

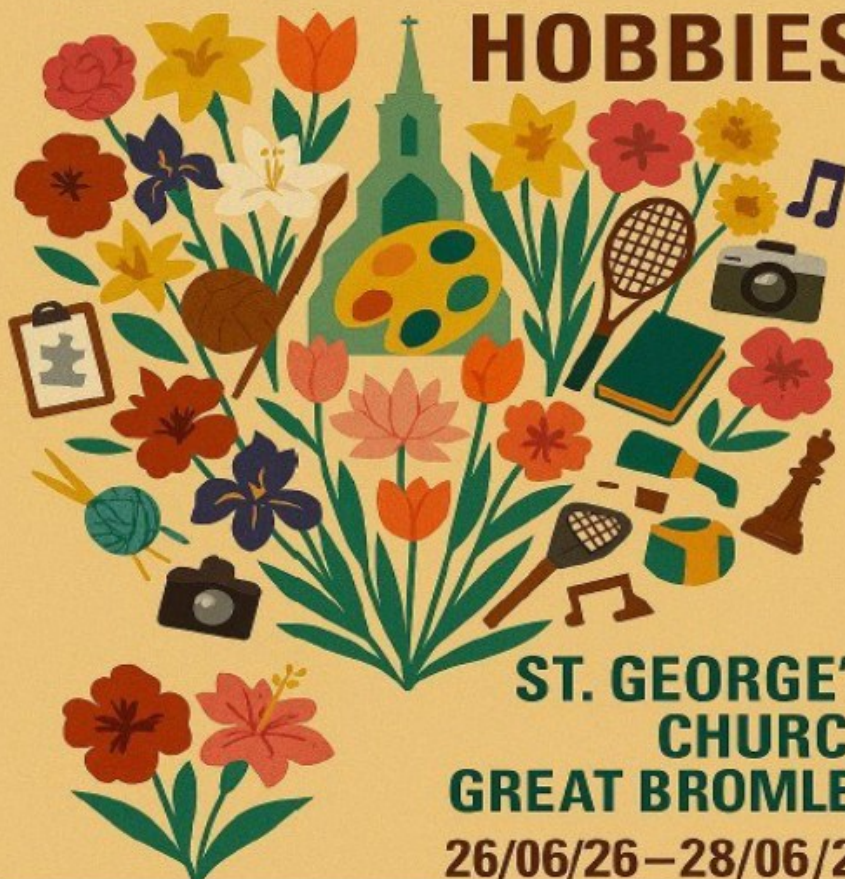
**The
Messenger**

The Magazine of the
villages of Great &
Little Bromley

June 2026

FLOWER FESTIVAL

HOBBIES



**ST. GEORGE'S
CHURCH
GREAT BROMLEY**

26/06/26 – 28/06/26

THE FIRST PAGE

Dear all

Welcome to the June edition of our village magazine. I'm hoping by the time this is published, it will be a bit warmer than of late. I'm still relying on a hot water bottle at night.

June also tends to be the month when village life really wakes up again; fetes, open gardens, and outdoor events start appearing on calendars, and everything feels that bit more sociable once the evenings stretch out. If you're hosting or organising anything locally, do let us know; it's always lovely to share what's happening across our communities.

With so much happening locally over the next few months, it's a good time to check in on neighbours who might appreciate a lift to an event or simply enjoy hearing what's going on. A quick conversation or shared cup of tea can make a real difference, especially for those who don't get out as easily.

In the magazine this month, we have the latest updates from our parish councils, health advice from our GP surgeries, and news from our churches.

This month's cover is a flyer for the Flower festival at St George's Church

which promises to be a mammoth event. More details can be found on page 27.

Awareness Days include:

- 3rd - World Bicycle Day
- 8th - World Oceans Day
- 14th - World Blood Donor Day
- 21st - International Day of Yoga
- 30th - World Social Media Day

I hope you enjoy this month's edition.

**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 **JULY 2026** edition of 'The Messenger' should reach the Editor, Lizzie Ridout, by **14th JUNE 2026** 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 1986messenger@gmail.com
Please support the sponsors of our magazine.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

“

At Seven Rivers, it is our aim to ensure that all our residents have the best experience at our home, and we are happy to support those whose goal is to regain skills to be able to return to live in the community. Everyone that visits Seven Rivers compliments us on the beautiful location, homely atmosphere and positive relationships between the staff and residents.

Seven River staff member

”



LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

www.littlebromleyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Interim Clerk: Mrs Lizzie Ridout CILCA

Email: clerk@littlebromleyparishcouncil.gov.uk

After such a dry May, our gardens and planters have definitely needed some extra TLC. Thankfully, our community spirit remains strong as we eagerly anticipate the summer months despite the anxiety surrounding the proposed village developments.

