

The Messenger

The Magazine of the
villages of Great &
Little Bromley

August 2026



THE FIRST PAGE

Dear all

It's been a busy month in the Bromleys, with the villages full of activity from every direction. The Flower Festival 'Hobbies in Bloom' supported by a number of local groups, the Scarecrow Trail and the Open Gardens have taken place, each one showing the range of interests, creativity and commitment that people bring to our community. The Community Speedwatch team has been out again, catching a large number of vehicles speeding through Great Bromley.

Schools have now finished for the summer. Some young people are nervously waiting for exam results, and others are preparing to start new schools or colleges. We wish them all well as they move into the next stage.

The heatwave has been relentless, and the lack of rain is obvious everywhere you look. Grass has lost its colour, water butts are running low, and our garden is definitely feeling the strain. We're keeping our fingers crossed for a good apple season this year.

The temperature has finally eased enough to enjoy being outside again. The flies haven't disappeared

completely, but it appears the level has dropped enough that people can at least sit in the garden for a while.

Awareness days in August include:

- 1st - World Lung Cancer Day
- 12th - World Elephant Day
- 15th - National Relaxation Day
- 19th - World Humanitarian Day
- 26th - National Dog Day

I hope you enjoy this month's edition.

**Take care,
Lizzie**

*Thanks to Christine for this month's cover.

**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 2026** edition of 'The Messenger' should reach the Editor, Lizzie Ridout, by **14th AUGUST 2026** please.

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Aug 9th The Deanery Choir will be singing at **St Georges Church, Great Bromley CO7 7TS** at the 11am communion service. The anthem they will sing will be 'Ave verum corpus' by William Byrd.

William Byrd was an English Renaissance composer often called the "Father of British music." He was a key figure of the Elizabethan era, excelling in almost every musical style of the time, including sacred motets, masses, madrigals, and highly influential keyboard music.

August 30th The Deanery Choir will be singing at **St Lawrence Church, Bradfield CO11 2US** at the 6.30pm Choral evensong service.

They will sing the Magnificat and Nunc dimittis setting by **Thomas Attwood Walmisley**, the anthem 'The call of wisdom' by **Will Todd** and a blessing by **Don Besig**.

Walmistley was organist of Croydon Parish Church in 1830 before becoming organist at Trinity College, Cambridge in 1833. There, he soon became prominent through his anthems and other compositions. He was simultaneously the organist for the Choir of St John's College,



Cambridge. He graduated from Jesus College as BA and MA.

In 1836, Walmisley was made Professor of Music at Cambridge. His Cathedral Music was edited after his death by his father.

Will Todd was born in County Durham, attended Durham School and joined the choir of St Oswald's Church, Durham under its choirmaster David Higgins. He went on to study music at the University of Bristol.

Don Besig taught public school music for 31 years in western New York. His concert choral groups and show choirs earned excellent reputations for their performances at clinics, contests and community events. His teaching experience includes work at all levels. He is currently director of music at Perinton Presbyterian Church in Fairport, NY.

Graham Bell
Deanery Choir
grahambell493@gmail.com

ARDLEIGH & DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Ardleigh & District Horticultural Society are hosting the Ardleigh Annual Flower & Produce Show on Saturday **15th August 2026**, at Ardleigh Village Hall, Station Road, Ardleigh (CO7 7RS). Open to the public from 14:00, with prizes presented at 16:15. There are classes for Vegetables, Fruit, Flowers, Dahlias, Flower Arranging, Homemade Wine, Cookery, Handicraft,

Photographs and Children's exhibits. Refreshments are available. Schedules for anyone interested in exhibiting (you don't need to be a member) are available at Craft Nurseries, Ardleigh Convenience Store and online (just google Ardleigh Horticultural Show), we have some useful Hints & Tips for exhibitors online as well.

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS AND TRUANTS

The 1880 Elementary Education Act made school education compulsory in England for children aged between 5 and 10. Since then, law changes have raised the school leaving age to 11 (in 1893), 12 (in 1899), 14 (in 1918), 15 in 1947 and 16 in 1972. By 2015 all children had to participate in some form of education (including apprenticeships or training) until age 18.

I had always believed that the long summer holiday from school was connected to country folk needing help in the fields with the harvest, but current research indicates that this was never the case. It was because people (not least teachers) needed a break from work in the hottest months, the same as today! However, there are school log books from elsewhere noting “school was closed for 2 weeks in May for pea-picking” or “in September for fruit picking” and so on.

Back in the days when the local newspapers were packed full of all sorts of news, in considerable detail, there are many reports of parents being fined for failing to make their child attend school. Plenty of examples can be found in the old newspapers. For instance, in an *Essex Standard* edition from June 1884 (edited):

* * *

Mr. E. Blowers, the School Attendance Officer for the Tendring Union, attended to prosecute a number of parents for non-compliance with the Education Act.

