate) themselves via their tax return.

We do hope you will support the final lap of this Project to restore Little Bromley's historic bells to full working order.

Thank you.

***Gregory, Carol, Jackie, Gavin,
Dorothy - The Committee of Friends
of Little Bromley Church***

CHURCH JOTTINGS

St Georges Church has many hidden secrets, not least our collection of Embroideries, special textiles and fabrics. Many of these are very old and very beautiful.

Three years ago a group of ladies and myself gathered to assess and make a list of all Vestments, (i.e. robes that priest, choir and other helpers may have worn at church services) and linens, many of which are inherited from other churches and are in poor condition.

Many in need of repair and restoration. The history, story and provenance of these items is so interesting and fascinating, many never used in services today.

To help the ladies in their quest, two of our esteemed needle women made a trip to Norwich Cathedral in June 2022. Travelling by train, they met up with Helen Jenkins the supervisor of the Borderers Guild Workshop at Norwich Cathedral.

As a result of their trip, we were advised the embroideries could be repaired at some cost, or framed and displayed, or safely put away.

We took the findings and ideas to our Parochial Church Council (PCC) and the decision was taken to have some embroideries, especially three with the golden thread, professionally framed which will preserve them for the future. One very kind PCC member generously offered to pay the bill, and we are so very grateful for this kind donation. The process of framing is now complete, and the embroideries look fantastic.

They will be displayed on special

occasions such as Flower Festivals, Harvest Festivals and Festivals in the



Church's year, Easter and Christmas.

Yes, we do have some fantastic hidden secrets at St Georges and it is our special duty to look after them and care for them for future generations.

The organisation of our summer events is gathering momentum- a summer of fun and meeting together – please save some dates in your diary:

August 2nd – an exciting family occasion – fun, activities and a B.B.Q for all the family and friends 10am– 12.30pm. Come and join us and celebrate our “Beautiful World”.

September 6th – an afternoon tea party for all the village is planned to raise funds for our special St Helena Hospice. There will be a member of St Helena's at the event where he will be able to chat and share with us all the wonderful work and the Hospice. The event will be free, but we would welcome donations to St Helena Hospice.

September 13th – is Ride and Stride Day where all churches are supported by fund raising. We thought for a

change we might organise a sponsored dog walk between Great and Little Bromley. Times to be advised but put the date in your diary.

September 28th at 4pm – Come and enjoy listening to our very own Black Cactus Choir. The church will be decorated for Harvest so will be a wonderful venue.

Please come along, you are all welcome. If you would like to help us please phone me, I would love to hear from you.

If you are on holiday, please just pop your donation into church.

Jenny
01206 230688

RECTOR'S LETTER

Dear Friends

The summer is here! We have just had the warmest days of the year so far as I write this in early July. I wonder if August will bring the sunny weather for the children (and teachers!) to enjoy during the summer vacation. Whatever you are doing, I pray you will have an enjoyable and refreshing holiday, whether a staycation or something more adventurous.

Did you know, according to BBC Weather, our cities can be as much as 10° warmer than the rural areas of our landscape. Urban areas tend to have a darker landscape of concrete and tarmac that absorb the sun's heat. There is also much less greenery and areas of water that by the water's evaporation keep things cooler. Waste heat from vehicles and air conditioning units - and humans – add to this effect. In the countryside, we are blessed with trees, rivers and lakes that provide natural cooling and a source of moisture. The sun's energy is used in evaporating this moisture which leaves less heat to the land and air, limiting the temperature rise.

With climate change and extreme weather events that will alas become more common, we need to be extra vigilant and more neighbourly and caring for each other. Looking out for vulnerable people in our communities is not to be confined to the cold winter

months. The message to keep hydrated is important and well circulated, but the very young and the elderly, as well as many of our pets, can be particularly adversely affected by prolonged heatwaves.

While we are in these summer months, as well as being neighbourly to those around us, perhaps we ought to take time to reflect upon the privilege of living in what is essentially a beautiful part of the Essex Countryside. With many lovely walks into the countryside from our villages and the river Stour and coastal beaches close at hand, we are blessed to live in a rural setting, not least because of the fresh and slightly cooler air we have over our towns and cities.

Psalms 24 verse 1 says, 'The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.' We care for our neighbour because they are known and loved by God; we care for creation for it is a gift to us from God, its beauty and wonder, its wealth and resources. I pray in these very hot summer days, that we will all be appreciative of this part of the world we live in; that we are mindful to care for one another in times of need and that we would take care to live as responsibly and sustainably as we can preserving a good future for the whole of creation.

Have a blessed and cool summer.

Rev'd John Saxon



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

August 3rd	Trinity 7	Parish Eucharist BCP with choir	11am
August 10th	Trinity 8	Parish Eucharist with choir	11am
August 17th	Trinity 9	Evensong BCP with choir	6.30pm
August 24th	Trinity 10	Parish Eucharist	11am
August 31st	Trinity 11	Benefice Service at St George's	11am
Sept 7th	Trinity 12	Parish Eucharist BCP with choir	11am
Sept 14th	Trinity 13	Parish Eucharist with choir	11am
Sept 21st	Trinity 14	Evensong BCP with choir	6.30pm
Sept 28th	Trinity 15	Parish Eucharist	11am

St Mary's, Little Bentley

August 3rd Morning Prayer 11am

August 17th Holy Communion 11am

August 31st Benefice Holy Communion, Gt Bromley 11am

Sept 7th Morning Prayer 11am

Sept 21st Holy Communion 11am