Here's the latest news and updates:

National Significant Infrastructure Projects

Tarchon Interconnector: The Parish Council submitted a formal objection to the Tarchon Interconnector proposal as part of their Pre-application Consultation on 6th May. You can view the submission on the Parish Council website - <https://www.littlebromleyparishcouncil.gov.uk/notice/little-bromley-parish-council-%E2%80%93-formal-objection-to-the-tarchon-interconnector-proposal>

National Grid:

National Grid's application entered a further examination stage from 28 April to 1 May, including Issue Specific Hearings and Compulsory Acquisition Hearings. These were conducted by the Examining Authority (ExA), appointed by the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero. The ExA are now halfway through their investigations. Ardleigh and Little Bromley were represented each day by our District Councillor, Parish Councillors and residents. For full details and access to transcripts and all documents see <https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN020027/documents>.

Our Barrister, Simon Bell, submitted a response to the various topics discussed

at the hearings on 12th May. This response is available to view on the website <https://www.littlebromleyparishcouncil.gov.uk/notice/deadline-4-12th-may-2026-submission-on-behalf-of-ardleigh-parish-council-and-little-bromley>

Village Planters:

In the May Messenger, we asked for volunteers to help maintain the six village planters but sadly received no responses. A big thank you to Shelley, Kate, and Roly for stepping up and preparing the planters for the summer and to Roly for growing the plants for this season. The planters will require watering and general upkeep during the year. If these tasks can be shared between a number of residents then we should easily be able to keep our village planters looking beautiful. If you can help in any way or are interested in knowing more about what is involved then please contact clerk@littlebromleyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Defibrillator Training:

We hope that Manningtree First Responders will be visiting us at the Haywain Pub in June to provide a defibrillator training session. Everyone is welcome to attend. Please keep an eye out for details that will be posted on our Little Bromley Parish Council FaceBook page and will be sent out via our Little Bromley Mailing List to everyone who has subscribed. If you have not yet subscribed to our Mailing List and would like to be included (or alternatively would like to be removed from the Mailing List) then please email clerk@littlebromleyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Cont'd...

Speedwatch Group:

Unfortunately, we did not receive any responses to our May Messenger call for volunteers, so it appears this initiative will not go ahead.

War Memorial:

A special thanks to Shelley for tidying up the War Memorial garden—it really is looking wonderful. We hope to plant some summer plants in the coming

weeks.

Our next Parish Council Meeting is scheduled for Thursday 17th July commencing at 7.30pm at the Haywain. We hope to see you there. In the meantime, if there is anything you would like to discuss with the Parish Council, please contact our Clerk at clerk@littlebromleyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Little Bromley Parish Council

June 7th

The Deanery Choir will be singing at **St Mary's Church, Little Bentley CO7 8SE** for the Choral evensong service at 6.30pm. The anthem will be 'Lord I trust thee' by G.F. Handel. Born in Halle, Handel spent his early life in Hamburg and Italy before settling in London in 1712, where he spent the bulk of his career and became a naturalised British subject in 1727. He was strongly influenced both by the middle-German polyphonic choral tradition and by composers of the Italian Baroque. In turn, Handel's music forms one of the peaks of the "high baroque" style, bringing Italian opera to its highest development, creating the genres of English oratorio and organ concerto, and introducing a new style into English church music. He is consistently recognised as one of the greatest composers of his age.

The choir will also sing a Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis setting by Walmisley and the Preces and Responses by Peter Clayton.

June 14th

The Deanery Choir will be singing at **St Georges Church, Great Bromley CO7 7TS** at the 11am communion service. The anthem that they will sing is 'Teach me, O Lord' by Thomas Attwood.



Thomas Attwood studied under Mozart and he was friendly with Felix Mendelssohn. In 1796 he was chosen as the organist of St Paul's Cathedral, and in the same year he was made composer of the Chapel Royal. For the coronation of George IV, he composed a setting of the traditional anthem 'I was Glad', which was also used at the coronations of King William IV and Queen Victoria.

Graham Bell
Deanery Choir
grahambell493@gmail.com

ARDLEIGH HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

"Owls" will be the subject of the talk by Stephanie Callister-Jarrold from Owls & Birds of Prey Rescue at Ardleigh Village Hall, Station Road, Ardleigh, CO7 7RS on Thursday 11th June at 7:45pm. Free admission to members, non-members

£2. Everyone is welcome. Schedules for our 2026 Annual Flower & Produce show (which is on August 15th) are now available in Craft Nurseries and Ardleigh Convenience Store (and online via our website).

Our AGM was held in May, with the re-election of the committee for the next year followed by a chance to learn about rag rug making and to have a go ourselves. Everyone was soon making elegant designs and cutting up old T-shirts before getting down to business with hooks and prodders. Thanks to Mary McCarthy who guided us so generously through the process. Some of you may now be able to guess what you are getting for Christmas....

We also had a rip-roaring rehearsal of our entries for the 'EuroWIsion Song Contest' we are hosting next month for neighbouring WIs. Don't tell anyone, but it will feature a mass rendering of 'Kazoosalem'

We've had a rich and enjoyable year.