James Skeet, labourer, Great Bromley, summoned in respect of his son, aged 11, was represented by his wife. Mr. Blowers said the boy had passed the third standard, but had only made 40 attendances this year out of 380. Mrs Skeet said that the Rev. A. E. Graham had twice taken the boy from school and employed him for some time as kitchen boy, and then, as she knew he could not then make up his attendances, she thought she might have him, and did not send him to school. Mr. Blowers said the boy could have got a certificate and gone half time if he had made 150 attendances, but he could not do that now, as the school year ended in June. Mrs. Skeet had written to Mr. Blowers and explained to him that Mr. Graham took the child away from school and added that the boy was 14 years of age. Mrs. Street said her daughter, who wrote the letter, made a mistake as to the child's age

The CHAIRMAN. “But the letter says he was born in 1870 whereas, according to the official certificate Mr. Blowers produces, he is only 11. You may have led Mr. Graham to believe the boy was 14.”

Mrs. Skeet denied that she had done so.

The CHAIRMAN said it was quite possible Mr. Graham supposed the boy was 14.

Eventually, Mrs. Skeet was ordered to pay a shilling and to send the child to school. Mrs. Skeet said she should send the child to a different school then, for it was no use sending him to that, as there were 114 children there, and only one teacher besides little girls to teach them, and big boys like her son would not mind those little girls.

And this is a bit of a classic from the local court in April 1895:

John Cole, labourer, of Great Bromley, was summoned for not sending his children - Leo, aged 11 and Goldley aged 10 - to school. Mr. Bareham, School Attendance Officer, said both the boys had passed only the First Standard, Leo having made 30 attendances, and Goldley 34, out of a maximum of 73. Mrs. Annie Cole said she had sent the children, but they would not go. Their father was 69 years old. and could not correct them. The younger boy was given to stealing, as well as other naughtiness.

The Clerk (Mr. H. W. Jones) asked "What has he stolen?"

"Oh, the other day he stole a puppy" (laughter) "a handcart, and the wheels off a plough."

The Clerk. "Do you swear that you can't control them?"

"Yes."

The Clerk. "Have you whipped them?"

"Yes, but Goldley will turn on me, and kick and swear. He earns money and goes and buys pipes and cigars; he's fond of smoking and drinking and bad company. The other one is a little better - he went to school three times last week." (Laughter.)

The charge of non-attendance was dismissed, and the boy Goldley was ordered to be sent to an Industrial School.

Dr Hugh Frostick
07722 253962
hugh@greatbromley.org.uk



COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH

The Great Bromley Community Speed Watch (CSW) team were on the Harwich Road on Friday 22nd June as part of Tendring Vision Zero .

Vision Zero is an ambition of 'Safer Essex Roads Partnership (SERP) to eliminate deaths and serious injuries on the county's roads by 2040. Because even one road death or serious injury is one too many.

As part of this event, all CSW teams in Tendring were asked to run a monitoring session within their area on this day.

The Great Bromley CSW members supporting this event were Graham Smith, a very welcomed return by Neil Skinner, and Justin Brown. During the session, 22 drivers were reported for exceeding the speed threshold with the highest recorded speed of 51mph in a 30mph limit.



Anyone wishing to join team, please contact the Parish Council Clerk. Full training is given.

Graham Smith
CSW volunteer

ST GEORGE'S FLOWER FESTIVAL

What a lovely three days we had during the Flower Festival from Friday 26th to Sunday 28th June at Great Bromley.

Despite the hot weather and the flies, we welcomed lots of people to the various planned events. The flower arrangements looked wonderful, displaying lots of hobbies to inspire us, whilst the café run by the W.I. kept us refreshed.

On Sunday at 3.45pm, we drew the Grand Raffle and the first prize of £100 was won by Mr Glen Emery. We had nearly forty prizes and would like to thank our many donors for them. Patisserie 4 U also offered an Afternoon Tea for two, which was won by Mr Alan Barton.

Mr Steward, of RTS Farming, sponsored our raffle tickets and Mr Rapson, of Privo Land Ltd, sponsored the Boxted Silver

Band who played for us on the Sunday. Many groups and individuals in the villages sponsored the flowers. Mrs Keitch and the school produced the posters (designed by Sienna) and the programmes (designed by Eliza) for us. We have lists of all the sponsors up in the church for everyone to see for the next few weeks.

The Community Songs of Praise on Sunday, led by Reverend John Saxon, was a fitting end to the Festival.

It is very important to thank all those who helped on the days and behind the scenes, but the biggest **Thanks** must go to Jenny Nicholls, who manages to make everything happen and kept us all on track.

Carol Cordwell
(helper)



GREAT BENTLEY DOCTORS' SURGERY

PREDIABETES – A GROWING CONCERN

When I joined Great Bentley Surgery as a GP Partner in 2013 and took on the role of Diabetes Lead, we had approximately 100 patients diagnosed with prediabetes. Today, that number has risen to nearly 1,100 patients.

This increase is concerning because prediabetes is often a warning sign that diabetes may develop in the future. Type 2 diabetes is a long-term condition that can affect many parts of the body, including the heart, kidneys, eyes, nerves and circulation.

The good news is that **prediabetes is often preventable and, in many cases, reversible** through simple lifestyle changes.

Three simple steps to reduce your risk:

1. Keep Active

Aim for at least 30 minutes of physical activity each day. This could include walking, gardening, cycling, swimming or chair-based exercises.

2. Eat Healthily

Reduce sugary foods and drinks and cut back on highly processed carbohydrates. Focus on a balanced diet rich in vegetables, fruit, lean protein and wholegrains.