Our speakers ranged widely from Tudor fashion to Raising Alpacas, a trip through the Canadian Rockies, Life on a Canal Boat and Beekeeping. We had several social events, sang shanties over fish and chips and enjoyed a garden tea party and a Christmas party. Every month we also had a ladies lunch, Knit and Natter at the Cheshire Home, an art class and a Crafting Social at the Village Hall.

We are a lively and active group and will continue this year with an event taking place each week. Have you recently moved to the village? Had a change of circumstances? Great Bromley WI is friendly and informal, and a great place to meet local people and make new friends. Women are welcome to come along to visit at any of our events listed below:

- **Wed June 3rd** 7pm Village Hall EuroWIsion Song contest. Inter-WI fun event
- **Wed June 10th** 2-4pm Cheshire Home Knit and Natter,
- **Wed June 17th** 1-4pm Art Class (details on request)
- **Thurs June 18th** Ladies Lunch (Carole for details)
- **Tues June 23rd** 10am -12:30 Village Hall Crafting Social
- **Wed July 1st** 7:30pm Metal Detecting with Suzette Clark
- **Wed July 8th** Cheshire Home 2-4pm Knit and Natter
- **Wed July 15th** 1-4pm Art Class (Details on request)
- **Thurs July 16th** Ladies Lunch (Carole for details)
- **Tues July 28th** 10am-12:30 Village Hall Crafting Social
- **Wed August 6th** Garden Party details TBA
- **Tues Aug 25th** 10 – 12:30 Village Hall Crafting Social

**For more information contact:
Dorothy 07791974053 or Carole 07979726384**

BRIEF ENCOUNTER

The May Bank Holiday of 1999 was a perfect day in every way - sunny and hot with a clear blue sky. I spent the whole day working in, and around, my large pond. A solitary blue dragonfly skimmed the water. The water lily leaves had already reached the surface, promising that shortly the waxen-like flowers would emerge from the dark muddy depths, unfolding with an almost ethereal quality to reveal their shades of pure unblemished pink, white and burgundy. A skylark sang above the adjoining wildflower meadow, which, in later weeks, would be a-flutter with Meadow Browns amidst the mauve shimmer of delicate flowering grasses, before finally providing the intoxicating scent of new mown hay.

All this countryside beauty which I appreciate so much, had a special significance for me that year because, the previous Autumn, my sight had been

seriously threatened by a sudden retinal detachment. It was, therefore, with a heavy heart, that I knew I had to leave this idyllic setting the next day to keep my sixth post-operative eye appointment in London.

The grey overcast sky on Tuesday morning matched my mood. Although it was pleasantly mild and breezy, nothing that day, I believed, would compare with the sensuous experience of yesterday. I made my way to Colchester north station to catch the 12:03 PM train to London. I arrived on platform 3 fifteen minutes early. It was bleak and deserted. As I paced the platform, I was suddenly aware of an unusual birdsong. All those winter weeks of enforced inactivity during which my vision was affected, had made me more acutely aware of sounds. Music had been my only solace. Other things which are taken for granted - reading, driving, bird



watching - were denied to me whilst I recovered my sight. But this sound I could hardly believe. I had not heard a nightingale since my childhood, and here it was in a very public place in the middle of the day. Once heard, however, the song is never forgotten. The sheer range, richness, and variety of the penetrating song were unmistakable. Bubbling and flute-like phrases, trills and piping notes - they were all there. For me, however, the most distinguishing feature was the slow, plaintive "sobbing" note repeated often, and with increasing volume until it reached its final crescendo.

The shy and secretive songster (which is rarely seen) was well hidden in a small thicket alongside the line, and it carried on singing uninterrupted as the platform gradually filled with people. - suited gentlemen reading their newspapers, young women talking on their mobile 'phones, teenagers listening to their Walkmans and restless infants playing with their toys. Nobody, through naivety or ignorance, took any notice of the continuing epic solo unfolding around them. I wanted to shout "Stop! Put those things away, and listen to something which you may never hear again." I had fifteen minutes of ecstasy, and then the Intercity train from Norwich throbbed into the station, the passengers were swallowed up, and even as the doors slammed and the train moved off, the nightingale was still singing - its magical notes rising above the noise of the busy station.

On the way back in the early evening, I remembered that I had been so enthralled by the bird's performance that I had not noted the species of tree in the thicket from which it was singing (an important detail which would be needed for the National Nightingale Survey). So on arrival in Colchester, I

returned once more to the, now empty, London platform. Only then did I realise that, as my pupils had been dilated during my eye examination, I was unable to see the trees clearly enough to identify them accurately. From this thicket, the insignificant little bird with the outstanding repertoire may have carried on singing for several hours that afternoon - such is his energy and enthusiasm for staking his territory and attracting a mate during his short vocal season. All was now silent, however. The wind was moving round to the north and the evening was becoming cold. I hurried home.

It may be a complete myth that "A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square", but it is an absolute certainty that a nightingale sang at Colchester North Station on May 4th in the final year of the millennium. It had made my day!