3. Maintain a Healthy Weight

Even modest weight loss can significantly reduce the risk of developing diabetes. Small, sustainable changes often have the greatest long-term impact.

We understand that many people live with arthritis, mobility problems or other health conditions. However, there are usually ways to increase activity safely and make healthier choices. Every small

step counts.

Together, we can help prevent diabetes and build a healthier future for our community.

Dr A Nambi
GP Partner & Diabetes Lead

PRESCRIPTION REQUESTS AND QUERIES REGARDING MEDICATION

If you wish to request medication, this can be done by ordering it on the NHS App, by completing a prescription request form on AskmyGP, or by dropping a written request into the Surgery. As we have over 7,000 patients on repeat medication, we need 3 working days to process your request and ensure it is at your nominated pharmacy within this timescale.

If you have a query regarding your medication, you can either complete a medication query form on AskmyGP, or contact the prescription clerk on 01206 257557. If you are unable to speak to a prescription clerk when you phone in and it is before 3pm on a working day, you can leave your name and contact number and you will receive a call back on the same day. If you phone after 3pm and leave a message, you will receive a call back on the next working day. Please do not contact reception on the main telephone number to ask about a prescription enquiry as you will be requested to speak to the prescription clerk.

Please do not allow your medication to run out before you put in a request, as we cannot guarantee that urgent requests will be dealt with on the same day.

PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP MEETING

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

PLANNING DETERMINATIONS

REF	PROPOSAL	LOCATION	DECISION
<u>26/00790/</u> <u>AGRIC</u> Mr Fairley - Henry Fairley and Son Ltd	Prior Approval Application under Part 6, Class A of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended) for new barn	Park Farm Hilliards Road Great Bromley CO7 7US	Determination prior approval not required 08.06.2026 Delegated Decision
<u>26/00608/</u> <u>FULHH</u> Mr and Mrs Williams	Householder Planning Application - Single storey garden room and home office.	Michaelmas House Parsons Hill Great Bromley CO7 7JA	Approval - Full 25.06.2026 Delegated Decision



THE DEDHAM EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Charity number 310831

The Dedham Education Foundation provide grants to young people for educational purposes. 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 2 years prior to the application date.

Closing date for applications: 15 October 2026

How to apply for a Grant

Please read and complete our online application form:

↳ <https://forms.gle/rRTXW3adWAQXNgYP7>

For a paper application form, or further details, please contact the Clerk to the Foundation:

✉ dedhamefclerk@gmail.com

☎ 07989 579227

 Dedham Educational Foundation

GREAT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB

The sun keeps on shining, perfect conditions for enjoyable cricket. Ed Fairley has been keeping the wickets in tip top condition and spends many an hour watering, rolling and cutting. It has certainly paid dividends as the home games have been very successful.

The club held yet another successful and enjoyable kwik cricket tournament in mid June. For our younger players, who have been training every Friday, it is an event that gives them an opportunity to meet and play other teams and put into match conditions things they have been learning in those sessions. Every player who took part had a great evening making it all worthwhile. The bar was busy, the bbq a success and the ice cream van a very much welcomed addition. A good evening had by all players, supporters and spectators.

The Club is now looking forward to its annual Cricket week, which has this year been extended even further. On Friday 7th August we hold the Phil Allam Memorial Cup. Great Bromley players from the past and present join up to play for the President XI vs the Chairman XI. The match starts at 2pm for a timed game, finishing at 6pm. A Hog Roast will be supplied by Paul Coleman. Back by popular demand a singer for the evening entertainment. Please feel free to join us either for the game or the evening. The bar will open to all, as will the food and entertainment.

Monday 10th August sees the Ladies softball team host a number of local Clubs for what is now an integral part of the week. BBQ will be available from 6pm, and the bar open.

Tuesday 11th August - The men host a

100 Match against local rivals Great Bentley at 6pm. The Courthouse has kindly agreed to lay on food for the players again this year and the Club wish to thank them for their very proactive sponsorship. The bar is again open for all.

Wednesday 12th sees our T20 team play in a Cup final. Game starts at 6.00pm. BBQ food and bar available.

Thursday 13th sees a new event this year as we host the Gents of Suffolk vs Great Bromley XI. Match starts at 11.00am. Food will be available from 6.00pm. Bar open.

Friday 14th is Chairmans Day. Many of our VPs and supporters join us for a paid for lunch and tea in the marquee. We welcome back every year Springfield Cricket Club. Teams may evolve over the years but its always a good game and they are very supportive of this day and always ensure good entertaining cricket. Match Starts at 10.00. Food will be available from 6.00pm which will be supplied by Paul Coleman. Paul has been cooking most Friday night for the Club which has gone down extremely well, so I look forward to seeing what's on the menu. The bar will be open again for all as will the food.

I hope that you will come down and take in a match or two or even a pint or two and see what the Club has to offer. The Club look forward to welcoming you all.

Home Games Coming up – start 1pm and 12.30pm from 15th August. 1st 2nd 15th 16th 22nd 29th Sept 5th 6th

Tracey Wareing



OWLS AT PRIMROSE FARM

Well good news! All five baby barn owlets have survived the very hot weather. They were seen in the heat of the day lying flat on their backs with slight wing flap. They all slept throughout the day, and as soon as the sun set, they fidgeted, practiced their wing flapping and attempted to reach the box entrance.