Joan D. Gurney



Churches
Conservation
Trust

The Friends of St. Mary's Church, Little Bromley would like to invite you to our

Social Afternoon

Starting at 3pm until 5pm



At St Mary's Church, Little Bromley on
Saturday 6th June 2026

Meet some Friends, relax, listen to lovely music and
enjoy our free refreshments

Donations welcome CO11 2PP

The Churches Conservation Trust is the national charity that protects historic churches for us. We've awarded 350 ancient buildings which attract more than a million visitors a year. With our help and your support, they can keep going on and free all things once again at the heart of their communities.

visitchurches.org.uk

The Churches Conservation Trust, 1 West Smithfield, London EC1A 9EE
Telephone: 020 72130662
Registered charity: 1066614, 0177 8000

PLANNING DETERMINATIONS

REF	PROPOSAL	LOCATION	DECISION
<u>26/00202/</u> <u>LBC</u> Mr Ian and Mrs Wendy Fisher	Listed Building Consent - Single storey rear extension.	Walnut Tree Carringtons Road, Great Bromley CO7 7XA	Refusal - Listed Building Consent 09.04.2026 Delegated Decision
<u>26/00204/</u> <u>FULHH</u> Mr Ian and Mrs Wendy Fisher	Householder Planning Application - Single storey rear extension.	Walnut Tree Carringtons Road Great Bromley CO7 7XA	Refusal - Full 09.04.2026 Delegated Decision
<u>26/00327/</u> <u>LUPROP</u> Mr Andrew Fairley - Henry Fairley and Son	Application for Lawful Development Certificate for proposed development consisting of construction of hardstanding and drainage for agricultural purposes.	Park Farm Hilliards Road Great Bromley CO7 7US	Lawful Use Certificate Granted 22.04.2026 Delegated Decision
<u>25/01795/</u> <u>FUL</u> Shalamar Children Ltd	Planning Application - Change of use from residential dwelling (Use Class C3) to a residential childrens home (Use Class C2).	Oak Lodge Hall Road Great Bromley CO7 7TY	Approval - Full 15.04.2026 Committee Decision

PLANNING APPLICATION

REF	PROPOSAL
<u>26/00509/</u> <u>OUT</u> Mr Daniel Rapson - Privo Land Limited LOCATION Land North of Harwich Road Great Bromley Essex CO7 7UH	<p>Outline Planning Application (access only to be considered) - erection of up to 78 dwellings with associated infrastructure, open space, parking, drainage and landscaping with all matters reserved except for vehicular accesses from Harwich Road.</p> <p>Great Bromley Parish Council had the following comment: The Parish Council has concerns regarding visibility, pedestrian safety and the cumulative traffic impact from the proposed access onto Harwich Road. There are also concerns if Harwich Road is suitable for additional traffic movements associated with a development of this scale.</p> <p>Given the inevitable increase in traffic, the Council would welcome improvements to the Harwich Road crossroads and immediate area, and would also welcome reinforcement of existing speed-limit measures as part of any mitigation.</p>

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

www.greatbromleyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Clerk: Mrs Lizzie Ridout cILCA

Email: clerk@greatbromleyparishcouncil.gov.uk



Chairman's report from the Parish Assembly held on Wednesday 13th May:

It has been a busy year, with National Grid and the wind farms gaining momentum, the evolving Local Plan all needing to be considered and responded to, we have also had two new housing developments to be considered for the village.

The village is very lucky to have such a team of dedicated Councillors to deal with the work load.

I would like to thank our Clerk, Lizzie, for guidance in keeping the Council compliant with Assertion 10 requirements regarding emails and the Council's Risk Management Policy regarding Information Technology, Digital Governance & Data, also for editing the popular village magazine, The Messenger, which is vital for those residents without Wi Fi or smart phones to be informed of what is happening in and around the village. I must also thank the sponsors and contributors to the magazine.

I would like to thank the following:

Carole, for her time spent reading reports, keeping a close watch on Public Rights of Way and the general appearance of the village and expressing her thoughts at meetings.

Owen, for keeping a watch on the Parish Council finances and organizing the village litter pick.

Graham, for his tireless contribution to Speed Watch making our roads a safer

place and for managing the distribution of The Messenger.

Fred, for continuing to serve on the Parish Council with the wealth of knowledge he brings after serving not just at Parish level, but District as well.

David, I would like to thank for his time spent keeping an eye on our village playing field, Hare Green.

With James and Bashir joining us, we now have a full complement of Councillors. I welcome you both.

We, as a Parish, are very lucky to have two very capable handymen, Lewis and Chris. With their skill base we now do more jobs in house round the village quicker, saving the parish money whilst maintaining the appearance.

I would also like to thank the Plymouth Brethren Rapid Relief Team and their church members for the support they have given the Parish in the recent litter-pick. Thank you.

Finally, I would like to thank the Councillors for the support I have received over the last year.