The sizing of the owls as per age order seemed to dictate who reached the box entrance and ledge first. Number 1 the biggest was the first to fly into the outside world, returning back to lodge in the day, the others all just looked up as if to say, "where has he gone?!, we might try that!!."

The first one fledged quite quickly, and the others are now out flying at night and back during the day. In the early morning all five are sometimes sitting on the ledge. They are all looking very well, so they appeared to have learned how to hunt. There does not seem to be any parents dropping in food now. The food source appears to be abundant. The parents have probably found another place to sleep in the day as the box got a bit crowded. It will not be long before the owlets don't return to the box and we are hoping the mum and dad will return. We have had a pair one year who had two broods, but the risk is the colder weather for the youngsters going into the autumn.

We are so pleased that we had a pair of breeding barn owls after three years of absence, and that we could watch them over the last few weeks developing and learning to flap their wings and set out into the countryside.

They will all go to find their own new territory and hopefully carry on to breed themselves. We are grateful to the local Owl expert who came and ringed the owls with a personalised identification mark that, if found, can be traced back to us as their birth place!

Karen Moss



GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

www.greatbromleyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Parish Clerk: Mrs Lizzie Ridout cILCA

Email: clerk@greatbromleyparishcouncil.gov.uk



Thank you to everyone who attended the July Parish Council meeting. It was one of our largest meetings in recent years, and we appreciate residents taking the time to raise concerns and share their experiences.

Fly Infestation and Environmental Concerns

The Council recognises the distress caused by the ongoing fly nuisance affecting Great Bromley and neighbouring villages. We continue to work closely with Tendring District Council's Environmental Health team, District Councillors, the Environment Agency, and other partners. TDC has undertaken monitoring visits across the district, and further inspections are ongoing.

Residents have helpfully provided extensive evidence, including independent entomology reports, and the Council has formally requested weekly updates from TDC. This matter will remain a standing agenda item, and we will continue to escalate concerns to senior officers and our MP where appropriate and share updates.

Major Planning Applications – Bromley Cross

The Parish Council has submitted formal objections to both outline planning applications at Bromley Cross: (The full submission was added to the TDC planning portal on 13 July)

- 26/00910/OUT – up to 200 dwellings
 - 26/00912/OUT – up to 90 dwellings
- Our objections are based on a wide range of planning considerations, including:
- Conflict with the adopted settlement

strategy

- Unjustified development in open countryside
- Permanent adverse landscape harm identified in the applicant's own LVIA
- Harm to the rural, dispersed settlement pattern
- Lack of sustainability and limited public transport
- Reliance on future Garden Community infrastructure that does not yet exist
- Absence of policy-compliant affordable housing
- Unresolved drainage, groundwater and surface-water matters
- Insufficient evidence on health, infrastructure and accessibility
- Habitats Regulations issues requiring resolution
- Community concerns not addressed
- Inconsistencies within the application material
- Lack of support from Historic England

These applications represent the largest proposed developments in the parish for decades, and the Council will continue to scrutinise applications carefully and transparently.

Following questions raised at the meeting, the Council has prepared guidance to help residents understand how to comment on planning applications submitted to Tendring District Council. This will also be shared via the parish website and social media, and can be found on page 16 of this magazine.

Other items

A parish by-election has been called to fill the current vacancy, the proposed date for this is Thursday 3 September. If the election is contested, polling cards will be issued to all electors. As with any election, there are associated costs, and the Council will manage these within the existing budget.

A number of additional matters were progressed at the July meeting, including:

- Adoption of an updated Standing Order relating to recording and broadcasting of meetings
- Work on the parish Emergency Plan
- Speedwatch activity, including joint monitoring with Essex Police
- Ongoing reporting of Highways issues, including Bouge Hill footbridge
- Adoption of an additional section within the Tree Policy relating to Sudden Branch Drop Syndrome
- Consideration of Conservation Area status and identification of heritage assets for TDC's emerging Conservation List
- Monitoring of National Grid's early enabling works associated with the Norwich to Tilbury project

Anglian Water has visited Parsons Hill following concerns of odour raised by residents. While no initial fault was identified within their network, they have confirmed that further investigation is required, and we will share updates as they are received.

Affinity Water has advised that

pressure in the mains has been reduced as part of wider water-saving measures across the region. We recognise that this may be noticeable to some households, and we will continue to liaise with Affinity Water to ensure any impacts are understood and communicated.

We remain committed to representing the village, raising concerns with the appropriate authorities, and ensuring residents' voices are heard. Thank you for your continued engagement and support.

Cllr Andrew Fairley
Chairman



CHORAL EVENSONG
WITH
THE DEANERY CHOIR
and Revd. Canon Stephen Carter
AUGUST 30TH 2026
6.30pm Start
Organist - Peter Clayton Conductor - Sally Pudney
Ferial - Walmisley - Todd - Besig
St Lawrence Church
Bradfield, Manningtree CO11 2US

HOW TO COMMENT ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS TO TENDRING DISTRICT COUNCIL

How to Comment on Planning Applications to Tendring District Council

When a planning application is submitted to Tendring District Council (TDC), residents have the right to comment on it. Your views can be submitted online, by email, or in writing. All comments must go directly to TDC, as they are the Local Planning Authority.