***Cllr Andrew Fairley
Chairman***

Annual Meeting highlights:

Cllr Fairley was elected as Chairman. Cllr Mander was elected as Vice-Chairman. Cllr Pirir was appointed Tree Warden, and Cllr Goni was appointed the Emergency Planning Representative. Members unanimously voted not to accept any remuneration for their roles as councillors. The Council's 2025-26

accounts were unanimously approved, ready to be sent to the External Auditor. Councillors considered Tendring District Council's consultation inviting Town and Parish Councils to suggest topics for inclusion in the 2026/27 Work Programmes of the Community Leadership and Resources

& Services Overview and Scrutiny Committees. Members agreed to submit the following topics: flies and associated odour in Great Bromley and surrounding villages, fly tipping in rural lanes, rural transport provision, and speeding vehicles in villages.

PARISH PICKERS

On Saturday 9th May, volunteers from across the village joined Great Bromley Parish Council for our community litter pick. We were delighted to see such a strong turnout, and we are very grateful to everyone who gave their time to help keep our village clean, tidy, and welcoming.

A particular thank you goes to the Plymouth Brethren, who not only provided refreshments for the volunteers but also supplied additional helpers on the day. Their support was very much appreciated and added greatly to the success of the event.

Community efforts like this make a real difference to the appearance of our village and help foster the shared responsibility we all have for the place we live. Thank you again to everyone who took part.



MANNINGTREE & DISTRICT PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY



By the time you read this, we will have completed our 2025/26 programme, and be taking a break from our usual schedule of activities. We have enjoyed an interesting programme of talks, competitions and other activities, and have a challenge to keep us occupied over the Summer. I tried summing up our years' activities, but it read like a boring list, so instead I am providing a summary of my personal experience as a club-member.

I joined MADPS three years ago at which point I was just using a smart phone. I have benefited not only from the activities mentioned above but also from the shared knowledge of other members who are always happy to share their expertise. My photographic skills are improving year on year, and I definitely get my moneys-worth from the membership fee. There is a broad skill level in the club from those that are just starting out, to those that shoot at a more professional level, and everyone is genuinely welcome. And yes, it is perfectly OK to enter phone photographs into competitions, and yes even though I have a "proper camera" now I still do!

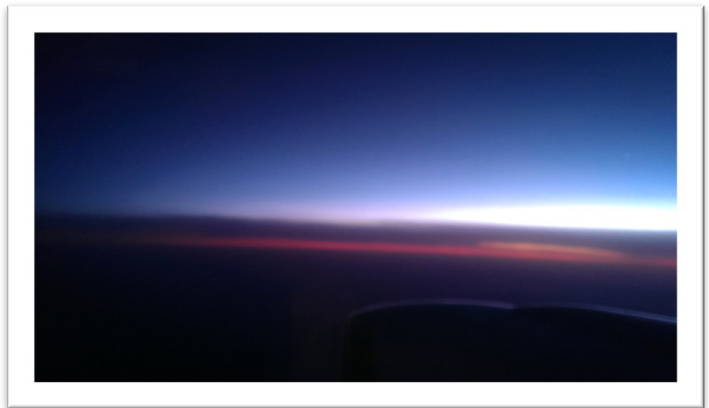
On Saturday 20th June Manningtree and District Photographic Society will be taking part in Mysteries of Mistley (mysteriesofmistley.co.uk). This is a local event promoting local organisations, and a fun family trail. You will be able to find us at Mistley Church Hall between 10 and 4, where you can meet members and find out

more about us.

Our club website has information about membership and activities together with competition results, photo albums and further club information. Our 2026/2027 programme will be on there in September.

This month's featured image by Jill Sullivan was the winning image from our recent Abstract/Minimalism Competition.

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/>

Dates for your diary



JUNE

3	EuroWlision Song Contest, Village Hall	7:00pm
6	Social Afternoon, St Mary's Church, Little Bromley	3:00pm-5:00pm
7	Open Gardens, Erskine Road, Mistley	12:00pm-5:00pm
10	WI Knit & Knatter, Seven Rivers	2:00pm-4:00pm
10	Great Bromley Parish Council, Village Hall	7:00pm
11	Ardleigh Horticultural Society, Village Hall	7:45pm
21	Great Bromley Open Gardens, Garage Sale and Scarecrow Festival	
22	Gt Bentley Dementia Café, Methodist Hall, Forge Ln	11:00am-1:00pm
23	WI Crafting Social, Village Hall	10:00am-12.30pm
26, 27 & 28	Flower Festival, St George's Church	

JULY

1	WI Metal Detecting with Suzette Clark, Village Hall	7:30pm
8	WI Knit & Knatter, Seven Rivers	2:00pm-4:00pm
8	Great Bromley Parish Council, Village Hall	7:00pm
16	Little Bromley Parish Council, The Haywain	7:30pm
28	WI Crafting Social, Village Hall	10:00am-12.30pm

AUGUST

12	Great Bromley Parish Council, Village Hall	7:00pm
25	WI Crafting Social, Village Hall	10:00am-12.30pm

THE PRIORITY SERVICES REGISTER

If you are not aware of the Priority Services Register, this may be of interest to you or someone you know.

The Priority Services Register (PSR) is a free UK-wide service offering extra help during electricity, gas, or water supply interruptions.

You may be eligible if you or someone in your household relies on medical equipment, has a disability, long-term illness, dementia, mental health difficulties, refrigerated medicines, is of pensionable age, or has children under five.

Support during a power cut can include:

- A 24/7 priority contact number

- Text and voice alerts about local outages and severe weather
- Tailored support such as home visits, hot meals, welfare checks, and updates for family or friends
- In some cases, hotel accommodation and transport
- On-site community support with hot food, drinks, Wi-Fi, and charging points during major outages

To join the PSR, contact your local electricity network operator, gas distributor, and water supplier, as each runs its own register. You can find your providers using your postcode on the Energy Networks Association and Water UK websites, then apply online, by phone, or by post.

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

- 11 June
- 2 July
- 23 July

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.

ST MARKS

**St. Mark's, Hawthorn Drive, Ipswich
IP2 0QQ
Holy Family Church, Ipswich Road,
Brantham CO11 1TB**

Parish Priest: Rev Fr Luke Goymour

The Presbytery, 180 Hawthorn Drive,
Ipswich IP2 0QQ

Tel: 01473

684963 revgoymour@gmail.com

website: stmarksparish.org.uk

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

Who is Jesus to you?

In the Book of Revelation (3:20) it says *Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.* Have we welcomed Jesus into our home? Is He our friend or just a distant acquaintance? It's estimated that there are between 2.3 and 2.6 billion Christians worldwide, but how many of us are actively seeking a relationship with Jesus? In an average week how much meaningful time do we spend with Him, such as reading the Bible or praying? With so many distractions these days, we can so easily fail to prioritise time with our Lord and Creator. This time on earth is fleeting. How well are we preparing for eternal life? *Lord, help us to welcome You into our homes*

and place You at the centre of our lives. Let everything we say or do be centred on You and Your teachings. We give You thanks for all the blessings in our lives and unite our suffering with Your suffering on the cross. Amen.

Weekday and Sunday Masses and devotions

Please consult noticeboards and the parish website in case of weekday mass changes:

Saturday St. Mark's 17.30 vigil mass with confessions from 17.00

**Sunday Holy Family, Brantham 8am
and St. Mark's, Ipswich 11.15am.**

Tuesday Holy Family 10.00 mass, with Adoration from 9.20

Wednesday St. Mark's 09.30 mass

Friday St. Mark's 12.15 mass, with Adoration from 11.40.

The Sick & Housebound

Please let Fr Luke know of anyone who is ill at home, housebound or in hospital, so that they may receive appropriate pastoral care, he can be contacted on 01473 684963. If you or a family member is in hospital you can also contact the Catholic Lay Chaplain to Ipswich hospital: hospitalchaplain@stmarksparish.org.uk

Kathy Pollard:
kathy.pollard@btinternet.com

Community Speed Watch Volunteers Needed

We're looking for a few extra volunteers to help with Community Speed Watch. It's a simple way to support safer driving through our villages, working in small groups at approved spots to record vehicles travelling over the limit. Essex Police provide full training, and sessions are arranged to suit your availability. If you can spare an hour now and then, please contact the Parish Clerk.

Even a little time makes a real difference to road safety in our community.

DAWN SUPPORT

The cut off date to register for Open Gardens, the Scarecrow Festival and the Village Garage Sale is 7th June. If you would like to take part in one, two or all three, please contact Tracy on 07485 164350 or Annie on 07720 468344. We can then add you to the map.

On the fly issue, thank you to everyone who has already shared information. There is a questionnaire available via Gt Bromley Facebook group or you can request a hard copy by calling Annie on 07720 468344. We now have an incident number and an open case with the Environment Agency, who have asked for completed questionnaires and photos. They were not aware of how widespread the problem is, but have confirmed they will prioritise investigation. We hope to send the

Great Bromley Open Gardens, Scarecrow Trail & Garage Sale

In aid of Great Bromley Village Hall

Sunday 21st June 12–6pm

If you would like to open your garden, create a scarecrow (all at sea theme), or take part in the village wide garage sale, please let us know by Friday 29th May so you can be added to the event map.

**Text or call: Tracy
07485 164350**

questionnaire results to the EA and a research unit by early June so the village can finally get some answers.

ESSEX BOOK FESTIVAL

We're delighted once again to play a central role in the Essex Book Festival 2026, welcoming an inspiring range of authors into library spaces across the county throughout June. The relaxed and welcoming atmosphere of libraries makes them ideal venues, particularly for those who may feel daunted by more traditional cultural spaces.



This year's exciting line-up includes:

- Ellie Levenson at Manningtree, introducing her debut novel *Room 706*
- Vaseem Khan, an Essex Library Service favourite, discussing his Malabar House series and Bond spin-off novels
- Sally Magnusson at Rayleigh with *The Shapeshifter's Daughter*
- Tim Marshall, answering questions on the updated edition of *Prisoners of Geography*
- Sophie Hannah, presenting the annual Dorothy L. Sayers Lecture at Witham
- Psychological thriller authors B.A. Paris (South Woodham Ferrers) and Sarah Vaughan (Chelmsford)
- Link: <https://libraries.essex.gov.uk/digital-content/essex-book-festival>

GREAT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB

The cricket season is now in full swing and the weather has been perfect.