1. Commenting Online (Planning Portal)

1. Visit the TDC Planning Portal (Search online for “Tendring District Council planning portal”).
2. Click Search for a Planning Application.
3. Enter the application reference number (e.g., 26/00910/OUT or 26/00912/OUT).
4. Open the application and select Make a Comment.
5. Fill in the form with:
 - Your name and address
 - Whether you support, object, or comment neutrally
 - Your comments
6. Submit your response. You will see a confirmation message.

You can also view all plans, reports and documents before commenting.

2. Commenting by Email

If you prefer email, you can write to the Planning Team.

Email:

planning.services@tendringdc.gov.uk

Please include:

- The application reference number

- Your name and address
- Whether you support, object, or comment neutrally
- Your comments

3. Commenting by Letter

You can also send a written letter to:

Planning Services, Tendring District Council, Town Hall, Station Road, Clacton-on-Sea CO15 1SE.

Include the same information as for email, and sign and date your letter.

What TDC can consider

TDC can only take into account planning issues, such as:

- Traffic, highways and road safety
- Drainage, flooding and surface water
- Landscape and visual impact
- Ecology and biodiversity
- Heritage and conservation
- Noise, odour and environmental impact
- Public transport and sustainability
- Design, layout and density
- Impact on local services (schools, health, utilities)
- Compliance with planning policy

These are called *material planning considerations*.

What TDC cannot consider

Some issues cannot be taken into account, including:

- Loss of private views
- Impact on property value
- Personal circumstances of the

applicant

- Speculation about future behaviour
- Matters covered by building regulations

Tips for Effective Comments

- Keep your points clear and factual
- Refer to specific documents or plans if you can
- Focus on planning issues rather

than personal opinions

- Short paragraphs make your comments easier to read

Deadlines

Each application has a consultation deadline. Comments submitted after the deadline may still be considered if the case officer has not yet made a recommendation.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

It has been a busy few months at Friendship Club. In June, we had a fabulous trip to the Spa Pavilion, Felixstowe, made possible by using some of the Poorlands Grant, which helped with the minibus hire.

At our June meeting, Dorothy showed us how to wrap presents beautifully using all sorts of materials. Also in June was the very successful Flower Festival, themed 'Hobbies'. We created one of the flower displays called 'Sunflowers' and there were many beautiful arrangements. I hope you all managed to go, despite the very hot weather!

Brenda and girls treated us to a musical afternoon at our July meeting, enjoyed by all.

In August, local artist Sally Pudney, will be speaking and showing her paintings with the opportunity to buy plus other gifts.

Looking ahead, in September, we have Sarah coming to speak to us about the Yellow Legged Asian Hornet.

As always, if anyone is

interested in joining our club, just turn up at the Cross Inn Pub on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 2pm. £1.50 for tea/coffee and raffle with annual membership £7.50.

The next meetings are - Thursday 20th August and Thursday 17th September.



Dates for your diary



AUGUST

5	WI Summer Tea Party details TBA	2:30pm
12	Great Bromley Parish Council, Village Hall	7:00pm
15	Ardleigh Flower & Produce Show, Village Hall	2:00pm prizes at 4:15pm
20	Great Bromley Friendship Club, The Cross	2:00pm
25	WI Crafting Social, Village Hall	10:00am-12.30pm

SEPTEMBER

2	WI, Village Hall - Pam Larkin 'My Art Journey'	7:30pm
3	Great Bromley Parish Council By-election (if contested)	7:00am - 10:00pm
9	WI Knit & Knatter, Cheshire Home	2:00pm-4:00pm
9	Great Bromley Parish Council, Village Hall	7:00pm
22	WI Crafting Social, Village Hall	10:00am-12.30pm
24	Little Bromley Parish Council, The Haywain	7:30pm

OCTOBER

11	The Phantom of Friar Street', Village Hall	7:00pm
14	Great Bromley Parish Council, Village Hall	7:00pm

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:

- 13 Aug
- 3 Sep
- 24 Sep

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.

LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

www.littlebromleyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Parish Clerk: Mrs Lizzie Ridout CILCA

Email: clerk@littlebromleyparishcouncil.gov.uk

We hope everyone is enjoying the summer and making the most of the warmer weather. While the sunshine is welcome, the recent hot and dry conditions have left many gardens looking a little tired. Members of the Parish Council have taken on the watering of the War Memorial flower beds and the village planters, which are looking good. A huge thank you to Tony for transporting a 1,000 litre tank of water down on the tractor. It was much easier than using a watering can!

At the time of writing, Affinity Water has introduced a hosepipe ban which came into force on 10th July, but the good news is it is not in force in our area, obviously this may change. We would encourage everyone to use water sensibly during the dry spell and to avoid unnecessary waste wherever possible. The warmer weather also seems to have brought an abundance of flies to the area. We have written (along with Great Bromley Parish Council) to Tendring District Council with an urgent request for immediate multi-agency action on the ongoing fly infestation and associated environmental concerns affecting Great Bromley in particular and neighbouring communities. July's highlight, the Tendring Show, was a much-anticipated annual celebration of our rural community, agriculture, and local businesses. We hope everyone enjoyed themselves if they visited. Residents may be aware of the ongoing Tarchon Project. As part of their non-statutory consultation, they held five drop-in events for the residents and communities in the Tendring district. It was an important opportunity for local

people to have their say on proposals that will affect our area. It is looking very likely that the Tarchon Converter Station will be located in Little Bromley, which means more agricultural land will be lost!!! The final decision on the location will be made in Q3/4 of 2027. If you have not already done so, please take time to read the information available and submit your comments -

www.tarchoninterconnector.com.

The next set of National Grid Inspectorate Hearings took place in June. You can view Ardleigh and Little Bromley PCs' and Tendring District Councils response to Deadline 6 on the Parish Council website - <https://www.littlebromleyparishcouncil.gov.uk/notice/deadline-6-response-4th-july-2026-submission-of-behalf-of-ardleigh-and-little-bromley-pcs>.

Finally, a reminder that the current dry conditions significantly increase the risk of fires. Please take extra care when using barbecues, fire pits, and disposable grills, and never leave them unattended. A moment's care can prevent serious damage to our countryside, wildlife, and property.

Our next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Thursday 24th September commencing at 7:30pm at The Haywain. We look forward to seeing you there.

As always, thank you for your continued support of our community. We wish everyone a safe, enjoyable and relaxing August.

Little Bromley Parish Council

DAWN SUPPORT

Our Open Gardens, Scarecrow Trail & and Garage Sale was a huge success, with over 500 visitors exploring, chatting, and enjoying the sunshine throughout the day!

Feedback has been absolutely amazing. Thank you to everyone who opened their gardens, created scarecrows, hosted sales, and volunteered to make it all run so smoothly.

A special mention to Martin Frostick, who kindly judged the scarecrows, and congratulations to **Karen**, whose brilliant Davy Jones creation took the top spot!



Huge thanks also to Grassroots Charity and Matt from Bromley Brook Vineyard for donating a bottle of wine for our winner.

It was a wonderful day of village spirit, thank you all for being part of it.

Fly Update

Many of us remain extremely dissatisfied with the way Environmental Health has handled this issue so far. Despite the scale of the problem, the number of households affected, and the evidence residents have provided, the response has not reflected the seriousness of what our community is experiencing.

The Great Bromley Fly Action Group has now formally instructed a forensic entomologist who works extensively with police forces and public bodies to carry out scientific identification of the flies. His court ready report will confirm once and for all that the majority of flies affecting our village are not cluster flies, but houseflies.

A huge thank you to everyone who donated to make this possible. Your support means we can finally obtain independent, authoritative evidence that cannot be dismissed.

I am also preparing a group claim under the Equality Act 2010. This is specifically for disabled residents and carers who feel they have been disadvantaged, dismissed, or not taken seriously during this situation. If you are disabled, clinically vulnerable, or caring for someone who is, I would very much like to hear from you.

You can contact me privately at: annie@dawnsupport.co.uk

All information will be treated confidentially. We will continue working together to ensure residents' voices are heard and that the authorities respond appropriately.

ARDLEIGH SURGERY

Patient Participation Group- PPG

Have your say!

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 past few months we have been running an **Empowerment Series** from **A to Z**, focusing on common health topics and how you can take charge of your own care.

W

Since the advent of weight loss drugs not a single day goes by when we don't have a request for weight loss drugs.

The NHS traditionally described weight management services as Tier 1 to Tier 4. Although many areas (including Suffolk and North East Essex) now use different names, the tier system is still useful for understanding the level of support available.

In order to progress from one tier to another you must have tried the previous tier. So for example you will not be prescribed weight loss drugs if you eat unhealthily because 80% of weight loss is attributed to taking in fewer calories. As a rule, documented evidence of at least a 10% weight loss on tier 1 and 2 programme is required to progress on to tier 3.

Our tier 3 programme is provided by the Weight Management and Obesity Support Service (WMCOS)

Information for Patients in Colchester and Tendring

What is WMCOS?

The **Weight Management and Complex Obesity Service (WMCOS)** is an NHS service that helps people who would benefit from support to lose weight.

The service offers a range of support, including:

- Healthy lifestyle and weight management advice
- Specialist assessment for people with obesity-related health problems
- Assessment for weight-loss medications (such as Mounjaro®/tirzepatide), where appropriate
- Assessment for bariatric (weight-loss) surgery when suitable

Not everyone referred will need or qualify for specialist treatments with weightloss medication or surgery.

Why is managing your weight important?

Losing weight can:

- Reduce the risk of developing serious health problems
- Improve conditions such as type 2 diabetes and high blood pressure
- Reduce joint pain
- Improve breathing and sleep
- Increase energy levels
- Improve confidence and overall wellbeing

Who can be referred?

Your GP or hospital specialist for that matter, can refer you to WMCOS if you may benefit from additional weight management support.

To be considered, you must:

- Be **18 years or older**

- Be registered with a GP in **Suffolk (excluding Waveney), Colchester or Tendring**

You will usually need either:

- **A BMI of 40 or above**, or
- **A BMI of 30 or above** (27.5 or above for people from Black, Asian, mixed or other minority ethnic backgrounds) **plus at least one obesity-related medical condition.**

Examples of obesity-related conditions include:

- Type 2 diabetes or pre-diabetes
- High blood pressure
- High cholesterol
- Heart disease or previous stroke
- Obstructive sleep apnoea
- Chronic kidney disease
- Fatty liver disease
- Polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS)
- Osteoarthritis
- Asthma
- Gastro-oesophageal reflux (acid reflux)
- Lymphoedema
- Atrial fibrillation
- Fertility problems where weight loss is required before treatment
- Some obesity-related cancers (breast, endometrial, colon, oesophageal, kidney, pancreatic, and liver cancer)

What happens after I am referred?