Our Friday night training for children between 5-11 is the busiest we have seen. Over 50 children have signed up for the All-stars and dynamos program for 5–11-year-old boys and girls. It is lovely to see so many children enjoying themselves and an excellent take up by girls to. The coaches are ensuring they are having fun whilst developing skills and teamwork. The bar staff are also being kept busy and the addition of Neck Oil on pump is going down a treat. It is lovely having the bustle of a Friday night once again and getting the village supporting the club is very important to us all on the committee.

The Saturday X1 started the season off with a home game against a strong Coggeshall side. Coggeshall winning taking the 20 points available and Great Bromley collecting 6. A better game against Chappel on 25th with Ed Fairley scoring 87 runs and James Bean taking 4 wickets saw the 20 points come our way. Nine points and a loss followed by another win and 20 points on the 8 May sees Great Bromley currently sitting in 6th place in the table. The Sunday X1 started their season on 26th April also with a loss but collecting 8 points. Followed up with back-to-back wins. A couple of new faces in the team and a healthy number of U15s 16s playing guided by a few senior players make this a very exciting development team.

The ladies played their first ever Ballers Blast game on 11th May. 10 aside, 6 ball overs played in pairs for 4 overs and then retire. A very enjoyable match played against the hosts Braintree.

Sadly a loss by 10 runs but plenty of positives. The ladies team is still in need of new players so please do contact us if you would like to give it a try. We welcome players from age 15 and upwards of any ability.



The midweek T20 side have started where they left off with 2 straight wins and looking to once again retain the title. A mention of Alfie Westall who made 64 not out in the game against Boxted. His first ever 50 in any form of cricket which included 9 boundaries. He is one of several colts that is making the step up into senior cricket and certainly deserves his day and the accolades that he has received.

On 19th June we hold our annual kwik cricket festival inviting other local teams to play. It is always a fun and busy evening and a chance for players to enjoy a competitive but friendly game. Bar and BBQ will be going all evening and hopefully a bouncy castle so please walk down and take a look at potential future stars of cricket.

Home Games Coming up – start 1.00 pm – T 20 & Ladies 6pm

June 7th 10th (T20) 21st 24th (T20) 27th

Ladies 8th 15th 22nd 29th

July 5th 11th 22nd (T20) 29th (T20)

So please come and support the Club, enjoy a Pimms or a Cider in the sunshine and we look forward to welcoming you as always.

Tracey Wareing

ARDLEIGH SURGERY

AccuRx Scribe

The surgery is now using accuRx scribe and it is a speech to text AI that allows our clinician to concentrate a 100% on you and not on taking notes. If you would not like to use this technology in your consultation, please tell the clinician. We have provided leaflet and QR code on our website for an in-depth introduction to this technology.

We welcome Sister Harrison who is back from maternity leave, she is now back at the surgery from May 2026.

Extended Access

Our extended access is currently based at The Mayflower Medical Centre in Harwich. We will be offering both F2F and telephone appointments within this service.

Patient Participation Group- PPG

Would you like to have an input into the way your local GP Surgery operates? If so, we are currently seeking new members for our PPG. If you are a registered patient at Ardleigh Surgery and interested in becoming a member, please visit the surgery for further information. We are especially looking for young people to inject new blood into the PPG.

Over the next few months, we'll be running an **Empowerment Series** from **A to Z**, focusing on common health topics and how you can take charge of your own care.

Pharmacy First scheme

If you are under 65 with no underlying health conditions or chronic medications, you qualify for the Pharmacy First scheme.

- Pharmacists assess you first, easing GP surgery pressure.
- They can refer you to a GP if needed.

- Local participating chemist: Dedham Chemist.

Minor eye conditions services

Please contact the Primary Care Eye Services if you have any minor eye condition like a red eye or itchy eye or a stye. Trained Optometrists can see urgent eye issues, usually same day, prescribe treatment, and refer directly to hospital eye services if required. To access these services, google minor eye conditions and put your post code in and you will be show the nearest participation optometrist.

Safety netting after seeing a clinician

Safety netting is what clinicians do to make sure that if things don't go as they think the patient is armed with the information of what to do next. If you are given antibiotics, we will usually say that if you are no better after 2 days of taking the antibiotics then please contact the surgery again or if it is the out of ours contact the out of hours gps on 111 for advice.

Standing orders

Please be kind to staff, as the world is in turmoil and the life become stressful abuse of our staff is become a daily matter.

There are always less appointments than patients needing appointments so please fill in your ANIMA requests early in the day.

Next shutdown is Tuesday 16th June 2026

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 Ardleigh Surgery*



GREAT BENTLEY DOCTORS' SURGERY

Proactive Care Team

The surgery offers a Proactive Care Service designed to support patients who may be finding it difficult to manage independently at home. The team can arrange home visits to assess your needs and provide appropriate support to you and anyone who cares for you.

The aim of this service is to help you maintain your independence, reduce the risk of unnecessary hospital admissions, and support earlier discharge from hospital where possible.

If you feel you would benefit from a home visit by the Proactive Care Team, please contact the Surgery to discuss this further.

Hospice Project

The Surgery is also working in partnership with St Helena Hospice to support patients and carers in understanding My Care Choices and Advance Care Planning.

My Care Choices is a shared register that can be accessed by the hospice, hospitals, GPs, and other relevant healthcare organisations. It records a person's preferences for future care should they become unwell, including their preferred place of care.

Planning ahead is important, as it helps ensure your wishes are known, shared, and respected when the time comes.

For more information, please visit:
My Care Choices/St Helena Hospice
Why plan ahead? – NHS.uk

If you would like to find out more, please contact the surgery. We can arrange a conversation with Emma, our Specialist Nurse, who is working with us on this project.

Contacting Patients

Instead of sending letters to patients via the postal service, if we have an email address or a mobile telephone number registered on the system, we will now be contacting patients via email or our text messaging service.

Please ensure that if you change your mobile telephone number or email address, you contact the Surgery with your new details to ensure we have the correct contact details on your medical record.

Dementia Café

The next Great Bentley Dementia Café will be held on Monday, 22 June 2026 from 11.00 am to 1.00 pm at The Methodist Hall, Forge Lane, Great Bentley. If you are a patient, carer or a family member, you are welcome to attend.

Surgery Training Afternoon

Along with all other surgeries in the area we will be shut from 12 noon on Tuesday, 16 June 2025 for staff training. If patients require urgent medical care on this afternoon, then this is available by contacting NHS 111 for assistance.

Patient Participation Group Meetings

There will not be a Patient Participation Group meeting in June.

Sue Mitson
Operations Manager

RECTOR'S LETTER

Dear Friends

In our churches we have just finished our season of Annual Parochial Church Meetings. This is where, along with our legal obligations as charities to report on our finances and resources etc, we look back over the last year to give thanks for achievements and blessings, as well as look forward with hope and anticipation to the coming year. It is so easy to take for granted the many good things that quickly fade in our memories, if we are not careful. I commend taking a moment to reflect on our personal lives too. Remembering past successes and blessings can uplift us.

Our meetings have certain business items to cover, not least in electing Church Wardens and Church Council members. It is therefore also a good time to show our appreciation and thanks for those who have served over the last year, for their duty and service. Of course, there are many who serve in the church and our thanks extend to the many volunteers who help, often behind the scenes, week by week.

Did you know it is the Annual Volunteers' Week, 1-7 June where a UK-wide campaign celebrates and recognises the contributions of volunteers. Launched in 1984, this initiative has been running for over 40 years, providing organisations and communities a platform to thank current and past volunteers for their invaluable efforts.

Many organisations rely on volunteers to keep going, as does the church. Since the Covid Pandemic, volunteers are harder to find. Our parish churches serve not just the church community but are there for the local villagers too. This year across our group of nine churches we are conducting over 20 Marriage Services – the highest since the pandemic. You can help and volunteer to support the church for example by joining a church yard working party, being part of a flower rota or cleaning rota for the church or singing in the choir. Keep a look out for these requests in our parish magazine articles and on porch noticeboards.

Volunteering and helping is very much part of being a Christian Disciple. The early church felt it important to choose Deacons to help distribute food to the widows of their community, (See Acts Chapter 6). The tradition of serving others continues today in much the same way – food banks, often supported by community and church congregations, are very much a modern-day equivalent.

Enjoy the summer; enjoy serving others if you get the opportunity and remember in the first week of the month to thank any volunteers you meet. Of course, if you join us at one of our services or come along to an event we are hosting, (often involving food you notice!) we would be happy to serve you!

Best wishes
Revd John Saxon





St George's Church, Great Bromley

For St George's contacts, information, or to receive our email newsletter, please visit www.greatbromley.org.uk or email us at church@greatbromley.org.uk

June 7 th	Trinity 1	Parish Eucharist BCP with choir	11 am
June 14 th	Trinity 2	Parish Eucharist with choir	11 am
June 21 st	Trinity 3	Evensong BCP with choir	6.30pm
June 28 th	Flower Fest	Songs of Praise	4.30pm
July 5 th	Trinity 5	Parish Eucharist BCP	11 am
July 12 th	Trinity 6	Parish Eucharist with choir	11 am
July 19 th	Trinity 7	Evensong BCP with choir	6.30pm
July 26 th	Trinity 8	Parish Eucharist	11 am

St Mary's Church, Little Bentley

June 7 th	Choral Evensong 6.30pm with Deanery Choir
June 21 st	Holy Communion 11am
July 5 th	Holy Communion 11am
July 19 th	Morning Prayer 11am

Tendring and Dedham Parishes (TADP)

– for the group bulletin and news see www.tendringdedhamparishes.org.uk