Every referral is carefully assessed by the specialist WMCOS team.

After your referral:

- You will usually be asked to complete a questionnaire about how your weight affects your daily life.
- A specialist clinical team will review your referral and questionnaire.

They will decide which service or treatment is most appropriate for you. You will be informed of the next steps.

Will I receive weight-loss injections?

Not everyone referred to WMCOS will receive medications such as **Mounjaro® (tirzepatide)**.

These medicines are only offered to patients who:

- Meet strict NHS eligibility criteria, **and**
- Are considered a priority based on their clinical need.

Patients with the greatest medical need are treated first. This means referrals are **not** necessarily seen in the order they are received.

I already pay for weight-loss medication privately. Can I transfer to the NHS?

If you are currently obtaining weight-loss medication privately, you can still be referred to WMCOS. However, you will still need to go through the same NHS assessment process as everyone else. Having private treatment does **not** automatically qualify you for NHS prescribing.

Who cannot use this service?

The service may not be suitable if you:

- Are pregnant
- Have an active eating disorder
- Have severe mental health problems that would make treatment unsuitable at present
- Have had bariatric (weight-loss) surgery within the last five years
- Have medical conditions where treatment is considered more likely to cause harm than benefit

Please remember - Being referred to WMCOS **does not guarantee** access to specialist treatments such as weight-loss injections or bariatric surgery.

The specialist team will assess your individual circumstances and recommend the most appropriate support for your needs.

If you think you may benefit from this service, please speak to your GP or another healthcare professional at the practice.

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.

Please ensure you allow 5 working days for your prescription to be processed.

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*



GREAT BROMLEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

INSPIRING WOMEN The WI had a busy time at the Flower Festival in June, with wonderful creative displays from the Darts Team, the Art Group and Knit and Natter.

Our ladies also ran the Hobby Cafe, serving up gallons of tea and a wide selection of cakes and cookies to the many visitors who came along to share the weekend. What an amazing weekend!

Our speaker in July was our good friend and longtime member, Suzette Clarke, who told us about her adventures in metal detecting and brought along a fine array of objects she had unearthed over the years.

Everyone was full of questions and enjoyed examining everything from a stone-age hand axe to military buttons and sword pommel heads.

August

- Wed 5 Aug – 2:30pm Summer Tea Party
- Tues 25 Aug – 10:00–12:30, Village

Hall - Crafting & Coffee Join us for coffee, cake and crafting. Bring your own project or come along to see what others are making. £4 per session

September

- Wed 2 Sept – 7:30pm, Village Hall - Speaker: Pam Larkin – “My Art Journey”
- Wed 9 Sept – 2:00–4:00pm, Cheshire Home - Knit & Natter
- Tues 22 Sept – 10:00–12:30, Village Hall - Crafting & Coffee Crafting, conversation and creativity. £4 per session

October

- Wed 7 Oct – 7:30pm, Village Hall - Open Social Evening Women guests welcome. Try your hand at darts, decoupage and other activities.
- Wed 14 Oct – 2:00–4:00pm, Cheshire Home - Knit & Natter
- Tues 22 Oct – 10:00–12:30, Village Hall Crafting & Coffee All welcome. £4 per session

CHURCH JOTTINGS

A fabulous weekend at St George's Church of music, flowers and friendship. The community of Great Bromley and beyond coming together to celebrate "Hobbies in Bloom".

The flower exhibits and arrangements were magnificent, varied and beautiful, raising money for our church, school, Cheshire Home, Acorn Village and Parkinson's U.K.

The music was exceptional. Thank you to the children of our Primary School, The Fiddlers Elbow, Alex and his Black Cactus Choir, The Boxted Silver Band and the choirs at our Community Celebration Songs of Praise.

Thank you to all those who helped organise such a wonderful event. Those of you who made delicious cakes, washed up, cleaned the floors, those of you who gave your time to meet and greet, took photographs.

Great teamwork. Everything was



amazing.

Thank you to our Bell Ringers who gave us a glorious ring on Sunday afternoon! WOW!!

I can't thank you all, but it was a pleasure to work, laugh and sing with you all.

THANK YOU!
Love Jenny xx





Great Bromley Village Hall



The village hall AGM and Annual Meeting were held on Tuesday 26th May. Laura Barfield, Andy Lear, Paul Newman, Annie Sands and Chris Taylor were elected as trustees for the coming year and they, with David Beech, Marion Britton, Andrew Childs, Carole Mander, Dorothy O'Grady and Martin Frostick (who have been appointed as representative trustees by village organisations), together with Natalie Smith (who was appointed as a co-opted trustee), have formed the Village Hall Management Committee for 2026/27. Unfortunately, no volunteers were forthcoming to fill the other co-opted trustee vacancies but it is hoped that these may be filled at subsequent routine meetings of the management committee - so if you are interested in joining the team then please get in touch; your help with running our village hall would be much appreciated.

Martin Frostick was elected Chairman of trustees and Annie Sands was elected Secretary and Vice-Chairman. Chris Taylor was thanked for her work during the last year as Vice-Chairman and in support of health and safety, fire prevention and hygiene matters at the hall. Paul Newman was thanked for his ongoing work as Building and Maintenance Manager. Liz Mann was thanked for auditing the accounts to a high standard and both Andy Terry and Chris Morgan were thanked for their ongoing maintenance work at the hall. Jackie Lear was re-appointed Treasurer and Bookings Manager and was thanked for her efforts in both of these roles during the last year. Naina Shah and Ian King were thanked for

their sterling work in keeping the hall clean and available and for being such a helpful and proactive customer-facing team.

The Chairman reported that the village hall trust had a successful year in 2025/26, with a slight increase in utilisation of the facility and an increased income of £30,390. Total financial reserves were £53,093 at year end but it was likely that a significant proportion of these reserves would be expended on car park improvements once the precise impact of the Hamilton Lodge development on the village hall grounds was known and final plans had been drawn up. Ongoing improvements at the hall last year included the installation of a new heating oil tank, the fitting of new curtains and blinds in the main hall and further redecoration. No major maintenance work is planned for the current year but the external redecoration programme will continue in the early autumn.

Use of the village hall by regular hirers has reduced slightly in recent months and it has become evident that the demand for private and commercial events has reduced slightly also, particularly at weekends. Readers are reminded that, whilst the hall is busy on most weekday evenings, it is available for daytime hire on most weekdays and for the majority of weekends - all at highly competitive rates. For availability and prices please contact Jackie Lear (Bookings Manager) on 07543974751 or email gbromleyvillagehall@gmail.com.

Dates for the Diary - over the page...

Sunday 11th October - The ever-popular Common Ground Theatre Company is giving a performance of their autumn tour production 'The Phantom of Friar Street', commencing at 7pm. The Village Hall Management Committee will be providing interval

refreshments as usual.

Saturday 7th November – Diwali Celebration. Further details to follow.

Martin Frostick

villagehallchairman@greatbromley.org.uk

01206 250263

RECTOR'S LETTER

Dear Friends

There seems to have been a bonanza of sport this summer. Obviously, there has been the FIFA World Cup football tournament – but this weekend as I write this, there has been the men's and women's national cricket teams in action, the men's national rugby fifteen and the English Grand Prix at Silverstone. It is also the middle weekend of Wimbledon. Wow – so much sport!

Whether you are a fan or not, (and I am not!) there is something about challenging yourself to do your best and even to be the best that there is. Sports men and women spend hours practising their skills, improving their fitness and stamina and, even more so nowadays, getting professional support to get in the right mindset to focus and achieve. It becomes **the** primary purpose for their lives.

It is no wonder that the Apostle Paul used sport as an analogy for being a disciplined follower of Christ. In Paul's letter to the church at Phillipi he says:

I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus,
(Philippians chapter 3, verse 14).

Paul does not profess to be perfect, but he does have focus and determination to be the best disciple he can be. And that is all that God wants of us; to respond to his offer of love and mercy in Christ Jesus by following his example and teaching, helping to build a kingdom

of justice, peace and righteousness. How much better things could be if we had the drive and ambition to make the world a better place – to be fit and healthy spiritual athletes for Christ, so to speak.

Tennis is an individual sport mostly and it can be hard work out there on court all by yourself, no teammate or coach to confide in. The other sports I mentioned are very much team sports. Team sports I believe challenge us to be very much aware of our teammates. We are not in competition with them, but very much work with them to bring out the best in the team. Christian discipleship is not a solo pursuit, and should be very much played as a team, supporting and encouraging each other, sharing our learning and experiences, working for the common good of all people.

So, whether we are a sports fan or not, let us work towards having a better understanding of each other, supporting each other and making the world a better place. That is a prize worth training hard for and is what being a disciple of Christ is all about. We are not solo athletes, but a family team that regularly meet for training in our Sunday Worship Service. You are welcome to join us, no previous experience needed, just a willingness to ***press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called us heavenward in Christ Jesus.***

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

Aug 2 nd	Trinity 5	Parish Eucharist BCP with choir	11am
Aug 9 th	Trinity 6	Parish Eucharist with choir	11am
Aug 16 th	Trinity 7	Evensong BCP with choir	6.30pm
Aug 23 rd	Trinity 8	Parish Eucharist	11am
Aug 30 th	Trinity 9	Parish Eucharist (Joint Service)	11am
Sept 6 th	Trinity 10	Parish Eucharist BCP with choir	11am
Sept 13 th	Trinity 11	Parish Eucharist with choir	11am
Sept 20 th	Trinity 12	Evensong BCP with choir	6.30pm
Sept 27 th	Harvest	Harvest Festival Eucharist	11am

St Mary's Church, Little Bentley

Aug 2 nd	Morning Prayer 11am
Aug 16 th	Holy Communion 11am
Aug 30 th	Joint Service at Gt Bromley 11am
Sept 6 th	Holy Communion 11am
Sept 20 th	Morning Prayer 11am

Tendring and Dedham Parishes (TADP)

- for the group bulletin and news see

www.tendringdedhamparishes.org.uk